

WILLIAMS' HOLIDAY LETTER – 2009

So here's the update for the Williams gals for this past year.

JANUARY –Joyce & I were again co-producers of the Junior Show at our theatre, Sunnyvale Community Players. The production this year was ***Once On This Island***, and we had 26 kids in the cast.

FEBRUARY – ***Island*** opened right after Valentines, but with the downturn in the economy, the audiences were not as full as in the past, nor as full as we'd like to have for financial reasons. But those who did come to see the kids were at least appreciative.

MARCH – After ***Island*** closed, we lost our vocal director and dear friend "Mom" who was a major voice in the decision to cast Joyce in her very first show way back in 2000, ***The Wizard of Oz***. Yes, we've stayed close with Mom and others from that first show to this day. Our theatre "family" is very much a part of our lives.



the park!

APRIL – Just when we thought we were going to get a break from working regularly on a show, Joyce & I got cajoled into helping backstage on ***Kiss Me Kate***. It was fun, but two shows in a row, plus working full time, takes a lot more out of us as we get older!!

Joyce got to attend draft day for our fabulous Forty-Niners! Just another season ticket holder perk. What an awesome experience she had. She was sorry when it was time to leave to go to work. Little did any of us know at the



Rice film the ESPN Homecoming show. We were two of about 1000 screaming fans who packed the Great America theatre in Santa Clara. Can we say awesome!!! We were about 10 feet away from him when we took this picture.

JUNE – 35 years ago I played my French Horn in the orchestra pit of my Junior High School's production of ***Bye Bye Birdie***. At that time I dreamed of playing the role of Mae Peterson some day. Well some day finally came! I auditioned and won the role in a local production, which performed in Sept.

JULY – Joyce was rehired when TGI Friday's reopened, only now she is a server, not a hostess. We love it that our favorite post-show destination is now available again.

I caught up with old friends from high school – Joe, whom I haven't seen in over 30 years, and Kermit, whom I haven't seen in about 5 years. We spent a delightful afternoon reminiscing, and since Kermit owns a nursery in the area, I took my mom over to visit and wander the grounds on a sunshine-y Saturday afternoon. Delightful!

time, when she was there to witness Michael Crabtree's draft, all the drama that would follow.

MAY – We continued backstage on ***Kate***, and closed the show and struck the set on Mothers Day, now our theatre tradition. Then we got to attend another special 49er season ticket holder event – we saw Jerry



AUGUST – 49er Football began with a winning game; we hoped the streak would continue throughout the season.



SEPTEMBER – My performances in *Bye Bye Birdie* were fun and well-received. One of our theatre/director friends paid me the ultimate compliment - - he said that I ‘really need to do this more often!’ Oh if only work didn’t get in the way of ‘play!’

Right after *Birdie* was done, I started rehearsals for *The Wiz* with my high school alumni troupe, The Glue Factory (all us old Mustangs). Performances for that were one weekend late in October.

OCTOBER – We spent our birthday on a day-trip to San Francisco, just to be tourists (which we never get to do). We took rapid transit up (cheaper than parking!) had lunch at the Hard Rock at Pier 39, and watched the Blue Angels doing fly-overs in preparation for Fleet Week activities that weekend. For dinner, we met a few friends for dinner at Fridays, then went to see the movie *Couples Retreat*. It was a long but a lovely day!

The Wiz opened and closed, and we had full houses every night! It was a fun show with great music, and everyone enjoyed performing and watching.

I spent 17 hours making Joyce’s costume for Halloween. As you can see, she’s Tink, but on the darker side of the usual color scheme (both hair and dress.) She wore the costume to work where it was well received by all.



NOVEMBER – When we’re not watching the 49ers, we like to catch another local sports team, the San Jose Sharks!

I got to go to two games this season, because an HP Choir friend and I each won the lottery at work where they give away two tickets to the games (HP owns the naming rights to the Pavilion, “the Shark tank” where they play.) [Joyce was in Disneyland for the game that I won, or I would have taken her.]

For Thanksgiving, Joyce worked the turkey-shift at Fridays, and I joined my mom for late dinner at our other favorite restaurant.

DECEMBER – We held auditions for the next Sunnyvale Community Players production, which will be *High School Musical 2*. Joyce was going to co-produce again, but the director asked her to audition! Of course, she was cast in the show.

Our HP Choir performances were lightly attended, but those that came were very appreciative. I sang 6 songs with the whole choir, then had two solos, participated in a duet, and was a part of an a capella octet. It seemed like I never stopped singing (I didn’t!)

Janet and Joel moved into their own place right after Thanksgiving, so Joyce and I are living on our own again for the first time since 1996. It will be a major transition, but we’ll make it work.

Joyce and I wish you the Blessings of the Season!
We hope that your holidays are filled with special times,
with special people, and that you make special memories
to last a lifetime!!

