



Christmas and New Year's Greetings 2010

It's been a relatively quiet year since Elmeda's aortic artery replacement last December. She's doing well overall, working very hard at conditioning and physical rehab, and figures she's recovered 80% of her stamina. She is itching to resume quilting. She has completed some small pieces and has bigger projects to come using her "cotton futures" (lots of quilting fabric). She still gets tired sporadically and major trips have been postponed. We have been able to take some single destination trips and are looking forward to resuming our globetrotting days.

My retirement career as Winemaker at Young Sommer Winery is going still going well. People love our wines, we've taken a number of awards, and 2010 looks like a vintage year, as opposed to 2009 where it was cold and rainy most of the summer. I've also continued teaching computer graphics and wine making classes and doing literacy volunteer work. We resumed our Hammer Dulcimer lessons this fall, still working on those new neurons. We even get to play in a Christmas recital at the Eastman Theater this year with our dulcimer class.

We took three trips this year. We did a timeshare exchange to Orlando in February for a week by ourselves. We did a lot of leisurely sightseeing – Sea World, a swamp boat ride in the 'glades, and St. Augustine. In June, we drove down to North Carolina to see a quilt show, visit son Mark, Elmeda's nephew Isaac and wife Jenny, and some other old friends along the way. In August, we rented a couple cabins right on the water in Alexandria Bay in the Thousand Islands. Natalie and family spent the week and other family members shorter times. We had my boat right there at a dock and were able to take Jaz and Siena fishing and tubing, as well as touring the islands. We did have a gala Thanksgiving. For Elmeda's niece Natalie's 40th birthday, her sister Jenny and family, her father Hank and his singing-partner Clair all came in from the west coast. We had 23 people for Thanksgiving dinner, a record turnout for the Payne family.

Mark moved back to the area the end of September and is living on Margareta Rd. in Sodus Point. He'll have to learn how to handle the snow and also get rid of that redneck southern accent. He's just gotten settled in and is starting to look for work. His NC electrical license isn't valid here so he'll need to go through the NY process to get certified. Michael is working for the Univ. of Colorado. He's made several trips to the Washington, DC area to calibrate a spectrophotometer with an NBS cyclotron. He'll then accompany it to White Sands, NM, where NASA will launch it into space to study the sun. And he enjoys it. Matthew completed his MBA at the Simon School (Univ. of Rochester) in hospital administration. He has taken a position as a unit care-coordinator/trainer in a new "step-down" unit at Strong which receives stabilized patients from Burn and Trauma. His wife Wibke completed a year teaching in the Webster school system and is taking a year off. Aaron has met a delightful young woman, Elizabeth Clancy, who is a certified physical trainer. Aaron is working two jobs, cooking at a popular barbeque restaurant and clerking at a liquor store.

We'd like to wish everyone a Blessed and Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year. For more information, check out our web site at www.elmeda.com.

Elmeda and Jan