



# Holiday Greetings 2024



Dear Family and Friends,

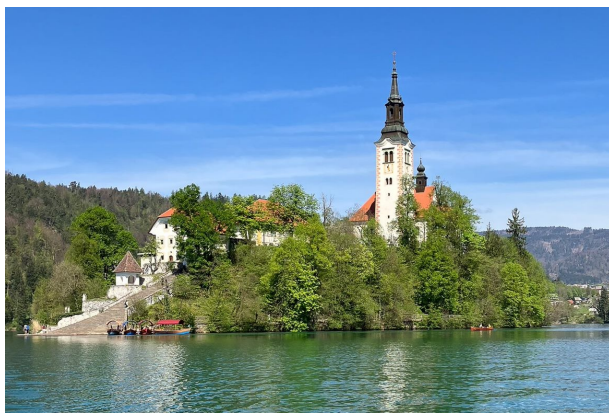
We hope this letter finds you well and enjoying the holiday season. This last year certainly passed quickly for us. As we look back, we have wonderful memories of time spent with family and friends, travel, and learning. Here are some highlights of our year:



In February, Doug, Jeff, Brian, and Kathy celebrated Kathy's 75th birthday in Palm Springs during Modernism Week. We enjoyed beautiful, warm weather, outings to Joshua Tree National Park and to the top of Mt. San Jacinto, as well as some mid-century modern architecture adventures.



In April, we traveled in Croatia and Slovenia and spent several days in Venice. Enchanting! Above left is a view of the walled, old town of Dubrovnik. We walked around the old city on top of the wall. Above right is a view of Split from a point on our hike through Forest Park Marjan. Below left is an island in Lake Bled in the Slovenian Alps. Below right is Predjama Castle, built into a cave for protection in the 12th century and rebuilt in 1570.





We spent several days in Venice at the end of our Adriatic sojourn. Canaletto truly captured the unique tint of blue light that characterizes the City of Canals. A highlight was St. Mark's Basilica, magnificent inside and out!



In early July, friend Carolyn Gleisberg visited us in Bend and Corvallis. While in Bend we enjoyed the Sisters Quilt Show and hikes at Riley Ranch Preserve and along the Deschutes River. One day in Corvallis, we had a wonderful reunion with friend Kathy Phelps. Kathy, Kathy, and Carolyn were all roommates during freshman year at UC Santa Barbara.

One of the highlights of our year was a gathering of Doug's Collins relatives at the Collins Homestead on Big Marsh Creek in Oregon's Cascade Mountains. Doug's sister Jean came from Montana. Her son Andrew and his partner Lauren came from Zurich, Switzerland, where they currently live; and her daughter Liz and her partner Brian came from Washington DC. Doug's brother Bill and our niece Maggie came from Colorado. Hosting were Doug's brother Jim and sister-in-law Linda from Oregon. Jim's son Alex, his partner Beah, and their son Cash, who was born December 1, 2023, came from Virginia. We were busy visiting and, sadly, did not take photos.



Above left are Kathy's Compton relatives, ages 3 to 98, who joined us for our annual Labor Day barbeque. Above right, Doug and Jeff are celebrating Jeff's 45th birthday on a rail-bike ride near Hood River. From Hood River we went to Bend for a few more days of celebrating, ending with an In-a-Landscape Concert, featuring pianist Hunter Noack and Oregon Poet Laureate Ellen Waterston, outdoors at Fort Rock, southeast of Bend.



We finally made it to Detroit in late September and early October. We have long wanted to visit the Auto City, where exciting redevelopment is happening. And this year, the Frank Lloyd Wright Building Conservancy Conference, which we try to attend each year, was held in Detroit, so we were nudged. Detroit did not disappoint. If you are inspired to visit, be sure to arrange a city tour with JP Stando of "Let's See Detroit". Above center: We enjoy the conference gala with friend, Beth Hayes. Above right: Wright's Palmer House (1950) in Ann Arbor.

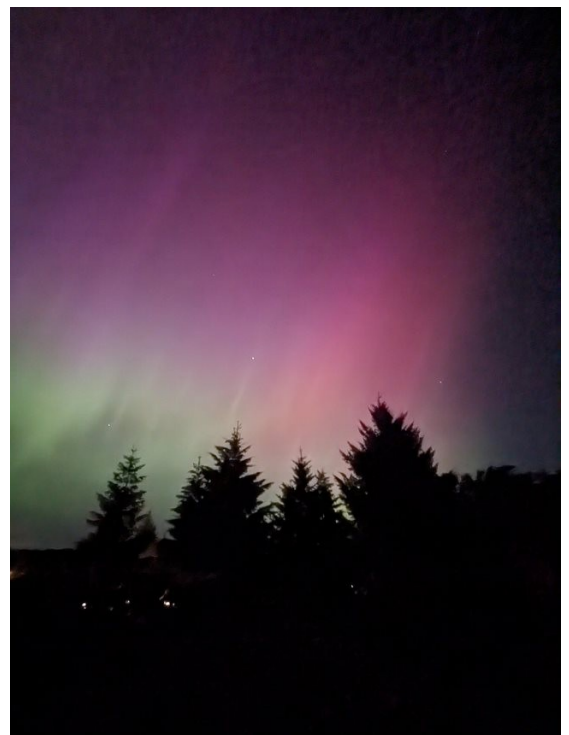
We celebrated Doug's 75th birthday, which coincided with Thanksgiving this year, in Washington D.C. with Brian and Jeff. On Doug's birthday the weather was perfect for a long hike at Rock Creek Park, at right. We enjoyed seeing the movie *Wicked* and the staged rock musical *Six*, and visiting the renovated Air and Space Museum and the National Museum of the American Indian on the Mall. We were spoiled by the exceptional cuisine in the District.



Brian continues to enjoy living and working in D.C. The townhome he purchased a year ago is a very comfortable place for us to stay.



Finally, two beautiful moments from our home in Corvallis for you to enjoy: a fawn and father outside our living room window and the aurora borealis, a rare sight at our latitude, from our driveway.



*Cheers!*  
*Doug and Kathy*