

Christmas 2003

Merry Christmas!

Fröhliche Weihnachten!

Happy Holidays!

¡Feliz Navidad!

Merry Christmas! Happy Holidays! Happy New Year!

Another year has come and gone. While many things happened in the past year we'd like to share a few with you.

Aunt Sandie and Uncle Vin graciously played host to our 2002 Christmas celebration. However we were hit by a huge snow storm, we had to stop in Syracuse as the roads were so bad. Within 60 minutes we heard the Thru-



*All decked out for Christmas!*

way was closed. We spent Christmas day at a hotel, and were



*Impromptu Toboggan Run*

able to get to Newburgh the next day. A late Christmas was enjoyed by all, especially the surprise toboggan run in in Sandie and Vin's driveway!

February we spent winter break in the Poconos. We arrived to no snow, then that night we got two feet of it! What a great way to start a ski vacation. Erika

Mary, Erika & Tom Myers  
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and Mary made a snowwomen. We all had fun and got lots of rest and relaxation. Erika and Tom got in lots of skiing at Camelback and Shawnee ski areas. We all enjoyed shopping at the outlet stores.



*Frosty and her Assistants*



On Feb 28th, Mary's dad had a milestone birthday 90 years old!

We had a very nice party with family and friends in attendance.



*Betty & Bud, Carol & Kais at Lunch*

Communion in November. We then went to Lancaster and had a luncheon with family and friends.. It was great seeing everyone.

Alex Rote's son was married and we celebrated with some of Mary's girlhood friends. Alex is a longtime friend and neighbor.



*Brian and Lynn Centola's wedding, the girls get caught up on old times.*

We wish all of you all the best in 2004.

The Myers - Mary, Erika, Tom and flora our cat

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dumped by eighteen wheeler trucks. The tan wood pulp was bleached and rolled flat and dried with thickness tolerances of three ten thousandths of an inch! It was then rolled onto huge paper rolls and shipped all over the world. Really an impressive set up. Finally we hiked down to the bottom of a beautiful waterfall where you can swim under the water fall.

We then drove home via part of the "Blue Ridge Parkway" and went through the Shenendoah Valley on "Sky Line Drive" a national park. It was amazing and we saw many deer and two bears crossing the road. We finally arrived home with Mary and Erika being gone for seventeen days and had traveled 4,100!

The 2003/2004 school year has been going well. Erika played on the 7th grade Soccer team. She likes defense and also played "keeper". She continues to grow and is now about the same height as Mary. Now she is playing basketall on the school team. Erika is enjoying playing with her best friend Jilie.



*Erika Fall 2003*

Dad had a minor stroke. Mom's quick reaction got him to the hospital very quickly which minimized the damage. Dad worked hard in rehab and has come through with flying colors. If you didn't know about the stroke, you'd think he didn't have one. Gram and Gramp came back north for cousin Lauren's First

Erika is doing very well in school and we are very proud of her.

She made it through the year with perfect attendance! She continues to sing in chorus and play piano and flute, and has also begun to play piccolo. Erika



was a "Pic-A-Little" lady in the Intermediate School's *Music Man Jr.* play. The play was very well done and she did a fine job acting.

This summer Mary and Erika drove the Cabrio convertible to Florida. On the way down they toured the Harley Davidson fac-



*Erika at Harley Factory*

tory, then continued to our good friend Lauraleen's house where the stayed overnight. The next day they traveled to the Chesapeake Bay Area sticking their toes into the Atlantic Ocean at Virginia

Beach. They stayed in New Bern, North Carolina. Then they continued to Savannah, Georgia where they took an evening horse drawn carriage ride around the town and stayed in a very nice Bed and Breakfast with four poster beds. They toured the Juliet Gordon Low House (founder of the Girl Scouts). Then drove on to St. Pete's Florida where they were greeted by Gram and Gramp Myers and the Florida welcoming party in front of their new

trailer. Tom flew down and met them there. We all spent four nice days with "Kais and Carol" over the Fourth of July. We watched fireworks from the pier at the trailer park and were able to see 10-20 different firework displays going at the same time. We went to St. Pete's Beach and played in the



*July 4th in Florida*

Gulf of Mexico, checked out Clearwater Beach plus Erika and Tom took a three hour Kayak tour around Fort De Soto Island where they saw some dolphins. While there were manatees there, they didn't see any. We then said goodbye to "Kais and Carol" and drove up to Atlanta and spent the night. In Atlanta we went to the Martin Luther King Memorial site, his burial site and Ebenezer Church, his father's church. We also went to the Margaret Mitchell House where Ms Mitchell wrote the book "Gone with the Wind" in her apartment so called the "Dump". She wrote the last chapter first and wasn't planning on releasing the book. She did this to pass the time while she was ill.

We then went on to Memphis, Tennessee and Graceland and did the Elvis Platinum Tour, which included his house and airplanes. In Nashville we saw the Tuesday night radio broadcast of the "Grand Ole Opry". It was wonderful! Some of the stars there were "Holly Dunn", "Riders...." who did a bunch of great songs

including "Rawhide" (keep them doggies rolling Rawhide...) and then Trace Adkins who released his new CD that day, "Trace Adkins Greatest Hits Vol. 1" along with some of the other Opry" standard stars.

From there the trip went to Mammoth Cave and the two hour "History Tour" with wound down to about 320 feet deep and two miles into the cave (including 500 steps). It was really neat. In Lexington, Kentucky we went to the Kentucky Horse Park. In the "Parade of Champions" we saw "Cigar" who won over nine million dollars, "John Henry" and "Man of War's" grave. A beautiful place in horse country!

In Covington, Virginia we stayed with a high school buddy of Tom's, Al Mildenberger and his wife Debbie Pfeiffer, for two nights. We had an awesome time. We saw a play in an outdoor theater located in a old "Lime Kiln" and quarry. It was called



*Al's Backyard*

"Cotton Patch Gospel" and was very good. Erika had loads of fun playing with their two boxers one of which slept with her one night! Then Al took us on a two hour tour of the world's largest paper mill "Mead WestVáco".

It was amazing... we watched the wood get loaded into "bark stripper" then it went to a shredder and wood chips being