



A Photo Review of Our 2022



On Jan 10, we continued our tradition of a monthly lunch with Julie and Marshal, outside to avoid Covid. We continued having choir 'practice,' more of a get-together, online for the same reason. On Jan 22, Joan & Eric and Gary & Linda, aka The Gang came over for a potluck lunch.



There must have been a memo suggesting all the ladies wear blue! Joan & Eric got to meet my foster kitten Nick. Linda met him too, masked because of her cat allergy. Bunny came over on Feb 3 to meet Nick. He came to me, sick and thin on Christmas eve so was named Nicholas Evan, Nick for short.



On Feb 6, Smoot was honored for his four months as the sole audio technician for our UUCP services. On Feb 8, I served as a cat bed for Rocky & Nick. Joan & Eric couldn't join us for our monthly Gang lunch and movie on Feb 12 but we had fun with Gary & Linda and watched Spencer on Princess Diana.



We had decadent desserts at the Biltmore at our monthly lunch with Marshal & Julie on Feb 18. I got to

see Nick at Petsmart on Feb 20. We had taken him to the adoption center there on Feb 16.



Former UUCP minister and current president of the UUA, Susan Frederick-Gray attended UUCP's outdoor service on Feb 20. We had to update our technology to move from online only to outside.



We went to Joan's outdoor birthday party on Feb 27. The lovely watercolor of Smoot holding foster kitten Dilly in 2021 that my cousin Ginger painted and sent to us from NH arrived on Mar 1. Julie, Zach, and Emerson came over later that day to see our cats, my turtles and my collections. Joan & Eric were back with The Gang for our lunch and movie on Mar 5. We watched Good Will Hunting.



Benjie led our pandemic-diminished UUCP choir in in-person, outdoor practice on Mar 9. On the 17th we had a going-away lunch with Dave & Nancy and wore Ukraine-supporting colors.



On Mar 20, we sang at the UUCP Pet Blessing and had our menagerie blessed via photo by Rev. Christine. That afternoon we went to Josefa's 92nd bday party at the RR park. Smoot with Charles O.



We celebrated Julie's and Marshal's birthdays at our monthly lunch on Mar 25 at LON's Hermosa Inn. On the 26th we hosted another potluck and movie with The Gang. We watched the new West Side Story. We hosted Susan F-G on Apr 2 for breakfast and heard her spiel on UU The Vote.



Smoot and Dale handled the audio and video for UUCP's fundraising auction on Apr 9. The remnant choir was back in the sanctuary for practice on Apr 13, masked. Smoot and I were colorful for UUCP's Easter service on Apr 17. I wore my Easter bonnet with flowers on it.



We had a good number of singers for the Easter service and we sounded good even though masked. We got our 2nd Covid booster shots on Apr 19. Bob and Smoot had a golfing adventure on Apr 20.



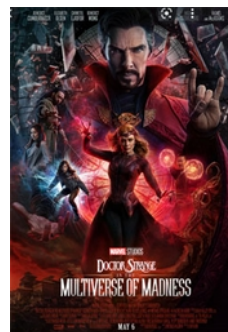
We had lunch with Lee & Bob at the McDowell Mountain Ranch Golf Club on Apr 21 before their return to Canada. That night we joined Marshal & Julie for dinner and an Emanuel Ax piano concert. On Apr 23 the choir sang and Smoot spoke at Jesse Hise's memorial service.



We attended the HoA party on Apr 29. We saw The Secrets of Dumbledore in a rare trip to the theater on May 5. We continued our visits to resorts by having our monthly lunch with J&M on May 12 at the Royal Palms. We had outdoor seating as part of our effort to avoid Covid exposure.



My sister, Catherine, called us on May 12 with the tragic news that their son, Rusty Dalferes had died at the too-young age of 48. We were stunned. A remembrance party was planned for July and the International Law Students Association started a memorial scholarship fund to honor his many years of service to the organization. We saw the lunar eclipse on May 15. Benjie played the piano and Rev. Christine was the minister at Billye Butler's memorial service at the Beatitudes on May 18.



We had lunch with other UUCP folks after the memorial. Smoot wore his patriotic attire to play golf on May 30, Memorial Day. And held Bobbie. We waited until the theater wouldn't be full to see Doctor Strange in the Multiverse of Madness on June 2. Jim, one of Smoot's golfing buddies, made him a great deal on a carbon fiber bike which he got on June 11. It came with bike shoes, stand and storage bag.



