

Season's Greetings, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, Feliz Navidad Feliz Año Nuevo (Spanish), Wesolych Swiat Bozego Narodzenia Szczęśliwego Nowego Roku (Polish), Veseloho Vam Rizdva i Novim Rokom (Ukrainian), Sarbatori vesele si La Multi Ani (Romanian), Prejeme Vam Vesele Vanoce Stastny Novy Rok (Czech), Froehliche Weihnachten Ein Glückliches Neues Jahr (German) to our world-wide family members and our many friends!

Both of us wish each and every one of you the most joyous of holiday seasons. We hope that the past year has been kind to you ... that you have been blessed with good health ... that your psyche is upbeat ... your dreams, wishes, desires and wants have been realized ... and above all, that you have been surrounded by a loving family and genial and caring friends.

Retirement continues to be agreeable to us as we maintain and enjoy good health and a passable state of mind ... notwithstanding the fact that doctor visits are increasing in our ongoing effort to maintain that youthful vigor, stamina, and charm ... for nothing beats a sound body maintenance program. Our "advanced age" has not diminished our enthusiasm for a reasonable active life. "Macho man" (Ed) and the "young filly" (Dolores) still manage to eke out many activities that make the younger set take notice. Ed, the "self-proclaimed chick magnet", continues his thrice-weekly fitness club regimen; Dolores still does her tai chi and country line dancing but this year added a fitness club to her schedule to tone up her rippling muscles. Our collective motto "feet - keep moving".

WOW, it has been seven years since we started calling Las Cruces our home. Our circle of friends here is steady and they bring cheer to our many get-togethers. Other than a visit by our dear friends from Tucson, again we had no visitors. This past summer was hot and rainy (some storms extremely damaging) in southern New Mexico, worst since we moved here ... even had to conduct many rattlesnake 'roundups' around the house. But, on balance, it was another year in paradise (sure beats tornadoes, hurricanes, blizzards, etc.)

Our wanderlust continues ... making a number of multi-day trips to Tucson for visitations and entertainment ... taking in several high-profile theatre shows ... (well worth the long drive) ... with Tucson becoming a favorite destination for us. But, an "adventure trip" was made available to us that we were excited to undertake. In March we were invited to join another couple in a "Central American" foray ... to Guatemala. This was a 3-week adventure that included many exciting and equally enjoyable locations ... the hustle and bustle of its capital city, the mountains with coffee *fincas* (farms), the Caribbean coast with myriad of water activities, the ancient Mayan ruins of Tikal and especially the Easter celebrations known as "Semana Santa" in Antigua, the old capital. This weeklong celebration is world-renowned for its spectacle and color and included dozens of religious processions ... some several blocks long, some in the middle of the night ... but all involving a large 'bier' (topped with religious figures) carried by up to 160 participants (men, women and even children.) But what made this celebration unique were the 'sawdust carpets' created and laid out along the processional route ... only to be trampled by the procession. Unbelievable pageantry with religious grandeur. The population of Antigua doubled during this week ... mainly by Central American tourists but also by visitors from around the globe. A remarkable trip for us. If you have an interest in this colorful trip read our newsletter, [Recollections of Guatemala](http://www.rozylowicz.com/newsletters/newsletters.html), accessible at <http://www.rozylowicz.com/newsletters/newsletters.html>. A sampling gallery of images from this trip is shown on the attached page.

Unlike previous years there was little interest in another international travel junket. Instead we opted for an extended 3-week sojourn exploring the American Southwest ... a trip summarized in another of our newsletters, [Peaks, Plateaus, and Canyons](http://www.rozylowicz.com/newsletters/newsletters.html), also accessible at our web site ... <http://www.rozylowicz.com/newsletters/newsletters.html>. This trip was amazing because of the time of year ... autumn: few people, dazzling fall colors, changing weather conditions ... but primarily for taking 'the least traveled road' through some magnificent back country in Colorado, Utah, Nevada, & Arizona ... including National Parks, ghost towns, and even Las Vegas ... see next page.

Well ... this year's news is modest and devoid of any extreme absurdity or misfortune ... just another quiet & uneventful year in our lives.

So much for the capsulated 2006 news (?) from this Rozylowicz family. We're settling into living the life of near-natives in New Mexico. The unusual is rapidly becoming usual for us. With the exception of Ed's two older brothers and cousin Laurentiu in Romania we had no contacts this year with other members of our large and extended family and have to assume that all is well with them. It is inevitable that time and distance ("out of sight is out of mind") and the hurried pace of today's living causes such separation ... we understand. Besides, we're so busy with planning tomorrow's adventures and concentrating on our many projects that such an omission is no longer a distraction. Time marches on and we're keeping lock step with a carefree and gratifying lifestyle. Life is GOOD!

Again, we wish all of you our best wishes for a peaceful and spiritual holiday. If time allows, we would love to receive any phone calls, letters, cards or e-mail (ed@rozylowicz.com) from you. Let us know what is happening in your family.

Love from "The Land of Enchantment" ... Dee and Ed

... Guatemala 2006 ...



... Southwest 2006 ...

