

Hello, Dear Eastern Star Family! Happy Monday to you all!

I hope everyone is healthy and happy. This Covid-19 pandemic is wearing on everyone's nerves, understandably. We should all remember that this is a pandemic and not just a political ploy. With all the problems going on in the world now, we can still stand back and see good happening.

The good in my family's lives has been the addition of 5 new young ones into our clan. My sister gained a wonderful boyfriend earlier this year with 5 fantastic little ones ranging from 12 years old to 2 years old. Having kids around has been a very welcome change. Sometimes difficult but overall wonderful. I get to be Auntie Bethi to 5 more kiddos! Wow!! Do they have the energy to wipe out all of us adults! I tell you it is hard to be lonely or upset when you are around them.

Last night we were blessed to have My Dada's Aunt, Uncle and a couple Cousins pass through and stop for a nice long visit and Bar-B-Q. They were able to meet our new additions and see how fast they have become part of our family. I love hearing them run up to my parents and say "Pa can we do...?" or "Granny, I need a snack, please." I know they enjoy having another set of grandparents so close and with a bunch of land to roam free and just be kids. We think we have a budding photographer and an entomologist among them. The youngest is the only girl and does she keep her brothers in line!! Hearing that little voice yell, "BOYS! BE CAREFUL!!" is the cutest ever. God Bless the wee ones.

My Mom, Dada and I have decided the best way to use this time of quarantine and my recent unemployment is to do the "Great Covid Clean-out". We will be receiving a 20 yard trash container and I have a feeling that we will have it filled quickly with some large yard garbage from our house and Miki's house. We are excited for the clean-out and to see some old stuff gone from that pile beside the workshop or out in the barn.

The job search is going as well as can be expected given the current Governor's orders. I lost my job at the end of June due to loss of funding for our project. UNM is still mostly locked-down but I did have a pre-interview for another lab with a new researcher via Zoom. My references got back to me after they were interviewed and they said I would be great for this job and they told her how wonderful I would be for this position. So, hopefully I might be gainfully employed again by Fall. YEEHAW!!! I could work for the State Labs but there is no room for creative research in those labs. I would not be happy if I am not constantly reading research articles and developing protocols for difficult experiments. "Dammit Jim, I'm a researcher not a robot!"

Stay safe, healthy, happy and remember: "this too, shall pass".

Much love to all of you. Air Hugs and Blown Kisses!

Love,
Beth

