

December 1978



Greetings!

I don't feel good about not writing an individual note to you, but time has its constraints!

Ann (first from left above) spent the summer in Portugal as an AFS student. She is a freshman at Colby (Waterville, Maine) now.

Karen is a high school Senior and "big sister" (by a few days and minus some inches) to our new family member, Agneta Nilsson. "Neta" is also a senior living with us this year on the AFS program from Sweden (unfortunately, she is not in the picture above!).

Steven is doing well in seventh grade, learning lots about computers (and teaching me a little!), and spent a ~~week~~^{month} this summer at camp on Menatolin Island (between Lake Huron and Georgian Bay).

Richard graduated from M.I.T., backpacked in Europe and is now a first year law student at T.J.U. in Brunswick Village.

Such a brief summation barely glimpses the joys and challenges they each find, but we'll be happy to share with you.

We wish you well!

Fondly,

P.S. Butterscotch is as beautiful and ferocious as he looks!
Carol



Christmas
1980

This is our last year with academics being the main pursuit of all the younger generation. Richard is in his last year of N. Y. U. Law School and very enthusiastic about his legal clinic work in the Criminal Courts. Ann is finishing up at Colby this year and considering many options for "what next?". Karen is at State University for the year and is exploring where to continue her studies for a major in Communications. Steven is enjoying the greater freedom of high school and the status of being the tallest family member.

Our move in April was enlightening as 15 years of accumulations were dealt with. Our "new" home is good. Best wishes to you and yours!



Christmas 1985

Karen - a terrible picture - Steven - Laura
Ann - ^{of me} Butterscotch - Richard - "Cousin Fred"

It's been a busy, poignant year...

Several deaths of close ones including my dear niece Kay and dynamic stepmother Jo.

The family progresses....

Richard and Laura's wedding in August.

Ann's trip to Japan and start of advanced study in medical anthropology at Case Western Reserve

Karen planning ahead in her last year of "communication" at Kent State

Steven continuing to develop his specialness - now including the independence of driving.

In Athens, Ohio, Richard and Laura's new kitten "Cousin Fred" arrives and her Butterscotch leaves in December's Indian Summer.

I continue in my work and personal life to grow in my appreciation of the preciousness of each life and its significance in my world.

Carol

Christmas 1987

Dear Mother,

This has been a year of great joy with grandchildren. I have shared many hours of love and play with Jennie, now 3 and Chris 1½.

Jennie, Laura and Richard moved to New Philadelphia, Ohio (only 1½ hours from me!). Richard is again with Legal Services. Laura continues as state researcher for the Ohio Public Interest Campaign.

Chris and Ann were in Russia with the Peace March. She has worked with Collective Vision, the band active in the peace movement. Their percussionist, John Dewey and Ann are getting married - legally in October 1987; spiritually, this New Year's Eve in Colorado; and socially, in May 1988. They have chosen the family name of Stillwater. The band's westward tour is planned to lead toward settling in Southern California.

Steven completed his "co-op" work with Johnson and Johnson's Personal Products of New Jersey in August. He is now job hunting as he completes his senior year in biomedical engineering at Rensselaer.

Karen moved to Philadelphia in March and now is moving to Youngstown, Ohio as Assistant Promotions Manager with WKBN-TV.

My good year has included continued challenge at Reach Out and some marvelous overseas travel.

I wish you great blessings for the holidays and 1988.

Carol

Christmas 1988

This is a (nother?) year without a Christmas Card from me. I have the idea and the materials but not the time*. Maybe Steven and I will produce them in January for next year.

The picture was taken in May at Ann and John's marriage reception in a local park. John's mother took the picture capturing my pleasure with Jennie and Chris.

Chris, Ann and John live in southern California. Ann is in nursing school and Collectivesion is still struggling to make the big-time music world.

Jennie, Richard and Laura enjoy their home in New Philadelphia. Laura's work includes writing a column for Ohio newspapers about issues of the environment, legal rights and consumer education.

Karen is now Promotions Director for WKBN-TV, CBS in Youngstown. Steven has a research assistancehip in conjunction with obtaining a masters degree in electrical engineering from RPI.

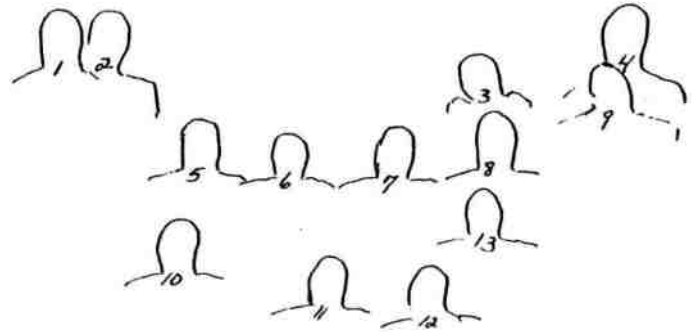
It's been a busy year for Reach Out and for my church congregation - where I am completing my term as moderator.

