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Dear

Seasons Greetings to you and your families. The festive season this year seems to have come around extra quick and we have not been as adventurous as previous years, which always helps the time to fly.

As you know, last summer 1 December 1990, we moved to our present address and our youngest son Robert and his lovely wife Paula arrived from America, two days before Xmas 1990. Fortunately the second house on our premises became vacant and they were able to move in and set up home for a very short 5 months. Due to the economic situation in Australia, particularly Melbourne, they were unable to find suitable work and decided to return to Baltimore where they returned to their previous employments. So the 4th June was a very sad day for John and I when we waved good-bye.

We are thrilled to announce that we are going to be grandparents again. Yes, our daughter Jeanette and her husband Michael are expecting their first child next June. They are having Xmas and New Year in America with Michael's parents, grandparents and extended families. Before going down to Sth Carolina, they are spending 4 days with Robert and Paula in Baltimore, lucky them.

Our other daughter Suzanne and her husband Ross have moved house yet again - they call it updating, let's hope it is the last. No need to move again as it is a beautiful home on 1 acre of land. Even their two cats are happier with the extra ground to scratch in.



John jnr. and his wife Merrilyn have had a busy year with the commitment of him being "In the Chair" of his Lodge and Merrilyn keeping the two little girls involved in their activities.

On August 20th we drove to Sydney via the coast (approx. 650 miles) staying a few nights with relatives and friends along the way, arriving at Camden (outskirts of Sydney) on 25th at our daughter and son-in-law's house. We spent 10 wonderful days with them in their lovely home, not forgetting lovable "Chester" the cocker-spaniel who runs the house!! Then we left Sydney for a 15 day South Pacific Coral Sea Cruise on the "Fairstar", which had 1,400 passengers on board.

The voyage up through the lovely waters of the Boulari-Havannah Passage, past scattered inlets and reefs was truly beautiful, then on to the tropical haven of "Vila" (Vanuatu) where the duty-free shopping was great. Next stop was an unforgettable day at beautiful Champagne Bay. Honestly you would consider giving up civilisation when you see the piece of heaven these natives have there. Then on to some history, tropical "Honiara" in the Solomons, once the savage battleground of Guadalcanal, now wreathed in jungle flowers with World War II tanks and fighters which rust peacefully away.

The port to follow was "Samarai Island", the tip of Papua New Guinea. We enjoyed the friendliness of the village people. Some of the crew off the ship had a friendly game of soccer against a local team and the ship boys were convincingly beaten. Snorkelling in this area was great. Then we turned for Aussie mainland and had a delightful day looking around "Townsville". Heading south, we anchored in a beautiful part of Queensland "The Whitsunday Islands" where we could visit Hamilton Island, explore the Great Barrier Reef and more - what marvellous memories. Arrived back in Melbourne end of September.

**Merry Christmas  
and a prosperous  
New Year to all**

John has mainly kept himself busy reorganising the gardens here and has them looking a picture. He has even started a vegie patch!!

The other memorable event of 1991 was our attendance of the stage show "Phantom of the Opera". The costumes and scenery superb.

We would like to wish you and yours a "Very Merry Christmas and A Very Happy New Year" with health, success and happiness.

Regards,

*John & Joan*