

Happy Holidays

4000 Providence Court, Bloomington, IN 47408

phone 812-339-3393

email: srschooler@gmail.com

December, 2012



*At the entrance to Angkor Wat, Cambodia.
We were forbidden to travel there in the 60's.*

The highlight of my year was spending nearly 3 weeks in Thailand and Cambodia. I hadn't been back to Thailand since I lived there between 1967 & 1969, so the trip was long-overdue. 2012 marked the 50th anniversary of the Peace Corps in Thailand, and there were special events planned, including an opportunity to meet the princess. My best friend from those days, Carol Page, met us there, and the three of us enjoyed a side trip to Angkor Wat in Cambodia, a trip up-country to Lampang and Chiang Mai, sightseeing in Bangkok, and – most of all, for Carol and me – just feeling at home in Thailand again.

I love being retired, and have yet to have the feeling I don't have enough to do. So far, Dennis enjoys his job as a manager at UITS too much to give it up. Since my mother moved to a retirement community in Bloomington last year, we see her several times a week. I've been subbing a little bit, and still see some of my teacher friends when our faculty book club meets during the school year. And I've been enjoying things there just wasn't enough time for while I was working – sewing and quilting, reading more, a yoga class that meets at 10 in the morning.



*a ride at the Thai National
Elephant Conservation Center*



Parker reads to "Gigi," my mother

In April, almost-6-year-old Parker spent her spring break week with us, which was her first solo visit here and a special treat for us. We got to see Sarah and Jackson at the end of the trip, and Debbie & Nicolai came out for a week in May. And a side benefit of my mother's being in town is that my sister Kathy and her daughter Hannah come from Kansas City more often. Dennis' daughter Laura, her husband Paul, and their daughter Liya were here this fall, and we're looking forward to a trip London next May to help celebrate Liya's Bat Mitzvah.

Because of our Thai trip, we didn't do much other traveling this year. But now that Debbie and Dre have moved to the D.C. area, a trip there nets me visits with both daughters and their families. Dennis and I went in March so we could go to a piano concert at the Library of Congress by one of his heroes, Leon Fleisher. And I went again in September. We also spent a long weekend in October with my Uncle Gerald in Ohio. Shortly before that, my other Uncle, Connel, had died of heart failure in Florida.



Susan & Nicolai



*Sarah, Krista (Parker's other mom),
Mary (Sarah's wife and Jackson's
other mom), Jackson, Parker*

Sarah and Mary continue at their same jobs as pediatrician and social worker, respectively. Parker started first grade this fall, and loves music and dancing, as well as the swimming pool that's near their house; Jackson just turned 1 in November, and idolizes Parker. Debbie continues at Gallaudet, and this fall Dre accepted the school psychologist position at Oyster-Adams, Parker's school. Their son Nicolai is 3, and continues to love books, computers, mangoes & sticky rice, and being in constant motion (not necessarily in that order).



Debbie, Dre, and Elasti-Girl, aka Nicolai

In just a couple weeks, the house here will be full of four generations, ages 1 to 89. You couldn't ask for a better holiday than that!



Paul, Liya, Laura

I hope the holidays are happy for all of you as well, and wish all the best for everyone in the coming year. Please continue to keep in touch, by email or regular mail, or – even better – come see us when you can.

Love,

Susan and Dennis



*Nicolai & Grandfather
(Dennis) love computers*