Our whole family plans to be together here for Christmas. My Father is planning to be here, too.

May your Christmas and new year be richly blessed with the joy of God's love.

*We all know that means I procrastinated!

December 1996



Dear Aunt Ada,

The photo was taken November 29, 1996 in Florida as we celebrated my father's special birthday. "Art Barr - Lighting Ninety Years" He started his career in the neon sign business. Retired as manager of engineering for the Large Lamp Division of GE at Nela Park. And lights many charitable, friendly and family glows, avocationally.

Laura, Richard and Jennie [1,2 & 11 in the photo] have been lighting New Philadelphia. Jennie has sung and performed in plays and programs. Laura has "published" major research findings on campaign finance, on top of her standard responsibilities. And Richard's law practice has completed a strong first year with three cases submitted to the Ohio Supreme Court and an important "whistle blower" defense among his clients.

J.D., Ann, Christopher and Robin [8, 13, 11 & 3] are lighting academic endeavors. J.D. is back in college, full-time, seeking to complete certification as a teacher. Ann, an active public health nurse, also is taking evening courses, pursuing certification as a school nurse. Christopher has moved into the sixth grade for his classroom studies. Robin, also, combines home schooling and classroom work . . . hers in first grade.

Rick and Karen [4 & 9] have green lights of change. Karen's now employed as a regional membership representative for the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. Rick has begun exploring his options for completing his certification as a teacher and has nearly stopped smoking!

Deb and Steve [5 & 10] shine a beacon into future options that may be available to them when Deb completes her Pathology Boards next summer. Meanwhile, they have added a second feline to their family.

Bob and I [6 & 7] work to keep the lights lighting. We enjoyed a September cruise on the Hurtigruten for twelve days around Norway's inspiring coastline, where the Northern Lights impressed and delighted. In January, I became founding co-ordinator of a pilot program of Lorain County Juvenile Probation to screen and assess for, and then serve probationers and their families if there are mental health or drug/alcohol problems. My daily two-hour commute leads me to think that I will probably complete but not renew my terms as clerk of my church and as board member for our campus ministry. My house is up for sale, but hasn't sold yet.

May this season of lights in the darkness warm your spirit and strengthen your hope and faith.

*Love,
Carol*

Thank you - for your loving support! So good - even if so limited - being together in Florida - C.

December 1997

We gathered here October 25, 1997 to welcome Elise Jessica Renner (Ellie) on her first Ohio visit. What a honey! Deb and Steve (Rochester, New York) create a heart-warming expanded family setting with Ellie. Deb completed her pathology residency and is doing well on her Board exams. Steve has achieved his first patent and his first award at Bausch and Lomb.

Chris and Jennie played Beethoven's *Fur Elise* on the piano several times to greet their new cousin!

Karen and Rick (Youngstown, Ohio) are on track for a pool (i.e. like billiards) contest that could take them to the nationals. Karen, professionally, has moved on to developing new contacts for a respected "marketing communication" company.

Ann, J.D., Christopher, and Robin (Bowerston, Ohio) are busy, especially with educational pursuits. J.D. completed his undergraduate work (mostly, in the last two years at the University of Akron) and received his degree from Cornell. This year he is obtaining his teaching certification (in science) and seeking a teaching position for next year. Ann continues her public health and hospice nursing while completing the coursework for school nurse certification. Christopher is in seventh grade and marching with the high school band. Robin is an enthusiastic second grader; a fine reader, a talented artist and a lively soul.

Richard, Laura and Jennie (New Philadelphia, Ohio) have refurbished their home this year along with maintaining their important vocations. Richard's law practice has included an important "whistle blower" case, several Ohio Supreme Court appeals and serving as an treasurer for the County Bar Association. Laura works on significant campaign finance research and dissemination of the information. Both of them are active in building support for Hispanic residents in their area. Seventh grader Jennie has had several solos in school performances. She and Richard appeared in the "Amish" chorus of their community theater's production of Plain and Fancy this summer. Jennie also enjoys her pre-algebra class and horseback riding.

