

January 01, 2014 rose parade

We watched the Rose Parade this morning which started at 11 AM. Lib had to pause it midway so she could call her parents. This was a good break since we were watching it on HGTV which had no commercial breaks.

The announcers were not plant people, they did not know how to pronounce anything for the floral materials. This was too bad since it is the garden channel. Watching the parade made us both wish we were there again. Mary and John called about some trip planning they are doing for Costa Rica. We told them about a Groupon I found which seemed to be pretty good. I'm not thrilled about traveling again, I was hoping to stay home in February. Dinner was leftover ham slices, yams, peas and a bottle of Cabernet Sauvignon. We went out late in the afternoon to get home Depot pipe caps then Kroger for wine and salmon for tomorrow.

~

January 02, 2014 tired

It's raining outside. I removed the sink and counter from the downstairs bathroom. the caps we bought didn't fit the pipes so I ended up putting the faucet back in after removing the sink. With Libbie's help I tossed the sink out the side garage door for a future dump trip. There was a ridge of caulk on the wall that I scraped and sanded then Libbie painted the room while I Painted the ceiling in the foyer. I'm pretty unhappy with the paint job. I'll need to go in there with plaster and sandpaper to fixup the pock marks and bumps. We were so tired by the end of the day that we chose to order Chinese takeout and an eggroll which we had with water. It was a tiring day.

~

January 03, 2014 secret party

Worked on the bathroom today. Changed the outlets and switches, put back all the towel bars and shower curtain, hung the pictures. Went to Home Depot for ceiling paint and get a lock rekeyed. They couldn't

rekey the lock because their locksmith was not in. Told me to come back tomorrow and see Albert. We went home tired. Had a dinner of Salmon, salad and Yam with water, no wine. Left at 8 for the "Secret" party at Carolina Ballroom which was kind of fun. Andrew opened the ballroom for friends of his parents that wanted a place to dance. We were glad we came since it wasn't so crowded. Had a nice time dancing, still not getting it but we must be getting better. met the owners of the Cary Pub.

~

January 04, 2014 Boito

It's cold outside!!! It went down to 20 last night. Went over to Home Depot at 1 and got the new lock rekeyed as part of the effort to get all the exterior doors on the same key. After Home Depot we went to Trader Joes which was crazy. We parked out in the Boston Market parking lot. The lines were long. We got our wine, Libs oatmeal and my oranges. For some reason Trader Joes has the best Oranges compared to Kroger. I came home and after a lunch of ham and cheese I did the first coat of plaster in the foyer pock marks. I also installed the new lever handle on the door going from the house to the garage. Bad news in the spare bedroom - the ceiling is cracked and covered with popcorn. The popcorn will have to come off for the repairs. Dinner was Thai shrimp and Shiraz. It was spicy and good but not very filling. There wasn't much food there. I tried to do a recording of Boito Mefistofele from the Met but the satellite receiver was programmed to turn off in 45 minutes. I forgot about that.

~

January 05, 2014 sanding

Sanded and plastered the foyer ceiling. What a messy job - there is dust everywhere. I attempted a cleanup but Libbie did a better job with the vacuum. Lunch was the ham and cheddar delicious sandwiches with a little Dijon mustard. Dinner was Lib's incredible pizza once again.

~

January 06, 2014 closing

Today is closing for the Visa account. It's over \$4500 this morning. I went to work on the ceiling again. I did some light plastering of a few more pock marks then hit it all with the paint. It's not perfect but it looks pretty good. The job is complete - Lib waxed the floor as the final touch. This is our last day of 50's before the arctic blast tonight. They're predicting a low of 9 degrees tonight. Dinner was curry chicken over spaghetti with broccoli. Listened to Falstaff live over Sirius. Cecilia of Carolina Ballet was at the performance in NY. We exchanged a few words on Facebook. Amazing.

~

January 07, 2014 sinks

Wow is it cold. Went out at 9:30 and it's 10.4 degrees!!!! I had to get the bathroom sink from Home Depot for the installer today. They are coming at 1 and take the sink with them to mount it under the cabinet. I also picked up groceries which included ingredients for Chili while I was out.

After lunch a guy named Izzy arrived to measure the bathroom cabinet. I signed a lot of papers and he drew a sketch of what they needed to fabricate. He took the sink model number but did not need to take the sink. Libbie made her chili and cornbread but she accidentally left the sugar out of the corn bread. What a difference without sugar. We went over to Carolina Ballroom for a Rhumba Almagamations class. The place was really busy - lots going on and a large group class. We learned 2 versions of the Cuban walk. One with an under arm turn and a second with a cross body lead. Robert needs to help us with this tomorrow.

~

January 08, 2014 dance

It's a little warmer today but not much. We had a great dance lesson today at 3:30 with Robert. We went over some of the fine details of the Cuban turn and a few pointers. He also gave us a few pointers for the Swing. Overall it was a good lesson. Dinner tonight was more Chili from yesterday.

~

January 09, 2014 beds & sheets

Lib vacuumed our bedroom then I took the mattress and frame out of the way so she could vacuum under the bed. We also cleaned the bed frame pretty good. Nancy arrived around 10 to help with Violets and the guys came with the mattress around 11. They quickly dropped off the 2 pieces and hauled off the old ones. The new mattress is pretty high.

The sheets of course don't fit. We went out to Bed Bath and Beyond, Kohls, Pennys and eventually Sears where we found Cannon 425 thread count sheets on sale for \$65 each. We bought two sets and got an additional \$20 off with our points for a total of around \$117. Dinner was Salmon, salad and broccoli with a glass of Shiraz.

~

January 10, 2014 party

It's raining but mild today. Our plan was to drive Saturday but that may be Sunday due to a lot of rain on the way. I started reading through the Basic 4 Android book that I purchased. It's pretty good and explains quite a few things that I wasn't aware of, specifically what

a View is and how Views can be created with the Designer or via programming.

We had a dinner of ham, potatoes and onions all scrambled together.

Very nice and a great way to use up leftovers.

We went to the

Ballroom tonight for the Friday night party. I'm still having trouble with the waltz. We did OK on the Rhumba with Cuban turns. We also tried what we learned of the swing. This too came out correctly. We stayed all the way until the end which was around 9:45.

~

January 11, 2014 Fledermaus

It's warm outside - almost 70. I filled the car with gas for our trip tomorrow and picked up Kansas City ribs and Ravenswood Zindindel for dinner tonight. At home I set up the violets for long term watering

on a lattice over water with wicks. I also did some minor grooming.

Got the two pictures ready for Sarasota. The bedroom needs 2 picture replacements so I'm using two of my photos of Selby in 16x20 frames for Stoneybrook. I'm totally enjoying listening to Fledermaus this afternoon live from the Met. What a great opera. It's a good feeling spreading joy and happiness on a glum day like today. Although warm, it's dark and raining.

At 7 PM Libbie turned on the grill to warm

up and then opened the ribs. We discovered the ribs I bought in Kroger were not fully cooked. They would need 2.5 hours of oven time!!!!

I immediately hopped into the car and went to Kroger and picked up a package of finished ribs, Tony Roma brand. They served us in an emergency but they were not great. They had a lot of high fructose corn syrup and salt. ughh. It was the best we could under the circumstances.

We had the ribs with mixed Asian veggies and Ravenswood Zin.

~

January 12, 2014 drive

Tossed the suitcases in the car, had breakfast and got on the road at 7:25 AM. It's a beautiful sunny day for a drive. Traffic was pretty light as far as I95 traffic can be light. We stopped in Florence for McDonalds. Gas was 2.98 but we only needed a few gallons. Next gas stop was in Baldwin where 301 meets I-10. We decided to take the route 301 way down to the west coast instead of I-4 since I-4 is under construction between Daytona and Lake Mary and weekend traffic around Disneyworld and the shopping centers is usually a mess. It was a good choice. We continued to have easy going and got in around 6:30. We ordered a pizza from Valentinos and had it during the Golden Globes. It was a nice day and we are here in Florida.

~

January 13, 2014 fios

The Verizon guy came as planned at 8 to install FIOS. We have a fiber cable in our box in the Bedroom which was just installed a few weeks ago but we would be the first in the building to get a hookup. It took all day, the guy was finally finished at 4 PM. It tied us up all day. I like the FIOS service but hate the remote with more buttons than

necessary. I just want channel changing and volume and possibly the guide. We went out to Bangkok Thai for dinner. I had Chicken Pad Thai with a Spring Roll and a glass of Shiraz. We came home pretty tired and fell asleep right away. It's pretty warm out - 72 degrees at 9 PM.

~

January 14, 2014 rain

It rained off and on all day today. We went out at 11 to return the Comcast equipment. I couldn't believe we had number 115 and they were only on 86. It took an hour for them to get to us and only because 2 guys showed up with a cart to collect equipment from people only returning stuff in the waiting room. I was glad to be done with this stuff. After this we went across the street to Target and purchased thank you note paper, socks and a bed skirt. The bed skirt was an impulse purchase. They had one Libbie was looking for so we got it. Our last stop was to Sports Authority down one exit on I-75 but we took Honore instead of 75 to get there. Libbie got a set of beginner graphite clubs. She got the whole set which included a bag for \$200. We went to lunch at the clubhouse on the way back and then discovered the golf course will be closed from May 1 until Oct 1 for rebuilding. Even though the owners voted this down they are going to do it anyway with the railroad right of way settlement. Dinner was spaghetti with tomato sauce and cheese. We had Moose Tracks ice cream for dessert. I found today our Toshiba TV doesn't play movies on the USB drive. I still can use the secondary HDMI channel however. La Boheme is live from the Met tonight on Sirius.

~

January 15, 2014 selby

It's a gorgeous day out. We went to Selby and enjoyed the plants and art in the Selby house. The theme today was art in the garden, two artists painted various orchids, etc. One did his work in oil while the woman did her paintings in watercolor. The Selby house was divided with one side being the oils and the other side contained watercolors.

We had lunch at the clubhouse then went back for dinner which was pub night. I had Mahi Mahi with pineapple mango salsa covering the fish.

Very nice. Topped it off with a glass of Cabernet. Our parking spot has yellow caution tape now since we sent an eMail to the board mentioning that a hole has developed behind our parking spot. Today's delight was the various foliage of the ferns at Selby and the art in the Selby house.

~

January 16, 2014 golf

After breakfast we went onto the driving range and tried chipping a few and then we did some driving. We were pretty terrible. It's a little chilly today but sunny. We went back at 1 for our lesson with Susan and it made the difference. She critiqued what we were doing wrong and for me it made the difference. I started having pretty good hits lifting the ball and getting some distance. After our lesson we had lunch at the clubhouse. We had a Yuengling and a BBQ Chicken Quesadilla which was outstanding. We went back to the condo and read while I worked on the FC for Android program. At 7 PM we went over for rib night. I had the Prime Rib with baked potato, rolls and a glass of Cabernet. Came back and listened to Butterfly while working on the computer. Before we went out to dinner we saw the AMLI truck at our parking spot. An employee named Alex had patched the hole with a few bags of cold patch. Although the material is a loose fill it does a nice job at preventing tripping. The fear is tar on our new carpet.

~

January 17, 2014 dinner dance

It's chilly today but the sun is strong and there is no wind so it's fine. I wore my new Christmas pullover for a walk today along the bayfront.

The Season of Sculpture is now on until May. There are 18 large scale sculptures on display. After walking the bayfront and taking lots of photos of the sculptures we came back and had lunch. I had the leftover Pad Thai from earlier in the week. It was still quite good and made a very nice lunch. I worked some more on the computer until it was time for us to go to dinner. We had a 7 PM dinner reservation and a very nice table away from the band and the speakers but still close to the dance floor. I had the pot roast special with mashed potatoes and cabernet. For dessert later I had NY Cheesecake with berry

compote and coffee. Nice. The band was the Royz Duo which were quite good. A husband and wife provided some very good vocals in a wide range of dance music. We had enough room to do Rhumba and Cha Cha, even our Cuban walk. It was a fun night, made more fun by the fact we were able to really dance instead of hang on and sway. I'm so glad we signed up for dance lessons a while back.

~

January 18, 2014 electric bikes

We did a series of stops today. First up was dropping the old vacuum cleaner off at Goodwill, then a trip to Yoders looking for Honeybells.

No such luck. Next stop was the Freedom Bike shop to check out electric bikes. They are going away on Tuesday to the Dominican Republic for 2 weeks so the next few days is it for them. After talking about a guided tour of Myakka we decided we would rent 2 bikes on Monday morning.

There are 2 types, the Pedego is full time power or full time pedaling and the EZ Ride has a power assisted pedaling scheme where you can pedal or have it assist your pedaling. This what I thought I wanted as a personal bike - a power assisted bike. We came back to the golf course and did the driving range for about a half hour. I used the #3 driver and didn't too bad. I was happy with how I struck the ball. Most of the time the ball went airborne and a distance which was satisfying. After golf we had a large lunch which we are calling lunch and dinner. I had the half rack of baby backs with potato salad and a large Yuengling which was very good and a lot of food. We had cheese and pita crackers with wine for the sunset but did not have dinner this evening. Libbie spent some time on the phone with Bill making arrangements to meet him and Cort tomorrow in Bradenton for lunch after the ballet.

~

January 19, 2014 ballet

This morning we went to the ballet live from the Bolshoi at 10 AM. The performance was the Balanchine jewels which we enjoyed thoroughly. Katarina once again was the host and conducted interviews at intermission. The dancing was pretty spectacular. I couldn't believe it was over so fast. I thought getting in would be a problem since the manager

got there at 9:50 to unlock the theater. What a surprise. he let us in and told us to settle up with him later for the admission price. After the theater we met Bill, Barb and Cort at a Perkins between his place and the theater which was convenient. I had blueberry pancakes which were excellent. We drove back down Tamiami to get home. We went out later in the evening and picked up a carry out pizza from Valentinos which we had with Trader Joe Shiraz.

~

January 20, 2014

Today is MLK day. We went at 10:30 to pick up our eBikes and learn how to drive them. I love them. The power switch is wonderful to add an assist when needed. We took them to Myakka via I-75. Warm day so i changed to a short sleeve shirt and we were off. First stop was where the road crosses the river and many Gators are on the bank. Very pretty. The park was crowded with visitors since it was a holiday and school was out. Next Libbie led us off trail down an unpaved road with cabins. we easily did a combo of pedalling and motoring. Many more stops along the way for pictures, bird watching and to the front gate.

We had lunch at the Outpost, splitting a turkey and swiss sandwich with a bottle of water. Then it was time to head back. We had been out 4 hours. At the visitors center we let another couple ride our bikes - they seemed delighted. We had some troubles going home - the bikes kept getting loose on the rack. We made some adjustments each time we stopped alongside the road. Discovered that Bee Ridge goes to the park without taking I-75. Nice. It was a great day. In the evening we went out to Spanish Point Pub and Marina across from Walmart.

Pretty cool dump on the water - it's on the dock with a Tiki Bar roof. We both had fish and chips with a Yuengling. It fit our mood.

~

January 21, 2014 dunedin

Bill and Barb arrived this morning at 10 AM. I previously removed the bike carrier and also attempted to install a wiper blade which was not successful. The Michelin 16 inch wiper I installed slips off too easily. I can't trust it. We had a nice drive to Dunedin and did the fabric shopping. We stopped for lunch on the trail in Dunedin opposite

the old train station at La Fresco. Libbie and I split a cuban sandwich which was incredibly yummy. I enjoyed the day in Dunedin - it rained while in the Fabric shop but the sun came out when we got outside. Bill and Barb were delightful to be with. I enjoyed the woman in the shop who assisted our cutting. She knew where every fabric was in the store, mainly because she puts the bolts back after people cut them.

She also loves her job very much. On the way back we stopped in Siesta Key for a sweater Barb left in Bradenton. Cort left it with a friend. At Stoneybrook we took a 2 mile walk and then the Condon's left for Punta Gorda. Dinner tonight was spaghetti in the Condo with Raspberry Chip frozen yogurt which was excellent.

~

January 22, 2014 pub night

This was a day of doing little. I learned a lot about batteries watching videos. I'm confident that I can build an eBike and battery pack. In the evening we went over to pub night where I ordered pot roast with mashed potatoes and veggies. It was beef yet again. I'll have to make up for this when we get home with some serious diet and exercise as well as more Salmon.

~

January 23, 2014 prime rib & golf

I spent more time researching eBikes and reading about batteries and motors. At 12:30 we went over for our 1 PM gold lesson. Thanks to susan we did much better hitting the ball. In the evening we went over to rib night. It wasn't too crowded. I ordered prime rib with baked potato and veggies. We had funnel cakes with a chocolate dipping sauce for dessert.

~

January 24, 2014 WI party

I added 2 more years to the photo index and 2 more names to the committees on avsa.org. I spent the day getting the stereo and VCR put back

in place. I had to run out and buy two packages of audio cables to finish the job. We found a yoga DVD somebody left in our player. It was great to use as a test. We went to the WI party at 6 and sat at a table with an older couple, Joyce and John. The WI people were very friendly and we did a lot of dancing. We got complimented on our dancing. It was amazing. The dinner was a buffet of a mustard covered salmon and prime roast with all the trimmings. I added a salad and sweet potato. We had house Cabernet. It was nice.

~

January 25, 2014 punta

At 9:30 we left for Punta Gorda. We had a nice lunch with Bill Barb, Corrie, Shane and the baby. We had chicken salad croissants. We walked the marina which was lovely. The weather was perfect and the marina which has a sidewalk all around it was very scenic. This is a very attractive location. Bill's condo is spectacular with floor to ceiling windows and 9 foot high ceilings, all of it overlooking the Gulf. We chatted a little then left the building around 4:48. It was a quick drive back to Sarasota. We stopped in the clubhouse and had a blackened rib eye for dinner with a very nice Coastal Ridge cabernet. Excellent.

~

January 26, 2014 paint

I went out to Publix this morning for donuts and the paper. We need some paper for the painting. Libbie volunteered to paint the bathroom molding while I untangled the furnace closet. I tidied up the wiring and removed the extras including the slingbox. I'm going to sell the sling box on ebay, it may be worth as much as \$100. We watched the Woody Allen movie "Blue Jasmine" this afternoon. It was interesting, I can see why Kate Blanchett has most acting awards for her performance. We ordered a pizza from Valentin's for dinner and then settled down to watch the Grammys. Nice. Loved all the performances. Perhaps it's because we've been exposed to this music at the dance studio.

~

January 27, 2014 another day

The winter storm for the Southeast has caused us to delay our departure by one day. We took the time to take a walk out to the front wetland area. For lunch we decided to go to the Spanish Point Pub out on the dock. We had Fish and chips with a Yuengling. It was truly a beautiful day. Our waitress was a delightful young girl named Vanda. We only had wine and cheese for our sunset celebration and didn't do anything else for dinner. In the evening I listened to Rusalka which I like very much. It's going to be hard leaving here the weather is so nice. We heard from anne nicholas that richard is going to retire May 1. Wow, it's about time.

