



Happy Holidays 2016
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We're sending out our annual newsletter very early this year to make sure you have our current address and because we'll be away Dec. 20 -New Year's.

On May 28, Emilee Cantieri and Gerald Liedl were married at Grace Lutheran Church with our daughters, Catherine Cantieri and Barbara Liedl, as our witnesses. We alternate attending Lutheran/Episcopal churches.



We're living in Jerry's house, which has 2 levels so we can have separate offices. My house is for sale with new walk-in shower and granite counter tops. It is under contract. Jerry's has a beautiful view, of the lake and mountains, and he is having the master bath completely redone

March: a short cruise of W. Caribbean (Mexico, Belize & Honduras). April: Lynchburg College reunion and lunch in Charlottesville with my siblings. July, Jerry's family reunion in Minneapolis.

In Aug. we took a cruise around the British Isles. We especially liked Orkney Is. & Guernsey Is. We were looking forward to Isle of Skye and Mull, but a storm sent us to Liverpool instead, which is an interesting city.

Oct. 5-15, we went to the Caucasus, starting in Baku, Azerbaijan. We had a private driver and guide. When we entered Georgia, we got a new guide and driver, Kristi & George who ate with us and explained the array of food that appeared at every meal. We'd paid for everything in advance, so we never had to find a restaurant or decipher a menu. Georgia is very historic, and in one museum we saw gold jewelry dating to 4000 BC. Our Tblisi hotel in the old quarter had a balcony facing gov't buildings and ancient churches spotlighted at night so they seemed to float in the air. One day we went to Gori, home of Stalin.



In Armenia, our guide was a Russian Armenian. Armenia is a very poor, very Christian country. We saw many churches and monasteries, including the first church ever built

anywhere (301 AD) shown here as well as ruins of an ancient city toppled by an earthquake, and a memorial to the million Armenians killed by Turks in 1915 (who also seized 90% of Armenia's territory.) Yerevan, the capital, is a drab place recovering from Soviet era. Their city center has a new Marriott, a beautiful museum and public buildings, and a fountain that had a 'Sound and Light' show every night.



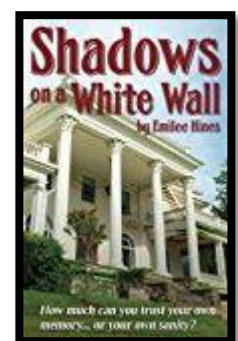
Back here, we've made many trips to thrift shops, donating our duplicate items. Some furniture we want is still in my house. My cat Max has adjusted well for a 16-year old.

Because of my eyesight, I decided I was no longer a safe driver and sold my Mustang convertible. I have fairly good distance vision, but poor depth perception, and difficulty adjusting quickly when going from light to shadow. For close work Jerry has gotten me a magnifier on a stand, a large screen computer monitor and dictation program that types as I speak. Eye doc says I have 'rumpled macula': floaters attached to the macula. Possible risky surgery has only 50% success (other 50% may make it worse), so he doesn't want to operate until my vision gets "really bad".

Our children have jobs and pets and are not in jail or hospital, so all is well.

Since we're both over 80, we have to expect problems, especially in light of illnesses and death of friends and family members, but we're optimistic and have booked travel through March 2017.

My mystery novel, "Shadows on a White Wall," is now on Amazon both as an e-book and paperback. It's set on a Virginia plantation. I'm rewriting a mystery set at Biltmore. I had a computer problem last winter that destroyed a third of the manuscript. (bought a new computer). The execs at Biltmore asked me not to call it "Murder at Biltmore," for P.R. reasons, so it's "If Only I Could Love You."



Jerry stays busy with Rotary, looking after the Columbarium at church, serving on various committees here in Carriage Park, and driving me around..

We wish all of you a healthy, safe and blessed year.