I completed my employment with Juvenile Probation in March. I am working my second consulting contract and considering additional options. I completed excellent training for volunteering with hospice and find the volunteering rewarding. Travels this year included the family gathering at Chautauquau; Florida (including being my sister's and brother-in love's first Florida house guests within their first week there) to visit my Father and Disney, etc. with Jennie, Karen and Rick; Lake Mohonk Mountain House with Bob as guests of my Aunt Ada; and Colorado with Bob, visiting his youngest son's wonderful, lively family.

Of course, there have also been trips to New York state to make sure Ellie and I know each other. . . And trips to Bowerston, New Philadelphia, Youngstown and points between for events and gatherings. I continue to serve as clerk of my church. My area code changed, making my # (440) 248-9047. My home computer capacity thrives thanks especially to Bob (386 and monitor), Richard (keyboard, set-up and software) and Steven (printer, D drive, and printer).

Since all of the next generation have cats as pets, and most have two, I'm thinking we could send you the pets' group picture next year (probably drawn, not photographed!). All entries are welcome!

Best regards to you and yours, *Geel, John, Bob*

*love,
Carol*



December 1998

Blessings of the season to you and yours.

I spent a good portion of the year with hospice . . . first as a volunteer and then as an employee. Perhaps by spring, I'll return to volunteering.

I am in training for Stephen Ministry with my congregation. I continue as clerk and Association representative there. I am just beginning to be "on line" (Carol.B.Renner@worldnet.att.net) . . .still learning how to receive and send mail (a friend correctly says I'm still "on training wheels").

This year Chautauqua included the whole family; plus Barbara, Chuck and Janet Klein for a special day. Christopher, Karen and I enjoyed a fine June week in Florida. Bob Fay and I vacationed for an autumn week in Voss, Norway.

I plan to be in Florida for a week next month. My Father is now in an assisted living unit there.

My mother's sister, Ada Arfsten enjoyed Thanksgiving dinner at a friend's home and then unexpectedly died two days later. . . about fifteen years after her older sister's death and about thirty year's after her younger (my mother) sister's.

The children and grandchildren are progressing well. As usual, I seem to be flurrying with the season, enjoying holiday programs, loving relationships, and new learnings.

December 1999

Greetings!

May you be enjoying this season of love and wonder.

The enclosed photo is from the family gathering that occur in May 1999.

I have traveled to Florida four times this year, greatly appreciating the welcoming hospitality of Barbara and Chuck; and the opportunities to visit our Father, nearby, in his assisted living facility. Even I am amazed that three of those trips included Disney World . . . once with my aunt and once with Elise, Deb, Steve and Karen.

Bob Fay and I did well with an autumn vacation in Oregon and northern California. Highpoints include

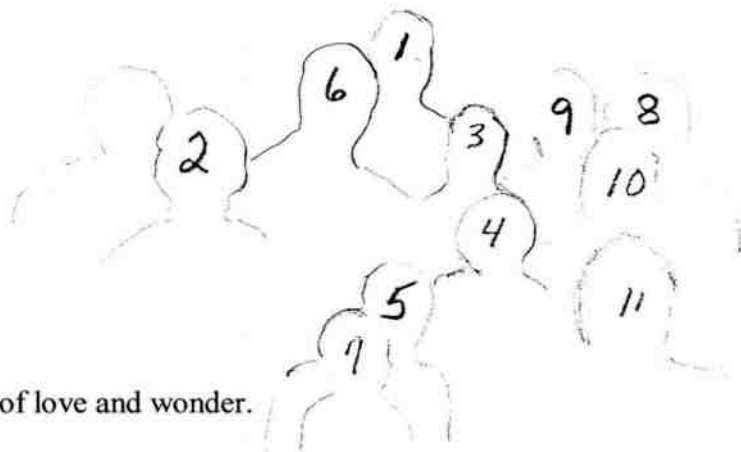
- visits with friends and family members,
- The "Mounts" (Hood, Shasta, Lassen and Crater Lake),
- giant redwoods,
- spectacular coastlines,
- 2000miles of driving,
- exploring the haunts of dear Aunt Eleanor with whom the trip was planned but modified when she succumbed a month before our arrival,
- and our learning to "ask the local folks" for advice when we had questions.

I am still "on training wheels" with my computer skills, but finding great pleasure in E-mail (Carol.B.Renner@worldnet.att.net) and learning new capabilities in general.

I plan to take a course next month in "The Prophetic Tradition - Then and Now" at Colgate Rochester Divinity School. There are a number of books to read now, a week on campus, and then writings to develop, complete and submit in the subsequent weeks. My excitement and apprehension are well exercised!

