

Ho, Ho, Ho, Merry Christmas Y'all!

How quickly the year(s) passed by. Turn around and phfff!! it's over!

Well,... let's get to the telling about this year's events at the Meyen household.

We managed to hibernate most of the winter so there's not much to tell about for the first three months of 2007. However, spring brought us a new and eagerly anticipated family member, Samuel Allen Meyen. We all call him by his initials (SAM). Michael & Rachel are providing us lots of fun as we watch them settle into their new roles as Mom & Dad. Sam has rocked their world in a really good way and we are so proud of them.



In mid-May we scurried off on another "Mark & Ann's Excellent Adventure" in the British Isles with our dear friends Mike & Chris. We explored Edinburgh, Inverness/Loch Ness, Kirkwall in the Orkney Islands, Belfast, Glasgow, Dublin and St Peter in the Channel Isles (14 mi off coast of Normandy) and lastly Amsterdam.

During June there was a short trip to northern VA to visit with Mark's mom who continues to amaze everyone with how spry she is at 84.

In July we enjoyed a visit with our friends Nancy & Frank from New York. We even got to spend a weekend with them at Myrtle Beach. Ann got another year closer to 60. We spent a long weekend with them at the beginning of December and toured the Big Apple.

August found Mark off to Atlanta for a business conference. Since Ann was tracked out she tagged along and managed to visit with a couple of old friends and do a little touring of the town with Mark.

In September, Michelle & Ross, Walker & Olivia celebrated the end of summer by "moving on up" to a lovely new home not five miles from their old home. Ann and her gal pals headed down to the coast for a girls weekend while Mark headed north to VA where he spent some quality time with his mom, sister Pat, brother-in-law Ted, his nephew Tyson and his wife Yilu. Mark and Ted tried their hand at the Charlestown race track (horses) but just broke even (success in contrast to Mark's usual luck).

Over Veteran's Day weekend Mark spent time with a lot of old high school classmates who have named themselves the "Antique Eagles" after the school team from back in the day at Edison High School. A small but genial band of them collected for the weekend in St Augustine, FL to reminisce. Thanksgiving we had Mark's mom, Phyllis with us as well as Michael & Rachel's friend Amy, Rachel's sister Rebecah, Michael, Rachel and little Sam who got his first introduction to his great grandma.

Christmas will be spent right here in Raleigh with whichever young-un's are around. Plans for the next "Mark & Ann's Excellent Adventure" are underway for May, 2008. As of this writing we have 9 of us flying to Venice, Italy for a couple days followed by a cruise to the Greek Isles and Croatia (Mykonos, Katakolon, Corfu, Athens, Split). Anyone else care to tag along? The more the merrier!

As always, we are grateful to Him for our good fortunes, family & friends and for sending us His son.



It's again our prayer this year that this finds you all enjoying good health and good times in the company of loved ones.

From our house to yours, Best Wishes for a Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year!

Mark & Ann