



After Christmas, off to our cabin at Maumee Bay
 But a virulent "bug" shortened our stay.
 (Your year ended more happily, I hope!
 With sickness and trouble, we don't want to cope.)
 Off to Haiti headed Thad, Anna and Andy
 To speed up Rosemanie's adoption would be dandy!
 Some progress in Port au Prince before returning...
 To bring Rosemanie to the U.S. they were yearning.
 Two days after their return..The earthquake struck!
 The "paper work" in the rubble... were they out of luck?
 Mid February Rosemanie was released... humanitarian parole
 In Miami they met, they'd reached most of their goal.
 To BG they came (in a blizzard severe)
 Where we all gathered to welcome our dear.
 Rosemanie loved snow balls, snow men, sledding
 (Quite a group were soon to the hill heading).
 In February to Arizona I flew
 Out of the cold and to landscapes new.
 Visited relatives and friends in that climate fine
 Before cuz Lila and son Steve did all combine.
 Driving west to San Diego to see more family too.
 The ocean, tidal pool (fish tacos to us were new).
 A wonderful time we had while there
 Being with loved ones and enjoying scenery rare.
 The Ft. Thomas foursome, Steve and I went in May
 To Minnesota for some work and play.
 With Fred and Nelle, we did some deck work
 What willing workers! They didn't shirk.
 On to Manitoba went Andy, Anna and Thad
 Wishing a passport for Rosemanie they had.
 She returned to Ohio for pleasant stays
 Including her Cinci "double digit" days.
 In June, off to KY with the Ft. Thomas mission crew
 Where we were given lots of tasks to do.
 I helped with cooking in Hazard town
 Very hilly! Lot of ups and some down.
 Assigned tasks didn't match with the skills of our group
 But they willingly dug ditches, what a troop!
 For our Cline family reunion, back to Kentucky in July
 Most of us drove but some had to fly.
 Two houses in a secluded spot for a week of fun
 Abundant activities and of food no ration!
 Our own private pool, the "Olympics" one day,
 All agreed it was a wonderful stay.
 The Black Swamp festival was a special occasion
 And entertaining out of town guests was fun.
 To Chicago on the megabus in October I was heading
 To meet Steve and attend a special wedding.
 "Hangin' out" with friends was a pleasure

2010

Such wonderful times are events we treasure.
 To Canada, Steve, Andy and I went in November
 To visit relatives we like to remember
 Special events we enjoyed while there
 And hope to return soon to that country so fair.
 Around our Thanksgiving table gathered twenty four
 And we'd have been pleased to have even more.
 In football watching, shopping, card playing we indulged,
 And eating until in some places we bulged!
 This year I'm serving as chair of Wheeled Meals
 With 40+ subscribers, sometimes my head reels.
 There are activities aplenty at BGSU...
 Educational, musical and sports events too.
 BGSU celebrates its centennial this year...
 A special place for our family, that's clear.
 Peace remains elusive as we end 2010
 But let's be optimistic, friends and kin.
 Let's work toward achieving peace on earth
 As we celebrate our Savior's birth.

Update on my family

Steve, Kim and Sammy are enjoying life in Cincinnati while Cliff is now residing in Toledo. He is using his computer skills in a position he started in July. Sammy is continuing his education at U. of C. aiming toward being a teacher. Kim and Steve are involved in many volunteer and musical activities. Kim's show in the spring was very good, as usual and it was good to see her family there. Kim and Steve took a trip to Alaska in late summer, land and sea, and have lots of photos of the adventures they had.

Tchapo continues to live and work in Louisville KY & started taking some college courses (business) this year. Rosemanie and Thaddeus are good students and take piano lessons, gymnastics and are involved with sports. She was officially adopted on Dec. 10! Hurrah! Anna continues to work part time (as Andy's schedule allows). Andy went to Belize as part of the zoology course he's involved with at Miami U. Kpanda continues to work toward his Ph.D. in epidemiology at the U. of Cincinnati.

Thad, Debbie, Connor, Rachel and Thomas continue to live an active life in Bowling Green filled with athletic, musical and dramatic events. Debbie is working part time as a text research analyst and Thad enjoys his responsibilities connected to BGSU. He returned to Louisiana with the mission team at First Methodist Church to work on Katrina damaged buildings during Spring break. Thomas is the only home schooler now with Rachel and Connor enrolled in area schools.

