

2019 Holiday Greetings and a Brief Update

—from Joe and Patricia Barile, with David, Aimée & John Miles with Lois and Tommy

Here we are at Aimée and John's place in Murphys, in the heart of the Mother Lode. It's near our "cabin" in Forest Meadows which we had for 20 years and just sold this year because of upkeep, increasing costs, and a new place to stay in Murphys. :)

Gotta admit, their taking care of 7 acres of land is a full-time job in itself, but it's the perfect place for them,

given the family's interest in snow and water skiing, camping, animals, hiking, country values, and nature in general. Lois was a member of 4H and has farm girl's chores of taking care of her chickens in the hen house provided. The pool needs upkeep, the trees trimming, and the carpool schedules to transport Tommy and Lois 30 minutes to the Waldorf School in Jamestown. Lois, who is in fourth grade, is on the ski team and does double diamond runs now, takes guitar lessons from an ex-pro rocker in the '60. Tommy is "all boy," and keeps everyone on their toes. Aimée belongs to several groups, one of which is MOPS (Moms of Pre Schoolers). She's also working on a writing project, has an



Tommy, who also loves and knows all about animals, listens attentively as Lois reads her new Ranger Rick magazine—a tender moment.

Lois and Tommy taking care of their 8 chickens and collecting eggs.

advisor, and that's all I can say. John keeps busy with his HUSH Productions in San Francisco, and has started out on another business adventure while meeting the challenge of balancing work with home and family. Whew, all of a sudden I feel old by comparison.



A trip to the Ensenada Museum on one of our visits.

David continues to reinvent himself in Baja, Mexico where we visited him last August. He bought and learned to program a CNC Router to carve his artwork in wood. All the while open to occasional online programming work. Additionally, we have been collaborating in creating a math app which I hope to beta test at the school where I volunteer two times a week. (See below for a free copy.)



I'm pretty much of a homebody, preferring to stay in the nice weather where I can play tennis several times a week, ride my bike, and hit the links (golf) once a week. My life style has been somewhat hampered this year by increasing loss of vision in my right eye due to glaucoma, but I am adapting accordingly.

Patricia and I are planning a 7 day cruise, hopefully to explore the lower Mississippi. Something I've always wanted to do ever since I read Huckleberry Finn.

Besides being the super-grandma, Patricia "Mimi" continues to be the maker and keep of lists and schedules for people: our neighborhood, the church communion schedule, etc. Recently she undertook the task of transferring all of her brother John's songs to mp3s. Gardening still, jam maker, etc.



A cross designed by David using a CNC router.

Below are two some short videos you might want to look at below and a link for a free multiplication app (sans artwork)

- a cute video of David, at an Ensenada beach, inviting two young brothers to drum with him.
- snow falling in Murphys as seen from John and Aimée's living room
- Multiply and Conquer, a free app David and I developed to upload only to your tablet or smart phone to help your children or grandchildren learn their multiplication facts—complete with hints. Artwork to follow.