

Merry Christmas 2023!

And another year nearly over. We're running a bit late this year but wanted to get out a quick letter and catch you up on our year passed. In the work world I began a new position with the County as a database administrator. Same employer, new boss, new group and new routine. Still remote and loving the new group of co-workers.

Lynn spent several days in Atlanta during April with our daughter Erin and enjoyed some mother/daughter time. And was a good time to leave the Seattle weather for a warmer climate. Then we drove to Abbotsford to see Aunt Doll (102 years old) and the cousins. It was our first visit with Doll since the pandemic shut down the world and the border. It was so good to catch up with her and to see how well she's running the senior living facility where she's living (her quote).

May was time to resume boating so we took the newly decorated boat to the Queen City yacht club for Opening Day. We had a very capable and cute deckhand as Kinsley came with us for our trip through the locks. Then Madeline joined us for the annual Memorial Day cruise to La Conner. She was a great traveler and charmed everyone in the yacht club as she was a mini-pirate (the theme for the cruise).

Summertime was spent on the boat whenever possible with the highlight being a trip to Vancouver, BC with the yacht club. Despite a little wind occasionally, the weather was mostly perfect and the trip was great!

August gave us a chance to return to Northaven (a local senior living facility) for their vespers service and our friends Shari and Casey Childers joined us for a mixed quartet. The residents were excited to see and hear us and we had a great time adding more harmonies and instruments to our regular duo. We also had a chance to reunite with Cowboy Buck at the Garlic Festival in Centralia. And on the boat we had a great trip hosting Jess' work group for a day cruise. The weather was spectacular and everyone had a great time.

As we reached September it was time for the traditional yacht club cruise to Port Ludlow. As we approached the marina, we received a call from dad's wife (Lillian) saying dad had another stroke (first was in 2019). They rushed him in the ambulance to Port Angeles while we made plans. On Sunday he was home and we drove over to visit and he was doing pretty well.

In November we headed to Nuevo Vallarta with good friends Larry and Wendy Carpenter for a week of sunshine and relaxing. While we were there, our new granddaughter Eleanor Phyllis Kocher was born. She is a cutie and a wonderful baby (according to her mother, Kimberly).

So, that's the ups and downs for the year. Our usual activities continue, such as: participating in the church worship team, yacht club activities and hanging out with kids and grandkids. To kick the new year off with a bang, I have scheduled knee replacement surgery for January (so as not to impact summer boating schedules). And we look forward to the arrival of our next granddaughter, Violet Noel Cheeney (Tim and Meghan's next child), also in January.

Wishing everyone a merry Christmas and a wonderful New Year!

Dave & Lynn