

## ***Merry Christmas***

We wish everyone good health and glad tidings. Our boys have been on the move, while Eric and Margie remain pretty much status quo.

Eric celebrated his 60<sup>th</sup> birthday with fanfare in January. For an old man, he stays remarkably busy. He rode three centuries this year, as well as participating in many of the KC area bicycle rides, plus Biking Across Wisconsin. His office transitioned to electronic medical record this year.

Margie celebrated her 60<sup>th</sup> birthday with fanfare in July. For an old woman, she stays remarkably busy. KU Hospital added three new floors and two new ICUs this year. Over time was had by all. Her garden was challenged with the heat and drought, but outdoor work remains her preference.

Alan left Toronto in August for a new job in the LA area. He is in Waco, Texas this week working on his current big project: Baylor's new football stadium. He is working with some buddies from his previous Las Vegas firm. He loves living within walking distance to the beach. He is looking forward to watching KSU play at the Fiesta Bowl in January.

Daniel and Gabi celebrated their 11-11-11 marriage with a reception in OP in June. Daniel and Gabi both work for the same bank in Tacoma, but at different branches. They moved to a better apartment in August, and they are now within walking distance to Gabi's branch. They are enjoying finding new adventures in the northwest.

The farm remains a chance for us all to run the chain saw, mow, clear brush, and try to keep ahead of repairs. We got a 2012 Heritage Trust Fund grant for architect work on the house structure report. The next step is letting bids on the major construction work of water infiltration prevention in the cellar and replacing rotted first floor beams and joists. The roof is being replaced this winter. We've come so far, and we have so far to go.

We enjoyed seeing family and friends throughout the year. High points were the Dyck reunion, Larry and Marilyn's 50<sup>th</sup> wedding celebration in Estes Park in August, and having our whole family together for Thanksgiving in Tacoma. We welcomed grand-niece Clara and grand-niece Hartley to our extended family.

We wish everyone a peaceful Christmas and a renewed spirit for 2013!