

Subject: Re: back home?

From: wbahn@bfe.com

Date: Fri, 29 Aug 2008 04:44:56 -0600

To: phoebe6336@yahoo.com

Quoting Phoebe Chien <phoebe6336@yahoo.com>:

HI, Bill,

you back home? or still in the office?
Stacy slept now.. she is pretty good today, but very wiggling all day long...

I'm finally home. I've been at school working on homework. I got two problems done (out of seven assigned) in six hours. And that's just the problems for one of the two classes I'm taking. It's going to be a painful semester.

I think she will be surprised and I think she will be a bit concerned that I am rushing into something without really thinking everything through. In the end, I think she will be excited to meet you and Stacy as soon as she can. I suspect I will forever hear remarks about how I didn't even tell her about having a girlfriend until she was my fiance - but she will be doing so in a light-hearted way.

hm... it's my bad, all because of me, then you need to be so hurry... so you still have chance to say no, and find a gf , what do you think?

What I think is that you don't have anything to worry about. I really don't foresee a problem and any remarks she makes will be meant in a light-hearted way. I imagine it will become a family joke - it's meant purely for light humor. For instance, when I was 7th or 8th grade that there was a big explosion at a refinery about twenty miles away that shook the house and my dad thought I had knocked something over in my room and came up and asked me what I had done. He looked skeptical when I said that I hadn't done anything. It wasn't until that night that we heard what had happened, and from then on I would tell people that every time an oil refinery blows up my dad wanted to know what I did.

Nope. From what I've seen so far, I got a good catch and I'm not throwing ya back. I'm excited. I know that there are going to be some rough adjustments, but that would be the case whenever I got married. I've just lived for too long on my own for there not to be rough spots. But I'm positive we can handle them as they come.

In a different note, I talked to one of the guys at the Academy that recently got married. Their wedding was about \$10,000 for 130 people, but they did some really fancy things. But he also said that just getting legally married is very simple in Colorado and can be done in a single stop at the county clerk's office (so I'm talking about shortly after you get back in October). I'll find out exactly what we need, but you should probably bring your birth certificate if you have one as well as your passport.

Talk to you later.

Bill

Subject: Re: she got a new tooth!!!!

From: wbahn@bfe.com

Date: Sat, 30 Aug 2008 21:12:11 -0600

To: phoebe6336@yahoo.com

Quoting Phoebe Chien <phoebe6336@yahoo.com>:

Hey, guess what ... I found she got a new tooth in up right front, waw.... her 6tj tooth.. although she lost one.. no wonder she is a little bit wierd last week... maybe it's because teething... I guess...

Glad to hear about the new tooth. She may have been a bit wierd, but that just means she will fit right in! ;^P

my pain is steady... but it seems ok today.. so don't know what happened... will check with doctor when I back to Taipei..

It probably wasn't a stone, then. Those almost always spasm.

Good boy! you know what you clean the front yard and do the excercise !!! good, Do you still have the headache? put some weight on or lose some? How's the blood sugur? oh, after the long weekend, remember that you have to make appointment with doctor.

I haven't had a headache since you left.
Gee, wonder if that says something.

Seriously, my headaches come and go in phases. Every few years I'll go through a period of frequent and severe migraines and then I'll go for years without a single one. Regular headaches are more random and usually don't last too long. For the last few years I frequently wake up with a headache - never used to happen before - but I can usually get them to go away pretty quickly. Occassionally I'll get one that lasts all day or even a few days, but those are rare.

As for the doctor's appointment, I tried calling this last week and couldn't get through. Will try again next week.

I also have to see how marrying a foreign national will affect my security clearance when they go to get me one in a few months. I don't think it will be a huge problem, especially since you are from Taiwan and not China itself.

ha... do I sound anoying now?

Not yet. You've got a long way to go before that starts happening.

I sure do miss you two. Can't wait until you are both back here.

Love,

Bill

Subject: Re: Good news and bad news.
From: wbahn@bfe.com
Date: Tue, 02 Sep 2008 21:53:22 -0600
To: phoebe6336@yahoo.com

Quoting Phoebe Chien <phoebe6336@yahoo.com>:

Hi, Dear,

The good news sounds great... but the bad news make me headache..