The Gedeons are busy with lots of school and sports activities. Mark continues to coach, teach math at the high school & be involved with athletics. Mindy's teaching math at the junior high & likes teaching kids that age (good!). Alexis is investigating colleges in preparation to going to one next year. Ben and Eric take music lessons (piano, guitar, and/or saxophone) and are involved with various sports, as is Jack who plays football and basketball.

What a busy bunch! All four families are heavily involved in church activities, have many good friends and are making a positive impact in the world. I'm very proud of them!

Merry Christmas, Happy New Year to you and yours!

Mar Lynn

2011



It's December! Another year soon will be ending...
Time for holiday greetings to you to be sending!
Here's hoping you and yours have had a great year
With another in store for all those we hold dear.
In February to Florida to Sam & Jo's I flew
Fred and Nelle came from Minnesota to add to our merry crew.
We enjoyed local citrus and Sam's tomato crop
Music ranged from Capetown Symphony to barbershop
Went birding, a favorite avocation of Nelle
Took a state park tram ride, went to Sanibel!
What a change of climate for us northerners three
Glad for those days from snow & cold to be free.
The Longs provided music for a BG Presby's May service.
There's safety in numbers? We weren't even nervous!
I joined members from the Kentucky church mission crew
And, as always, participants found plenty to do!
The scenery was lovely, cooking for the group was fun
And a lot was accomplished before the week was done.
The Cline Clan assembled in July at a Kentucky site
We'd been to previously. We liked it? You're right.
Lots of activities we engaged in while there,
Returning to BG in time for the Wood County Fair.
For the Black Swamp Festival came family and friends
Where music and beautiful art work blends.
In a university town, there's no lack of things to do...
Drama, exercise, musical events (being W/M chair too!) W/M=home delivered meals
At Thanksgiving, we had 28 in our international group
China, Ghana, Togo, Haiti...28 in our troop.
Several trips to Canada Steve & Andy have made (I joined them in May)
We looked at property in Quebec and Ontario during our stay.
They traversed "the bush" in their rubber boots
May turn to farming...a return to their Canadian roots?
My grandkids (twelve!) are involved in music, drama, sports
And of some family events, I'll give these special reports.
Kim enjoys music, bells and singing, that's clear!
The Forestaires originated when she did & have a special show next year!
As a basketball coach, Mark's on his 17th year to embark
In a new strong Toledo league, it won't be a lark!
Son Jack, a sophomore, is now six feet two
And recently for the varsity made his debut.
Daughter Alexis is a freshman at BGSU
Following in the footsteps of Long uncles, aunts, parents too!
In giving a sermon, Thad used, as a "prop", a chair
His thoughts on good stewardship to share.

Three of the legs represent time, talent and treasure
And, if all are given, the fourth, transformation, takes place in full measure.
It's rare for me to remember a sermon for very long
But this one I do, his points were strong!
Andy's adding a degree from an online source
Trips to Costa Rica, Mexico, Belize were part of the course!
He'll receive his master's degree from Miami U. in December
In zoology (including those trips he'll remember!).
Anna's brother, Kpandja has just earned his Ph.D.
In epidemiology from U. of Cincinnati.
We're thrilled with his offer to join the CDC (Center of Disease Control)
His "dream job" for one specializing in epidemiology.
In May he took Djamilia (also Togolese) to be his bride.
We're happy that he now has her by his side.
In all future endeavors we wish them success
And hope, as a result, of disease we'll have less!!
Kudos to Anna & Andy for recognizing the potential of this young man
Bringing him to the U.S. and encouraging him was their plan.
May 2012 be a peaceful new year
If it is, 'twill be something for which we'll all cheer!
May you be especially blessed during this Christmas season
Remembering our Savior's birth is the reason.

Merry Christmas! Happy new year!

