

*I hope this finds you well, healthy, warm and full
of good cheer!*

This year started with the hope of possibly a bit of work, but that receded over the course of the first few months. One of the things that kept me busy early in the year was being an announcer at a amateur radio SwapFest. The task involved scheduling prizes to be given away, getting someone to draw a winning ticket, and calling out any activities which were occurring.

I traveled during tax season to Nebraska to help my mother and brother several times. After tax seasons, there was a lot of effort in getting ready for Field Day. I helped put together and test antennas. I had a great time at Field Day and our club did well in our efforts to contact people.

For the summer, Karissa and kids visited and we went to The Flying W for a great show. Part of the summer was soliciting prizes for the Summer SwapFest. It was the first SwapFest the HAM radio club has done in summer. It was well attended and I had a great time.

This fall I visited Kassandra and family to help for a bit. The youngest grandson had his tonsils removed. I got to take kids to take them to the school bus.

I saw a request for someone to teach STEM and help with technology. I inquired about the position in terms of helping with the technology. Somehow out of that, I got hired as a teacher's aide to help with math, STEM items, and with technology as required. I found out the technological part was to fix Chromebooks which have issues. It is about 1.5 hours each day, 5 days a week. It is a wonderful experience working with the teachers and students.

In October, I started to have issues with my shoulder. While it has gotten better, I started Physical Therapy (PT) in late December. As I started PT, I caught a virus of some nature that lasted several days and took quite a few day so rest before I was better. As such, I could not get Christmas cards out prior to Christmas. I also helped with HamCon in Grand Junction in late October. It was a great time and I got to meet a lot of other amateur radio operators.

February 2026 will mark fifteen years since Melanie was called home. I hope you will take a moment to remember.

I am looking forward to being healthy, doing some traveling, chasing balloons (eoss.org) and getting Christmas cards out in a timely manner in 2026.

*May you have a Healthy, Great, and
Wonderful 2026!*



Lee, Coco (granddog), and Morgan



Sebastian, Quinton, and Caspian