



Happy New Year, 2015

from Jaye & Chuck

I guess before we get too far into the new year, and all the things to happen this year, whatever they may be, I'd better get a quick recap of last year! I hope everyone had a very calm and relaxing holiday season this year. We stayed close to home for

Christmas and made a quick run down to Kansas City on New Year's Eve, but were still home and in bed before the clock struck midnight! Following is a quick recap, month by month of 2014 for Jaye and Chuck!

January - Chilly and snowy - nothing out of the ordinary - typical Kansas January.

February - The month started out really snowy, well above normal. The snow had barely settled and Chuck flew off to Memphis for a three day Extension leadership workshop. Fortunately it didn't snow while he was gone so Jaye didn't have to shovel any snow!

March - We took two long weekends to go to Omaha. The first one in mid March was to start helping Chuck's Mom, Ardell, to clean up her apartment and to take her out to see the Sandhill Cranes along the Platte River. She hadn't been out to see them for several years and we wanted to get her out to see the cranes one more time. Then the end of March we moved Ardell from an independent living facility to an assisted living facility. At 96 she was starting to show signs of memory slippage and we wanted to get her into a secure facility with more help. We were fortunate to have found a wonderful facility not far from where she was living and feel fortunate for the great help and assistance that they are providing her. It was very emotional to have to move her, but very necessary.

April - Things got really crazy starting in April. Chuck is back on the National Association of County Agricultural Agents board (through July of 2015) as policy committee chair. The NACAA spring board meeting was held in Portland Maine. We were there for another meeting in June of 2007 so it was fun to get back to the area! Good meetings, great company and lots of wonderful seafood. Not to mention a little bit of birdwatching as well! We returned from Maine and went right into helping host the Kansas Birding Festival the last weekend in April. And a quick visit with grad school buddy Billy Bridges from South Carolina

May - The madness continues - the first weekend in May Jaye and Chuck hosted the annual spring field trip of the Kansas Ornithological Society in Junction City. Approximately 50 birders spent the weekend in the area birding, socializing, and just basically having fun! Then over Memorial Day weekend it was back to Nebraska, only this time back to Polk for the Alumni gathering of Polk High School. It was Chuck's 40th year and we had a pretty decent turnout of the "old" class of 1974. Chuck's sister Ann accompanied us and everyone had a good time!

June - A chance to catch our breath, sort of. Fred and Debbie (North Carolina co-horts in fun!) paid a visit to Kansas! Debbie had meetings in Kansas City so they arrived early and came out to spend a couple of days in the Flint Hills! Right after that an impromptu visit with the Kavans from Michigan who were visiting their son on Ft Riley! Chuck spent his annual 4 days and 3 nights at 4-H camp at Rock Springs and there were a couple of breeding bird surveys thrown in there someplace as well!

July - NACAA annual meeting and professional improvement conference was held in Mobile, Alabama. We arrived early and stayed late so Chuck could be at the national board meetings before and after the conference. We had a great time and enjoyed the fellowship of many co-workers from all over the country and some special time spent with Fred and Debbie Miller AND their daughter Riane. Plans are being worked on for more Miller-Otte craziness in 2015!

August - We had only been home from Alabama not quite a week when family started showing up for the annual Sandall Reunion that Chuck and Jaye were hosting in Junction City. We had a wonderful turnout, all of Chuck's siblings were present and we all had a wonderful time! Chuck's sister Edie, from California, stayed with us and we never have enough time to visit with her. It was great to have her with us! The rest of the month was spent resting up!

September - A quiet Labor Day weekend, a trip to the State Fair in Hutchinson and then a long weekend in late September to Minnesota. NACAA friends Chuck and Carol Schwartau issued us an invite to come up, ride an old train through some wetlands in Wisconsin and just have a good visit in southeast Minnesota. So we headed up on a Friday, had a wonderful Saturday and Sunday (including the aforementioned train ride AND a ferry ride on the Mississippi in St. Paul) and then a leisurely trip back to Kansas on Monday, after stops to purchase Red Wing shoes and Red Wing Pottery. Thank you Chuck and Carol for a great weekend!

October - Chuck goes to Indianapolis the first week of October for more Extension professional meetings. The Kansas City Royals make it into the playoffs and then into the World Series! While Chuck was busy doing his job at the annual Extension Conference at K-State, Jaye got to go to Game 1 of the World Series with her brother! The Royals didn't win the game but took the series to 7 games. What a great year it was, we were proud of our Royals, and Jaye had a LOT of fun at the game. Probably once in a lifetime chance to attend a world series game!

November - Let's start the month off with Chuck driving to Sioux Falls, SD for the NACAA Winter Board meeting (really looking forward to getting back there in July for our professional improvement conference), driving home on a Saturday, turning around the following Tuesday and flying to DC for a special retreat with USDA and Extension Service representatives. A very interesting experience and that's all I'm going to say right now about that! A quiet Thanksgiving at home!

December - We started off the first weekend by driving out to Denver. Chuck's Aunt Carol was celebrating her 90th birthday. We had a great family gathering with ten of the eleven remaining Sandall first cousins in attendance. Lots of fun time catching up, chatting, and sharing of photos. Chuck's sister Ann accompanied us on the trip. The rest of the month was Christmas parties, and just winding down for the end of the year. Christmas was spent quietly here in Kansas with Jaye's family.

Speaking of Jaye's family, her Mom is still on the farm north of Junction City and is comfortable and happy there. Jaye and Bernice try to play Bingo every Friday night. Girls night out and in spring, summer, and fall, Chuck can spend time at the farm mowing, gardening or just enjoying the peace and quiet!

So that's the crazy year that was 2014. Chuck's hoping for a little less travel and a little more time at home - Jaye isn't sure about that just yet so stay tuned. On the following page(s) are a few photos from our year! Stay in touch and have a wonderful 2015!

Love - Chuck and Jaye



On the beach at Biloxi in July.



Birding on the coast of Maine in April



Jaye with a Maine Lighthouse - April



Chuck and Fred Miller in front of Brookville Hotel restaurant



Jaye out-fishing her brothers!



Jaye at some backwater estuary on the Gulf Coast.



Chuck with Fred and Debbie Miller on Ft. Riley.



Jaye at Bellingrath Gardens, AL



Carol & Chuck Schwartau with Chuck



Past NACAA Presidents



NACAA Board spouses having a little fun!



Us in Mobile before the banquet.



Chuck and his siblings in Council Grove, KS



Us in Minnesota



↔Mississippi Birding

A good apple year ↔

