

MM Special Report — From Summer Headquarters

Morgan's Moment...

Grandson Max

proposed a sail...
an irresistible invitation.

Except I stalled a moment...
maybe noting fading wind...
a pause he noted.

*"Don't you like to sail Grampa...
get your hand on the tiller
and move away from shore?"*

Yes I like to sail...

have my hand on the tiller
or maybe a foot...yes a foot!

My mind skipped way back...
memories of years sailing...
all who have sailed with me.

I asked Max...

*"Do you remember me
at the tiller very often?"*

I answered my own question...

*"I always tried
not to be at the tiller."*

Our summer albums

are full of great photos
of other people at the tiller

Grandchildren and many others
caught the sailing feeling
because I was not at the tiller.

I don't think people learn to sail
unless they get
their own hands on the tiller.

Art Morgan

Summer Time when the Living is...Momentous

MAY 20 CABIN ARRIVAL DAY

It's only about 5 and a half-hours from Corvallis to Puget Sound, but we took about 6 and a half-hours.

By 7 pm we had opened the cabin, had a snack on our deck, and was off to help a neighbor get her boat in the water and drive her truck and trailer back from the boat launch.

Many tasks fill the days...like wading up to my waist at low tide to locate our mooring line. It had broken in the winter and sank someplace. It didn't take long to find it, but it was in no shape for immediate use.

I sent my Memorial Day mailing that Friday. We always try to be here to scatter forget-me-nots on Memorial Day in tribute to beach neighbors.

Jean does all sorts of work as we try to get the sleeping cabins ready for guests already planning to be here. The outdoor deck kitchen set up came first. Gathering wood for her morning fires is a top priority.

Prepping the boat is my first job. It takes about two days. Then we waited for Max and Hannah to arrive from Oregon for launching.

Today is June 8...already. We've co-hosted a couple of deck happy hours. Max and Hannah came June 2 and promptly got the boat in the water. It was the first time ever that I didn't take Say Yay to its moorage. They raised the mast (with slight help from me) and set up the sails. They have had several sails, but little wind. They did get an overnight to Jarrell's Cove on Hartstene Island.

Hannah's mom, Marilyn, joined us for a few days.

Max took down a couple of dead trees on our back lot. He cut them into splitting size for Jean's campfire. Hannah shares all the work. It is so good to have their help.

August weather in June is setting all-time records. It's warm early. Snow is virtually gone from the Olympic Mountains. We like summer but this is not normal and it's not good for a lot of living and growing things around here.

NOW the "Momentous" part of this summer-time report...

We've been in a "watchful waiting" mode for some time now as granddaughter Lauren and husband Pete have been anticipating the arrival of their first child and our third great-grandchild.

Then came the awaited word from Lauren and Pete:

We are excited to announce the arrival of Henry Thomas Moe, born Friday, June 5 weighing 9lb 3oz and measuring 22.5" long. The exhaustion is worth all the baby snuggles, good smells, and buttery soft skin.

Photos soon appeared...a happy mother and baby...an amazed dad and son...a very pleased grandmother (Karen) and infant. This arrival makes all the previously reported summer activities seem trivial.

I look at the photos. Mysterious and awesome...New life...a compelling metaphor for how God might be known in human hearts...the holy in a form that we can hold in our arms and love...we sense the sacred...a spiritual moment...Momentous for sure.

— Art Morgan, June 8, 2015

BOOK CORNER

BLOOD BROTHERS, by Elias Chacour

How did I not know about Elias Chacour? He was nominated three times for the Nobel Peace Prize. Amazingly in 2001 he was named Man of the Year in Israel. We must be amazed, because Chacour is both a Christian and a Palestinian whose country was transferred to the new state of Israel. Powerful.

HOW JESUS BECAME A CHRISTIAN by Barrie Wilson

If you are interested in the multiple documents from which orthodox Christianity evolved, try this. (Suggested to me by Loren Arnett)