

## Hello Friends and Family

## Holiday Greetings for 2015!

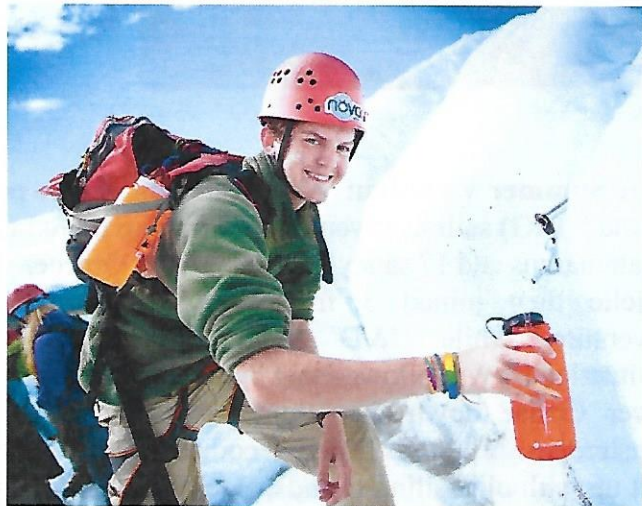
We hope this letter finds you and your loved ones healthy and hearty. Our last real Christmas Letter was in 2010, but this year had extraordinary news, and we wanted to expound a bit instead of just sending a card.

**Arielle:** I graduated from Homestead High School this year and began my first year at University of California, Santa Barbara. I enjoyed an amazing summer playing tuba at Carnegie Hall, sailing with friends and family in Greece, and then joining two of my friends to travel to Rome, Barcelona, Paris, and London.



Since starting college, I have joined the UCSB rowing team and met many amazing new friends through it. I love seeing the ocean every day and am looking forward to my journey in 2016!

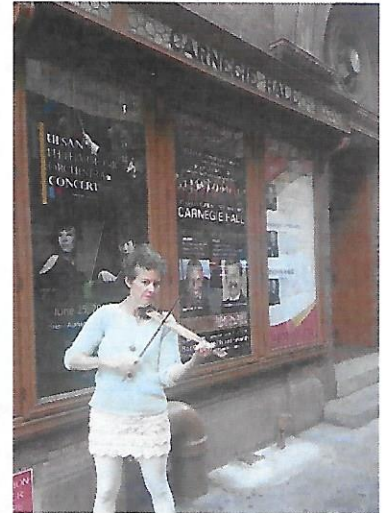
**Peter:** I wrapped up my junior year with a few photography awards and lot of weekend ventures into city infrastructure. I spent my summer outdoors, first for a month in the Alaskan backcountry with ten other teens, backpacking, ice climbing, white-water rafting, and camping out of a sea kayak. A week later, I flew back to New Mexico for a hundred-mile trek with my scouting friends, then up to Lake Tahoe for a third backpacking trip through Desolation Wilderness. Now that I'm finished with college apps and academic responsibility, I am blighted by senioritis this year at Homestead High School. Instead of school, I work on the yearbook staff and often spend weekends camping with scouts or friends. And I picked up presidency of the *Club Sandwich*, the *Sandwich Club* at my high school.





**Dorian:** This is my 6<sup>th</sup> year teaching 5<sup>th</sup> grade at Huff School in Mountain View. We have a wonderful, creative and collaborative staff and this year were honored with National Blue Ribbon status, and our principal was 1 of 7 to be recognized for a prestigious national award. A lot of rethinking and reinventing needs to go on when teaching in the Digital Age: a fun challenge.

Fiddling through my recreational hours, I still attend weekly old time and Irish sessions. I even performed at Carnegie Hall in June (picture is proof!). In August, I made my second pilgrimage to Ashokan music camp in the Catskills for a week of superb classes and beautiful scenery.



**Joe:** I am enjoying more road biking (in 2015 - another century and a trip around Lake Tahoe), More recently, I have enjoyed make shavings while wood turning on lathes. So much to learn and spend in the next years.



I'm in my 33rd year at HP, now in printer services. While still enjoying the challenge of working in software systems, I've got an eye for the exit. There is so much left in the bucket list, and time is rushing by. The trip to Europe described below was joy to plan and experience. I enjoyed getting through this year without breaking bones and other surgery which had spoiled 2014 while recuperating.

**Epic Summer Vacation:** After watching Arielle perform in NYC, Joe organized another "Life is Grand" (LIG) sailing adventure. Our group toured Greek Islands near Athens in an 8 day sail with 2 catamarans and 17 saucy mariners. After Greece, Arielle then joined 3 friends for a Europe adventure while J&D visited family in Switzerland. We followed that by a 7 day Vikings River Cruise down the Rhine from Basel to Amsterdam. Viking is highly recommended! We met up with old sailing friends, Becky and Hugh, at their home near The Hague. Consider sailing with us sometime. [www.martinka.org/sail](http://www.martinka.org/sail)

