

# Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

December 2012

## **Rosa:**

Rosa's main activity remains her artwork and classes. In June, the Color Pencil Society of America, of which Rosa is a member, asked her to enter their big art show in Cerritos. The show was open to the public for several weeks. Rosa entered two of her works. She won First Place for her work of Wolfgang, our second cat, a Maine coon. Her second pencil painting got an honorary mention ribbon as well. Winning a blue ribbon in this International organizing is quite a feather in her cap and says a lot about her skills.



## **Mark & Renee' Weitzel:**

Mark has been working, going to school and being the best Father ever. Renee' has

been teaching, running and being the best Mother ever. They are the busiest family, but they still manage to work in time for us.

For years Mark and I have worked in a four day Father/Son "Mancation". Last year we included Grandson Scott in our Weitzel outing. This year the Tres Generations Run went to Big Bear. We played in the snow, rode tubes down hills, played miniature golf, biked and hiked. We had a great bonding time.

## **Daughter Amber:**

Amber has had a little backlash from the surgeries of last year. Her health has been up and down, but pretty good most of the time. Her job at the hospital is fine. They have been working with Ambers needs.

Amber enjoys her occasional weekend get always for historical re-enactments of life in the 16 & 17 hundreds. She has a wonderful and loving man in her life.

Many of her weekends are spent at granddaughter Christina, husband Tony and great granddaughter Holly's house. They live in the mountains at an elevation of 4,500 feet. Rosa and I can't go visit because she can't breath at that altitude. So we have to count on Christina bringing Holly down to visit Amber, which she does on a regular basis.

### Harley rides:

I finished Weitzelizing my 2012 Harley and sent in this picture to my favorite biker magazine, *Baggers*.



I told them "If you have any interest in my bike, contact me and I will tell you what I have done". I didn't hear back from them. Later, I am sitting on the couch with Rosa, reading the October issue of *Baggers*, when I turn the page, and there on page 121 is my bike in the *Baggers* magazine. How cool it that? They made up their own story about my bike and did a pretty good job of describing what I had done to it.

My big ride for the year was a trip down the east coast. I shipped my bike east to Boston and back home from Miami. I wanted to spend my two weeks seeing the east coast, not getting there and back. In my travels, I wanted to stop and eat at as many Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives as I could. If you have seen that show on the Food channel, you know what I am talking about. I didn't hit as many as I had hoped,

but I got my total count up to 42 locations in 12 different states so far.

I started by riding north to Concord to see the autumn changing of the seasons. The leaves were beautiful, but when I started in the morning, it was only 30 degrees. It was noon before it got to 40 degrees. I was expecting 70-degree weather. After a chilling day of these temperatures, I took my first hot bath in 30 years. It felt so good to get my core temperature up again.

The days got warmer as I headed south. Days later, I had made my way to Florida for the Daytona Biketoberfest. Daytona was the only big bike event I have never been to before because it always takes place during the tax season. So now I can check that ride off of my bucket list.

I continued down the coast all the way to the tip of Key West. I spent a few days there. Sandy was just a storm at the time I headed back up to Miami to fly home. I got home just days before hurricane Sandy hit the east coast.

I had a wonderful time with good friends and had some great meals.

For those that would like more details of this great trip, I have written a full article and posted pictures of the ride on my web sight. Go to [CarlWeitzel.com](http://CarlWeitzel.com) and click just below the picture of me on a blue bike in the upper left corner. Then click on the ride of your choice.

Rosa and I wish you and your family a very  
Happy Holidays.