

Prettig Kerstdagen en een gelukkig nieuwe jaar van Hugh en Becky



Our Christmas tradition has been to bring along four stuffed reindeer on our holiday. United Airlines have even given them each wings!

Someday we'll make a book on their adventures, and we don't guarantee we won't show it to you!

What a full year 2013 has been.

Wonderful highs and sad lows, luckily more highs than lows.

After completing his first three year period at the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), Hugh decided, with support from all involved, to continue working there. It could be a short as another year but more likely another three or four years

All this comes at a critical time in the OPCW's history. The UN mission to investigate alleged use of chemical weapons in Syria resulted in the first ever inspection that included sampling and analysis actions by the OPCW. While

Becky's mom passed away in early November, just about a year after her father died. Her health had declined steadily since May, and her passing was

We are still enjoying traveling. We had more travel in the USA than normal this year. Becky was able to visit her mom three times in 2013, spending a little over two months with her. Hugh worked for three weeks in California and enjoyed seeing colleagues and "sleeping around" at friends' homes.

The most fun we had in the USA was watching the America's Cup races on our home sailing waters, the San Francisco Bay. They called it auditorium sailing, and was it ever. We could watch the boats get up and foil. We are so glad that Bruce and Sue rented the apartment in the city for a week. Few people ever thought the races would last as long as they did, with Oracle coming back from 8 races down. For the final races, Hugh was back in The Netherlands, Becky was in Arizona, visiting Mom, Bruce played hooky from

Hugh and his direct staff never traveled to Syria (Thank God!) they were very involved in the analysis portion of the process.

In October it was announced the 2013 Nobel Peace Prize was to be awarded to the OPCW for its extensive efforts to eliminate chemical weapons. So not just Hugh won the prize. This was a surprise announcement, extremely pleasant but still a surprise. On December 10, the prize was awarded in Oslo, Sweden. No, Hugh was not there.

peaceful with Becky's sister Peggy at her side. The family gathered in Tucson, Arizona for a memorial service the weekend before Thanksgiving.

work and he and Sue were at the "America's Cup Park" but we were all



talking together when we celebrated Team USA's nail-biter of a win over the worthy opponents, Team New Zealand.

RUSH READ

- Still living in The Netherlands
- Both healthy and happy
- Still doing a lot of traveling
- Becky's Mom passed away
- Hugh won the Nobel Peace Prize. Yeah, he really did!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

Hugh Gregg & Becky Failor

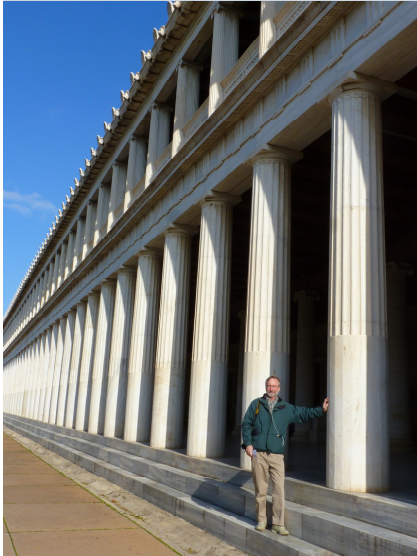


Hugh's 15 minutes (1 minute?) of fame ... <http://goo.gl/PNr6y4> (Hugh's part starts at 3.5 min)

Hugh interviewed by CNN

Watching the America's Cup races on our home sailing waters in the San Francisco bay

We continue to enjoy travelling and sightseeing



Hugh "supporting" Greek antiquities



We celebrated last Christmas in Greece. Places like Mycenae and the Acropolis makes the 400 to 1000 year history in The Netherlands look young.

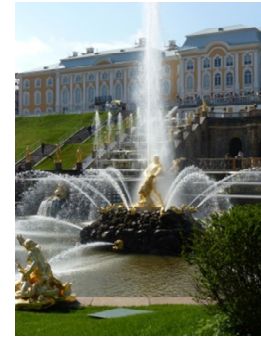
Becky continues to lead tours for the American Women's Club. This year that included

- Den Bosch and Zaanse Schans in The Netherlands
- Brussels, Belgium
- Nice, France
- Riga, Latvia
- Munster, Germany
- Granada, Spain
- Edinburgh, Scotland (photo)



Hugh was only able to join in on the Granada and Edinburgh trip. Luckily he was on the Granada trip because Becky had to fly suddenly to the USA and Hugh lead the tour.

We enjoyed a tour of St Petersburg



Russia. The times of the tzars have been remembered and the splendor of the Hermitage Museum and their palaces reinstated as

tourist sites. And what splendor they contain.



Hermitage museum



Al'Hambra in Granada

Road trip!



Hugh wanted something other than cities filled with museums for our summer holiday. Iceland could not have been a better choice. It is the only place on earth with glaciers over volcanos. And waterfalls, Icelandic



horses, WIDE OPEN spaces (Iceland is 17 times larger than The Netherlands, has a population of 330,000

compared to 17 million with about 200,000 residents concentrated in the Reykjavik metro area. So very few people in the rest of the countryside. We loved the beautiful waterfalls. We

have a lot of water in The Netherlands but to have waterfalls you have to have hills which we don't really have.

visits – so WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?

Hugh & Becky

So as you can tell, it has been quite a year. We are looking forward to 2014. Becky turns 60 and has told Hugh to "splash the cash" – OH NO! Work will continue to be challenging for Hugh and the travels will continue. We have plenty of space and time for your