

# Ho Ho Hello from the Longs, & Farewell 2024!



Tchapo, Seidou(8), Ari(6), Abagaile, Cora(3), Thad, Anna, Rosemanie (missing Merveil), Andy, Belle(3).

**Anna** continues to work under difficult conditions in her understaffed nursing home; she is known for her excellent care, and friendly disposition and smile (in spite of it). She and Andy have a lot of lovely friends in Kentucky, with whom they enjoy good times. Anna especially enjoyed sharing Togo with our Canadian friends. We took them to some of the more touristy parts of the country, but really enjoyed showing them any number of traditional activities (festivals, ceremonies, hikes, etc.). She was so happy to see family and friends in Togo and to find closure over her sister Awora's death (which came shortly after our last visit, three years ago).



Anna (seen here with our three-year-olds, Cora and Belle):

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Stop by!



**Andy** is beginning his final semester at NKU, teaching math. He plans to repurpose with a focus on climate change mitigation and adaptation. Anna continues to indulge his fascination with rural Canadian life, letting him spend half his year up there. (Maybe more time now that political circumstances in the U.S. have changed?) He thanks God for his wonderful siblings and their families.

**Tchapo** is moving his business ([isight media](#)) to a refurbished larger urban space in Covington KY, and has exciting plans for some new ventures that become possible with a larger facility. He coaches soccer at Campbell County HS for relaxation(!), and he and Abagaile stay busy with their young blessings Seidou, Ari, and Cora. The kids are each involved in a school, and are flourishing.

**Rosemanie** is finishing a business degree at the College of Southern Nevada, and is planning to switch to a dental hygienist program next. She and Merveil have a home in Henderson, NV, where they are loving nearby nature hikes and bike rides, which they share with their Belle and faithful hound Blue. Rosemanie and her affectionate and adorable Belle just graced us with a holiday visit: hooray!

**Thad** is currently managing his dad's favorite beer store, which is both good and bad (depending on how you look at it, as you can imagine). He doesn't want to make a career out of it, however, so he's looking around for what's next. He and a couple of school chums from way back are sharing a nearby apartment. We're delighted to have him near, to join us for whatever. He's a great help!

## Come join us, whether in Kentucky, Ontario, or Togo!

Canning this year included jams, beans, potatoes, and our signature V5 vegetable juice. Steve, Mom, Andy, Mindy, Mark, and Anna are **The Green Bean Dream Team**:



What a joy to have Mom right there with us at 91!

If **you** would like to join in the fun, you can find us at

636  
Suzannes Rd,  
Calvin,  
Ontario  
POH 1V0

Bring your hammer, or favorite skill.

Musical instruments are especially welcome!



Brother Steve and I joined friends Barry and Keith on a three-day paddle down the Mattawa River, following in the footsteps (literally) of all the great French explorers who travelled across Canada and into the Great Lakes. (Will you be on the next trip?!)

## Now-Legendary "No Whiners Tour" of Togo, 2024

Right smack dab in the middle of our growing season we took a wonderful four-week trip to Togo with friends Craig (Peace Corps buddy), Keith, Cathy, and Pauline -- and we're still friends! As always we enjoyed visiting Togolese friends and family, but we also enjoyed the variety of ecological zones Togo encompasses, planted more trees, and checked on several other projects while there. We had lots of fun in the sun, while also realizing how fortunate and how privileged we are. Life is hard there (17th most impoverished country), and yet how joyful are the Togolese (and we)!

