

# Tripp Family Recorder

## ISSUE 175

FEBRUARY 2021

From Nancy & Bob — Leesburg, FL

We seem to be getting later and later! I know it's not because we don't want to know what everyone is doing; I think we are all waiting for this pandemic to end! Bob and I have both been vaccinated and had no side effects. We are going out to eat occasionally but mostly cooking and eating at home.

Our church has been meeting on Zoom for months. We have only recently started talking about getting back in our building.

The weather looks really horrible everywhere but here. Florida seems to be the place to be this year. I walk every day at 9:00 and 4:00 and haven't missed many days because the weather here is pretty nice. I am just shocked at the bad weather everywhere else!

We (Bob, Judy and I) are planning to meet Bonnie and Jerry in Texas next month. I certainly hope things don't take a bad turn again and stop us from going. Sure am glad it wasn't this month since they have no power right now.

We are expecting a new great grandbaby the end of April. This will be Amanda's first baby and Kristi's first grandchild. I am, of course, working on a quilt for her ... and I do mean her — it will be a girl.

Bob is busy with yet another project. He is converting our Florida room into a sewing room. I can't wait. Well ... I'll sign off so you can read the rest of our news.

Love ya all — Nancy & Bob Noffsinger



### Family Gathering on Zoom

Family Reunions are fun and very meaningful, but they take a lot of planning and time. Thanks to Pauline and I'm not sure who else, we were on our way to a family reunion in Washington last July. Well ... we all know how that went. The pandemic hit and put the kibosh on all our plans. Perhaps a few of you were able to get together, but I know those of us in Michigan didn't even see each other all summer!

Kelli suggested we gather on Zoom and several of us said let's do it ... but so far ... yea ... nothing.

So ... I propose we do it. Maybe there will be so many it will be difficult, but let's try it. I have a Zoom client so can easily host the meeting. I will try to talk to Kelli and see if she wants to run the meeting. That means she will try to keep everyone from talking at once. We will need to be muted if it isn't your turn to talk. Kelli can be a co-host and we will see how it works.

I will send out an email to our Tripp Newsletter group with the link and time.

I just talked to Kelli and she is onboard. She will organize it and be in charge.

Wait for an email — we are planning to do this on a Saturday. Kelli said she runs zoom meetings all the time with people in different time zones. I can't wait.

See ya'all on Zoom SOON!! :)

From the Towle side of the family:

Hello everyone —

Hope everyone is doing good and in good health. I have not been doing much just staying home. My son got the COVID virus and was down for about a month. I put myself in quarantine just as a precaution. I had not been around my son but my daughter-in-law had come over to help a few times. She didn't have the virus and fortunately my granddaughters and my daughter-in-law never got the virus. Take care everyone and stay save!

Marcy (Towle) Leopard

P.S. My son is doing fine and does not have any lasting affects from the COVID ! I'm so thankful that he is ok and my daughter-in-law and granddaughters are ok too.

Hi from Michigan,

Wishing everyone a very blessed and most of all healthy new year! I don't have much to write since we've been pretty cooped up, but below are some highlights.

Career: It's been 3.5 years since I made the change from teaching to working at my current company. I've worked on benefit enrollment sites the majority of the time, however, I recently began a new internal position in which I'm setting up 401k files, assisting with payroll and updating existing benefit sites as part of a rotational team who assists within different departments during their peak periods. I feel very blessed to work

for a company who has done so much to avoid layoffs and help their own. I know there are many who haven't been as fortunate, so I know I'm truly blessed.

Love: COVID has put quite an interesting spin on dating, however, on a positive it has really encouraged a deeper connection by forcing people to communicate more prior to going out on physical dates. I met Ben through a dating device in June. We had talked quite extensively for about a month, then had our first "date" virtually on Zoom before meeting in person a few weeks later. He as been one of the best things to happen to me and it's been hard not being able to share him with my family and friends due to COVID. I'm definitely looking forward to being able to do so this year!