You and me both, babe. You and me both.

Could you check some immigrating lawyer to know is there other convinient way?

It was an immigration lawyer's office I called today. The other offices I called would only talk to me if I came in for a paid consultation. I didn't get an answer at two others, so will try to call them tomorrow. But what the one office I did talk to told me was very consistent with what the USCIS person told me - and she seemed very knowledgeable and even put me on hold to get a quick ruling from her supervisor on one question. So I'm not hopeful that we will find an easier way.

Is it so risky for me to come in with tourist visa next time?

I think so. You can always try, but I would be very up front with them. If they ask any question about your intentions, tell them that you met someone on your last trip and that it is our intention to get married. If that means that they deny your entry, then so be it and we go to Plan B. I would even volunteer that information so that there is no way they can come back later and say that you misled them about your intentions.

If you don't tell them and you get into the country, then if we get married very soon after that it will raise their suspicions. Even if it doesn't, they are going to do at least some kind of an investigation when we go to apply for your Green Card. They will probably interview your sister and my stepmom at the very least - both of whom know that our intention before you left was to get married when you returned. Beyond that, my supervisor at the Academy knows, the office manager at BFE knows, and my neighbors know. My understanding is that, even after they grant you your citizenship, there is a period of several years during which you could have your citizenship revoked and be deported if they determine that any part of the process involved any type of fraud. I think the risk is too high.

The 18 to 21 hours it takes to fly to Taipei

for your solutions, acturally I think 2) or 3) looks better

1) I don't like it...

I'm not too fond of it myself.

4) It's only few days left, I doubt the possibility.. and it's the same question that I came with tourist visa this time....

Agreed.

2) So do you think I should go over there these days again to get married and filed then go back Taipei next week?

I'm leaning against it.

Sure, we can state that you didn't enter the country with the intent to get married and stay permanently and we can show that you and I didn't even know each other until a few

months ago. But by the same token, they can decide that the fact that you joined eHarmony is a pretty clear indication that you did have that intent and, unfortunately, they don't have to prove anything - they can just decide to deny the application. So I think this is a bit too risky as well.

But if you go ahead and leave the country and then we work within the process that is set up, about the most they can claim is that you came with the intent of finding someone with which to pursue a relationship for a future entry into the country - especially since you will have demonstrated that you did nothing while you were here to change your status and you departed the country as agreed to when you entered.

3) Yeap, it's also good, but the flight is around 20 hours, it's long flight, could you stand it? and then it took one more ticket of yours, it's about 1,000 ~ 1,500

I think this may be the quickest and cleanest - and perhaps even cheapest - way. It should, if we are careful, save us over \$2000 in filing fees which will more than pay for a trip to Taiwan and back. The flight itself shouldn't be much of a problem for me and I have a valid passport so the paperwork shouldn't be too bad. It would also give me a chance to meet your mother, see something of where you grew up, and also to meet those relatives of yours that won't be able to come over here for the wedding.

Perhaps the biggest question mark is how we actually go about the marriage itself while we are over there. Do we basically do what we had planned to do here and simply get the paperwork done in the quickest way possible and do a formal wedding ceremony next Spring? Or do we do something more involved and traditional (your traditions) since we will be where your family is located and available? I'm okay either way, so that is something that you need to think about and perhaps discuss with your family.

Another advantage is that, if you do still want to work and make some money before we have a formal ceremony, then you can do so in Taiwan right up to the point where you have the permission to come into the U.S. with your EAD in hand.

So, what do you think? 2 or 3? or there is a better way?

I'm thinking 3. I can't think of a better way and neither can anyone else I've talked to. It will probably get you back into the U.S. the quickest (short of lying and coming in on a tourist visa again, but I don't want you to risk that). We are probably still looking at four to six months, though. I hate the idea of being separated from you and Stacy so long, especially given how much Stacy is going to develop over the next year. But people go through worse.

