HAPPY HOLIDAYS 2015

Barb & Tony turn 70 in 2015

Here are some pictures from Barb's celebrations with friends and family.



Our "tree" this year.



Tony: Yes, I turned 70 as well this year. James and Andrew gave me a really great gift... they'd



arranged a weekend of salmon fishing at a rented cottage on the Sauble River. We used to go up there fishing in late September each year albeit in more rustic accommodations. We didn't catch any salmon, although Andrew came close. James was the only one of us to actually catch anything...a catfish that was happy to return to the river after the mandatory photo-op. In fact, we agreed to do it annually again if possible. It was a great opportunity to hang out together much as we used to when we were all somewhat younger. I've already got the cottage reserved for next year!

FLORIDA

JAN. 2015





We lost the title "The only Canadians who had never been there"





We stayed with our friends, Joanne & Graham, who had rented a house near Orlando for 2 months. We visited Gator Land and Universal Studios to see Harry Potter World. A different world entirely.



We were both complaining about how difficult it was getting in and out of our Honda Civic with its low to the ground seating and other problems related to our aging bodies (growing old is such fun!). Also, I hadn't been riding the motorcycle much for similar reasons. The upshot of all this was that we sold our Toyota Echo and the bike to help finance a 2012 Honda CRV, a small SUV-like vehicle. Aaaah, much better! We kept the Civic which we now share with Andrew's family.



Tobogganing outside Owen Sound last Christmas. All 11 of us occupied a friends' empty house for a few days. Wonderful to play in the snow.



Ezra (3) & Haydon (6). We see them every Wed. afternoon.



All the kids watching Blue Jay baseball playoffs Thanksgiving.

Ezzie, Gregory, Vanessa, Haydon, & Ayden

Memphis, the newest addition to the family (actually Andrew's family) and Gregory (4)



Ayden (8) and Vanessa (11) ran the 5 km run to support a hospital in Haiti in Oct. Ayden does Adventure running and basketball, Vanessa does ballet and basketball.

Pan Am Games '15

Hamilton Kicks It Up

Our volunteer t-shirt



Hamilton hosted the Pan Am Soccer tournament in July. Tony and I both volunteered to be part of the host committee. It was fun to be part of a bigger group. The hordes did not come to the city as all had hoped, but those that did enjoyed themselves. And we enjoyed getting out and about. There were crowds at the last night's celebration and fireworks down at the bay. We're ready to try again.

We put in a lot of hours aiding in the many and varied cultural events around town. It was an interesting and satisfying time which has left us eager to volunteer similarly in such future events. We also joined our sons and their families attending the opening matches at the new "Tim Hortons Field" in which our Canadian women's team won. Yea!!

Federal Election

Wasn't that a party?

All year we both talked about how important this fall's election was going to be. We had to help make a change in the leadership of our country or we wouldn't recognize Canada any more. We both campaigned for the NDP in different ridings—they looked so poised to take over at the beginning. That was not to be, but we are happy with how things are going now. Proud to be citizens of this country again.

This was our 2015. Hope yours was as enjoyable as ours!

We wish you and yours all the best in 2016

Love, Tony and Barb