Looking Toward 2021: While I could focus on all the negative things that have come in 2020, I also reflect on the many positives and silver linings that COVID has brought to all our lives: "slowing down" in a fast-paced , impatient world; an appreciation for the small things we usually take for granted; more quality time with family; a further realization that tomorrow is not promised and it's important to live life to its fullest; being kind to others and helping out neigh-

bors; greater appreciation for all our front line workers who continue to run toward the fire without hesitation, etc. I think of those who have lost someone dear to them and am more grateful this year than ever for my own health and the health of my family. I look forward to the new year and whatever our new "normal" may bring.

Love and Health to All,  
Kelli (Sjostrom) Patton ,  
daughter of Linda Sjostrom





The following article was shared by Darrell Bogart with several of his family members who in turn shared it with others. We are neither endorsing this information nor refuting it. Read it and decide for yourself. It is very interesting, and if you have this condition, you might just want to give it a try..



There are millions of Americans who need our help. We need to spread this faster than covid-19. I've found a non-surgical cure for carpal tunnel syndrome CTS. You don't have it? That's okay, please keep reading and you'll understand why we need to spread this quickly. I happened upon a non-surgical cure for CTS and was four weeks into my treatment, nearly cured, when I learned my niece had the same exact symptoms. She went to a doctor, who sent her to a specialist and he immediately scheduled her for surgery, because that's what surgeons do...surgery! Unfortunately, my niece had the surgery before I even knew she had CTS. It's been three weeks, the wound is having trouble closing, she deals with pain through the day with no end in sight, and has accumulated a mountain of debt. At three weeks into my cure, I was around 95 percent healed and almost pain free. By week five I was 99 percent healed and only felt pain at the far reaches of motion. Now, at 6 weeks, my hand is as normal as it ever was. The reason we need to spread this is for your friend on face book who has a sister that's been diagnosed with CTS and is already scheduled for surgery, because that's what surgeons do...surgery! It's for your cousin who has a boyfriend who's been diagnosed with CTS and is scheduled for surgery, because that's what surgeons do...surgery! You don't know about the CTS they're pained with because you're too far outside their circle and that's the ones we need to reach. Surgeons don't know of a non-surgical cure and if someone tried to tell them, they wouldn't listen. Why? Because surgeons do surgery! Please keep reading. I went to my family doctor, she examined my hand and told me it appeared to be carpal-tunnel CTS and referred me to a specialist. I told her I wouldn't go. Why? Because surgeons do surgery and nothing else. I know of several people who have had surgery on their hand and ALL came back in the same or worse condition. Before surgery, the specialist will give you a percentage chance of full recovery. Of course, they convenient-

ly omit the fact that there's a 100 percent chance they will make a lot of money. My doctor, since I wouldn't see a specialist, gave me a brace for my hand, hoping that immobilizing it would let my thumb relax. Wow, was that the wrong idea! After a few days of "relaxing" the last joint on my thumb began to "click" when I bent it. At first it was almost comical when my thumb clicked back and forth, but it soon turned painful. I'm an over-the-road trucker and work 4 to 11 weeks between days home, so it was more than a month before I saw my doctor again. By this point I had zero mobility in my thumb, throbbing pain through the day and my left hand was nearly useless. Even trying to grab something with my fingers didn't work, since it caused pain in my thumb and palm. My doctor said I now had trigger thumb with the carpal-tunnel CTS, and as expected, she recommended the specialist again. I told her I wouldn't, gave her my reasons, and she said there was really nothing else she could do, since it was out of her realm. That meant I was on my own. Hey, at least she gave it to me straight. I'm a weightlifter and know a thing or two about muscles. I know that sore muscles do better if you keep them warm, so I had been wearing a cloth glove (Jersey) on my left hand. It wasn't going to cure the problem, but it cut out a small amount of the throbbing pain. My wife, Jojo, teased me about trying to bring the Michael Jackson look back. I was sitting on the couch, watching

