

Seasons Greetings to Everyone!

So this year it's my turn, Reneé, to do the yearly wrap-up. It's hard to believe that we are already at the end of 2016. So many things have happened this year that I'm going to just hit the highlights.

The Move:

In March, Jesse and Sabrina loaded up their recently purchased RV, hooked up a car hauler, and headed off to Logan, Utah with their baby girl Isabella. Jesse was able to find a job at the local Chili's. It was in Logan that Sabrina celebrated her first Mother's day and Jesse Father's day. They also celebrated their second anniversary in their little RV. In November, they moved into their first apartment and will be celebrating their first Christmas together as a little family. While we miss them a lot, we understand their need to stretch their wings and we support them completely.

San Diego, CA.:

We always love to go down to San Diego. The weather is usually beautiful all year round. We started the year off by heading there to celebrate Christina Arnold's birthday. We headed to San Diego a few more times this year to help celebrate the Arnold boys' birthdays and we'll be off to their house once more this year for the Annual Arnold Family Cookie Exchange the middle of December. Another trip to San Diego came when we helped our friends, William and Kim Allen move there for work. I think by the time the move was over we were all ready for vacation :) In July, we took another quick visit down to see the Allens before we headed out to the San Diego Comic Con! This year we took it very easy since it was just the two of us.

Sporting Events:

Doug was fortunate to score some free tickets to the Glen Helen National Motocross race from VetTix this summer. It was hot and dusty, but a great way to spend time with his brother Chris. In September, Doug and I enjoyed a nice night out at Angel's Stadium in Anaheim, California for an Angels game. We were able to see William and Kim Allen again as they were in Anaheim for Kim's birthday. October started off with a flurry of excitement as Doug and Jim Ritch flew in their friend Scott Abbott for a Charger's football game. Scott arrived on October 1st and flew home on October 4th. It was quite an exciting weekend for all involved. October had Doug and Jim enjoying a playoff game between the LA Dodgers and Chicago Cubs. Doug is a computer media specialist at Silverado High and we went to see them play in the CIF championships in Cerritos, CA also.

Special Events:

My mom, JoAnne and my brother Scott came for WonderCon 2016 in LA this March. It was a great weekend and my brother was very happy. We spent the weekend taking pictures of everyone in costume and picking through the boxes and boxes of comic books at the vendor stands. Good times, good times! One warm June night had us enjoying the musical sounds of Martial Haprov and his sister Melanie Madoo as Martial's band Lastman played at Desert Barn Brewery, and later we helped celebrate Martial's birthday with his family and friends. We were so excited to see Stryper in concert for their 30th Anniversary To Hell With The Devil tour in October. Once again, in November, we were blessed with tickets through VetTix, to see Amy Grant, Michael W. Smith and Jordan Smith in concert accompanied by a full orchestra as they sang some wonderful Christmas favorites at the Dolby Theatre in Hollywood. I love Christmas music so this was a treat for me.

School:

In April, Doug finished his first course after restarting his Master's degree at Oral Roberts University. He also completed a class for his teaching credential this spring. He's currently trying to decide which direction he wants to go this next year.

Visits:

We made our first trip to Logan in March to see the kids. The 10 hour drive is so worth it when you get to see family! In May, Doug's brother Chris Zelif was in California for 4 months of Oregon Air National Guard training. We enjoyed several visits with Chris while he was completing his training. We spent the 4th of July with our kids and grandbaby in Logan for our 2nd trip to Utah and were able to enjoy a great breakfast with Bob, Sandy and Robert Campbell as we headed through Salt Lake City on our way home. In August, our home was showered in ash from the Pilot and then Blue Cut fires that caused thousands of evacuations and schools to be closed due to poor air quality. The fire was thankfully contained before we headed down to Ventura, CA for Chris' graduation from his Air National Guard training. Our 3rd trip to Logan came in October. We then spent Thanksgiving with the kids and our amazing granddaughter Isabella for our 4th and final visit to Logan for the year. I'm awestruck when I think back through this year and realize that this precious little baby girl has grown taller, begun to crawl, stand up, has a few teeth, eats solid food on her own, and is learning to speak.

It's amazing to see all the things that happen in 12 short months. This time of year makes me appreciate the circle of friends and family that we have surrounding us. This year has given us many breakfasts, lunches and dinners out with family and friends. It has allowed us to connect with many of you on Facebook and Twitter. We are so thankful for each and every one of you. It's been a wonder-filled journey and we are so happy to have had you along for the ride! Please keep in touch with us by dropping us a note at Doug's Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/zelif>, our email at dzelif.geo@yahoo.com or by sending a written letter to 22880 Wren Street, Apple Valley, CA 92308.

Jesus is the reason for the season and we thank Him for you!!

Many Blessings to you and yours,
Doug and Renee Zelif

