

Seasons Greetings,

It's Zeb again. I'm still swimming along, but lost a few friends this year. Let's move past that and I'll tell you about the happenings of Rob and Ann.

The year started regrettably with Ann quitting her job, ugh...new management! She immediately dusted off her golf clubs in anticipation of spring, hoping to use the golf league she joined. Alas, God is definitely a man with a warped sense of humor. She pulled a back muscle and side lined her game until July. Fortunately, she was able to take a four month job with an accountant friend, catch up on some reading and visit her mother in NY. Also, Ann started watching a home improvement show called *Trading Spaces*. Rob wasn't excited since some projects required his assistance, hee...hee. Rob had to move the toilet in the guest bathroom when Ann replaced the floor. He tried to convince her that no critters could climb out of the exposed toilet pipe, but her sleepless night got the better of her and at two a.m., she was in there duck taping over the pipe. For those women that have been told, "it works ok, we don't need a new one", listen up. The garage door opener had been sick for most of the year and sometimes made a sound that could only be described as an industrial jackhammer. Ann had a new one installed without telling Rob. The door shoots (no other word to describe it) up at twice the speed of the old one, so the first time Rob tried it he thought the door was going to careen off the tracks. Even though he was deprived of researching a new opener, he decided it was ok.

Ann thinks "black hole", not "money pit" best describes Rob's latest project. Getting a new interior in the Tiger wasn't enough, so Rob decided to build a new airplane, yes, you read correctly folks! It's a Lancair Legacy, has two seats, retractable gear and flies 300 mph. Rob spent a week at the factory in Oregon to do wing work so the kit could be shipped. The kit was displayed at a trade show in Florida for a week and then Rob and Ann had the misfortune of driving it home in a Ryder truck. There's nothing like driving a 24 foot truck along the WIND swept, cliff lined highway in North Carolina and West Virginia with your life savings in the back. After Ann pried her fingernails from the dashboard, she got some great scenery shots with the camera. Rob's attempting to spend as much time with Tony (the current plane) before he's sold and they had many adventures. They made their annual pilgrimage to Osh Kosh, attended a week long formation flying clinic in Mississippi, and a formation flying weekend in Maryland and one in Ohio.

Ann ventured out with Rob this year, despite her status of "borderline white knuckle flyer". They attended the Tiger owners convention in Blue Ash, OH. Rob flew formation while Ann watched contentedly from the ground. They hosted a flyin at Burke Lakefront with people showing up all the way from France! In November, Rob and Ann visited with extended family in Myrtle Beach, sadly for the funeral of Rob's grandmother. And for the epitome of an excuse to burn aviation fuel, they trekked to Washington, D.C. to see the Harry Potter movie. Something about no good theaters in Cleveland, but Rob is happiest when flying. On the way home from D. C., Rob jumped into a formation flight for the reopening of the Tiger factory. There's nothing like cruising along at 6,000 feet, then descending at 2,000 feet per minute so your popped eardrum is screaming for relief. Ann didn't even have time to jump out before the formation team took off. The term "reach out and touch someone" should be reserved for telephone ads, not flying.

Hope this finds you happy, healthy and looking forward to the New Year!

God Bless,