

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

HO HO HO and MERRY CHRISTMAS - HAPPY NEW YEAR'S

1997 was a year of many experiences for this branch of the Myers' crew.

Erika is still at Montessori School in the Lower Elementary. Saturday German school is in the routine along with religious instruction to prepare for First Holy Communion. In December she celebrates her 7th birthday. She has had a good year with many new experiences and the pleasure of continuing some of her old favorite things. Erika skied during our '96 February holiday in the Delaware Water Gap area at Shawnee Mt. Digo (Deedou = Ukrainian for Grampa - what we call Mary's dad) is paying to rent her equipment for skiing this season. In April she helped Disney World celebrate its 25th Anniversary along with Tom's snowbird parents, who now have a trailer in St. Petersburg, Fla. Tom and Mary were there too. We even spent a day with Tom's college friends the LeClairs, who live in Melbourne Beach. Erika has had her first piano and dance recitals. Many family members were there to applaud her successes. The summer months brought the Myers' Family reunion, which is always a great pleasure and a week at Bolton's Landing on Lake George at the invitation of Aunt Sandie (Tom's sister) and Uncle Vinnie. It was a special sunny treat. Uncle Vinnie even bought the three nieces a boat for their stay there. (Wait until they start asking him for the keys!) Tom's whole family was there and the three Myers grandchildren enjoyed each other's company immensely. Right after that Baba (Ukrainian for grandmother - Mary's mom) invited Erika and Mary for a week at a Ukrainian resort- Soyuzivka in the Catskills. Erika attended a bilingual Ukrainian-English camp, swam, and fell in love with the resident collie, Chemny - camp is named after him. Mary remembers Chemny from her vacations there as a child. There has always been a collie there and that has always been his name. There were even several days in Boston/Salem/Cambridge before Tom did his thing at MacWorld and "the girls" Erika and Mary went home. We even had a fabulous whale watch out of Boston Harbor with the New England Aquarium crew. Many nice outings were enjoyed with a new cooperative summer group we were invited to join. Thanks Kathy! Lovely moms, children and outings for Erika and Mary! Lots of fun! GOOD PEOPLE! Our Gramma "Gigi" Matthews celebrated a special 99th birthday in October and it was wonderful to visit with many of the Myers family members.

Mary is still teaching. Two classes of Spanish and three of German; four preps and 115 students. Yahoo! In her spare time she does yoga and some work for the State Education Department. This is the year for Jazzercise, an exercise class, to help get through those dark winter months - pump that serotonin and those happy brain juices. Her mom and dad are holding their own and her dad is starting the tremors of Parkinson's disease. His heart is in good shape and his macial degeneration has stabilized. He has reasonably good vision left in one eye. Her mom still keeps everything together for the Dziuba Family and is her usual wise, wonderful self. Her family in Europe is good and we hope to see them again during the summer of 1998, if all goes as planned. We enjoy Mary's mom's good Ukrainian food at holidays. We also try to maintain the Ukrainian and German Holiday customs.