Mai Lyn



2012

How can it be? Almost the end of another year!
Has it been a good one for your friends and family dear?
A blue grass concert attracted Steve in January to come to BG
Where many groups demonstrated their musical artistry.
To their Canadian property in March went Steve and Andy,
At making repairs, they're becoming quite handy.
They've adopted a most creative style.
(One which would no doubt make their Dad smile).
Returning home, they picked up a Cuban passenger in BG
Presbyterian Dania had spent a few days with me.
At our church, she told of Cuban mission
And described that island nation's position.
To Kim's show I traveled to Cinci in April
The ladies singing and dancing styles never are dull!
Cliff and Sammy hope job positions will improve
From Cincinnati they'd prefer not to move.
To Chicago on the Megabus I went in May
For a special wedding and with friends to stay.
The wedding was lovely, the reception was too
Then on to Minnesota to see Fred in his residence new.
Steve, Andy, brother Sam and I made the trip
Enjoying Fred and Nelle (always quick with a quip).
The wedding video we were happy to share
Picnicked, sang, took rides, went hiking while there.
Then to Kentucky to celebrate Kpandja, our new PhD
This epidemiologist is now in Atlanta working for the CDC.
Late May off to Togo Andy, Anna and Thaddeus flew
Leaving Rosemanie with me, (her citizenship hadn't come through).
At the last moment, it did and her expedited passport was here
So two weeks later, off to Togo she flew to join family dear,.
Thaddeus was the winner of his school's geography bee
And a participant in Odyssey of the Mind was he.
Off to a church mission trip when they returned in July
To eastern Kentucky (curvy roads and hills high).
Steve and I joined the happy crew
I helped with cooking, he found lots to do.
To Tennessee we headed to meet the Cline clan
Where traffic snarls in Pigeon Forge vexed many a human.
Strenuous Smoky Mountain National trails were hiked
And the lovely mountain scenery we all liked.
The four generation gathering is lots of fun...
We look forward to the next (Branson) when it's done.
Then Steve and Andy returned to their Canadian log home
To continue their projects and through the woods roam.
Five Gedeons, Sammy and I joined them in August
To help with projects; insulation was a must.

We were busy as bees in our few days there
Battled hornets, painted, constructed, enjoyed good fare.
My gardening efforts moved to my neighbor's back yard
But sand and drought made a good harvest hard.
In September, Fred left for his eternal reward
To join other loved ones who are now with the Lord.
In October to Illinois we went for his life's celebration...
A special brother, who in WWII served his nation.
Thad's gang stays busy at church, home, and school
He and Debbie use "divide and conquer" as their parenting rule.
Renovating BGSU's Rec Center is a main task ahead
Rebuilding New Orleans homes keeps Thad spiritually fed.
Debbie produced youth theater shows in her limited spare time
And works with survey research, for which she earns every dime.
Connor to Toledo St. Johns school will soon be a-driving,
In academics, music, and theater, he's thriving.
For Rachel, soccer, V-ball, and B-ball are often where she's at,
As student council president she wears the leader's hat.
Thomas remains active in soccer, martial arts, and tumbling
His love of God, friends, and science, to his parents is humbling.
Now we're about to embark on winter
But that season will fly, thanks to our great senior center.
Exercise, Great Decisions, special events
Keep us young in mind and body It makes sense!
Twenty-one of us gathered for a Thanksgiving feast
The big concern was "Who'd gained the least?"
Work prevented Tchapo from joining us on Thanksgiving Day
But he'll join us post-Christmas for our Maumee Bay stay.
Basketball games..high school boys in Fremont, women's at BGSU
Make us usually happy but occasionally blue.
This month Mark recorded, as varsity coach, his 200th win
Son Jack's on the team...in a few years, Ben?
Alexis has chosen education as her major at BGSU.
Eric played football and is part of a band's crew.
Since May, Mindy has had several episodes of vertigo
If you've experience it and are "cured", let us know!
Next year Andy's been granted a sabbatical from teaching
So to Canada his family new horizons will be reaching.
One large concern is climate change
No question, weather happenings have been strange.
The fiscal cliff is a current concern
May members of Congress compromise learn!
We long for the day when there'll be peace on earth
Especially now as we celebrate Jesus' birth.
May good health and happiness be with you next year
And the love of God be with you...ever near.

