

## MERRY CHRISTMAS!

A look back at the calendar reminds us of how blessed we have been, although no year is ever without its trials. The uncle who raised Don passed away this summer and while his loss is felt, we are thankful for the many years of life he enjoyed.

We are proud to report that Emma graduated from Knox College in June, magna cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa. We are even more proud to report that she is employed!

She's working for Lyons Township High School as a piano accompanist and substitute choir teacher as well as playing piano for a theater group and church. Em's really enjoying the students and is thrilled to be able to play music for a living.

Emma bid farewell to her Knox duties as the a cappella choir director and writing magazine editor but stayed creative over the summer as a cast member of "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat."

Don also appeared in "Joseph," relishing the role of Potiphar, and is currently in rehearsals for "Oliver!" as Mr. Sowerberry, the undertaker. He's also still participating in radio theater, the Naperville Independent Film Festival and some freelance voice-over work.

While Don loves tooling around on his motor scooter, he now has a new love: a little Honda Fit. It's even orange, his favorite and the color of our company logo.

Sprocket Websites is still humming along,

lately involved with several county government websites. While business networking is important, it also makes for a fun "date" and we are very involved in a couple of chambers of commerce.

James moved to a new apartment in a more vibrant neighborhood of Los Angeles. The first half of the year saw more traveling to places like Tanzania and Kuala Lumpur filming for the Starkey Foundation. We were thrilled that he was also able to travel back here for Emma's graduation and we really enjoyed hearing about his adventures.

These last months he's been editing all the footage they shot into episodes with a story taking place in each country. James continues to write and recently filmed one of his scripts while keeping his eyes open for the next intriguing project.

Kate is working on a new book and takes the previous books to author fairs, schools, libraries and the occasional Rotary meeting. But when not promoting books or working for Sprocket, she plans vacations!

This year we saw cherry blossoms in Washington, DC, cypress swamps in southern Illinois and caves in Belize. Our 30th anniversary was in November and we had a ball celebrating on a relaxing Caribbean cruise.

As 2012 winds down we're making plans for next year. The kids are busy building their futures and we're ready to embrace our new lives as well.

We wish you and your family health and much happiness throughout the coming year!

—Kate and Don, James and Emma