As for how quickly I could come over there, that is also a good question - and one to which I don't have a good answer. I have various commitments that would make it hard for me to take a couple weeks off - or even just one week - until the end of November or, probably better, the middle of December.

Of course, if it takes me that long, then we are looking at about seven months before you come back to the U.S., which is about how long we are looking if we do the Fiance Visa. The difference is that it would cost us several hundred dollars less and you would be able to work the moment you arrived back in the country.

hm... headache..

hm... headache.... totally agree.

How does this sound to you? We accept that you and Stacy won't be able to come back to the U.S. until the April time frame. You go back now and, if you want, find a job for six months or so. I come over in December and we have a true wedding at that time and we spend a week or so having a honeymoon. Then I come back and we start the process of getting your Green Card and EAD and you and Stacy come back as soon as it's approved. Once you are here we can have a reception and invite all the people on this side of the ocean that want to come and we can even do that in conjunction with my graduation and an official house warming at the new house - but at least your wedding will have been on a special day all its own for you and your mom to treasure.

Let me know what you think and, most especially, if you have any ideas on how to do things differently.

Love,

Bill

From: William L. Bahn (BFE) <wbahn@bfe.com>
Subject: Good news and bad news.
To: phoebe6336@yahoo.com
Date: Tuesday, September 2, 2008, 9:59 PM

Hey Phoebe,

I've got good news and bad news.

The good news:

I've put in a bid on the house and I have a feeling it will be seriously considered. I also found out that the homeowners insurance on it will only be slightly higher than what I am paying now, which is less than half of what I feared it might be. Also, the water tastes pretty good up there.

Also, it doesn't look like marrying a foreign national will be much of an issue with regards to receiving my security clearance.

Now for the bad news.

I talked to an attorney's office today and there are some hurdles to overcome with regards to immigration issues.

The first is that if you leave the country you probably won't be allowed back in on a tourist visa since the intent of that visa is specifically for non-immigrant and if you intend to get married while you are here that doesn't qualify. If you don't mention that you intend to get married, they will probably let you in but then when they do your Green Card investigation and find out that we had intended to get married (and they almost certainly will find that out depending on who all they talk to) then they would have ground for denying both your Green Card and revoking your visa. So we don't want to risk that.

The other option is to go the Fiance Visa route. Once you have that, then you can enter the country and we have to get married within 90 days. After we are married, we can apply for your Green Card and for the Employment Authorization Document (EAD) so that you can work here while the Green Card is being processed. The EAD is presently taking about two months to process. The Green Card is taking eight months or longer, but that isn't a big deal. The catch is that from the time I apply for the permit that will allow you to apply for the Fiance Visa it will take about four months for the application to get approved. It will then take about a month for the U.S. embassy in Taiwan to receive the paperwork and then a couple of months before they will get you scheduled for an interview. So we would be looking at about seven months for you to get authorization to come back into the country and another couple months after that before you could work.

I just got off the phone with USCIS and things are quite a bit more complicated than we've been thinking, both in terms of time and money. There appear to be three basic options - none of them particularly great.

1) You leave the country and then we file for the Fiance Visa and you come in on a K-1 Visa, which is a non-immigrant Visa. As mentioned above, that might take more than half a year before you can return. Once we are married, we then have to file for the Permanent Resident Visa for both you and Stacy (with a \$355 filing fee for each

of you) and also an Adjustment of Status (AOS) application which has a \$1010 filing fee for each of you. So this route can take the better part of a year before you would be able to work in the U.S. and cost, at a minimum, about \$3000.

2) We get married now, before you leave (which would not be easy to do at this point). Then, if you leave the country, we can file for you to come in on a K-3 (and Stacy on a K-4) visa, but we would still have to file the AOS forms and pay the \$2k for that. And it doesn't look like the timeline to get you back here and eligible to work is much less than if we go with the Fiance Visa.

3) The third option is for you to go home now and then for me to come to Taiwan and for us to get married there. At that point we can file for your Permanent Resident Visa and EAD directly. It looks like that would take about four months for it to get approved, but you would be able to work immediately upon entry into the United States and, while we still have to pay the \$700+ for the visa applications, we would save the additional \$2000 by not having to file an AOS application.

