

# PEACE HOPE JOY LOVE

This holiday season finds both of us wondering where the year has gone. We can't believe that Thanksgiving is over, the turkey gone, the pumpkins relegated to the compost, and all the fun summer stuff put away for the winter. It has been another busy year.

In March we headed to Honduras with Mass. Audubon. We flew into San Pedro Sula, boarded a bus, and traveled to Copan in western Honduras. There we stayed in a lovely lodge, Hacienda San Lucas, overlooking Copan.

Copan is the site of a major Mayan kingdom of the Classic Era and well worth a visit. We spent several days exploring the Mayan ruins, learning more about the history of the area, and of course "birding". Doug is not a birder but was a good sport about going on most of the excursions. He took lots of pictures, often trying to figure out why

non-descript bird and There is a very nice art to the ruins where preserve many narrative stones and altars.

After several lodge at Pico

Caribbean coast, in a lush rainforest. There was a lot of bird activity at the lodge and Lois had fun on the various hikes looking at the many beautiful birds and other animals. We took several side trips while there. We rode on a small, motorized train that travels on an historic narrow-gauge railway. This took us through pastures and coconut plantations to a mangrove forest where we explored the waterways in a small boat. Another day we traveled by open boat to Cochineros Cays Marine Reserve which consists of 15 small islands and cays off the Caribbean coast.

These are part of the second largest coral reef system in the world. Doug was looking forward to snorkeling but due to a recent ocean storm the waters were rougher than normal and there were a lot of jellyfish (he got a bunch of stings). We did some swimming, ate lunch in a little village, and headed home in very rough seas. The wind had kicked up and it was a white-knuckle trip back to the mainland. We had a very good local boat captain, thank goodness.

After leaving Honduras we flew to San Juan, Puerto Rico and spent several days relaxing on a lovely beach. We did rent a car for a day and traveled to a nearby rainforest to do some exploring.







Both of us continue to keep very busy back here in Plymouth. We continue to sing with the Pilgrim Festival Chorus and in our Church Choir. Doug keeps the computers going at our church and designs the program booklets and posters for the Chorus. Lois continues as the Church Clerk as well as being on several committees in town. She also is the substitute organist. Summer finds us spending a lot of time on Long Pond sailing and swimming. Doug continues to be near the head of the local Sunfish fleet and Lois at the back. We do

have fun. Lois has also been enjoying her new red kayak, especially when the grandchildren are here.



Both Kimberly and Heather are quite busy with their families and keep trying to get us to move to Maine so that we can be closer to drive children to various activities.



Heather, Kimberly, Kieran, Rebecca, Wayne, Sam  
Lois, McKenzie, Dave, Doug

Kimberly is the Service Learning Coordinator at St. Joseph's College in Maine. She also teaches several yoga classes. Our son-in-law, Dave, is busy as the music director at a church in Auburn, Maine and singing and playing at various venues. McKenzie is a junior in high school and is now a licensed driver, driving herself and her brother to their school in Yarmouth, Maine each day. She is quite busy with her school activities and music. She spent a week this past summer, at music camp in Orono, which she has

done for several years. Kieran is in seventh grade, taller than his mom and grandmother, playing soccer and basketball, and playing the sax. Heather continues teaching 4th grade in Berwick, Maine. Wayne still commutes to his job in Boston and is busy with scouts. Sam is now in 5th grade, loves art, plays soccer, and is in scouts. Rebecca is a 3rd grader. She is taking tap dance and beginning ballet as well as horseback riding. She really likes riding and spent a week at camp this past summer working with horses and riding. The whole family enjoys skiing in the winter and camping in the summer.

We hope that this past year has been a good one for you. We wish you and your family a very happy and healthy new year.



*Lois* *Doug*