

2020 Christmas

Wow! 2020 has certainly taken us all for a ride. From hurricanes and tornados and fires and COVID and social distancing and rotten politics, we have been under the gun. But, don't you just know, God is still in control.

The poufy clouds still dance across the sky, trees still stand tall (and didn't they give us a gorgeous color show this past fall?), little kids still screech as they play in the pool, kitties still purr, puppies still snuggle with their wet nose against your cheek, we have all increased our skills on the computer, we are closer to friends because we are all in the same boat, and the list goes on. These are the things we can be so thankful for in this goofy world. Our God still stands beside us.

I am also so thankful for all of you Facebook friends and relatives. You make my day much more interesting as I open the computer to see pictures of your beloved families and your latest adventures....and, often, what you are cooking. Christmas comes alive on the screen when you post your magic.

Anyway, Merry Christmas to all of you. I hope 2021 is a better year...and that those desperate people are able to find at least one car for warrantee renewal so they can quit calling us.

Please, give yourself a hug for me.



Alma Man

Mrs. Alma Mann was in fine form again yesterday at the nursing home. Even tho she weighs maybe 90 pounds soaking wet, she insists on opening doors and walking us out to the parking lot. She often tells of growing up on the farm with her siblings (the number of siblings ranges from 7 to 13, depending on the day) and explains that they all helped in the fields, tended a huge garden and assisted their mother with food prep and preservation. She says that they didn't have much but, "We were all so happy!" Sometimes she sits there with her eyes closed as she talks and I can just see the memories of her childhood flit across her years-worn face. Such a look of peace flows over her!

Then, as we drive away, she still stands, waving as usual until we are way down the street. I'm not sure who is blessing whom with these visits.



Be Nice

About those elections.....

Whatever happened to people being kind and nice to each other? If you like Biden, vote for Biden. If you like Trump, vote for Trump. See? That wasn't so difficult, was it?

Broom Tune Up

2020

I am looking for recommendations for a reputable repair shop to take my vintage 1943 horsehair and corn husk broom to for a tune-up and alignment. (A broom out of alignment puts the rider at serious risk of being splattered around an electric pole or tree.) Also, the handle is in need of rotation and balancing. Additionally, I'd like to trick out my broom with AC, heat and halogen lights for safety.

Any helpful input and suggestions would be much appreciated. Thank you!



God is Still in Control

Yesterday our ornamental crab apple tree, a few days past its prime bloom, was shedding its blossoms onto the lush green lawn below it. As the fuchsia petals drifted down like snowflakes, they landed among a patch of purple wood violets. The bright sun bounced its rays across the scene and reminded me, no matter how scary and crazy our world is right now, God is still in control.



Goofy Picture Story

This is one of my more realistic poses. It is how most folks instinctively think of me. When I posted it in 2013, it opened up quite the conversation.

Sue Pickett commented, “Silly lady!” Cousin Sylvia Suess Hillman did not pull any punches. “Boy!!!! This has to be a favorite for me!!!! I know the feeling!!!! Date this one for me would ya? Oh...Yesterday, you say?”

1985 it was. Despite the goofy face, I do wish the rest of me looked like that.

Sylvia continued, “This one could definitely win a prize.....but I'm not sure for what!!!!!!”

I pride myself on my dignified and quiet manner.

Sylvia, “And that's what I love about you most!!!!!!”

Thanks. I've always been so shy. Looks like I've opened Pandora's Box here.

Sylvia, “I always thought we were a lot alike, but I got out my mirror and tried to do that thing with my eyes, and I just couldn't get the look right!!”

It takes skill, Cuz. Some of us have it and the rest of you are normal.

Sylvia, “Yeah, well, so goes my life. I find two things in life extremely boring.....One is perfection, and the other is normal. NOW, do ya spose we better wrap this up before the people that don't know us very well get confused or take on the wrong impression of our sincere genuiness? Oh!....and I will continue to work with that mirror thingy.....I'll get it.....just might take a little time.”

Anybody who is my friend on Face-book is pretty confused to start with but, yes, we better quit blowing their minds. They need to understand that sometimes "Girls (cousins) just need to have fun". Oh, that sounds awful.

