



A New Year

2022

Greeting From Marilyn & Guy

December 2021

<http://www.chem.cmu.edu/groups/berry/gcb-private/family.html>

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

The year 2021 has continued the Covid-motivated sequestration in our apartment begun in 2020, with minimal visits with family members or others, and those that could be arranged involving "social distancing" and facial masks. We are triple-vaccinated with Moderna. The (temporary) reduction in Covid cases in Pittsburgh permitted some relief of our isolation to allow a family party out-of-doors on 4 July outside our apartment, attended by Kimberlee, Jon and family, Sandra and four of her children and Jessica and family. We enjoyed a masked attendance to two River City Brass concerts, with help from Cheryl for Marilyn.



4th July @101 with grandchildren: L-R: Jessica, Kevin, Kimberlee, Colleen, Casandra, with MJB & GCB



4th July @101: Sandra, Casandra and friend Michal in the back; Kim and foster-child Jayvon next to us

During a low period of infections we enjoyed Thanksgiving dinner in our apartment with the family of a CMU colleague, and a few visits with Sandra. Marilyn started back to activities with some of her outside activities with the easing of the Covid threat and had near weekly remote visits with our two great granddaughters. We both enjoyed walks out-of-doors in good weather, Guy in 1.2 mile walks in the morning and afternoon, but Marilyn's affliction with sciatica has limited her outdoor walking activities to daily walks of about 1/4 to 1/3 mi; that activity is limited as the winter weather develops. Marilyn broke the tedium of sequestration in the apartment by decorating in the Christmas spirit, albeit that the decorations are those stored away after Christmas 2020. She also started work on another Christmas stocking on the birth of a girl to Ashley and Adrian, finishing it in time as a present to **Remi** for Christmas. The need for an aortic valve replacement in April and a heart rate pace maker in September for GCB put a damper on his out-door walking for a few days, his driving for several weeks, and the plans to clear out his former office in the Mellon Institute for months, now a task with a goal for completion before 2022. Arthritis in her left shoulder hinders her use of her left arm. A Polish lady has helped us with household chores for 3-4 decades has been very helpful this year. She has helped Marilyn with massages 2-3 times per week in 2021, and brought delicious food dishes to us from time-to-time. She helped us as a chauffeur during the period when GCB could not drive.

Despite the difficulties, we are content for the most part, and agree

with Bette Davis who opined: "Getting old ain't for sissies!"



Some of the apartment decorations

Susan, Carmon & Family

- **Susan & Carmon** continue their respective life styles. They have enjoyed their two granddaughters, including trips to visit each in their new homes (see below).



Nana Susan with granddaughter Maya (& friend)

Susan continues to lead the charitable organization, *Saint Louis Story Stitchers*, whose work focuses at-risk youth and public health and safety issues. The group publishes a podcast called *StitchCast Studio* led by the youth, available through apple podcast or google play. See: storystitchers.org.

Carmon continues his career as Dean of the Sam Fox School of Design and Visual Arts at Washington University and a practicing artist with the creation of new art.

He exhibited new work in September at Bruno David Gallery in St. Louis. Mostly, the couple enjoys being new grandparents!



Grandpa Carmon with Maya at 1 year

• **Jessica and Charles** had a year full of surprises watching their daughter **Maya Sage** reach her 1-yr birthday on 22 October—healthy and walking like a veteran by year end. Marilyn enjoyed many Facetime sessions with Maya during the year as Maya developed--Maya clearly came to recognize her Great-GrandNana on the computer screen, and enjoy the interaction. We got to meet Maya in person when her parents attended the 4 July gathering on the lawn of our apartment. Maya is a visual duplicate of Jessica at the same age, and is blessed with a usually calm demeanor.



Maya with parents



Maya on her throne surveying her subjects

The couple are both tenure track faculty at the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville, while also

maintaining their architectural practice called Somewhere Studio. They have designed condos in Dallas and won Best of 2021 in Social Impact from The Architect's Newspaper for a bus shelter design. They designed a major kitchen renovation on their home.



The Prize Winning Bus Stop by Jessica and Charles

• **Ashley and Adrian** welcomed the birth of daughter **Remi Colangelo** on 11 January 2021, half-way between the birthdays of Marilyn & Susan (9 and 13 January, respectively). As with her cousin, Remi has had many Facetime contacts with Marilyn, and learned to recognize her Great-GrandNana on the screen—so far, we have not had the pleasure of meeting her in person. Both Remi and Maya have the personalities of their respective mothers.



Ashley created a number of quilts displayed in St. Louis and Italy exhibits featuring the art of a well-known artist.



A part of Ashley's quilt exhibit

Adrian earned his MFA in the Sam Fox School of Wash U., and accepted an Assistant Professorship in the Art Department of the University of Florida in Gainesville Florida.



Susan with Ashley, Remi and Adrian in FL

• **Chelsea** continues in her practice as an occupational therapist at McKenna Therapeutic Farms while living in Kennesaw and enjoying the diverse offerings for outings in Georgia, from camping to baseball, with her friends. Chelsea continues to enjoy her horse Rowan and dog, Riley who sometimes helps her in her work as a therapist.



