



Merry Christmas,

As we write this letter, we are on a cruise up the Amazon River. A snail-mail card is not likely in the offing.

We started this year on a cruise around Australia and a couple of months in Maui. All lovely, but we decided the condo we'd been renting every year was becoming stale. We decided to try Florida in 2024 instead. And then Lahaina burned to the ground! It was an astounding coincidence.

Alan had a some medical procedures this year that took the starch out of him for longer than expected. The very good news is that after some initial doubt, they worked! He learned that his COPD is actually rather minor and the heart ablation successfully got rid of most of his PVC problems (we think). That said, tennis, motorcycle riding, and some golf persevered through most of this, with intermittent time off.

Alan retired from the Sierra Angels Investment Group in Incline Village. After 25 years, he was the longest-serving member, aside from the founder. We are wiser, but poorer, for the experience. A big upside was always the excuse to ride to Lake Tahoe.

Jan is busier than ever. She is on the board of the El Valle Artist Association as Co-VP of workshops. She seems to be constantly doing a lot of computer work and herding cats for that "job". She's also in a monthly art critique group, the watercolor society, and calligraphy society. She has found a number of online workshops that offer frequent workshops that she totally enjoys. She participated in the Northern AZ Watercolor Society's juried miniature exhibit and received the Award of Distinction for Best Abstraction for her efforts. Jan also kept her nose to the grindstone making cards, boxes, and jewelry for Sedona Visual Artists Coalition's 3-day Open Studios, where she sold a few of her paintings, too. That wasn't enough, so she prepared the same for El Valle's 3-day show/sale as part of Cottonwood's Walkin' on Main.

You might remember that we said we had taken our last long motorcycle trip 2 years ago, then last year rode to Alaska. This year we took yet another trip north to visit our Canadian friends and tour around their new neighborhood on Vancouver Island. We enjoyed that, but we'll say again it was our last long trip.

Jan raised nearly \$6400 on this year's Walk to End Alzheimers. That's her best result yet. Thank you to all who made that possible.

Since world peace seems to be too much of an ask, we are looking forward to a year without Covid, Flu, Malaria, and RSV and wish you the same.

Happy New Year,
Jan & Alan