

December 2015

Dear friends,



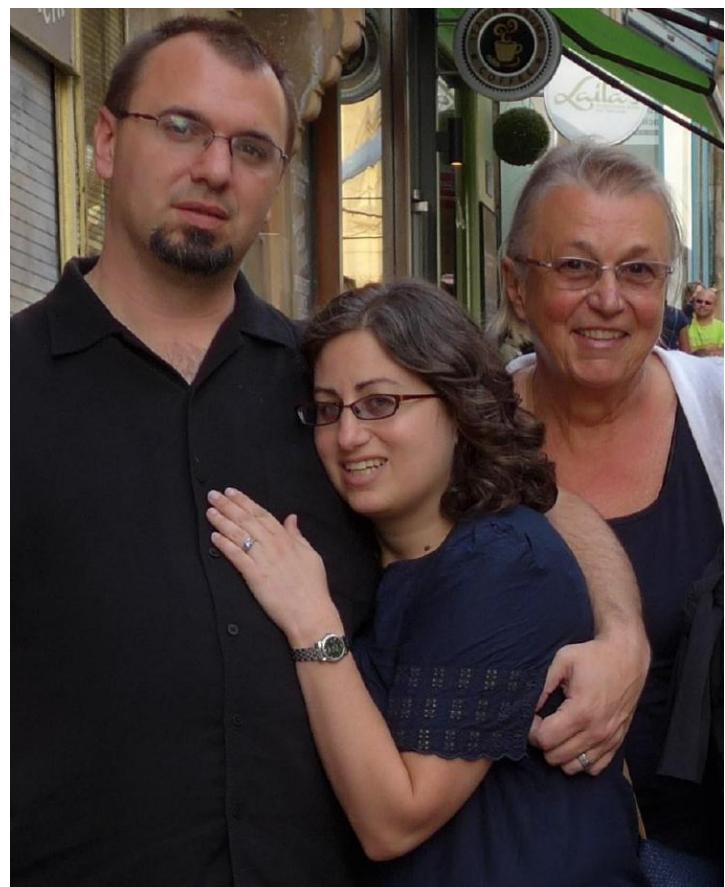
It has been 3 years now, since Diether has retired and we have left the San Francisco Bay Area. We find, that we are enjoying ourselves more than ever.

We return for visits every two months or so, like to see friends, and get annoyed by the stop-and-go traffic there.

Our mothers are doing as well as we can hope for. Jutta's mother celebrated her 95th birthday this year, but invited for the celebration in June. Ben flew in from England and Petra visited on her Birthday. Jutta visited 3 times last year. Diether's mother is 89 and with Gundis help still living on her own. Diether got to visit 4 times, since he spend time with his mother, during Gundis vacation.

Ben and Ruth are still in England, and we saw them twice this year. During our March visit, they joined us at their grandmothers, and in July we met in Edinburgh after participating in the Cyto2015 conference in Glasgow.

We enjoyed the Spring School in Ettal. Our friends from Munich met us there like in previous years. On the way to Ettal we met several of our friends in Stuttgart all at once in the bar of our hotel. Some of us had not seen each other for 30 years. It was great to reconnect. We should plan a similar party for next year; the date for the Ettal Spring School is known. We made another stop on the shores of the Starnberg Lake for some walking, and



to experience a German power failure during dinner.

At the CYTO conference in Glasgow we met many friends, and some even visited us later in Reno. We also appreciate BD's invitation to the Howe Award festivities in Manhattan; the events were perfect, Central Park was in full fall colors, and it was sunny.

Of course, there also were other business trips, to some Diether travelled by himself, but for most of them Jutta came along.

We celebrated our 40th wedding anniversary with a road trip to McCall, Idaho. On the Internet Diether had discovered a resort on the lake, and to make sure, it was as nice as the website promised, we first tried it out in May. These were two great trips.

In December we added a short visit to the Gulf coast and spent a couple of days in Galveston, Texas. We had the coast to ourselves and enjoyed long walks on the deserted beach. We also paid a visit to the historic downtown and the sail Ship Elissa.



Our nephew and later our cousin and her boyfriend, all three from Germany, visited us for a couple of days during their travels, and we enjoyed their company, and hope they'll be back soon.

We celebrated Thanksgiving at our house this year and Ben's in-laws flew up to Reno for the long weekend.

Our plants have grown so big, (even through neglect during all of our travels), that we have no more room for a Christmas tree. So we decorated the Ficus. The cookies are baked and we wish you all a

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year !

Jutta & Diether