~

January 28, 2014 hub motor

I replaced the screen today, not too happy with the flat splines that I tried to put into the grooves. Google said to use silicon lubricant and a wide roller. I didn't have the roller or the lubricant. I ordered a 36 Volt 500 W motor today. We may delay our drive home because snow is predicted for Tuesday night into Wednesday. The forecast for the South looks pretty bad. We went to dinner at the clubhouse tonight. I had horseradish crusted COD which was very good. We had the Coastal Ridge cabernet again. Very good. Came home very hung over. Too much wine.

~

January 29, 2014 cleanup

FedEx tracking says the motor will arrive in Apex pn Friday. We'll see how that goes. The charger is already here. Started cleaning the condo in earnest today. It's rainy and cold out today, only in the fifties.

The snow wasn't too bad in Raleigh - 1.4 inches at the airport. Oh well, they predicted more. Florence also got well under prediction. We'll leave Thursday (tomorrow) for our trip back. Finished most of the cleaning, ready to go in the morning. Pub night tonight was turkey with potatoes and cranberries. Coastal Ridge Cabernet rounded out the dinner. Listened to L'elixir live on Sirius tonight.

~

January 30, 2014 drive home

We finished cleanup this morning then loaded the car to go. It's cold and rainy this morning. Saw both Peter and Mark in the hallway and chatted a little. We got going at 9:12 and had light rain all the way to Gainesville. Traffic was moderate or average. The new wipers worked well in the rain. Rest stop just before Gainesville then lunch and gas in Baldwin. It was 44 degrees and the McDonalds was not heated. Brrr. We got on 10 then 295 and all was well. Did the next stop in the middle of SC where we got gas for 2.99 and dinner. Started seeing ice on trees just before Florence then snow covered ground all the way to Raleigh but the roads were mostly dry. We arrived at around 8:30 pm, Buckingham Way and Downing Place were awful, the driveway was snow covered but we made it into the garage and closed the door and unloaded the car. It was a pretty decent drive home except for the cold and the light rain at the beginning.

~

January 31, 2014 busy

Last day of the month. I was contacted by our only Bridezilla for her album and also by a guy wanting some AVR consulting work. We got a lot of snow melt today but the road is still snow covered. The FedEx guy walked my electric bike motor up the driveway. He parked his truck at the corner of Downing and Buckingham. He didn't want to drive down Downing Place. The battery also came but not the battery charger.

This is disappointing. I need the charger more than anything. We had a dinner of Salmon, rice and salad with one glass of the leftover Merlot from Florida. We skipped dancing tonight even though we were in town.

~

February 01, 2014 no plumbing

I did not do the plumbing today as planned. I guess I'm just lazy. Did

some work on the LSAVC convention page and tried to get a standalone CKFinder working for avsa.org but no luck. Dinner tonight was chicken pad thai from a box from Whole foods along with a Paul Newman Cabernet and a small salad. I worked on my computer most of the night organizing files and synching to the server.

~

February 02, 2014 fat

Watched the morning shows and then got out the torch, turned the water off and began installing the faucets. The first faucets were sweat fittings. When I was done they leaked along the shaft. This was probably because of too much heat. I went to Home Depot and picked up some male thread adapters and 2 more faucets that screw on. Did the soldering then attached the faucets. This worked a lot better and did not leak. The Super Bowl is tonight but I'm not a viewer. Libbie made her excellent pizza once again. I really need to lose some weight. My clothes are a little tight than before Christmas.

~

February 03, 2014 fish

The installer came a little late this morning. He was supposed to be here at 9 but showed up a little after 11 in the pouring rain. He would not mount my faucets, said I had to do this after the glue sets up which would be 24 hours. The cabinet and the Silestone top looks great. It's a crappy day, I was going to pick up a bike at Walmart but stayed home instead. Dinner was Panko breaded Tilapia with veggies and a salad.

~

February 04, 2014 dance

Started the day with a trip for groceries and also Cary Walmart for a filter and generator oil.

It has been 24 hours since the countertop install so I installed the faucets, supply lines and drain. Once this

was done I was ready to do other stuff. Headed out to Walmart to pick up a bicycle but stopped in the Apex Bike Shop first on 1010. Looked at a used \$200 frame but ended up buying something from the back room which was a Nashiki American made mountain bike in rough shape.

I need a seat and luggage rack for the thing. Managed to take the front wheel off and remove the tire and tube and re-install it on the electric hub wheel. I researched batteries on the web and found a Greenworks 40V at 4 amp battery. I ordered one for \$79 which is outstanding.

I want a second one. These batteries were made to run electric appliances such as a Greenworks lawn mower or Greenworks blower. Two of them will give me 8 amp hours for an eBike which may be enough for now. The laptop batteries are so far disappointing. After a spaghetti dinner we went out to dance. It was Foxtrot Amalgamations and Mitzi taught the class. I learned a lot. After a good dance session we went to Trader Joes for supplies. Wow, what a good time to go there since it was empty.

~

February 05, 2014 dance

Mounted the hub to the front fork this morning and then bought a comfort seat at Walmart. It mounted OK on the bike frame. The bike screws are allen screws of the metric variety. Discovered that I have a set of metric allens in my tool set from Sears. This was their first use.

We went to dance with Robert at 3:30. This was a good session. Robert fine tuned our foxtrot session from last night and also reviewed Rumba fifth position and cross body leads. Came home and Libbie made chili. It was so good I had 2 bowls with cornbread and a glass of wine. Not good. Weight is now up to 222. Need to seriously lose 10 pounds before my physical.

~

February 06, 2014 serious diet

Today was a serious light eating day. One bowl of soup for lunch and only one bowl of chili for dinner, no wine. We gathered all our scrap materials and copper from around the house and brought it to the scrap yard. We got \$176 for computers, copper pipes, the old sink from downstairs, old household wire we haven't used in 30 years and other misc

junk. I did some more battery charge and discharge experiments while waiting for the Greenworks batteries to arrive.

~

February 07, 2014 BMS charger

This is another light eating day. Did a lot of reading about batteries.

I probably need 10s4p to get a battery pack for my bike. I'm also looking at Chinese BMS chargers. Need a convenient way to charge the battery after it's in use. The drawer roller came in from Home Depot - went down to pick it up and installed it when I got back. This afternoon I reviewed the cuban walk, foxtrot cuddle and Rhumba cross body with Libbie. After a bowl of chili for dinner we went to the ballroom dance party. We did a lot of Rhumba, cha cha, salsa and Foxtrot and got to try our new Foxtrot moves which went well. I still need to learn the waltz.

~

February 08, 2014 Rusalka

I did some clean activities this morning since we're going to the theater for Rusalka this afternoon. I studied some more You Tube videos about charging Lithium batteries. Left at 12:20 for Rusalka. The theater parking lot was crowded - lots of families going to the Legos movie we think. Rusalka is not my favorite opera but the cast was magnificent and we enjoyed the afternoon, Libbie brought tuna fish sandwiches which we had during one of the intermissions. Act 1 popcorn munchers were annoying. I don't know why the guy behind me crinkled his popcorn bag throughout the Renee Fleming Moon Aria. This is one of the disadvantages of the HD performances. We stopped into Krogers on the way home and picked up some shrimp and cocktail sauce. Dinner was shrimp, broccoli and shiraz. Pretty good! When we came home from the theater there were 2 packages on the front porch - the Greenworks battery and my handlebars. The cables don't reach the new handlebars so this isn't going to be easy.

~

February 09, 2014 wiring

Weighed in this morning and I was down to 219, a few pounds lower than the 222 when we came home from. Good. Tried various techniques to use the cruiser bars. Noluck. I charged and discharged a parallel pair of the Greenworks cells and was pleased to see it got over 4000 mahr. This battery is going to work fine. Went out to Radio Shack to get dShell connectors and wire. They didn't have wire! What a bunch of turkeys! This store has lost it's way. Picked up some #12 stranded wire at Home Depot. This will be the primary wire. I probably need a locking switch or at least a switch or maybe a high current battery disconnect. I wired up a dshell to the battery. it's going to take two to use the iMax as a balancer. I found mating balance connectors on Digikey. Hooray. Dinner was Libbie pizza, the crust came out a little limp but the pizza was delicious. In the Life Bits under Projects I documented the dShell wiring. This morning I spent some time importing Sue's latest photo indices - 2008, 1998 and 1999.

~

February 10, 2014 balance connector

I visited the Hobby Shop in Beaver Creek this morning and bought a balance connector. I also wired up a dShell connector to the battery pack and started half of the pack in a balance charge mode. When this is done I'll wire the other half up. The second 40V battery pack came today. Dinner tonight was Salmon with salad and broccoli.

~

February 11, 2014 snow prediction

We may get winter weather today. I worked on reading about balancing Lithium cells and studied schematics for DIY balancers and discharge monitors. I decided to order a Chinese version for my needs. At the last minute Libbie decided to fly to Providence today instead of Thursday. She got a ticket for this afternoon at 5:20. I took her to the airport at 3:20 and there was no snow but a little bit of flurry activity. Dinner was BBQ on a bun. Stopped by Trader Joe on the way home from the airport and picked up BBQ sauce for my carrots. Libbie's plane was delayed on the ground for one hour in baltimore for no reason

at all since there was no weather yet. She made it to PVD at 9:20 instead of 8:30 which wasn't too bad. No snow at all today.

~

February 12, 2014 storm

There was no snow this morning. I ended up ordering a 3 amp 36 volt charger from a Calif company. The snow started falling at noon. I ran over to Kroger to look for D cell batteries for my Kerosene heater and what a zoo. Tons of people. The drive home on Old Raleigh Rd was unbelievable.

I was in a line of cars creeping along. I shouldn't have done this. The snow came remarkably fast and heavy. We accumulated 6 inches in just few hours. I turned the greenhouse heat up in order to speed up snow melting because it's supposed to be freezing rain later today. It sleeted instead which kept the rain down. The snow slid off the greenhouse roof without any problems. Dinner was a can of Progresso Chicken Gumbo soup. The Pi upstairs crashed which kept one of the relays on. I turned the water off and began the cleanup. Had to get the shop vac to vacuum up the water and transferred the plants to the shelf above. They were sitting in about 2 inches of water. I vacuumed about 20 gallons of water out of the tray. Thank goodness it was lined with 6 mil poly.

~

February 13, 2014 next day

What a difference a day makes. The greenhouse roof is totally clear. For some reason I still can't use the balance function on my smart charger.

I'll skip that and continue charging the cells I took out of laptop packs. I'll build these into a parallel pack for the 36 volt pack I currently have from Greenworks. The sleet and rain compacted our snow to less than an inch or two. The driveway is actually showing this morning and during the night a snow plow went down Downing Place.

~

February 14, 2014 snow clearing

The roads are nicely cleared after a morning of black ice. melting is happening rapidly. I ran around to the auto store for trailer lighting connectors then Walmart for a luggage carrier and a luggage bag. I had to return to Walmart because the bag was marked \$7 but they charged me \$17. To get the other \$10 back I had to go with a customer service guy to the bike department, note the \$7 price, then go back to the customer service department where they gave me \$10.68 cash. I really wanted the credit back to my card. Oh well. Dinner tonight was fried chicken and potato salad from Kroger.

~

February 15, 2014 ebike

I spent the day working on installing the luggage rack, the battery bag and then wiring up the bike. The battery charger and the test probes came today. The probes are a perfect fit for my digital meter. I'm pretty happy with them. I fired up the battery charger and started charging the battery pack. I monitored the charger voltage while it was charging and was happy to see it start at around 37 volts and slowly climb a tenth at a time. In the later evening I unhooked it all when the voltage reached 42 volts. The nice part is the LED on the charger which starts red and then turns green at full charge. I really like this charger, it was a good ebay find. I also ordered a Honeywell WiFi thermostat for \$149 from eBay. List price was lowered to \$224 at Lowes and home Depot from \$249. This is better looking than the Nest and a more reliable thermostat company. dinner tonight was leftover Fried chicken from yesterday along with a salad.

~

February 16, 2014 bike ride

I got the connectors installed on the battery pack. Went to Kroger for duck tape, taped up the battery and mounted it in the luggage carrier bag. Tried a test run of the bike up Downing Place. The bike feels a little funny. The hub motor has some nice power but not as much as I would have expected. Surprisingly I got a Sunday paper on the driveway today. That's two weeks in a row. Dinner was a self rising crust pizza. I ate too much today.

~

February 17, 2014 dentist

Dentist this morning at 8:30. I noticed the front tire was flat on the bike. Had a good checkup. Talked to Libbie this afternoon - Bill has cancer and is going to have a kidney removed. Things are not looking good for him. I took the flat tire off and noticed a tiny pin hole leak. I inspected the rim tape and didn't notice any problems. The tube is pretty old. Visited Walmart, Target and Dicks looking for a replacement tire. A 26 inch balloon tire is hard to find. Dinner was a Chile Rejeno. After dinner I went to REI after finding they have a bike department. Do they ever! It's the biggest bike department I've ever seen. Bought a Continental tire cruiser tire. I also stopped at Trader Joes expecting it to be empty but it was amazingly crowded. This evening I watched Last Vegas and was quite surprised at how much I enjoyed it.

~

February 18, 2014 Last Vegas

Up early and into the garage this morning to change the tire on the bike.

This went reasonably well. The new tube has slime in it which is a sealant so it was a little bulky to deal with. I especially had trouble getting the valve stem to stick out far enough. I ended up taking the tire off the rim again to push the valve stem up then clamped it with vice grips while I re-assembled the tire. After I got everything back to normal I took the bike out on a trip all around Buckingham.

It's quite smooth riding now, especially since I oiled the steering bearings which seemed to be my biggest problem. They were pretty dry and hard to turn. I poured motor oil liberally onto the bearings. I had one problem when I hit a bump by the church - the battery pack luggage carrier slid down and rubbed the tire. I had trouble getting it tightened back up at home and ended up drilling a hole into the seat shaft to secure it. Dinner was Trader Joes Spinach Lasagna. I watched Last Vegas tonight - what a fun film of old geezers.

~

February 19, 2014 libbie home

Libbie is down to only 40 minutes left in the cell phone plan. This morning I read about resetting a cable modem if connectivity is lost. I set up a Raspberry Pi to perform this job and had somewhat success doing this. I woke up this morning to thunder and lightening which was bizarre. Libbie's flight was early. I had to hustle to get to the airport in time. She had her suitcase in hand by the time I was getting off 40 at the airport exit. On the way home we picked up a rotisserie chicken and potato salad for dinner. It's a surprisingly warm day, it was 72 on our way home from the airport. We had a nice dance lesson with Robert. Today we concentrated on Foxtrot and Rhumba. Bill called late in the evening after Libbie had gone to bed. He is making his way North and wants to stop in on Friday night. This will mean no dance party for us Friday which is too bad.

~

February 20, 2014 cleaning

We spent the day cleaning the house. I swiffered the dining room and then went for a ride on my ebike. The ride this time was without incident. I went into Vintage Grove and returned via the oath in the back of the house. I had to walk the bike over both creek crossings and also walk it down the dam. This went well and it was surprising to see how fast it happened. We took multiple trips to Kohls to get towels and a shower curtain for the back bathroom. It really looks nice. Dinner was the rest of the rotisserie chicken. In the evening I prepared a rub for the picnic shoulder I purchased. I bought a 9 pound shoulder which will take 8 hours at 275 degrees to cook. I'm also going to start a Brunswick Stew in the morning. Die Fledermaus was on live otnight - I really enjoyed listening to it.

~

February 21, 2014 guests

Bill is coming today. We did some more cleanup, I charged the bike battery from the ride yesterday. A line of severe storms moved through at noon but other than heavy rain, there was no wind damage. They arrived around 3 while I was out at Kroger picking up some Cole Slaw. We

had a nice visit, Bill was very interested in the eBike. He really looks like he is in bad shape, moving slowly and looking to be in very much pain. What a shock. We had the pulled pork, cole slaw and Brunswick Stew for dinner with some Italian wine and then some 2 buck chuck. It was an incredibly nice visit. Our new bathroom really looks great.

~

February 22, 2014 ebike ride

Bill and Barb left at 9 this morning. They are going to spend the night with their friends the monks in Annapolis. Libbie was afraid to tell Sue cause she would be unhappy. I hooked up a common wire on the furnace under the house and then proceeded to hook up the new Honeywell Wifi thermostat downstairs. I really like it, it's crisp clean and colorful. I took a nice bike ride out through vintage Grove again and then showed off my eBike to the little Bike shop where I bought my mountain bike frame. The bike performed well. I came back home through the woods once again and I was very happy, however the bike needs shocks to navigate the bumps in the woods. It was a bumpy ride and I unfortunately had the bike in too high a gear to climb the hill in our backyard. I couldn't pedal and the front wheel kept slipping on the wet leaves. Dinner was pulled pork, cole slaw, Brunswick stew and corn bread.

~

February 23, 2014 album

Today I started working on Bridezilla's album. We took some nice pictures but they will be hidden by the fact she wants 5 pictures per page.

Awful. I tried laying the first 10 pages out then assembled jpgs of the pages into a pdf and sent them to her. This afternoon I had a nice bike ride on the ebike. I went out onto 1010 through vintage grove. The temp was on the cool side so I wore a hoody. Came home through the woods once again but I was smarter this time and downshifted before I entered the woods so I could do pedal assistance. I adjusted the front brake so it doesn't make a rubbing noise anymore. The bike is really working well. For dinner we had Libbie's pizza which came out with a nice thin crust and was delicious. While looking for Bridezilla's

wedding pics I reminisced while looking at pics of some of the models I photographed over the years. This was a fun time.

~

February 24, 2014 best varieties

I read quite a bit this morning about using a Pi for remote control of IR devices. This is the ultimate remote. I can't wait to get this working.

After doing this most of the morning I buckled down and worked on bridezilla's album.. I ended up finishing it on MyPublisher. In the meantime, John Carter wanted a way to submit Best Varieties online.

I created a new page with the best varieties and a form to submit the data. Dinner was BBQ on a bun and a salad. After dinner I listened to Prince Igor live from the Met.

~

February 25, 2014 foxtrot

Groceries this morning then I tried another bike trip through Vintage Grove. the bike is really doing well. Started reading about node.js for real time control of hardware on the server via the web. We had a dinner of spaghetti then went to the amalgamations. We thought we were going to cha cha because that is what the schedule said but Andrew had it wrong. We had another Foxtrot session. Libbie was not a happy camper but I stayed with it including video. She doesn't like Andrews teaching technique. I think she was just tired.

~

February 26, 2014 La Cocina

Tried to compile the node.js on the Pi. It took 2 hours and I had a few errors I didn't understand. Time to do more reading to understand this thing. It's too cold to go bike riding today. The high is only in the forties. We went to dance today at 3:30. We enjoyed watching Robert choreographing himself in a Tango before we started. We went over last nights Foxtrot with some great success. Now I get what Andrew was trying to do. We spent the whole session doing the Foxtrot Open

right turn. For dinner tonight we went out to La Cocina. This is the last Wednesday of the month which meant they had a Mariachi band. The guys came over to play Happy Birthday to us only they had the wrong table. It was for a guy at the bar. Funny. Libbie had them play Via con dido or something like that. We each had a Quesadilla La Cocina with a Margarita. Libbie's was cooked a little too much.

