

Season's Greetings



Jaga and Tamara



Jayna



Greta



Evan



Gordon and Mary Jane

From
The Andersons



Yearly Update 2010



The mailman is never more welcome than this time of year as we await opening our cards—thank you for making us smile!



Museum of Modern Art,
Manhattan, NYC

This year **EVAN** designed the flipside of this letter—how did he do? He is in his second year at University of Bridgeport in Connecticut, studying Industrial Design. He says, “This year was filled with great memories, with a lot of great people. I became more independent and took on new responsibilities, such as becoming a teacher’s assistant, and completed a short internship. Each year is going by faster and faster, and hopefully, I can learn how to slow it down and savor each new learning experience.”

Next is **GRETA** who never ceases to amaze us. Between school (finishing up her last year at University of Bridgeport in Graphic Design), waitressing, church, traveling across the US, selling books for SW Books-(www.southwestern.com), mission trip to Israel, completing a 21-day “Daniel Fast” (www.daniel-fast.com), spending a week in Jamaica with church friends, interning with Denyse Schmidt (www.dsquilts.com), now selling at a mall in Portland, Oregon to raise money for graduate school—she is one busy girl! She says, “My year was so packed with amazing stories, lessons, and growth—Spending a night at Christ’s crucifixion site, the Palestinian kids, WOW! My road trip from NY to Nashville to California where I really got to see how HUGE and diverse this country is—like several countries/cultures stitched together, WOW! Eating only fruits and vegetables for three weeks was a way to break my dependencies on food and shift them to a dependency on faith in God. I realized a desire to form new habits which in turn can change my life. ‘Peace, Shalom, Salaam Alaykum,’ Greta loves LIFE.”



On the way to Haifa



In Jamaica



JAYNA is pleased to announce after four years seeking a “real job” with health benefits etc, she got one in January with U.S. Compliance (www.uscompliance.com) in Minnetonka. They work with other companies to promote safety in the workplace. She does marketing and event planning and is the hub in the office. She spontaneously made a super spreadsheet which really pleased her boss! The down side is long commute from home (25 miles one way) where she has decided to live to save expenses. Her social life is centered around good friends she met at her last job, “Fabulous Ferns”, and plays darts there every week. She is quite good at it and even brought home a prize—a Christmas turkey! That’s her sitting on a dock on a plantation near Charleston, SC.

TAMARA and **JAGA** have been busy in New York. She made it home in November when Gordon’s dad passed away. She is pictured here with Grandma A. at the funeral. She started her online store (www.etsy.com) under seller TamaraBeth. In March she decided she liked Yoga after all. In April, Jaga started a young adult ministry program called Junction (www.junctionnyc.com). In May they went to LA for Jaga’s brother’s wedding—and little vacation in California. In July they moved to a studio apt. in Queens—450 square feet! Jaga says, “I’ve grown a lot in my 20’s and I’m looking forward to what this new decade brings!” Both received a promotion in their jobs. “We’ve discovered a lot about ourselves this year and are excited to continue to make discoveries next year.”



2010 brought another “career” change to **MARY JANE**, returning to the WBL Care Center after six years away. Now she is in the Transitional Care Unit, which is more acute care and more challenging, but also rewarding as people often go home after a debilitating illness or injury. This fall she became a coordinator for another Afghan student whom she visits and helps with any needs. While still working part time at ElderHaven Assisted Living in Forest Lake, she also sells Avon, going on 29 years. Her message for Christmas: Black Elk, being a wise Indian Chief, said, “Grown men may learn from very little children, for the hearts of little children are pure, and, therefore, the Great Spirit may show to them many things which older people miss.” Christmas is that time when we all should “become like little children” and listen to what God maybe teaching us... *“In that day the wolf and the lamb will live together; the leopard and the goat will be at peace. Calves and yearlings will be safe among lions, and a child will lead them all.” (Isaiah 11:6).*

GORDON is involved in all kinds of academic activities. He is still President of Paragon House books (www.paragonhouse.com), and there are lots of challenges facing the publishing industry with the advent of e-books. He is President of the Minnesota Legislative Evaluation Assembly, publishes International Journal on World Peace, has done consulting for the International college at the University of Bridgeport, has been promoting his book, *Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness, Version 4.0*, and is preparing to teach a doctoral course titled “Integral Society and Politics” at the California Institute of Integral Studies. He enjoyed the vacation he took to Hawaii with Mary Jane, staying with his friend Tom Kando from Cal. State Sacramento who has a time share there. He also enjoyed the eight-day road trip going south to Kate’s wedding in Florida with stops in Tennessee, Atlanta, Savannah, and Charleston.

Best Wishes for 2011 • The Andersons

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