Laura, Richard, and Jennie (8, 9 & 10 in the key to the photo) traveled in Europe for about two weeks in June. Karen (11) joined them for one week. She also started new employment late this year. JD, Ann, Chris and Robin (1, 2, 3 & 4) are developing their itinerary for their coming summer of travels west (to the west coast and back, with many plans along the way). Deb, Steve and Elise (5, 6 & 7) also keep on the go; for example I have been with them in at least four zoo-like places this year.

My faith and the support it receives from my family, friends, activities and church nourish me richly. I wish you similar fulfillment in your own special paths.



December 2000

For 41 years a colorful Santa Claus led off our outdoor Christmas decorations. Homemade from a single slab of plywood, he was wired to the chimney or hung from the siding of our progression of homes. Each year through Advent to Twelfth Night, my mind saw him as a symbol of nostalgia.

Now in December 2000 a heavy wind has carried him away. His continuing benefit to me is giving me the metaphor I sought for the transitions and metamorphoses experienced this year.

...appreciation and fondness for oh so many blessings

... new stuff, like my succeeding -barely- with an advanced course at Colgate Rochester Divinity School

... evolutions, such as the lessening of Bob Fay's good health and haleness, now with assisted living

...and keeping on, keeping on with lots of love and support.

Next year I'm planning to return to world travel with an April ElderHostel trip to India with my treasured sister-in-law, Ruth Percy. I also plan to continue progressing with my home and clutter for a next "scaling down," possibly in a few years. I hope to continue five or six (or more?) of my volunteer activities at church, while completing my tenure as Clerk. I am optimistic about improving my computer skills and maybe taking up yoga and water aerobics (that may eventually replace my three-times-a-week general aerobics).

The family is fulfilling wonderfully their individual and combined life courses.

Peace and joy to you and yours.

CAROL B. RENNER
6080 LIBERTY ROAD
SOLON, OHIO 44139-2602

Thanksgiving 2001

So much to be thankful for! . . Including that I am thankful for you.

A busy autumn, as construction is underway for an addition to the main floor of my home. Upon completion there will be a new bedroom, full bath and laundry on the first floor. Going along with that will be a replacement den, small garden room (to provide access to the den without going through the kitchen), improved kitchen and enlarged dining room. I expect the ability to live basically on one floor will provide for this being my home for the next ten or so years. I have lived here fifteen years now; the longest I have lived in any one home.

I get to make lots of decisions about construction choices; deal with my enthusiasm and also mud, noise and confusion. Fortunately, the deer evaded the excavation. Do you think, perhaps, yellow warning tape is an interspecies communication? I saw deer fairly close to the digging and wondered if they could feel a different pattern of air currents arising.

I plan to host Christmas dinner here, even if the menu needs to be abbreviated. (Would it even be sandwiches if the kitchen is torn up then?) For now the existing house is fully usable and I expect a small family group here for Thanksgiving dinner.

A weird leg pain has given me a few weeks of appreciating that the reduced stair climbing after the addition is complete, will be good. All else is going well. I plan a few days in Florida in early December, celebrating my father's 95th birthday.

I hope you and yours are well.

December 2001

Peace on earth. Good will to all. Tough goals when feeling threatened. Our world and our country surely need all possible moral strengths to live such commitments. Can we do it? Compared to that challenge, my activities seem less significant than I would hope.

The April Elderhostel trip to northern India witnessed to that country's old (5000 years) and recent actions on behalf of non-violence, peace and receptivity to diversity. Even their air travel security systems are conducted separately for males and females to heed their major religious minority (that is less than 15% of the population). They have innovative procedures for dealing with their extreme weather. Including that the planters scatter assortments of seeds, those that will grow within any of the varied moisture levels that may occur. Villagers and family members interact to support each other through life's joys and trials. Ingenuity, conservation and repeated economic recyclings stretch their resources.

Other travels included a number of trips to Florida, our Chautauqua reunion, and a fine eastern trip, including wonderful Mohonk Mountain House. Local travels increased loving and fun family get-togethers.

My spiritual journey earns more of my time, including Stephen Ministry and volunteering at/with/for my congregation. I am in the midst of an addition to my house to provide all my basic living on the main floor, figuring it will then accommodate my next ten or so years. I enjoy the creativity of it and think I will endure the mud, dust and confusion successfully.

