

## Holiday Greetings 2019 and Best Wishes for 2020



The day after Thanksgiving I visited Carl Lindbloom, a planner friend over many years, at his daughter's house in Santa Barbara.



Also the day after Thanksgiving, Karen, Lucy, John and I paid a visit to Lotusland in Santa Barbara. Check out <https://www.lotusland.org> to learn more about this amazing place.



This is what we came back to after Thanksgiving in California. Glad I threw a shovel in the car before I left.



It was so cold & blustery in Carpinteria that Thanksgiving dinner had to be stuffed inside. Here Topher makes remarks before we dive into a delicious turkey. We had a fine time.



Yes, my house is now for sale. I've spent 30+ years working on it and it's now ready to go to the next caretaker.

Shackleton Autumn School in Athy. You can see photos of all these excursions on my page at SmugMug. (See links to the right.) ¶ After several years of effort I finally finished producing *Laban Ainsworth: A Life*. This biography of Jaffrey's first and longest serving minister was written by Jean Parker Waterbury some years back but never published. I put together a second volume of additional material. ¶ I continue to spend a lot

time on local history projects mostly with the Jaffrey Historical Society. One thing we're working on is the creation of a Match Museum, Jaffrey being the home of the country's largest match company. Another is the construction of a state-of-the-art archives building. Stay tuned on this and other projects. ¶ The winter ahead will be largely taken up with moving and house selling. 🐼

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Some 2019 trip photos:

[rs4l.smugmug.com/Travel/Thanksgiving-2019/](http://rs4l.smugmug.com/Travel/Thanksgiving-2019/) • [rs4l.smugmug.com/Travel/Athy-2019/](http://rs4l.smugmug.com/Travel/Athy-2019/)  
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 This year's cartoons: [www.rs4l.org/cartoons2019.pdf](http://www.rs4l.org/cartoons2019.pdf)



Here's my sweetheart—whose prone to polka dots—at an event at the University of New Hampshire last May. **Karen Ayers** is making my life more interesting and enjoyable and we expect to be together in the years ahead. Why wouldn't we?



The main entrance to **RiverMead** in Peterborough, perhaps 6 miles away. I'll be moving into #243 around the first of February and should be there full time later in 2020 until I fall off my perch.



In June, Joe O'Farrell, Jim & Geraldine McAdam and I spent a week at Peake's House, a Landmark Trust house, in Colchester, Essex.



Those attending the *SouthPole-sium* v.4 in Dublin visited a Shackleton family house on our Sunday coach excursion. The next gathering is likely to be in 2021 in San Francisco. *Photo: Cathy Cooper*



In October I was back in Ireland and our group of Joe, Jim and Geraldine reconvened in Laurie Crowley's cottage in Tully Cross, Galway. The weekend before we were in Rosses Point for the annual Maritime Weekend and the next weekend we headed for Athy and the annual polar gathering.

THESE are busy times here in Jaffrey. I'm in year two or three in the grand downsizing project: Have made frequent trips to the dump with the detritus of over 30 years; sold or given away everything from books to clothes to Christmas ornaments; and just had a truckload of furniture & furnishings sent off to the local auction house for a sale on February 8th (the first of two). I've taken the plunge and taken a nice two-bedroom corner unit up the road at RiverMead (see link). I should be in there in a couple of months but will have several months to gradually move things in. Next year I'll include some photos of the finished project. It will be a challenge to fit

all the remaining stuff into the space available. I My new girlfriend Karen (see above) and I spent Thanksgiving week in California, first visiting her sister's family near Long Beach, then up to my brother's in Carpinteria where we enjoyed an unusually cool Thanksgiving. I Made two trips to Ireland and the UK, the first in June where we gathered in Dublin for the fourth *SouthPole-sium* which I largely organized and then on to the UK with Joe O'Farrell, driving through Yorkshire and northern England and spending a week in a Landmark Trust house in Colchester. We managed one busy day in London. In October I was back in Ireland again, mostly for the annual