

CHRISTMAS HERALD

PROUDLY PUBLISHED FOR FAMILY & FRIENDS

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GREG, JULIE

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1. Yet another year has passed, oh how time seems to fly. It is our hope that you are all well and had a good year. I am beginning to smell the cooking of turkey. With that and the covering of snow, it's again time to write our annual Christmas Herald. You might say, boy you guys sure cook your turkey early. Well, Mary and I have the pleasure each year of cooking turkeys for a group of widows and widowers who meet monthly at our Church. There will be another turkey but this year it will be on Christmas Eve with around 18 friends and family. We have been invited to spend Christmas Day at Jenn and Barb's.

2. Mary and two friends started off 2019's travelling with a 2 week journey to Florida. They did the touristy circuit around Orlando and Mary had a chance to visit some cruising friends in Palm Harbor. Our next travellers were Caleb and Jeff, who visited, Montreal, Quebec City and Ottawa on a school sponsored trip. Next, was Noelle off to Croatia, Italy and Spain with Youth Singers. Jeff, Kelly, Noelle and Caleb continue to enjoy their camping outings including a summer holiday trip to Vancouver Island and the northwestern US. Ed and Mary spent a week at their time share in Fairmont BC in October. This was the first time in many years that they had spent anytime there. It was encouraging to see the renovation that were made there after some hard times the Resort experience over the last few years, including a bankruptcy. Greg and Julie will take top place for travel in 2019. They left Calgary on December 7 for a month of travel in New Zealand including spending Christmas with Julie's family.

Jenn and Barb's house building kept them pretty much home bound in 2019, but Jenn did have a short business trip to Ottawa.

3. Thankfully everyone stayed healthy in 2019. Ed continued his BCG treatments and routine Cystoscopies with another scheduled in early January. Hopefully, he will graduate from the BCG treatments in late January, but there are no guarantees.

4. Noelle is in Grade 12 at Central Memorial High School. Grandma

and Grandpa usually pick her up from school on Wednesdays for dinner with them and then take her to her Youth Singer practice. She has big decisions to make in 2020 regarding post secondary education.

Caleb is in Grade 9 at Menno Simons Christian School. He will graduate from there in 2020 and needs to decide on which High School to attend. The closest High School to home is no longer their designated School so he will have to choose a school farther from home. He is a enthusiastic member of his school's athletic teams. The grand-pets, Bella and Ember are both doing well. Bella is a regular visitor and Ember is with us for a month while Greg & Julie are in New Zealand.

5. The employment of family members has remained the same in 2019 which is a blessing considering the employment situation in Alberta. Greg did successfully complete his Canadian Welding Bureau's Welding Supervisor Certification and now acts in that capacity at Rev Engineering in addition to his design duties. Ed was appointed as Election Clerk for Calgary Glenmore for the Alberta provincial election April 16. He began working part time in early February and began full time when the writ was dropped on March 19 until the end of April. He thoroughly enjoyed the fast-paced environment which saw the hiring and training of around 300 poll workers. Mary worked the 5 consecutive days of the Provincial Advance Poll from 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. It was a rather grooling few days with a constant flow of electors who seemed intent on throwing out the NDP government. Not having enough of elections, Mary acted as a Central Poll Supervisor for 1 day during the Federal Election and it seemed Albertans were just as intent on throwing out the Liberal government.

6. Mary continues her role as Treasurer of the Holy Spirit Charitable Society. She is currently organizing their next Casino, scheduled for January 18 and 19, 2020. This will involve finding about 35 volunteers to work the various positions during the 2 days with the hope of raising about \$70,000 to distribute to 20 Calgary and Alberta based charities. Ed resigned from all of his activities at the Calgary Community Network after 25 years with the organization, 20 years as a Director and 2 years as its President. The last straw, after some rather confrontational past few years with the current President, was being hung up on in November. He is now looking for another volunteer opportunity where his contribution might be better appreciated. He is still a member of the Holy Spirit funeral choir and continues to help with a food delivery program at the church.

Mary and Ed participated in the 2019 CWL Annual Craft Sale. Mary had two roles. She organized the sale of the tables for the sale and she and Ed did a lot of preserving to sell at the sale, various jams, mustard pickles, pickled beets, salsa and relish. Mary and Noelle made crab-apple jelly from Jeff and Kelly's tree and they were a sell out. Mary had a good sale of her preserves and what's left will provide some Christmas baskets and home use. Ed decided to get back into the bird house building using popular instead of the seemingly unavailable pine he had used previously. He has sold 2 of the 9 he made, with an order for a third. Mary and Ed's garden was better than in 2018, with a good harvest of raspberries, Evan's cherries, carrots, beets and head lettuce. After the disappointing tomatoes in 2018 Ed opted for 1 cherry tomato plant in 2019 which provided a nice supply of fresh tomatoes in August and September. Mary is still knitting baby hats. She has almost reached her goal of 1000. Ed is working on a new project. During a workshop clean up he discovered his mother's button accordion from the 1930's. He is in the process of restoring it. Thanks to the internet and youtube there are a lot of resources available for such a project. He purchased a bunch of replacement parts from a supplier in Scotland and is waiting for another few parts so that he can complete the restoration and tuning. Yes, accordions are tunable, who would have known. Already it is sounding not too badly, for an 80+ year old instrument. See website below for pictures of the resotred instrument. He is also doing some restoration on her second button accordion from the 1950's.

Ed has registered a new website <https://www.kuntzfamily.ca>. He is working on various aspects of the site including Kuntz/Moore family genealogy. It is a work in progress hopefully to improve his webpage building skills.

7. Jenn and Barb were finally able to move into their beautiful country home in early September. Prior to the move there was quite a flurry of family activities such as fence building and sod laying. They are now the owners of the equipment which goes with country living, a garden tractor/mower with dump cart and other attachments and a snow blower.

8. www.chickeringregistry.ca/
www.phiapitaria.ca/
www.kuntzfamily.ca
www.karunacouncellinggroup.com

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