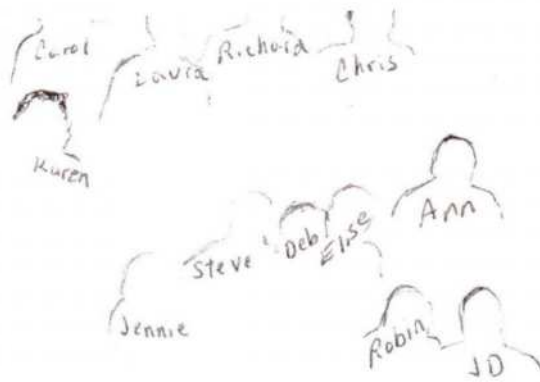
All four grandchildren keep learning their self-expression, sufficiency and kindness beautifully. The "children" are good role models for them in many ways. Deb, Laura and Ann have undertaken new vocations this year . . . Laura organizing with the Immigrant Worker Project of three local dioceses; Deb joining a Family Practice residency and Ann becoming a Yoga instructor.

My father just celebrated his 95th birthday with grace and courage in facing his dizziness, deafness and declining. My agility declines, too . . . I keep increasing the "softness" of my participation with my aerobics group.

Bob Fay and I see a lot of movies and occasionally a play, program at the museum or daytrip. He has undertaken a regimen of reading a few of his regular newspapers and walking outdoors more when he can, to build his strength.

Best regards for you and yours for good holidays and a beneficial new year.

P. S. Last year's "lost" plywood Santa reappeared under a melting snowdrift. C.



December 2002

The above photo was taken at the Chautauqua Institution at the end of May. We plan to repeat our stay there this year. Here's a quick enumeration of the family, if you wish:

Richard got 40% of the vote for "his" judgeship against an incumbent many think needs replacing. Laura is fulfilling important supports for some of the neediest (and most caring) immigrants through Catholic programming. Jennie enjoys drama, college"ing" (Earlham's early decision pending) as an accomplished/accomplishing high school senior, employed at a non-vegetarian fast food spot.

Ann is building her practice of teaching Yoga and serving as a substitute school nurse. JD continues his exemplary teaching. They have expanded their usable space. Chris also is college-questing and doing drama as a high school senior taking local college courses and working at a fast food locale. Robin's 7th grade work at the school includes active basketball and playing percussion in the band.

Karen extricated herself from apartment living with her new (to her) duplex. She continues her communication work and has traveled a lot this past year with experiences of meeting and joining with world citizens.

Steven, too, gets around a lot with several additional business responsibilities in Europe and lots of family involvement in Rochester. Deb is nearing the halfway point of her Family Practice residency with diligence and wisdom. Elise is wonderfully confident with her kindergarten and life-discovery adventures.

Karen and I had good "kid" trips to Florida this year. We swam with manatees at Crystal River with Robin in January. Visited Cinderella's Castle and experienced a hair "wrap" with Elise in October. Enjoyed stays with family (My father is 96 this month.) and Disney both times. My 50-year high school reunion was great fun, much more so than I had expected. And an excellent eastern trip included wonderful visits and sites.

Bob Fay's hip broke in February. His health has declined in many regards since then. He began rehabilitation toward walking, but was set back from that by an additional hospitalization. Our "outings" are strolls on the sidewalks near his place and ambulette rides to his healthcare appointments. We get together a couple of times a week.

I am appreciating my new space at home (and not having workers here), but still have a considerable amount of "settling in" to do. I plan to take my time with it and relish the experience. Construction here pretty much finished by the end of summer. I am finding it challenging to cook as I learn the high tech components of my new stove. It has even slipped into centigrade temperatures when I'm not paying attention.

I am revisiting a former activity by teaching Sunday School after many decades of not doing so. I delight in the eager learning and openness of the elementary aged youngsters. I am still keeping my social work license active. I volunteer at church in general and with our Stephen Ministry, still do aerobics and have started Yoga. I am surprised at both how little Yoga I can do and how much benefit it gives me. I treasure special friendships and relationships that help me have hope, even when world love seems so undervalued. Shalom,

December 2003

A poignant year in the circle of life . . . many milestones.

Enthusiasm Jennie (9) and Chris (11) have started campus life away from home.

I visited Jennie this weekend at Earlham College in Richmond, Indiana. I greatly enjoyed her fine choir's pretour concert of significant works of peace and justice worldwide, mirroring the school's focus. She serves on the choir's steering committee and is co-planning the Earlham Young Friends group.

Chris and a classmate have decided they want to be Renaissance men intellectually. They attend Case Western Reserve University. He works as a computer consultant in the library of the school of social work and serves on the steering committee for the undergraduate school's SAGES program.

A Goal Fulfilled. My decades of interest in volcanoes led me to see an active one. In September Karen (8) and I (5) toured the Big Island of Hawaii and fortunately Kilauea had lava flowing. I am gratified to have witnessed it.

