



October 5, 2007

With our dryer than normal summer, many trees have lost their leaves while others are just beginning to get their color. The color may not be as vibrant as in previous years, but it's still pretty good. Some migrating birds have been visiting the feeders. Juncos, as usual, and the lone male Cardinal we seem to get each fall and spring. Sometimes a female is along, but not this time. The moose have been moving about with a few visiting our property. Last week, a lone male in the meadow across the street. Yesterday, a female at the pond. Our kitty, Abigail With No Tail, decided to make friends. She walked up to the moose and sat down about 4 feet in front of her. They just looked at each other, and then the moose sauntered off. Such fun to watch!

But you're not here to learn about the goings on of autumn in Madrid; you're here to learn about the progress of the barn. The picture on the exciting plans page certainly doesn't say it all. You can see trim around the windows that's been painted to go along with the roof. What you may not be able to see is that siding has been put in place, though not completely. That the space where the parking lot will be, to the left, is now prepared to be graded. That the pile of wood near the door has dwindled, it being the pile of flooring. Yes, flooring has been laid in 4 bathrooms, awaiting the installation of commode and sinks. Flooring has also been completed in one of the bedrooms, and is halfway done in another. The walls have been painted in the kitchen, yoga studio bathroom, yoga studio, 2 bedrooms and one of the other bathrooms. The two story ceiling in the foyer area has been stained to look very 'barn-ish.' 95% of the lighting has been installed. There are still a hundred things that need to be done, but that list is down from 1000. This weekend we'll be shopping for kitchen appliances and mattresses. We're hoping some of our family visiting later in the month will be the inaugural guests.

The number of items in the gift shop, Star Barn Uniques, keeps growing. There are some VERY talented people out there. I think I know where I'll be doing my Christmas shopping this year.

Ginni and David Robie