Dear Friends and Family Members,

This past year, we’ve travelled more and our annual newsletter has taken on a more dominant visual format. A good measure of our travel is my qualification—for the first time since retiring nine years ago—for United “Premier” status. You’ll see below how many miles we flew—about 50,000! Roughly, we spent three months in Laguna Beach, two months travelling in the US, a month in Scandinavia (see text, pages 9-11), five months in Rio, and a month travelling in Brazil.

Before we get to the travelogue, here’s a bit of news about our family’s lives at home, all of it very good. Health-wise, none of us suffered any major setbacks. Mom is still kicking at almost 89. Sonia and I kept up with our personal trainer in Rio, walks on the beach in Laguna, swimming and yoga. Isis moved to Chicago after going back to work for Continental/United in Houston. Ethan continued computer programming at InterVision, Ami neared completion of her B.A. in Psychology and Sociology, and Ürah entered a Montessori charter school which Pan will also attend. Jake went to work in a physical therapy clinic advising clients on diet issues and will begin the final year of study for his Master of Health Science (MHSc) in Herbal Medicine. His partner Sara fought a long series of forest wildfires in drought-plagued western states.

I didn’t work much toward completion of my memoir, but did go over 170-page mark. As you can imagine, travel planning took up a good deal of my time, as did getting to know my new boat! I also added bicycling to my physical routine in Rio. Pedaling the shore of our lagoon and sailing the bay added new pleasures to my life that will surely grow in future years. The boating is especially satisfying since I can share it, as I do travelling, with my one true love, Sonia.

Sonia continued to stay on top of her demanding schedule with friends and family in both of our countries while doing so much to help me with the new boat. She also does a wonderful job of managing our condos. She’s been doing lots of reading this year, and volunteer sewing projects for others, including our local state hospital for low income Brazilians. My wife excels at doing things to make our lives more fun. Travelling, of course, has remained one of our greatest pleasures, and while we might slow down next year, it probably won’t be by too much. There is so much to see, and relatively speaking, so little time left in which to see it.

There are some people who hosted, aided, or travelled with us that are not mentioned in the captions or text below. In particular, we would like to acknowledge Sonia’s niece Ana and husband Luiz in Jurerê; friends Jon Chambers in L.A., Arlete, Fernando & Arden in Laguna;

Ted Isaacson on Maui; cousin Maureen before and while we were in Chico; my sons & their partners in Eugene; Angela & Eliane, our Brazilian travel companions in California; Mike Fogarty and Lillian Sletteland in the San Francisco Bay area; my sister Karen, brother Erik, & Mom’s assistant Dana in New Jersey; friends Mary Efron in New York and Charlie Tucker in Pennsylvania; in Stockholm, Gerda Thune and Emelie & Fredrik Laukka; in Dale, Norway, Heid & Asgeir Hope and their partners Eva and Linda; and in Rio our friends Sandra & Mario Pacheco, Judith & Marúcia & their husbands, and Sonia’s sister Ilma, brother Leninson, nephew Leandro & niece Elisa. Of course there were many others who are not mentioned here.

Sonia and I think you’ll enjoy the photos that follow. We were lucky enough to see all the places and wildlife shown here. We hope to see many of you in 2013. We wish those of you in the US a wonderful Thanksgiving and all of you Happy Holidays and a prosperous and healthy New Year.

Love,

Tryg

**2012 Travelogue**

**Florianópolis – Jurerê Beach Internacional, Santa Catarina State, Brasil**

This trip was our last of 2011—in the first half of December—before the jet-set descends for the holidays at Jurerê Beach, the northwestern-most part of the island shown below. The state capital of Florianópolis is located where the island is closest to the mainland.



1. Santa Catarina Is. from space 2. Santinho Beach, SC Island

**Eugene, Oregon**



3. Rhododendrons in [Hendricks Park](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hendricks_Park) 4. Craft booth at [Eugene Saturday Market](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eugene_Saturday_Market)

We made our usual two trips here to see my sons and grandchildren. Eugene is an old Hippie town that’s home to the University of Oregon. I loved living there in the late 90’s—except for the rain!

**Laguna Beach, California**

5. Heisler Park (left foreground), Main Beach & great kayaking waters!



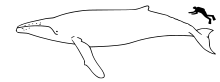
**State of Hawaii**



6. A satellite view of Hawaiian Islands, 7. [Green turtle](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Green_turtle) on old lava flow,

silver glow a result of calmer waters ancient temple behind, Kona, Big Is.

8. Humpback whale (Jubarte) near [Maui](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maui) 9. Size compared to human being



10. Satellite photo of Maui 11. View of [West Maui Mountains](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/West_Maui_Mountains)

**Chico, California**

My sister Sigrid flew out from home in NJ to join me at the memorial service for our cousin Kurt Behring. Chico is in the northern Sacramento Valley, near where I lived for many years in Redding. Most of us California Slettelands turned out for this poignant occasion. Before and after the service, we all got together with our Aunt Signe’s other children: Erik, Karl and Kris at Aunt Sig’s and our late Uncle Herb’s home.

