



Holiday Newsletter 2006

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Dear Friends,

With George retired, Marguerite semi-retired, and Jessica (Marguerite's mother) spending Christmas in Florida this year, we've decided to have a low-key Christmas and forego our Annual Open House for 2006. We look forward to being guests at other people's parties this holiday season and will resume our hosting role in 2007!!

Big news in the Dill household is that we have a new dog – Dreyfus is a 3-year-old chocolate Labrador that we “inherited” from some of Gar's friends in late summer. Dreyfus and Apollo (almost 10!) get along fine. George quickly established that he is Alpha Male even though Dreyfus can be Alpha Dog (Apollo has never wanted to be Alpha anything!).



Marguerite continues to enjoy her part-time job at the UCSD School of Medicine, and the NIH project she administers is now in its 4th of 5 years. They have developed lots of useful teaching materials about tuberculosis and have a very comprehensive website (<http://ntcc.ucsd.edu>). She has also gotten involved with several other interesting TB-related projects, and continues to be grateful to her colleague, Tony Catanzaro, who invited her to join his TB group at UCSD when she retired from full-time work.

George continues to be a very active member of the Sonata Single Family Board of Directors, serving as treasurer, webmaster, newsletter flunky and a member of the landscape committee. He stays remarkably busy with this, the computer, planning travel, keeping our home website updated, and taking care of Marguerite! However, he lost a bet to his friend, Craig Tyndall, and has to do the San Diego Rock and Roll Marathon with him in June 2007. He has about a million pounds to lose between now and then.

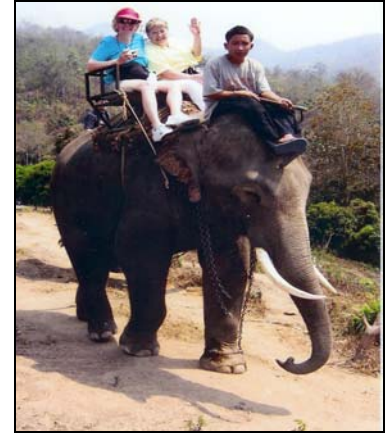


Gar is doing well and continues to enjoy his position as Director of Investor Relations for Pacific Sunwear in Anaheim, CA. He continues to enjoy sailing and has also joined a syndicate (5 guys) that owns quarter horses. Their horse, Crazy Richard, has won several races while wearing a “silk” created by Marguerite. To the right, are photos of Crazy Richard winning a race and with the owners in the winner's circle, Gar is second from right. Below is Crazy Marguerite wearing the jockey silk she made.



This has been a very big year for travel, especially for Marguerite:

- January – We went to Las Vegas, Caesar’s Palace, to see Celine Dion – a Christmas and 10th Anniversary gift from George to Marguerite – Celine does a terrific show and it was well worth seeing! We enjoyed staying at Caesar’s and swimming in their pools but the hotel is so big there was lot’sa walking from the parking lot to our room (they force you to go through the gaming rooms).
- Marguerite also had a brief trip to Washington DC for the APIC Research Council (she will be Chair of this group in 2007).
- February-March – Marguerite went to Dubai/Thailand/Vietnam for about three weeks with her college friend, Gretchen Flaherty Turner (Gretchen’s husband died of pancreatic cancer in March of 2005 before they could make this trip together). Gretchen and Marguerite knew they would travel well together because they did “Europe on \$5/day” back in 1964 when they graduated from Vanderbilt! Gretchen lives in Atlanta and her daughter Beth and son-in-law were living in Dubai at the time. Beth joined us for the Thailand/Vietnam part of the trip. A most interesting part of the world and lots of adventures captured in pictures on our website. Because of cheap tickets Marguerite had to fly the wrong way to Southeast Asia and the wrong way back. So Marguerite’s total trip was about 30,000 miles. George was so happy he did not go.
- April – Marguerite, her sister Betsy, and their mother Jessica spent a week in Ireland in April on a “meet the people” tour that included several nights in B&Bs. We got to meet several interesting Irish families and finished up in Dublin with a visit to family of Betsy’s future daughter-in-law. This was Betsy’s first trip to Ireland but Jessica and Marguerite have been before so it was not that much of an adventure.
- June – Marguerite’s professional association, APIC, had their meeting in Tampa this year. She went from Tampa to Asheville, North Carolina to see Betsy and Brent, then Marguerite and Betsy went to Westhampton Beach, Long Island, NY, to visit with Betsy’s son Neville, his wife Dune, and baby Anne. Betsy and Marguerite kept Anne for a couple of days while Neville and Dune went to a wedding. It was great fun and Anne is such a doll!! To the right you see Great Aunt Marguerite, Grandma Betsy, and Baby Anne who is due to retire in 2070.



- July – Time for the annual trip to Port Angeles, Washington, for Gar, Marguerite, and Betsy. On this trip we went “ancestor hunting” for Brent’s family who helped settle Issaquah, Washington. While there we found the original Wold family home – now the center of a wonderful historic park and shopping mall – the Wold house is a children’s shop!! We came back to San Diego with fresh wild caught salmon, Rainier cherries, and crab cakes – all to use for the Sixth Annual Milestones Celebration Dinner for Gar and 19 of his friends. A good time was had by the 20 guests and the “waitpersons extraordinaire” – this year 7 of them helped with serving!



- October – Marguerite and Gar went to Orlando for the wedding of Betsy and Brent’s youngest son, Grant, to his high school sweetheart, Liz Henderson. We had a wonderful time seeing lots of family and participating in a weekend of festivities. Baby Anne was the “flower baby” and went down the aisle on a white chariot created by Betsy and pushed by her dad Neville! Photo at right is of the parents of the bride and parents of the groom (Brent now has quite a beard!). Betsy is holding Baby Anne.



- November – Time for our annual “big trip” – this time to Northern Europe. Marguerite was invited to make a presentation at an international TB meeting in Paris on 11/3. George planned the rest of the trip to include a lot of history, including visiting the Normandy beaches (photo is of Marguerite in the Normandy American Cemetery), Waterloo outside of Brussels, and many historic sites in Amsterdam. Details and photos of the trip are on our website <http://members.cox.net/dill-jac/>



- December – Whew!! It has been a busy year. After Christmas, Gar and Marguerite will spend a few days at Gar’s cabin in Port Angeles where we like to eat seafood, drink good wine, and generally wind down. George’s plan is to become thin and beautiful by June 2007 -- because he has to run the San Diego Marathon -- is still a work in progress. George is praying for rain that day.



Cougar Ridge Hilton

We hope you have had a good 2006 and look forward to happiness and prosperity in 2007!!

Marguerite, George, Apollo, and Dreyfus



Waterloo, Belgium