~

February 27, 2014 bok choy

I installed the binary for node.js on the Pi. It worked well. I am able to run the tutorial examples. I found one site with horrible examples that didn't work. The comments section is what eventually clued me in to not visit this site. It's another cold one today. I demoed the eBike to Nancy at noon, taking a trip down the driveway. Dinner was Bok choy with Shiraz. It was incredibly good. while Libbie was out at quilting I ran over to Kroger and got Salmon which we can have tomorrow night before the party.

~

February 28, 2014 dance

I worked on infrared control via a web app running on the Raspberry Pi. For dinner we had the Salmon I purchased yesterday along with some rice and a glass of Shiraz. We left for dance in the evening for the 8 PM party which we enjoyed. We had first Andrew then Melanie help us with beginning the open right turn of the Foxtrot.

~

March 01, 2014 Igor

This morning I went upstairs and worked on putting bridezilla's screen grabs of the album into a PDF using an old version of Photoshop. This went well, then I emailed it to her for approval. Hopefully she goes for it. We'll see. We had to leave early for Prince Igor which started at noon. It's hard to believe but this is the 75th presentation of the Met HD. I went back home and counted the number I have listed

in Tom's Life Bits. The number is 58. We have attended 58 performance. Where has the time gone? Wow. We came home around 5. For dinner we had more homemade Chinese with stir fry carrots, celery, Bok Choy and chicken over rice with a bottle of Shiraz. After dinner we watched Gravity with Sandra Bullock which was an amazing movie. It was exciting all the way to the end.

~

March 02, 2014 oscar

It's beautiful and warm out. I continue to read about interfacing to flask web sites. I really like the protocol because I can control hardware from a web page. I put screen in the front of the shed this morning to stop a critter from trying to dig under there. My rake is missing so /i had to make do with the shovel. We left at 1:10 for the ballet - a double bill of Rachmaninov Piano concerto and Vivaldi's four seasons. I loved it, especially the four seasons which was well choreographed and very colorful. I ended up updating our performance log in the life bits. In the evening we turned on the Academy Awards and watched it all the way to midnight. Best Picture was 12 years a slave. We just saw Gravity last night which won 7 awards so it was nice to see this. Dinner was Lib's pizza which was amazing because we were out all afternoon but she pulled it off.

~

March 03, 2014 sleet

More sleet predicted for today. The critter dug out the front of the shed in front of the mesh screen but didn't get in. I went out in the late morning and tamped some dirt over the hole before the rain started. Ran over to Kroger when the rain started and picked up some Salmon but Libbie didn't cook it because it was very cold and sleeting out. We got a little dusting of frozen precipitation on raised surfaces like on leaves but not on the ground because the warm ground melted the sleet. It's going down to 15 tonight which is unusual for March. I got a music player up and running for the plant room but I found out I don't have another micro usb cable. Need to order some. Dinner tonight was egg noodles covered with creamed tuna fish and peas. After dinner we listened to Werther live which was premiering. Vicki called

from Sarasota. Our tenant wants ESPN, Fox News and some kind of Big 10 sports package. I ordered it for another \$25 which they said I could cancel after one month.

~

March 04, 2014 swing

The roads are icy this morning since the rain last night froze and there is a thin glaze on everything. Waited till noon when the temperature went to 40 and the roads were only wet. Started to look at First Class and adapting it to Android. We had Salmon and veggies for dinner then went to group swing class. The moves were pretty complicated and I was confused but I'm determined to make this work. Hopefully Robert can straighten out my Swing tomorrow.

~

March 05, 2014 dance

I started working on First Class 4 Android in earnest. I started by creating a new B4A project and created a separate SQLite database. I'm learning how to import data into it and also how to display from the Db. It's not working since it keeps crashing the program. We went to dance at 3:30 where Robert first reviewed Foxtrot a little then addressed our problems with Swing last night. It was pretty helpful and I learned a lot. Libbie and I practiced at home and did quite well, surprisingly. Dinner tonight was Pulled Pork sandwiches with Cole Slaw topping. This was some of the pulled pork leftovers from when Bill and Barb were here. I worked till midnight on trying to use B4A to read the db without crashing.

~

March 06, 2014 Last Vegas

I put more of an effort into the database and found that if the values are null, the program crashes. I looked at the old database I used last year for First Class and found I inserted zeroes in place of null values. I started writing a Python program to perform this function

on the CSV prior to importing. I need a complete management program to work on data before importing. The Cell phone came around noon today while Nancy was still here helping Libbie. It's a pretty neat device although signal strength to Sprint is pretty poor. I spent time on and off adding apps and playing with the phone. The book reading is surprisingly good. Dinner was BBQ sandwiches topped with Cole Slaw again. After dinner we watched Last Vegas which I had seen previously while Libbie was in RI. It's supposed to rain and possibly sleet overnight. When we went to bed it was raining and when I used the LED light to look out I could see snowflakes along with a steady rain.

~

March 07, 2014 drunk

Spent the day writing the Python scripts that massaged the First Class data for the FC4A program. I had great success. The database works nicely and pics and data are displayed correctly. I had to add a second SQL database table for the credits for the photos. It really works well. I heard from John wondering where the FC4A program is. I told him the status. We had dinner of peas, ribs that Libbie cooked all day and Shiraz. It was too much to drink the whole bottle. We went to dance and I couldn't function I was so confused over patterns and steps. Even Libbie didn't know whether a rock step was forward or backward. never again. We left the party early at 9:15.

~

March 08, 2014 program

Another full day of working on the FC4A program. In the afternoonn the Met ran the Enchanted Island which is not one of my favorites. We had Chinese takeout and shiraz for dinner. After dinner we watched the movie Her which was not one of my favorites, in fact I thought it was stupid.

~

March 09, 2014 pizza

A nice warm day for a change, it's almost 70 outside. I spent the day indoors working on the encryption routine for the FC4A password file.

It's the first day of Daylight Savings time and I' alert and wake.

I stayed up until midnight today working on the program. In the afternoon we went to Walmart for a clock and other misc groceries. We also went into the garden shop and bought a large fiberglass pot for \$16.

Libbie made her excellent pizza once again. I spoke with Arlene a long time today about Aunt Helen and also a vacation she's planning for Florida. We offered our condo if they want to spend time in Sarasota.

~

March 10, 2014 programming

Today's successes: the update list and the password list were FTPed to the server by a config app, created routine to obtain WiFi status, successful retrieval of both lists from server by update button. Later in the day I found our the program was crashing trying to decrypt the downloaded file. I spent 15 hours on this problem staying up until midnight. Dinner tonight was peas with tuna and noodles. Very nice.

I went out on a ride on my eBike today up to the Apex Peakway and back down 1010. This is a nice ride but I got right back to work again trying to solve this problem.

~

March 11, 2014 problem solved

While Libbie did house cleaning I worked some more on the problem. I found the issue with the data was in the FTP either to or from the AVSA server. Files created on the device are perfect and don't crash.

Once I upload them then download, the program crashes when it does the read. This is so frustrating but at least I isolated it. Went to the grocery store for Tuesday groceries and the TAVS lunch. I got 1/2 pound each of turkey and Swiss and slider buns. Also bought some potato salad and served the last of the homemade Cole slaw. It was a good meeting. After the meeting I found the problem with the data. I was using an ASCII upload to the server which caused extra carriage returns to be inserted which corrupted the binary data. All is now fixed.

We had a fantastic dance lesson with Melanie this afternoon at 3:30. We wanted to work on Waltz and she really helped. We came home and

I had a long nap then dinner of chicken finger sandwiches on Martha Cranford's homemade bread she brought today. After dinner we went to a swing group lesson.

~

March 12, 2014 first class

Once again I'm dealing with a corruption problem. This time the entire file is not coming back from AVSA. I switched to a map for the list type and also allowed more time. This fixed the problem. Now I can move forward with storing the expiration dates in MySQL and so forth.

We went to dance at 3:30. Robert taught us Tango 101 and helped us a little with the Swing shuffle steps. It made more sense with him teaching us. We have a lot of tricks in our tool bag for when we go dancing this weekend. I came back and dealt with Victoria in Sarasota. The icemaker is leaking water. I told her to call Badger Bob. Dinner was Curry chicken which was great. I want to resume light eating tomorrow. We had an amazing front come through in the evening. It rained like crazy and signals the end of our 75 degree temperatures. Tomorrow is only going to be in the forties. Brrrr.

~

March 13, 2014 light eating

I don't have to go anywhere today!!!! I'm free to continue debug of the First Class program. Hooray. I solved the issues with checking for updates. Now I have to deal with downloading them. I'm trying to do the light eating thing today.

Dinner tonight was a salad with tuna sprinkled over the top.

~

March 14, 2014 dance

Left the house at 7 AM this morning to get my blood work done. I had a 7:20 appointment and got there at 7:14. They took me right away. When I got back I kept working on the FC4A program. I learned how I'm supposed

to do SQL updates. It's from a list of maps so I spent the day on the config program that will create the maps and FTP them to AVSA.org for updating the app. In the PM I took some time off to make restrict-er openings to accommodate Nuthatches. The opening has to be 1 1/4 inches instead of 1 1/2. I also got the post hole digger out and put up 2 bird houses in the front yard, then it was back to my program. After a dinner of Salmon, broccoli and salad we went to the Dance party at the studio. I'm doing better but we're still missing a lot of steps.

~

March 15, 2014 no opera

Today is Werther but we decided to stay home and listen instead. We both have too much to do. Arlene called today, they are going to take us up on the condo for May 18. I called her this morning and talked for a while. My weight is down to 218.5 which is a start. I wish I had not gained the 15 pounds back since last summer but I can't look back. March forward and get lighter.

I used the afternoon and successfully was able to get the database SQL and the photo directory updated. We left at 5:30 for the Shriners Club on Lead Mine Rd in Raleigh. It took exactly 19 minutes to get there, getting us there a few minutes early. Gary and Janet brought a very nice German white wine. We sat with the ballroom dancers on one side of the dance floor while the Shriners sat on the other. One of the ballroom guys was a person I used to work with, Bill Spencer, who was a planner. He retired in 1996, I left in 2000. Dinner was catered by Golden Corral and consisted of beef in a stew concoction with carrots, onions and red potatoes. Veggies were corn and green beans. For desert I had a banana pudding which I loved. We had a nice evening of dancing. We are getting better but not perfect.

~

March 16, 2014 bird house

We tried to learn from last night's mistakes in doing the waltz by practicing and watching the video of our lesson. The key was the start in which we have to open with a twinkle before doing the open right.

IT was good to practice some more. I made a Home Depot run and picked up more 2 cycle oil for the post hole digger and the chain saw. Also bought an LED maglite for downstairs and the stove pipe and rod for the new birdhouse. Libbie picked up a PVC pipe from the greenhouse while I was out so I drilled the PVC and the stovepipe and assembled the baffle. Using cell phones we next located the new bird house on the path in the back while Libbie tried site lines from the porch. It was raining so I marked the spot but didn't plant the pole. Dinner was once again Libbie's fantastic pizza. The crust was nice, thin and crisp this time.

~

March 17, 2014 crunch

The crunch continues. I worked non stop on the First Class program. Finally got it to recognize the second violet when both are named the same. the key was to add a hybridizer map file so that I can use the hybridizer to help choose violets. Joy was not in town and it was a freezing cold day - the high was only 35 so no shipping. Dinner was a salad with Tuna on it since it's a light eating day.

~

March 18, 2014 dinner

I did a grocery run this morning after an overnight glaze of ice had melted a little. The trees were a winter wonderland but it's not supposed to be this cold. Went to Dr Beavers to get my Dental claim resubmitted.

I heard from Victoria in Sarasota. The bill was \$118 to stop the ice maker leak. There was a pinched water line that Badger Bob then cut and re-inserted onto the shutoff fixing things. We went to Waltz with Melanie at 3:30 which was great since it helped gel the previous waltz lessons. I learned to lead a little better and also to make left turns to combine with the open right. This was something missing from the mix I put together. Dinner was Salmon and Broccoli. After dinner we went to Swing amalgamations which wasn't very helpful. We didn't dance much in this amalgamation. I'm having much trouble getting the B4A sliding panels to work correctly.

~

March 19, 2014 done

Late yesterday I switched to a pinch to zoom and abandoned the sliding panels. I used the pinch to zoom click event to switch the picture to the alternate. This works very well because the pic switches instantly and the zoom does not change. Happiness is!

This afternoon

we had a very good class with Robert. We practiced a little more of the helicopter routine with Robert then did more Tango 101. This time we learned correct head turns going into promenade. We came home and had some spaghetti covered with shredded cheese. Stayed home tonight and worked more on trying to get the duplicate violets sorted. I found when the list is scrolled the row numbering changes which blows my map of hybridizer vs plant name into oblivion. Need a better way to sort out duplicate violet names. Went to bed without a solution.

~

March 20, 2014

Worked some more on First Class of course.

I solved the problem of duplicate

violet names by different hybridizers by looking ahead when filling out the listview and adding hybridizers names in the listing for only the duplicate names. This way when a user selects a violet the program will check the hybridizer name in order to select the correct FC entry. After I got all this working I created a private signing key to release it to Google Play. Unfortunately it would not compile anymore. I had to delete the program on my tablet. The bad part was the dB on my tablet got deleted and the version on my laptop is empty.

Will have to concentrate on the update program to restore everything including the violet pictures. I went outside on this nice day and mixed some gas then drilled a hole in the ground for the bird house.

I also cut down a few small trees around the house to make it more of a clearing. This wore me down a little. We had a dinner of chopped BBQ on sliders before going to a group Salsa class with Andrew.

It was just us and Gustavo, 3 people total. We learned the foundations which included some push-pull turns and under arm inside and outside turns

~

March 21, 2014 doctor

It's another long day with the First Class app. The more I do it seems the further behind I get. I had an 8:15 Doctor appointment. Everything is on track. Triglycerides and cholesterol are way down, I was praised for the impressive weight loss and Dr Schroder wanted to know what my goal was. I told him it was a BMI of 25. I'm currently at 216 pounds which is a BMI of 27. We had a dinner of shrimp, broccoli and rice with a glass of Shiraz. We went to dance at 8. There was a pretty big crowd in the ballroom which was surprising since there's a big basketball tournament going on. I guess it's not very popular with the ballroom crowd. I got tired early but we stuck it out till the end.

~

March 22, 2014 oysters

It's pretty frustrating. I'm trying to read the database into the device.

I discovered the copy routine in DButils does a better job than my copy routine so I switched to it. I now copy everything with DButils even though it was made for the database. I like that it decides between ext SD storage or internal and returns the path of where it did the copy. I didn't care for the live Met opera today, Woczeck.

During the opera I went out and put two electric wire supports in around the dogwood tree and extended the fence wire to protect it. We started the beans at 2:15. They need an hour to cook so we got them into a 300 degree oven by 2:45. The Rumley Oyster roast began at 4 PM.

It was a nice turnout. I enjoyed the oysters, Lib didn't have any. I brought the "Matthews Band" wine, "dreaming tree", that I picked up at a Krogers wine tasting. After we got home i worked some more on First Class and finally got the thing to read a CSV file and apply it to the database. It even picked up the no image file which is a little too bright. Bedtime very satisfied at 11 PM.

~

March 23, 2014 FC4A

It was supposed to rain today but the sun was out this morning so I went outside and bought a dozen patio blocks at Lowes so that we have a path through the back to the bird feeder. This was necessary because it was getting wet in the back where the feeder is. The rain eventually came around noon. While at Lowes I had an interesting experience in the parking lot. Somebody saw me pulling the cart of blocks to the car and stopped and wanted to help me put the blocks in the trunk. I thanked the guy and nicely declined. It was a cold crappy afternoon. I spent the whole rest of the day working on getting FC4A on Google. I finally succeeded around midnight. I think I understand the process now.

~

March 24, 2014 Nashville

This is a light eating day. I have been pretty good all day. I struggled and finally got a link for Google Play and my app. I found that even beta testers have to pay for the app. This isn't cool. I created another app but this one is called Nashville and will be the beta but for free. After lunch Libbie went with me and helped me pick out a hard sided suitcase. We started with Penneys but ended up in Sears because Penney had them priced through the ceiling. I even had Sears points which saved an additional \$8 which was good. Working on the program tonight I listened to Andrea Chenier live from the Met. Dinner was lettuce with tuna sprinkled over the top. I jazzed it up with pepperoncini peppers and bacon bits. I liked this dinner.

~

March 25, 2014 packing

Joy came over today to help Libbie pack boxes for Birmingham. It's very cold out so she's going to line the boxes with foam. I have resigned myself to think the program will not be done before we leave. My biggest issue is getting the downloads done before anything else executes linearly with the program. It's not going well since the downloads need lots of time and the program won't wait. We had our dance lesson with Melanie today at 2:45. It was an excellent lesson. We learned to turn into corners which was something needed. We also reviewed

our zig zags and got a few tips there. It was a great session. Filled up the gas tank on the way home then put my streps onto Libbie's light stand. Dinner tonight was tuna over salad. This was a great intro for the week. I packed the new suitcase after dinner and also took out the short sleeved shirts and replaced them with warmer versions that Libbie ironed while I waited.

~

March 26, 2014 flying

We had our normal breakfast then put our suitcases in the car and left at 7:38, a little later than when I wanted to leave. Traffic to the airport was very heavy and stopped in a few places, once at Crossroads and then again at the Wade Ave merge. We averaged 30 MPH on I-40 from Wade Ave to the airport. We still did OK. TSA was easy with not many people in line. Our flight was full and not bad to Denver. Unfortunately we only had 30 minutes to the next flight. After a bathroom break and running the length of the terminal we got to the plane after they had boarded the A and B groups. We were separated in flight.

The ride was incredibly rough with heavy upper altitude winds. I finished my book, on the trail of John Steinbeck. It wasn't very good but I made it to the end. Joe picked us up at John Wayne. We stopped at an In-Out burger for lunch since it was 10 hours since breakfast.

This was a first and very good. We had fries with the order which we didn't need and they somehow gave us 2 orders of them. For dinner Joe pulled out a Ligi's Lasagna which was adequate. Christa came home from a School dinner at 9 PM. It's a long day for her.

~

March 27, 2014 car seat

We slept well our first night in CA. Joe is gathering his requirements for a permit for a Solar System which gave me lots of time to debug the First Class system. This is a positive since I may get to put it out there!!! We took a neighborhood walk looking at how other homes run the power down from the roof. for lunch Libbie and I went to Secret Spot and split a chicken and avocado sandwich which was yummy. It was chilly and breezy so we opted to eat in the car. Next stop was the Westminster mall where we found Babies R Us and bought a \$300 car

seat. My credit card was declined which prompted a call to Cap One to get a representative on the line to do her magic. After a few tries we finally got things cleared up. We went home and I worked some more till Christa came home. She has a pretty bad cold. We went out to dinner to La Capilla where I had 2 chicken Tacos and two Pacifico draft beers. Yummy but I ate too much. I really like their salsa for the chips which they refilled for us.