TV, and for whatever reason I began blowing in my gloved hand. Y'know, the way you would if you were outside on a cold day and wanted to warm your hands. It felt good on my thumb area, so I continued for probably a minute. Jojo asked what I was doing and I told her to mind her #!%\$&\*# business or I'd knock the &)%##@! %&\*!!\$ out of her. I'm just kidding. My wife's a country girl and if I tried that crap she'd kill me in my sleep lol. Please keep reading. After a minute of warming my gloved hand it seemed to feel better. I opened my hand and the trigger thumb was gone! The end joint of my thumb moved freely! I showed my thumb to my wife and asked if we could have sex now? Just kidding. But as my hand began to cool back down the trigger thumb returned. It gave me an idea. I blew into my gloved hand, warming it up again, and after a minute the trigger thumb was gone again. I was on to something! The added warmth was releasing the pressure of the CTS and allowing my trigger thumb to subside. Heat was the answer...maybe. I talked with my Jojo about how I might warm my hand greatly for an extended period of time. Hair dryer...too much heat, and how would I keep the heat on for extended periods. It's kinda hard to hold a hair dryer while sleeping. The jersey glove made my hand feel better and Jojo asked if I still had my pair of snow gloves. Years back I bought a pair of snow gloves that I could be frozen in a block of ice and my hands would still be warm. I found them and put the left one on. In a few minutes my hand began to sweat inside the glove. In less than an hour I had more mobility in my thumb

than I'd had in several months. I was able to move my thumb slightly using only the muscles in that hand. I was really excited now and asked my wife if we could have sex? This time I'm not kidding. Please keep reading. So we did. It was a little weird with a snow glove on my left hand, but we had a good time. I wore the snow glove through the night, taking ibuprofen before bed, and by the time morning came I was genuinely excited. I was able to start working my thumb in little circles without any pain. If I increased the circles too far, I felt the warning signs that pain brings. I was definitely onto something. I took the glove off to shower and, as expected, my hand smelled like a camel's butt. I was on safari in Africa and some guy double dared me. How can you pass up such an easy double dare? Please keep reading. I showered with the water as hot as I could stand and gently pushed the pain threshold further, moving my thumb in gentle circles. I also took more ibuprofen. Ibuprofen and naproxen are anti-inflammatories and I commonly use both in weightlifting as they allow swelling to go down so blood can flow through the wounded areas better. I wore that snow glove and took ibuprofen religiously for three days, each morning taking it off briefly and cleaning my hand. I used baby wipes, which I keep in my truck, and that made my hand smell like baby butt instead of camel butt. Maybe not a big step up, but hey, take what you can get...right? Each morning I would awaken (there's no such word as "woken" I don't care what Jojo says) to find my hand better than the previous day. As each day wore on, the pain would begin to come back. It was like taking two steps forward while I slept and one step back during the day. After three days I probably had 70 percent motion in my thumb with no pain, and the throbbing pain I had dealt with was gone entirely. With this in mind, I went back to the jersey glove on the fourth day, and only wore the camel butt glove at night. I just couldn't handle the stench that was now emitting from the glove. How'd you like to drive 600 miles smelling camel butt? Camels don't even like it! That's why they don't hold tails like elephants when they walk. Please keep reading. With only the jersey glove during the day the healing progress seemed to slow down, but each morning I could feel I had taken another small step forward. By the end of the first week I probably had 80 percent motion back and was already using my left hand for simple tasks. It couldn't hold the little lid on the top of the soda bottle to open it, but it could hold the bottom of the bottle with my left hand and use my right hand to twist off the lid. That may sound a little silly, but ask someone who's had CTS and they'll tell you how real it is. I think I was nearing the end of my second week and the healing process seemed to stall. It felt every morning like I wasn't any better than the previous morning. I'm a weightlifter and have dealt with things like this many times. You get stuck at a certain weight and it seems you'll never move up. I talked with Jojo and told

