

Happy Holidays and Good New Year to all,

A quick check of last year's letter indicates that we might this December 2013 say "ditto." With these few additions.



Chip continues to write and teach, with the added prospect of some short term Fulbrights this coming year or next, and with destinations to be announced later. He edited three special issues of the International Journal of Progressive Education, is wrapping up another book on Youth Community Inquiry, and has just been appointed a Wellfleet Library Trustee. So he's barely retired.

I counted more herring this past spring and together we enjoyed gathering once a month in someone's living room for our Café Philo. More here, if you really want to see the readings.

<https://sites.google.com/site/chequessettseminar/meetingannouncements>

We each worked with the local conservation trust on some trail building (see Chip's blog: <http://chipbruce.net>.) It's a challenge on this narrow spit of land to manage growth and development, while preserving the natural environment, so this was satisfying work.

I've also stepped up to serve as Vice President of the Board of the Friends of the Wellfleet Library, a high office indeed, and continue to work with the Historical Society on education programs.

Last spring we sold our house in Urbana, which entailed a marathon driving trip, first to Illinois for that sentimentally-charged event of packing up. Then -- since Texas was somewhat nearby -- on to Austin to see family. Back to Illinois and Indiana for some work, and finally home.

To recover, we headed outdoors in the much smaller New England states, to canoe the Bow Trip (see his blog again) and Southeastern Québec, where there's a beautiful dark-sky region and astronomy park.

Meanwhile, Stephen has moved to Chicago, where he's working for a tutoring company. He's taken a leave from his History program and is considering options, while reserving the possibility of returning to Urbana in the Fall. Emily is finishing up her dissertation, while working as an editorial assistant on a journal, *Gender and History*. And applying for academic jobs wherever and whenever they are announced. (One postdoc she applied for had 1079 applicants; that's the brave new world of positions in History.)

The matriarchs in our family, Catherine and Rhoda, are still going strong and turning 93 and 97 this year. Their offspring are too numerous to mention but we've enjoyed wonderful times with almost all this past year, including seven great-nieces/nephews.

If we missed seeing you in 2013, we do hope that will be rectified in the coming year.

with much affection,

Susan, Chip, Stephen, and Emily