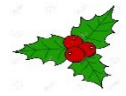


Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the McKinleys!!



Like with our family, you'd probably agree that 2018 has just flown by. You may be another year into enjoying your retirement, or like Kelly and Lisa a year closer to it! You may have experienced the unfolding of new beginnings or checked off an item on your bucket list this year. Either way, we all head into the New Year with the joy, grace and gratefulness we embrace at Christmas time.

Rebecca started the year off with a trip to New York and sang for a fourth time at Carnegie Hall with *The Honors Performance Series*! Throughout the year, she performed with local groups like *Central Coast Gilbert and Sullivan*, *SLO Master Chorale* and *OperaSLO*. As the Housing Manager for *OperaSLO*, she coordinates housing for out of town artists. Working from home has allowed her to go back to school and take classes in Psychology, Voiceover Broadcasting, Music Theory and Office Administration. In October she had the incredible opportunity to play one of the Three Spirits in *OperaSLO's* production of Mozart's *The Magic Flute*. Recently, she's had the pleasure and joy of working with the local princess party company *A Wish Your Heart Makes* and is looking forward to participating in future events with them. She's looking into a Master's Program, possibly at Cal Poly in the near future as she sorts through her interests at this time in her life. She continues to help out singing at local community events as well as provide technical support to her mom on the home computer.

Ryan is hands-on with his education these days. He spent his summer working in North Carolina and experienced life in the South. Within the first three days he picked up a job and bought a mud loving work truck. From working with heavy equipment for an exotic hardwoods lumber company to helping out on a co-workers family farm in the Smoky Mountains, he got a unique taste of independence he'll surely use as a reference in his future ambitions in business. He is finishing his college degree in Welding Technology and overlapping his welding classes with Business, Marketing and Accounting coursework. He is still working for Gentry Welding and Fabrication as projects come up and will be revisiting internship opportunities with Cal Trans after Christmas. This will leave just enough time to play gigs and shoot pool on the weekends when not at Paintball, RC or Airsoft events! He enjoyed playing with Pryor Baird and JD Hardy at the Santa Maria Elks Rodeo this year and continues to be active with his E-Commerce hobby.

Kelly and Lisa are finding time within busy work schedules to escape and enjoy outings together. We took a short trip simply up to northern California this summer and found ourselves exploring the beautiful Mt Lassen area. Our second day we decided to take the 4 hour hike up to the snow covered peak. It was breath-taking in more than one way. The views were worth the climb! Staying a few days to catch some sun at the Peppermill Resort in Reno soon led us to reunite with old friends in southern Reno.

The exclamation point of the trip was our time in Mammoth; hiking around the beautiful local lakes and a fun mountainside horseback ride. Yes, an umbrella came in handy when a sudden storm front came in. (Never go anywhere without a golf umbrella in the car!) We were amazed at the sheets of rain, lightening, wind and hail coming down within an hour of finishing the beautiful sunny ride! The afternoon riders were in for a stormy wet surprise indeed. The sheets of rain didn't stop us though from discovering the new Mammoth village. Walking in the storm, enjoying a wonderful dinner and experiencing a musical festival as the sky's cleared; it was like visiting a 'mini' version of Vail.

We recently sold our motorhome, yes the one with the "how-to" remodel video on You-Tube with over 57,000 views! (It's still there if you want to check out Kelly's 'Motor Home Remodel' by Buzzsawlouie.) We flew to El Paso Texas to pick up a Teal Nissan Armada. (Yes... it was worth getting on a plane again and then driving through a 100 year storm on our long drive through Phoenix Arizona!) To complete Kelly's vision, we just got back from Sacramento with a new travel trailer Kelly has been looking at for months. Our new experience includes this advise... NEVER drive I-99 on a Friday afternoon! (5 hours to go 140 miles.) We spent a chilly December night in our new trailer at a wonderful but empty Coarsegold RV campground with just a blanket and pillow. We were grateful that the trailer systems worked, especially the heater!

May you be blessed as you spend time with family and friends this Christmas and reflect on the Lord's goodness.

Love - Kelly, Lisa, Rebecca & Ryan

