

Christmas 2006

Dear Family and Friends,

Once again, we are delighted to write to you from our Florida condo, looking back on what has been a year of many wonderful experiences, social moments and travel.

Last winter, we enjoyed the company of Linda's mother, Ruth, followed by several friends, while at the end of our stay we were joined by Henk's brother Ab and his wife Wil, who continued their Florida vacation even after we went home, lucky people !

However, it was also good to be back home in Toronto, where we caught up with our neglected friends in what became a very busy social schedule of dinner parties and barbecues, intermingled with some nice golf outings to keep us fit.

It was also very special to have all the children and grandchildren come and visit for a grand get-together with visiting family from Holland, who spent a couple of weeks with us on their way to New Zealand.

As a big highlight of our summer, we took a 12-day cruise of the Mediterranean, with time in Naples, Venice, Dubrovnik, Messina, Barcelona, leaving the ship at Livorno, from where we took a car into Umbria for a most unforgettable week in a house we rented in the medieval town of Montone, a town that had changed little in the past thousand years ! We were most reluctant to leave from there, but found yet more fun staying at a modernized vineyard near Orvieto, followed by a few days in Rome. A most romantic vacation, great food , excellent wines !!

Finally, Henk's son Albert and his wife Anoush had their second son, Jivan, who was supposed to be born on Henk's birthday, December 9, but decided to arrive some three weeks early. The pictures are rolling in already !

We wish you good times over the Christmas Season and a Happy New Year !!

Linda and Henk