



# Holiday Newsletter 2011

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## Dear Friends

It is hard to believe 2011 is coming to an end -- the older we get, the faster time seems to pass! The most exciting part of the year has been watching Granddaughter Grace grow and develop to age two (October 23) and her Grandma Wheety (whom she calls EeeEee) is enjoying every minute of the time she spends with her. A new "baby brudah" is expected in January and will be named Crawford Gardner Jackson IV. Gar and Chandi are both thrilled with Grace and looking forward to the new addition. They recently moved to a lovely home on Lido Island (Newport Beach, CA) that has plenty of space and a wonderful yard where Gar can grow vegetables in a container garden. Marguerite looks forward to spending three days most weeks with their family in the coming year.

George had to get different webhosting since Cox cable discontinued this service. The bad news is it cost more money, the good news is we now have tons of space for more pictures and movies. New movies this year include Gracie swimming in her grandparents' pool in Westhampton Beach, Long Island and Marguerite enthralled with the gyrations of the Easter Island dancers plus the dancing skills of Buenos Aires Tango dancers. These can be viewed on our new website at the address at the top of this page. Tune in periodically to see updates.



## Getting Older

In May 2011 Marguerite was diagnosed with breast cancer. It was caught early and the tumor was very small. She had a lumpectomy on June 2 followed by 6 weeks of radiation treatment. Unfortunately, coincident with the last week of a "double dose" of radiation she experienced second degree burns, cellulitis, and a serious wound infection. She was hospitalized for two days on IV antibiotics and spent the next few weeks recovering. In typical Marguerite fashion, however, she didn't let it slow her down very much and she continued to take care of Grace whenever she could. She does not need chemotherapy but will take a cancer treatment pill (Arimidex) for at least the next five years. Her prognosis is excellent with 95% likelihood of no recurrence. At about the same time Marguerite was going through her cancer treatment, her dear friend, Carol Archibald was also diagnosed with cancer. Carol is now going through chemotherapy treatments and we hope for a speedy recovery. Marguerite and Carol have both enjoyed occasional massages by George's masseuse, Misty Dawn (see photo at right, Misty in the middle), and look forward to more in the coming year. Of course, Marguerite has her own masseuse, Jean Lee, whom she sees weekly.

George, because he is an old fat fellow, now has Type II diabetes. So for his blood pressure problem, brain tumor (prolactinoma), and now diabetes, he takes about 18 pills a day.

Apollo, Marguerite's dog, was put to sleep in November. Gar gave him to her when he was 9 weeks old and we nicknamed him "Babydog." He had a good life and brought us lots of joy. At 14.5 years old his legs and mind did not work anymore. We will miss him.



## PK Young Reunion & Visit to Maypole

Between her surgery and beginning radiation treatments, Marguerite went to North Carolina and Florida for a week. In North Carolina she visited her sister Betsy and her husband Brent to see the large new addition to their cabin in the mountains outside Asheville. The new addition is called the "Maypole" and has a very large great room with lots of windows overlooking the mountains. Betsy wanted a room large enough to accommodate her growing family that now includes two married sons with 5 children between them and two unmarried sons. Betsy had several local artisans do custom work for the Maypole that makes it truly unique and beautiful.

While on this trip Marguerite also went to Gainesville, Florida to attend the 50th class reunion for PK Yonge School. Of the class of 64 graduates, about half attended the reunion. She was a houseguest of a couple who were both in her class, John and Marion LeMoyné. She also enjoyed seeing many other classmates she had not seen in 50 years!!

For more photos of the PK Yonge reunion and Betsy's Maypole see: <http://georgeandmarguerite.net/mjreunion.htm>.



## Gracie & Orange County Activities

Since shortly after she retired in April 2010, Marguerite has been taking care of Grace in Orange County for three days most weeks. During that time they spend hours together exploring Corona del Mar and now Lido Island. There are many parks, two libraries, and miles of wide sidewalks for strolling. Marguerite's fitness has improved greatly as some weeks she walks 6-8 miles! Gracie and EeeEee are a familiar sight around and about the neighborhoods. They also do "Music Together" weekly.

For about six weeks at the end of summer, Chandi and Grace spent time in Long Island with Oma, Opa, and the cousins Griffin (7) and Miriam (5). At right is photo of the three ready for Halloween at Oma and Opa's house on Long Island! Gar was there for two weeks, then came back to California to move to the new house. Marguerite and a good friend helped with the move that was completed before Chandi and Grace returned in early October.



## Vacation to Easter Island and South America

In October and November, Marguerite spent 3 weeks on an Overseas Adventure Travel trip with Gretchen Turner, her college friend and travel buddy, and several other women from Atlanta (most of the same group that went to Turkey last year). Easter Island had been a dream of hers since reading Thor Heyerdahl's book, *Aku-Aku*, in 1960! The first week of the trip was Easter Island and the remainder was focused on the Patagonian region of Chile and Argentina. See <http://georgeandmarguerite.net/sa%20trip.htm> for details of the trip and to see the native dancers Marguerite and the other ladies got so excited about, especially one guy which is obvious from the movie.

*Marguerite, George, and Dreyfus*