

**Mount Holyoke College Class of 1964**  
*After the Middle Ages Comes the Renaissance!*  
**Special Topics**

**From Gretchen Beck Green regarding  
hip fracture and trip aborted in Hong Kong**

How nice to hear from you, Priscilla. Yes, I broke my hip in Hong Kong on March 24. That's the bad news. The good news is, we were there to board Azamara "Quest", with 9 of our friends. The ship sailed on March 26 for The Philippines and Indonesia. A fire broke out in an engine room, and the rest was well-publicized all over the world! Thank goodness we were not on board. There was no a/c for a couple of days. Guests slept out on deck, etc. The cruise line has done an amazing job helping guests.

I did not have a hip replacement. I have 3 screws in the neck of my left femur. I spent 5 days in the hospital with heavy duty physical therapy starting less than 24 hours after the operation. Then I had 2 nights at the hotel before we were flown home. We had a Travel Guard policy which authorized us to fly Business Class in the seats that totally recline. I'd still be in Hong Kong, if we had not had that benefit!

I know many who have never taken out any kind of travel insurance policy. We only started maybe 3 yrs ago. Needing medical care in a foreign country is a huge eye-opener! Needing special transportation home was incredibly expensive.....\$18,062. for the two of us.....one-way! thank goodness for our annual policy which cost just under \$600. for both of us. I would love it, if my experience might help someone else!

Update June 6,2012: Sadly, although I progressed really well with home health rehab, when x-rays were taken, the surgeon noted that tissue between the ball and socket of the joint itself had not regenerated as well as hoped. I opted to have a total hip replacement, which took place on May 10. Today is the end of the fourth week of more rehab at home. I'm doing well and transitioning to a cane. This setback ruled out Asheville.....a real shame, as I know it will be a wonderful time!

Submitted by Gretchen Beck Green

Added: 6/8/12