

Dec. 2013

Dear friends.

So, this is Diether's first year of retirement from BD. And we were quite engaged. Speaking / teaching assignments had us travel to Ettal, Dublin, Paris, Berlin, Alghero (Sardinia), San Diego, Mexico City DF, Albuquerque and I am sure, I forgot some... We also travelled to the BD Howe Award ceremony as Diether is a Fellow emeritus.

A few contracts keep Diether busy at home and travelling some more.

We visited our son and his wife in the bay area just before their move to England, we visited in England twice, they visited us in Reno, and met up with us in Dublin. We'll see them again in the Bay area before the end of the year. They are enjoying England and Ben the different work environment.

Our mothers are doing well at 93 and 87, and we got to visit five times this year.

Diether took ill after our summer trip of 4 and a half weeks. We still do not know what caused the lymph nodes in his left face to act up. Diether barely could talk or swallow. Jutta had to talk him into taking fluids and a diet of soups. 3 weeks of antibiotics and many doctors, dentist, oral surgeon, Ear Nose Throat specialist, we still don't know. Diether is fine and we met great people along the way.

Petra visited late this year, and we traveled to Santa Fe and Las Vegas, New Mexico, and on a second trip to Death Valley and San Diego.

Jutta was able to swim in the mineral pool at Stove Pipe Wells, and earlier in the year in the Baltic Sea and the Mediterranean Sea at Bosa Mare on the coast of Sardinia.

We made it to Opening Night at SF Opera (of course standing room tickets)

And we kept the landscaping in Reno under control, even cleaned out the ponds and got the water feature running for the visit of the kids.

The surrounding of the cabin in Fallon are mowed and we planted the garden. The corn was a success, we harvested only few tomatoes and squash, due to a late frost. Carrots and beets were a failure, we are not going to seed with those bands next season.

We hosted several dinner parties for friends during our times in town and met friends in the bay area and Europe.

A great year and we only can hope that the coming one will be equally fulfilling.

We wish you and your loved ones a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Diether & Jutta