MANTY'S Christmas LETTER 2013

Greetings

Hope you had has a good year.

This year has been a good year for me. Here are some of the highlights.

March I spent a couple of weeks with my brother Cork. We headed on a trip to deliver a trailer of goods for a friend to northern California and then head to southern California to pick our other brother Mike and take him home in New Mexico. Well things did not go as planned.

I was pressed my luck driving my 18-year-old camper to California and. Maybe I could have replaced many of the quite old parts on the camper before the trip. I figured if they made it, it would be a plus we went anyway. Before delivering the trailer, we replaced a battery, alternator, complete exhaust system and two tires!

Well we got to California and unloaded the trailed, and headed to U-Haul to drop off the trailed. We spent a day resolving a paper work mess up. At that point, Cork decided to make up some time he drove until midnight when we stopped for the night. He told me that it seemed the camper was steering funny. I just laugh it off telling him he was just sleepy. The next morning we replaced the other two tires. Things got better.

We hooked up with Mike in Santa Barbara and headed to his home near Santa Fe. Cork and Mike drove and I sat in the back think how much I wanted to be home and away from all these break downs. After a while, I remembered I was spending time with my brothers. I enjoyed being with Mike and Cork.

We drove down old highway US 66 and checked out the Grand Canyon then headed to New Mexico. We visited with Mike and Petra for a couple of days and checked out down town Santa Fe. From there we decided to stop in Kansas to see our two sisters Marcia and Edie.

We were within 20 miles of home when we ran out of gas. It was not that bad, as we rolled right up to the pump at the gas station.

Come September I headed to North Dakota to have coffee with Marvin, one of the people I walked with in Spain last year. Of course, I had fixed the other battery and the A/C in the camper before leaving home. I had a great time with Marvin. Marvin has live in ND most of his life and showed me many things in his hometown Bismarck. I had a great time!

On the way home, I sprung a LP gas leak and had no heat, no hot water, and no cooking. I just braved the cold for the last two nights. I stopped in lowa and visited with cousins Steve and Wally then headed home.

The whole year was not about the Camper mishaps. That was just the fun stuff All year I helped my friend Michelle with remodeling at her training center E.W.Training. She lets me hang around and I keep busy by doing what I can to help.

I finally published my book about my walk in Spain titled: "Walking the Walk, Camino de Santiago 2012." I made it in to a paperback and eBook for those who have Nooks or Kindles. It is available at <u>lulu.com</u>, <u>amazon.com</u>, and <u>BarnesAndNobles.com</u>. Yes, this is an ad!

Let us see, I think there are new nieces and/or nephews this year I think I am a great uncle this year twice. All the rest of the family and friends are all-busy doing their things.

Well have to go now. I have to help put down a new floor at EWT tomorrow and I need to rest before that.





I tried to justify using this tulips paper just because I ran out of Christmassy paper. Therefore, I thought there must be a way to mix spring with Christmas and I found this neat tree ornament.

Have a Merry Christmas and Happy Spring!