4) I think there is a fourth option, but doubt it would work. You could apply right away for an extension to your existing visa authorization, but if they ask if you intend to marry then they won't approve it.

What are your thoughts?

Phoebe Chien wrote:

Hi, dear,

It's really great to know that Kay is fine with this.. really released.... originally, I'm kind of worried...

we are doing fine yesterday, went to swim last evening.. this is the first time I took her to swim, will send you the picture I took yesterday, she is so cute!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

last night, my sister they invited some friends to come over their house, I didn't want to join them..and we are tired after swimming, so we go to bed earlier...

so have you back from the house? Did you go to see the baloon?

Talk to you later
Phoebe

Hey babe,

Kay took things about like I expected. She was surprised and has concerns about how quickly things are moving, but in the end she is excited and can't wait to meet the two of you.

Tomorrow we'll go up and take a look at the house.

How has your day been?

Love,

Bill



Subject: Re: House status

From: wbahn@bfe.com

Date: Thu, 11 Sep 2008 01:35:34 -0600

To: phoebe6336@yahoo.com

Quoting Phoebe Chien <phoebe6336@yahoo.com>:

I think I'll like to stay in the house and look at those beautiful stars...

I think we are going to really like it there - and I think it is going to be a good place for the kids to grow up. Yeah, we'll need to make sure that they have plenty of opportunities to socialize with others, but I think learning how to also be by themselves and learning how to entertain themselves (outdoors as well as indoors) will be good for them as well. I've talked to a couple of people that live in rural areas and they say that they have get togethers every month or two where the kids have neighbor kids or kids from school/church/sports/whatever over for the day. That's something we can look at doing in a few years as she gets to be the age where that makes sense.

You don't have to wait for us, you can go there to experience first

Thanks - we'll see. For now I'm going to hang on to my little romantic dream of us looking at the stars from our deck together - even if we have to shovel the snow off of it first! The Milky Way is already fading so we won't be able to see it in all its glory until next summer anyway.

So will it be troublesome to deal with the owner and other stuff?

I don't think so. He was up there today and we talked for quite a bit. He seems like a nice guy. I mentioned the furnace and the septic tank and while he didn't agree to have the work done, he didn't seem to have any objections. I think he will probably be willing to do both of those things, especially if I'm willing to waive all of the other little things. If he isn't, neither of them is worth walking away from the house over - I think both of them together are going to run in the \$600 to \$1000 range.

Subject: Re: Do you have an SSN or ITIN?

From: wbahn@bfe.com

Date: Tue, 16 Sep 2008 02:53:49 -0600

To: phoebe6336@yahoo.com

Actually, I think that's good. The ITIN takes about a month to get, if I remember right. I don't know if you have to have it before the end of the year or just before we file our taxes - I think it is before we file.

Not having much income is good, because that means the U.S. won't take very much of it.

So I think we want to try to plan for things to happen so that we are married before the end of the year. That should be doable.

Cheers!

Quoting Phoebe Chien <phoebe6336@yahoo.com>:

Hi, Dear,

I don't have both of them.... sorry,,,
and, I don't have income from 2007 June till now.
Don't know it's good or bad, ha.....

..

--- On Mon, 9/15/08, wbahn@bfe.com <wbahn@bfe.com> wrote:

From: wbahn@bfe.com <wbahn@bfe.com>

Subject: Do you have an SSN or ITIN?

To: phoebe6336@yahoo.com

Date: Monday, September 15, 2008, 6:56 AM

Hey Sweety!

Do you happen to have either a U.S. Social Security Number (SSN) or an Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN)? I'm guessing that you do not. We need to see if we can get you one so that we can file a joint tax return for this year (which we should be eligible to do provided we actually get married this year, even if it is in December).

The publication governing this is IRS Pub 519:

<http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p519.pdf>

It's a pretty convoluted document, but the part that would apply to us is actually very simple and is on page 10.

