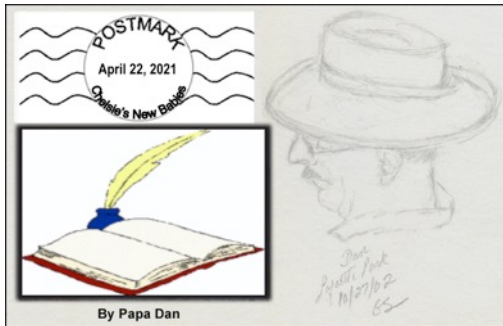


Breaking News: Chelsie Has A New Nest



Remember the first episode of our **Hummingbird Story**? You can find it here: <https://convivio-online.net/our-baby-hummingbirds/>

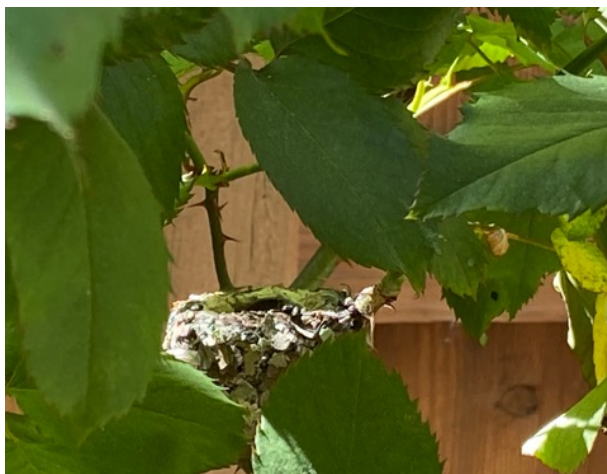
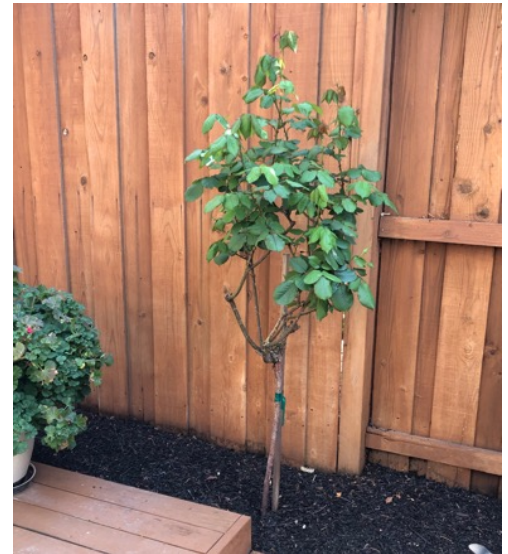
Gretta said then: “I bet this needs to become a story.”

AND She Has Two New Babies

Our very own Mama Hummingbird — remember, we named her Chelsie back in February — now has set up a new nest in a rose tree in our back yard. Almost two months ago we watched, as did some of our neighbors, as she sat on her two eggs in our front yard until they hatched, fed them as they grew inside the nest ([as reported on ConVivio](#)), until they flew off to seek their fortune in the big, wide world, as all babies must eventually do. So, now, she has started a second family in our back yard.

Chelsie laid two eggs in this new nest and they have both hatched during the third week in April, five days apart. We watched their progress every day. Most often we saw Chelsie dutifully sitting on top of the two eggs in the nest. Occasionally, she briefly flitted off to other trees and flowers in our yard or to the Zinfandel vines along our back fence. Now that they have both hatched, Chelsie flutters off, presumably to find food, and then returns to feed them and sit on them as they start to grow.

Right now, the two little ones are barely visible in the nest — one small bundle of fur and one larger bundle with a visible beak. Both appear to be breathing, as the bundles of fur slowly rise and fall.



In this photo, the two little bundles of fur are barely visible above the rim of the nest, with one little beak pointing to the right.

So, now, we have work to do. Last time, after asking for suggestions, we named Chelsie’s babies Sam and Diane. We are confident that Chelsie approved of our choices.

Now, we have to go to work on this important task once again. As before, we have asked for suggestions.

We received 26 suggestions. Here is a list of the recommendations we received:

Abbott and Costello	Harry and Meghan
Barbie and Ken	John and Paul
Batman and Robin	Ralph and Alice
Bert and Ernie	Regis and Kathy Lee
Butch and Sundance	Ross and Monica
Captain and Tennille	Sasha and Malia
Cheech and Chong	Sonny and Cher
Daniela and Greg	Steph and Draymond
Donnie and Marie	Steph and Klay
Edith & Archie	Varenna and Paris
George and Ringo	Venus and Serena
Gloria and Meathead	Woody and Winnie
Hall and Oates	Yosemite and Ahwahnee

So, we did the obvious thing — we had an election. The families of our four sons got to vote. They each could select a first, second, and third choice and the votes were weighted accordingly. That vote yielded five finalists:

Donnie and Marie
Barbie and Ken
Bert and Ernie
Steph and Klay
Varenna and Paris

So, we had a runoff. Each person got one vote; and ...

→ → OK, it has been decided. We have a winner!

And here on the 22nd day of April, 2021, face-to-face with what passes for excitement these days in the world of COVID, we have named the babies. Chelsie will be happy to know that her babies have names. She can now call them:

Barbie and Ken

I am sure she will be pleased.

Voters who had other preferences may be interested to know that there was a tie for second place between:

Donnie and Marie

And

Steph and Klay

So, various points of view were represented in the voting.

... but we won't tell Chelsie about the other nominees ...



Meanwhile, the two furry little bundles are scrunching snugly in the nest. Chelsie chose a very secure and protected location for this one, so we don't get much of a clear view. We have seen what looks like a beak protruding off to one side when Chelsie has flitted away briefly to find food. Otherwise, she dutifully sits on the babies in the nest and waits for them to grow.

Naturally, we have some questions, as we had last time. Will the warmer nights of late April be better for these two children than the cold nights of February that Sam and Diane had to endure in Chelsie's last nest? Will they fly from the nest or fall from it — remember, last time Diane fell from the nest before she could fly and we had to lift her back into the nest. Will the neighbor's prowling outdoor cat cause them trouble? I observe that the location Chelsie chose for this nest seems to be better protected than the last one. Will they need some help from us or ... maybe ... what we've learned is that the responsibility belongs to them and not to us. They seem to know what they are doing.

We'll be watching.