**Big Sur, California**

Big Sur is a sparsely populated region of the Central [California](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/California) Coast where the [mountains](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Santa_Lucia_Range) rise abruptly from the [Pacific Ocean](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pacific_Ocean). The name "Big Sur” refers to its topography and location south of the [Monterey Peninsula](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Monterey_Peninsula). The terrain offers stunning views. Big Sur's Cone Peak is the highest coastal mountain in the contiguous 48 states, rising nearly a mile above sea level in only three miles from the ocean.



12. Big Sur coast from Pfeiffer State Park 13. Big Sur, Bixby Bridge on US Hwy. 1

To me, this wild sea stack-studded coast is at once real and a dream. Robinson Jeffers called it “that jagged country which nothing but a fallen meteor will ever plow”.

**Carmel/Monterey & Sacramento, California**



14. [Harbor Seals](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Harbor_Seal) at Point Lobos 15. California State Capitol, Sacramento

**Lake Tahoe, California and Nevada**



16. Emerald Bay, Lake Tahoe 17. Sailboat on Lake Tahoe

**San Francisco, California**



18. Golden Gate Bridge and downtown 19. Hyde Street cable car with

San Francisco across S.F. Bay Alcatraz Island in S.F. Bay

**Mendham, New Jersey**



20. Pitney Farm painted by J. Duncan Pitney (1921-2005) 21. Flagstone path through

orchard at Pitney Farm

We visited Tryg’s mother and siblings in May. We always enjoy our time there & in NY.

**Stockholm, Sweden**



22. [Nordic Museum](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nordic_Museum) on Djurgården Island, 23. *Vasa* ship sunk on maiden voyage

Lake Mälaren and Old Stockholm behind in1628& raised for display in 1961

**Oslo, Norway**



24. [Bygdøy](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bygd%C3%B8y) Peninsula, Oslo 25. Thor Heyerdahl’s *Kon-Tiki*, 1947

26. Viking *Oseberg* ship prow 834 AD 27. *Oseberg* ship, Viking Ship Museum



28. *Fram*, held in the polar 29. Nobel Peace Center, Oslo

ice, March 1894

Norway has always been a seafaring nation, from the Vikings’ New World discoveries to Fridtjof Nansen’s North and South Polar expeditions, to the 5,000-mile adventure of the *Kon-Tiki* from Peru across the Pacific, to world leadership in cod (*bacalhau*) fishing and commercial shipping. Norway is also a world leader in resolving armed conflicts through mediation and arbitration, awarding the Norwegian/Swedish Nobel Peace Prize in most years. Winners include Barack Obama, Jimmy Carter, Nelson Mandela, Rigoberta Menchú, Mikhail Gorbachev, Elie Wiesel, Desmond Tutu, Lech Walesa, Anwar Sadat & Menachem Begin, Martin Luther King Jr., Dag Hammarskjöld, and Woodrow Wilson.

**Bergen and nearby fjords, Norway**

30. Bergen overview. The city is sheltered from the North Sea by



the islands of [Askøy](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ask%C3%B8y), [Holsnøy](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Holsn%C3%B8y), and Sotra (in the background)

31. Panorama of the Hanseatic buildings of [Bryggen](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bryggen), on Bergen’s waterfront. The Hanseatic League was a commercial and defensive confederation of merchant guilds and their market towns that dominated trade from the Baltic to the North Sea and inland from 1358 to 1862.



32. **Bømlo** [municipality](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Municipality) on the island of [Bømlo](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/B%C3%B8mlo_(island)) in [Sunnhordland](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sunnhordland), in the southern part of

the county of [Hordaland](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hordaland), [Norway](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Norway). This the [main island](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/B%C3%B8mlo_(island)) of an [archipelago](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Archipelago) of 900 islets.



33. Kjosfossen waterfall

A ballet student dressed as a legendary [*Huldra*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Huldra) (a seductive forest creature

in Scandinavian folklore), dancing and singing on a parapet over the falls.

This waterfall is on the route of the Flåm Railway, the steepest [standard gauge](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Standard_gauge)

railway in Europe and a marvel of engineering when it was built in 1924.

It is with great pleasure and pride in my family that I describe Sonia’s and my experience in the west of the Norway. First, as to hospitality, we spent 18 nights in the homes of Malmfrid and Agnar Sletteland and Siri and Ole Hope. They not only provided us with room and board, they unfailingly guided us during our forays to know our family, cultural and natural history in Norway. For me, it is no exaggeration to say it was the trip of my lifetime. I had visited Bergen once before, with my sister Sigrid in 1968, just after graduating from Northwestern University and just before meeting Sonia for the first time.

