

## 2021 HOLIDAY LETTER



This photograph was made during our five minute Family Reunion during Nick's Graduation Party.

We did open our cottage this year. In spite of the rain and mud, we spent 82 nights there. We followed all CDC and Michigan guidelines set for older people in 2021. Both of us remain careful even though we are fully vaccinated and boosted. We continued our use of Kroger pickup for groceries so never got out of our vehicle. Our 55<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary was a very quiet party for two. We visited Houghton Lake – complete with a mini-Dream Cruise behind the cottage. Indiana continues to experience a low level of Covid-19 so we traveled there for Nick's graduation ceremony and party. We also visited them in the Fall. By the way, we are spoiled ... we do not like traveling using motels.

We hold out hope of updating our Web site – but, failed this year. Check our Web site at [www.RVtowster.com](http://www.RVtowster.com) >>> The *Show and Tell* page is a good starting point to find any update notices.

**Mary Lou** is in good health. She developed a second case of Shingles – apparently not uncommon after being boosted. She enjoyed fraternizing with the other members at Rolling Hills this year. She assumed the role of Treasurer for our condo board.

**Fred's** health is good except for a rash that remains. The rash may fade away on its own in several years. Fred is now President of Rolling Hills Club. He fished in June prior to the monsoons. Fred started long overdue back therapy. He got his two Shingle vaccinations this year.

**Fred, Becky, Caitlin and Nick:** The family visited California on vacation – Santa Monica Pier, Hollywood Bus Tour and more. Fred got in some golf and the family enjoyed the sun and pool.

**Fred's** business has survived Covid-19 so far. Fred added heat and air conditioning to the rec room and improved drainage around the building. He has been collecting some amateur golf trophies – it is that eye hand coordination he developed as a young child. He was voted Player of the Year for the Indiana-Western Kentucky Amateur Golf Tour.

**Becky** is still very busy listing and selling real estate. She has established a Real Estate Team in her name associated with her agency. She accompanied Fred on golf trips to San Antonio, TX where they toured the River Walk and the Alamo and to Hilton Head, SC where she had fun with other golf widows.

**Caitlin** is now a 21 year old junior at the University of Indiana studying human biology. She shares an apartment with two other girls. She works at an optical company near school. Caitlin enjoys cooking, trying out new recipes. She plays golf with her dad and her boyfriend.

**Nick** was a 'virtual' senior this year but participated in sports activities and graduated high school with his friends. He has fully recovered from the required knee surgery resulting from him sliding into home plate. He worked at the Boys and Girls Club in town. Nick is now working for his mom and hopes to continue as a real estate videographer – maybe make a fulltime job out of it.

**Michelle, Steve, Ashlyn and Lily:** The family had a different kind of year. Because the girls were at school or working, Michelle and Steve spent many days at the cottage alone – Michelle more than Steve. While there, they did some redecorating at the cottage. In December, Michelle and Steve took a six day Caribbean cruise.

**Michelle** has found her new Vice President, Human Resources position very demanding. She makes sure that her family is a priority but she is glad they are older. Working remotely from the cottage frequently gave her a respite during the summer. She is close to professional at braiding Emma's mane for horse shows.

**Steve** has fully recovered from his October 2020 brain surgery. His company only permits remote work one day a week – during the summer he spent most of his remote days at the cottage. He golfed a couple weekends and participated in a charity golf outing. He is Lily's assistant in the barn during horse shows.

**Ashlyn** is a second year student studying art and business at Alma College. She is in a one person dorm room with Dex (her comfort cat). All reports say she is studying hard. She worked at a day care last summer. She is now a member of Alpha Gamma Delta.

**Lily** is an on-line high school senior. She still loves animals so her job at a pet store is ideal. Her free time is spent at a barn 20 minutes from home with her horse Emma. A long story short - her parents bought her a horse. Lily is responsible for a share of the cost. She and Emma compete in Dressage – this year they were Reserve Champions and acquired other awards. They are a good looking pair.

**Melanie, Scott and Wyatt:** They are busy being parents of an active eight year old boy. They took a one week vacation to Gatlinburg, TN. They took in a Cincinnati Reds ballgame, played golf in Townsend, attended a Smokies ballgame in Kodak and explored the wonders of the Smokie Mountains. They had the house interior painted. The basement was painted Maize and Blue – U of M colors. All three play golf. M&S worked from home all year.

**Melanie** was head upstairs paint color coordinator. She was assistant to the coach for Wyatt's games and official scorekeeper for both teams. Melanie is also head cheerleader and leader of Wyatt's fan club of grandparents.

**Scott** coached Wyatt's baseball teams. His outdoor time was also spent at the golf course for lessons and games.

**Wyatt** has been an in-school student this year. He is a Cub Scout. He and his mom tent camped near 'cold' Lake Michigan. His sports of choice are baseball, golf and football. He has had two piano recitals.

*Best wishes for a  
Merry Christmas  
and  
Happy New Year*  
.....  
*Fred and  
Mary Lou*

**STAY SAFE**