~

March 28, 2014 earthquake

Another good nights sleep. I spent more time debugging while Joe researched building permits. I finally have a good version of Nashville to put on Google Play. I have all the updates working I think. We did a walk downtown on the pier. We saw a seal rescue on the beach and some nice bikinis. i did a video tape of the activity. We had a nice lunch at hurricanes on the patio overlooking Main St. Met a guy there with a Monroe, WI tee shirt on. Funny. I took a picture of him and Libbie. Christa and Libbie went to the Dr for Christas checkup. She's doing quite well in her 30th week. for dinner we went to Costa Mesa to the Haus of Pizza which was an Italian restaurant. Not fancy but very good. I had Lasagna. Back home we had a long rolling earthquake that shook the house for 20 seconds. The magnitude was 5.1. We felt some smaller after shocks later in the evening. This was our biggest we have felt.

~

March 29, 2014 party

After breakfast we went to the party leaving Joe and Christa's around 9:15. We got surprised that we were driving so we got the GPS and put the address in and followed the prompts to Yorba Linda. This is a nice area of lovely homes, the streets are nicely landscaped. I liked it very much. We had a little trouble with all the hot plates plugged into the kitchen counter, the breaker tripped a few times and then permanently gave up. I used Cory's meter and isolated the bad breaker. We pulled it later and he went to Home Depot and bought a new one for an astounding \$65. Christa got an amazing collection of baby shower gifts. Many books and clothes and a large amount of other stuff.

Libbie's quilts ere lost in the mix. We came home later in the day where Libbie helped Christa sort through all the stuff. Wow, what an amazing pile of stuff. At the party Joe made omelettes and Craig cooked pancakes. I had one of Craig's pancakes which was very good. I spooned strawberries over the top. Later in the evening we went out to La Capilla where I had 2 beef Tacos and a Pacifico draft beer. A nice day, unfortunately we are meeting Christa's cousin for breakfast tomorrow morning. I'm planning to drive to Ventura at 10.

~

March 30, 2014 ventura

We went out to Woodys for breakfast with Christa's cousins. I'm not a big omelet eater so I had a bagel and cream cheese. It was a nice meal I certainly didn't need. Her cousins are huge people and eat all those cholesterol laden plates of food. Uggh. We left HB at 10:20 and sailed up the freeway without any problems. Called Barb around 11 and told her we were approaching the Ronald Reagan. Simi Valley is beautiful, much nicer than the HB area. Barb has a lovely home. We looked at her plants and plantings then went out to lunch at a Thai place. They treated and we had ample time to chat without the constraints of the convention. They gave us directions to take a route through farm country which we did and enjoyed the fields and cold frames lining the highway. IT was a worthwhile drive instead of the freeway. Made it to our hotel on the beach and were very surprised to find our Rose Bowl leaders, Jill and Larry Fine were the leaders for the farm tour.

Nice. Our room is on the 11th floor overlooking the pier looking South. Quite nice but the facility is very old and could use a refurb. Our dinner was a meet and greet and then a chicken and rice dinner with salad greens and pear torte for dessert. Very adequate. We went to bed tonight pretty tired.

~

March 31, 2014 ventura

After a breakfast of scrambled eggs, bacon and coffee we got on the bus and went to Sun Growers, a cut flower operation. It was amazing to see the flowers bundled into bouquets for sale by Trader Joe, Costco, HB Foods in Tx and other large wholesale customers. We toured the greenhouses

and refrigerated rooms. Next stop was Mission Avocado packers.

We saw the entire process from large crates to hydro washing, sorting and grating and packing including their newest line, a bagging machine where they were packing net bags of avocados. We next went to the construction site of their new consolidated facility. The young man leading us was the VP of engineering and was quite good. Lunch was at a small cafe in an old Woolworths building which has been preserved as historic complete with a little Woolworths museum of memorabilia.

For

the afternoon we had a downtown walking tour of Ventura with the local historian. He was pretty good but I was tired. Dinner tonight was a meatloaf buffet. After dinner we had the director of the Ventura County Ag museum give us a talk on the museum. He was OK but mostly read from his notes and used pictures to illustrate some of the history.

~

April 01, 2014 tangerines

French toast breakfast and an attempt to get my order straightened with Verizon regarding removing the Sports package and downgrading the TV service. I was not very successful with Verizon which caused me to be last on the bus screwing around with this stuff. We left for Ojai where we visited the Pixie Tangerine company, a small organic grower.

It was pretty interesting going through the fields with this guy who has tried to find a niche in the citrus industry. We met his wife as well. We got samples of the tangerines from this operation. Next stop was the Ojai Olive company where we visited the groves, got a lecture on growing olives then went into the pressing room and finally the tasting room. We enjoyed the Olive company and the good olive oils. We had lunch downtown at the Ojai Beverage Company and afterwards went to a tasting room in downtown Ojai and tasted various red and white wines. I liked the cute French girl serving us. She said she's a French teacher in the High School but currently on maternity leave. Libbie and I walked up to the mission in downtown Ventura and then back down to the Promenade and home. Dinner was an Italian buffet and Bananas Foster demo which we had for desert. Afterwards we watched 2 movies, one on Farm Worker housing and the second on urban sprawl in Ventura. Went back to try dealing with Verizon some more. They couldn't help me until tomorrow because the order is in but it's wrong.

~

April 02, 2014 insectary

I had the egg and vegetable scramble for breakfast. We got going at 8:30 and went to the beneficial insectary. This was a pretty neat place.

We learned that they grow bad bugs to feed the good bugs. What a surprise. Our next stop was the Ventura ag museum. This is a well done museum of old farm implements, tractors, etc next to the RR tracks in a converted Lima Bean warehouse. The young man from Monday night did an excellent job showing us around. He was much more comfortable in his own building among some of the exhibits he designed and was quite animated explaining to us how this all worked. Lunch was a Guac demo in Tia Babes. We had Tostadas, mine was pork. After dinner we went to the Hansen learning farm run by the university. This was pretty good - Jose gave us a talk about the center and ag in Ventura county then we did a walking tour of the grounds looking at various crops.

Fun. We came back incredibly tired. We had a dinner upstairs of a pork stir fry with rice and chocolate covered strawberries for desert. Can't believe it but we climbed into bed at 8:30. I continued to read a little.

~

April 03, 2014 heritage square

Breakfast was pancakes and sausages. We went out onto the pier to see the launch but didn't see anything. I saw a corkscrew vapor trail but nothing else. We got on the bus at 9:00 and went to a family strawberry farm. He and his father farm 117 acres of strawberries. We learned about planting, picking and prep during the non harvest time.

This was pretty fascinating. Next stop was a family organic farm and was not my favorite. the owner was very political about ag regulations and locally grown, etc. The farm was fine, we smelled the cinnamon they were using for weed control which was a nice smell. Looked at the animals then headed to lunch. We had lunch in Heritage Square. Lunch was a buffet of chicken, veggies and rice. After lunch we did a walking tour of the houses there and how they got to be there. The houses are beautiful but incredibly expensive queen Anns and craftsmen style homes. One home cost 1 million dollars to move and then another million to upgrade it. Next stop was the Food Share food bank where

we got an interesting tour. At the conclusion we wrote thank you letters to partner agencies for their help. We were given 3 letters to write but only wrote 2 letters including addressing the envelopes since we were out of time. Libbie has a bad cold today, hope I don't get it. Dinner tonight was a demo of making strawberry vinaigrette which we had on our salad and a wine tasting. We had generous pours of Lehman Shiraz-Cabernet blend which I liked very much. I had many glasses of this with salmon over potatoes with onions and mixed veggies. I cleaned my plate. Desert was a chocolate mousse over a cake-cookie base. This was all decadent. We had a nice time with Jill & Larry and our fellow table mates. What a fun evening although I drank too much.

~

April 04, 2014 end

This is our last day in Ventura. We had the scrambled egg and bacon breakfast then went upstairs to the 9:00 Suzanne Landry Vegetable cooking demo. We had a taste of chericomay which was a banana cream tasting veggie with large seeds. It was yummy. She prepared a nice salad for us with roasted beets, walnuts, balsamic vinegar and sweet pixie tangerines. Yummy. We ended up buying her cookbook which she signed. It was \$25 and a nice book. Afterward we got going on the 101. A few exits down we stopped for \$4 gas but THE first station didn't take credit cards, only debit. The next station, a shell, we filled up at 4.15 per gallon. The 101 stopped near the 405, the the 405 was stop and go through all of LA. We finally got going once we reached the LAX area. We got off on Beach and found a Pollo Loco where I had the taco mango plate. It was excellent. Got to Joe's around 2 or 3. Christa came home at 5. She and Joe went out to visit a friend camping in the area then picked up some salads in a tostada with pork, black beans, lettuce and rice for dinner.

~

April 05, 2014 opera

Christa left this morning for Grannies birthday in Vegas. We decided to leave at 9 for the Century theater in HB for a 10 am performance of La Boheme. Mimi as ill so we had a substitute, Kristen Opalais who

had sung Butterfly the night before. It was very nice and thoroughly enjoyable. We met a woman next to us from Spain and had some nice chats with her during intermissions. After the opera we went to Frys and bought a mouse for Libbie. We had lunch at McDonalds across the street and got home around 3. Dinner was pizza by Joe along with a nice salad. We spent the evening diagnosing the BB website because orders were not coming in to orders. I had several chats with people at Superb about this before going to bed. He was going to elevate the problem to his next level of support.

~

April 06, 2014 wiring

This morning Joe and I went to Home Depot and bought all the fittings for his conduit between the cutoff switch and his breaker box. We put in a new 40 amp double breaker and a length of #8 wire in a steel conduit.

Next Libbie and I parked at the library downtown and walked to the pier. I like the volleyball team :) We tried to have lunch at Hurricanes but they were full so we waited at Rubys for 35 minutes for a table. I ordered a cranberry brie turkey burger with fries while Libbie had a soup and half a sandwich. It was incredibly windy walking back. On the way we stopped in at a Pedego dealer and browsed his large selection of eBikes. While we were away, Joe tightened up all the connections on the conduit. It's pretty solid going to the cutoff switch. I bought a Seeburg Wallbox this morning from a place in Maine. It was \$285 with free shipping. The company has 100% positive feedback. What a deal.

Christa came home in the afternoon from her Vegas trip. Joe made pizza and salad for us for dinner. I think I may be getting Libbie's cold. We shall see.

I FTP'd the Bluebird orders files to my computer since they were not going to orders at the Gmail account, Superb determined they were being blocked by Gmail.

~

April 07, 2014 last full day

Christa went to work at 7 this morning like always. I uncovered a few sites that have decoded the pulses from a Seeburg wallbox. I will

implement the algorithm in an Arduino because of timing constraints and use the Arduino to select the correct music from my Server which means figuring out the protocol to get into the Logitech Music software.

This will be interesting and fun. Joe and Lib went to Central Park to bird watch while I stayed behind to work on software. I eventually finished the update portion of the software that had not been working for various reasons. Now it needs a good test cycle including a clean install. When Christa came home she and Libbie hung pictures in the nursery. I helped with one she couldn't reach. Took a pic of Joe and Christa and posted it to Facebook. Lots of comments. For dinner we went out to La Capilla where I had the Shrimp Rancheros and a Pacifico bottled beer. I went to bed early but stayed in bed reading until 9:30. Will pack in the morning.

~

April 08, 2014 Fly Home

Up early. saw Christa off to School while Libbie is washing the bedding before we have to leave at 11:30 am for our 1:35 flight. My cold is in full nose drip. I ran out to Ralphs to get Sudafed but they don't have a pharmacy. There was a CVS next door where I got a store equivalent for \$11. I also topped off the gas tank at 4.05 per gallon.

They did take credit cards. Joe said it was Arco that only takes debit.

This is what we encountered in Ventura. Joe got us to the airport in good time, we left at 11:30 and got there at 11:50. I had TSA-Pre which was great - kept my shoes on and did not have to remove the laptop from my suitcase. Our flight was easy to Vegas. We bought two Jersey Mikes Turkey subs at the airport and went over to gate C3 to people watch and have our dinner. Our gate was C2 and was about 15 minutes late leaving but we made that up and landed more or less on time in Raleigh. I got my car washed at 1:30 in the morning!!!! Overall it was an easy trip. I finished my book by Anne Stuart, Ritual Sins.

It was so-so, probably 5 out of 10.

~

April 09, 2014 misery

I got up promptly at 6:45 today and have a miserable drippy watery cold.

I barely existed today. Libbie drove me to Trader Joes today where

we picked up wine, fruit and oatmeal. I tried the small Mandarin oranges and they are really delicious and sweet. Through the course of today I have had several. Since they are yummy and I reasoned that the Vitamin C can't hurt I had several. Dinner was spinach tortellini from Trader Joes. Butterfly was live tonight and I thoroughly enjoyed it. It was sung by our soprano from this past Saturday, Kristine Opolais. I made it to the end then took a 6 hour gel cap and passed out in bed around 10:30.

~

April 10, 2014 taxes

I took a 12 hour cold tablet today so I could breathe. I'm certainly not 100%. Nancy came to help Libbie while I installed anti virus software and then TurboTax on the desktop, Manon, to start the taxes. I tried to create the AVSA ad but PageMaker won't handle the large photos. I need to resize before putting them in. Thanks to TurboTax I almost have the taxes done. The biggest help was with importing the stock sales from Scottrade. Turbo imported everything nicely. The BB accounting is a mess. Quicken doesn't agree with the Bluepay credit card sales statement. We went out this afternoon to Kroger and picked up Salmon and misc groceries. Dinner was Salmon and a salad.

~

April 11, 2014 feeling better

Today is a much better day. I feel great again, most remnants of the cold are gone. We went to the Farmers market today. It's a little early for bedding plants, we bought a tray of plants from our Asian lady. She told me to give her \$4 more and I can get 5 more cell packs of plants which I did. We'll certainly find more cell packs from her later in the season. The Fox has outfoxed me and breached all the screen blocks. I spent some time blocking the holes again. I'm going to keep at it until she gives up. Dinner tonight was chicken with beets and tangerine salad that we learned about in Road Scholar.

~

April 12, 2014 Richmond

We got up at 5 and left at 5:45 for the Richmond show. It was a small show with not many standards which is too bad. I was on a panel with Carol and Pat judging the designs which was pretty good. We had a nice lunch in the cafe. I ordered crab soup and a shrimp salad. I asked for a cup of soup but received a bowl. I paid for this later since while walking the garden I had to take a bad dump and almost didn't make it. We left the gardens around 3 and arrived home at 6. I purchased a \$2 Sinningia with my \$15 judges appreciation check, Sinn. Desafinada. For dinner we had mongolian beef 3 flavor which Lib ordered by accident instead of Szechuan 3 flavor. It was good none the less. We had 1 1/2 bottles of wine with dinner which was enough to make me pretty tipsy by the end of the evening.

~

April 13, 2014 taxes and ads

A beautiful day again. Spring is here and possibly I convinced the Fox to move her babies. There was no further digging when I checked this morning. After the morning shows I went to work on the convention book ad and emailed it as both a jpg and a pdf. Next I tackled the taxes. I had to get the 1099 from Libbie for her dividends and then while reviewing turbo I noticed they had really whacked out numbers for my sales of Selective Insurance and Constellation. It didn't effect the bottom line but I corrected the numbers anyway preserving my carryover of capital losses from several years ago. I played a little with the wall box today trying to diagnose the lights. Found out they were all burned out so I ordered two boxes of bulbs from eBay. That's one box of #51 and one box #55, 10 per box. Need to get either to Home Depot or Radio Shack for contact cleaner. I won't attempt adjusting anything until all the contacts get cleaned. Dinner was Libbie's nice pizza once again with fresh basil from the garden and leftover tomato pieces.

~

April 14, 2014 taxes

Finished up the taxes this morning and made many stops mailing the State

Tax forms. The Federal forms were eFiled but they wanted 24.99 to eFile the state returns. A First Class stamp is much cheaper. First stop was the Credit Union to deposit the Delta Dental check, next the Post Office where I took a garbage bag of packages in for Libbie as well as my NC tax return. Went to Radio Shack at Crossroads to pick up Tuner cleaner for the Wallbox and then REI for a new bicycle tire and tube. REI now has some eBikes which are \$2300. each. They had one men's cruiser and one woman's. Next stop was Walmart where I picked up some bedding plants and a bike lock. I also looked at Helmets but declined. I'm not sure if I'll ever use it. Dinner tonight was beet and tangerine salad with chicken and Feta cheese. Nice. We watched Dancing with the Stars tonight before bed.

~

April 15, 2014 Rain

We woke this morning to thunder and rain. I ran over to Kroger this morning for our Easter ham as well as misc groceries. Around 11 we left for Ed Lyons house in the country for our Violet Club meeting. We had no trouble finding Ed's place off of 1010 past 401 in the country.

It was still lightly raining. First we had a nice lunch of salad and lasagna out on his back porch which was just installed. Sheila brought her PH kit which we used to test violet potting soils. Libbie's was acidic at 5.0, Ed's was also acidic. We brought a plant of David Dicks which tested perfectly at 6.5. A sample of potting soil by Martha also tested perfectly at 6.5 Kroger called later in the day that my prescription was found in a shopping cart. I had neglected to empty the cart while loading my car with the groceries. We had Ed's leftover Lasagna for dinner. Afterwards I listened to Butterfly live from the Met. It's significantly colder this evening as the rain for the day tapers.

~

April 16, 2014 dance

It was nice to get back to our dance lesson today. We did a lot of the tango then Robert straightened out our two step a little. We went back in the evening and attended the Bronze two step group lesson. Laurie, Terry and Libbie were the girls. We learned some nice double turns

which we need to practice. I also renewed our commitment this afternoon, purchasing 15 more lessons for \$1150. We had 3 leftover from December so we are set for a while. Dinner was ham sandwiches from our Easter ham. Libbie warmed the ham we put on the sandwiches. I continued working the Travels by Tom blog entering our Road Scholar trip.

~

April 17, 2014 Two step

I did some outdoor work today. Cleaned the driveway, trimmed the Spirea plants, filled the mower tires with air and mowed the front lawn along the street. I finished my Ventura County blog and posted it on Road Scholar and shared it with one of our participants, Mary Byrne.

I heard from her that she enjoyed my Death Valley and Bryce writings.

It was fun going back and reviewing. I pumped up the bicycle tires but didn't go out today. Maybe tomorrow. I tried the lights in the Wallbox. The 5 cent credit works well but none of the other mode lights are doing their thing. This is a good debug aid since I should get a prompt to insert money which isn't working. I'll get this figured out. Dinner was baked yam and the easter ham with a bottle of Shiraz.

