

Christmas 2008/New Year 2009 from the Berry - Hynes-Berry family



The Happy Couple

The family *Event of the year* was the great South-West wedding of Daniel to beautiful Anita Chàvez of Las Vegas, New Mexico on May 24th. We all joined Tito, Mary and many other Chàvez family members at Albuquerque's Hot Air Balloon Museum giving them an air-lift to Happy married life.

The happy couple have since used more modern transport to fly to Germany, where they stay most of the year in Frankfurt living on Anita's prestigious Boche-fellowship. (Daniel came back to Las Vegas in October to help after Tito's triple bypass surgery - Tito is recovering well-the couple will be together there for Christmas - then honeymoon in Egypt, & back to Frankfurt for 2009).



The flower girls (Ariana Chavez, Savannah Ava Mireille, Tyra & Simone), with Mary



A quick visit to Trafalgar Square in September

Other news about "the four boys" (AKA the five grand-daughters):

Nico, Sarah and Simone remain far away in San Francisco (& Stanford), but Mary stopped by coming home from NZ. We loved the other couples' (Mireille/Savannah & Ava/Tyra) visits to South Bend and Chicago in the summer and then all together at Thanksgiving in Chicago - the latter allowed another "stair pic" of us all in what became the celebration of our 40th wedding anniversary (Boxing Day).



Mimi, Ava, Savannah, Seb, Tyra & Simone



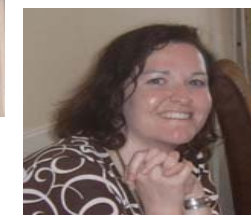
Mary & Seb family in the pond



The stair ladies



Sarah & Nico



Anita



Mimi & Savannah climbing in South Bend



Wet Savannah in Chicago



Simone

Politics: The O'bama, O'Biden, O'Berry South Bend "Irish ticket" - our Chicago neighbor's win was the year's highlight - I was not one of the 2 out of 15 candidates to win the schoolboard election, but we did remove the incumbents: the 6-week entry into politics was lots of fun; must next try Illinois where "pay-and-play-gate" seems just Chicago as usual! See pics at ndchicago.net/xmas08/xmas08pics.htm

Love to all Mary & Gordon

Our trip to New Zealand/Australia (For Mary's conference talk in April)



Arataki museum



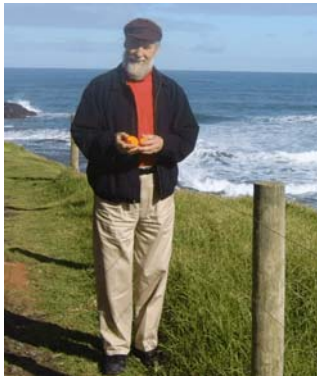
New Zealand sheep (a small fraction of them)



Mary at the beach



Alison Berry in Sidney



Gordon at the beach



Mary in the picture



Mary climbing above Auckland



Collecting shells



Tree fern canopy



Michael & Graham Haigh

The other family wedding was the **officializing** of Philip and JC's partnership on September 5th at Chichester Courthouse. Our quick UK trip to Slindon included a stay with Paul and Carmella in London - they joined us and Daniel and Anita at the celebrations.



John B, John C, Philip, Mary, Gordon

We must not forget our trip to the August celebration as we welcomed John Tran (Kylah's choice) into the extended family at the Hynes Winnebago site.



Such attention, must be words of wisdom....



All of us on the Harper stairs at Thanksgiving (taken by Mia)



Berrys at the reception in Slindon (taken by Andrew Berry)

On the home front, Mary continues her *over-working* days to help teachers (early-reading, science and math all on her dossier) at Erikson's fancy new building in downtown Chicago - a teacher for all seasons and reasons.



Frozen South Bend pond

Gordon's South Bend middle-school programs continue to expand; joining several State Committees to enhance science learning and standards at all grade levels. Our new "back-back" garden at South Bend (next to the still-unsold "pink-house") became the "outback" garden after the Australian trip, and was part of the local garden tour, even before the pond was completed by Sebastien and family in July.