



Here's the annual Christmas message from John and Donna.

This year has found us reasonably well. Despite a few ups and down, things have averaged out. We've reestablished WalshWarren as a Florida corporation and we've been busy, Donna with her art and John with making frames for her pictures.

Last Spring, Donna took a residency at the Vermont Studio Center which gave her new energy and inspiration. John fully supported her in this largely because he remembers the creative energy that he experienced when he took time to write full time. The Christmas card is a painting Donna made from a photo taken during the week of the residency. It may have been Spring at the time, but Vermont's weather is unpredictable at best. Because of that she was able to capture this beautiful picture of one of the artists' residence.



While she was in Vermont over the Summer, she joined the Memphremagog Artists Collaborative and left several pieces of her work to remain on display. It is a diverse group, representing visual arts music and theater, with a deep and active involvement in the local community, including a programs for the local children. Working with the Collaborative was a high point of the Summer for Donna. If you are in Newport, Vermont, make sure to stop by the MAC center. It is located in a brand new gallery right on Main Street. Donna helped them move just before she returned to Florida in the Fall.



Back in Florida, Donna has taken part in several shows held by the Delray Art League. Our new Ford Transit Connect van has been invaluable in this, because the shows are held in a local park and both Donna's paintings and all the miscellany needed to display them, including a 10x10 tent has to be transported to and from our house each time the show takes place. Donna also has gotten actively involved with Palm Beach Watercolor Society as webmaster and newsletter editor.

Most of our being out-and-about this year was the trip North and visiting friends and relatives. It took us three weeks to go from Delray Beach to Barton, Vermont, because we stopped and visited old friends and dropped by artists' groups. This year we were on Cape Cod for a month and in Vermont for two months. In the coming year, we'll probably skip the Cape and spend all the time in Barton in order to get more involved in the Arts community up there.



We had several health scares this year. Twice, John had internal bleeding from an immune disorder called ITP that keeps his blood from clotting. There was a silver lining of sorts because the chronic fatigue he had been suffering from for several years was also ameliorated by the same medication that restored his platelets. All in all, it helps us enjoy life.

Happy Holidays

May the joy of the season be with you and may you enjoy
peace, happiness and prosperity in the New Year.

John & Donna