We practiced our 2 step in the house today and am finally getting the turns figured out.

~

April 18, 2014 dance

It's a beautiful day. I went to Home Depot and picked up a PVC board for the cornice work then proceeded to rip down the rotted cornice work.

Took a ride on the eBike and later worked on preparing the grow boxes for planting. Libbie and I picked up a flat of plants for our gardens and growbox at the Farmers Market. Most people have off today, Good Friday, so traffic was heavy everywhere. It's going to rain tomorrow so we want to do this today. The PH kit came today but results were inconclusive since all I ended up with was dirty water that didn't show any color change one way or the other. Dinner was a ham sandwich but we ran out of bread. We went to Country Western night tonight and did some 2 step dancing which we seemed to have mastered. Afterwards we joined the Studio at the Hibernian on Kildaire Farm Rd for a beer and some chips. It was a nice night. We learned a few surprising

things - Duchess has Jordan as her daughter. Her Mother Helen was also visiting. The nice looking Laurie isn't married, she hangs out with Pete who is not a very good dancer.

~

April 19, 2014 opera

It's a rainy day - it actually started raining last night when we were at Dance. I went out a few times in the rain and worked on taking down pieces of molding so I could get a measurement. Got all my measurements and went to Lowes where I picked up PVC trim and conduit for the cameras. I'm going to run power and Ethernet into that corner then put up a switch to support a few cameras and possibly some other "Internet of Things" devices such as a garage door monitor, maybe a garage camera and a garage temperature module, possibly a car present or not there detector. I came inside around 12 and listened to Arabella live on the Sat afternoon broadcast. Dinner was ham, sweet potato, salad, apple sauce and shiraz.

~

April 20, 2014 pizza

The sun came out today but it's quite windy. After the Sunday morning shows I went outside and ran the wiring for the cameras by putting a piece of water pipe in the hole for the wires then locating appropriate patch cables and power cables for the two cameras. I also reran the spotlight wiring making the job much neater. I put up the first of the compound mitre cut fascia boards. It didn't come out too bad.

This may have been my most difficult cut but there is a similar cut directly over it with the 1x4 upper board. I did not get out on my bike today. Too much other stuff to do. Libbie made her fantastic pizza again today. It really came out well this time.

~

April 21, 2014 Cenerentola

I spent the whole day working on fitting the cornice boards together in

the front. I mounted the spotlight in it's permanent home. During Cenerentola tonight I went out to the driveway and checked the light coverage. It's better than before. Dinner tonight was a ham sandwich. I listened to Cenerentola live tonight - it was the season premiere and will be in HD in a few weeks.

~

April 22, 2014 cornice

Another day of fitting cornice boards. I went to Kroger for the Tuesday groceries then continued on the corner. With the exception of the soffitt, the carpentry in this corner is complete. Dinner was ham chunks with pineapple, green onion and mustard sauce over rice. It was very nice. It's quite warm today at 83 degrees.

~

April 23, 2014 dance

I cut the plywood to fit the soffit but didn't bolt it down since I didn't have any lag bolts. I ran to HD to get some bolts and bought the LED spotlights for the back. Got cleaned up and went to dance this afternoon at 3:30. Robert concentrated on us doing posture for Tango. I'm not happy with how we are not progressing much. Dinner was spaghetti and a salad.

~

April 24, 2014 ballroom raleigh

I went outside early and tore down the rear Fascia aboard. I did a home Depot trip and got more PVC siding boards and misc electrical supplies to put up two more LED spotlights in the back corner. This will light the sidewalk to the greenhouse. I was pretty tired after all this today. We had 15 bean ham soup with the leftover ham bone. Libbie ran out of corn meal for the corn bread but the half batch she made was good. We left a little late for the Five Points dance tonight.

The dance was terrific. We had a 19 piece big band and 2 vocalists. I really enjoyed the evening. We go home around 9:45.

~

April 25, 2014 pajamas

I worked on the fascia boards some more and finished up around noon. Next we went to the Farmers Market before lunch and bought lots of bedding plants and perennials for our garden in addition to strawberries and veggies. We stopped by Walmart and bought pajamas for tonight and Libbie also made a deposit into Scottrade of her excess funds. I had a quiet afternoon and actually fell asleep reading. It was a nice nap in preparation for tonight.

We had a nice dinner of bean soup, wine and cornbread with strawberry shortcake for desert. We left a little late for the Pajama party. We watched some nasty storms from the back porch before leaving. The party was great, everybody had Pajamas.

There were no sexy negligees unfortunately. After a night of dancing we went out to the Cary Pub in our pajamas. What a hoot. I had a Yuengling and ordered a plate of something called the pub basket which had Onion rings, poppers, cheese rolls with 3 kinds of dipping sauce. too much fried food but it was a fun evening.

~

April 26, 2014 transformer

This was a tiring day. I got the light set up on the back cornice and the wire run to inside the house. After lunch we went to Home Depot and got 5 bags of bark for the garden and a new transformer for the back spotlights. I planted my Early Girl tomatoes and the eggplant which finishes up the grow boxes. Now to sit back and wait. The LED Matrix displays came today. There doesn't seem to be a power connection. this may need some work.

Libbie cooked the uncooked ribs from our freezer most of the day today. For dinner we had the ribs with a glass of Mondavi Cabernet and Steamfresh peas. I checked the light pattern after dark and it's perfect. We now have LED lighting all the way down the sidewalk.

~

April 27, 2014 scramble

After the morning shows I went outside and worked on finishing up the Fascia boards. Got the remaining boards installed on the rear cornice and caulked everything. Now I have to tackle the upper greenhouse roof fascia and check the fascia boards all the way on top. Next step was to run the conduit and wires from the knee wall to where the cameras come into the garage. Got everything wired up and working. I discovered I had a junction box in the knee wall with a feed in it from the breaker panel labeled Tom's Office. This apparently was destined for me to install a dedicated power line to the office area but has not been implemented yet. Lucky the power was there!!! While running power I also ran an Ethernet line to the garage corner from the knee wall which will eventually go to my switch in the office closet. I also ran two lines for the telephone from the crawl space to the knee wall. A very full day. We had a visitor this afternoon who is moving into this area from NY City. Her husband died so she sold her NY apartment and has the house in Carolina Trace and also a house in VT. Libbie had to run out for flour for the pizza. I was too tired to do this. Dinner was her very nice pizza. I packed a suitcase tonight in prep for my drive tomorrow.

~

April 28, 2014 drive

Left home at 7 under cloudy skies which cleared South of Fayetteville. The drive was easy, traffic was light. i even sailed through Tampa at 5 in the afternoon. I arrived at the condo at 6:20. Went to Publix for Chinese but they had closed the hot foods area at 7. Went next door to Golden china and ordered Szechuan chicken to go. it came with an eggroll, neither was very good. Our Apex takeout is much much better than this. My gas stops today were Florence and Baldwin, FL where I also stopped at Burger King for a whopper Jr and small fries. I had a rest room stop just after the lake in Santee, SC.

~

April 29, 2014 lazy

This was a lazy day. The condo looks great. I spent some time on AVSA stuff getting the new site purchased by Amy in Beaumont. We accomplished this task, the site is now good to go for 3 years. I had a peanut butter sandwich for lunch and a subway \$5 special turkey and ham foot long with the Rodney Strong Cabernet from last night. Listened to the Met live, I Puritani, and fell asleep early. The wine did me in although I didn't do much today.

~

April 30, 2014 packing

Took a look at the keyboard handling for First Class 4 Android but didn't implement anything. Amy sent the links for the shopping cart downloads which I added to the website in the late evening. For dinner I went to Publix and picked up some Chinese takeout consisting of brown rice, noodles and sweet and sour chicken. I vacuumed, cleaned the counters, packed everything and remembered at the last minute that I need to get gas. Went out to Walmart after dark and topped off the tank.

~

May 01, 2014 travel

Got up at 5 and packed the rest of my things. I was out the door at 5:30 after having a bowl of cereal and filling the thermos with coffee.

I made a rest stop at Gainesville just before the exit. Traffic was easy to here. Had no trouble through Waldo but 301 was lots of truck traffic. I discovered a new way to bypass Baldwin using Normandy Blvd.

The sign says it's a future 23 N toll road. It was wonderful and hits I-10 where the three lane portion starts going to JAX. I stopped in Brunswick for gas and picked up a Wendys single and small fries which I ate while driving. Next stop was just North of Florence to top off the tank. Traffic became very heavy. The sky through Georgia was black and angry looking but no rain. The Met was doing back Stravinsky but I was happy with Classical pops and listened to Dvorak Cello and several other long works. I got home at 4:30. The trip through Crossroads was light even though it was rush hour in Raleigh. Libbie prepared a nice coming home dinner of Salmon, wine, Spinach and Strawberry Shortcake.

~

May 02, 2014 working

Took down the upper Fascia boards then went to both Lowes and home Depot to buy new PVC 1x6. Lowes was out so I had to go to Home Depot for the boards which they did have. We went to the Farmers Market after Libs haircut where we got \$48 worth of plants from Longwood Nursery, mostly perennials. I never got back to the siding. Libbie got an eMail from Joann Raymer inviting us to her gallery show at Litmus. We left for there at 6:30 and found there was a rock concert going on downtown at the amphitheater. We made it through there and found a parking spot at the gallery. It was amazingly well attended despite the difficulty in getting there. We drove over to Carolina Ballroom and made it there before the 8 PM party started. After the party we went out to the Cary Pub and split a chicken salad sandwich with a glass and a half of Yuengling. We got home at 11:00 after a very nice evening.

~

May 03, 2014 ribs again

I finished up the cameras today with RJ45 connectors, added the switch and tested everything. It all worked, found a server program, added it to Traviata and bought an Android app to control it. All works well. Dinner was Target ribs, spinach and ravenwood cabernet. nice.

~

May 04, 2014 travel

Put out the shade cloth today, packed a suitcase and left for Bald Head at 11:30. Lib made tuna sandwiches for in the car. Gas stop when we got off I-40 then made it to the 3:00 Ferry at 2:10. Parking is pretty far away - a long walk. Once on the island we got a Golf car. Went exploring - bought ice cream at the Pelicatessan at the Bsld Head Island Club. Really enjoyed the scenery around the pool including a well sculpted girl in a skimpy and toned bikini. It barely covered her ass and was a tiny G string in front. Nicest I've seen in a

while. Libbie drove all the way around the Island with several beach access stops. We walked to dinner to Mojos and sat outside. They forgot to take our order. I had flounder and oysters with French Fries and a pale amber called Wildflower which was very weak and not good. The Seafood was good.

~

May 05, 2014 sunset

I drove around the Island today. The lighthouse was closed, went to the Turtle Conservancy and found about birding opportunities. We'll come back tomorrow for a nature tour. We stopped at the market Cafe for lunch of ham and cheese on a sub sandwich. They were out of whole wheat. It came with chips and a pickle. We split the sandwich. Stopped at a Maritime Forest where I got eaten to death by mosquitoes which prompted us to buy an insect repellent. It's a deet free cedar smelling non toxic repellent. I like it. We went out to Delphina Cantina for dinner. I had a ranchero quesadillo whihc had flank steak, onions, jalapenos and black beans. It's Cinco de Mayo so we had \$5 Margaritas. Went to the gazebo on our street on the beach and watched the sinset at 8 PM. nice.

~

May 06, 2014 ferry return

This mmorning we went down for coffee at 7:30 but Jo is off today and her substitute Kathy didn't have an early breakfast ready. We went back at 8 then packed the room after breakfast and headed out to the conservancy center on our golf Cart. I almost missed a stop sign going down hill with another golf cart going through the intersection. I had to slam on the brakes hard. We paid our \$40 at the center and went off in the golf carts with Kendyl and Toby, her intern. Stopped at a large pond looking for a gator, did the marshland trail next. Saw the baby hawks in their nest and also a painted bunting. Kendyl was using an app on her phone to call the bunting. Next stop was down the dirt road on the middle island. We had a great view of a pianted bunting that came close to us. We had to leave the group at 11:10 since the tram was going to pick us up at 11:50. Got back OK, checked out and took the tram without incident. We sat on the lower deck of the

ferry. Waves were crashing over the boat and spraying us lightly but we remained. In Southport Libbie got the luggage while I walked to the parking lot to bail out our car. It costed \$16 which wasn't too bad. Off season rate is \$8 per day. We stopped at a smoke house we passed in Southport. Turned around and went back, it was a delight. It's newly opened, the owner treated us well. We had pulled pork sandwiches with slaw topping and baked beans. We ended up buying a pound to take home. they packed 4 buns in the bag for us which was nice. Got home at 4:00 which wasn't bad considering we left the island on the 12:30 Ferry. Dinner of course was the pulled pork.

~

May 07, 2014 dance

Back home where I started downloading and labeling photos. We went to dance lesson at 3:30 which was excellent. Robert has the AC working again. Our lesson was concentrated on Foxtrot and a few nuances about the dance. I was doing a few things wrong that robert corrected. Dinner tonight was leftover pulled pork sandwiches with the leftover potato and macaroni salad. Good stuff.

~

May 08, 2014 fascia

Went out on the ladder today and worked on the Fascia board. I spent the entire day doing this and finished up the Fascia work. Now the only thing remaining is the greenhouse corner which has never been done. I did a Kroger run and picked up Salmon and a few things. Dinner was Salmon with a salad and sweet potato and also a glass of Shiraz.

~

May 09, 2014 busy

This was a busy day. Worked on the cornice of the greenhouse roof which has never been completed. I finished this task and it looks pretty nice. Before lunch Libbie and I went to the Farmers market. I bought a Dahlia and two more mints. I'm going to plant these two next to

the grow boxes where all the hoses come together. We stopped by Northern Tool and bought a 50 foot hose for the pressure washer. I need this hose to reach all of the siding above the greenhouse with the pressure washer on the ground and me on the roof with the wand. We had lunch, the usual BLT, then went out to Home Depot to get our Glidden Historic Tan paint matched up. We have the formula but Home Depot said they don't use those numbers anymore. They were able to look up the formula and got us fixed up with a new gallon of Glidden Historic Tan. I came home and relaxed by laying down and reading a little. I finished my book, *Escorted*, and am now reading the epilogue.

We had a dinner of spaghetti with chunks of tomato and fresh basil topped with cheese. It's a warm evening, we went to the dance party and were surprised at how lightly attended the party was. People started drifting in later, we had fun dancing anyway. The studio is nicely air conditioned now. After dance we went out to the Cary Pub for drinks. We ordered Yuenglings and chicken wings which were very good.

~

May 10, 2014 Cenerentola

Since we're going to the theater at 1PM I didn't push doing physical stuff today. I worked on the AVSA site a little. Need to get this transferred by May 26. Libbie made tuna sandwiches and we took off for Centerola. Loved the opera. Both Juan Diego and Joyce diDonato were outstanding as well as the rest of the cast. Met Jim Fatata at the theater. He had commented about how the host Deborah Voight had gained back a lot of her weight. I agree. Loved the opera very much. Dinner was ribs with Shiraz and spinach and a sweet potato. I seemed to have some kind of asthma issue during the meal and had difficulty breathing. Don't know what's up with that. It was miserable.

~

May 11, 2014 paint

After the Sunday morning shows I went outside and painted the fascia and soffits of the new cornice. I finished this work with the exception of the highest fascia boards. Next step is to pressure wash the back above the greenhouse so it could be painted. The hot tub motor is

making a racket so I ordered a new pump from Spa Depot in Washington state. Dinner was Libbie's wonderful pizza with fresh tomato and basil. Yumm. We watched the Disney movie Frozen this evening. It was pretty nice but mostly for little kids.

~

May 12, 2014 Search

I took the day off from physical work and spent the day on the Android software. I have the search input screen figured out. Now it's a matter of writing the appropriate SQL to get the search working properly.

After a dinner of salad covered with tuna Fish I mixed up a batch of Eastern Carolina BBQ sauce in my new sauce dispenser from Kroger.

Next step was to mix up the ingredients for the dry rub and coat the pork shoulder I bought in Kroger. It's ann 8 pound shoulder. Put it into the oven fat side up at 10 PM just before bedtime and set the oven to 260.

~

May 13, 2014 TAVS

I went out to get the Tuesday groceries and some of the remaining fixings for the party today. I pulled the shoulder out of the oven at 7 and let it cool for a few hours. After GMA I pulled the pork meat off the bone and fat and put it into a bowl. Made the Cole slaw and the Broccoli salad, cleaned the garage and driveway and took a quick shower before the meeting. The meeting was very productive for me because I got to clean up my Sinningias and also pot the Strops that I got from Barb in New Bern a year ago. After the party we did a cleanup and had leftover pulled pork sandwiches for dinner. At 7:00 we left for the cha cha amalgamations class at 7:15. The studio was the usual zoo but the amalgamation class was pretty productive. I learned quite a few good variations to add to cha cha. Females tonight included Libbie, Terry, Jennifer and Mary.

~

May 14, 2014 Pressure washing

With Libbie's help I hooked up the pressure washer to the water spigot in the back yard. The wand doesn't fit onto the new 50 foot hose but when I use the original hose, it plugs into the extension and the wand then plugs into the small hose. Libbie guided and I walked the roof and blasted dirt and debris off the siding, window frame and soffits. After this I rested for our dance class. Robert went over some waltz routines with us this afternoon. I finally found the secret to completely turning. I need to start twisting on step 1 of the sequence of 3 so by the time I get to 3 I am at a full 180 degrees. Dinner was pulled pork once again with cole slaw and the last of the broccoli salad.

~

May 15, 2014 paint and rain

After GMA I went out onto the roof over the greenhouse and painted the wall and soffits. This took 2 1/2 hours and went well. Just as I finished it started to rain. I cleaned up the painting materials and went back out in the light rain and pounded stakes around the tomatoes then tied them up. The rain progressively got worse and by the time it was all over we had 3.94 inches which was a record. Our garden seemed to make out OK. In the evening we went out to a group foundation class and learned West Coast Swing which was new to us. It was a good lesson. Ladies tonight were Jennifer, Mary, Libbie and Terry. Dinner tonight was pulled pork and cole slaw.

~

May 16, 2014 street dance

This is the day after the big rain. I pounded some stakes in the ground around the peppers and eggplants and tied them up. We have small tomatoes, small squash and small cucumbers on the plants. They all look great. Since the ground was saturated I used the opportunity to pull weeds from the landscape beds. The spa pump arrived at noon. Libbie had emptied the tub so I started removing the old pump. We had to take a run to Rising sun Pools on Hillsborough Street to get two O-rings for the pump. I also noticed the new pump is 1.5 hp while the old one is only 1 hp. It shouldn't make a difference if the RPM is

the same. We had to give it up to get ready for dance. We left at 6:40 for 7 o'clock rock and found parking on Academy Street. It was quite nice. Cary provided lawn chairs downtown. Robert started with a group lesson doing the hustle for 15 minutes and then doing Rhumba for 15 minutes. Quite a few people joined in a circle in the middle of the street led by Robert. Scattered throughout the circle were ringers from the Carolina Ballroom. We followed along and noticed several members of the public were watching and trying to do what we were doing. Libbie and I danced Hustle, Swing and Rhumba to a pretty good 50's and 60's band.