Love,
Mai Lynn



Can you believe that another year is about to end?
 Time for annual season's greetings to send!
 In February, Arizona was my destination
 Warm weather to enjoy, visit with friends and relation.
 Steve came later and celebrated his birthday while there'
 With cousins and a decorated cake the day to share.
 Steve, coz Lila and I in her car headed west
 To San Diego area with ocean scenes blest.
 Family gatherings there were a delight'
 Then back to Arizona to catch our flight.
 Andy's sabbatical leave was approved by NKU
 So off he'd be heading to Canada with his crew.
 My 80th birthday in April was a highlight this year
 With all 20 of my immediate family here!
 Serenaded by my kids quartet at a party to celebrate
 Then all sang at church next day. It was great!
 'Twas a wonderful celebration...
 80 candles! A conflagration!
 To Kim's show in Cinci I traveled at the end of April
 A special theme!...singin' and dancin' filled the bill.
 Off to northern Ontario Andy and I headed in May
 With a trailer of goods to prepare for their stay.
 A variety of tasks we accomplished while there...
 Shopping, banking, visiting schools, "shocking" the well
 (During the latter, Andy's new cell phone into the well fell!)
 A PW regional event was held nearby in June...
 Bible studies, workshops, singing many a tune.
 Andy, Anna and kids headed Canada way
 For their adventure during the sabbatical stay.
 In July family members joined them there
 Their many talents in building & gardening to share.
 Brother Sam, six Gedeons, Steve, Sammy and I
 A multitude of tasks (and fun) made the days fly.
 Returning home with us came Rosemanie and Thad.
 We enjoyed extra time with that lass and lad.
 A storm-caused tree fell at the Gedeon home
 No electricity for days so they couldn't roam!
 To the Cline clan reunion we headed to Branson
 (A town known for shows featuring singin' and dancin').
 Where we were, was quiet, looking out on the lake,
 Twenty of us there for a week long break...
 Walking the hills, communal cooking & baking,
 Card playing, puzzles, chatting, memory making.
 For several hours my memory was gone in September
 Like fourteen years earlier (I remember!).
 Global transient amnesia the diagnosis for me.
 Shouldn't happen again til I'm past ninety three!
 Several special picnics ended the summer season
 Plus concerts, football, lectures were pleasin'.

In October dear Ellie passed from this life
An amazing, talented sister, parent and wife.
To St. Louis for her life's celebration we went in November,
My dear sister with fondness we'll always remember.
Days later, on the Megabus to Chicago I was heading
(First stop on the way to a special wedding).
Visits with friends there were a pleasure
Reminiscing with friends from the past is a treasure.
From there, I megabussed to St. Louis MO,
A means of travel not at all slow.
There to a wedding and reception we were going
Where bride Jaclyn and groom Andrew were glowing.
A happy occasion with family and friends
Long life and happiness this marriage portends.
We were blessed at Thanksgiving to have eighteen here
With Sam and Jo from Florida adding to our cheer.
Our twelve grandchildren range from 11 to twenty eight
And all seem to have lots of things "on their plate".
Sports, music, theater, volunteering, work
From a range of activities they don't shirk!
Tcchapo's residing at the Ft. Thomas home
But to Abagaile's house often does roam.
Cliff is enjoying his new position,
Likes sports, "gaming" and havin' fun.
Sammy's keeping busy as a teacher's sub.
And is oft in the kitchen fixing' gourmet grub.
Steve considers himself semi-retired
And with volunteer activity is inspired.
Thad and Debbie's brood stays busy in BG
Keeping up with their three leaves parents wheezy.
Connor, a sophomore at St. Johns, is content.
His theatrical performances provide much merriment.
Rachel's now a freshman at St. Ursula, a good match.
To soccer, basketball, student council, she's become attached.
Thomas is enrolled in Montessori School's 6th grade.
Like family before him, "teacher" could become his trade.
Thad's fulfilled with family, church, work and fun,
Debbie's now full-time -- survey text analysis on the run.
Alexis is a junior at BGSU,
Keeps busy with rec center work and classes too!
Jack will be off to college next year,
A bright future awaits him, that's clear.
Eric plays in a band and now has a car
(The one the tree hit, with many a scar!).
Ben this fall headed off to middle school...
Basketball manager, loves sports, he's "cool".
Mark and Mindy are both teaching math
And encouraging students down the right path.
We all send good wishes at this happy season
Remembering Christ's birth is "the reason".

