

# HAPPY NEW YEAR!

New Year's Eve, 1999

Dear Friends,

Our plans to spend several Christmas days with Norm's family in North Carolina changed when Norm developed a bad cold and Faridah came down with the flu two days before Christmas. So, we've had a quiet, laid-back week at home. Dave and Erin spent a couple of days with us once we were past the contagious stage. All in all, it has been a very relaxing time.

For friends who didn't hear from us last year: Faridah came to the US from Uganda nearly 10 years ago. We met her when she was 13 in 1996, stepped in as emergency temporary guardians in Sept. 1998, and became full-fledged legal guardians in January, 1999. She has adapted very well to the Keiser quirks, and we feel very fortunate to have her as part of our family.

Faridah is now 16 and a 10th grader at Oakwood Friends School. She puts in long hours studying and has earned nearly all "A"s in her classes. Norm followed her soccer team to as many games as he could. He watched her score many of her goals, including three in one game! Faridah is also an avid tennis player.

Norm's work with kids in jail and in legal trouble continues. He still likes the challenge, but finds that the kids he works with now come with much more baggage than before. He recently tried running again after a 14-month hiatus due to back problems. It went well, and he is now planning to buy a new pair of running shoes.

Peg's O.T. work continues. Sometimes it feels like it is sandwiched in between other activities, such as helping to organize the kids program (200 kids, 45 volunteer staff) for the annual New York Quaker gathering at Lake George, and her growing involvement in an Oakwood School parents group. In December, she accepted a nomination (and was selected) to be on the Oakwood Friends School board of managers.

Dave and Erin are in their fourth year of marriage and work as directors of the youth program at Powell House (Quaker conference center). They have decided that in August--the end of their fourth year--it will be time for them to move on to new adventures. Dave is still working on his '72 VW camper bus and has a growing interest in computer work. Erin has taken up quilting in her spare time and is making some BEAUTIFUL and artistic quilts.

We hope you are finding satisfaction and nourishment in your life;  
We wish you health and contentment in the new year.

Were you flying  
on New Year's Eve?  
If you have time sometime,  
I'd love to hear what's happening  
with you & the kids.

Love,  
Peggy & Norm  
e-mail: smudge@vh.net