

Hello

Merry Christmas! We hope this letter finds you and your family enjoying the season and at peace with the world.

2012 was another typical retirement year for us. Joyce visited her sister in Wisconsin during the summer, we spent another week at the beach with our daughter's family in June, and we generally enjoyed the Carolina summer that again flew by much too quickly.

We are both appreciating proximity to children and grandchildren. Joyce and Lori can now meet for spur of the moment downtown lunches or shopping trips – something that was not possible when we lived in Georgia. Lori and Todd live about 45 min away on the other side of Greenville, and Joyce often drives down and enjoys an overnight visit with them and our grandkids.



Dave's family lives about two hours away in Charlotte. We don't see them as much, but still enjoy visits back and forth, easier by two hours one way than when we lived in Alpharetta.

I am appreciating the time that retirement affords to pursue interests that I can immerse myself in all-day, everyday if I like!

Amateur Radio related enthusiasms were rekindled again this spring as I got caught up in implementing some of the new digital communication modes now available to ham radio operators. Even in this Internet Age, I am still intrigued and amazed that this invisible RF energy can leap off of a simple head-high antenna wire strung around my backyard fence and make its way to similar stations located on exotic islands and in eastern Europe, and then be converted back into intelligent text and displayed on a computer monitor.. And all this with a radiated power of less than 10 watts!

Many hours were spent in the garage workshop last spring – when the temperature is just right for this sort of thing - working on radio gear and antenna's, and refurbishing some of machinery that was damaged by clumsy movers when we left Alpharetta and came to Greenville several years ago.

Later in the summer when it got too hot for garage work, we took up a project to organize and digitize our somewhat haphazard collection of concert, movie, and home movie videos. They are all now served up from one PC and available for viewing on iPad, iPhone, and PC clients or on the living room TV over a wireless network. Our family video collection spans images of Joyce as a 5 year old originally taken by her Dad on 8 mm film through present day digital movies of Lori's and Dave's kids.

It has been a good and interesting year. We have been blessed. With family, with health, and with relaxed and fulfilling lives in exciting times.

We hope all is well with you and that this season brings you joy, peace, and God's rich blessings.

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