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ZANN'S PLACE: Mother Nature: may her force be with you

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Posted: Wednesday, May 18, 2016 8:44 pm

By Zann Nelson



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

This image is of a sculpture by Lorenzo Quinn and inspired by the Thailand disaster and a tribute to the forces of Mother Nature.

So what was your day like? Did you plant your umbrella in the car while wishing for some sunshine? I caught myself grousing at the weather because it was not complying with my timeline for mowing the grass. Really? Have we not mastered the weather well enough by now so that we can tell it when to rain, manipulate the perfect temperature and eliminate disastrous storms?

Do you join me in a plea for a perfect climate?

Actually, as much as I would love to eliminate extremes, I kind of like the variations and have accepted that the weather system is Mother Nature's (MN) way of reminding us just who is in charge! We don't like it we can move, temporarily or permanently; only to be faced with some other less than desirable trade off.

I am one of those who avoids complaining too much or too loudly for fear of retribution. Is MN standing nearby listening for us hand-wringing whiners? Will she declare, "Too much rain, OK then let's see how you will deal with a drought." We are helpless to control the whimsies of nature.

Nonetheless, all is not a question of defeat, we as humans, can strike a balance! As mentioned earlier, if we are dismayed continuously by the local weather, we have the will and power to relocate. If that is not the preferred resolution, try looking at that old silver lining.

It is true that I have come to think there are no rainbows at the end of those winter time frigid days with a foot or more of snow, except maybe for the purveyors of heating utilities. But I have gotten smarter about heating the house and planning for the down days with reading material. Then there is that sweetness that comes from canceled meetings and a quiet electronic environment.

It all begs the question: have we become soft and spoiled about the climate? Our homes, offices and schools are all climate controlled. We only come face to face with the realities of Mother Nature when we step outside or if her forces put the kibosh on our man made powers.

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Have we created a world and an attitude that cannot contend with the fluctuations in weather? There was a time when the bulk of one's daily life was spent outside and the house was shelter from the worst weather. There is an advancing movement to get back to nature with such endeavors as hiking, swimming in mountain streams and harvesting organic foods from the back yard. One of the big box supply stores even advertises life out doors with a carpet like lawn.

To fully appreciate these kinds of activities one absolutely must develop a working relationship with Madam Nature and that tends to be a servant -master thing. Once we accept that we are the servants, life takes on a whole new level of enjoyment.

Mother Nature would also look more favorably upon us if we took better care of her world. Just sayin'...

Until next week, be well and keep your powder dry!

Zann Nelson is an award-winning freelance writer specializing in historical investigations. She is the past president of Friends of Wilderness Battlefield, Inc., president of History Quest, and resides on a farm in Culpeper. She can be reached at M16439@aol.com www.facebook.com/ZannsPlace .

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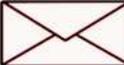
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