

## Merry Christmas & Happy 2013 from the Morrises



2012 has been a year of good health and good things for us! We've lost 30 pounds each. We're feeling good and looking good (if we do say so ourselves). It turns out that the secret to weight loss is diet and exercise. Who would have thought? We started using a calorie counting application [www.fatsecret.com](http://www.fatsecret.com) in July 2011 and it took us until April 2012 to lose 30 pounds each! BJ upped her exercise and even participated in a 5K run, but Tony lost his mostly by just dieting

We rewarded ourselves with a new master bathroom and closet to put our new smaller sized clothing in! We are thrilled with the renovation and wish that we had done it years ago. We're planning for 2013 to be "The Year of the Kitchen!"

We didn't let dieting deter us from travel though. Our year was filled with fun trips again. Tony decided he was tired of hearing about "not being bitter" from last year's Christmas letter, so this year he vowed to take at least one trip a month and, by George, he did it!

**January** took us to beautiful **Prague**. Yes, it was cold and snowy, but we had some beautiful days too.



**Antwerp** was our destination for **February**. We made some great new friends when we happened into Wijnbar Vigneto on opening day. We toured the diamond district and BJ picked up a couple of shiny things to dangle from her ears.



The sun & beach at **St. George Island** was beckoning in **March**. Our trip coincided with some maintenance work that needed to be done at Beauty and the Beach. It was still a little chilly for swimming but beautiful weather for sitting on the deck and walking on the beach.



**April** in **Barcelona** was beautiful. We enjoyed getting out of the crowded city and visiting the little town of Sitges.



BJ enjoyed a relaxing girls' weekend in the **North Georgia Mountains** later in **March**.



Later in **April**, while BJ attended an embroidery conference with her sister, Tony and a friend went back to **Antwerp** to visit our new friends at Wijnbar Vigneto.

In **May**, we participated in a test of the new International Terminal at the Atlanta airport. Although we were only pretend passengers, they REALLY destroyed our luggage.



Our real trip in May was to **Milan and Lake Como**.



Tony's mom was anxious to see our beach house so we took her to **St. George Island for Memorial Day**. We were afraid the steps would be too much for her, but she did great! She only stayed a few days and then we were joined by some other friends for the rest of the week.



BJ took a quick day trip to **Fernandina Beach in June** to have lunch with a friend and check out some of our friends' new real estate investments. Looks like we'll have some options for some future trips, hint, hint!



In **July**, we took a driving trip to visit friends at their beautiful home in **Beaufort, S.C.** followed by another driving trip to the Travelport Golf Tournament in **Fairhope, Alabama**. BJ and Lucy spent a weekend in **St. George Island** with a friend.



Tony almost missed taking a **June** trip because of crowded flights, but we managed to snag two seats to **Manchester** at the last minute so we could watch our friend carry the Olympic Torch!



**August** found us back in **Antwerp**, visiting our friends. We discovered it was Pride weekend so there were lots of colorful activities to watch, including a concert and a parade. The weather was outstanding. We took a harbor cruise.

BJ took a quick day trip to **Detroit in September** to



We went back to **St. George Island for Labor Day**. This time, the weather was just right for swimming & kayaking! Lucy even took a ride on the kayak. Lola spent her time basking in the sun.

accompany a friend who was departing for Paris from Detroit. A few days later, she attended the Delta Women's Golf Tournament at Hammock Beach resort near **Daytona Beach, Florida**.



Our longest trip of the year was split between **Ireland and Germany**. We had already planned to go to Oktoberfest in Munich when our friends announced their plans to marry in Ireland. The wedding was in an old temple on a cliff overlooking the ocean.



We had a great time at Oktoberfest, but were really ready to get home to see the animals! We followed the German Oktoberfest up with one in **Helen, Georgia**! It gave us another opportunity to wear our new German garb.



**November** found us back in Europe. This time, we flew to **Stuttgart** and drove to **Colmar**, France where we toured the beautiful Alsace wine region.



For our December trip, we're planning to go to Key West to soak up some sun and fun!

Aside from our trips, the big event of the year was our **25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration!** We asked all of the women to wear a bridesmaid dress and the men, a cummerbund and bow-tie. It was an epic party!



We have a good bit of family news to report this year too. It seems we are going to have a great nephew named Jack, after BJ's father! We are very excited to have our nephew, Jonathan and his wife Megan back in Georgia. Our niece, Lauren, and nephew, Jared, were both on the homecoming court at BJ's alma mater, North Georgia College and we were thrilled when Lauren was elected queen. We were very proud of Jared when he graduated in May with 2 degrees and even prouder when he got a **JOB!** Our niece Emma started at UGA this year, and if Facebook is any indication, she is having a great time!



Lucy and Lola have been just as precocious as ever this year. Their antics keep us laughing. (Yes, that is Lucy with her head in a peanut butter jar.



Tony is still consulting at Lockheed Community Credit Union and BJ is coming out of retirement to take a new job as a travel agent for The Travel Collection! Let her know if she can help you with your travel planning!

Poor little Lucy had hernia surgery this year but she's back to her peppy self again.

To read more of our adventures, visit:  
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Happy Christmas to all, and to all a good night!

Love,  
Lucy, Lola, BJ & Tony