Vocations

Ann (3), JD (1) and Robin (12) move next month to Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. JD will teach in and Robin will be a student in the Circle School, an alternative school for children from preschool age through high school, with self-direction a major focus. Robin is a member of her current school's choir and band, a very successful learner and a phenomenally creative, responsible teacher. Ann plans to explore her options in the Harrisburg area for school nursing and yoga instruction.

Deb (6) is completing her family practice residency next summer. She is exploring her options for entering practice. Steve (7) is active and productive with Bausch & Lomb. Elise (10), a talented first grader, is a wonderful artist, enthusiastic learner and amazingly skilled fashion coordinator. Such a busy schedule!

Karen has added construction work to her marketing career. Laura's (4) work with Hispanic immigrants provides respect and opportunity for young people with vision and courage. Richard's (2) law practice helps several of them, too. He has had a number of favorable settlements for environmental whistleblowers. We enjoy watching Tyler, Richard's little brother in The Big Brother/Little Brother program, grow in maturity as well as height. The two of them traveled to Massachusetts in August. The trip allowed Tyler to become a more practiced reader.

Ending Life Earthly life is structured within the bookends of birth and death, giving us finite limits to relate within. Three lives special to my personal growth and joy ended this year. Each after a decline of health that far exceeded the fullness of life desired. So with gratitude and respect I salute Bob Fay (1/20/03), my life partner for nearly 25 years; Dot Barr (4/30/03), my loving aunt; and my illuminating dad, Art Barr (7/26/03).

May you, too, find the circle of life rewarding, interesting and significant.



December 2004

A good year, personally. A tough year to feel that my government represents my views. I think I would have a bit better match if I lived in Illinois.

I also found Canada's politics pretty congruent with mine. . . and the scenery of the Rockies, very impressive. My Elderhostel tour there warmly fulfilled a long time desire to be there. As an aside it included my first Pullman accommodation, an idyllic night's sleep. At Lake Louise the delicious oatmeal raisin cookie from my packed lunch was stolen from my hand by an aggressive magpie on the fly. I followed the bird and got its photo so I can identify it in a line-up!

Our Chautaugua visit in May was wonderful and even included visits from my dear sister and dear brother-in-law, Barbara and Chuck Klein; and fine cousins Joan and Tom Bayline. Here are updates on our younger members.

- 1) Elise is happily in second grade.
- 2) Robin is skilled in creating bead earrings, her own high school studies and a close relationship.
- 3) Chris is focusing on music, has learned the guitar's basics and plays piano at an art gallery.
- 4) Jennie worked on the election for her summer job and second year at Earlham . . . her major (?)
- 5) Karen now has a dog Abner, shaping many aspects of her life, walks and smiles.
- 6) Deb's Family Practice work took them to Hawaii. She's now in practice near Rochester, NY.
- 7) Steve's B&L work keeps him on the go. Deb accompanied him to Europe in September.
- 8) JD is finding fulfillment in teaching with Circle School, a Sudbury school in Harrisburg, PA.
- 9) Ann is the interim school nurse near Harrisburg; also leading and practicing Yoga.
- 10) Laura is diligent in her ministry to the Hispanic community from Dover Ohio. She and
- 11) Richard traveled in Guatemala two weeks linking families there to their youths in OH. Richard, too, was active in the election and is representing more whistle-blower cases. He prevailed in an Ohio Supreme Court action and is "Big Brother of the year" in his area.

I've driven two trips this year. In April a 3300 mile Florida amble. In August a New York State roam, including another stay at lovely Lake Mohonk Mountain House. So many more people and places to visit! Faith, family and friends enrich me profoundly.

A floatplane ride at Whistler.

The culprit.



Banff.





December 2005

A fine year. Ann and I (B & Q) spent nearly a month in South Africa, our summer, their winter. Our main weeks were volunteering with the wonderful school children (and staff) in Sparrow Rainbow AIDS Hospice near Johannesburg.

Ann, JD and Robin (C & D) hiked a glacier in Alaska in August. They now host Goku during his school year here from Japan. I enjoyed a visit with Christopher and Rose (A & E) in Virginia Beach in April. I was impressed with Kitty Hawk and the Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel and Annapolis. Chris worked at the ARE New Year's and summer camps and is doing website work.