Most people want to be classified as nonresident aliens for tax purposes because they are only taxed on income that is earned in (or related to) the United States. If they are a resident alien then, like a U.S. citizen, they are taxed on their worldwide income.

If your income earned outside of the U.S. is zero or fairly small for 2008, then it is probably to our advantage to choose to classify you as a resident alien for the entire year. Note the fine print that to file a "married filing jointly" tax return you only have to be married at the end of 2008 - it does not require that you are living together at any time during the year.

It looks like we won't be able to claim Stacy this year as a dependent because she won't be considered a resident alien. I don't know if we will be able to claim her next year or not - I think so.

Cheers, Babe!

Bill

Subject: Re: waw!!!!
From: "William L. Bahn" <wbahn@bfe.com>
Date: Tue, 11 Nov 2008 02:35:11 -0500
To: phoebe6336@yahoo.com

Phoebe Chien wrote:

Hi, dear

waw!!! you already book the ticket?

Yeah - and it was a lot trickier than I thought. When I checked prices a month ago I just picked a date after Finals for departure and a date a couple weeks later for return and the cost as about \$1200. When I did that yesterday the cost was over \$3000. So I looked at other sites and the prices were all higher. So then I let Travelocity pick dates in December and it came back with a long list of fares as low at \$1000. I wanted to work with you to decide on the best one, but it turned out I pretty much had to make the decision then and there because when when I went to get the details on one it said it was no longer available. When I tried to check others the dates I tried to pick came back as sold out. I had to wade through nearly two dozen before I found one that was actually available and then when I tried to pick the actual flight option it came back as no seats unavailable. I decided that waiting to check with you ran too much of a risk of the one that was available filling up, so I went ahead and booked it. I'm very glad to hear that it works for you.

and remember to go San Francisco Taipei economic office for certify the English and Chinese version celibacy... I'll check if the office open that week or not..

I'll have to do that through the mail, if possible. There weren't any flights that routed through San Francisco. The one I got actually routes through Minneapolis and Detroit.

from Dec 29 to Jan 17th... sounds great! but these 20 days will cost lots of money..
my rough idea is like:

we go to registrate on 30 or 31st Dec, then arrange for the photo shooting.. and then we can go to travel around Taiwan island for few days..maybe it's ready for us to choose the photos, then go for cruise trip or other cheaper trip... then back to Taipei, then we canget the photos...
what do you think? if you agree, then I'm going to serach the hotel and trip information...

Sounds like something to start from. I don't know how much money I'm actually going to have to work with - the new house cost me a lot more than I had planned (the propane, mostly) and I haven't worked many hours either place in September or October and November/December may not be much better. So I've been burning through my savings pretty fast. I've presently got about \$9500 in savings and the house payments due on the first of December and January will claim \$6000 of that. The tickets are another \$1300. We may have no choice but to do the photos here when you return - I'll have a better idea about that after the first of December when I see how many hours I was able to get in this month. The fact that I had to push the departure back a week from what I really wanted helps because that means I will be able to work nearly a full month in December - I just have to turn in my invoice early enough to get the actual check sent to me and deposited before I leave.

I'll go check some hotel and trip information, and pass to you :)

That sounds good. I look forward to seeing what you come up with.

take care :)

Will try. You too, babe!

Quoting Phoebe Chien <phoebe6336@yahoo.com>:

> Oh, Taiwan do not have daylight saving time, so when your time changed, then we don't change with you, your 1 am will be our 2pm.. (or 4 pm...) ah.. I'm confused now..

It should be the 4pm case. You were 14 hours ahead of was (our 2am was your 4pm) and then we just set our clocks back an hour (to 1am).

> yes, in our society, the change is quick, and the system is not so stable, so people always over the system, connections always speak louder than regulations.... so it's easy to have scandle happens... sometimes it sure have advantages, but usually the disadvantages more than it..

>
> hey, when do you plan to come? have you book the ticket?