We agreed to cat-sit Malcom for Christine & Karen while they were at GA. They brought him and Karen got to see my collections on Jun 14. Smoot got his free Denny's breakfast on his birthday on



June 20. J&M joined us for Smoot's free burger dinner and cake at Red Robin that evening. Then home for cards and gifts. We saw Jurassic World Dominion on Jun 23. Karen & Christine came to get Malcolm on Jun 28.



We celebrated July 4th at Joan and Bill's with food, sparklers and flaming tubes! We saw the new Minions movie on July 7. I got my new foster kitty family on July 16. We saw the new Thor on the 21st.



We celebrated our 49th anniversary on Aug 4 with a fancy meal at the Orange Sky restaurant at Talking Stick. We got to visit with Bunny & Dale when we dropped off stuff for Maryland School on Aug 8. There was a kewl double rainbow on Aug 20.



Ginny & Ger brought me an early birthday present on Aug 24. I got my free breakfast at Denny's and a free sundae at Culvers on Aug 26. Then it was time to get my free burger at Red Robin that evening. Smoot had brought a cake and Eric & Joan joined us.



Choir practice, masked, was back in the sanctuary on Aug 31. We sang, masked, for the Water Communion service on Sept 11 and for Rev. Christine's installation on Sept 17. Our cats got a new tree courtesy of Jenny & John on Sept 11.



I had a display on UUCP's 75th anniversary at Rev. Christine's installation on Sept 17. We got together with The Gang on Sept 18 before Linda & Gary moved back to IL. We had pizza with J&M on Sept 26.



Smoot installed a safe outlet for my turtle pond on Sept 27. We celebrated Dan's 90th on Oct 15. I had another history display at the Shared Ministries service on Oct 23.



We braved the cold outdoors for our lunch with M&J on Oct 24. We took my foster kittens to Petsmart on Oct 27 to meet Bisbee's adopter. We added Rusty's photo to our memorial for UUCP's Day of the Dead service on Oct 30.



We went with M&J to the Immersive King Tut exhibit on Oct 31. Bob & Smoot went on another golf outing on Nov 7. That night we went with J&M to The Convergence, but first dinner



and then the lights. Smoot and I got up early on Nov 8 to watch the lunar eclipse. I took my usual bowl of candy for the poll workers as well as my ballot later on Election Day, Nov 8. The parking lot was overflowing. We went to the UU Foundation party on Nov 20.



We had a much-delayed get-together with Robert and Sandy on Nov 21. We were on our own for Thanksgiving but still had a feast. Fredi & Paul were in town for the holiday. We had breakfast with them on Nov 27. We hadn't seen them since 2017.



Smoot wanted to do something for the students in the 3 classes he's tutoring at Maryland School and decided to make little Christmas stockings for them – 96! They contained a mechanical pencil, a candy cane, chocolate candy, mints & a 3-D eraser. He presented them to Mrs. Hill's classes on Dec. 15. She got a larger one with fruit, sausage and cheese as well as candy. The kids seemed to like them.



That evening, Dec 15, we joined Julie & Marshal for Luminarias at the Desert Botanical Garden but first dinner at Gertrude's in the Garden. There was interesting art by Rotraut as well as lights.



After 20 years our waterbed sprung a leak. Smoot dismantled it, we ordered a new mattress and he put everything back together on Dec 16. We didn't do a lot of holiday decorating but I did dress up my geese and Catherine & Gayle's flowers looked very pretty on our pew bench.



The Amaryllis from Lee & Bob was pretty too. And we displayed Smoot's gingerbread house he made last year next to the cookies he got for saving a cell phone on top of which is the beautiful snowflake from Kat. The UUCP Carolers were a very festive group on Dec 17.



Lee & Bob had us over for Xmas Cheer on Dec 21. We sang in the UUCP choir on Christmas eve including a piece in Ukrainian, Shedrik or Carol of the Bells.



We didn't have as many lights outside but the display was still nice to come home to after the Christmas eve service. We had a minimalist tree too but lots of interesting packages on Xmas day.



We recorded our unwrapping. T-shirts from Mad & Billy, our possible gift to each other, a tandem bike.



Benjie & Katie led a fun Christmas Day service of songs and stories at UUCP. We had been encouraged to come in our PJs. That top was as close as I could come. Bonnie & Ed had us and the Smarts over for Christmas lunch.



Julie & Marshal hosted a fun dinner on Dec 26 for us and Shirley including a photo of us to send to my doppelganger, her niece. On Dec 29 we had supper with Connie and Richard, a nice way to end the year.

