

HNY, from The Vanderlips

Sorry for the delay in extending New Year's greetings from the Vanderlips. Would you believe, we were waiting on the Lunar New Year? In actuality, events overtook us late in 2021...

We spent a lot of family time in Michigan last year, and some of our extensive Mitten State travels were joyous: Annalyse Vandermay was the first in the family's cousin/niece/grandkid cohort to be wed — to Gowan Baldwin on Aug. 28, 2021 in



From top: Troll exhibit at the Botanical Gardens in Boothbay; Bald Hill lead guitar Chris Ricardi takes in the view of Twin Lakes, from Kitty's Porch, in Millinocket; the new digs, in Auburn: new dining room, before (insert) and after; Percy, The Urban Dog; Sharon enjoys a proper quilt studio now. Below, "Trash to Treasure".



Kalamazoo. It was splendid to gather the entire family together there, including Silas and Rene, who timed their move — from North Carolina, back to Montana — to include a week-long stop-over on West Lake.

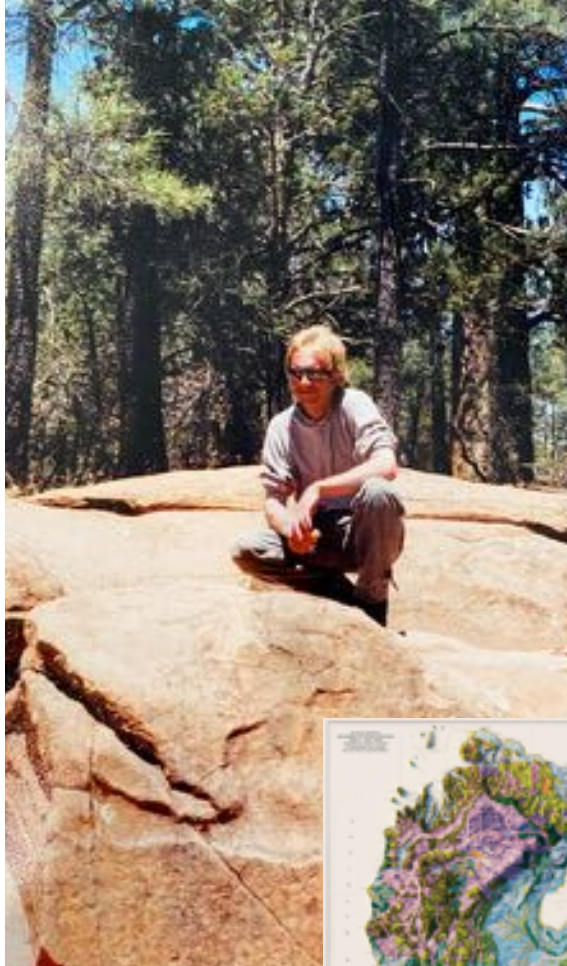
Sadly, however, we spent additional stretches of 2021 in Michigan mourning the loss of Sharon's older brother, Randy, who died in May; then her father Bill, who passed away in late December after a long battle with COPD. You can read their respective obituaries and view their pictorial retrospectives [here](#) and [here](#).

The remainder of 2021 was no less eventful. We sold Camp Vanderlips (in 48 hours), our home for 23 years, and bought a new place 10 miles north, overlooking the Androscoggin River in Auburn. Our new address, as of September 1:

**201 Main Street
Auburn, ME 04210**

Substantial renovations are finally underway here in Metro L-A. They're banging away down the hallway, right now...

Clara continues to live in Brooklyn and teach at her public charter school. Silas and Rene, who celebrated their 7th anniversary together in late January, have returned to the scene of their first encounters: Missoula, Mont. She's doing graphic design at a backcountry map firm; Silas begins a new gig with the U.S. Forest Service in April. Cousin Nathan is moving to Mizzou soon: After several years fighting fires in Oregon, he's joining the Bitterroot Hot Shots this spring. Rene's brother Nate now attends



Clockwise from top left: Randy William Vandermay (1960-2021); William John Vandermay (1938-2021); taking the waters on West Lake; the reception, in a nature center barn, was a blast — and blazing hot.





Clockwise from top left: Streets of the Upper East side, outside Chez Sweeney; the long-discussed guitar upgrade — to a Martin D-18 — finally consummated, in Soho; There's never a dull moment in Ms. Phillips' class: "Soraya has had enough!"; Sharon interacts with a mural outside a killer resale shop in Brooklyn.



the University of Montana. Clara's exploring MFA programs there, and elsewhere. *Everyone's moving to Missoula.*

You might notice that this year's NYL includes some fun, little relief maps. This is not an homage to Rene's new employer, but rather the result of my blithely clicking on a Google ad several months ago. I checked out the company, Muir Way, and its cool, extensive map inventory. Now, everything I read online is festooned with still more maps. I'm gaining a meaningless measure of revenge by festooning this communication in turn.

Do come visit us and our new house, tentatively dubbed Manse Vanderlips, during 2022. You will love the urban environs here in Lewiston-Auburn, "Cities of the Androscoggin". We certainly do. We'll be walking to dinner.



Clockwise from top left: Now 18, Stripes the Cat refuses-to-die is still going strong!; Silas the Mad MT Bike King; Valentine's Day '21, in The OC; Aug. farewell party in The NG; Hollywood Beach view we're likely to be missing soon; Core Four Classic; Clara with Bed-Stuy roomy Sophie Fraga (from Penn & Wellesley) and boyfriend Derek.