We went to the Cary Pub afterwards for dinner.

We split a Chicken salad sandwich and had a small plate of wings as a side along with 1.5 Yuenglings. It was a fun evening.

~

May 17, 2014 spa pump

This morning I worked outside taking down a few trees that obscured the view of our second Bluebird House back in the woods. Before I did that I finished the Spa Pump job. The water is starting at 67 degrees and is going up at 2 degrees per hour. The new pump is working nicely and hopefully is leak proof. I uploaded the videos from the dance last night as well as the TAVS potting party to Facebook. I'm currently backing up the AVSA site, no easy task - a few things have changed.

~

May 18, 2014 artsplosure

This morning we went to Artsplosure in Moore Square. We almost bought an EZ Glider which is a chair that hangs from a single point, a chain.

Libbie thought it was comfortable, I didn't think so. We didn't buy it. I tried to start the slides for the photography but didn't get anywhere. I think if I do some demos it may suffice, especially with point and shoot cameras and a cell phone. There is a storm brewing over MAAVS speakers. MAAVS is exoected to pay for speaker's expenses.

I don't think so. I can't see how this can be done financially. Libbie made a pizza dough from scratch and added some of the red basil to the sauce. She said it tasted different. I didn't think so. The new hot tub pump is performing well. Libbie got into the water in the

evening. the thermometer said it was 104.

~

May 19, 2014 Microphone

This morning I went to the Republic Wireless open house. They wired me up and did an on camera interview. I next got a tour of the facility and a bag of goodies. It was fun and I got a lot more respect for Republic. I spent some time configuring my phone today. I should have worked on the Android program. Spoke with Andrea today about the Holtkamp thing. We got Wed at 8:15 for a 9 engagement. I went to Best Buy and Radio Shack in search of a wireless Microphone. No luck.

We

watched a very nice finals of Dancing with the Stars. Really liked Max and Meryl's freestyle - it was hot and sexy.

Dinner was spaghetti

with cheese topping. We had watermelon for desert.

~

May 20, 2014 Cha cha

I continued to work all day on the search algorithm for the FC4A program.

I also had to work on getting the update function to access the fc4a subdomain on avsa.org. Because the site had moved to a new hosting account at HostGator I needed to recreate the subdomain. I also got a lot more of the "Advanced Search" working but it can't distinguish between Miniature and Semi-miniature. I need to rig up something to work here. I almost forgot it was Tuesday, Old Geezer day at Kroger. We had no lettuce or tomato left for lunch so I did the Kroger run before lunch. Dinner was BBQ sandwiches with premade BBQ from Kroger. We did a Cha Cha lesson afterward. The amalgamation this time was doing a turn in place.

~

May 21, 2014 today

Talked with Anne this morning. She and Richard are really enjoying retirement.

Continued work on Nashville, the First Class on Android app.

I finally got a Google group together and sent out invitations. Most of the Search terms seem to be working fine. All is well. It took a while for the app to go live on Google Play. I also found how to make Screenshots on Android, Not hard at all. We went to our dance lesson at 3:30 with Robert and had a good tune up of Cha Cha as well as pointers on Waltz turns. After the lesson we stopped by Kroger to get my prescription as well as wine for this weekend. I picked up 2 bottles of Ravenwood Zinfandel to share if necessary.

Libbie successfully

installed Nashville on both her phone and tablet. She needed help on the phone but put it on the tablet without any problem. Dinner was Szechuan 3 flavor from our favorite Chinese takeout next to Kroger.

~

May 22, 2014 tango

It was a relief to have the Android app out there. Most of the installs seemed to go OK with some minor glitches. This made me happy. Search is still an issue. I need an SQL tutorial. I finally took my bike out. It's been a while. There were no issues. I wanted to go to Kroger with it but I need a basket since when I tried to rig up the shopping bag to the handlebars or battery pack it dragged onto the tires.

After a dinner of tuna over a salad we went to the 7:15 Tango foundation class with Andy. It went quite well and we learned a few things.

I enjoyed dancing with Mary -she's a good dancer.

~

May 23, 2014 dance

I spent most of the day debugging Nashville and had a new release ready.

The search was really broken but I fixed it and broke out the mini and semi-mini categories. I also made the results screen have more results. After a dinner of Salmon and peas we went out to Andys "secret party" which was also billed as a "Flashback" party. His Dad got a bunch of old LPs and ripped them into MP3s which Andy played on his laptop controlled via cellphone. We skipped going to the Pub but stopped into Kroger on the way from the studio and bought Ben and Jerrys Chocolate Peanut butter cup ice cream.

~

May 24, 2014 shriners

I spent a lot of the day debugging some of the issues with Nashville. Arlene called to say they were leaving the condo and heading home. They had a nice time. We're both glad it worked out for her. For Nashville I worked on why some entries had the wrong hybridizer. It was when two violets had the same name that a hybridizer was identified, however it was the wrong one when the list was created from search. Manually scrolling had a correct value. At 3 PM I started on the outdoor irrigation. I want to separate the grow box watering into three lines. I ran to Home Depot for CPVC glue and some hose fittings but ran out of time. At 5 PM we reviewed some dance then got ready at 5:30 for the 6 PM Shriner dinner-dance. It was real nice. We brought 2 bottles of Ravenwood Zinfandel to share but drank one bottle ourselves and brought the other home. Harry and Terry joined us. The DJ was excellent since he played mostly ballroom music. We had a wonderful time and did a lot of dancing. It was a fun night out. When I came home I worked some more on Nashville and solved why one violet name, ACA's Libbie, had it's own "by:" label and crashed when selected. Little by little this is getting done.

~

May 25, 2014 packing

I did a little bit of Nashville for Android then worked on getting my camera to display on the Computer. Finally had some success. Dinner was Libbie's excellent pizza then we packed for Nashville.

~

May 26, 2014 Paige Victoria

Left for Nashville at 7:30 with a stop before Asheville for breakfast and bathroom. Next stop was lunch in Knoxville. Heard from Joe that they were going to the hospital at 11:10 am, contractions had started. Received several text messages enroute then when we got to our room

received a text that said "babys out". That was all! Later in the evening we heard that her name is Paige Victoria which was heart warming that they named Paige after Mom. Wow, that was heavy. We were with the Nicholas's when we hear the news. Dinner was Barbecue Cutey which was OK but they were out of ribs and no alcohol.

~

May 27, 2014 Optimara

We had the hotel buffet breakfast for \$34 plus \$5 tip. Nice but pricey. Left at 9 for Optimara. The tour was incredible. Loved every minute of it. In the PM Libbie and I went out to the Hermitage after a lunch of sandwiches in the Marriott Lobby. For dinner tonight we went out to Darfons a short distance from the hotel. We had Barb, Anne and Richard, Andrea and Libbie and I. I had the Blackened Salmon. What a nice dinner and a nice night out with friends..

~

May 28, 2014 interview

Libbie and I did Mickey D's again for breakfast then I had to scramble to get ready to take Andrea to Optimara. We had a nice personal tour by Russel then we spent an hour in the research house with Rheinhold, interviewing him for the DVD. All went well. I totally filled up one CF card and had to switch to the little camera. When I got back Libbie and I had lunch in the hotel from the grab and go service which is pretty attractive. I had a hamburger which I dressed out myself with tomatoes and onions and lettuce. we went to BBQ Cuteys and had a whole rack of ribs split between us with beans and macaroni. No alcohol at Cuteys.

~

May 29, 2014 show time

We went into the showroom at 2 PM to allow Anne time to shop in the salesroom. There was quite a salesroom crowd. Unbelievable. Photography went well. Winston was even cordial and helpful. What a surprise.

Tonight was the banquet, In the evening Libbie and I went back to Dorfinos for dinner. This time I had the basil Salmon on spinach and rice. A nice Yuengling draft complemented the meal.

~

May 30, 2014 Opry

We were going to go to Micky Ds for breakfast but saw that Brenda and Mahlen were going to eat on the patio so we got a bagel and coffee and joined them. After breakfast I gathered my stuff and started setting up the photo stuff in the classroom. Julie shortly arrived which was good. I had difficulty at first getting everything working but soon figured it out. Julie's talk is outstanding, I supplemented a little with my demonstrations. Afterwards we went to lunch at Jack in the Box. I had a spicy chicken biscuit which was good. I got the Entries program from Marjorie. This is good because I wanted the Entries program and now I have it. She has lots of difficulty breathing, we had to stop so she could catch her breath. I installed the program and updated the website with the award winners from the convention. We were going to get on the bus for the Opry but Richard suggested we go with them to dinner and the Opry. We stopped at the Opryland hotel for a walk through the gardens and dinner. Parking was \$21 plus tax. Ouch! Dinner and the gardens were worth it. We so enjoyed it. We got to the Opry at the last minute as the curtain was going up. Loved the live music and the incredible singers and performers. We had a great Korean comedian, Henry Cho. Great night. Afterwards we had a beer in the hotel bar for a nightcap.

~

May 31, 2014 Last day

This morning we were going out the showroom lobby door for breakfast when we ran into Karen Cenci who told us about the Waffle House. We went there for an enjoyable breakfast, our first time. The staff was very pleasant and I enjoyed breakfast. I had a waffle with delicious bacon and coffee. Total was \$15. This morning I got into the showroom early and managed to photograph the show chairs, Karen Cenci and Penny Wichman. I then did some showroom photography while the place was empty. Al Cenci borrowed my light so he could light up the Live

Live Live judging panels for the video cam. I helped both Marjorie and Richard with their photography video since they both are planning video interviews for the DVD.

~

June 01, 2014 home

Up at the normal time, packed our remaining items and we were on the road by 7 AM ET or 8 AM CT. Stopped for breakfast somewhere before Knoxville. We chose to get biscuits and coffee to go and got back on the road. Traffic was surprisingly light We had a gas and lunch stop around Hickory, NC at 1 PM and made it home by 3:35 PM. I went over to Kroger and got milk and some hanburgers and buns for dinner. Dinner was hamburgers and baked beans both of which were yummy. The Baked Beans were Southern Pit BBQ by Bush and the hamburgers were Sirloin 90% lean which I dressed with tomato and vidalia onion. Yum. Started the process of unpacking my new Sinningias and caring for the old ones under my lights. It had not rained while we were away. I ran the watering a few times while we were away, all looked well. I had to put a bucket of water on the new Dogwood in the front yard.

~

June 02, 2014 home

I worked on the Nashville program some more and discovered that it was my code that was restoring the list and not anything to do with the listview state after looking at a violet. I have a new issue of index out of bounds when doing a search, not the text changed routine. This needs some more work. I cleaned up the Sinningias today. Need to look at Libbie's computer for what to save before wiping the hard drive. Dinner was hamburger with baked beans again. These were the last two Sirloin burgers.

~

June 03, 2014 waltz

I spent the day erasing Libbie's laptop and re-installing windows. I

started by saving some files to a flash drive along with the Windows ISO image. Booted from the image and wiped the hard drive then installed Windows. Last step was to install FC2 and chrome as well as the printer driver for the printer upstairs. Hopefully this will fix her up for now.

I still need to add Great Violets and Great Inventory.

I did a grocery run before lunch then went to work on the Nashville app. Dinner was spaghetti with tomato sauce and cheese before going to dance at 7. Tonight it was Waltz amalgamations which went well. Libbie had a chance to show off Paige to the ladies before class. The AC is broken in the studio again.

~

June 04, 2014 no dance

Worked on the App some more. I made lots of headway with search and crashes.

Still have a crash when the device is turned and you happen to be doing a search. This should be easy to track down. Joy came over and helped Libbie do inventory. Robert called to say that the studio is baking hot and he won't be having classes today. Too bad since we wanted to go over some Latin moves before the 7 O'Clock rock on Friday night in Cary. the theme is Latin night. Dinner was lettuce and cucumber with tuna. The cucumber and a Thai hot pepper came from the garden. Went out there and noticed the Early Girl tomatoes were wilted. I did a watering of all the growboxes as well as both gardens.

~

June 05, 2014 conference

I think I have the reason for the crashes. there were lots of quote characters in the database. I manually edited the database and everything seems to be better. I also fixed the issue where you would lose your place after rotating the device. Still need some cleanup on the rotation of the text box but in general, all is well. We turned the AC on today both up and down. At first I didn't think the upstairs air was working but after getting a 9 volt battery for my IR thermometer I measured the air output and it was 49 degrees. It seems to be working. Dinner was Salmon and peas with a glass of Shiraz but I had

to eat quick since we had a conference call with the MAAVS EC and Mary Schaeffer. We told Mary we can't cover the expenses of the speakers.

~

June 06, 2014 street dance

I had to do some additional work on the device rotation repainting. I was going to go outside and pressure wash today but Libbie wanted to go to the Farmers Market. I agreed and suggested we pick up the scrap motors and steel at the greenhouse and take it to the scrap yard. We got \$90 for the scrap and spent some of it at the Farmers market on veggies and a Denver Daisy plant. We got the first peaches of the season which were delicious. they are not freestone but are very good.

Libbie bought 2 baskets - one of soft ripe ones and a second basket of harder peaches. We had a quick dinner of salad greens and tuna fish with one of my thai peppers which is excellent. I need to tie the plants in the garden since they are getting out of control. We left at 6:40 for 7 oclock rock. It was Latin night with a Latin band. Robert led the group class once again with a Salsa lesson. Libbie said Salsa was boring but I enjoyed practicing. It was warm and a lot of people were sweating but we enjoyed it. Mitzi invited us to Atlanta's graduation party tomorrow night at 4. We'll go. We got home at 10 PM.

~

June 07, 2014 version 7

This morning I put Nashville version 6 on Google Play and had to upload version 7 almost immediately. Libbie's phone did not update the database so I renamed the database and included the new one in the app.

I'll need to add a line to delete the old one in a future version.

Libbie found a serious problem. All the S. clone species violets are causing system crashes. Not sure why yet. We made the chipotle baked beans for the party and left at 4 PM for robert and Mitzi's. I picked up a graduation card earlier in Kroger and we put a check for \$50 in it for Atlanta. The party was nice. Mitzi's Dad is loud and obnoxious.

In contrast, Robert's is quiet and neat but he didn't stay long.

We had hamburgers and a variety of salads and deserts. Nancy, one of the studio students, made a yummy desert of peaches, pineapples,

coconuts and pecans. I want the recipe. We came home around 10 which was a nice night out.

~

June 08, 2014 pressure washing

I spent the morning debugging the problem of all the S. clone violets crashing the system. At noon I went outside and dragged hoses, ladder and pressure washer to the side of the house in prep for power washing.

Libbie helped me thread the hose through the garden. The washer went well and I was able to blast the dirt off the house trim in prep for painting the next day. I went back inside and tried debugging some more. Joe Bruns reported Precious Pink was missing a picture. He's right. More work to do in order to figure out why. I also started a new section of the AVSA library on the web with newsletters, journals and show schedules. It came out well.

It has rained for 2 weeks.

I watered all the gardens via the sprinkler system. This is serving us well. I want to get the system expanded and add another watering line. Libbie made her fantastic pizza tonight from scratch having to make a new dough ball. Late in the night I discovered an object to string mismatch which may have been my problem with the S. clone crashes. I'll deal with this tomorrow when I can concentrate. I did this during the Tony awards which I was mildly interested in.

~

June 09, 2014 debug

After 3 days of debugging I finally figured out why the s.clone violets would crash the system. The issue was a null because I was searching for a name that was larger than the names in the database due to extra space. A quick trim of the spaces and the nulls went away. I went outside this morning and set up the ladders and tarp then got out the brushes and paint. Finished painting the gable vent, the front cornice, the side window and the soffits coming down one side of the gable. I was tired and stopped. The goal was to do both sides of the gable but as grandpa used to say, "tomorrows another day".

Back to the app. I found another issue where the ionantha and the grottei repeat many times. This is more puzzling because the select actually

seems to be returning multiples but there aren't multiples in the database. Dinner was chicken fingers with Libbie BBQ sauce and beets with a glass of leftover Shiraz. We had a thunderstorm as I was going to bed at 10:30 PM. This is our first rain in almost 3 weeks and supplied .41 inches which was great.

~

June 10, 2014 afib

Discovered more problems with the clone species plants. For some reason they seem to be repeating many times. Also hybridizer is coming up as "0". They don't have a hybridizer since they are species.

Dinner was tuna on salad then we went to Waltz amalgamations. Libbie took ill during the dance with afib. Mary is a cardiac nurse and attended to her. It was Mary who decided her pulse wasn't right. She had some water and a bottle of gator aid. I continued to learn right and left turns while Libbie sat it out. She needs to see a doctor.

At home we googled afib - a banana is the correct temporary fix.

~

June 11, 2014 dance

This morning I went outside and finished painting the side gable and side door. I managed to knock the wasp nest off the front gable with the 20 foot extension pole. It wasn't much of a problem.

I found the

species plants all have an alt name which I am not displaying anywhere in Nashville. I need to make room for the alt, possibly on the same line as the plant name. Interesting problem. We went to our normal dance lesson with Robert. We fine tuned the concept of right and left turns as well as big steps, little steps. Arlene called to say Aunt Helen is in a coma at the nursing home. Death is imminent. dinner tonight was spaghetti. I found a huge cucumber to have with my salad accompanying the pasta. After dinner I ran out to a stabilizer for the ladder to hold it away from the house. They didn't have the adjustable one I wanted but they had one with a fixed 10 inch offset which I bought. I like the quality, apparent when I put it together in the family room.

~

June 12, 2014 Aunt Helen

Found out Aunt Helen died last night. Talked to Arlene at 7 then called Vicki at the bank. Went into gear and withdrew the balance in Helen's checkbook which was \$781. We're scrapping together money for a funeral. Vicki and Arlene have a 2:30 appointment with Sheenan Funeral Home. I canceled the AARP health insurance and started talking with the Knights of Columbus about filing a life insurance claim. I pressure washed the house today in anticipation for painting either tomorrow or next week after the funeral. Dinner was tuna over salad greens.

~

June 13, 2014 dance

Went outside and started painting the siding with the new ladder stabilizer mounted to the ladder. This went well. As I got the last of the paint on the siding it started raining. The rain was light. After an hour the sun came out again. I was able to lay down on the roof and get the painting completed. Yay!!! We left for dance at 8 and stayed till the end. We then went to Brewsters Pub afterwards for snacks and beer. We had a great time and stayed until midnight. Wow. We ordered Sweet Josie beer and a plate of grilled wings with medium heat. Delicious. Before dance we had chicken finger sandwiches. Mine had a Vidalia and Thai pepper slices.