her that even if it never improved, I had reached a level that was acceptable. I was now able to use my left hand in every day tasks. Raising/lowering landing gear on trailers, hooking/unhooking air and power lines on the trailer, etc. I was even able to use my left hand for support when getting into or out of my truck. Basically, my hand had progressed to a level of usability, without pain, that I could live a reasonably normal life. Still, I didn't give up hope and continued my regiment of jersey glove during the day, camel butt glove at night and ibuprofen at least three times a day. I was four weeks into this cure and 98 percent healed when I learned my niece had CTS surgery. It broke my heart that I didn't have the chance to tell her before she had the surgery. It's been almost 6 weeks and I'm totally cured. I don't even wear the jersey glove during the day. I still wear the jersey glove at night, but I think it's more of a security blanket thing. My thumb would probably be just fine through the night, but why risk it. Six months from now I'll probably get my head past it lol. This is why we need to spread this page to everyone. There are millions of CTS surgeries every year and how many of them don't need to happen. Surgeons, and maybe the medical industry, don't want this information getting out. But there are so many people who are on the edge of your circle you can help. You might pass this too someone who doesn't have CTS, but they know someone who does and is planning surgery. Will this treatment work for everyone? I don't know, but if you had the choice of trying a non-surgical treatment before surgery, wouldn't you? Instead of dropping thousands of dollars and living through the pain of having your hand sliced open with weeks of rehab, just for a 75 percent chance of total recovery, you only have to buy a high quality snow glove. 20 bucks? If this doesn't work, you could still have the surgery. It only took one hour with the glove on my hand and I was hopeful. It only took one day I saw huge results. Would it be worth putting your surgery off for one day to give it a try? If you give this treatment an honest try for one day and you see no results, then maybe surgery is your best option. I'm not a doctor or scientist and I don't have a book to sell you like most people who say they want to help. I'm a truck driver who stumbled onto a cure that could save Americans millions or maybe even billions of dollars in surgery and a lot of pain they don't need. My best to you and yours.

Hi, everyone.

This is Sheila Bogart. Things are different this year in every way. Not only are we trying to compete with Covid, I have lost 75 pounds, my daughter is now in college and I went in with mom and Aunt Sally to purchase a home. So, outside of Covid, life is pretty good. We are looking forward to when the pandemic ends so that we can begin living a life again.

Love Sheila



Hi everyone,

Sorry I didn't get a letter in last year's newsletter.

We were real busy and I ran out of time, so sorry. When covid started and schools were closed, my daughter, and granddaughter came to live with us. We were in a two bedroom home; we had an enclosed front porch and small room off that, but Sheila was working from home. So ... both girls in one small room, office in the other. There was no place for all their things, so we bit the bullet and bought a big 4-bedroom house with an office. It is three stories and has 4 bathrooms. There was a lot of wallpaper being torn off and painting going on, plus I was working. We still have a lot to do.

As most of you know we are having a terrible winter. We now have about 10 inches of snow and more on the way! There were water pipes that had to be replaced. Madison is now in college, working towards a music degree. Sheila is still working from home, and will continue with that. Sally and I are going crazy because we can't go anywhere.

We decided we weren't going to gain weight during this time, so started an exercise program and did a lot of walking. Sheila lost 80 lbs and the rest of us lost some, but more important didn't



*Here is our new home*

gain. Yea.

Hopefully we will be ok next year and will plan a reunion. If anyone has any ideas let us know.

We want to thank everyone that wrote last time, hope we see you in this one.

Love everyone stay healthy. Pauline

Do you know someone in the family who does not have an email? They want to get this newsletter, but they cannot get it because they don't go online? If you do, please take it upon yourself and print a copy out for them. There was a time when we printed these and mailed them to everyone, but those days are gone. (We also used to charge for this service.) It probably seems like I could do this, but I am spending my time compiling these letters into a newsletter, then putting them online. I would just love it if I thought everyone who wanted to read this was able to do so. SO ... I'm throwing the ball into your court. Please help. Thank you.