Mindy

The days left in 2014 are few
 So it's time to look at the year in review.
 The winter was unusually snowy and cold...
 Result of the arctic vortex we were told.
 Lots of activities made it seem not so long,
 Many involving events including drama and song.
 Delivering meals, picking up food pantry supplies,
 Family gatherings, card playing, how the time flies!
 Basketball games? I attended quite a few
 At Fremont Ross and those of the women of BGSU.
 Mark was happy to have Jack on his team
 A 6' 4" athlete ... a coach's dream!
 In March to Canada Steve and I a trip did make
 (When Thad and Rosemanie had their spring break).
 On the way, in Sarnia we met with Long cousins there,
 Photographs, food and pleasant memories to share.
 We engaged in sports activities at the Mattawa school,
 Helped with chores, tried snowshoeing (Yes, it was cool!)
 Friends joined for food, music and fun
 Too quickly our days there were done.
 Brother Sam joined us for our June trip to Ontario land
 Thad's class then had special days in Toronto planned.
 To North Bay we went to bottle Andy's brew
 Sam was the capper as the bottles came through.
 He's not a beer drinker, (neither am I)
 Food wise, vegan food items we got to try.
 We exclaimed over the Eau Clair gorge
 Wondering how pioneers over such did forge!
 We attended a dinner and musical "jam"
 And were introduced to each young lamb.
 In July to Atlanta Kim Steve and I were heading
 To join family members at Ryan Black's wedding.
 We enjoyed the festivities and visited Kpandja while there
 And were happy we could these special family events share.
 Later that month we journeyed to Tennessee ... a reunion of Clines
 Many came to our large rented house, nestled in pines.
 Our house had a dock and Tyler from Arkansas brought a boat
 So many rides were taken. There were kayaks too to float.
 From the top level of our house to the docks ... 100 stairs
 Not handicapped accessible or for those in wheel chairs!
 Arthritic knees got a work out, for sure
 But fun activities made it easy to endure.
 At Oak Ridge, we learned how the Manhattan Project was planned
 And how the resulting atomic bomb affected our land!
 On a trip to the northwest went Kim and Steve in the fall
 Circled into Canada ... rivers, lakes, mountains tall!!

Steve's enjoying retirement and is busy as can be
Kim's show was lots of fun ... musical variety.
Cliff likes his job, being near family and friends
Playing softball, keeping up with new game trends.
Sam moved to Fremont to teach at the middle school
On Facebook, look up his gourmet creations cool!
Andy's family was in Ontario til August ... his sabbatical
Returning from that rural setting for him has been "traumatical"!
Climate change was his agenda, he learned a lot while there.
They had great gardens from which their bounty to share.
A horse, sheep, chickens, rabbits ... each person had some chores.
They were quite some distance from school, church and stores.
Long jump proved to be Rosemanie's specialty in track ...
Got to compete in Toronto—athletic talent she didn't lack.
Anna's happy to be back in KY and back to work.
A hospitable hostess, from hard work she'll not shirk.
In October, Tchapo asked Abagaile if to him she'd be wed.
We all were delighted when "Yes", she said.
Their wedding is scheduled for next July
Plans are progressing! The time will fly!
Connor loves theater, Rachel's into sports
On a family vacation (Poconos), adventures of all sorts!
Connor and Rachel attend school in Toledo
So Debbie, the chauffeur, oft goes to and fro.
Her workplace is between their schools and BG.
Especially during holidays, she & Thad offer hospitality!
Their "bed & breakfast" at Thanksgiving was full,
With twenty one there, not a moment was dull!
Thad's been greatly involved in the rec center renovation.
Perhaps it will now be voted "best in the nation"!
Thomas continues his interest in martial arts,
Likes sports and theater with dramatic parts.
Mark and Mindy continue their mathematics teaching
Their challenge? Disinterested students to be reaching!
Alexis is a senior at BGSU (planning to finish in May).
Jack's now at Capital, finds time basketball to play!
Eric and Ben now "hold down the fort".
Eric's the musician, Ben the sport.
At this season when we celebrate our Savior's birth
We especially long for that wish, "Peace on earth".
May your 2015 be filled with cheer,
And in every way, may it be a good year!

