

November 29, 2021 – Temp 32, cold, but sunny. Snow on the ground and more coming. It was a good thing I blew the leaves on Friday just before the snow started. Then I went out Saturday, bought the outside decorations and hung them when I returned home. Sweet!

We learned a lot in 2021, The virus is not going away anytime soon, our economy sucks, gasoline costs an arm and a leg, our cities are going down the tubes, inflation keeps get worse, many of our loved ones and friends were stricken or died from covid, and last but not least, our President says things are just fine and let’s throw a few trillion dollars into the system. We pray for an end to all these troubles. Everyone has been affected by these issues and we are all feeling the pain. As Americans, we will get through it. God Bless America!

This past week, we returned from Texas, after watching the grand kids there (Abree, Caleb & Bryson), while their parents (Melissa & Ryan) went on vacation to Portugal to do a half marathon. Lucky them! It was a fun drive, with sunny skies and good roads. Kids were good and had lots of fun. Spent Thanksgiving with Donna’s family, ate a lot! Food was mmmmm good.

My Ben dropped in around Father’s Day, bringing Olivia (in college & does web design), while Benjamin (who works in Cincinnati) drove up and Sam flew in a couple of days later (moved to Utah & is an exceptional baker). We had a great time together catching up on all that is going on in their lives. Robin stayed home to babysit her plants and the menagerie. She was missed.

Donna is trying to find her way with her retirement from last year. Really busy people take longer to find out what relaxation really is. I, on the other hand, had no trouble with retirement and found many projects waiting for me at home at the time. We are also delivering meals from the church each week to those in need.

Our 19th anniversary is today, I am taking Donna to our (mine) favorite restaurant to celebrate. She still finds me handy even if I’m so handsome!

Last year I wrote about the model railroad organization daily emails I was sending out, we reached 500 daily blasts and switched to weekly, as we thought the corona virus was abating.

Memories: When I was thirteen, I received for Christmas, a microscope, that I had asked for from Santa. It opened up a new world to me as I looked at slides of small microscopic animals, plants and other objects. Though this did not inspire me to study to be a doctor or a biologist, it did open up my world to other things around me. I still have that microscope, it reminds me of ambitions that could have been and of the ambitions and choices I made in my youth.

To you, our family, our friends, with love, respect, and admiration, we wish you all a wonderful Christmas season, and a Happy, Healthy, New Year! So, until next year…we wish you and yours the best life can offer.

Ben & Donna

