



December 2009
Merry Christmas
and a Happy New Year!!
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May the blessings that surround the birth of the Christ Child be with you and your family this holiday season. Join us as we pray for peace on earth.

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2009 has been a year blessed with work, travel, family and church activity.

Our whole family attended the inauguration ceremonies in January: cold and crowded! Gwyneth's husband Rob had a year-long appointment to the state department, so we had a convenient place for kids and grandkids to stay.



Phil and Barb in DC

Then, we drove to Massachusetts to visit Phil's sister, Belle. Snowy!



Belle and Phil

We spent lots of time at our GA cabin, with kids, and without, hiking, geocaching, taking taking flower pictures, canoeing, etc.

We were at home for Barb's 65th birthday in March. Her brother Jim and wife Marty, Gwyneth and the girls, and Susannah and her boyfriend Luid helped us celebrate.

Barb's many travels included a trip to France for a computer educators' conference in Paris, followed by a vacation week in Nice on the Riviera, accompanied by Gwyneth, Susannah, Camille and Chloe



Camille and Chloe in St. Tropez

Barb was invited to give a key-note address to Chinese computer educators on computer science education in the US, so in October, off she went (accompanied by Phil). We visited Chengdu, Beijing, and Hong Kong.



Barb speaking in Chengdu, Sichuan



Phil buying a hat on the Great Wall

Susannah became a foster parent for puppies, takes guitar, and is conditioning for marathon running. She continues to enjoy her work at an engineering firm in Austin.



Susannah and foster pups

Thanksgiving at the cabin was enjoyed by the whole family, including Rob's parents, the Florida Buteras.

Barb likes *Tuba Christmas* so much, she decided to be one! She borrowed a euphonium, practiced, and played in Blue Ridge (Thanksgiving) and Georgetown (a week later).



We are look forward to being with Jim and family in Steamboat Springs, CO this year, (leaving for there on Christmas day!).

**Have a wonderful
 Christmas and a
 happy New Year.**





Suze and Gwyneth in DC



Rob and his parents with the girls at the cabin Thanksgiving



*All our girls
Nice, France airport*



Chloe -- Hanging out at the park



Jim and Marty at work in G'town



*Suze's boyfriend Luis with her
dog and cat Xmas 09*



Chloe



Tiananmen Square



*Barb, Jim and Chloe and
Camille behind our house in
Texas*



*Camille
Playing in river at cabin*



Forbidden City



*Passionflower -- by the roadside
in Blue Ridge near the cabin*



Snow at cabin



Du Jiang Yan, Sichuan