Maria Lynn

2015



For Christmas greetings, 'tis the season!
I hope 2015 for you has been pleasin'.
Church and community activities continue to keep me busy
Senior center events could keep one "in a tizzy"!
Exercise, movies, Great Decisions keep us up to date
Sports events, card games, meals to celebrate.
In March, Steve and I to Arizona flew
To visit coz Lila, Bruce, Debby and crew
Lila and we drove to San Diego to visit Jeff and Elyse;
Then on to L.A to be with Dudley and Nancy (another dear niece).
We went to the ocean and the guys kayaked
For food and fun, we never lacked!
To our Canadian "rendezvous" Steve and I went in June
Joining Andy's family there. Remote? Street light's the moon!
The building project in their house? Amazing to see;
Friends joined for food and music...a real jamboree!
Back to have MOHs surgery on a spot by my eye
At my age, there's always something! Oh my!
The Cline clan met for a week in Tennessee
Same place as last year...a good one to be.
Lake Norris is a water lover's delight..
Boating, swimming, hoping for fish to bite.
Oak Ridge is nearby, what an interesting place
Learned a lot there about the atomic bomb race.
A new addition to our merry band we hail!
Tchapo was married to fair Abagaile
In July to Kentucky we went for the wedding
At the bride's family farm many folks were heading.
The weather cooperated for this outdoor event
But just in case (and to keep cool), there was a tent.
For the Black Swamp Festival my family came in September
And made home improvements I'm glad to remember.
Art and music were enjoyed, an event to celebrate
A special annual happening, really great!
Steve said on an overseas trip with me he'd go;
The middle east was "out"! Italy? Tokyo?
The decision was made to go to Burma...
From Ohio, half way around our terra firma.
From Columbus to Burma in planes took most of a day;
A long time in a metal tube to stay!
Buddhas and pagodas? We saw quite a few.
Our guide made sure we always had something to do!
Myanmar's election took place while we were there
Fortunately there were no riots to give us a scare.
At a market, we met fellow travelers from Bowling Green!
Who'd have thought that would happen at that far away scene?
We visited a monastery and where nuns live too
And travelled in unusual conveyances, quite a few.
Vendors surrounded us when from our bus we alighted

And if we made purchases, they were delighted!
We cherish the privilege of living in the U.S.A.
And were glad to be united with family (all 23!) on Thanksgiving Day.
At Christmas time, they'll be back again
What a wonderful holiday to spend with kin!
Steve and Kim's family of four,
Are ALL living in Cincinnati once more.
Cliff's happily creating computer programs galore,
And Sam's selling wine to many a grocery store.
Volunteering is now the focus for the parents two,
Hoping Scotland in 2016 for to view.
Thad is in his 30th year with BGSU Recreation,
A career from which he's in no hurry to take retirement vacation.
Debbie was promoted to senior text analyst at Maritz work
A third family car means less driving of the kids, a perk!
Connor is completing his high school career at St. Johns
With hopes of musical theatre in college to spur him on.
Rachel loves her sports -- soccer, track, and basketball
Time with driving, mission trips, and friends -- she loves them all.
Thomas is a crack-up, and loves his school at Montessori
Running, biking, acting all make up his active story.
Mark and Mindy are still teaching (math), Mark's teaching AP Calculus and
Pre-Calculus. Alexis is in grad school at BGSU for mental health counseling,
Jack at Capital to be a statistician, Eric getting ready to graduate from high
school & looking at colleges, Ben's in his last year of middle school, still loves
basketball.
Andy's teaching math at No. Kentucky U. (and spending as much time as
possible in Canada!), Anna's working part time as a nurse assistant,
Rosemanie won the triple jump in track at the Kentucky state championships,
and is one of our family's three high school students graduating from high
school. Thad continues to enjoy school and Boy Scouts, and will be in high
school next year. Tchapo and Abagaile live near Ft. Thomas, Tchapo working
in Cincinnati and Abagaile at NKU, working as an intern and looking forward
to receiving her master's degree in May.
This ole world seems to be in bad condition'
Let's make protecting it and making peace our mission.
May the Christmas star shine on you all year
Not only for you but for friends and family dear.
Celebrate this special day of our Savior's birth
As we move to that vision of peace on earth.

