

Boore Newsletter – March, 2017

Guilt is good: it has goaded, or should I say, guided, me into writing. It has been six years since our last newsletter, six years of mostly blessings, and we are counting those blessings literally every day. We are the very proud grandparents of Jeff's 3-year-old boy, David, and a pair of newborn twin boys, Julian and Andrew, events of major joy. We are volunteer "parents" at David's nursery school.

Judy feels like her old self at last, after an episode of breast cancer/chemo in 2012. She is now so energetic that she is cramming a lot of living into her life, and takes ballet and pointe classes several times a week along with Jazzercise, running and gardening. At least she is trying to be energetic; it's growing harder to pull it off each year. She still works as a responder to critical incidents and disasters, both privately and with the Red Cross, but rarely sees clients, having run out of patience with insurance hassles. Dave likes his work so much that he put off retirement until the beginning of 2016, although he is still working with colleagues, writing papers, and giving the occasional lecture. In addition, he has had a few consulting projects. All right, so he isn't really retired. He had a urinary tract scare in January of 2016, leading to a visit to the emergency department, but fortunately an operation in May gave him his life back. Another blessing!

Judy has taken up writing in addition to quilting, has joined a Jewish choir and a Jewish/Christian/soon-to-be-Muslim cultural group, and even took singing lessons about which she shall say no more. She is still meeting with friends on Wednesdays for field trips or tasting baked creations. We won't mention the croissant experiment, unless you want to hear about the lake of butter in the oven and smoke in the rest of the house. Dave still bike-rides some and is the record-holder for numbers of Jazzercise classes per week (8). He was actually on stage helping the instructor lead on several occasions. This from a man who thought he couldn't dance. Our experiment with Tango did not work out.... We are still docents for the Mid-Peninsula Open Space District, and recently began walks as Trail Patrol volunteers. Dave's hearing is a challenge; we are working out ways to accommodate. His distance vision has improved thanks to cataract surgery. Now we share reading glasses.

Jeff works in marketing for Electronic Arts not far from here, so his commute time is greatly reduced compared to the San Francisco commute; Jeff's wife, Victoria, is teaching social science and computer classes at a high school in Redwood City. Stacy still enjoys emergency medicine, has finished residency at UC San Diego, passed her written boards (her oral boards are next month, in Chicago), and works with a great team in the Emergency Department at a community hospital in Brawley. She married Sal Gomez, a nurse, and set up a house and garden in the Normal Heights neighborhood of San Diego. Sal now has his dream job: a Peripherally Inserted Central Catheter (PICC Line) specialist in the UC San Diego hospital system. We celebrate holidays with them here and in San Diego, and help with remodeling, cooking, and gardening.

We have done some interesting traveling in the last four years:

- Burma (Myanmar) for three weeks in January 2013 where Dave taught beginning seismology to engineers and scientists in this earthquake-prone country.
- May of 2013 found us in Greece and Sicily for scientific endeavors and to see valued friends.
- September of 2013 saw a month of teaching seismology to students in Northern Italy; during which we spent a week in Paris sampling croissants, walking in gardens, cruising the Seine on an unforgettable dinner cruise, and avoiding museums, and four days in Barcelona visiting our lovely niece and nephew-in-law, enjoying Gaudi architecture, and learning to eat like Spaniards, that is, at all hours, all the time.
- Dave was awarded the 2014 William B. Joyner Lectureship for the Seismological Society of America. He gave his lecture a number of times in Alaska, California, New Mexico, Utah, Greece, and Turkey, providing yet more visits with good friends.
- 2015 included a backpack trip and some hiking in the Sierra. It was also the occasion of our 50th anniversary hosted by our children in the garden with 50 of our closest friends, family, and some of the original wedding party, including a hiking buddy from our youth, Jim Tanis. Stacy's wedding was another beautiful occasion on the La Jolla bluffs overlooking the Pacific. Jeanie, my sister, and I helped Stacy with hundreds of flowers, and we had a family reunion beforehand.
- New Zealand and Sydney, Australia, in March and April, 2016. Dave gave three Joyner lectures, but we mostly drove around the South Island, partly with Jeff, with an additional week in and near Sydney.

Our current project is to enable Jeff's family of 5 to move into our house, and we into a cottage to be built in the rear of the orchard. I am hurriedly transplanting fruit trees, roses, and artichokes that would otherwise be buried by the new structures. All but one is alive so far. The cottage has been 1.5 years in the planning so far; it is not out of City deliberations yet. We should have visitor space if you'd like to come see it when finished.

The orchard is still a satisfying reminder that life endures, and our trivial pursuits are of relatively little consequence, soon to be forgotten in geologic time. On a human scale we still enjoy sharing culinary outings with friends, opera screenings once a month, back-packing in the summer Sierra, each other's company. 51 years of marriage-- 55 of knowing each other-- have not dimmed or diminished our relationship—to the contrary: we have become better and more loving partners. We also have the great good fortune to live near one of our children, and have been able to visit the other, though far less often than we'd prefer. And we are all still relatively healthy, if creaky, and hoping you are healthy, too.

Our love and best wishes,

Judy and Dave