

November 28, 2018
1259 Thomas Ave
San Diego, CA 92109

Dear Family and Friends:

What – a new address? (see above!) Yes – we still live in Montana but, after the winter from hell last year – with snow on the ground for 6 months, we made a trip to San Diego and bought a second home in the Pacific Beach area, not far from Paul and Xue, and only a 35 minute drive (instead of 19 hours) to Marcus, Sam and our granddaughters, Lauren and Allison.

As we did last year, we are not sending out many Christmas cards. Instead we have chosen to increase our annual donation to Doctors Without Borders (**Médecins Sans Frontières**) and the Carter Center for the work they do throughout the world, and to Cancer Support Community Montana and Reservation Dog Rescue (and others) for their work in our local community in Montana.

We made several short trips to San Diego to furnish our house and now we are here for three months. We will go home at the end of January for two months of skiing and then return at the end of March for the birth of our newest granddaughter. Paul and Xue are expecting their first baby and we are delighted to be living so close to them, at least for part of the year. They both have busy lives, Xue has travelled a lot this year and Paul has had several long trips at sea.

Dan and Kristy continued their trans-pacific adventure and have recently landed in Australia. All things must come to an end so, after three and a half years of sailing the ocean blue, they will sell their boat and return to the U.S. sometime next year. They have had an amazing time, taken wonderful pictures and given us a great commentary. We have all had a great geography lesson learning about small places in the Pacific Ocean. It will be wonderful to have them back here although I am sure the transition will have its challenges for them

Kendal and Brandon moved into their new house after adding a small addition, which took much longer than planned. Kendal's bee business <http://www.kendalsbees.com> is booming, and she is a wonderful teacher. I had the opportunity to be her helper in several classes last October. Brandon is almost half way through his MBA at Berkley and is still working full time at Google, so he has no spare time. The two of them pack more into their lives than is humanly possible.

Marcus and Sam continue their busy lives with their two lovely girls, Lauren is 11 and Allison is 8. Lauren is in middle school and sings in the choir. Allie keeps the family soccer tradition alive! Both Marcus and Sam have busy and responsible jobs and I am in awe of how they juggle everything in their lives.

Arthur graduates from the Culinary Institute of America on December 19. We love having a real chef in the family and the bar is now set higher than the rest of us can manage! Where he and girlfriend Ali will go next is not yet know although Arthur does have a job in a great restaurant in St. Helena for the time being.

Gary and I had three great trips this year. Trip one: In January, old friends Jim and Denise George came to stay and we spent five days in Yellowstone, which, in winter, is an amazing experience. We had sightings of wolves, and stayed at the Snow Lodge at Old Faithful. Trip two: We spent 9 days in Switzerland and Germany. In Switzerland we stayed in Zurich and did

side trips. We saw the north face of the Eiger (crossed that off Gary's bucket list!) We then took the train to Munich and travelled to the Eagles Nest (Hitler's getaway in the Alps), and to Garmisch, where Gary's mom had been stationed in the early 1950's. Next, we met Jan and Mike and joined a Viking River cruise down the Danube, passing through Germany, Austria, Czech Republic, Slovakia and finally to Hungary. We saw great concerts in Vienna and in Budapest, where we stayed for an extra three days.

Back to Montana, our granddaughters came to stay for three weeks. Marcus flew up with them and stayed for fishing. He took each of the girls on the river. Kendal and Brandon came at the same time and took Lauren horse riding. Allie has to grow bigger before she can go. Gary and I took them to a climbing wall and they had a fantastic time there and still had energy left at the end. Then we drove them back to San Diego, where Arthur and Ali came to stay for a few days.

We just made it home in time to wash clothes and head out again for Trip three. We drove to Denver to meet my cousin, Susan and husband Ian. For 13 days we toured the Southwest introducing them to New Mexico, Arizona and Nevada. We were fortunate to be in New Mexico, staying with our good friends Jim and Denise, for an annual Native American Fair. Then we headed west taking in parts of the Navajo Nation lands and then heading to the Grand Canyon. We finally dropped Sue and Ian in Las Vegas for a very different experience, and we headed home.

Gary and I keep busy with our land in Montana, and I am taking over as Board President of Cancer Support Community, Montana, an amazing organization based in Bozeman with a mission *"To ensure that all people impacted by cancer are empowered by knowledge, strengthened by action, and sustained by community."* This will mean that I will need to be able to attend Board meetings in Bozeman so this will determine our time spent in San Diego. (Not to mention skiing and summer visits from Lauren and Allison)

Be sure to check out our web pages for pictures and more: <http://bclodge.com/>.

This has been a very challenging year politically for many Americans, including us. Our President does not stand for our values and we are greatly saddened by what is happening here. Fortunately, the majority of this country is made up of kind and caring humans, and we hope that there will be an end to this political divisiveness.

We send our love for a good holiday season and as ever, we wish for a peaceful world in 2019.

Gary & Pamline