



Happy Holidays

The season is now upon us. That means snow, cold, Covid, flu, RSV, parties, good friends, good food & drinks and let us not forgets good **CHOCOLATES**.

We have much to be thankful for this year. Diana, Erik and Lauren will all be with us for the holidays. Mark was able to pull off 8 open house events with great bands, food and beverages (enough to go around) with the help of his wonderful wife, Laurel and fantastic neighbor, Deanna Miller. Oh, and one of our emancipated Swiss slaves, Andrew, and his lovely girlfriend Yaël got roped into helping a couple of times too. As to our 2023 schedule, that is still under negotiations with the workers union leadership, a.k.a. the wife. Keep checking our website for schedule updates or Mark's sudden demise.

<http://www.glewwe-castle.com/sales/upcoming-events.html>



Mark continues to work at Collins Aerospace but is talking about retiring in 2023. He claims there are a lot of beers and wines he would still like to try brewing.

As for Laurel she has been busy as treasurer for SD 54, washing bottles and nagging Mark. She does enjoy visiting with all our customers that find us during our Saturday business hours in the summer and during our open house events, the farmer markets and those special events like the Credit River Antique Show in July at the Cedar Lake Regional Park.

News on the children...Diana is still living in North Chicago working on importing many of the items you may have purchased at local stores. During the pandemic she has been busy with stain glass projects, painting, crocheting and LARP gaming. *(By the way, did you notice the ears??)*





Erik and Lauren have two additions to their home. Diana gave them an early Christmas present of two little kittens: Denny Crane and Mirabel. Denny Crane is a terror getting into everything while Mirabel just wants to cuddle and purr. Erik and Lauren also remodeled their kitchen with the assistance of Lauren's

father. The finished project looks great. Way to go kids! Our understanding is Erik did not do much other than staying out of the way. Way to go Lauren!

Neighborhood Flash...Between Panama Avenue and Mushtown Road we have neighbors moving to other locales. We are saddened by the loss of such wonderful neighbors and we have very fond memories of good times past. BUT we have met some of the new neighbors and they are GREAT. They even passed Laurel's strict criteria. We met many at the Fourth of July Party and the Neighborhood Block Party. And now there is a scheduled Cookie Exchange gathering just in time for Christmas. Wahoo! Cookies! Whoever said living in the country is boring just does not know our neighborhood.

It has been a good year and hope this finds you and your family together for the holidays, healthy, and enjoying the many blessings the season has to bring.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

Mark and Laurel

PS You can tell we are getting older. You are reading this in font size 14.

Laurel started with size 18, but Mark is living in a fantasy and reduced it to 14. As Laurel's mother would say, "*getting old is not for the faint of heart*".