Sandra June (Thomason) Skinner

May 23, 1946—September 18, 2020



It is with profound regret that we announce the passing of Sandra Skinner. Born in Bellingham, Washington on May 23, 1946, she was called to Heaven on September 18, 2020 after a long, difficult and valiant battle with Metastatic Breast Cancer. She is survived by her husband of 32 years, James (Jim) Skinner, sisters Janice Carter, Laura Jankord, Patricia Culley, Susan Hardwick, brothers Kenneth Thomason, Dennis Thomason, Daughters Donna Drissel, Janet Washbon, Jeanna Lynch and many very dear nieces, nephews and grand and great grandchildren. After retiring from a busy business career, Sandy was able to take several “sister trips” which she enjoyed greatly, sharing adventures while visiting with relatives across the U.S.

She was an Extra Class Amateur Radio Operator and enjoyed the comradery of her fellow "Hams" (including her husband). She was dedicated to her Church, assisting in every aspect of participation and support including Crafting, Choir and the Food Bank Ministry. Sandra's ashes will be interred at Santa Cruz Lutheran Church Memorial Garden in Tucson, Arizona.



“As time passes, I’ll not remember  
the day you died, but that you  
lived. And that your life gave me  
many memories too good to forget.  
You were worth every single moment  
we shared.” skh

From Arizona –  
Virginia McGee

Not much change around here. I don't go anywhere if I can help it. I stay home working on projects and always have something to do. I just finished remodeling a room but I still have to change out a light and get a blind for the window. Other than that it's done. I've got to finish up the hallway bathroom next. On Saturdays I spend at least 2 hours working on the yard out front. I'm moving the rocks off the front so I can pull up the landscape fabric and replace it. Then I've got to move the rocks back again. After I get all that done, I've got another room to remodel. That should be the last one. I've got other outside projects to do. I'm trying to set up a garden area in the back yard. Now that I don't have a dog, I've got to see about getting something besides my pecan tree to grow back there.

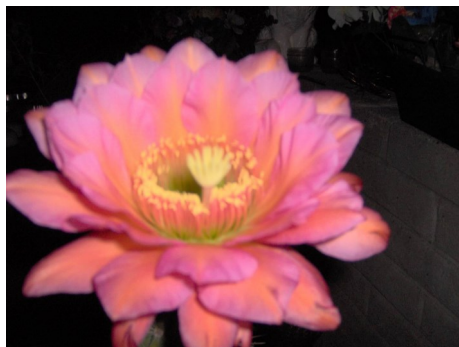
I don't hear much from my oldest boy in Tucson. He hasn't called since Christmas. I finally called and left a message just to make sure they were all right, and he texted saying he'd call this weekend. I guess they are busy with their baby and work. My youngest lives only 15 minutes away so I see his family at least once a week, so I'm not completely cut off from family.

I call my mom and sister at least once a week to keep in touch with them. Last time I spoke with them they were having snow in MN. Mom says she hasn't left the house in over 3 months and is fully retired now. She reads and watches TV and is

the human servant to the fur babies that own them. I know how that goes. I adopted a stray cat that hung around my youngest boy's neighborhood and is one bossy feline. He no longer looks skinny though and looks healthy now. It would be nice though if he'd stop rolling in the dirt outside. He loves dirt. Messy cat.

After being a widow for four years now I've finally started going through things and getting rid of stuff, a little at a time. I sold off my husband's coffee pots, he had two of them. I hadn't used them in six years. I've gathered up his thermoses too. But I'm not sure anyone wants them. I know my kids don't. I put them for sale on Face Book and there has been no interest so I guess they will go to a Thrift shop. I figure if I don't use it and can't sell it, it gets donated. I packed a lot of things away, but I probably won't get into any of that till next year.

Health wise I'm not too bad. I did have to have a shot for my macular degeneration last week and I've had a migraine since then that doesn't seem to want to go away. Sounds are louder and light brighter. That's the real kicker -- the light. Makes it hard to think. It's not always at the same intensity



though, so that makes it endurable.

