

SING WE NOW OF CHRISTMAS, SING WE ALL NOEL

Christmas 2013

As we write this letter, the big Plymouth Thanksgiving week of celebration has just finished here in “America’s Home Town” and we’ve had our “Hanging of the Greens” service at Church. Whether we are ready for it or not, the holiday season is here.

This past year has sped by as usual. We have kept very busy with trips to Maine to spend time with grandchildren, activities here in the Plymouth area, and traveling outside the area.

We were going to Ecuador to visit Macchu Picchu and Cusco in March. However, 3 days before we were scheduled to leave, the tour company canceled the trip due to a possible threat to American tourists in that area. Since we had also planned to spend some time after leaving Ecuador on Vieques Island, PR., we decided to head directly to Puerto Rico. We spent a week on the main island enjoying warm weather and exploring the island. We hiked through part of the El Yunque Rain Forest (yes, it rained), we saw the Arecibo Observatory (the world’s largest radio telescope), and explored a nature preserve in Fajardo that has the second oldest lighthouse in PR. The place where we were staying has a private island where there is a lovely beach so we spent some time on the beach as well as in the water. Since we already had made plans to spend some time on Vieques, we went there next. Vieques is a lovely island, lots of beautiful beaches with few people on them, funky little towns, and very relaxing.

Doug had to have rotator cuff surgery the beginning of April. He had injured it quite a few years ago sailing and it finally needed repairing. Of course, he planned the surgery so that he could sail once the Long Pond sailing season started. And he pulled it off! He even managed to win some races. Lois managed to win a few as well.

Lois continues her involvement with the League of Women Voters, serves on a town committee, is the substitute organist in our Church, and is Church clerk. She drags Doug to the gym during the week and continues to run, weather permitting. Both Doug and Lois sing in the choir as well as a choral group in Plymouth.



Doug is the tech person for the Church computers and designs the programs and posters for our choral group. Summer finds us both spending a lot of time on and in Long Pond, sailing, kayaking, swimming, and of course socializing. The grandchildren love spending time at “gramp” camp during the summer.

Kimberly continues to work at St. Joseph’s College in Maine as the Director of Community-Based Learning, teaching several classes, and is a yoga instructor there as well. She is enjoying her work and keeping very busy.

She is also an accomplished iphoneographer, with her work exhibited in galleries nationwide.

Her daughter, McKenzie, is a senior in high school. She is far into the college application process and working on her auditions for music education. Kieran is in eighth grade. He plays the saxophone and enjoys tennis.

Heather keeps herself busy with teaching 4th grade, taking graduate courses, running, competing in triathlons, and taking Sam and Rebecca to various activities. Wayne continues his commute into Boston from southern Maine. He still finds



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



time to be involved with the local Boy Scout troop with Sam. Sam is now a middle school student. He enjoys soccer, art, and Boy Scouts. Rebecca just turned 10, is in 4th grade, plays soccer, and loves horses. She has been in several competitions and spends as much time as she can at the stables. She just began playing the clarinet and seems to like it. They all enjoy skiing and camping.

We hope this year has been a good and a healthy year for you all and that 2014 will be even better. If you ever find yourselves in Plymouth, contact us as we would love to see you. Our e-mail address is dougandlois@mac.com.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year
from our house to yours.

Lois

Doug