I just booked the tickets. I had to really shift things in order to get a half-way decent fare. This is the basic flight info:

Leave Denver: SAT, 27 Dec 08 @ 4:30pm
Arrive Teipei: MON, 29 Dec 08 @ 8:50pm

Leave Teipei: SAT, 17 Jan 09 @ 8:20am
Arrive Denver: SAT, 17 Jan 09 @ 8:26pm

So I won't be there for Christmas, but I will be there for (western) New Year's. For both tax and immigration reasons, I think we want to get married in 2008, so that means taking care of that almost immediately after I arrive.

Could you check to see that the necessary offices are open that week? They probably are.

>
> anyway, you should take good rest, and tell me if you feel bad, wish i was there..

I wish you was, too - but for different reasons. ;-P

I haven't booked a hotel yet. Could you get me the website addresses for a few economical hotels that aren't too far from where you live? I'm assuming that Teipei is a city with lots of public transportation so that I don't need to rent a car (I really don't want to drive there). I that correct?

Subject: Re: try to cheer up..

From: wbahn@bfe.com

Date: Tue, 02 Dec 2008 21:39:52 -0700

To: phoebe6336@yahoo.com

Quoting Phoebe Chien <phoebe6336@yahoo.com>:

hi, dear,

exercise and medicine today?

MYXN

I'm thinking of your option now, and does it okay for me to go there with vistor's visa, will it still the issue ??? and can your ticket be canceled?

No and no.

if these 2 are not issue, then for me to go there is much cheaper and easier...

what do you say?

The ticket is non-refundable, so one way or the other I am coming to Taiwan for New Years. And the same problems still exist with you coming here on your tourist visa.

If we take the proxy marriage option, you don't have to come here for the wedding at all. Only four states perform proxy marriages and the primary intent was to accommodate deployed military members. In fact, in three of the other four states one of the parties has to be active duty military with Colorado being the sole exception.

So the wedding basically goes like this. You fill out a couple of forms saying that you cannot be present for the ceremony and include copies of your passport. You have those notarized and send them to me. You also grant power-of-attorney to some one that will be your proxy at the ceremony. I then take them down to the court house, get the license, and then have your proxy physically stand in the place where you would normally stand and say the things you would normally say on your behalf. I'm sure the ceremony is slightly different to reflect the fact that I am not marrying the proxy but, instead, marrying someone that is physically not present.

But here's the catch. I don't know if fax'ed documents are acceptable (I can check) so we might have to wait until the forms you fill out physically travel from Taiwan to Colorado. I just checked the FedEx site and overnight of a letter would cost \$67, so that's actually not too bad.

So if we jumped on this right away and I get your forms by Friday morning, then I might be able to get the ceremony done on Friday afternoon. If I don't, then we will lose most of the benefit because I leave for China Lake on Monday and won't return until Thursday and then as soon as I'm back I turn around and head to Rome, NY the following week. After than there is only one week before I leave for Taiwan. But we might still shave a couple weeks off the time required to get your Green Card, plus we will get the tax benefit of being married this year.

Also, it turns out I would need to come over to Taiwan anyway. A proxy marriage is acceptable for immigration purposes, but only if the marriage has been consummated after the ceremony. Having said that (and blushing while I type) I'm not sure that "consummated marriage" means the same thing to the USCIS as it does in everyday usage. It might be sufficient to simply have the official proxy marriage ceremony followed by a public announcement of the marriage.

When everything is said and done, it looks like it will cost us about \$80 to \$100 to get married whichever way we decide to go, so that is not a factor.

The benefits to doing the proxy wedding are:

- (1) Get a little bit of a jump on your visa.
- (2) Tax savings of perhaps a couple thousand dollars by being married in 2008.
- (3) Less complicated - doesn't involve TECO and the MCA in Taiwan.

The downside to it is that you won't be at your own wedding. But, if nothing else, that can be a point of novelty in years to come. And, in some ways, it might make the ceremony we have once you get over here more special because it really will be the first time we have gone through the ceremony together. I hadn't thought of that until just now.

