

DECEMBER 2009

We've been stamping our feet before entering the house these days. That can mean only one thing – snow! Not much yet, but enough to make things look just right for the time of year! And more in the forecast.

Thanksgiving found Star Barn nearly full with family. It was a wonderful holiday weekend with the twins, Addison and Evelyn, their mom Kate, their cousin Kaya, their uncles Alex and Adam, and their Grandpa Mark. We had a little snow and a lot of turkey and good family fun. Can't ask for more than that!

The Sunday of Thanksgiving weekend was the Open House at Star Barn Uniques. We estimated 60 people went through the gift shop, which was literally bulging with quality made-in-Maine crafts. Sales topped \$600, which is pretty darn good for Madrid, Maine! We picked up a few more vendors to add their wares to the inventory. There were several vendors set up “doing” their craft for people to see. Refreshments were free and the first 25 shoppers got free ornaments. We were busy from 11 to 3, the hours we had set. Already planning for next year! The shop is open whenever Ginni is home. Please drop by!

Can you believe we are still “tweaking” Star Barn? Just this weekend David finished the mantle on the parlor fireplace. Some of the wood for the mantle is new, but a large part of it was made from trim pieces we saved from when we renovated the house. Beautifully cut, hand made trim – preserving just a bit of history.

As we get closer to Christmas, Ginni is spending a lot of time planning the annual Christmas Candlelight Service at Reeds Mill Church. In fact, one night recently when she was experience a bit of insomnia, her mind became flooded with what the sermon should be about. I guess if you cannot sleep you might as well be thinking worthwhile thoughts. This service, scheduled for December 27th, concludes the year's activities at the church. Usually, the church would be left empty until the annual meeting in June. However, there is a local couple having their wedding in February at the church. Ginni will be officiating at the service.

Speaking of February, there are two retreats scheduled at Star Barn. One is a called “Heart Connections” which will focus on nourishing the soul and gaining closure for 2009 while discovering the techniques needed to realize the heart's desire for 2010. The group will be taking advantage of the property's trails for snow shoeing and is being led by Patty Geiger of PDG Communications, Ohio. The second retreat is being hosted by Edie Blue, leader of a spiritual dating group. Ginni will be having her next Yoga retreat in March. And another yoga retreat, not lead by Ginni, is scheduled for August. More information is available for all the retreats by emailing your request to info@starbarnbandb.com

Lots of things to be looking forward to. But for now, we want to wish you and yours a very Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, Happy Kwanza, or simply a Wonderful Winter.

Ginni and David Robie