

2014

Is the year we left Dominica and relocated to Black Mountain NC near our daughter Mathilda.

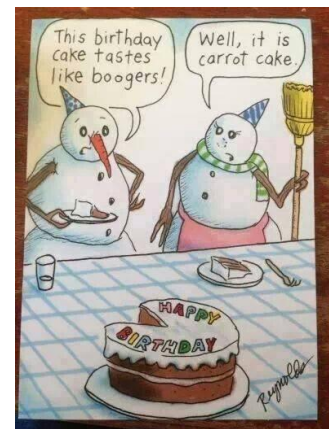
Our letter starts with the prior year's xmas (2013), because we send each missive out in advance of the holiday. In 2013 for the first time we had apartment guests over the holiday, and for the first time, six persons in the apartment. They were student interns from Spain who



were working on the adjacent French islands of Martinique and Guadeloupe. They just couldn't have been a nicer group of young people, and we needn't have worried.



We also heard that, in keeping with economic news out of the US, things were tough for Santa. And Frosty the Snowman had hard times. We read that Rudolph adopted the US gun culture and went down in history. But that's the way it goes sometimes. We had happy holidays, though.





Ruth made a fabulous turkey dinner for twelve, and we had friends and gifts. We had such a good time that we totally forgot to take any photos! Ruth's making a small turkey dinner this year, and our entire little family will be together in seven years!



Here's a photo taken in our garden in January. It's of an emerging pineapple bud in bloom. It's here for those who may never have seen a blooming pineapple.



And on the right you can see what it became. A real whopper! We had over 20 such in summer.

Mother's Day we went to the village of Giraudel, which has an annual flower show. There's a few pix below and a slide show at this link: <http://jalbum.net/en/browse/user/album/1496616>



In July we finally took a drive way to the southeast of Dominica and then across the difficult road to the southwest coast. With stops for a walk, lunch, and drinks, it took us nine hours. But we saw parts of Dominica we had never before visited, and it was lovely. Some photos:



Clockwise from upper left, a double-flowering hibiscus, overlook at Riviere Cirique, on the grounds of Jungle Bay Resort, and Grand Bay.

In mid-September, Ruth while visiting Mathilda in Black Mountain NC in the Blue Ridge Mountains in the western part of the state, found a lovely home for us to purchase. In preparation for our move we bought this 2012 Subaru Legacy “2.51 Premium”. She immediately placed a Welsh dragon on the front (NC doesn’t require a front plate). It’s the second red Subaru we’ve owned. We had a new ’83 wagon in 1982, which Mathilda called “the Tomato”. So, 31 years later, here’s two hot tomatoes.



Thanks for reading this year’s brief letter, shortened because of our Nov.-Dec. move.

Happy Holidays and a wonderful 2015 to you all! May 2015 bring peace.