



## Merry Christmas 2009

Do you like the snowmen? Barbara continues to paint and did these especially for Dick this Christmas. You knew snowmen were his favorite Christmas symbol, right?

And we have continued to participate in our other favorite activities as well this year. We did many wine tastings and events, including neat events: "Wine in the Pines" at Pine

Mountain Club, 2 visits to Paso Robles, and an olive & wine festival in Los Olivos. The Solvang Theaterfest was wonderful this summer and included incredible productions of Les Mis and Music Man. We got out to the B-Bar-B dinner theater for Barbara's birthday, which was a lot of fun. We even got to a Renaissance Fair this year, as there was one in Lompoc. We had beautiful summer weather for using the swimming pool and Dick continued his regular golf days, although he isn't happy with his game. Monitoring the bluebird boxes at the wineries was great this spring, but didn't fare so well at the country club. Speaking of the country club, the entire food and beverage operation has been converted to a public restaurant called Restaurant 4300, run by the former owner of Sissy's a great Lompoc restaurant. We are thrilled about this opportunity.

We had great visits with friends and family. Ron brought his friend Tricia out in July and Su and Lindsay came in October. We took Easter and Thanksgiving trips to Arizona to visit with the Ayres and the Copelands as well as with Ron, Su, Linda & Tim and our grandchildren Kaylee, Kevin, Lindsay, Sydney, Tayson, & Kyler. We got to meet Su's new friend, Chris, the fire chief, and Kaylee's new friend, Daniel, an artist studying at ASU. We also took an extended trip to Oregon to see Barbara's cousins Carole & Shirley. We visited Shirley and Dennis at their time-share on the Oregon coast and stayed with Carole and Dave at a beautiful home at Sun River. Both cousins treated us like royalty and we had a wonderful time. , Along the way, we stopped in interesting places, including Crater Lake, Mt. Shasta, San Francisco and Napa. We also went with friends on a South American cruise from Buenos Aires to Rio. There were lots of interesting things about the trip, but it wasn't our favorite. We actually had more fun on a Sunset cruise in Avila Beach!

Jana and Mack are still doing well in Kona; Beth and Keith are thinking of moving to Oregon and starting a second Veterinary Clinic; John, Marnie and David are still in San Diego.

Barbara continued to do some web work, and even helped edit a book for Tonya Schultz this year. Her book is called "You Can Balance Your Life", now available on Amazon and highly recommended. Remember you can find all Barbara's web sites by visiting [willeyweb.com](http://willeyweb.com). Because it was hopelessly out of date, we took down the Willey family site, but photo albums still get posted. And Barbara's artwork is all eventually posted there too.

We will be spending Christmas at home again this year and have put up our cheerful decorations. And we will again go to the New Year's party at the Country Club, or should I say Restaurant 4300. This has always been a good party, and it will be interesting to see how it changes with Sissy in charge.

We hope this year has been good for you, and we wish you the best in 2010

With love from our home to yours,

Barbara and Dick Willey