

Seasons Greetings! Merry Christmas! Happy Hanukkah! Happy Holidays!



Dear Friends -

The Year 2002 has been a very good year; despite threats of terrorism, an impending war with Iraq, and other societal fears and tribulations. The economy of course, will never get better - but at least my job appears to be safe since its own structure is based on an alternate economic system of business trade (I do the marketing for **Alliance Barter**, formally the Rochester Trade Exchange). Things have been looking up for the company since branching into Toronto; especially greater expectations with the upcoming "fast ferry" happening between cities. Our Trade Show, which I helped to plan was in November....My own life, in general, has taken some more turns as I again moved into a surprisingly pleasant situation in a mobile home based in **Harper Park**, Penfield (23 **Keystone**) which gives me a 15 minute ride to work and rent payments compared to a studio apartment with a large living room. The stereotypes of mobile home living were quickly dispelled after I moved in and met the park staff. As a bonus, my cousin **Stevie Richards** and aunt & uncle **Virginia & John Richards** live there within walking distance. The land area has many trees, birds, and squirrels which is much better than living in a noisy city complex. This year, my sister **Bonnie Miguel** visited with her new daughter **Nina**; as did my brother **Billy Bulmahn** from San Francisco, CA....As for my alter-ego - my new name is officially '**Jimmy "Del" Rivers**' to avoid confusion over calling me Del or Jim! This year, I had plans made to record (as another shot in the dark) my third official CD entitled "**Olympic Park**" featuring pictures of the now-gone signs from the amusement park. Unfortunately, a long-term lung infection and some financial difficulty prevented it from fruition. Back-up was to be with **Kenny Duell & The Crusaders** (featuring **Cousin Al's** bass player - **Mark Micciche**) at **George Schnell's** Studio at The Village Gate. The songs featured were "Queen Of The Hop" by **Bobby Darin**, "Country Girl" by **Nick Lowe**, and two originals "Long Time Comin' " and "Sea Of Sorrow". Both originals may end-up in some form on the next **McFadden's Parachute** release. I'm still working on new material and have plans for some comedy writing as well with some friends. **Brett Lowden** may also include me on his **Joe Meek** tribute CD....This summer & fall have been very memorable, as I've been following **Inside-Out** with former Insider **Walt O'Brien**. I've been dancing every other weekend with the lovely **Jessica Schrier** from Newark, along with her mom **Joan**, sister **Jenn**, and friends **Debbie & Paul**. Mother Joan's brother played guitar with **Judd Strunk**, **Glen Campbell**, and **Taj Mahal**! Friend **Luther Holtzman** (of the **BBB's**) made several road trips with me; congrats on his new home in Greece, NY. Another good friend - **Susan Steklof** - turned me on to drinking Chai Tea for many social dates & conversations as well. Former Insider **Bob Janneck** now plays with **The Bootleggers & Riviera Playboys** (for Europe dates); while former drummer **Marty York** sits in with **Stan Merrell's Badenovs**. I also met the guys from **The Smithereens**, **Nancy Cartwright (Bart Simpson)**, **Los Straitjackets**, **Larry Storch**, **Billy Mumy** (again), and **Cindy Williams (Shirley)** among other celebrities. Many of the Pop Culture/Comic Book events were attended with my good friend & artist **Ken Wheaton**. I've recently left **Whole Lotta Shakin'** radio show (for **Del's Corner**), but still plan to guest & sub for **Mike Murray**. My web site, although it needs an upgrade, is still www.geocities.com/SunsetStrip/Bistro/8609....Peace To All in 2003!! - **Jim "Del" Rivers (Bulmahn)**.

