

## Mele Kalikimaka (Hawaiian Merry Christmas) 2022

This is the time of year for celebrating Christ's birth and hearing Christmas Carols on TV and radio. We heard this oldie from 1950 or so, with Bing Crosby and the Andrews Sisters. You can find it on YouTube if you are interested. Thinking of God's mighty power with the recent volcanic eruption in Hawaii, Minnesota is like Hawaii only if blizzards are replaced with volcanic eruptions, snow drifts with lava flows, willows with palm trees, and add 70 degrees to the temperature, the sentiment is the same.

Before we were engaged, Janice needed a sewing machine for a Home Economics class. Her parents suspected something was up when a Singer showed up at their house one day, a gift from Carl even before they were engaged. Janice has used it for sewing and repairing clothes ever since, until it wore out this year. Cost of repairs would be similar to the cost of a new one, so now it is just a piece of furniture, though with many memories.



We had an appointment in Bloomington on November 23 which was our 54<sup>th</sup> anniversary. We had lunch at a recently opened seafood place, Smack Shack. For many years we would go to Red Lobster to celebrate, but somewhere along the line that custom was lost. This might be a new custom.

Trips were few this year, though Janice, Hilarie, and Deverie visited Las Vegas to help Emerie celebrate her 50<sup>th</sup> birthday. We visited Deverie in Madison and will be there again at Christmas when Emerie is in town. We toured the Minnesota Capital building, which all card-carrying Minnesotans need to do at some point.

This year, after 22,500 pictures and 19 years on digital cameras, Janice switched to her smart phone for taking pictures. It's great to have picture capability along at all times.

Carl continues with online bridge and brass group at church, and this year the choir has restarted after the Covid restrictions. He has been going to an arthritis exercise class in the pool at the YMCA. Janice has joined West Suburban Women's Club and also the neighborhood bunco group. She gets lots of exercise working at Medina Entertainment Center and continues to be Carl's favorite bridge partner.

Carl had a bone spur removed from his left shoulder in 2000. After that, he could only lift his arm to shoulder height. Carl's Mom had shoulder replacements before that, and we remember her teasingly showing how she could swing her arms in full circles. Arthritis hit Carl harder this year, especially the left shoulder. A left shoulder replacement scheduled for early February should restore some shoulder mobility for him. The doctor authorized a blue card to hang on the mirror so we can park close to places.

Warm wishes for a Merry Christmas and

May the Blessings of this Holy Season be yours now and in the New Year.

*Carl & Janice Hartness*

Carl & Janice Hartness  
4704 Vagabond Lane North  
Plymouth MN 55446