

## COOL AUGUST!

Road Trip! We bugged out from Port Royal for August, and migrated to a cooler climate. I guess we're really "snowbirds". If you don't like the temps, change your latitude! We went north to visit Dick Davis, Mary's Dad, in upstate New York. He has a "camp" on the St. Lawrence and the "Thousand Islands"; it's a beautiful place to escape the heat in August!

While we were there, we made a side trip to Ottawa, seeing the sights. Canada is lovely in the summer, and their capitol city has many attractions.

Here's Mary and I in Major's Hill Park. The building behind us is the Canadian Mint.



We stayed in a five-star hotel, the Chateau Laurier in the center of Ottawa. Wow... what luxury!

The hotel is adjacent to the Ottawa Locks, a cascade leading from the Rideau Canal down to the Ottawa River.



Looking south, here's the Rideau Canal in downtown Ottawa; the canal and lock system was built after the War of 1812, so Canada could have a water transportation system to defend themselves against those nasty Americans.



Now, 180 years later, it's often U.S. recreational boats using it! Ha!

And, looking the other direction, here's the Ottawa Locks. The building on the right is the Chateau Laurier, our hotel!



The Canadians value their heritage, and continue to follow the British traditions. Here's the changing of the guard in front of Parliament.



We were doubly blessed on this trip. Our daughter Theresa joined us. She needed a break from "Hot-Lanta". A visit to Canada was just the thing!

And, it was a special time. Theresa is seven months along carrying our first grand-child! What a blessing to have a chance to share this visit with her!





Here's Theresa with our (future) grand-baby, in front of Parliament.

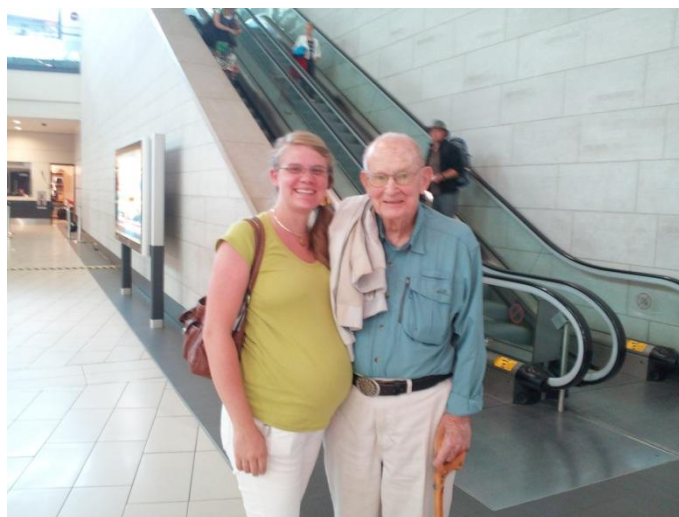
And, in front of the "local" Pub where we stopped for lunch.



The Parliament building and National Library are in a beautiful location, overlooking the Ottawa River. Here's Mary, with the view from Parliament shown in the background.

And finally, our ulterior motive. Picking up "Pops" at the Ottawa airport. Here's Theresa with her GrandDad!

You have to take care of your host. Dick was kind enough to share his home with us while we visited "the North Country".



Back at the Camp again, Mary enjoyed spending time with her sister Kay. Okay... Sister-in-Law. But Mary and Kay are closer than in-laws, more like Sisters. They enjoy the times they can spend together.



Here's more family photos. (below)  
Kannika, Joyce, and Kay.

Everyone is gathered because someone  
is having a SPECIAL BIRTHDAY!



Mary's Aunt Joyce is having a  
SURPRISE 80<sup>th</sup> BIRTHDAY PARTY !

Family has gathered from across the country;  
Kannika came all the way from California for  
this special event !



Here's Mary with her Aunt Joyce, her  
father Dick Davis, and her sister-in-  
law Kannika Davis.

Joyce in the center is the Birthday  
Girl. HAPPY 80<sup>th</sup>!





Work hard, play hard! It's time for some work. Dick needed a improvement to his dock, so it will be solidly anchored when the winter ice comes to upstate New York.

Hmmm... drill and bolt the dock into the granite bedrock? OK... I wore out this drill, and we finished the job by renting a commercial drill that was twice as big!

Welcome to the Canadian Shield!

Mary and Kay worked hard too... on a quilt for Baby Elijah.

A "Brandywine River" quilt, named after the river in "The Hobbit"

And, play hard...

While we were in New York, we toured the "Thousand Islands".



I didn't bring a boat this time, but Uncle Sam Boat Tours filled the bill.

We went around several hundred of the Thousand Islands, back and forth across the international border, with a final stop at Boldt Castle on Heart Island.



Mary and I each took pictures of each other, during the Thousand Islands tour. We love the river. We love being on the water. And, we love each other!

Hey... now I remember... it's Theresa's BIRTHDAY !

Theresa is expecting "Eli" in a couple of months; so she's having a birthday, and will soon be creating a birthday! Wow!





