

Dalys Zoom Toward Connection



Zooming in to gather virtually are, top row from left: John Rothfield, LuAnne and Clara-Sophia Daly in Sonoma, Calif.; Deirdre Daly and Mike Rooney in Longmont, Colo.; Sean and Anne Daly in Barrington, R.I.; and Annie Daly and Rahul Khosla in Brooklyn, N.Y. Second row, from left: David, Jeanne and Kate Paradis in Boulder, Colo.; Matt Paradis and his new puppy Stevie in Arvada, Colo.; Maddie, Rosie, Meredith and Matthew Daly in Silver Spring, Md.; and Ciara, 8, Corbett, Aodhan, 10, and Lucy Daly, 11, on lap of Tunay Kuru in Washington, D.C. Third row, from left: Meg Daly, helping Santa from Boston; Julie Rasicot, Emily, Brendan, and Natalie Daly in Silver Spring; and Maura Daly and Howard Lykins in Germantown, Md.

Clan Tries to Stay Positive, Test Negative

WASHINGTON, D.C. — All these years later, 105 so far and counting, and still the GREETING reporter gets a tingle of genuine joy as he wends his way around the country keeping up with the doings of the peripatetic Daly clan.

But during this year just past, which shall forever be remembered as the 2020 dumpster fire, all the traveling was tainted by disease and death on a scale thankfully not experienced since the last pandemic occurred, shortly after the birth of this family newspaper back in 1916.

Now, in a land badly broken by unimaginable calamity and political polarization, the aging GREETING scribe still found room to be grateful that the clan for the most part remained healthy — even LuAnne, John and Clara who lost their Northern Califor-

nia home in a tragic wildfire. Shaken but not shattered by a year unlike any other, the Dalys have done their best to keep to themselves and keep their social distance, even when doing so ran counter to their gregarious instincts to hug and to hover.

As the younger set returned to virtual school and the older set adjusted to working from home, the clan discovered that Netflix and even Scrabble have their limitations. Walks, playing tennis, takeout dinners, and long bike rides are wonderful, but we all want a return to normalcy. The election of a new president and distribution of effective vaccines against the coronavirus help allay some of the palpable fear and provide hope to many.

The Dalys are bustin' their buttons with pride over their own frontline health care work-

ers: Dr. Tunay Kuru, a pulmonologist at Georgetown University Hospital in D.C., and Mike Rooney, a cardiovascular specialist at Boulder Community Hospital in Colorado.

The grizzled GREETING scribe soon realized that in our modern world, he could interview multiple family members with one Zoom call. So, there they all were: dozens of Dalys checking in with each other from all over — kin in D.C., Maryland, Rhode Island, Colorado, and California connected electronically. The cacophony was contagious. So much for peace and quiet.

They talked about Emily and Clara-Sophia graduating virtually from William & Mary and Skidmore, respectively. Emily is now getting her master's in education at W&M en route to becoming an elementary school

teacher, while Clara-Sophia has caught the clan's journalistic bug and is reporting for Mission Local in San Francisco and for Berkeley-based KPFA radio.

After traveling the globe in 2019 to report on her first book, Annie hunkered down during quarantine with her husband Rahul Khosla and wrote *Destination Wellness*, an around-the-world guide to better living, which will be published in April.

But even as the warm feelings of familial fellowship wiggled their way around the Internet, the time came for the aging reporter to share a virtual hug with Miss Dana, both hoisting a mug of holiday eggnog, allegedly from a recipe by Martha Washington. The sentimental scribe toasted one and all, hoping that all GREETING subscribers stay safe and healthy in the New Year!

LuAnne and John to Rebuild After Devastating Wildfire

SANTA ROSA, CALIF. — For more than 20 years, the GREETING reporter has made his familiar trek up the mountains and through the forests to visit LuAnne, John and Clara-Sophia at their Santa Rosa A-frame. But this year, the grizzled scribe found the bridge over the family's creek burned down and six feet of ashes where once stood their beautiful home.

The Glass Fire whipped through here in late September. The winds changed suddenly, and the family had only 20 minutes to pack and leave, so they

lost nearly everything.

Several months later, LuAnne and John are cozy in an Airbnb in the quaint town of Sonoma. Now, visions of architectural delights dance in their heads as they picture a 21st century energy-efficient home they hope to build in a few years.

They are thankful to be alive and well, and they asked the reporter to pass on their deep appreciation for the outpouring of love and support from so many family members and friends. They want everyone to know

that the world is experiencing climate change in real time, and that being a climate change refugee is both real and heartbreaking. They hope that perhaps a modern-day Civilian Conservation Corps can be resurrected to help manage the forests and prevent future devastating wildfires.

Gratitude Galore

REHOBOTH BEACH, DEL.—Ginny Daly and her husband Pierce Quinlan report that they are humbled and grateful for the expressions of love and support dur-

ing their medical trials of the last two years. GinQuin were overjoyed to receive everything from texts and calls to wine and song.

To update: Pierce is on the upswing after magnificently handling his right foot and leg amputations with his usual upbeat attitude. On his horizon: walking again with his new prosthesis and driving with hand controls. Not to be outdone, Ginny's three-year trio of surgeries for breast cancer, shoulder replacement and a twisted appendix are blessedly in the rearview mirror.

The Daly Greeting

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THE GREETING is an institution will always champion the right, as it sees fit, fight for the ideals of humanity, particularly family life, further the cause of good fellowship, rekindle the fires of patriotism, uplift the fallen — if any — down the demi-gods and demi-johns, act as pulmoto to the heartbeats and respiratory organs of friendship, never swerve from the paths of honesty, integrity, of faith, hope and charity, so long as its owners are able to hold a pen, wield a pencil, wallop a typewriter, fathom a word processor, fax a fax, work the wonders of the world wide web, tweet on Twitter, type a text or update their status on Facebook. And that's that!

In Memoriam

THE GREETING staff grieves the loss and celebrates the lives of two family stalwarts who passed away in 2020, neither of COVID.

Jeanette Levinson Carlson, a.k.a. Granny, a.k.a. Beah, was the beloved mother of Meredith and her three siblings. An anti-apartheid activist, Jeanette, 91, and her late husband Joel fought against the racist government in their native South Africa. We will miss her joyful and formidable presence, as well as her unbeatable skills at crosswords and jigsaw puzzles and strong-willed passion to carry forward a more just world to her children and grandchildren.

Bert Paradis was a successful business owner and philanthropist in Louisville, Ky. He was the patriarch of a large and loving family, including David and 9 other children, 20 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren. He lived from the spring of 1920 to the winter of 2020 — 100 lively years. We will miss his warmth and generosity.



PHOTO BY KRISTEN FINN

Wet Wedding

CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA. — Not even a worldwide pandemic could stop Tom Daly and Jessica Manly from saying “I do!” The high-water mark of their 2020 was clear: It came on October 10 at their “wetting” in the Rivanna River. Laughter flowed in the high tide of love between the newlyweds. Tom is still finding ways to visually document weddings amid the pandemic and Jess continues her work advocating for young farmers. Huzzahs were heard from the heavens at the union of these spirited souls!