

A New Year 2014 Greeting From Marilyn & Guy

December 2013

<http://www.andrew.cmu.edu/user/gcherry/family.html>

Happy Holidays from all of us!

The year 2013 has seen a continuation of most of the activities from 2012, plus a few more! Along with a friend, Marilyn has reactivated the Pittsburgh Chapter of the Ohara Ikebana she founded in 1986, giving lessons to the chapter members. We both enjoyed a trip to New Orleans in June, accompanied by great-grandson Jacob (then 1 yr old), and his father Jon and mother Kimberlee (aka our grand-daughter); Marilyn was afflicted by planters fasciitis during the trip, with relief not to come for several months. We enjoyed accommodations in a recently renovated luxury hotel, Monteleone, a venerable establishment on the edge of the French Quarter (the hotel-site of the meeting for GCB that motivated the trip).



Marilyn's Art in Bloom exhibit

Marilyn placed flower arrangements in several events this year, including: a demonstration at the 55th anniversary of the Pittsburgh Chapter of Ikebana International (II), the 2013 *Art in Bloom* of the Carnegie Museum, an exhibition at the Phipps Conservatory and a National and State Award winning table on bonsai at the Garden Club Show. The Art in Bloom exhibit had her make an arrangement



Marilyn demonstrating at II 55th Anniversary to complement a colorful and fairly large-sized work of her favorite impressionist-era artist, *Pierre-Auguste Renoir*.



Marilyn's II demonstration arrangement
Marilyn succeeded in shedding 35 lbs this year, and is feeling great as she strives to hold the new weight line.

Guy continues consulting work with the President and Provost of CMU as the chair of three committees, and to serve as co-Editor-in-Chief of a scientific journal in polymer science. He is also Chair of an International Symposium with annual meetings at venues around the world.

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Scott & Cheryl are reaching a milestone as their oldest prepares to graduate from high school and enter college. **Hanna (18)**, who has been doing very well academically, elected to matriculate in Indiana University of PA, heading for a degree in nursing. She has been active experiencing

different jobs at a Hospital this year as a school project. She has continued her swimming on the varsity team, and may look into swimming at IUP next year. **Chloe (11)** is doing well in school; she likes math and science. She was on the school volleyball team, and now is a cheer leader for the basketball team (that helps burn off 1% of her energy!). She is learning to cook from Mom, and is an alter server at church. Scott is the drummer in two bands, one of which is very active in the area; the band was featured at a Pittsburgh Steeler event closing their training period before the season opener, and another at the River Casino in Pittsburgh; Marilyn, Cheryl and Susan attended the latter event. Cheryl remains active as a project administrator for the nuclear structural division of the firm for which she works, while hosting a number of family events, including the Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners this year.



Scott with Mom at a band break from his drums

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Sandra and the two girls, **Colleen (16)** and **Cassandra (14)**, still at home have had a full year: Sandra has a new job working in a clinic for women, the girls continue their home schooling, while both continue their horse related passions. Both earned entry in their events to the 4-H State competition, and both received ribbons, a 6th place on Gazelle for Colleen, and 5th and 1st places for Casey on Cavalier; the 1st place made her (and Cavi) State Champion in her event. Although a State Champion with Casey, Cavalier must compete for Casey's.



Colleen over a jump on Chloe

attention with her interest in vaulting, which took her to three competitions this year, out scoring the National Champion in the final outing! Colleen is working at a barn to exercise horses, earning lessons for her on her horse Chloe.



Casey in an award winning vaulting routine

Kimberlee (Sandra's oldest) is to be congratulated for her hard work in earning her **Bronze Medal** (ranking) in Dressage this year; she is working on the next ranking, hoping to go on to the third, and top rating, and be in a position to teach Dressage. Great grandson **Jacob**, living in Austin with his mother Kimberlee and father Jon, is learning to feel at home with horses; he has no choice! Jon is working to earn an

MBA, while making sure that Jacob understands that the Steelers are his pro football team (despite the not so good season this year!).

