

December 2021

Warmest holiday greetings,

On the heels of 2020's pandemic retreat year, 2021 brought return of—and much appreciation for—gatherings and activities paused last year.



- Robi-clan pizza parties; time with Meghan and family (Florida visitors) at one of them.
- Saturday morning music jams and annual music weekend in Door County. Musicians jammed; rest of us soaked in solitude, beauty, and ambiance.
- Backyard fire pit parties in Oshkosh. An overnight at Rosie's Airbnb—that used to be Grandma's house, where my mom grew up—was an amazing nostalgic treat. (*Rosie's Place A* on Airbnb.com) Discovering two other guests also went to MHS like I did—and attended a class reunion with friends I grew up with—crazy small world!
- Road trips.
 - Donn's cabin near Tigerton. Enjoying a picnic lunch, peaceful beauty; a tandem e-bike experience for me.
 - Fond du Lac Hotel Retlaw. Newly remodeled, elegant 20's vibe, anniversary two-night stay.
 - Lake Superior scenic drive, inspired by *Butterflies and Hazel Eyes* by Wisconsin author, Katie Mettner. Especially liked Ashland, Lake Superior beach, and artesian drinking fountains. Gorgeous colors through Wausau and U.P.
 - Mom Days—Thursdays because that fits *Mom's* social calendar. Love that she's got a social life, friends, and family around, that she's happy and healthy, and we get to spend time with her, doing whatever. Lunch, Lakeside Park, St. Vinny's, maybe a library stop, maybe visiting. Seeing a brother or two and other family sometimes, is nice too.

Reading: Mike, Mom, and I are readers. Those library stops, Kindle, St. Vinny's. Fiction mostly for Mom and me; some nonfiction for me; and Michael's an eclectic, more-studious reader. (He's often taking notes and has them organized.) BTW, reviews matter—to readers especially, and authors. Write some (kind) words about books you're reading on Goodreads or Amazon.

Cooking: Michael still enjoys cooking and baking, and I play with recipes, too. His book has several new pages added. (food photos in [notepad gallery](#))

Working part-time, volunteering, etc.: The LLC is still active and holds space for me and others to work, provide services, and feel connected. Kindred Spirit Center (2006) celebrated 15 years, WonderSpirit (2001) celebrated 20 years in 2021. Creating books with author Vivian Probst was an engaging, amazing, spirit-feeding adventure this year and continues into 2022. Indie publishing is a wild learning process. My little e-book is now available in print also; I ordered a few. (Holding one's first book; wow.)

Volunteer gig at EBHS is getting better all the time. Animals, staff, and other volunteers—and a new Volunteers page on Facebook— make it a positively fun place to be part of.

Once again, it is a year full of blessings and we are thankful for all of it; family, friends, all the places life takes us, and each other. Happy holidays, Merry Christmas, and a New Year of happiness, health, and heart's desires.

Love always,

Anne and Michael

Visit our 2021 Photo gallery at: <https://annewondra.com/notepad/>