Merry Christmas
Happy New Year

Maui Lynn

How are you and your family? I hope you're
all doing well. How about emailing me @
pmclong33@gmail.com ?



2016

2016 is down to its last days---

Here's a look back before a toast to 2017 we raise.

The winter months with volunteer activities passed

As we looked forward to Spring (at last!).

A Binder of a Lifetime session was led by Steve

With info for twelve of us he did leave

A Hugelculture mound was built in my back yard

My kids did the work so for me, 'twas not hard.

In April to Cincinnati I went

For Kim's Forestaire concert, a special event.

Then the mission dinner at Ft. Thomas took place

With auction to follow, got an afghan (not lace).

To Xavier next day to a women's athlete awards dinner

With Rosemanie honored as a state track meet winner.

To Canada went Andy in early May,

Returning for the track meet and Rosemanie's graduation day.

Steve and I joined them for the Lexington meet

Then back to Ohio other graduates to greet.

Connor and Eric finished their high school careers

With the question, "What now?", like some of their peers.

Andy's family again headed back, Canada way

Looking forward the summer to stay.

Seidou joined our family on June twenty third

Surprise ... a month sooner than we expected "the word".

Abagaile and Tchapo have a new baby, new abode

So are adjusting to this new lifestyle mode.

Steve & I went north for a pleasant few days;

With projects aplenty, we seldom did laze.

A two day hootenanny was planned with friends

With instruments and voices, the harmony blends.

A day at Algonquin Provincial Park gave us pleasure

Serenity, beautiful scenery in full measure!

Our reunion was in Fremont ... Gedeon's river house and home

Which meant we Bgers didn't have far to roam.

A geneology buff reading Gladys Cline's online diary made contact

To see whether we were related ... fable or fact?

Sam B. sent a sample of his DNA

Which proved that our families came from the same clay.

Matt Cline from Pittsburgh joined us, bringing info

About relatives of the past we didn't know.

A trip to Cedar Point we took one day

A warm one but 'til it closed we did stay.

Numerous rides were taken by young and old,

With one drenching water ride, we were temporarily cold!

Dinner at Tony Packos, followed by a trip to Mud Hen game
Where minor league players dream of achieving fame.
We reminisced, enjoyed water sports and card playing
During the week, of memory lane we were staying.
In August, off to college went our graduates three
Connor (BGSU), Rosemanie (NKU) and Eric (U. of Cincinnati).
In four more years it should happen again
This time for Thomas, Thaddeus and Ben!
The Black Swamp festival was a September event
The festivities we enjoyed when we downtown went.
We also worked on this house on Gustin'
From too much "stuff", it was bustin'!
In October I travelled to a Columbus convention,
Turned over my Chautauqua "job", I might mention.
In November I megabussed to Chicago for a pleasant stay
Visiting friends, enjoying wonderful days.
Next day 5,000,000 Cub fans gathered to celebrate....
Their first Series win since 1908!!
'Twas one of the largest crowds to gather in history
And recorded on paper and of course on TV.
The election? What an unhappy surprise!
A U.S. president who admits he "gropes" and lies?!
Kpandja travels the world as epidemiologist for the CDC
From Atlanta, he and Djamila joined us for Thanksgiving in BG.
Twenty seven of us gathered for Thanksgiving dinner..
All agreed that the food was "a winner".
The shoppers found bargains the next day
And all had departed by Sunday.
A van trip to Cleveland took place in early December
Visited Little Italy and The Christmas House movie set (do you remember?)
Now Christmas activities are keeping us busy
Are you too feeling as tho' you're in a tizzy?
Time to relax and enjoy the season
Remembering that Jesus, our Lord, is The Reason!
Once again we're longing for peace on earth
As we celebrate our Savior's birth.

Happy, healthy 2017!

Marie Lynn