Sandra's two college-age offspring plan to return to their studies after a brief hiatus, **Kevin** to Penn State Erie, The Behrend College, and **Kaitlyn** to Washington University, St Louis. Among other things, Kaitlyn has been exercising her passion for photography in several free-lance jobs in the St. Louis area.

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Susan & Carmon celebrated their 29th anniversary in October with a trip to Pittsburgh to visit with family and attend the Carnegie Museum of Art's International Exhibition. Susan, Marilyn and Cheryl enjoyed seeing Scott perform in the *Saddle Up* band at the Pittsburgh Rivers Casino. Carmon had an art exhibition in Brooklyn, NY, and Susan will begin teaching a Community Arts & Social Practice course at Washington University this spring.

Chelsea is a sophomore in the Occupational Therapy program at Maryville University. She and her horse Rowan have moved up to showing 2nd level and schooling 3rd level in dressage. Chelsea spent her summer at the St. Louis Zoo disabilities in a new education room as a college intern researching best practices in design and programming for young children. She is spending a lot of time with her boyfriend Nathan who, like Chelsea, enjoys family, farms, animals, children, pick up trucks and country music.



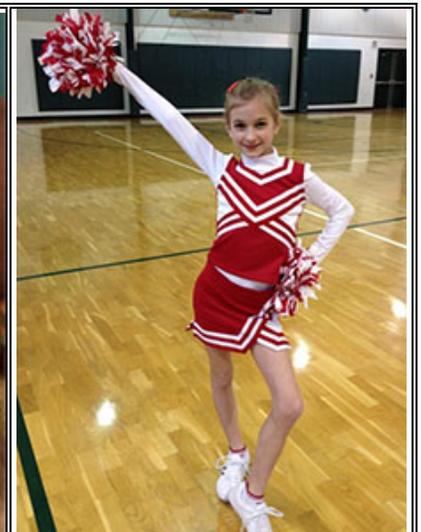
Chelsea with Rowan

Jessica and Charles adopted their Cock-a-Poo rescue dog Cody this year. They now both work for Lorcan O'Herlihy Architects in Los Angeles. They celebrated their second anniversary in their small garden house in Echo Park. They have also rented a small studio in Culver City. Carmon, Susan, Ashley and Chelsea visited them in LA last summer. **Ashley** is a visual store merchandiser in the Urban Outfitters company in a large store in Farmington, CT. She lives in a cute 2 bedroom apartment in a Victorian house in Wallingford, CT; the 2nd bedroom is a studio space. Ashley was invited to paint a two-story mural for the Urban Outfitters store in New Haven, CT next to the Yale University campus (see next pages). Carmon and Susan traveled to CT and NYC twice to visit her, and Ashley came home to St. Louis for a week of R&R.

Supplemental Photos on next pages



Kim with awards of Collen (L) and Casey (R), at the State 4H show; Casey took State Champion in her event.



Chloe leads a cheer at school

Supplemental Photo Section 2014

Acknowledging the explosion in digital photography with the availability of the i-phone and its relatives, we add a number of family photos this year. In addition photos of Marilyn's Ohara Ikebana chapter are available at the url: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Ohara-School-of-Ikebana-Pittsburgh-Chapter/518506131537397>



Marilyn's National and State Award winning bonsai education table.



Center portion of the table



Scott at a performance in Canada



Cheryl, Chloe, Hanna, Scott at Steeler Camp



Scott at a Heinz Field event



Casey in her winning vault routine



Case on the practice rink



Casey on the practice rink



Kaitlyn self-portrait in a mirror



Jacob with Uncle Kevin



Jacob at 18 months



Jacob at 1 year in his tunnel



Ashley in her apartment



Ashley with her 2-story tall mural



Chelsea at her internship



Jessica and Charles celebrate # 2



Jessica with Cody