Chelsea with Josh, a friend

Sandra & Family

• Sandra has cut back on trips to parks this year owing to Covid-19, and the time required to ready her horse farm for sale, caused her to cancel a trip to visit her grandsons and restricted her to one-day hiking trips. She is moving to much smaller rented accommodations in Somerset, about 70 miles from Pittsburgh and 40 miles from Greensburg, the two sites her job may take her. The farm is owned by a midwife friend and her husband, and offers properties for rent. She had to move, store, sell, give away or trash the furnishings in her farm house to make it ready to sell, and make arrangements with a real estate agent to assist her in the sell.

• **Colleen** has had a 2021 influenced by Covid-19 in many ways—some to her benefit, and some

otherwise. Despite Covid, she was able to continue her involvement as instructional and event organizer for Rolling Rock Hunt Pony Club (a local equine youth organization) throughout the summer. After being recruited to work with Axon Enterprise, Inc. as a part of their two-year Finance Leadership Development Program, she expected to start work in their headquarters in Scottsdale, Arizona, in September. By September Covid-19 forced the company to transition to remote work for most of their office personnel, and Colleen worked at home in Pittsburgh until moving to North Carolina to permit her to continue training with her horse, Vespa, taking her dog, Holly, with her. She expects to move to Scottsdale in 2022. Late in the year she was delighted to be invited to join a group to develop environmental programs for the company. Unfortunately, in jumping her new horse, it missed bumped the gate, and on landing it bucked her off, injuring her heel on landing—damage uncertain at this writing.



L to R: Colleen, Kim, Sandra, Casey and Lawson

- **Casey** is in the fourth year of a 5-year program at UGA leading to a dual BA and MA elementary teaching curriculum in Spring 2023. She made the President's List (again) for scholarship, with straight A's. Covid-19 has forced UGA to move to remote teaching, but Casey was able to have some practice teaching this year. She has continued her interest in equestrian vaulting, and is teaching the sport to a group in Athens, using her horse.



Casey and Michael in Pittsburgh

- **Jon and Kim** had their usual busy (hectic?) year. Kim in her second year at Duke University for a PhD in Nursing. She continues to ride her horse Channing and found time to earn scores towards her silver medal. Jon is the Director of IT at Duke Health. Since he works online due to Covid, he has extra time to spend in the kitchen cooking many new and tasty dishes.



L to R: Sawyer, Jacob, Lawson

Jacob (9) is still taking riding lessons and playing soccer. He enjoyed many summer days at the pool, often doing front flips off the diving board. He also enjoys Nintendo and Pokemon cards.



Jacob in his soccer uniform

Sawyer (6) is proving to be a whiz in kindergarten, often telling us that "he already knows everything". He likes to build things with his blocks and train sets and likes art. **Lawson (4)** especially appreciates his father's cooking—that may not mean too much since he has not yet found a food he will not eat. His biggest accomplishment this year was learning to swim and dive, and to do those very well. He also loves to ride his balance bike.



Jon and Kimberlee with Jacob, Lawson and Sawyer

- **Kaitlyn and Edward** are living in Birmingham AL to complete Edward's medical residency in research and clinical medicine at the Univ Alabama at Birmingham. They live with their 4 dogs, including a 4 yr old great dane, an 9 yr old chihuahua, a cat and a turtle in a spacious rented house. Kaitlyn has filled their home with flowering plants, while developing an interest in ballet & yoga. Edward hopes to emphasize neuro pathology 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 works in the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America and Cheryl is a Sr Project Administrator for a local engineering firm. Due to Covid-19 she works remotely, and reports that she prefers that to being in the office.
- **Hanna** was awarded a Masters in Health Services Administration in August of 2021. She accepted a position teaching Respiratory Therapy at the Pittsburgh Career Institute.
- **Chloe** completed her first semester at Duquesne University, making the Dean's List with straight A's. She is living on the campus, and didn't return to her parent's home too often during the semester. She has set a high bar for the following semesters!



L-R: Hanna, Cheryl, and Chloe, with Maya in the middle

Supplement

A list of the families by generation follows below with a few additional images

The list below presents the given names for the generations of the families mentioned in this letter, starting with Marilyn and Guy. I hope the structure of the list will be apparent to you:
1—Marilyn & Guy; 2---our children; 3-- our grandchildren (and their parents); 4-- our great grandchildren (and their parents)!

- 1-- Marilyn & Guy
- 2-- Susan, Sandra, Scott
 - 3-- (Susan & Carmon): Jessica, Ashley, Chelsea
 - 3-- (Sandra & Harold): Kimberlee
 - 3-- (Sandra & Neil): Kaitlyn, Kevin, Rebecca, Colleen, Casandra
 - 3-- (Scott & Cheryl): Hanna, Chloe
 - 4-- (Kimberlee & Jon): Jacob, Sawyer, Lawson
 - 4-- (Jessica & Charles): Maya
 - 4-- (Ashley & Adrian): Remi

