

Happy New Year from the Cincinnati/Fremont Longs! May you be showered with blessings all 2015 long!



[We're sticking with the "go green" approach by sending these greetings electronically. Please read on if you want some 2014 family highlights..... or just move on to your next email and know that we're thinking of you as we start 2015! ☺]

Family overall

- We enjoyed a year with all four of us in Cincinnati (through August,) with plenty of time watching football, baseball and other sports plus playing ping pong and church softball on a regular basis
- We continue to appreciate reunions and gatherings with immediate and extended family members. This year included trips for the Wiley reunion, a family wedding in Atlanta plus a Cline reunion week at Norris Lake, Tennessee (it was great to have the boat there for all of the water activities)
- Had a nice Christmas holiday night out – dinner at The Anchor (picture above) and Zoo Lights
- Established the Long Libation League. We taste small quantities (an important aspect of our league!) of craft beers and rate them. The winners for this year are at our webpage [here](#)
- Kim and Steve stay busy with regular activities as a couple including regular neighborhood walks, our "Bookies" spiritual group, ushering plays plus travel (including a 17-day trip to Oregon, Washington, BC, Alberta, Montana - beautiful areas, especially the Canadian Rockies)

Kim

- Forest-Aires women's chorus takes plenty of her time, and she's back in leadership
- Participates in a women's book group on a monthly basis – great books and conversation
- Traveled to visit her parents with her sister more regularly (their mom is dealing with early onset Alz.)
- Bell ringing continues with regular participation in worship
- Still working at the American Cancer Society resale shop
- Video production efforts continue – lots of great family video now "up on the cloud"
- Has thriving, beautiful gardens for flowers and vegetables
- LOVES her Kindle – she's totally enjoying this gift, especially Amazon Prime
- Values time with the boys -- watching sports and cooking shows with Sam and playing cards and watching sports with Cliff

Steve

- Enjoying “mostly retired” status from billable consulting work; made “big money” as an extra in the movie Carol, filmed in Cincinnati – even got to drive a ’46 Packard!
- Helping others make, capture, share & organize memories (www.LongMemories.info) has been great. For “proof of concept,” Steve spent time developing his personal website: <http://www.SteveLong.LongMemories.info>
- Made public an idea – [Christian Playbook](#) – that he started years back. This is now a [website](#) with lots of helpful Christian materials and you can sign up for a periodic email (1-3 per week) by [clicking here](#)
- Created and shared an [Advent Reflection](#) ([click here to see/hear the 15 minutes with photos](#)) [our church has one member do this each week as part of Advent Sunday worship]
- Enjoys playing the guitar and worshipping with several “congregations” including our home church, a local senior living facility plus county jail locations. Also organized some church guys as Joyful Noise Boys - playing and singing in member/friend’s homes and care facilities
- Appreciates weekly hallway singing opportunities (background music) at a local hospice in-patient unit
- Loves opportunities to gather with individuals and men’s groups at local eateries and coffee shops
- Enjoys kayaking and biking, especially around the Little Miami River and East Fork Lake
- His low-intensity gardening efforts continue to be fun
- Loves time with the boys playing ping-pong, pool, watching sports and just relaxing

Cliff

- Great year with Cincinnati Insurance Company as a Software Developer, with a promotion to show for it
- Still getting over for dinner with the family 3-4 times a month
- He and Katie have been dating for over three years now
- So happy to have Katie living in Cincinnati now, even if her apartment is 25 minutes away from his
- Continues enjoying gaming online with friends and sports-watching, plus a weekly trivia contest where their group has won on several occasions
- Having fun playing Ultimate Frisbee during the warmer months
- Plays a mean game of ping-pong
- Enjoyed playing softball with Steve and Sam on the church team again during the summer
- Now has his own kilt and attended a Renaissance Festival in our area in it
- Attended Sonata Arctica concert and loves this type of music

Sam

- Landed a full-time teaching job for 8th grade math/social studies, joining his Aunt Mindy and Uncle Mark in the Fremont, OH school district’s teaching ranks
- He moved into a nice 2 bedroom place with a garage (nice during the winter!)
- Has met a great group of Fremont teachers, with weekly Friday afternoon “de-brief” events at The Depot pizza place a wonderful way to start the weekend
- Subbed in schools for the first half of 2014 and then worked in a beer/wine place for the summer, turning his beer/wine interests into a money-making enterprise
- Joined Ft. Thomas First Presbyterian Church and sang in the choir and taught kids church school
- Uses weights and creating mayhem in the kitchen as two healthy stress relievers after long days teaching
- Loves disc golf, church softball, and working out

We’d love to hear of what the past year has brought to you and your upcoming activities. Please email, call or stop on by when you have a chance!

We wish you and yours all of the peace and love that Christ shared! With much love,

The Longs – *Steve, Kim, Cliff & Sam*

P.S. If you’re interested, [click here](#) for some highlight photos

P.S.S. Some good humor can be found by putting “steve long memories funnies” in your favorite search engine