Even if we decide to not go this route and still get married in Taiwan, it is at least nice to know that we have this option as a back up in case something happens (some form wasn't filled out properly or whatever) and we end up not being able to get married while I'm over there. If that happens, we download the forms, fill them out, have them notarized, and I bring them back with me and we do a proxy wedding right after I get home.

But, if we do want to do a proxy wedding, we probably should move fast.

What are your thoughts now?

Love,

Bill

--- On Wed, 12/3/08, wbahn@bfe.com <wbahn@bfe.com> wrote:

From: wbahn@bfe.com <wbahn@bfe.com>
Subject: Re: try to cheer up..
To: phoebe6336@yahoo.com
Date: Wednesday, December 3, 2008, 1:01 AM

Quoting Phoebe Chien <phoebe6336@yahoo.com>:

hi, dear,

Medicine and exercise today?

Good to hear that you got progress on your homework...

hope it can continue to the end of this semester, so when is the end of this semester for you? January? if you come here, does it influence your class??? ha... maybe it's too late to ask...

I did get the second homework set turned in, so now I am only behind by one project.

The reason I am coming so late in the month is so that it is after the semester is over. Then I will be returning just a couple of days before the Spring semester starts.

This semester ends (for me) on the 16th of December. But there is no rest for the wicked. I just found out this afternoon that I need to go to Rome, NY the 18th and 19th of this month plus we got word this morning that we have been authorized to participate in next year's exercise out at China Lake Naval Weapons Test Center and so I will be gone to the planning conference for that next week (leave Monday and return Thursday).

about the appliance, maybe around X'mas, that would be a good timing to buy, let's wait and see... we still got lot of time to look around... since we still haven't move in yet.. but if you want to live up there first, maybe you should buy refrigerator first...

Yeah, I'm gonna keep an eye on the prices, but if they don't start

dropping in the next couple of weeks I will probably go ahead and buy the fridge, washer, and dryer (so that I only have to pay a single delivery charge).

waw, it's getting snowing over there!!! it's still sunny here... be careful when you go up there , b'coz you never go up there in snowy condition...

And today it's sunny here, too! The streets were glazed black ice last night and today we were in the upper 60's. That's life in Colorado! We aren't supposed to get out of the 30's tomorrow.

will send you some photos of stacy for you later

I look forward to them and will try to get them up on the website - along with the other pictures you sent a few months ago.

Oh, I got in touch with the El Paso County Recorder's Office yesterday and there is good news and bad news (and the bad news isn't very bad). They can provide a letter saying that there is nothing in their data base search that indicates that I am not eligible to marry, so that is at least an "official" statement. But then you would have to translate the letter and I don't know how to deal with the English letterhead stationary that it would be on. But they pointed out that their data base only covers Colorado, so I'm leaning toward just using the affidavit you've already translated.

However, we have another option that I wish I had known about a few months ago. We can apply for a marriage license here, in Colorado, and you can fax in your information. I had hoped that we could then self-solemnize the marriage when we got together, however it turns out that the marriage license cannot leave the state (by which they simply mean that the ceremony it authorizes must be performed within Colorado - and within 30 days). However, we can do something called "marriage-by-proxy" which allows someone to stand in for the bride or groom if that person is unable to attend in person. However, marriages by proxy cannot be self-solemnized and must be performed in front of a judge.. But that isn't a problem as there are lots of judges in the county and it only takes a few minutes.

If we take this option, there is only a \$10 fee for the license. Nothing else. Plus, we would then be legally married as soon as the ceremony is performed by the judge and we can then immediately file the petition with USCIS for your Green Card. Furthermore, we don't have to do anything in Taiwan at all (as far as getting married is concerned) meaning that it's a headache we don't have to deal with. Plus, it will save us a fair chunk of money on taxes this year compared to if we get married in Taiwan just after the first of the year (which looks like it will be the earliest we can do it thanks to that three day processing time they require).

If I had known about this a few months ago we could possibly be getting the two of you back into the country right about now. But, I didn't and it's too late to do anything about that. But we can speed things up by at least a few weeks if we go ahead and to that.

Is that something you would be interested in doing?

Love,

Bill

Re: try to cheer up..