I did have a highlight to my week today though. I like plants. Cactus and succulents are favorites. I traded one of my Argentinian giants for a Peruvian apple cactus today. I'm really quite excited about it. Someday I'll have something like a Dragon fruit. My Argentinian giant gives a pink flower that is amazing. I'll attach a picture. Well goodbye all, till the next time. Keep safe and well.

**Virginia McGee**



February 8, 2021  
from Plano, Texas

Howdy Family!

Well 2020 was a crazy year and we are still in the crazy time. Jerry and I have tried to stay home and away from the virus, but like everyone, we have to go out sometimes for doctor appointments and some groceries. We are thankful that all of our family here has stayed well. Our doctor has us keep a z-pak set of antibiotics at our house, and regularly take zinc tablets. If we feel sick at all, we call him (the doctor) and immediately he starts us on the z-pak pills. Between Jerry and I, we used this plan probably four times over all of 2020. We came right back to good health each time. I hope this newsletter finds all of you doing ok in 2021. We have enjoyed being a part of many church services across the country through ZOOM; I hope you all have benefited similarly. We have gotten to hear (my sister) Nancy Noffsinger preach a few times because of ZOOM. We have also spent a lot of time praying in 2020-2021.

We did not go to Florida or Michigan this year like we usually do. We also had hoped to go to Washington too, but that could not happen either. Hello to everyone. Stay safe.

We have been trying to get the COVID-19 vaccination, but that has been terrible here. Although Texas has vaccinated over a million people, our county (Collin) hardly got

any shots (10,000 then 47,000), but Collin County has over one million people. The Dallas/Fort Worth area has around five million people. At least Texas reopened restaurants so some remain. Many went out of business. Businesses were allowed to reopen as well so much is ok here.

Our daughter Kathy worked at Tom Thumb grocery store all the way through. We are so glad she is ok. Her son Chance has moved back home after leaving for an extended period of time. We are glad he is back. Kathy's other son, T.J. still lives in Pennsylvania. Hi T.J.!

Our daughter Debby lost her job in 2020, but is presently continuing to be self-employed helping people get organized. Debby's son Khyle lost his good job at Walmart. He had difficulty keeping his mask on all the time, and for that they let him go. However, God opened a window and he has a better job at Home Depot.

Our son Roy still lives in downtown Dallas and is self-employed as well.

Son Gerald (Jr) is still living with us and running his own Graphics Art/Branding business. He does some interesting work.

Son Drew is still in Ferndale, Washington, and is still dating his high school sweetheart, Tahania. Tahania has three grown daughters and one four-year-old granddaughter. I hear that Washington got a lot of snow. Drew is often going back and forth be-

tween Ferndale and over the mountain to Ellensburg, Washington. Tahania is a Tlingit Indian from Alaska. Her Aunt was very involved in Tlingit politics fighting for her people's right to exclusively fish for Salmon in certain waters; it is their livelihood. Tahania is very sweet. It has been a mild winter here. Thankfully!

Well, that is about it. We love you all.  
Bonnie and Jerry Sudduth



*Drew and Tahania at Christmas time*

Editor's Note: Since this letter from Bonnie and Jerry, they spent several days in their Texas home without power during the 2021 snow storm that hit many places around the country. Texas got hit especially hard and left over a million people without power. The temps dropped into the teens and with no power water pipes burst and people struggled to stay warm — basically staying in bed!





From Patty Culley -- California

Ok here I am finally. I have been trying to write this for the last couple of days. Things have been pretty hectic around here. My husband has been sick and in hospital, so I have been dealing with that. He is home now.

Of course, you all know what I have been going through with the covid as you are and have been doing the same. But, what's up with the toilet paper? This is crazy. And of course, our governor is crazy, so CA has been playing the "Shut down, Open up, Shut down game." Oh well.

I want to give some good news before more bad news!

