

December 2004

For all of you who have careened into another holiday season and wonder why you didn't see it coming, you're not alone: Last week, our 10-year-old granddaughter Crystal solemnly advised me, "Grandma, this year has gone by really fast." Amen.

We traveled a far and wide this year: to Philadelphia (and the ever-awesome Barnes Museum), Palm Springs; Oxford, England; Austria (shops with desserts outdo hills with music every time), Yosemite National Park (as good as people say it is), Lake Tahoe, Telluride, Utah, Hawaii, Boise; Rochester, NY; Seattle, and New York. Bob also squeezed in trips to Miami, Denver, College Park, Washington DC, St. Louis, Buffalo, Savannah, Tempe, Montreal, St. Louis; Lviv, Ukraine (I passed on this one) and a few places I've forgotten. Every stop graced us with lovely new memories of friends and family.

Bob, of course, has fine memories of work everywhere he went and he's most pleased with the results. He's also preparing to do some work through a private research company we formed. Bob will be the principal investigator (meaning more work in his spare time) and I'm the president, general counsel and go-fer, not necessarily in that order of importance. This should give him more independence and also help fund promising young scientists to work with him. When I'm not working on this start-up company, I've been a stay-at-home grandma and I practice a little law.

Everyone is happy and healthy, for which we are truly grateful. Of note is Henry Trowbridge's arrival on January 15, joining James (7) and Holly (4). Shortly thereafter, father John successfully defended his Ph.D. thesis. In addition to total mothering, Jill trades in residential real estate and is doing well at it. In New York, Sally has gone from holding a struggling art school together to being financial administrator and "office mother" (an honorific) for the Japanese financial company Sparx. Emily and Ben Taylor bought a house in a lovely old section of Chicago with a yard for their dogs to play in. Emily is still at a spiffy downtown salon giving facials to beautiful people and Ben is enjoying being a full-time student. Ben Eisenberg and Crystal still live in our building and share most dinners with us. After a dry spell last year, Ben's construction career has revived. Crystal has a new role as middle-school student. High school and adolescence loom on the horizon.

Bob and I continue to go to the symphony and I go to theater with friends. We feed itinerant scientists (quite often) for extra stimulation (quite a lot). Our big distraction this fall was an aurora of specks on my annual mammogram, which led to the removal of a few not-nice, but self-contained cells. The breast cancer scale of 0 to 8 rates them a 0, meaning, as Bob says, "you'd have to work overtime to die from this." They may not even require preventive measures. The real reason for putting this in an annual letter is to remind you to get a mammogram and/or nudge your loved ones to do so: My specks and cells developed recently and I would never have felt them myself.

This year has given us pleasant times with many of you and we already relish the memories. We wish we could have seen the rest of you too and we wish all of you a most happy and loving 2005.

Eisenbergs



Ardyth Bob Crystal Ben Emily Ben T(aylor)



Trowbridges

John
Henry

Jill Ardyth

James Holly

Bob

The Eisenberg-Taylor-Trowbridge clan now includes eight adults, four grandchildren, two dogs, two cats and one camera. Synchronizing these has finally exceeded our talents: This year, Sally is just beyond the East (right) edge of this page, waving hello to all of you!



Holly and James(ie)

May they always feel thus.....

written, by pure chance, to the sounds of Hallelujah, *Messiah* Handel (Mozart Arrangement)