~

June 14, 2014 busy

Today was odds and ends day. I updated the Bluebird website with Lib's new database. This was a major accomplishment. I washed the two newly painted windows on the side of the house and put the screens back, then put the ladders away. Lots of AVSA activity with Barbara, Joe Bruns and Marjorie. Barbara needed a guide to updating and cloning Panels. Joe was concerned about screen resolutions. Marjorie sent me the design photos. In the meantime, dinner was ribs with sweet potato,

Ravenswood "Zinfindel, and peas. Yummy.

~

June 15, 2014 travel to NJ

We had breakfast, packed the car and were out the door by 7 AM to Aunt Helen's funeral. The first part of the ride was easy until we reached the Annapolis bridge. We lost 20 minutes merging after the toll.

Hwy 301 up the Eastern shore was a real treat. It was all agricultural.

We stopped in Middletown DE for McDonalds then continued. Wilmington was totally jammed up. Once we got beyond that we had good sailing up 295 until we decided to take the TPK at Bordentown. We got in stop and go traffic on the TPK which was awful. We finally got in around 5 PM which was a 10 hour trip. We each had a beer at Arlene's.

Vicki came over with Bob around 7 PM when Arlene was having dinner. We had hamburgers and cole slaw and potato salad with another beer. We fell asleep easily tonight although it was a little warm.

~

June 16, 2014 Aunt Helen Funeral

We had an early breakfast then left at 7:45 for the 8 AM wake at Sheenans. We met the whole Cybulski family as well as all of Arlene and Vicki's kids. Aunt Helen looked nice in a pink dress. With makeup she looked good lying there. A picture of she and Fred at the 25th Anniversary was on the table. At 9:45 we left for the church for the 10 AM funeral. My car was first behind the hearse with Arlene, Rich and Libbie as passengers. We slowly went to Our Lady of Fatima and parked in the turn around. Mass was very very long but I guess this is what my sisters wanted. There were many songs which were nice. Then we processed out. I stopped to speak with Doris after the funeral but she wasn't staying. Spoke with David who is an incredible bore with all his medical conditions. We had a nice graveside service at which Rich gave a very nice touching talk about Aunt Helen and how she lived life to the fullest. I was brought to tears by the touching remembrance. We placed a flower on the coffin and it was over. Went to Arlene's for a reception afterwards. Ellie and David bought the Deli food from the corner Deli. It was very good. We returned there in the evening for dinner. I had chicken Parmesan which was quite good and

a long time since I had this. I had it with a Lemon Shandy beer which was not the greatest. This is a nice little bar and restaurant on the corner - name is Ellie's Deli. They have a pizza oven and serve pizza and pasta. The salad was quite good as well with Olive oil and balsamic vinegar. We walked back home which helped walk off some of the food and beer. It was a nice day even though it was a funeral. Heard from Bev later in the day about the jewelry she made for Christa's birthday. She got the check that I was worried was not mailed.

~

June 17, 2014 travel

Up at 5:30 this morning then had an early cereal breakfast at Arlenes. Left around 7:30 AM. We had an easy time getting onto the TPK and really enjoyed the MD Eastern Shore. Stopped at McDonalds for biscuits and coffee in Middletown. At the beltline we saw a message that 3 lanes were blocked ahead. Libbie used the phone app to navigate us around it. 95 South of DC was terrible but it kept moving along slowly.

We stopped at the VA visitor center for rest area and bought drinks for the sandwiches we had in the car left over from the funeral.

We got home at 4:30 without any further incidents. We had a light dinner of squash for Libbie and cucumber and thai pepper for me. Several cukes have ripened in our absence. We went to waltz amalgamations tonight. Libbie was being stubborn but I learned a few things. We added a chasse' and an underarm turn to our routine then back and forth zigzags. Not sure what they're called. Because it was Tuesday we did the Kroger groceries this evening after dance. We didn't need much, picked up cereal, some fruit and bacon.

~

June 18, 2014 scanning

I spent the day working on the Android program. I made quite a bit of progress with displaying titles correctly and changing the screen during device rotation. Next step is to make the descriptions scrollable.

At 3:30 we went to our lesson with Robert. It was great because he worked on the chasse' with us as well as under arm turns. I think we have it quite qell. Libbie went back for Ladies styling but also stayed for the Bolero lesson. I was jealous. I stayed up late scanning

some of Aunt Helen's photo albums. These are a real treasure. Sent some interesting photos to Cynthia and Jack.

Dinner was on our own so

I had cucumber with salad and thai pepper. Yummy. Didn't get to bed until 11:30 since I spent a lot of time looking at pictures.

~

June 19, 2014 scroll

This was another great day. I had an interesting time getting the description to scroll and finally achieved it. Now longer text descriptions are able to be scrolled to read the remainder of the text. It took a little bit of doing and some recipes from the B4A forum but eventually there was success. Now to tackle the inventory enhancements! Dinner was ribs and corn with Merlot followed by watermelon for desert.

Nice.

~

June 20, 2014 swing band

I worked some more on the Nashville app getting the species straightened out. They were totally messed up. We had a small dinner of chicken fingers and salad then went out to 7'oclock rock in downtown Cary.

It was moved indoors because of the rain. The place was pretty crowded and also hot. The AC couldn't keep up with that many people inside the building. The band was a 7 piece swing band with a vocalist. It was big band style, lots of horns and would have been pretty nice if it was outside. We had a nice time then went over to the pub where we had a plate of wings and a couple of Yuenglings. We sat in a booth with Terry and Jeff who is Nancy's ex.

~

June 21, 2014 pressure wash

i pressure washed the front of the house today. This was a mssy job. I got totally soaked. Took the afternoon off and worked on accented characters in the database. We got cleaned up around 5:30 in prep for

the Shriners dance tonight. On the way over we got a gully washer of rain. Streets were flooded and we couldn't see at times but we got there OK. We sat with Nancy & Steve, Harry & Terry, Anne & Mike, and Gary and Janet. Charlie and Terry had to sit at another table. The AC broke tonight and it got pretty hot in there. We did not stay until the end, leaving about 9:30. I was tired anyway. We had pot roast with potatoes and carrots, a bun, banana pudding and a bottle of Rodney Strong Cabernet Sauvignon, my favorite. It was a nice night. When we got home it had not rained at all. Disappointing.

~

June 22, 2014 accented characters

Woke up this morning and learned we got one inch of rain at midnight. Yippee. We needed it. Kroger gas station has pallets of pine bark for sale at 3 for \$9. I bought 4 bags of mulch at Kroger which Libbie and I spread around the flower garden. The ground is wet so this will help retain moisture.

I wrestled with trying to display accented characters in the database. I didn't have much luck. For dinner Libbie made her pizza from scratch. Late at night I fired up the desktop computer so I could scan forms for the KofC guy tomorrow. I wanted Aunt Helens application for Life insurance preserved and I was afraid I would have to surrender the policy to the KofC for the claim.

~

June 23, 2014 K of C

I finally recreated the Nashville database and got it to display correctly in the app. I'm not sure what happened but it was a one day setback for me. Now I can move forward with inventory and wishlist items.

This morning at 8 AM, Michael O'Rourke of the Knights of Columbus came over to fill out the paperwork for our claim for Aunt Helens life insurance. I also heard from Sheenans. They have a form for me to fill out from Medicaid about her Life Insurance and Bank Account. I hope they don't notice the withdrawal the day after she died. In the late morning I dragged the ladders out and painted the gable facing the driveway as well as the soffits and fascia over the porch. This

was a long day of painting. Dinner was curry chicken over angel hair whole grain spaghetti. I felt really beat up by the end of this day.

~

June 24, 2014 no dance

Worked on the inventory aspect of the Nashville app and got it working reasonably well. Went over to Kroger for Tuesday groceries but we didn't need much since we're going to Calif on Thursday. Robert called off group dance for tonight because the AC is broken again. Did not paint today but cleaned up the yard of sticks and stuff. Dinner was BBQ chicken on buns.

~

June 25, 2014 dance

I released Version 10 of the Nashville app then went outside to paint. finished the garage door frame, the pillars and the porch support beam, all faces of it. Next will be the ceiling but it will be done when we get back from Calif. Went to dance at 3:30. The AC is working again. Robert reviewed our underarm turns and the correct steps for the chasse'. We also did a little bit of work on the Cuban walk. It's a cross body followed by step side together and walk, walk, walk. Draw her in and resume. For dinner we went out to La Cocina and had the normal Quesadilla La Cocina with a Yuengling draft. It was Mariachi night. We enjoyed the Mexican band singing various songs including Ray Charles "I can't stop loving you". I'm reading the last book in the Richard Paul Evans walk series, "Walking on Water". Took the Corolla in for a 1:30 PM appointment for oil, tire rotate and DMV inspection. Rode my bicycle home from the auto dealer, Hendricks Toyota of Apex on 64 and Laura duncan. The car has 40,900 miles and was well due for oil.

~

June 26, 2014 travel

Busy morning since we're going to Calif this afternoon. Wrote Cynthia a thank you note for the flowers, paid a few bills for the convention and filled out a Medicaid form for Sheenans then took it all to the Post Office after getting the medicaid form notarized at the Credit Union.

Tried to close Aunt Helens account at the bank but they wanted a death certificate. May go back next week to complete this.

Packed

our suitcases, made ham & turkey sandwiches and left at 2:45 for our 5 pm flight. The flight was full, all went smoothly. We were TSA pre which meant we sailed through security with shoes on, no undoing our baggage. The flight was smooth but I had an obese guy next to me who spilled over his seat. We got a 2014 Corolla which is very nice. Traffic on the 405 was stop and go in spots. We stopped at Joe & Christa's for a while to see Paige before checking into the Best Western. They have a parking garage under the hotel. I finished the last of the walk by Evans in the hotel. It was quite good.

~

June 27, 2014 joesd

Up at 6:30 then Best Western breakfast of cereal and bagel. Enjoyed sitting on the deck having coffee waiting for Libbie. Over to Joe's to visit with Paige and all. Paige is high maintenance!!! Called Andrea about Hans. She had some suggesdt I ns. At Joes we did babysitting while they went out to lunch for a Margarita and all at a very nice resdtasurasnt.

Joe GH iced a nice dinner of T none steak and baked potato. Nice. We finished a bottle of Merlot.

~

June 28, 2014

After breakfast we walked down to the CVS and got a bday card for mike and gas card. We went to the party for Mike at 2 with the car seat in the back of our rental car. Nice party, we had hamburgers with potato salad, baked beans and all the trimmings. I liked the banana pudding desert. We drove straight to the hotel from the party.

~

June 29, 2014 joes birthday

After breakfast, Joe met us at the pier. We walked with Paige out to Ruby's and back. It was chilly and overcast. We went back to Joes for a while before I went out to Fry's for a memory card and Bluetooth dongle. Helped an Asian couple fix a flat. We did babysitting before taking a walk to the over 55 community Pam lives in. It's pretty nice over there. Joe fixed some delicious pizza he said was pretty hot. I didn't think so. Back to the hotel at 8:30, after dinner.

~

June 30, 2014 dana point

We had a fun day today. Had a very nice hotel breakfast after getting up somewhat later then went over to Joe's. Hung around there for a while then after a lunch of Joe's leftover pizza, we went over to Laguna at the Montage. The flowers were not as spectacular this time, they replaced a lot of the annuals with succulents because of the drought. found a guy to take a picture of the four of us with Paige, then my cell phone alawrm went off at 3:30. We had an appointment with Hans at his assisted living in Dana Point. We had a very nice visit with him. He's amazing. Then we left at 5 to go back to Joes in heavy traffic which was manageable. Went out to dinner with the 5 of us to La Capilla. Paige was good for the first half of the meal, then Joe used his magic on her when she started fussing towards the end. I had the taco and enchilada combo with a blue moon. Very nice. We stopped briefly at Joe's to say our goodbys then went back to the hotel and fell right asleep. Up tomorrow at 5 to catch an 8:15 flight at LAX. fun.

~

July 01, 2014 Fly home

We got up at 4:50 am Pacific time and got ready to go. checked out of the hotel and hit the road by 5:15 AM. Topped off the tank at Seal Beach for \$4.25. Pricey but we only needed 5 gallons. The freeway was crowded as usual. We were glad it was between 5 and 6 in the morning.

Rental car return and check in went smoothly. They rejected my printed boarding passes, claiming they were too big. We had to reprint them at the airport which was no big deal. I was TSA Pre but Libbie had to go through the full security search. I waited for her then we found breakfast at Woodies Wood Fired pizza. They had English muffins with egg and bacon for \$9 each. Bottom line was \$25 for 2 sandwiches with drinks. Ouch. They were OK however. The flight started out 15 minutes late but we landed 10 minutes early. We had no luggage so we went right out to the Park N Ride shuttle which was waiting for us. How convenient. We were home by 5. For dinner we had a Kroger rotisserie chicken with potato salad. Pretty good. Now we have to get used to EST.

~

July 02, 2014 groggy

I'm a little groggy today trying to get back onto EST. Sorted pictures out from our cameras today and backed things up. Managed to backup Libbie's cell phone to a free MS OneDrive account and download a zip file of the pictures. I also got out the slide projector and tried scanning a roll of Disney World pictures of Nov 1979. The pictures are of poor quality but the scans are relatively decent. It was disappointing in that while we were gone a deer got into the lower fence in the West garden and ate the vines, peppers and tomatoes. The eggplant looks great! Dinner was leftover chicken with the rest of the potato salad and some cole slaw. Good stuff.

~

July 03, 2014 farmers market

I worked on the Nashville app, fixing a number of issues and moving menus around. Went to the Farmers market around lunch time where we picked up peaches, corn, tomatoes, lettuce and a small plant from Longwood, In the evening the hurricane was off the coast but we only got 1/4 inch of rain which was disappointing. Dinner tonight was farmers market corn with hamburger and Vidalia onion. We also had a bottle of Merlot.

~

July 04, 2014 painting

Did a little Nashville app work then got into my paint clothes and started painting outside. Finished the garage door and the porch ceiling.

This was pretty tiring. The pond pump quit so we went to Home Depot to get a new one . I want about 600 GPM, they were out. We bought another gallon of paint then went to Lowes and found one. Bought a 560 GPM for \$69 which may have been a little high but it works well. I also replaced the UV light to filter the algae in the pond. Hooked it all up before dinner. On the way back from Lowes we went over to Kroger to get wine for dinner. Sampled something called Midnight Passion by Manage a Trois winery in St Helena. It was OK but the barefoot was on sale for 2 for \$10 and the Midnight Passion was \$10.50. Dinner was hamburger with onion and tomato and corn on the cob. We accompanied dinner with Barefoot Merlot. After dinner we enjoyed sipping wine on the back porch and listening to Readers Digest Waltz compendium via the Traviata server and our stereo system.

~

July 05, 2014 no paint

Libbie painted the 2 downstairs windows next to the porch this morning. I did some web updates but not much yard work. Spent more time than I thought I would replacing both front door handles and the deadbolt lock. The great news is I had the deadbolt keyed to match the other doors in the house. This is a big plus. I spent \$300 on 2 door handles plus the deadbolt which I thought was a lot of money just to get a new door handle but that's life. Dinner tonight was hamburger on the grill with the rest of the corn. We had a bottle of Barefoot Merlot wine to complement the meal.

~

July 06, 2014 locks

Finished up the front door handles. The non locking door needed a 2 inch hole drilled to accommodate the new handle since it wasn't drilled before. The old handle was a dummy that didn't need a 2 inch hole.

Libbie made her outstanding pizza again.

~

July 07, 2014 carpentry

I worked this morning replacing a fascia board on the side of the porch.

Next I caulked it all, it's ready for pressure washing when the caulk dries. I worked on genealogy stuff today, it's sadly out of date.

After trying a few programs including the open source Gramps I ended up going with the copy of Family Tree Maker 2012 that I have. I registered it with ancestry.com and am using their online tree storage capability. this gives me web access from anywhere (I think) as well as edit ability from any computer that has Tree Maker. Dinner tonight was spaghetti with bits of fresh tomato and a sprinkling of cheese. Yummy.

~

July 08, 2014 pressure washing

Did some web work on AVSA transferring content to the new Shows and Judges page. Today is grocery day but since Libbie is leaving tomorrow for PVD I don't need much. Fired up the pressure washer and washed half of the house, upstairs. this included two bedroom windows, the side of the porch and the fascia and soffits. I got totally soaked. My foot is starting to act up like it did 3 years ago. I'm not sure what's going on there. I stopped by Lowes before dinner and picked up a new ballast for the violet towers. One of them apparently has quit, bought a new commercial one which is lower in power than the residential one. We coordinated the Lowes trip so I called Lib as I was leaving Lowes and she called in an order for Chinese takeout. I stopped back at home and picked up Libbie who went with me and picked up our dinner. We had eggrolls, 3 meat szechuan and a bottle of Merlot. I was done for the evening!

~

July 09, 2014 rain & paint

Left at 9:15 to take Lib to the airport. Back home and started painting by 10. Finished painting the side of the porch and the upper 2 bedroom windows. It's a hot day - high of 95 while I was painting. Finished at 2 and a little after 3 it started raining. The paint had plenty of time to dry although a little more time would be better. Saw on TV that Clyde Coopers was torn down today. That's the end of an era. It was built in 18 something. Dinner tonight was a lettuce and spinach salad with a can of tuna over the top.

~

July 10, 2014 rain

Tried painting at 9 but it started raining. Got down, cleaned up the brushes and the sun came out. Crap. Worked in the garden tying tomatoes, weeding and general maintenance. We got a good dose of rain at 6 PM giving us .6 inches. Dinner tonight was a bean burger with vidalia, fresh garden tomato, spinach salad with garden cucumber and garden tomato slices. Yummy.

~

July 11, 2014 paint

I went out onto the ladder and finally finished the front of the house except for the section over the porch. Cleaned up the brushes and then went to HH Gregg and purchased another WNDR3700 router to use as a wireless repeater. Before I did this I struggled with some other routers to make a remote access point. I finally decided the best way is to replicate the current router but put the new one in repeater mode.

The reason for doing this is because the Honeywell thermostat in the playroom keeps losing the wireless connection. I think the wireless signal strength is now much better upstairs. On the way home I stopped in Kroger and picked up a watermelon and carrots for dinners.

Dinner tonight was a bean burger with cantaloupe for desert. I also had a peanut butter sandwich because I was still hungry. Elisir is on tonight as an encore presentation. It's a delight. Libbie called during the opera so I missed some of it. All is well in RI. I'm enjoying my time alone here. It's pretty productive.

~

July 12, 2014 destruction

Did the Iris sale at the arboretum today. Bought 9 Irises, 2 of them were free because it was buy 5 get one free and get a free one for joining the Iris society. I helped Barbara verify the website this morning. She was still having trouble but we now have an embedded file and an html meta tag for verification. Went up on the porch roof and started the demolition of the rotted fascia and soffitt. It's a real mess. The underlying 2x6 is disintegrated completely. I didn't expect that. It means the whole 1x8 needs removal to get to the ends of the 2x6. Even the horizontals that support the plywood are rotted. Much destruction. I went into the backyard in the afternoon and did some chain saw work. Removed the big young Oak next to the apple tree and trimmed the oak that was touching the house in the corner. I had to remove a big branch of this tree. It's much better now. Hopefully this will bring more light into the garden. Dinner was a salad with thai pepper, lettuce and cuke as well as a yummy beanburger with vidalia and garden tomato. Always good! I finished reading the book "Finding Me" about the Cleveland kidnappings. It was fascinating and surprisingly an easy read.

