

Seasons Greetings,

Zeb here, my fish tank buddies and I have watched Rob and Ann all year, and here's what happened.

Rob continues to fly the friendly skies and took part in some formation flying weekends. He is finishing up the Lancair Legacy, ("Tweety") so will be selling "Tony" the Tiger soon (know of anyone that wants a new hobby?). We will miss him, but Rob is excited about "Tweety". Once again, Rob made his annual pilgrimages to Sun-n-Fun, AOPA and Osh Kosh, to check on airplane gadgets. He also went to Reno for the air races and to be certified to fly the Legacy.

Despite spending almost every waking hour working on the Legacy, Rob found time to go on a few vacations with Ann. They took a weekend trip to Vermont for late-spring skiing and to see a pond skimming contest. People skiing across a man-made pond in 30 degree weather is insane, but highly entertaining. They visited Rob's mother at her Vermont, rental house in the fall. It was fun to leaf peep and gorge themselves on everything maple at the Vermont State Fair. While Rob was busy building "Tweety", Ann took a few trips to visit her mother. In September, she went for a small dinner party as a birthday surprise for Mom.

For those who live with an "efficient navigator", pay attention. A weekend trip to New York City had an interesting twist when Rob left Ann standing at a subway stop. Rob is always running down the subway stairs so he doesn't miss the train and sometimes forgets there are people with him. Rob leaps onto the train and the doors close immediately as he watches Ann on the platform with a "are you kidding me?" look on her face. He manages to indicate that she should take the following train and get off at the next stop. For anyone who knows that Ann has no sense of direction, it could have been a very ugly outcome.

The big trip of the year was for Rob and Ann's 10th wedding anniversary in July. They took ten days and went to London and Paris. Rob is convinced the Brits don't understand caloric intake or food with substance, as he was hungry the entire trip. Ann of course reveled in everything Princess Diana and they checked out the normal touristy things. They were disappointed that Queen Elizabeth didn't wave from the Buckingham Palace balcony, but maybe she got the days mixed up that they would be there. They took the "Chunnel" to Paris and arrived on Bastille Day. There was a parade and formation flying, of which Rob took plenty of pictures. The highlight was watching fireworks in front of the Eiffel Tower. They had a great time and are planning to go back again, Rob said maybe for their 20th anniversary, but there is something about flying themselves there...eek!

Rob continues to work at Philips Medical Systems and Ann has jumped back into the game at Multiverse. She went back in April after the problem management had been removed. She enjoys being back and hopes things go well for the company.

After all of the chaos and fun this year there was unfortunately sadness mixed in. In February, Rob and Ann lost a very dear friend to cancer and in May, Rob's Uncle John passed away from cancer. And the most unexpected loss was Rob's father of a heart attack at the too-young age of 60.

We all hope this finds you happy, healthy and looking forward to the New Year.

