



February 24, 2011

Dear

The graphics above described the scene outdoors as I write this letter, although not actively snowing.

In December I was editing a 600-page book, *Musa Dagh Girl: Daughter of Armenian Genocide Survivors*, for a church friend, Virginia Apelian, to a December 31 deadline. It was a rush project that then went to a January 5 extension and was returned with corrections Feb. 2 to the graphics specialist in OR who performed final formatting and insertion of 319 photos. The final approval of the cover went to Xulon Press yesterday.

All of this is to say that I sent Christmas cards up to the letter "R" in my address book and then had to stop to buy gifts and perform with the Chorale and chorus with which I still sing. But do not feel shortchanged. Although I did not wish you "Happy Holidays" and "Happy New Year" in a timely manner, I can give you news that I was sworn to secrecy to not reveal at Christmas.

Chuck and Minerva are expecting fraternal twins in around July 17. They have been hoping for children the almost five years they have been married; you can imagine how delighted they are now! These will be our first grandchildren. Minerva has been doing great so far with the pregnancy, but is now on long-term disability due to some increase in MS symptoms last fall and she no longer drives. She did not have an exacerbation in terms of new MS patches on her brain or her spinal cord, but existing spots had become a bit more sensitive.

Despite the economy, I decided to retire fully on Dec. 31 from OneWorld where I had worked for 12 years. The company held a combined Christmas/Retirement party at Galapagos Art Space in Brooklyn, at the end of the Brooklyn Bridge. It was a great occasion with catered food, free bar, two comics, music, small Christmas bonuses for all, and kind words for me and another person who had resigned for better employment.

Shavaun's cat Nino encountered a neighborhood cat on Feb. 9 with disastrous consequences. The first vet visit was Feb. 10. He was not walking or eating or drinking. Our nursing was insufficient and on Feb. 16 he returned to the vet with 103.8 degree temp., had surgery the next day on three massive abscesses on his back that felt to the touch like a waterbed, and stayed on IVs until we bailed him out on Monday. He has a shaved patch the size of New England either size of his spine. Now he is walking and eating and drinking. He wants to go out – but fat chance of that.

We wish you all increased prosperity in the 2011 and fun times with friends and relatives.

Love,