We have a new Great Granddaughter. She was born Oct 28, 2020. In Ft. Worth Texas: To my grandson Jacob and his wife Cerissa. Her name is Penelope Daniela Knight. I will try to send a picture. So now I have two great granddaughters in Texas.

Now I am sorry to be writing this, my sister Susie was going to send the obituary in for me. I hope you got it. Last September our sister Sandy died. She had been fighting cancer for two years. She was Frieda's 7th child. One of my two younger sisters. Then in November, my dear friend of 52 years died. She had been like a sister to me. Then last month we lost one of our brothers, Denny Thomason. Frieda's 4th child. Our family of eight is now family of five.

I need to get this sent, so I am going to stop here. I am wishing, hoping, and praying that things will get better for all. My love to all and am looking forward to reading great letters from you all.

Love Patty



Penelope Daniela Knight B. Oct 28, 2020



Jacob, Penelope and Cerissa



Left: Son Joe's daughter and Granddaughter in Idaho

Above: Daughter Keri with her granddaughters





Hello, - from Las Vegas, NV

Since it has been decades since I have written, I thought I should begin by introducing myself. My name is Susan (Thomason) Hardwick. I am the daughter of Frieda (Tripp) (Thomason) Laymance, the granddaughter of Solomon and Lurinda Tripp. I am the wife of Roger Hardwick (deceased), mother of Daniel Hardwick (deceased), Cynthia Beaird (son-in-law John Beaird), and Jason Hardwick. I am grandmother to Katherine and Alexander Metzger. My siblings are Janice Carter, Donna Pomeroy (deceased), Kenneth Thomason, Dennis Thomason (deceased), Laura Jankord, Patricia Culley, and Sandra Skinner (deceased).

In the fall of 1981 Roger's company, Anaconda Ericsson, sent our family to Sweden for six months as part of a work exchange program. We made friends from 11 different countries and were forever changed. The experience was so wonderful that it increased our love of travel.

We have traveled to various parts of the US visiting relatives and friends and did a lot of sightseeing along the way.

We went to the UK (England, Scotland, Ireland) to celebrate Katie's graduation from high school in 2016. In London we stayed at a beautiful old hotel which was used for strategy meetings during WWII. They also have a beehive outside of the second floor where they gather fresh honey to serve in their café. I

also loved the "American Memorial Chapel" inside of St. Paul's Cathedral dedicated to America and its soldiers who fought alongside them in the second world war. But what captivated us the most was the Scottish Highlands and Edenborough. We were lucky enough to have an excellent guide, James, who entertained us with eight hours of Scottish history during the tour. We even detoured to Castle Doune where part of "Monty Python and the Holy Grail" was filmed. Alas, we never did get to see the Loch Ness monster though.

Katie spent a semester at a university in Spain with the Study Abroad program in 2017. She lived with a family in the beautiful coastal town of San Sebastian. The rest of us joined her at the end of her studies in December and enjoyed a traditional Spanish/Basque holiday. We rented a car and traveled through the countryside before returning home. It was an amazing experience for all of us.

In August 2019 I sold my house and two days later we left for Sweden. Katie attended a summer program at the university in Kalmir. She met us in Stockholm, and we spent the next week exploring new and old sites. One of the highlights of this trip for me is that Cindy, Jason and I were able to find the house we lived in 38 years prior, without the address. The house was in Skarholmen and Cindy had been 10 and Jason 8. I still don't know how we pieced it together from memories.

In November of 2019 Cindy,

John and I bought a house together. I love being so close and we are only a few miles from Jason.

We traveled to Florida in November of 2020 and were able to reconnect with family and friends and meet a new baby. While there we rode an airboat through the marsh and saw dozens of alligators and hundreds of birds. We also got to sit in an executive box at the Raymond James Stadium to watch football and eat. Lots of food and fun.

Will go for now. Thanks to Nancy and everyone who works hard to keep us all in touch.

Sue Hardwick

