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**HAPPY
HOLIDAYS**

Season's Greetings

I'm (Tweety) back, under duress, to bring you the gaggle that was Rob and Ann's 2015. If I sound bitter, it's because I received even less attention than last year! Don't worry, Rob and I made it to Sun-N-Fun and OshKosh, but that was about it. But enough about me, I suppose it's time to talk about them.

Rob joined the geezer club in January when he turned 50! He was shocked when he received an invite from AARP and a solicitation from a local funeral home in the same week. Ann thought a new 5K iMAC was a better way to mark the occasion. I don't speak Apple, but apparently I'm not the only one who looks sharp.

Speaking of looking good, there was another house project this year. Don't worry, there was drama. The goal was to replace the crumbling patio with a second garage for storing the motorcycles in the winter. Ann mentioned that replacing the circular steps and a new fire pit area might be nice. After a month long delay, ground was finally broken. I like cement; makes for a smoother landing. But, finding cement in the tree being removed is apparently bad; especially when it blows the motor on the stump grinder. The garage itself went smoothly except for a window swap (something about the wrong grid pattern) unfortunately, the same can't be said for the stone portion. It was decided the new patio area was too small, let's expand! While digging the footers, the contractor hit a water shelf that was described as "Old Faithful." Once that was addressed with 20 yards of concrete, it was time to put things back together. I guess everyone doesn't move as fast as I do; since the pace of the masons installing the retaining walls and stone veneer could only be described as "glacial." The veneer guy considered himself an artiste and the timeframe to finish didn't suit him. Ann arrived from work and was told, Picasso quit today! I'm sure that's why the project won't be finished until spring. A truck ride from South Carolina, modified stand with casters/brakes and a crane to move it, the fire pit is finally in place. They say I'm high maintenance!

It's a good thing the garage/patio was built on high ground, since Rainmageddon brought record flooding in June. Rob and Ann thought they were going to be island dwellers when the rising water submerged the bridge at the end of the street. To escape the weather, Ann spent a week in NYC with her sister and a golf weekend at Glade Springs with the girls. They went to Washington, DC to visit relatives and attend a trade show about fish. If Rob resurrects that hobby, I will definitely be ignored. The last trip was to NY to attend a retirement party for Ann's sister-in-law.

Ann thought her golf trip might not happen when she was diagnosed with arthritis in her left thumb. Armed with KT tape and a stabilizing brace, she went on to have a full golf season.

Too bad they couldn't fix Ann's car with a little tape. Oh, did I fail to mention the woman who ran a red light and sent Ann's front bumper sliding down the street?

Sadly in November, along with 61 others, Rob was downsized from Phillips after 22 years of service.

We hope this finds you looking forward to 2016!

