

A Holiday Letter from Ana & Joyce - December 2005

*This year we spent much of the year with our friends at the theater.
Read on to find out what those and our other activities were.*



— Another year, another auto show. We saw lots of cars to put on our wish list. Here Joyce admires a Lexus convertible.



— Our first show of the year was the Junior Production of "Seussical the Musical" in which Joyce played 4 different roles: a lion, a zebra, a fish, and a hunch. I was the Props Mistress.



— Rehearsals started in January and performances ended in March. At left is Joyce in one of her four costumes, two of which I made (this was one of the two). Also, we weren't in it, but we knew some folks who performed in "Sweeney Todd." Had to see it!



— We took a much needed vacation; we went to Texas to spend quality time with my Dad, Joyce's Grandpa. Below Joyce is making friends with a baby longhorn, while the bull (with 10 feet of horns!) looks on. We also went to the Houston Aquarium and to the NASA Space Center.



— Our dear friends Veda & Yochanan had their second child. Their first is my godson, and their little girl was named after me; her name is my Hebrew name, Channah. I started performing at the local melodrama theater where I performed as the heroine's mom, as well as sang and danced in the vaudeville. I also had a solo performance singing "Begin the Beguine." I continued singing alto with the HP Choir, and I sang a special during that concert season, also "Beguine." Well I learned it, so why not! Other shows we saw and were not in, "Last Night of Ballyhoo," "42nd Street," "Zombie Prom" and "Cats."



— As if melodrama wasn't enough theatrical activity, we worked spotlights at another theater where they were performing "Pajama Game." We also attended a live performance by the actor/comedian Kevin Pollak at the local comedy club. Since I went to school with Kevin nearly 30 years ago, I wanted to introduce Joyce to him. He's just as funny as he ever was. We got his autograph, and he mentioned Joyce prominently in his act. It was all very fun and very exciting for Joyce! Her first brush with celebrity that she can remember. (She doesn't remember meeting football star Roger Craig when she was a year old.)

[Pretty exciting stuff so far, right? Turn the page over for the second half of the year.]

And if you want to see even more pictures, check out the website ([URL](http://www.flamingeaux.com/2005/), below) and read all the details.]

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— Performances of the melodrama ended in July. At right, I can be seen crooning to the audience, "... when they begin the Beguine." I also began a term as secretary on the board at the theater where we do most of our performing and working backstage. We also saw friends performing in "Flower Drum Song," "Brigadoon" and "Young Billy."



— Rehearsals began for the HP Choir's winter concert season. I am singing tenor this time, since there are so many altos, and so few tenors in the Choir. We both stepped in at the last minute to help out on "Sound of Music" at our theater, again as Props Mistress, and with Joyce working backstage.



— I began in earnest in rehearsals for "42nd Street" for the alumni drama group at my high school, The Pioneer Mustangs' Glue Factory. The HP Choir performed at the Cupertino Jubilee (50 years!) Art & Wine Festival.



— We couldn't go anywhere for our birthday, since we were in rehearsals and performances for both shows, but we had a combined cast/birthday party with our theater friends. After all, this was Joyce's Sweet 16! The HP Choir performed at the funeral service of their retired CEO, Lew Platt, which was held at Stanford University's Memorial Chapel, a tremendous cathedral with phenomenal acoustics. "42nd Street" had 4 performances at the end of the month, which was a terrific fund raiser, selling out the house every night! As a new-bee, I didn't get any speaking parts, but I got to be part of the "Shuffle off to Buffalo" number and got some prime face time in one of the train cars.



— As soon as "42nd Street" closed, we were teching backstage for "City of Angels". So many of our friends were on stage or backstage, we just had to be a part of it! No more performing for me for awhile. Now I'll be the producer of next year's Junior production, "Anne of Green Gables." I got to go to a fund raiser at the 49ers Locker Room and saw several current and retired players. I even got to meet the legends Jessie Sapolu and Ray Wersching!



— The HP Choir had their Christmas season performances, and got interviewed by the local paper, myself included, since I also sang a special, "Santa Baby." The article made national notoriety when Jay Leno made fun of our cover photo on his show! The segment was entitled Bizarre Christmas Musicians. We went to see friends in "Tafettas Christmas," "Into the Woods" and "My Way" which is a tribute to Frank Sinatra. We have plans to finally get to Disneyland for the 50th Anniversary celebration. We've wanted to go all year, and now we can!



We hope that each and every one of you who reads this letter is healthy and happy. We are both so blessed in so many ways. We wish you all the very best in 2006!!