

December 19, 2001

Volume 32, No. 1

The Year at 2852 Accomac

We're still at 2852 Accomac St. and enjoying the house very much. I'm just 63 and Stephen is 60. Those of you in your 7th decade and beyond probably know that most of us spend a bit more time in the "health garage" than we did a few years ago, but life is still full and rewarding. We wish you the best of holidays and hope to see you in the New Year.

Trinity Episcopal



On December 2 our church was relieved and grateful to welcome a new rector, Rev. Anne Kelsey, and her husband, Brook, who came all the way from Freemont, California. This marked the end of a difficult interim period between rectors which lasted nearly two years. We're still very active there, with Stephen being on the Vestry, in the Choir, and scheduling altar personnel. I have become one of the regular altar servers., and both of us are sacristans.

Stephen's Sixtieth!

For Stephen's 60th birthday in May, daughter, Stephanie took us to see The Boston Ballet's performance of Tchaikovsky's Sleeping Beauty Ballet. Her partner, Dawn, prepared a memorable birthday meal. They have just moved into a new, bigger house in a Boston suburb, Roslindale, where they are now redoing their kitchen.

Sponsored by Rev. Steve Weissmann, Stephen continues to be a mentor with the Education for

Ministry program—a four year course studying scripture, history, and theology. He's also rereading several of Bishop John Spong's books on the nature and future of Christianity.

Our Trip to Sweden

Stephen and I went to Skövde, Sweden in August, where my paper had been accepted for presentation at the Nature of Consciousness Conference being held there. We were near several small communities in south-central Sweden, where we saw medieval cathedrals and ruined monasteries. In Stockholm, the smorgasbord was delicious, and Gamla Stan (Old Town) was fascinating.



I also was fortunate to meet several Swedish ragtimers, including Oleg Mezjuev, who maintains the Swedish Ragtime Home Page at <http://www.ragtime.nu>

Ragtime

Speaking of ragtime, I continue to perform once a month at Dressel's The Pub Above, along with many other local performers. In fact, I have been made Treasurer and Webmaster of the website for the Friends of Scott Joplin which can be found at <http://stlouis.missouri.org/fsjoplin>

We also have a group of friends, The Ragtime Rascals, who go regularly, and some of whom also perform.

Fall Was Very Busy

In October, I went to my high school reunion and saw many old friends. Walter and Myra Kendall, Will and Caroline Lutz and Dee and Kay McFarland were there. I also saw three of my old friends from Willard Elementary and my 3rd grade teacher, Lucille Miller. In the meantime, Stephen's sister Janice was here for two weeks. While she was here, Stephanie, Dawn and their friend Joanna stayed for two days while on their way out west for a three week vacation. Friends Fred and Mary Raje from San Fidel, NM also came to visit for a few days.

Nephew Adam Comes To Live With Us



The last part of September, Adam Andris, brother Tom's son, came to live with us while he gets a masters degree in piano performance. He immediately found a

job as a server at an exclusive Italian restaurant. He also helped me set up a home theatre here on the third floor. Things are working out well.

Animals Galore

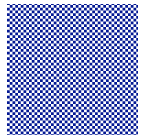


This summer, Stephen was given Bud, an African Love Bird. Bud is not friendly to strangers, and all of us have suffered a nip or two. However, Stephen loves to carry him around on his shoulder. So with the two parakeets, Gilbert and Heather, our old cat, Leonard, and numerous backyard squirrels, birds and cats, we do our part for animal welfare.

Family of Origin

We'll be spending the week between Christmas and New Year in Marietta. Mom will be moving to live with daughter, Vicki, soon. She now has six great grandchildren, two from Tom's daughter, Heidi, and four from Vicki's sons, Jeff and Joe.

Jim Andris/Stephen Nichols
2852 Accomac Street
St. Louis, MO 63104-2238



PLACE LABEL HERE