



## A Regular Driver After All



I went to the DMV last Wednesday to renew my driver's license and was totally surprised to score a **regular** driver's license. The DMV decided to remove the vision limitation I have had for the last five years and told me I didn't

have to take a driving test (as indicated on my renewal paperwork). Backstory: Five years ago DMV randomly decided to put a vision limit on my driver's license because of amblyopia in my right eye (which I have had since I was a child). This vision limit meant I had to go back two years later, then four years later and then a year later to take a vision driving test. Since 2018, I have taken three driving tests. This year was year number five so I expected to be taking a fourth vision driving test. I was totally amazed when DMV didn't schedule a driving test at all. I expected this would be my life from now on but instead, as of last week, no more taking a driving test every time I turn around! I am so in shock! And happy!

## 3 Weeks of Rain

Most everyone everywhere heard about all the rain, mudslides and fallen trees California has been bombarded with since Christmas. Overall Napa fared better than a lot of areas. We ourselves only had to deal with large Redwood branches falling alongside our house. Thankfully we did not have a car parked there like we used to do with our Mazda before we bought our Pathfinder. One of the branches came down vertically and would have punched a huge hole in the top of it if so.

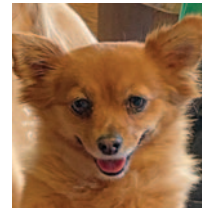


## Our Favorite Santa Elf

Christmas morning stockings were hung by our favorite Santa Elf, Chris. A tradition he continues



to keep alive. And no Christmas at our house is complete without dogs: Morgan, Brooklyn, Kai, and Miles. One more dog was added to the mix the day after Christmas. We enjoyed seeing Nicole Hemenez who brought lunch and her cutie-pie dog, Coco! Not only did she bring lunch, she showered everyone



Coco



with the most thoughtful gifts!

Robert and I celebrated Christmastime with Tim, Kathy, Rylan, Brex, and Sierra from Lake Oswego, and Chris from Fair Oaks plus Gary, Fely, Nick, and Kim

from Benicia who joined us after stockings and for dinner.

Chris, as he often does for Christmas, went all out this year. He gifted hard drives to all of us, each containing digitized copies of film and video of family dating at least all the way back to when Robert's parents were dating and married in the 40s.



## Drawing Away!

Three new ones since my last newsletter. A boxer for a dog club member, a King Charles Cavalier Spaniel for a winner of a raffle sponsored by NorCal GSP Rescue, and Enola, a Bernese Mountain Dog who is a member of Dave, Stacey, Ashley, Arya, and Luca's family.

