

We are getting back on a cruise ship next year ! We shall be sailing on the brand new Disney Wish. We are sailing to the Bahamas in September. But we are more excited about the ship itself. It's their newest and biggest ship. In addition to the incredible service and entertainment it boasts such new features as a Star Wars themed lounge and a Marvel themed restaurant. That is in addition to the restaurants, bars, and lounges we expect from the other ships. And the theaters (live and movie). And the pools. And all the other world class amenities.

We did not cruise this year. But, our cruise buddies Ray and Sherry were in Florida for a few days. We got together one evening to play cards and catch up. It was sure nice to see them again. They will be with us on the Wish.

We had another couple of visitors this year.

Our niece, Jenny, and her husband, Tristan came to visit us. The last time they were here Disney World was closed. But, this time, we took full advantage of Disney World being open. We used our DVC points to get a 2 bedroom villa at the Wilderness Lodge for 4 days. The four of us plus Nick stayed there.

We went to the parks every day. It was during the 50th anniversary celebration for Disney World so there was a lot going on. Plus it was Jenny and Tristan's first time at the parks. So that was exciting.

They had two extra days after Disney world. So they went with Nick to Universal Orlando. Jenny is a big fan of Harry Potter so they had fun. Their last day they went with Nick to Clearwater Beach which is near where he lives now.

Yes Nick has moved to Clearwater. He lost his job at Oracle due to Covid hysteria. He got a new job at Malware Bytes. They have a major office in Clearwater. He has not been to the office yet. He has been working from home. But he wanted to be close to the office in case they ever return to normal.

The new job is harder then the job at Oracle, but more satisfying.

Clearwater is a suburb of Tampa. Whereas, Davenport, where Debbie and I live, is a suburb of Orlando. Orlando and Tampa are about an hour and a half apart. They are at a similar latitude, but Tampa is further west, on the gulf coast.

Someone else has moved from Colorado to the Tampa area. It is our old friends, Zach Bringhold, Jolynne Allard Bringhold, and their three kids Isabella, zach(bear), and Raymond. Jolynne and Nick are rather close in age, and they basically grew up together. So, Nick has been spending some time with Zach and his family. But, Zach and his family have also spent

some time with Debbie and I. We have gone to both Disney and Universal together. It is fun to go to a theme park with young (6 to 12 years) kids. In addition, Zach is always ready and willing to help, especially with Joe's mobility issues. We are delighted to have them living near us again. We all lived in Arvada before Joe retired.

Yes, Debbie and I have started to spend some time at Universal. We have even bought annual passes. It is not as vast and varied as Disney World. But, the Harry Potter area is very well done. Harry Potter was one of the first books that Nick really read. And, universal has always been, and remains, maskless. That is, unfortunately, not true for Disney. If nothing else, it is nice to have even more variety.

We also went down to the Tampa area with Omen. It was a mid Florida corgi picnic. About 100 corgis were in attendance. There was a corgi race a costume contest a raffle and an auction. There was also a bbq lunch. It was an explosion of furry cuteness!

Of course, Omen was the cutest dog there.

Jenny got to come to Florida. But, her twin, Jackie, got to have a baby. Debbie and I have yet to meet young Aria Clay. Perhaps on our next trip back to Colorado.

We got back to Colorado this year for the 4th of July. We spent the 4th *with my brother John and his wife Sandie*.

Besides Disney, Universal, and Tampa, *activities are starting up again at dwo*. The DWO clubhouse is once again hosting trivia and karaoke. And the pool is open. Debbie has been taking advantage of the water aerobics classes.

And the photography club is once again meeting in the clubhouse. Joe is still the Vice President and technical guy. To keep things going last year, he established a website and used Discord to conduct meetings virtually. Now we are meeting at the clubhouse again. But he has kept up the website so that the members can see each other's photos at any time. Other people can see the photos at

<http://joeobrin.com/DWOPhotos/>

That is about all I have for this year.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all.

Joe, Debbie, Nick, and Omen