

Welcome to 2005. Our past year was so jam-packed with geographic excitement, we're sending you this free photo bonus to save you reading all those back issues stacked up in your bathroom. Our focus in 2004 was on new experiences, new places, and fun all around.

NEW EXPERIENCES

Is that really a **Red Sox** pumpkin? How much spookier than breaking a curse does it get? Only question is: what do they (we) do in Boston now? Wait for the return of hockey?

Compared with curse-breaking, **Class 3 rapids in Aspen** with grandparents (Wading Warren & Daring Debbie) or **riding giant horses** on trails through Taos and Aspen really do seem tame. Maybe posing as a **Hobbit and a Wizard**, at Boston's Lord of the Rings' Exhibit can compare? [Our editors E.P.S. & A.P.G.S. have read through two thirds of the trilogy, plus the Hobbit. And, our entire staff is eagerly awaiting Rowling's Book 6. Narnia's been good, but there's really no comparison.]



hippo, or feel truly at one with **our primate brethren**? We would like to thank (two of) our (many) sponsors, Grandma Edith & Papa Juan for relocating all those years ago to the Gold Coast!



As our loyal readers will recall, the June and July issues were loaded with lovely images of Santa Fe, Taos & Aspen, which we featured when A.A.G. was assigned to the field station at the Aspen Center for Physics, A.P.G.S. tested her mettle at Hiking Camp, and E.P.S. did a local links feature. Back in August, we treated our readers to an excellent feature on the "William Dean Howells House" at **Kittery Point**, Maine, where the staff hung with more of our fine benefactors (Grammy Leona & Papa Lee) and our up-and-coming writing staff members **Jonathan, Hannah, Meryl & Jeff Fink**.

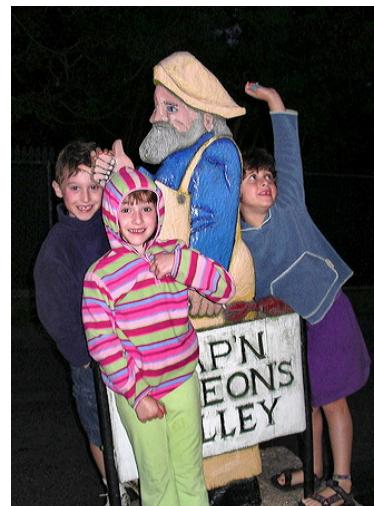
The biggest boondoggle (uh, we mean special opportunity) of the year was featured back in October, when the whole staff spent a weekend in a **lovely guest house on Nantucket** known as "Same Time Next Year" (!?!)!, courtesy of the Maria



Our editorial staff also branched out a bit professionally, with E.P.S starting up a new Strategic Litigation Support firm (eps-consulting.com), and A.A.G. investing some human capital in planning a possible "Institute for Innovative Computing" (cfa-www.harvard.edu/~agoodman/IIC) that may someday be a key piece of Harvard's 21st century science expansion plan. A.P.G.S. is very busy in Cambridge Montessori's 1st Grade Rose Room, learning to read and mastering differential geometry.

NEW PLACES

Back in our March issue, we mentioned Busch Gardens, Tampa, as an **Editor's Pick**--and we stand by our choice now! Where else can one experience the animal kingdom so fully as to survive being **eaten whole** by a



Mitchell Association. Yes, our editor (A.A.G.) did give a lecture, but let's just say this was professional courtesy at its best. Other travel "opportunities" in '04 took A.A.G. afar (too far according to A.P.G.S.!) as well, and you can see cfa-www.harvard.edu/~agoodman for details.



FUN ALL AROUND

Too many of our readers just do not take enough time to enjoy life--how else could there be so many fine periodicals stacked up in the *lavatoire*? For our part, we tried this year to focus some articles on just plain fun. Remember the March '04 feature on how we [built Hobbiton entirely out of sand and seaweed](#)? Or the October '04 piece on [A.A.G. & E.P.S.'s yearly "surprise" anniversary trip](#) (this year to their beloved Martha's Vineyard)? We think our favorite piece, though, was the December '04 feature on how to host an Egyptian-themed 7th birthday party adventure. E.P.S. worked for weeks creating three interlocking quests full of puzzles and challenges for A.P.G.S.'s partygoer friends, and A.A.G. worked with A.P.G.S. to create the world's first [Lindt-chocolate pyramids on a cake!](#) This must be, largely, what life is for? **GO SOX.**



With love and wishes for a
peaceful 2005.
Your Editors,

John Edward & BB



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2004
Photo Issue

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