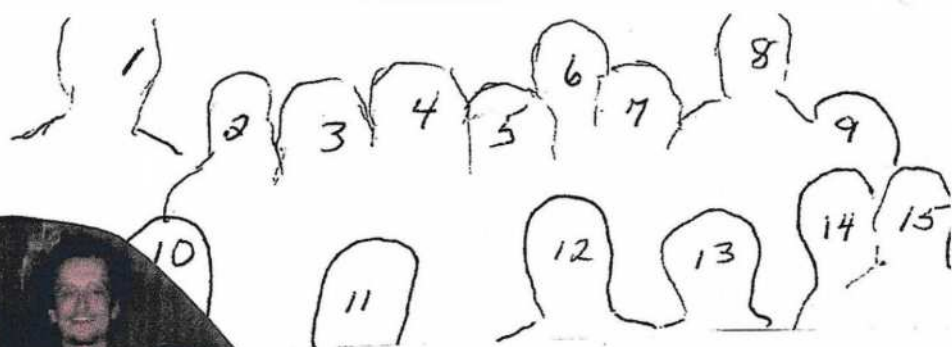
Jennie (F. . . in photo with her friend Marissa -H) was a summer intern in Columbus. Her autumn semester has been with the Border Project. She's living with a family south of the border, taking classes in El Paso, and interning with cross border work. Laura and Richard (G & O) visited her there in October.

Deb (I) is now full-time in Family Practice. She completed the AAFP Run in San Francisco. I delight in having seen skillful Elise (J) (twice!) in her first stage role in August. Steve (P) completed his first bagel run. I met up with the three of them as they disembarked from their Disney Cruise in February and we toured the Kennedy Space Center.

Karen (K) has traveled broadly, worked diligently-including a new WYTV sales position, and recovered well from midyear surgery. "Her" Dan (L)and his treasured ~~fixer~~ *fixer* including Alex (M) and Courtney (N) warmly expand her family and help "amuse" her dog Abner.

We are pictured at Chautaugua in May, where we are booked for next year, too.

Best regards to you and yours for good holidays and a gracious 2006.



December 2008

I enjoy the evolution of family news-making passing to the younger generation(s). This year's photo was taken in May at Maggie's Mercantile Restaurant (vegan) in Stahlstown, Pennsylvania.

Granddaughter Jennie (number 9 in the photo) worked effectively for the election in North Carolina. She's applying for graduate school. We appreciate her fine friend Colin (8). Laura (11) and Richard (12) moved to D.C. this summer as Richard became legal director of The National Whistleblower Center and picked up national level cases. Laura now works full time for a local domestic violence shelter called My Sister's Place.

Ann (15) continues her school nurse position, her Yoga instructing and her academic nursing degree. JD(14) continues his Sudbury teaching and leadership of their UU congregation. They worked at the ARE Camp this summer. Robin(13) completed her high schooling. She is now with AmeriCore at L'ARC HE in Tacoma's residential and organic farming community. Chris(1) continues his computer web programming work and aspiring music career.

Karen(5) and Dan Sargent (6) are engaged, planning a September 12, 2009 wedding in the Youngstown area. Dan's son Alex (Who was not with us for the photo.) is a young advanced-placement college student applying for fall admission. Dan's daughter Courtney (7) continues her academic and athletic successes.

In Virginia Beach, Steve (10) continues with CooperVision. Deb (3) has connected with a workable Family Practice position. Elise (2) entered middle school for nice sixth grade work and gymnastics accomplishments.

I (4) have switched from aerobics and Yoga to Watercise at our Community Center. I hope that improving my musculature will enable me to keep my original joints. I've started preparing my house for sale in a few years and am beginning to look for a rental I'd like to move to then. I enjoy teaching church school, other volunteering, travels and social work continuing education. I am optimistic that my government may increase its congruence with my ambitions for society.

Peace and blessings for you and yours

December 2008

Change is a good byword this year. I started on it a year ago. I decided then that this year will complete my decades of seasonal goody-mania. I see it as having bridged five generations and I thank you for having been a part of it for some of those years.

I suspect that I'll do a very few morsels next year and I look forward to sharing those bits with you. I want us all to expect big reductions from my traditional plan.

Love you,

September 12, 2009
At the happy wedding of
Karen Renner and Dan Sargent



Deb, Steve and Elise
will probably moving from Virginia Beach
one of the next two summers.



Laura and Richard
now living park side in Silver Spring.
Laura now works with the D.C. Friends.
Richard with The Whistleblower Center and practice.
Colin and Jennie lives in Chapel Hill.
He is a computer consultant;
she, a social work student.



Ann and JD of Harrisburg.
She's a school nurse, also completing her PA educational requirements;
he, a teacher and fulfiller of active presidency of their congregation .
Robin has completed her Americore year.
Chris continues musical aspirations and website successes

I appreciate my relationships, activities and learnings
valuing that even more limited agility and stamina can still be "good enough."
All the best to you and yours. Happy 2010.

