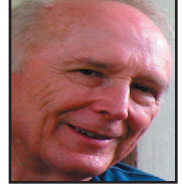




Merry Christmas

From Ed and Ghislaine Miller



Christmas, 2012



WE LEFT KNOXVILLE

on Christmas day 2011 for a first-ever visit to Chile. Pictured above during a stop on our way to southern Chile are, from left, Edgar, Ghislaine, Angela, Sofia, Daniel, Carolina and Lucas. At right is the Villarica volcano, one of the most active in Chile, which looms over the kayaking camp where we stayed.



A HIGHLIGHT in early 2011 was a delightful visit by Laurinha, daughter of Ghislaine's brother Paulo and his wife, Claudia. Her visit followed a tradition being set by other nieces and nephews.



ANA MARIA MOOG RODRIGUES

and Ghislaine, close friends since childhood, got together at the home of Tom, her Godson, and Cleusa in Virginia in the summer of 2012. The visit also included a trip to Solomons Island to see Tom's boat.



2011-2012 Miller diary

A year ago, we were rushing to get ready for a trip to Chile to visit Edgar, Angela and their four children, Lucas, Daniel, Carolina and Sofia. As a result, we never finished our Christmas newsletter. This year, we'll try to cover the major events of these past two years.

Ghislaine broke her hip in February 2011. Surgery was successful, but she still suffers a lot of pain nearly two years later. She decided to "retire" after about 14 years of teaching Portuguese at the University of Tennessee, but after a semester decided to teach again, this time Spanish at Pellissippi State College.

In June 2011, son Thomas was diagnosed with lung cancer. The cancer which was in an early stage and had not spread was successfully removed. Afterward, he quit smoking, took up sailing and now spends most weekends on his sailboat on the Chesapeake Bay. More than a year after the operation, he is still doing fine. He and Cleusa still live in Springfield, Virginia, near Washington, D.C.

In August, we had the sad news of the death of Ghislaine's sister Annah in Australia where she had lived since the 1970s.

2012 has seen a lot of travel. In the summer Jacqui took her two boys to Miami to put them on a plane to Brazil to visit their dad. Edgar and his family visited here in June-July. Ed and Ghislaine took a three-week trip to Brazil in October-November, John went to Chile for three months to start a "gap year" kayak school in Pucon. Richard moved to New York where he teaches at Columbia University and performs in various venues.

In June, Ed had cataract surgery on both eyes and for the first time since age 2 can see without glasses.

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PHOTO ALBUM



GRANDDAUGHTER JESSICA ASLINGER, daughter of Angel and her husband, Darrell, got married in a beautiful ceremony in a rural church in nearby Anderson County. She and Nathan Gilbride are now the parents of Job (inset).



RICHARD AND EUNBI at Eunbi's graduation from Manhattan School of Music in New York in May. She now is pursuing a career as both professional pianist and businesswoman



THOMAS WORKS ON HIS BOAT at its mooring on Solomons Island, Maryland.

RIO MAGIC

OUR TRIP TO RIO in October-November had many magical moments as we visited with Ghislaine's family, brothers, sisters, nieces, nephews, grandnieces and grand-nephews. We can't tell everything in this space, but below are a few pictures that captured the spirit of our trip.



THE THREE SISTERS, Yvonne, Ghislaine and Jeanne, shared precious moments together.



JACQUI POSES WITH SONS Gabriel, left, and Raphael, at a restaurant celebration of her birthday in November.

JOHN, DEDE, CHRIS AND MATT (clockwise in picture at left) at John's 53rd birthday celebration in August. John spent the fall in Chile starting a "gap year" kayaking school near Pucon.



LUIZ AND ELIANE with whom we visited in Petropolis.



CLAUDIA AND PAULO were our hosts during the first days of our stay in Rio. Here we enjoy a meal in a Barra restaurant



A SPECIAL MOMENT was the 70th birthday party of our long-time friend Steve Yolen in Nova Friburgo, shown here demonstrating his talent on the bluegrass banjo



GHISLAINE AND HIGH SCHOOL FRIENDS Helena, Eloisa, Eliane and Ana Maria got together at Ana Maria's mountaintop home.



WE ALSO STAYED several days with Carlos and Rosa. At left, Carlos and two grandchildren enjoy the pool in their penthouse roof garden in Jardim Botânico.

