

A New Year

2020

Greeting From Marilyn & Guy

December 2019

*Happy Holidays
and a Great New Year
from both of us!*

Now in our fifth year in single-level living in our apartment, the move has proved to have been "just-in-time", as Marilyn has been afflicted with sciatica caused by a cyst impinging on the sciatic membrane near the base of her spine. The effect on the sciatic nerve bundle causes pain and cramps in her legs, limiting her mobility; life in our former 3-level home of 50 years would not have been possible. Fortunately, a cocktail of medicines prescribed by a neurosurgeon limits the symptoms and provides her with reasonable mobility most of the time, no cane in the apartment, a cane for shorter distances elsewhere and a 4-wheel "Rollator" for longer distances (e.g., in a mall on a shopping binge with granddaughters). She has a "personal-trainer" who works with her 3-4 times per month, or when she has a particular problem that requires attention. The trainer came to us via a brochure we found describing her physical rehabilitation services during our short-lived interest in medical marijuana as a replacement for the aforementioned cocktail of medications. Marilyn also has more frequent help with household chores. These assets helped prepare her to attend the marriage of a granddaughter in St. Louis (more below). They have also helped her continue some of her activities, at a reduced level to be sure: she has placed Japanese flower-arrangements in the apartment and elsewhere here and there, attend "talk-sessions" with groups of women her age (more-or-less) and decorate the apartment for Christmas, among other things.



Some of the apartment decorations

Susan & Carmon Family

- **Ashley and Adrian** were married on 12 October in St. Louis, with the ceremony taking place in the Jewel Box, a building constructed in 1936 in the form of a stepped pyramid, with walls and roof of large glass panels. Ashley was attended by her sisters, with the ceremony conducted by Jessica's husband, Charles.



Ashley and Adrian outside Jewel Box

The ceremony was followed by a dinner for the wedding guests at the Kemper Art Museum on the Washington Univ St Louis campus, and the guests enjoyed a very good band along with their dinner and later on the dance floor.



Ashley and Adrian cut the cake

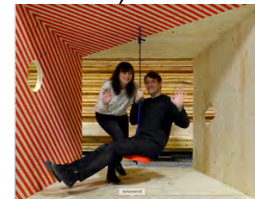
<http://www.andrew.cmu.edu/user/gcberry/family.html>

The cousins from the East enjoyed the wedding and the chance to dance afterward.



The cousins cozy-up at the wedding. The couple live in St. Louis, where Ashley is the manager of a Banana Republic Store and Adrian has undertaken the quest for an MFA in the Sam Fox School of Wash U.

- **Chelsea** continues her love of riding her horse Rowan, training her dog to earn a certificate as a Therapy Dog (see the Supplementary images), and pursuing her career in occupational therapy in a new position in Atlanta GA, interspersed with occasional visits to her parents.
- **Jessica and Charles** have had a good year with their architectural firm, while teaching architecture at the University of Arkansas. They created a 1st place award winning entry in a National competition for placement of an interactive installation comprising several portable units on Roosevelt Island in NY, and subsequently were in the top 5 in an International competition (including some very well-funded entries).



Jessica & Charles demonstrate one unit

- Susan & Carmon continue their respective life styles. Carmon as Dean of the Sam Fox School and practicing artist and Susan in her work with the "Story Stitchers" group she founded to work with economically disadvantaged young people in St. Louis; a principal goal was to help suppress gun violence. The activities of the "Story Stitchers" have attracted attention in St. Louis, and its choral group has had frequent invitations to perform. One of the young people in the group has been taken on as a Program Manager.

Sandra Family

Sadly the Mauro children unexpectedly lost their father, Neil, from a heart attack and complications on 18 June

- Sandra has made trips to parks near and far in the US, along with occasional visits to see Kim, Jon and her grandsons. She visited 56 parks in 2019, to hike, kayak or camp, in locations ranging from Hawaii (with Kim) to northern Maine (with its rocks), Florida (with its beautiful sun sets and alligators) and California (with its mountains and deserts), including 6 National Parks.
- **Colleen** is in her final year at SVC, BS (Finance) 2020, with a strong grade record, being elected to the Delta Mu Delta, Business Honor Soc. She continues equestrian competitions with her new horse Vespa, two this year, winning one of those-see supplementary photos.
- **Casey** returned to Pittsburgh with her friend Michael for the Christmas Holidays.



