

Fun And Games On Boxing Day

This year, the extended family gathering fell on the day after the big day when everyone could fit it into their schedule with their other festivities. Get us all together and it is bound to be a fun-filled event. The hilarity began when my brother dropped his plate of food on the floor on the way to the table. He insists that he had both hands on the plate. I told him he should have had both eyes on the plate as well. Alicia thought that he was sitting on the floor in the hall eating instead of joining us at the table.

Lots of goodies are always set up on Aunt Sandy's table throughout the day, cheeseballs, cookies, candy (featuring everyone's favorite buckeyes) plus the home cooked spread featuring pies and a delicious meal and you do not leave the place hungry.

Chad had to song lead at mass at six so a bunch of us went and came back out. He did fine except that I think he should have practiced those later verses of "The First Noel" a bit more. I admit that some of those do get tricky especially if you are not used to them. The melody is familiar enough but when you are unaccustomed to the lyrics of all five verses then you tend to get overwhelmed.

After mass, many returned to the house and engaged in what I hope becomes a tradition: the euchre battle. Going head to head with my oldest brother is daunting anyway (PARTICULARLY, KNOWING WHAT A SHARK HE IS!). I am amazed and pleased to say that Christi?! and I beat Jeff and his rotating partners Dan and Carla 2- 1.

I also received a camera under the tree (let's see how long it takes before I lose THIS ONE ☐)

☒ Sydney in front of the horrible Eddie Murphy version of *The*

Nutty Professor.

☒ Carla, Dan, Sydney, and a surprise appearance by someone's handsome leg.

☒ Shelby (half covered by a mysterious appendage, Joshua, Jeff, and Elizabeth.

☒ Sorry Shelby... must have had the blur reduction off.

☒ Noah opening the Magna Doodle to which he lost the magnet inside the pen before the night ended.

☒ Autumn, Jason, Carla, Lauren, Dan, Alyssa, and Alex with his second set of Army accessories of the season.

So... lots of fun, love, and FOOD over the Christmas holiday.