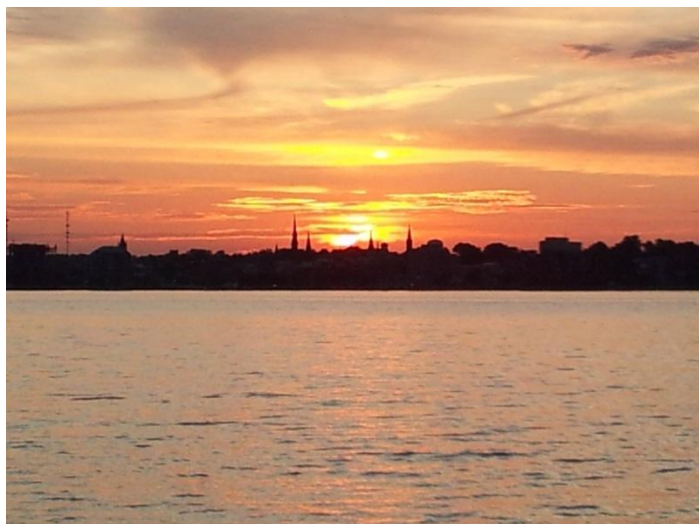


Summer visits at the “River” have always been special for our family.

It’s a magical place.

It has a special beauty with the St. Lawrence river and the backdrop of Brockville Ontario to the west.

THANK YOU, “Pops”, for sharing this with us!





Time to go. The boat and all of it's "projects" awaits, back at the marina. ROAD TRIP!  
Heading back... but taking the scenic route.

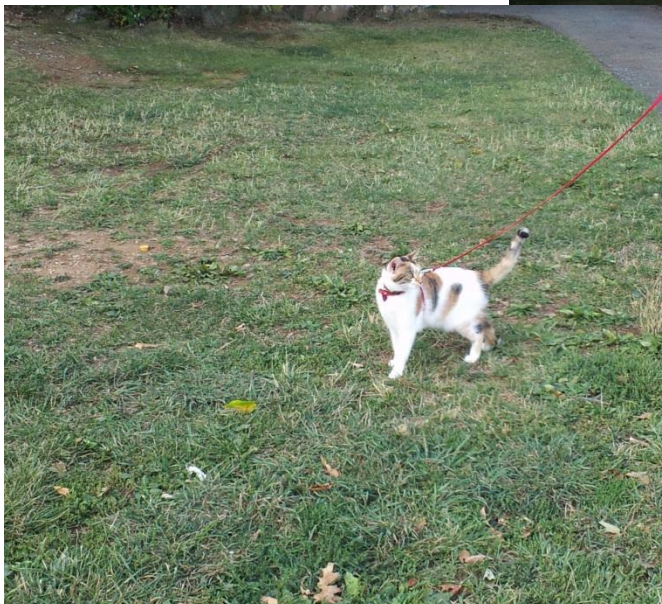
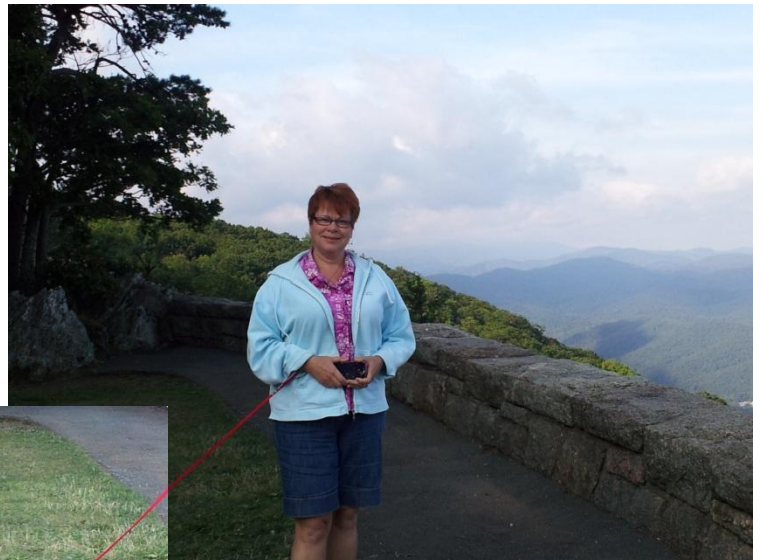


We drive a section of the Blue Ridge Parkway in the Great Smokey Mountains.

Virginia is beautiful. We make frequent stops to enjoy the view and learn about the history of the area.

The scenery is magnificent. The road twists and turns so it's slow going... but always remember, the joy is in the journey, not the destination!

Even "Skipper" likes the view!





Finally home again. Sleeping in our own bunk on our own boat. Being rocked to sleep by the wakes from the passing powerboats. (Hey!).

In closing, a final photo from the Fourth of July.

I went to West Marine and bought the biggest flag they had, five foot long, and hoisted it on the backstay for Independence Day.

Anything really worth doing, is worth over-doing! (Smile!).



...Roy & Mary  
S/V "Gideon"

P.S. I ended our last update with a goal... to leave and head "south" by November 1<sup>st</sup>.

THAT'S STILL THE GOAL! Lots of work... Lots of preparations to do!