This time I saw Norway and my family there in depth. The meaning of this for me is difficult to describe. A lot of my life has been about seeking my individual identity;

what Agnar and Ole showed me in Bergen, Bømlo, and Dale was literally where I come from. Bergen is the home of many Slettelands: Agnar, his wife Malmfrid, and the next generation: Nina, Trude, Roar, Kjersti, Kjetil, and Anja. We also visited Eldbjørg Sletteland Murati’s summer home not far away. Malmfrid’s summer home is in [Bømlo](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/B%C3%B8mlo_(island)).

At the places still known today as *Sletteland* and *Slettelandsst*ø*len*, Ole transported us back three centuries to my family’s deepest roots. Few people have the opportunity to experience this. I am one of the fortunate ones and I will never forget—or let other Slettelands forget—how much we can know about ourselves through our family history.



34. Aurlands Fjord, an arm of Sogne Fjord, and the tourist town of Flåm

Let me recount a few experiences that illuminated our family and cultural history. From the Vikings to the present, Norway has been a seafaring nation. We fished (very successfully! with Agnar, sailed with Eilert and Nina, and rode the “fast boat” ferries wherever we travelled. In Bømlo, we even came to know the premier engineer of “fast boat” design, Malmfrid’s brother Magnus, whose secrets Rolls Royce would love to know. We studied how *bacalhau* (dried cod) first put Norway on the modern world map. This delicacy is still very commercially important today in Portugal and Brazil. In Dale, Ole Hope and his mother Marit showed us the original Sletteland farm where our family name and lineage first combined, and the summer pasture above that also still bears our name today. Along with the graveyard at the Dale Church, these places look much the same today as they did when my great-great-grandfather Ananias was born there in 1837. The original buildings are almost completely gone from *Sletteland*, but one of the original residences of the milkmaids still survives at *Slettelandsstølen*. *Sletteland* is still farmed, but the summer pasture, while strictly protected against further development, is now used for our family’s summer homes.



35. Nærøy Valley above Nærøy Fjord



36. Nærøy Fjord is in the municipality of [Aurland](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aurland) in [Sogn og Fjordane](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sogn_og_Fjordane), [Norway](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Norway). It is a branch of [Sogne Fjord](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sognefjord). Nærøy Fjord is a [UNESCO](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/UNESCO) [World Heritage Site](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World_Heritage_Site). Along with the [Geiranger Fjord](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Geirangerfjord) (see below), it has also been rated by the [National Geographic Society](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_Geographic_Society) as the world's number one natural heritage site.



37. [Sogne Fjord](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sognefjord), Norway’s longest & deepest



38. Dale, Sunn Fjord Church & graveyard where many Slettelands rest,

including my great-great grandfather Ananias & wife Bergitta.

Dale is home to my cousin Ole Hope, his mother Marit & wife Siri.



39. Geiranger Fjord listed as a [UNESCO](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/UNESCO) [World](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World_Heritage_Site" \o "World Heritage Site)

[Heritage Site](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World_Heritage_Site" \o "World Heritage Site) along with [Nærøy Fjord](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/N%C3%A6r%C3%B8yfjord) (above)



40. Jostedal, the largest [glacier](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Glacier) in continental [Europe](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Europe)

41. Receding Bøya Glacier (part of Jostedal), Fjærland, Sogn og Fjordane



**Rio de Janeiro**

42. View east from Corcovado of our condo location on the point of the lagoon at photo



center. Ipanema and the Atlantic lie beyond. Horse racetrack on right.

43. View northeast from Corcovado of Sugarloaf Mountain (left of center) and the mouth of Guanabara Bay. My sailboat is moored in the cove inside of Sugarloaf.



44.Corcovado view from our condo 45. Ipanema Beach & Cargarras Islands



46. Tram arriving atop Sugarloaf. 47. Maracanã Stadium, where my

My boat mooring is shown below. soccer club plays home games



48. [Tijuca Forest](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tijuca_Forest), the largest urban 49. Satellite view of Rio (left),

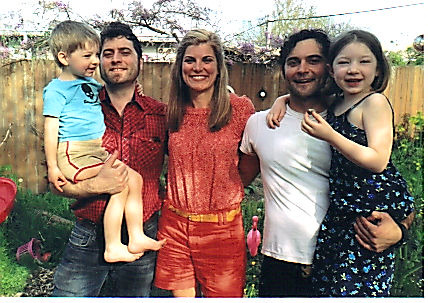
forest in the world Guanabara Bay & Atlantic Ocean

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1. O’Day 23 sloop, the same model as my new boat. We are sailing

in Guanabara Bay this year, but the Brazilian coast beckons!



51: Sons Ethan & Yaakov, daughter Isis; grandkids Pan(3), Ürah(6); missing Zara(7)

52. Trygve & Sonia after sailing near Bergen with Eilert Munch Lund & Nina Sletteland

