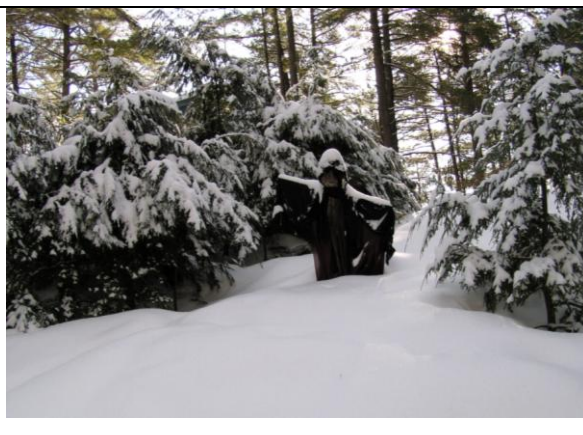


HOLIDAY GREETINGS 2003



Eagle Rock and Lake Beebe



The Witch of Hubbardton, Vermont

We have had two Nor'easters thus far in the last week. The trees are covered with snow, as are the roads, our house, the lake...in fact everything. Even the newspaper has not been delivered, but the mail does come through. In the morning, when we awake, we look through the snow flakes to see the scenery and take a hot tub.. It's not bad at all. We love it.

We had a fascinating year. We spent last January in Florida, where it was warm and wonderful, came back to Vermont for some skiing in February, returning to Florida on the 27th. Don played tennis the next morning. He tore his left quad tendon away from his patella just warming up...after hitting only three balls. He had surgery and spent six weeks in a cast, followed by six months of therapy. Mary escaped from our condo and sang in the Naples Bath and Tennis Club show and had a great time, while Don pouted when he wasn't playing bridge.

In June we visited David, Shelley, Owen, and Kyle in San Francisco and then flew to Seattle. We spent three days in Vancouver, took the ferry to Victoria, stayed at the Empress, visited Butchart Gardens for perhaps the 10th time, and drove 300 miles to Port Hardy at the top of Vancouver Island. We then took a 14 hour ferry thru the Inside Passage up to Prince Rupert, almost to Alaska. Slept overnight in our cabin, and returned the next day. Stayed two days at the wonderful Wickaninnish Inn on the west coast of the island, drove back to Victoria, and took a whale watching ferry back to Seattle. It was truly a memorable trip.

We spent the summer at Beebe Pond, most of our kids and grands came up to play. We addressed the Eurasian Milfoil in the lake with a chemical, it seems to be working, but the time it takes to write grants, test the waters, and organize is gigantic. Don played a great deal of tournament bridge and had a successful year garnering gold, red, silver, and black points. He does love to play in Canada.

We spent Halloween with Karla and family in North Carolina and in November Don returned to playing tennis and is 95%. After a wonderful November in Florida, basking in the warmth and sun, we returned to snowy Vermont. Don even went skiing last week before going to NYC for four days. We saw four shows, some with Amy and our grandson, Aleksey. Last Sunday we drove 7 ½ hours home through snow, sleet, and yuk. A drive like that strengthens the bonds of matrimony.

We wish you all a wonderful holiday season, and we look forward to most of our family coming to Vermont to enjoy the wonders of the season and the winter.

Don and Mary Sondergeld

Eagle Rock Estates
469 Birch Road
Hubbardton/Brandon VT 05733
802-273-2251

Naples Bath and Tennis Club
1518B Oyster Catcher Point
Naples, FL 34105
239-434-5840 <dsonder@shoreham.net>