Our Pets, Wildlife and Fosters



We started 2022 with three cats of our own – orange and white Rocky, Maine Coon Bobbie and black Shadow. They are all rescues, Rocky and Shadow from Paw Placement and Bobbie a stray we took in.



In April, when Smoot and Bob were dealing with HoA issues, Bobbie was his usual furry self but by June he had started pulling his fur out. He lost weight and was looking like a plucked chicken. We took him to the vet and sadly discovered he had kidney failure and hyperthyroidism. We thought he would die like our cats had in 2021 and 2020. But we gave him special food, were taught to give him fluids under his skin and a medicine dabbed in his ear once then twice a day and amazingly he started to recover. By October his fur was growing back though his tail wasn't as impressive as it had been.



In Dec 2021, I had gotten a beautiful Russian Blue foster, Grizzly Bear and his sister Panda Bear. They were both traumatized by something in their former home, esp. Griz. I spent months sitting and working with them and eventually Panda was recovered and social enough to be adopted. Griz was adopted but returned. I took him back to foster and there was speculation that he would have to go to a sanctuary. When the time came for that to happen, I couldn't let him go. On May 2 we officially adopted him into our family. He is still skittish but getting friendlier, sitting with me on the couch or bed and letting Smoot pet him. He esp likes being on the cat walk and in the High Castle.



My six Red-eared Slider turtles got upgrades in their area, a new, safe electric outlet for their filter and the camera that Smoot installed that allows me to check on them at any time.



My fish tank got a change too. I switched from Ruby Red Minnows to Goldfish, with a hiding Plecostomus. The tank also got a new heater and thermometer and holiday decor. I had the minnows as feeder fish for my turtles but they're too lazy to chase them alive so only ate them after they died!



As for wildlife, we haven't seen any coyotes this year but we did have a Flicker that decided pounding on the metal cover of our chimney was fun and checking out the feeder outside the foster room. We also had a family of mice visit our birdseed bowl. They apparently live in the upside down pot. Smoot said he saw some hawks but he didn't get pictures of them.

My Paw Placement Fosters



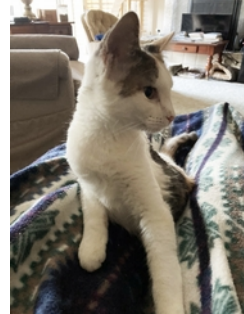
In Jan 2022 we still had fosters Grizzly Bear and Panda Bear we'd gotten in early Dec 2021. We took them to the PP adoption center at Petsmart on Feb 20. I was surprised when Grizzly was the first to be adopted, on Mar 1st, since he was the more shy of the two. Sadly the adoption didn't work and Grizzly came back to us on Mar 15. Panda Bear was adopted on Mar 18 but was returned on Nov 12, but adopted again soon after that. We decided we couldn't part with Grizzly so adopted him on May 2.



We got a very sick kitten on Christmas eve 2021 that we named Nicholas Evan, Nick for short. By Jan he was doing much better. We took him to Petsmart on Feb 16 and he was adopted on Feb 20. He had the most amazing trill. On Apr 9 I got a black kitty I named Grace. She was found in a feral colony but she wasn't feral. We took her to the adoption center on May 2 and she was adopted on May 8. We got beautiful lynx Bentley on May 7. He was shy with people but on our surveillance camera he would rampage. He went to Petsmart on May 31 and was adopted on Jun 6 but it didn't work. The adopter found ringworm and freaked. We took him back on Jun 9 and after he was declared well, we took him back to Petsmart on Jun 25 and he was adopted on Jun 27.



PP emailed a plea for a foster for a mom and six kittens on July 14, 2022. They had been found in a box in a dumpster. A kind rescuer heard them crying and saved them. PP took them and I got the mom and four kittens on July 16. I named the mom Sedona and the kittens - gray and white Bisbee, calico Page, white boy Prescott and gray Winslow, aka Winnie. Tragically Winnie died from Panleukopenia on July 20. The three other kittens got emergency treatment at KAC on Sunday, July 24 and amazingly survived. Panleuk kills 95% of the kittens infected but these three beat the odds.



Sadly, they got ringworm which took weeks to clear up. They were finally cleared for adoption but couldn't go to the center. Sedona went to the center on Sept 20 and was adopted on Oct 1. After meet and greets in a storeroom, Bisbee was adopted on Oct 27, Prescott on Nov 28 and Page on Dec 10.