Thoughts of 2020

by RG

(December 29, 2020)

The year 2020 is finally winding down to a close as I just noted in my diary. Truly, many things have occurred that should cause us all to pause and recollect on what has happen that will make this year be unique and different from all others. Yes, each year is different, but some are more significant in their change than others and this is what I will attempt to address in this note.

First, for me my nearly 40 years of working in the airline industry finally came to an end back in August. With the affects of the COVID-19 Pandemic (more on this subject later) put the brakes on a career that I attempted to fulfill. As I remember, it began with the affects of deregulation so why not end it with a Pandemic. Second was the start of expanding and continuing my education, that too has been somewhat rocky not with grades but with administration. Delays caused by administrators, failures of those who by their action did not perform in their duties, causes a lapse but they are not reprimanded rather, they are promoted, and I must suffer the consequence. Nevertheless, time has finally reached its end with this final semester, Third, having the story that was written years ago finally published and subsequently, working the deal and receiving the acknowledgement that the second work will also be published is a great accomplishment. This has caused the continuation on developing other stories to finally see if this is where all of these events are leading. Establishing a new career where I can be my own boss. Though currently, there is plenty of uncertainty the feeling deep from within is this is where I need to be.

As far as the current events, the COVID-19 Pandemic has had a cause and affect on society unseen for some time. Businesses and communities on a shutdown, which has promoted the feel of anxiousness among the people. Political groups blaming the other for the outbreak when if they would realize and drop their unwarranted rhetoric no one causes a Pandemic but we all must work to find solutions not place blame, which in itself, is self-perpetuating for them and not helping the citizens combat and overcome the effects. Seeing how those in charge are dodging the bullets of conspiracy that have recently come to light. A newly elected President has in his past had dealing with another country all for the love of money and power for himself. Receiving millions of dollars for your so-called position of influence has put not only this country at risk but the people at risk. These, the same people who they proclaim they love. Actions speak louder than the words of deceit that they speak.

The college football season, the only true sports season, has been plagued with the affects of the virus. Seasons called off then reinstated subsequently causing postponements, cancellations with some teams finally abandoning it all together. Trying to pick an overall champion from a partial group of players, will this really be a champion? Crowds reduced to bare minimum with some in the professional arena to be watch by cardboard cutouts with piped in crowd noise to satisfy the TV viewers but adds nothing to the actual game. This season of football, basketball, baseball, and hockey has just been a mere mirage of a true season. The reality has been that all is done just to satisfy the need of trying to produce a pasted experience of excitement when all the while, the millions of loss revenue and business can never be replaced even at the college level. The impact of such events has had an overwhelming effect on how future games will be played. The call for new stadium constructions has been eliminated due to the one fact that stadiums are no longer be sold out at least for the time being.

The airline industry will forever be changed in how it operates. From the number of passengers to be allowed on a flight, the number of preexisting bookings, the changes in travel permits for humans, hotel bookings, car rentals, cruise lines, airport vending workers, airports themselves, all have been affected by one action which has had a profound impact on revenues with subsequent repercussions throughout the world. Every market has been exponentially hit just like the rings in the pond. Once it began the ring will continue to flow out until no more. Unfortunately, there is no end in sight especially now with the new strand already pronounced and causing additional guidelines and protocols to be in place.

Clothing has changed. You can no longer be in public without facial mask. All the money that municipalities funded for facial recognition software is seemingly now ineffective since the individuals face can not been seen by the cameras. The financial positive impact on one industry versus the financial negative impact of another.

Back at the beginning, certain key political leaders of some cities and states called out for federal support requesting additional resources to be sent to combat the outbreak. However, their failure to utilize properly what was supplied, their lack of taking appropriate action to circumvent outcomes caused additional occurrences and even death by their actions plus their blatant disregard for their own mandates which they placed on the citizens, is now being commended and even being rewarded in some instances. A political candidate remaining in their basement campaigning not being seen in public by any group of supporters for a political office one of which is the highest office in the country now becomes the newly elected President of the United States all done under the disguise of political manipulation of the process. Where will it all end.

What does the future hold? Who knows! If the past events are any barometer on what we should expect for 2021 then I feel the road to any recovery is still uncertain and rocky. Government is to provide protection and support of the people not to be our provider and sustainer of life. The people are the answer. Government and political leaders need to step aside and let the people do what is best for themselves and their families. Mandating their own personal feelings on the people that elected them to office is not the answer. Political leaders are in place to do what we the citizens can not do on our own, not to be our controller. This country was founded on the belief that the people have the answer not some governmental institution. Freedom and Liberty have always been the way to true prosperity, and it is time some in-leadership positions realize this fact.