Maybe I better delete this whole thing



Lake Scene

No, this isn't a real picture but, sit down on a comfy stump and immerse yourself into the pine-scented scene. Can't you just smell the burgers on that grill and feel Dad's pride at his accomplishment of making burgers without torching them? No

doubt the red cooler on the picnic table is holding some yummy red grapes that will explode a splash of flavor in your mouth when you munch down on them. And the man coming off the pier with his tackle box...he is so thankful that Dad has burgers cooking instead of depending on the fish that he did not catch for supper. Somebody has repurposed an old school bus into a cozy camper, complete with a heat source for the coming nippy night. Wonder if they have enough room for those poor campers in the tent when frost covers their sleeping bags? Listen! Did you hear those geese way off in the distance, winging their way south for the coming winter? The folks in the blue truck/camper will be all safe from skunks and raccoons overnight but they will still be able to listen to the lake water gurgle over the rocks on shore as a breeze rustles the pines. The owners of this spot, certainly, live in the beautiful log cabin and are so pleased that they have been able to rent out 3 lakeside spots for the weekend. It is a win/win situation for everybody...including you who have been beside me, seeing another world in the mosquito-free safety of your mind. Inhale and enjoy!



Leg Hair Advice

Leg hair? I just braid 'em and put a pretty bow at the ends. They bounce and sway as I walk...kind of like watching a corn field on a windy day.



May 2020

Lately, I've been getting depressed because, it seems, all you hear about are politicians and the media convincing you that the world has been taken over by nasty scumbags and our future is nothing but gloom and doom. This morning the senior citizen group from our church had a Zoom meeting and I realized that there are so many really GOOD people in this world...and not just in our church, people we meet on the walk trails, people on Facebook, classmates, most relatives, neighbors and even most folks at Walmart. What a wonderful thing to know! I'm grinning again.

We need to use our educated instincts and look FOR the sunny side, not AT the sunny side. I agree that passive ignorance will destroy our country. We also need to voice our opposition to crap and graft. I'm not entirely sure votes are going to be enough. That is a scary thought.



Motorized Cart

I use a motorized cart in the grocery store and find that people of every size, age, color and attire are willing to help me reach items from the upper shelves, often without me asking. If you treat people kindly and don't wear an angry face, most folks will react reflectively. In general, people are decent. You simply hear more about the duds.



Planters Available

Sadly, not one person responded to my generous offer!



Lin Moseley is with Larry Faist and 2 others.

January 12, 2018 · 🌐



OK, all you Master Gardeners in the Lynchburg area, a very nice planter for your spring and summer flowers is available for your front lawn. Two other matching pieces can easily be added to your choice new planter. No drainage holes need to be added because an adequate drain is already in place in each item. Rest assured, your neighbors will be thrilled with your newest performance art pieces and it will greatly enhance the curb appeal and property value of the whole neighborhood. Always looking out for all of you Facebook friends.



Saying I Love You

[Joann Willis](#)

Feb. 11, 2019 on Facebook

Do you ever wonder if maybe you say the words “I Love You” too much and people get tired of hearing it and just take it for granted? Or maybe you feel you don’t say it enough?

I heard a beautiful song this morn on JOYFM. It was “Don’t Miss the Chance to Say I Love You” by the Jim Brady Trio.

Being Valentines Week I thought I’d share these words with you...

“Life can move so fast, we seldom realize.

Everything can change, right before our eyes, and all that we hold dear can slip away. Don’t ever miss the chance to say I Love You. Show the ones you love how you feel inside. Cherish every moment while you still have time. We don’t always get to say goodbye. So don’t ever miss the chance to say I love you.”

Note to Joann:

Loved your message about saying, "I love you", because life can change so fast. Last night Jim and I were dozing on the couch, our snores keeping time to the music on TV, when he started hollering and thrashing. I figured it was a nightmare so I got beside him and tried to wake him. I patted his face, rubbed his head and talked to him but it did not stop. I feared he was having a heart attack and my blood ran cold. After maybe 45 seconds of this he came up out of his sleep, swinging punches. I jumped back. His eyes were wild. Almost immediately he came to and realized who I was. His dream had been that somebody was trying to kidnap him and he was being tied up. Bottom line, it could so easily have been a heart attack or stroke or something of equal severity and I could have lost him right there on the couch. Oh, yes, don't ever take your loved ones for granted and don't ever miss a chance to tell them that you love them.



