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Review

Christmas 2010 • 37th Edition • P. O. Box 174 • Water Valley, Texas • (325) 484-3005

Here it is the end of 2010 and Billy has enjoyed another year of retirement and we have both traveled quite a bit. Billy continues to sub at the school when they get in a bind, but has kept it to a bare minimum – there are other things he would much rather be doing. Lanee is still teaching yearbook, business and technology classes at Water Valley. She continues to get together with her Aggie Mom group for a monthly night of Bunko – they have been together about 11 years now. There kiddos no longer attend A&M, but they have developed a close bond of friendship.

For those of you that use Facebook, you have seen a few of the pictures we have taken this past year while traveling. We counted up the days we have been out and about and they totaled 83! We have had such a good time and seen so many places and things. We started our summer with a 10-day cruise and land tour of Alaska along with four other couples from church. We flew in Seattle and then took a bus up to Vancouver where our cruise began. We didn't see the sun for nearly 10 days, but everything was absolutely beautiful!



Lanee took her Mother on a trip at the end of July to see her brother, Jason, in Atlanta. They also met up with a distant cousin in the area that Jason and Lanee had never met. They enjoyed visiting and learning some family history on the Miller side of Virginia's family. They flew on to NYC for a cruise that sailed to Maine, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. This trip was a little more laid back, but we have high hopes of going up that direction again to take in more of the sites.

Billy headed out on his own around the middle of September into New Mexico, Utah, Wyoming, and Colorado. He spent quite a bit of time in Utah visiting the different state and national parks. Lanee met up with him in the Jackson/Yellowstone area for about six days. We had been in this area in the summer back in the early 90s, but definitely like the slower pace of the fall – cooler temps and not as many bumper-to-bumper travelers!

Highlights from these three trips included seeing grizzly and black bears, wolves, elk, bison and moose in their natural habitat. In addition to the wildlife, seeing the active geysers, glaciers, impressive rock structures and yellow aspen leaves

was breath taking. One of Lanee's highlights also included zip-lining across the rain forest in Alaska. All-in-all, we took over 6,000 pictures!

We closed out the year with a couple of shorter trips. The first was at the beginning of November where Lanee went to Napa Valley with Kristi. Kristi was there as a guest of Santé Magazine for an award through her restaurant at Disney. And finally for Thanksgiving we flew into Boston and drove out and stayed on Cape Cod for the week where we took quite a few photos of lighthouses in the area. The highlight of the trip was visiting Plymouth on Thanksgiving Day and having our "Turkey Dinner" on the wharf with a replica of the Mayflower in view.

For the most part we stay pretty healthy. Billy had surgery on his face in February to remove some skin cancer which healed up nicely. Also, in January he will have put two years behind him with braces – they are attempting to straighten teeth that have been crooked for 40+ years. Lanee spent about four days in the hospital at the end of February. She had a reaction to some medicine that was prescribed; they

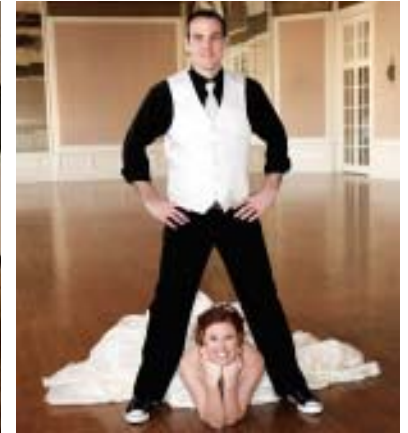
ran lots of tests, but everything seems to be good now. Go figure!

Billy took on a new project in July. Our church purchased a parcel of land, and he was asked to clear it. He began by removing the weeds, pruning mesquite trees, stacking firewood, etc. So far he has 50+ days invested into the project and is about half done. Looks like a busy January and February as it needs to be finished by mid-March.

The highlight of the year was Kristi and Steve's wedding on March 27. They were married at Grape Creek Baptist Church outside of San Angelo, and the reception was at the historic Cactus Hotel in San Angelo. It was a beautiful and

touching ceremony and we had a wonderful time celebrating afterwards. They were blessed with many friends and family attending. Again, if you attended or with us in spirit, we thank you for everything!

A quick update on Kristi and Steve - they left Florida the first of August and are now in the Houston area. Steve is working for the Katy school district where he is teaching 4th grade. Kristi is working on her Master's at the University of Houston and the Hilton College of Hotel and Restaurant Management. Billy traveled to Houston to help them move in that week. Said he never sweated that much. Have decided we will avoid Houston during the summer months!



Brock is currently living in Hereford and enjoys being back in Texas. For about a year and a half now he has been managing a Subway in Canyon. He really enjoys his work.

The Texas Panhandle had quite a nasty winter last year and he wasn't too fond of the drive, but housing in the Hereford area is much less expensive.



With Brock in Texas, we now get to see the granddaughters a little more. They were all here for the wedding. We also had Alyson here at the house for a few days in June. Billy put her to work out at the place for about an hour each day and she was able to earn her Christmas spending money. Once Destiny gets a little older, we will take her on as well! Alyson will be eight in January and Destiny is 2½. Time flies!

Our first foreign exchange daughter from northern England, Selina, visited us for a long Labor Day weekend bringing her other half Mark with her. We showed them around this part of Texas and threw some steaks on the grill for Mark to enjoy (Selina is a vegetarian, but Billy kept working on her)! We had a great visit and was so good to see her and get to meet Mark. This was the first time she has been back to Texas since she graduated in 2000. Hopefully in the near future we will be planning a trip to visit on the other side of the pond.

Unfortunately, this is about the only time that we slow down enough to think about what is important, and we are truly thankful for each of you. Friendship and family are priceless. Both provide the foundation that we build our lives on each day. At the center of this foundation is Christ Jesus who we say Happy Birthday to at this time each year. We thank God for his Son who was sent as a sacrifice for all of us. If you do not know him personally, please ask a Christian friend, attend church and listen. We want to see each and every one of you in heaven and do not want to explain to our Father why you are not there.

Remember that if you travel through the big city of Water Valley, we have a couple of empty beds for visitors. Do not hesitate to stop in and visit!

May God Bless You All in 2011!

Billy & Lanee