

Earlier this month, Bob & I got a surprise call from Kevin, Bob's son, who told us that he was not only in South Carolina, but he was here to stay. We couldn't be happier!! We knew he was finally able to sell his house in Texas and that the company he worked for had merged with another company, causing job eliminations, which negatively affected him, but was totally surprised by his sudden move to SC! He may not be next door, but is a heck of a lot closer than his old address in Texas. He has a job here already that he likes, and just needs to get a new permanent address. The hard part is done, I think. This has been such a great surprise for us. The Smith family is my only family, as all my biological family is deceased. There is one other addition, however, and that is my *sister*, Juanita Watt, who lives in Seattle with her husband Bob and their family members. In my lifetime I have learned that real family is not only based on the blood in your veins but in relationships and in the heart. She knows what I mean because of what we shared growing up. I may have gone a little overboard here, but Bob & I are really excited about Kevin's move. See the recent picture below of Kevin and Bob sitting on our front porch chatting!



Up date on Mr Blue Bird! Remember my report in the **March** Newsletter regarding his assumed role of acting as our alarm clock? Well, he refuses to be fired from his job and now only taps on the bedroom window, starting at 6:00 AM. He used to peck on the living room window (picture below) but now just the bedroom?? A real puzzle!! Even our cats are tired of his persistence!



What is next? It is the South Carolina *Chicken Bog*!! Yum! This dish dates back to the 1800's in the South, especially the Low Country of South Carolina. In this particular picture you can see Mickey Sellers, of the *Rivertown Blue Grass Society*, stirring the bog in the iron kettle! The Chicken Bog was part of a Blue Grass Musical Event held at the KOA Campground in Myrtle Beach. It is called chicken bog because the chicken is cooked until the water is absorbed and is bogged down in rice!! Welcome to South Carolina! The Rivertown Blue Grass Society also holds a monthly concert at the Horry County Technical College, which we attend as well.

Well, I guess you can see how we ended the month!! We really can't believe how fast the 35 years has gone by, but more importantly we both feel it has been a wonderful 35 years. A lot happened over those years, but it seemed like change always happened at the right times, and we seemed to work well together. For example for fun, we rode a Honda 650 motorcycle, then a Van for a bit, then a Gold Wing motorcycle, then sold the house, retired and moved into a Holliday Rambler Motorhome for 10 years. Now we are residents of Myrtle Beach, SC, and love our new residence and life style, with no regrets!!

