



Merry Christmas



Bobby & Barbara's Annual Christmas Letter – December 2011

Well, 2011 has been another exciting year. As we were preparing for our Glen Eagle Caribbean Cruise, Bobby was told that his left Carotid Artery was 90% blocked and he needed immediate surgery! Surprise! So on Monday the 17th of January, surgery was done and the staples (20+) were removed Thursday afternoon. We left on the cruise that Friday morning (he just had to agree to not SCUBA dive around sharks



or barracuda) ☺

February was uneventful other than Super Bowl and golf.

March was mostly Glen Eagle business and Barbara's entrance into the Glen Eagle Art Show. Her best friend Sue came for a visit and helped her sell about 22 silk scarves that she had made using the techniques she learned in France. We also finally talked best buddies Dick and Betty McGlynn into a three day trip to Key West (they had never been there) and we all had a ball. We are even planning a return visit this coming February.

April was, as usual, a sad month as it is when Betty and Dick McGlynn return to Boston and Wells, Maine. However, on the 19th we were beginning our own adventure and a summer road trip to the West Coast.

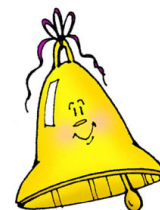
We spent the Easter holiday with Barbara's Uncle James & Aunt Doris in San Antonio Texas joined by her father, Floyd, and a host of our Texas relatives. We even got to go to a family reunion with the Pape family.

On to Las Vegas for the wedding of our nephew Jason Rowe to Kayla Iacobucci on April 28th! What a great time with about 60 family and friends. Congratulations to Jay & Kayla! We capped our Vegas visit with a great show of "Cirque de Soleil" Beatles. We also got a chance to see the newly built bridge at Hoover Dam during our stay.

April 30th and on our way to California! We planned to stay at our Son Gary's cabin for the next couple of months and enjoy visits with family. However, we did not expect the chaos that we found upon arrival. Snow damage from the previous winter had caused water damage to the Master BR, Kitchen and all the way down to the Bunkroom Basement. The ServPro people had ripped out rugs, walls and insulation and put plastic around the kitchen, piling debris in the center of the living room. 12 loads of wash of towels and wet stuff later we crashed in one of the bedrooms. Our job was to act as "Clerk of the Works" and work with the contractors to repair all the damage.

Barbara's Dad, Floyd, came for a visit early in May for a couple of weeks of R&R. He too had driven all the way from Florida! He arrived and so did the snow! Daughter, StacyAnn and her family also came for a weekend and the grandkids sure enjoyed playing in the snow at the cabin. We all enjoyed the wildlife with deer, foxes and wild turkeys roaming around.

After a few weeks of settling in and getting the contractors on track, we ventured south to Scotts Valley to spend the weekend with our friends Jim and Nancy Adkisson on their



20+ acre Villa and Winery. While there we played Bocce on Jim's newly built Bocce Courts and even went to neighbors for a match. We also took in a Seagate reunion at Malone's Pub in Scotts Valley. It was great fun and Bobby enjoyed visiting with co-workers from the past.

June and July were spent with continued contractor work. Weekends brought family visits with the kids and grandkids enjoying the lake and surrounding areas. We even found a local Karaoke bar and became fast friends with the locals. Farmers markets on Thursdays and sampling the cuisine of local restaurants was great fun. Spent time to watch the Button grandkids at their swim meet. Also picked the girls up at summer camp for an overnight stay at the cabin with Grandma & Poppa. Contractor work completed, it was now time to start the dreaded drive back to Florida via a round-about way.....

First stop South Dakota to stay with our friends the VanHoosans. We had never seen Mount Rushmore and they live less than 20 minutes away! We were treated like kings being served gourmet meals cooked by Bill and really enjoyed touring the local area. Next stop Mondamin, Iowa to visit Barb's cousins Duane & Myrna Elhert and family. Duane had recently retired after running his 800+ acre farm. Plenty of fresh corn and good company. We also visited Arlyn & Betty Anderson (cousins who live nearby). Then a short drive to Omaha, NE to visit her Dad's sister Jean. Continuing on to Michigan to stay with Florida friends Jack & Hope Johns for the weekend and then on to Troy, Michigan to visit John and Nicole Farquhar and their new baby Jolie Marie and her "older sister" Sophie (Sophie remembered Bobby from his 'Gummy Bear' bribes when she visited Florida).

We were getting 'Antsy' to get to Wells, Maine to spend some "Lobstah" time with Betty & Dick McGlynn at their home near Moody Beach. A week of fun and games with the

McGlynn family and relatives. Oh and did I mention, lobster every day ☺

Time to continue our road trip south through the "Blue Ridge Mountains" and a quick stop at "Dollywood" the "NOT" highlight of Bobby's part of the 12100 mile trip. All was well when we arrived at Aunt Gwen's home in Candler, North Carolina. She treated us to a visit to the "Biltmore Estate" which was very impressive and we had a great dinner and went to a "Bluegrass" concert with family.

September and we finally arrived home in Naples and a few days of unpacking and decompressing. October through December consisted of doctor visits, reuniting with our Glen Eagle friends and falling back into our Naples Florida routine.

Oh! did we mention Bobby's cataract surgery in November? Everything that used to be beige is now white! But it did take 3 surgeries to get there.

My final task is to write this letter and to get Barbara ready for her "Christmas trip" to New York City with BFF Sue Eastridge and my sister Carol Rowe. They are very excited about the trip.

Happy Holidays and much love to you all. Hopefully the doctors have replaced and repaired all of Bobby's parts and we can have a great 2012!



Bobby & Barbara