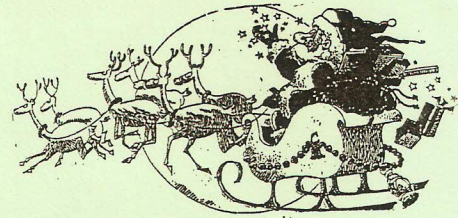


Christmas 1992



Dear Friends,

Merry Christmas from Newport News. We are enjoying the Hampton Roads area, though it's somewhat different than Tampa. We have

sweaters instead of shorts.
raincoats instead of tanning lotion.
deer in the back yard instead of golf balls.
leaves to rake instead of a pool to vacuum.
the Old Country instead of the Dark Continent.
a 55 second commute instead of a 55 minute commute.
command instead of staff.

...so the moral is that there is good in every place - just depends on your perspective.

Bonnie is "into" Christmas, as usual. This year we started with two ceramic Christmas trees, added three live trees, four small plastic trees, five angel layouts, six incense burners, seven nutcrackers, eight trays of cookies, nine pine wreaths, ten little light sets, eleven special ornaments, and twelve red ribbons ... all we need is a partridge in a pear tree.

Quiz: What is 530 - 330 - 350 - 510?

- a. The last four winners in the Virginia "Pick Three."
- b. Monthly education bills for Sandra.
- c. Times each morning Beau tends to wake us up meowing.
- d. Miles driven over a 4-day span for Karen's graduation.

Answer "d" is correct, and we are very proud of her ... a Seminole alumni. As per our offer, she returned with us to Fort Eustis, and is using here as a base for seeking employment and perhaps further education. Things seem to be working well, and she's stepped right into a pretty good part time job which will keep her busy, add to her experience, and give her some breathing room in a more serious job search. I like it because perhaps she might be able to pay off part of the ol' college debt - are you listening, Karen?

Sandra, a sophomore at the University of South Florida, she is also picking up some spending money - first as a sales associate (we don't say "clerk" anymore), and now as a waitress at Bennigans. One of Sandra's achievements is joining a health club and then actually using the facility for regular workouts. Seriously, the results are nice; and so we have USF for the brain muscle and Bally's for all the rest. Her visit here over Christmas has led to a number of racquetball matches between her and Karen, with all that gym time evidently resulting in wins on the court, though Karen won't admit to coming in second.

September marked a milestone for Anne - she became a teenager. You could almost see the pile of dirty clothes in her room grow as we sang "Happy Birthday." Middle school is fine, and I am hoping that I get a good grade on Anne's last science project. She continues with the violin, and assures Bonnie and I that the music teacher really wants her to watch TV after school rather than practice.

For Robert, Fall soccer has been followed by basketball. He missed Winter baseball, as he played in Florida, but made up for it by increasing his baseball card collection astronomically. I can't figure out how he always manages to find \$3-5 worth of valuable cards in each \$1.70 wax pack, yet we are spending ourselves to death without any apparent financial benefits. Guess I should point out the Bonnie doesn't have any problem with this logic of spending ourselves into wealth.

I am assigned to the U.S. Army Training Support Center, a job that fits my alternate military specialty, and a job that I asked for ... and it is just great. ATSC is the bridge to the Total Army for correspondence courses, devices, simulators, training ammunition allocations, tele-training, computer assisted instruction, self-development testing, standard range designs and a panoply of other training support activities.

Best wishes and warm regards,

Jay, Bonnie, Karen, Sandra, Anne and Robert