

It is hard for me to begin this letter, still “stuffed” from a bountiful and luscious Thanksgiving dinner! (It was just the two of us and Bob purchased a 22 pounder!) Oh me, oh my, I do believe it is time to throw out the bathroom scales! And, now I have the visions of sugarplums dancing in my head!

The Snyder household has been a mixed bowl of “things” this year. Mark joined us for a trek to New Mexico again in February to see “Sleeping Beauty” performed by the Russian Ballet at the Spencer Theater near Ruidoso. What a magnificent show that was! After the show, Mark returned home and we continued to Flint Texas for a wonderful and restful weeks stay at a timeshare exchange. The most interesting side trip on the way home was to Groom where we saw the largest free-standing cross in the northern hemisphere.

In March, Bob drove our Assistant Vicar, Fr. Felicien Mbala to San Diego/Tijuana so Father could renew his visa ...And this was the month old Ramona decided to have some cataract surgery (both eyes), which really turned out great! Don't think I'll need that seeing-eye dog after all!

In April Bob was given the task of being Treasurer to the Rialto Guild, the Rialto being our historic theater ...And I had some needed knee repair done. A replacement was mentioned, but I drew the line there! Howsomever, this all seriously curtailed many of our summer activities, although we did get to our “rig” up the Poudre a few times.

We did make a quick trip to San Diego in the RV the end of April to celebrate the retirement of one of Ramona's 'kids', Dr. Veinbergs, from her hospital 'mothering' days. It was quick trip but we did stop in Calico for a quick overnight with the 'cowpokes' on our return.

In June Jean Dewit and I attended the St. Mary's Academy “Golden Girls” luncheon at the Denver Country Club. So enjoyed it—and Jean and I were the “oldest” and the only TWO '42 graduates!

August brought about a BIG change in our lives when Bob took on the technology teaching job at St. John the Evangelist School. It is something new for Bob, but he is enjoying it a lot. And the last of August was Loveland's annual Corn Festival and we were asked to drive our little 'Zuki in the parade and hand out candy corn!

September meant another trek for Fr. Mbala, so this time Bob drove him to Matamoros to do all his visa renewal business. And following Bob's trip, Mark took a vacation to Barbados.

We were fortunate to be able to go to Denver in November to hear Handel's Messiah performed at St. Mary's in Littleton It was magnificent—and all the instruments were just like those used at the time the Messiah was written...And we had our first really BIG snowstorm this month.

So here we come to the end of the year and Bob and I will celebrate by going again to the Spencer Theatre in New Mexico to see the “Nutcracker”.

Here's wishing you a wonderful Christmas season and a joyful New Year.