Casey and Michael in Pittsburgh

She returned to college with a move to UGA in 2019 after a 1 yr lapse, hoping to enter the elementary teaching curriculum in 2020. She acquired a VESPA Italian scooter (alias Penelope) for her transportation needs in Athens,

and cofounded an equestrian vaulting team, with her friend Savannah, using her horse for the group. She acquired a VESPA Italian scooter (Penelope) for her transportation.

Kevin returned to SJM's home for a prolonged visit following Neil's death—helping out with the horses, etc., during his stay; he has signed up for classes at a college in the Spring.



Casey and Kevin in Pittsburgh

- **Kim and husband Jon** continue with their respective careers and child-rearing, with Jacob (7), Sawyer (4) and Lawson (2), along with teen-age foster-daughter, who has been with them since 2018. A Family event on Mother's Day celebrated the adoption of Lawson.



Lawson explains the problem to Poppy Kim has been certified Nationally for both adult and pediatric hospice, and she has embarked on a project to gain admittance to a PhD program at Duke (just to keep herself occupied!). She joined her mother for 10 days in the Hawaiian islands, Hawaii and Maui.

- **Kaitlyn and Edward** moved to Birmingham AL to complete Edward's final year in medical school at the Univ Alabama at Birmingham. They live with their 3 yr old great dane and 8 yr old chihuahua, a cat and a turtle in a spacious rented house. Kaitlyn hopes to write a fictionalized story of some her life experiences. Edward hopes to emphasize

neuropathology during his final semester, and is now with a group using MRI methods to follow the neurological effects of some medications.

Scott & Cheryl Family

- Scott and Cheryl continue their respective careers, a carpenter and a project administrator, respectively. Scott continued his years-long renovations of their house, this time expanding the kitchen space to share some space with the dining room, installing new lighting, counter tops and back splashes in the kitchen. The family and Chris trekked to St. Louis to attend the wedding of Ashley and Adrian, with Scott especially enjoying the after dinner bands.
- **Hanna** continues her respiratory nursing at a hospital in Pittsburgh, and has moved into a house with Chris. She begins her second semester of Graduate school in Jan. Her goal is to graduate with a Masters in Health Services Administration. Chris was upgraded to Captain for Republic Airlines. They volunteer at Zachary's Mission, a charity for families with medically fragile children, including a premature baby in a neonatal intensive care unit.



Hanna and Chris at a Zachary Mission event

- **Chloe** continues her scholastic excellence in her sophomore year in high school, while also continuing her excellence in playing volleyball for the high school team and some other groups during the year.



Chloe returning the volley ball

Supplementary Photos from 2019 + one from yester year

A few more decorations in Apt 2



Wall shelves



Kitchen corner



Interior door



Room Divider Table

Susan & Carmon Family



Susan & Jessica in NY



Same Two relaxing



Jessica receives her award



Jessica and Charles @ Installation



Chelsea with Rowan



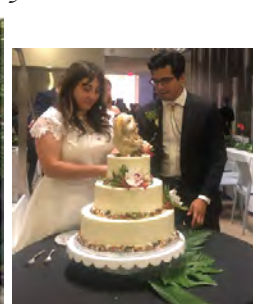
Chelsea with Riley



Ashley & Adrian now married



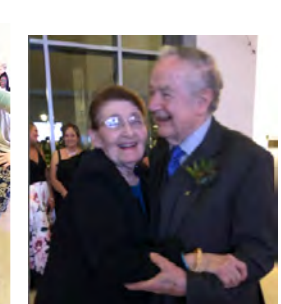
Attendants in ceremony



Cutting the cake



The Cousins from the East



Enjoying a dance



Family Group after the Wedding

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Scott & Cheryl Family



Scott with parents



Cheryl with Marilyn



Chloe on a return



Chloe-Best Player



Chloe on Thanksgiving



Hanna and Chris @ Event



Scott, Cheryl & family at "the Wedding"



Scott, Cheryl & family on the beach

Sandra Family



Sandra in California for Super Poppy Bloom



Colleen & horse take a jump



Colleen in dressage



Seen at "The Wedding"



Sandra & boys on a hike



Sandra and kayak



Sandra and Kim on Maui



Sandra & Casey on Hike

Yester-year



Susan, Sandra, Grandpa Berry in the 60's