

2022 OUR THIRTY-SEVENTH EDITION

Lafayette Lagunippe

FROM HERE TO THERE, THE COMEAUX'S ARE EVERYWHERE

It was Grand to see the Canyon

Hello from the USA. John and Phyllis were traveling again, and we'd love to share with you all the wonders and joys of our family and friends.

In April, we flew over to Sedona, AZ for a brief glance at the wonderful formations in and around town. The highlight is the Chapel of the Holy Cross, built right into the side of the mountain.

Then, a full 5 days at the Grand Canyon, we visited the entire South Rim from West to East. Ask John to view the 10 minute movie he created (featuring music by Ferde Grofé) to remember the trip. Finally a stop in Prescott to visit with Kyle Russ-Navarro.

We made several trips to Cocomeaux, sometimes as a get-away, and sometimes as a gathering. For Phyllis' birthday, Faye and Jeff, Julie and the boys joined us to help her celebrate. In the summer, Trevor and Julie were able to stay a weekend with us and the boys, to make s'mores and ride in the boat. The Scott family also came out during the summer to enjoy the lake and a boat ride. Team Comeaux also came to enjoy a weekend at the lake and a boat ride.

John, Phil and Beverly visited Tony in Memphis and putted around. Tony also fixed amazing dinners for us.

We zipped off to Alabama for a weekend beach vacation. Phyllis visited Pauline and Bob in their new homestead and Ryan's new "home" (and the giant redwoods, wineries, and beaches) in California, while John made a Jesuit retreat in Grand Coteau. Phyllis made her retreat at the St. Joseph Abbey, while John limped around Cocomeaux with a bummed up ankle. It takes longer to heal when a person is 68 years old, than when he is 48. Ouchie.



Chapel of the Holy Cross



Redwoods

We continue to make the rounds of book festivals, including the Louisiana Book Fest in Baton Rouge. Our 2nd book in the Troll Seres by JP Coman (John & Phyllis) will be released on March 14: "Winnie and the Trouble with Trolls." The 3rd and 4th books are in the capable hands of our editor, Dawn.

New Developments

John gave Phyllis a Christmas gift - 4 weeks of "Hello Fresh" meal kits which he prepares while she supervises. This is his first foray into cooking. It proved successful and we continued the meal kits all year. It also broadened his palate for many different kinds of food, which also made Phyllis happy.

John self-published his Opus 1, "Fun Songs and Poems". 50+ years of writing collected in one volume. Actually the longer works, plays, and scripts will be in volume 2. He did this to research the whole self-publishing effort and process. He then taught a self-publishing workshop for the Writers' Guild of Acadiana in June along with Chris Fontenot.

We began playing Wordle each morning with our breakfast. Ya gotta keep the brain sharp.

Andy Comeaux moved back to Lafayette with Joanna and Dalton, who is 4. He should fit in nicely with our bunch of cousins.

John attended his Cathedral-Carmel 50-year reunion, including a tour of the school as it has changed in that time.

The awful COVID virus hit Phyllis in January, but it was not the worst kind for her, and she recovered. It hit the Scott family hard in December, and pushed back Christmas for them.

We attended a fantastic Simon reunion celebration for Nally and Karo. It was so wonderful to see all our Abbeville cousins again.

Natalie's baptism was in May, so that was a grand occasion to get a photo of all six grandchildren. They have grown up so much since then that we just shake our heads and blink in amazement.

Pattie came in April, so Zella's five were able to dine at Don's and get a quick photo of us all. Richard is battling his cancer with a brave heart and good attitude.

When the Scott girls came in August, we created a fun video skit with costumes.



Fun Songs and Poems



Beach Time



Simon reunion



Natalie's baptism at Fatima

Phyllis continues writing spiritual poems and short pieces that may become a book one day. Her ministries have decreased since babysitting has increased but she still helps when she can and is teaming the next ACTS retreat in March.

And More Fun

Zoë spent a week with us; she built a 5-story house of cards, and played Monopoly.

Phyllis made a cake for Emmitt's birthday celebration in March, which was held because his actual Christmas Eve birthday gets kind of minimized. He wanted a 'digger' (construction vehicle) party so the cake featured a construction scene with vehicles, orange cones, chocolate dirt, and candy rocks.

We took formal portraits, but informally at the Country.



Zoë enjoys Monopoly



Birthday party for Phyllis at Cocomeaux



Zella's five dining at Don's



The Pumpkin Patch



Team Comeaux and Team Scott



S'mores at Cocomeaux with Lemaire

We continue to enjoy the Acadiana Symphony Orchestra along with Bud and Cathy.

The Lemaires visited the pumpkin patch in October, and of course there is a video of that experience. Julie is working her new job at Investar Bank, and Trevor now manages the Social restaurant.

Desi is now a full-time Mom, with help from Mimi and Nana. Dave continues working for the boat company and attending meetings.

Jon continues working for his company 4-Wheel Parts, and camping with the girls. Michelle continues teaching French online to HS students.

Autumn had a big 3-yr old birthday celebration in November, with friends and family attending.

And we celebrated our 44th anniversary in December.

The Grands

Lily is fond of hats, K-POP, and books. She loves history and learning the lives of interesting people. She recently visited the WWII museum and met a Holocaust survivor in person.

Zoë is fond of stuffed squishy animals, building houses of cards (5 stories!) and books. Both girls want to keep Annie the cat to themselves, but Annie loves Michelle the best. Jon is her arch-enemy, but playful.

Emmitt continues to learn at Courtney's home school, and loves the social aspect also. He impresses everyone he meets as being quite smart, inquisitive, and quick. After he went through a phase of uncooperativeness, he is now understanding that listening and obeying gets him what he really wants.

Autumn is "canaille" but getting better. She also loves playing outside, clothes optional. The exception is, of course, princess dresses. She will cooperate and learn anything if you sit with her for a while. She is quite the musical girl.

Meyer is the easy-going kid who sings and plays and can be by himself, unless he gets an attack of "twoness" where he is crying and whining but doesn't know why.

And Natalie is the one-year old who watches everything and is happy most of the time. She only yells out when she wants attention or a bottle. She started walking before her birthday, so her physical development is in line with the rest of her family.

In 2021 we participated in the "Bible in a year" podcast. In 2023 we have started "Catechism in a year".

We'd like to share an important verse with you today. It's from the Second letter of Peter. Ch. 1, v. 16 **"We did not follow cleverly devised myths...but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty."** This amazing letter, written two thousand years ago, carries immense weight.

We hope to see each and every one of you again soon in 2023.

Love, John & Phyllis