

Happy New Year Family and Friends!

2016 was quite a year for our family. It didn't get off to a very good start, but it got way better as time passed.

Bruce and Eileen got to check an item off their combined bucket list in early June when they flew to Alaska and took a southerly cruise in celebration of Bruce's 60th birthday. Their close friends, the Colbys, who were also both celebrating the same milestone, joined them.



Returning from Yukon to Alaska

After an overnight in Anchorage, we rented an SUV and trekked to Denali, enjoying the magnificence of that region for a couple days, including a Jeep excursion. The weather was unseasonably warm, hitting close to 90°F on the warmest day. We hiked, saw moose, many bird species, beautiful foliage, waterfalls and rock formations. Luckily (or not – depending on who you ask) we did not run into any bears.

Embarking on the cruise from Seward, we first did a foggy fly-by of the spectacular Hubbard Glacier. In the following days, we stopped in Skagway, Juneau, and Ketchikan before reaching our final destination of Vancouver, where we spent additional time. Excursions included a bus trip into the Yukon, a quick visit to Mendenhall Glacier and a museum or two, some whale watching, dogsledding, lots of hiking, a little shopping, and local entertainment by a lumberjack troupe.



Eileen & Bruce with Denali in the background

Then, of course, there was the ship itself, the Celebrity Millennium. While at sea we took in all kinds of shows, ate way too much food, drunk way too much alcohol (well, at least Bruce did), enjoyed some pampering at the spa, and did some deck sunbathing in the beautiful weather we luckily had. It was a fantastic vacation, one I would highly recommend to everyone.

Eileen

Eileen is really making the best of her position at AFPM as their Manager of Regional Safety Networks and continues to thrive there. Half her year is spent on the road, where she visit locations all around the country and always finds new things to explore every time. She continues to cross states off her unvisited list, with only a handful to go (Hawaii is still on the list). Some of the places visited this

year include: Cheyenne, Salt Lake City, Dallas, Minneapolis, San Antonio, Naperville, Houston, New Orleans, Corpus Christie, Seattle, Denver, Galveston and Chicago.

For her birthday, Bruce took Eileen to Cirque du Soleil's production "Kurios". It's one of her favorite shows on the planet, and it did not disappoint.



Eileen at the stage of Kurios

Bruce

Bruce is still recovering from last fall's motorcycle crash, both physically and emotionally. There's been talk of a 3-wheeled vehicle but nothing serious...yet. As noted earlier, he reached the head-spinning age of 60.



Eileen & Bruce in Times Square

Bruce and Gary had plans to go to Six Flags Great America outside Chicago during his trip to Indiana, but the weather fouled and that didn't happen. Instead they did a lot of walking around southwest Indianapolis and Speedway. Such is life at 60.

Eileen and Bruce did some local travel, mainly to check out area wineries. Virginia certainly has some good ones. We also trekked to NYC, Philadelphia and some other fun places for weekend getaways.

David

David and Gloria moved from San Jose to Sunnyvale about mid-year, shortening his commute a bit. He's changing employers after the new year, starting his new position with Google in mid-January. He's considered employment there since before finishing college. Gloria moved back to the east coast, while David remained in Sunnyvale. We're very proud of David for his achievements and perseverance.



David in California



Andrew with Timo Schewik

Andrew

Andrew returned to college this year to study electrical engineering after working full-time for a bit to save some money and rethink his career path. He

also worked part time serving pizza at Ledo. He flew to California around his birthday to visit David and really enjoyed his first visit to the west coast.

In September, Andrew's high school German exchange partner, Timo, stopped by for an overnight visit en route to Mexico from Germany. Timo's first visit with us was in the fall of 2009. It was great seeing him again, even if only briefly. Amazing how they grow up!

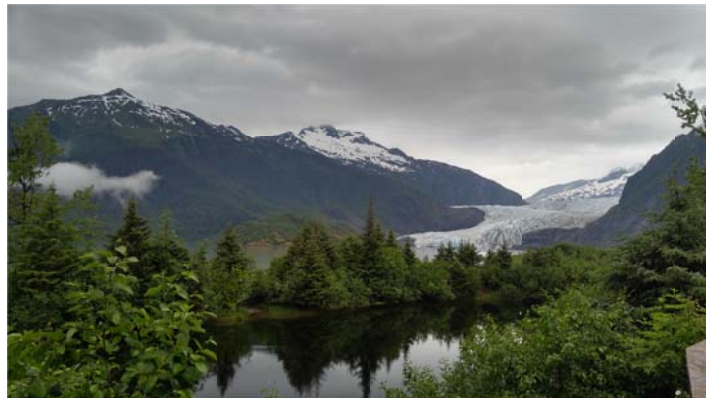
Rachel

Rachel had a bit of a rough start to her year, being hospitalized for aspiration pneumonia for almost two weeks in January. Despite the toll this took on her, Bruce and Eileen, Rachel came through like a trooper and was very glad to be out of there. She continues to prosper at the Albero House at St. Mary's Home for Disabled Children, where she seems to be learning some new things. She's become a lot more vocal than in past years and really seems to be communicating better. We owe that to the Albero staff, who are like family to us.



Rachel at Albero House

We've given up on making Rachel's tablet computer into a learning device, though Bruce did try to make headway. So she continues to enjoy watching movies and listening to music. We've got the Albero staff sending us pictures using Rachel's Gmail account, and they read the emails and show her the photos we send to her. She also enjoys the postcards that Eileen sends from each of her trips.



Mendenhall Glacier, Juneau, Alaska

See Ya Next Year...

Here's to a great year to come in 2017!

Also, don't forget to visit our family website at <http://scherzinger.org> where you can read all our past newsletters and see more photos.



Eileen and Bruce outside the entrance to Cirque du Soleil's Kurios

Happy New Year!

The Scherzingers

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The Celebrity Millennium in Ketchikan, Alaska



Emerald Lake, Yukon, Canada