

Who Do You See in the Tree?



This summer, we lost one of our tall trees behind the barn to the drought. Robert had no choice but to cut it down (well he could have hired a tree service to do it but he has a thing about cutting down trees—he likes doing it, likes climbing high into the branches to tie ropes at the right angles and right positions to saw off chunks of the trunk after trimming away branches to fell each section of the tree safely to the ground. Since we have a gas fireplace Chris and Miles will be the beneficiaries of our lost tree—there is now lots of firewood to keep them warm in the winter!



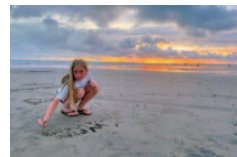
Time to Burn

Speaking of our gas fireplace, ours gave out at the end of last winter. We feared we would be going fireless this winter or would need to buy a new one given it is over 20 years old. We then decided to try asking the company we bought it from. Surprisingly, as old as it is, they were still able to fix it saving us having to rip out all the tile and resize everything to install a new fireplace!



Costa Rica Pines

It's become a repeat favorite for the Pines—to head to Nosara, Costa Rica for a summer vacation, a wonderful place to experience beautiful beaches, out of this world sunsets, zip lining, favorite fab places to eat, and much more. **And this** year, Rylan and Aubrey graduated to driving their very own quad.



Show Girl

Morgan added to her collection of show ribbons at the 4-Day Lake Drake Cluster Dog Show in Vallejo September 15th through 18th albeit none of her placements earned her points. She won over two bitches on Thursday, three bitches on Friday, and one bitch on Saturday. I am still trying to figure out how to achieve the best performance out of her, a challenge what with her hypersensitivity to touch, sound, and movement. Happily, for the most part, she was okay with the judges examining her although there was a moment on our last day wherein she almost lost it which I am sure caused her to finish last. Obviously I have not and am not devoting enough time perfecting showmanship like the professional handlers do.

