

Merry Christmas!



May your holidays be filled with delicious goodies baked with the freshest ingredients!

Merry Christmas from the Morrises!

What an incredible year it has been! We've been blessed beyond belief.



In January, we got a bit of a shock when BJ was diagnosed with breast cancer. She was very fortunate that it was caught early with her annual mammogram. On the downside, she had just raised the deductible on her health insurance so instead of that new kitchen she'd been dreaming of, we paid the hospital bills. On the upside, we were able to pay for the surgery with credit cards so we got hotel points! She recovered from her surgery and radiation in time for us to use some of those points on a trip to Antwerp in mid-February.

We barely made it back from Antwerp in time for the birth of our beautiful new great-nephew, Jack! We took a quick peek at him before BJ rushed off to Park City, Utah to ski with friends. Tony is claiming to be too old to ski anymore. Bah!



We sold our beloved Jetta to our nephew and 2 weeks later he was hit from behind and the car was totaled. Poor kid, he just can't catch a break. On the upside, he got more from the insurance settlement than he paid for the car. Also on the upside, we got a new Jetta Wagon that still has a little of that new-car smell!



BJ celebrated the 30th reunion of her Delta computer programming class in March. Since Tony was the teacher, he was invited to the celebration. He doesn't claim to be too old for celebrations.

Spring fever hit in April so we went down to Fernandina Beach, Florida for a little sun and fun. While there, we found a lot on the beach and negotiated a deal for it. On the downside, after doing our diligence, we feared the lot was not buildable so we backed out. We got together with BJ's college roommate for a "Queen" cover band concert. Soon after that we donned our fancy hats and attended the Atlanta Steeplechase, a first for us! Tony and some friends ended April at a beer festival in Leuven, Belgium while BJ attended the American Embroidery Conference in West Palm Beach, Florida. We're not sure who had the most fun.



We attended a beautiful wedding celebration in Pensacola, Florida in May, and spent a relaxing week at our rental house (Beauty and the Beach) on St. George Island, Florida.

In June, we went with friends to hear the famous Australian folk artist, Dan Kelly at Eddie's Attic in Decatur, Georgia. Later in the month, we accompanied our *Florida daughter and her fiancé to Key West, Florida to get their marriage license in preparation for their August destination wedding. A very generous friend let us stay at his Key West bungalow.



BJ got together with some of her college girlfriends for a day on Lake Lanier. No one in the group has changed a bit. Bahahahahahaha!

BJ's new Travel Agent career has gotten off to a slow start, but on the upside, it has started paying off in the form of FAM trips! In July, we got to go on a European River Cruise on AROSA. The cruise went from Basel, Switzerland to Amsterdam, Holland, stopping in Breisach, Strasbourg, Mannheim, Koblenz and Cologne. When we got home, BJ decided we needed to finish the half-bath remodel project she had started a couple of months prior. She is really good at the demolition



portion, but then the procrastination sets in. We finished tiling and installing the new fixtures just days before we hosted a couples' shower at home for our *German daughter and her fiancé.

August was the start of wedding season! Our Florida daughter got married in Islamorada, Florida. Our German daughter's wedding would be in September. BJ got a little stressed out because she volunteered to do the wedding dress alterations!



Between weddings, we took a trip to Bar Harbor, Maine to visit an old friend from Delta. (Lets face it, they're all old now.) When we got back, we learned of a great deal on a condo in Fernandina Beach where we had earlier tried to buy property. We flew down for the day to look it over, liked it and bought it! We're becoming quite the beach-bums, with property on both sides of Florida! We spent Labor Day week on St. George Island, Florida at Beauty and the Beach.

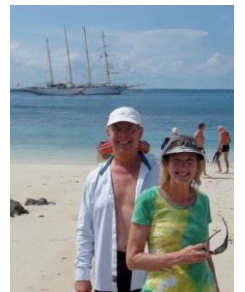


Our German daughter's September wedding took place in a lovely barn in Newnan, Georgia. We hosted several of the German guests at our house during the pre & post wedding activities. Tony shirked some of his post wedding host responsibilities and went to Tuscany, Italy with friends after the wedding. On the downside, we missed a cousin's wedding, but caught the upside when BJ got to attend the wedding of her college friend's daughter.

The Delta Women's Golf Tournament was in Palm Coast, Florida again this year. That's just a stone's throw away from Fernandina Beach, so BJ stopped by to enjoy a night at our new condo on her way home.

In October, we went to Oktoberfest! No, not the one in Germany. The one in Helen, Georgia! They do a pretty good imitation of the German one. Try it one year. Later, we attended a homeowner's association meeting for our Fernandina Beach condo. While we were there, the water heater went out. On the upside, we were at the BEACH, who needs hot water when you're at the beach?!?

November found us at a wine festival in Zurich, Switzerland, and then on another FAM trip. This one was a tall-sailing ship adventure on the Star Flyer. We cruised from Panama City, Panama to Puerto Caldera, Costa Rica. In between, BJ flew up to White Plains, New York to see our friends' daughter perform in the opera performance of Hansel and Gretel. Oh, and she also spent another weekend at the Fernandina Beach condo. That's the upside of a condo too small to rent out! We get to use it from time to time!



BJ had to send her passport off for renewal as soon as we got home from Costa Rica so we are grounded for a few weeks until it comes back.

We hope your year was as joyful and blessed as ours!

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**If we haven't explained it before, we have "adopted" two girls. Our first daughter was an intern from Germany when she came to live with us in 2005. She sort of adopted her sister from Tampa who became our Florida daughter. Both girls live nearby now, and we try to help them out when their real parents can't be here.*