To view with
photo - roll page
here!

In the D.C. area Richard Renner is Legal Director of the National Whistleblowers Center and Laura Yeomans furthers Catholic Charities' services to the poor in Prince George County. In Chapel Hill Granddaughter Jennie Renner-Yeomans completes her Social Work master's degree and Colin grows his computer software consulting business..

Ann and JD Stillwater live in Harrisburg, PA. working as school nurse at creative Harrisburg Academy and teacher at the extraordinary Circle School. Granddaughter Robin Stillwater is at Davis and Elkins College. Grandson Chris Renner is a musician and website entrepreneur in Cleveland

Karen and Dan Sargent live and work (contract personal/organizational assisting and manufacturing) in Northeast Ohio. . .providing me with abundant personal and daily life supports.

In the Rochester NY area Steven Renner engineers vision care, Deb Renner practices family care medicine and granddaughter Elise Renner swims, babysits and achieves middle school studies.

2011 Quite a year.

My day-to-day

I've continued my basic life activities with lots of help for managing my arthritis limitations. For instance our May gathering (photo-site) was at Punderson State Park, close to Solon, catering to my travel limitations. And Karen is in Solon regularly facilitating my "keeping up."

Three "new" cancer challenges in the family.

Steve was diagnosed with Multiple Myeloma in April. He's had six rounds of chemotherapy and successive regimens to overcome the disease cells and to counter bone damages. His stem cells are harvested and frozen. They can and may be utilized for a marrow transplant.

Deb was diagnosed this autumn with breast cancer leading to a "lumpectomy" with anticipated follow-up radiation and hormonal therapies. Sometimes their medical appointments coincide in time and place. With Elise, they are wonderfully "there for each other" family-wise and individually; (with extended family at times, too).

Within a month of her dropping out of her scheduled weekly tennis matches and coinciding with Steve's diagnosis, my splendid sister, Barbara Klein was diagnosed with incurable, inoperable lung cancer. She tried some chemo-therapies and radiation treatments to little avail. She died as she was initiating hospice care in mid-September. Family members pitched in to enable me to be at both her memorial services, in Florida and in the Toledo area.

New beginnings

Granddaughter Jennie and Colin Copeland became engaged. They are planning a November 2012 wedding, probably in North Carolina. Jennie writes grants for a not-for-profit organization. Colin continues to develop his computer consulting business.

Chris is finding rewards in helping coach a high school mock-court team. He continues his web/consulting work and his musical aspirations.

Robin's student career at Davis and Elkins College soars. She is now a sophomore nursing student, a resident assistant and an employee at the Development Office.

Elise is a fine freshman in high school. She is usually active with a school and/or community sports activity, currently, swimming.

Courtney, a high school junior, transferred to a new school with academic and athletic success.

Alex is in his final year as an undergraduate at the University of Rochester, New York.

Carol



From the left: Alex, Dan and Chris. Back row, Elise, Robin, Courtney, JD, Jennie, Laura, Colin and Richard. Seated: Karen, Deb, Steven, Ann, Carol.

Karen
 Dan
 Alex
 Courtney
 Abner (woof)

Ann
 JD
 Chris
 Robin

Steve
 Deb
 Elise

Richard
 Laura
 Jennie
 Colin

Hi there

December 2012



The above photo of our May gathering omits Courtney, who was at work at the photo moment. In November we - and many more - were together in Durham, North Carolina for Jennie and Colin's wedding. (Courtney's brother Alex was not there.) Many photos from then are available at

<http://www.taterenner.com/colinjenniewedding.php>

My mobility is increasingly limited, yet many joys occur. I feel very heartened with the value considerations, accomplishments and endeavors of our next generation(s). They ease my stepping back as they step forward.

May you also experience love and encouragement.

cbrinoh@gmail

2015

Greetings & blessings to you and yours,

I continue some few activities, including driving. Inadequate mobility and stamina surely are limiting.

Heart-warming Audrey Carol Copeland is a treasure of a (first) great-grand child. She was born in Durham, NC in February. I delight in seeing my 'kids' as wonderful grandparents.

Relationship, service and vocational contributions prevail for family members,.... including their tending to me. I am grateful.

All best wishes,

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December 2016

2016 has included my selecting my next abode. It's a pleasant senior community about an hour away that offers independent living apartments, plus the other types if needed. Karen and her family will be much closer by. They do help so much as my mobility declines. I am first on the facility's waiting list. We hope my home will sell as the new place becomes available.

Nice times with family visits, fine phone updates with friends, keeping up with events and news and (too?) many health care appointments seem to utilize my stamina.

Peace and blessings