~

July 13, 2014 busy

After the sunday morning shows I went out onto the roof and ripped down the rest of the rotted wood including the wide fascia board. it's quite warm outside. Went to Lowes and picked up a 2x6 and a few PVC pieces. Will need new pieces of plywood to finish the job. Still haven't figure out how the water is getting in. Dinner was a bean burger with Vidalia. For lunch I had a Trader Joes Briyani casserole. It was pretty spicy and good. I have a lot to do - the AVSA accounting, the library photos and some web work.

~

July 14, 2014 check in

Up at 5:20, checked the calendar for sure since I have to check Libbie in for her trip tomorrow. Had time to shower, shave and have breakfast before getting on and fetching the reservation number, etc for check in. Did the check in on time - she's in the A group with TSA-Pre. Nailed up the new treated 2x6 but it's not right. The underlying repaired rafter is sticking out too far. I chose not to fix it further.

Today's agenda was to finish the Nashville convention accounting then use the free coupon to get a photo book from mypublisher. I ended up with 22 pages and submitted it. I made an offer on an ethernet gateway which was accepted. I guess I'm on the way to a solar system.

Found some 300 watt panels and enphase inverters on ebay. I'll wait until Saturday to order this stuff since we go to Edenton next week and won't be home. Dinner was a nice salad with a can of tuna on it.

~

July 15, 2014 rain

Went to the airport at 9 to meet Libbie's flight which was showing a 9:16 landing. My timing was good since I parked in the Sheetz gas station and she called shortly after I arrived. I'm amazed at the number of dressed up workers in business clothes stopping in to get coffee and donuts on the way to work. Came home and got the soffit 2x6 straightened out by shortening the patched up rafter with the Sawzall. It started raining at noon with about 1/4 inch then a huge rain at 5:30 where the sky got black as night and almost 3 inches fell. Our total for the day was 3.21 inches. The backyard was underwater. Talked to Joe about us getting plane tickets. He said Sept 3 would be better for he and Christa. The Southwest sale ends tomorrow so I'll order in the morning. Dinner was curry chicken over spaghetti.

~

July 16, 2014 dance

Hooked up the trailer and went to Lowes for a sheet of plywood as well as 1x4x12 PVC fascia boards and 3 pieces of drip edge. I got all the fascia boards up but not the soffit board. I need to cut the plywood and nail it up. Got cleaned up and ready for dance lesson at 3:30 with Robert. It's been almost a month with bad AC, Fourth of July and our trips. We had a good shag lesson learning natural and underarm

turns, cuddle and belt loop turns.

This afternoon I ordered roundtrip tickets to John Wayne for Sept 3. Bottom line for 2 of us was \$700 total which was outstanding.

We came home, laid down and fell asleep.

I fell asleep for an hour. Dinner tonight was hamburger with baked beans, Vidalia onion and tomato from the garden.

~

July 17, 2014 plane tix

this was a busy busy day. I cut the sheet of plywood for the soffitt and installed it. This concludes the carpentry. Next I brought the rake onto the roof and with the leaf blower managed to clean the pine needles off the garage and porch roofs. There were quite a few. In order to free up my car I weeded the garden and then spread the pine bark that was parked in the car. I fertilized the roses before mulching them with the bark. Next I raked up the pine needles and used them as mulch around the fence near the butterfly bush in the corner. I had 2 loads of pine needles which I used to put down a nice thick coat. After the pine needle cleanup I fired up the pressure washer and washed the front of the house over the porch and then the sidewall over the garage. The side roof was filthy. Dinner tonight was hamburger and baked beans with garden tomato and Vidalia. Yummy. I ordered our Dallas Lonestar tickets tonight since today is the last day of the southwest sale. I got them for around the price of going to California which was \$700 round trip bottom line. Not great but I'll use them as a place holder.

~

July 18, 2014 dance

Out on the roof early this morning and started painting the soffit and fascia over the porch. This angle of my feet is tough on my calves. I can really feel it. The weather is incredible. Temperatures are low for July and humidity is only 51%. Libbie made an eggplant casserole which was outstanding. She used garden eggplants and garden basil which was very flavorful. We had it for dinner with a glass of Shiraz. We left for 7 o'clock rock where we had a group shag lesson with

Robert. He clearly is in his element doing this. There was quite a crowd tonight, they even now have alcohol. We bought 2 pints of beer from a new brewery on Chatham St. Libbie and I did quite a bit of shag which we found we're good at after Roberts lesson Wednesday and the review at the group lesson Friday night. The band was quite large and quite good. The theme was supposed to be beach music. It was good listening music and very dance-able. Earlier today I accepted a counter offer for enphase inverters and bought 4 of them for \$720 with free shipping. Little by little my system is coming together. Next I need to order solar panels. I'm thinking of getting the Renogy 300 watt panels which work out to .78 per watt before shipping, 1.02 per watt after shipping.

~

July 19, 2014 eggplant

Finished the AVSA horticulture pictures today and uploaded all to avsa.org for anne and Richard. I found the Windows 7 labeling in the explorer which i used to title the plant pictures. This will make it easier in the future I hope. Dinner tonight was homemade eggplant casserole with a bottle of Shiraz. yummm!

~

July 20, 2014 cleanup

Put all the ladders away today in prep for our trip tomorrow. Groomed my plants and then digitized another roll of slides using the projector and camera. I'm not happy with the results and may go back to the scanner for digitizing slides. The results are slow but possibly better that way.

After investigating several possibilities for roof mounts of solar panels I ended up going with aluminum rails and flashed roof mounts from Mile High Eco in Colorado. I also ordered a surge supressor with the rails since I'm a little worried about lightning hits. I will mount this on a disconnect panel on the roof.

Dinner

was Libbie's excellent pizza of course.

~

July 21, 2014 drive to Edenton

Packed our suitcases this morning and took care of all the plants. We left around noon in heavy rain. The rain continued on and off all the way to Edenton. We stopped in Tarboro for lunch at Bojangles. I had a single chicken breast with dirty rice and sweet iced tea and a biscuit. It's been a while and it was certainly good. Despite the rain which was incredibly heavy at times it was an easy drive to the coast.

We were a little early so we did a drive of the town and waterfront before checking in at a little past 3 PM. Don our host was pleasant.

I had to pay \$27 cash for the tax on thegroupon. Took care of business then in a light rain Libbie and I walked downtown. We had a tasting of sauces at 6 with a glass of wine and a few smoked ribs. It was yummy and we had a chance to meet the other couples in our group. After this we went downtown in search of dinner. 309 Bistro was closed so we went to Kristy's, an Italian restaurant. It was nothing fancy.

I had a nice garden salad with a dish of Fruits of the Sea which was clams, oysters, scallops and shrimp over linguini. Another couple joined us, Stan and Ann from the Captains quarters. I had a beer with dinner then we walked back with the other couple.

~

July 22, 2014 Rib U

Coffee was out in the hallway at 7 as promised with a little piece of pound cake. We went down into the dining room at 8. Don served smoked bacon with blueberry pancakes and blueberry compot over the top. Super. We started with juice and a bowl of fresh fruit. We had our rub lesson at 10. We sampled a few rubs and chose "Smoking gun", a competition rub. We put vinegar on the ribs to start with. Libbie was the dry hands while I wore gloves and was the wet person, rubbing down the meat while she sprinkled the rub on. After all was done, we marked the ribs with 2 toothpicks since we were couple number 2. Don cooked the ribs. We walked downtown again and had dinner at 309 bistro. Libbie said she had the best grilled cheese sandwich she ever had. I had an absolutely delightful thai chicken wrap which was wrapped with red and green cabbage and infused with ginger and other spices. Absolutely yummy. My side was homemade chips. We walked back to the Inn and then got into our car at 1:15 to drive to the trolley.

The \$10 trolley ride was a historic homes tour of Edenton. We had previously walked most of it except for the old cotton mill which is now converted to condos. Edenton is surely a beautiful town. Back to dinner at 6 where we sampled each of the 3 couples ribs. I could hardly tell one from the other. Don accompanied the ribs with wine, cole slaw, biscuits and baked beans. What a nice dinner. We polished it off by walking down the street to "Freeze" and had soft serve ice cream. When we got back we lay in bed reading and we could hear it raining outside again. We had a perfectly clear day until now which was lucky.

~

July 23, 2014 home

Breakfast at the Captains Inn this morning was an egg and onion quiche with homemade sausage, potatoes, roasted tomatoes and toast. What an incredibly good meal. Right after breakfast we checked out and started the drive home. We had one stop in Williamston at Bojangles for blueberry biscuits and coffee. We got home shortly before noon in an incredibly pleasant drive. The EnPhase cables were waiting for me on the front porch. This afternoon I bit the bullet and ordered the 4 solar panels from Renogy. I got the 300 watt ones which would be equal to 5 of the 240 watt panels. The difference is more cells per panel resulting in longer panels. Now it's a matter of waiting. I tried Home Depot and Lowes for a shingle ripper but had no luck. I ended up ordering one from Home Depot online.

I decided that for the electrical portion of the solar cells I will mount a disconnect on the roof with a waterproof conduit A/C type cable from the disconnect box to the EnPhase inverter cable. The surge suppressor will mount on the box and a copper ground wire will go from the box down the house to a ground rod. I will probably have to drill through the roof to make this happen.

We had a very good dance lesson with Robert at 3:30 learning to fine tune our waltz. After dance we went to Kroger for our weekly groceries. They were out of cereal but we got everything else. We had spaghetti tonight for dinner sprinkled with some pizza cheese. I did a little research on smokers online but it was just research, nothing serious.

~

July 24, 2014 nothing

I felt pretty lackadaisical today and basically didn't do much. I did some research on the hardware aspect of the Wifi thermostat interface in the plant room and sketched out a schematic but I was too lazy to do anything about it. Dinner tonight was tuna sandwiches and tomato soup because lib is nursing the beginning of a cold. I was pretty disappointed today since Sirius dropped the classical pops channel effective today. This sucks since it was one of their better channels.

~

July 25, 2014 paint

Back in gear today after a lazy yesterday! Went out and put up the ladder, dropcloths, brushes etc and painted the entire side of the house over the garage. Walking at an angle on the garage roof wasn't too much of a problem. Glad to have this done. Next I mowed the lawn both back and front. While painting today the UPS guy came with the 4 enPhase Inverters. Talked to Joe today about this. He has 8 panels, I will have 4. Dinner tonight was beanburger with Vidalia and a bowl of gumbo soup since Libbie is still nursing her cold. We didn't go to dance party tonight because of the cold Libbie has.

~

July 26, 2014 finish house front

Up on the porch roof this morning and put the drip edge back on the front of the building. I used silicon sealer to hold it in place but also ended up with nails on the ends to secure the strips until the silicon sets up. I also coated the nail heads with silicon. Next I scraped and washed the front 3 windows so I could take down the ladder and move it around to the side. This was hard because of the bushes and trees in the way. Libbie helped me get the ladder against the building.

This concluded the painting in the front. In the afternoon I worked on the new introductions and also chased down 3 chargebacks on Bluebird. They appear to be part of a marital dispute. I assembled all the evidence to send to the credit card company. Dinner was peel

and eat shrimp, corn on the cob and Mondavi Pinot Noir. Kroger was tasting the wine and I liked it so picked some up. We had Chobani Greek yogurt lime flavored with crumbles for desert.

~

July 27, 2014 pictures

I went out to the side of the house and dragged out the pressure washer and all the hoses. Washed the soffits and window on the side in prep for painting. i also did the door and side fixed window but I think I'm going to replace them rather paint. The moulding is in fair shape but the glass is really bad. I did a Kroger run to get fruit and pizza cheese. Libbie made her wonderful pizza from scratch again today which we had for dinner. I worked on arranging the pictures for the convention winners show into their final ordering. This took a lot of the afternoon.

~

July 28, 2014 paint

Painted the side of the house between the chimney and back corner. The painting went well including the window. The box of solar rack mountings came today via FedEx. I was bewildered at first by all the little pieces but I went online and looked up the manuals to figure out how all this stuff is supposed to mount and studied the diagrams then drew a little sketch of the installation. Went to Home Depot and bought a disconnect switch and some water proof flex conduit to route the cable off the roof. Dinner was BBQ chicken which came premade in a tub. We had this on sandwiches.

~

July 29, 2014 solar mounts

Got a message this morning from Tom Musnicki. I looked up Ted and Lorraine and called Ted and chatted with him. Ted put Tommy on the phone.

Anne had breast cancer twice and a brain tumor that wasn't getting any better. She was quite sick in the last few months then died Sunday.

I called Vicki and Arlene and we sent a flower bouquet to the funeral home. Sad. In the evening I found Harry Glembocki's number and called him to pass the word to the Glembocki side of the family. Around 10 this morning I went on the roof to begin the solar mounting.

It was a cool day but it was really hot on the roof. The sun is brutal on the dark surfaces. I mounted the first row of roof mounts. Using a brass rod through the ridge vent I was able to locate the rafter easily. Had a little trouble getting the first bolt started in the 7/32 predrilled hole. I eventually got a pattern setup in which I put an old socket over the nut on the end of the bolt and pounded it in the first inch. I ran out of caulk by the time of the last mount.

Went to Home Depot and picked up new caulk and also the shingle ripper tool I ordered. Dinner was eggplant parmesan with a glass of Shiraz and Bluebell Nutty chocolate ice cream. The mounting rails for the solar mount system arrived via FedEx today. Now the only part remaining is the panels themselves. They are on a truck going to the Wilson trucking terminal.

~

July 30, 2014 stocks

Sold my 300 shares of Double Eagle this morning in the Individual account and picked up 300 shares of Breitburn. Double Eagle continues to lose money so I started bailing. Still need to do this in the IRA.

Went on the roof at 8:30. It was nice and cool out so I finished mounting the top rail then installed all the feet for the bottom rail and installed it as well. I found that I don't have screws for the enphase inverters. Need to get some stainless at Lowes or HD. The shingle ripper tool really does the job at getting under the shingles.

It's pretty useful but I probably could have survived without it.

We returned to the studio this afternoon for a really good foxtrot lesson, applying all the stuff we learned in waltz to the foxtrot but with different timings. Dinner tonight was La Cocina. It was Mariachi night which is the last Wednesday of the month. We had the usual Quesadilla with a Yuengling. Very nice.

~

July 31, 2014 panels

Went on the roof early and tightened down the rails. When done I took pictures of the progress to date. Next task was to scrape and wash the 3 upper windows painted previously. I added the screens and removed the ladder. Promptly at 1 PM the RL Trucking truck came down Downing Place with my solar panels. He wheeled them to the garage doors.

The box looked beat up so I unpacked it all while the trucker waited.

The panels looked great. Libbie helped me move the big ladder around to the side of the house where I'll hoist the panels to the roof.

I'll probably use the come along like I always do but with a pulley at the top of the ladder. Still not sure what to do when I get the panel to the top. The pulley rope needs to go down the back side of the ladder so as not to interfere with the panel going upward.

Before

the truck came Libbie and I ran the power washer and washed the siding around the glass doors in the back. This is the next area to be painted.

Dinner was a very very nice leftover eggplant casserole. Yumm. We had it with corn on the cob I picked up at Kroger. It was the you shuck it variety. I put all the cardboard from the panels out for the recycling tomorrow. It rained tonight! Just my luck.

~

August 01, 2014 solar day 1

In the morning I worked on the Convention DVD, finishing up the merging of audio and slides and doing the captioning. This morning is the funeral for Anne Musnicki. Pretty sad. I heard from Sue Glembocki, Harry's wife about genealogy. She was looking for the former glembocki.info

I need to work on getting that back up and running. One issue is the underlying software, birthwrite, is no longer in existence.

This is too bad. I'm hoping family tree maker can replicate some of the online functionality.

I used the ladder on the side of the house and laid a solar panel against it. Ran the cable from the come along down the from the roof and tried hoisting the panel. It only weighs 51 pounds but I had lots of problems because the hook kept getting caught on the ladder rungs. I spent an hour getting one panel on the roof and exhausted myself in the process. It rained shortly afterward.

After a dinner of bean soup and homemade corn bread, we went

to the studio for the dance party. We had lots of trouble with foxtrot and waltz. No problem at all with cha cha and rhumba. The studio was going to Brewsters after the party but we didn't go. I was too tired.

~

August 02, 2014 solar day 2

Went out to Home Depot and picked up a link that screws shut - I plan to link the come along to the hook on the solar panel. I also bought a 2x4 which I cut in half and mounted on the back of the panel along with a hook. Attached this hook to the come along and hauled the panel to the roof without any problems this time, unlike yesterday. It went so well I hauled the other two panels to the roof, now all 4 of them are on the flat roof. It started raining as I finished up the last panel but I was a happy camper!!!! Woo Hoo.

After lunch Libbie

and I went to Kroger for corn shucking, produce, wine and misc. We tasted some Dreaming Tree "Crush" which was a Dave Matthews band blend. It wasn't too bad and not worth it at \$18 a bottle but was on sale for 12.99. Still high but we bought it. Dinner was corn, pork chops and the wine. For desert we had Key Lime greek yogurt with crunchies over the top. Yum. It was a very cold day, the high was only 70 and it was dreary and wet all day.

~

August 03, 2014 solar day 3

This morning I went out on the roof and hooked up the enphase cabling.

Next step was to move the panels onto the roof. I used the 1 1/2 inch stainless screws into each panel to stop the panel from sliding down the rail on the slanted roof. this worked well although I probably would feel more comfortable with a 2 inch long screw if it would fit but the 1 1/2 was a good solution. the connectors needed a lot of pressure to click them together from the panel to the inverter. They have a gasket which makes mating difficult. It's necessary to squeeze together until there's a click. I ended up having to slide the panel to the side so I could grasp the connectors with two hands and squeeze. I Put all 4 panels on the roof and also hooked up a disconnect

switch panel on the roof. For Libbie's traditional pizza tonight I chopped up a slice of Vidalia and added some thai and regular banana pepper to my half of the pizza. I love the heat from the thai peppers.

~

August 04, 2014 hot day

Finished up the wiring on the roof when Joy came over. I greeted her from the roof which surprised her. Now the roof job is complete except for the ground wire to a pole in the ground. It's quite a bit warmer today, I was pretty wet on the roof. Dinner tonight was a bed of lettuce with tuna over it.

~

August 05, 2014 ground

Picked up an 8 foot copper clad ground pole along with some conduit at HD. Ran the ground cable from the solar array down the roof using stainless screw in loops. Where the cable goes to the ground I put it into a metal conduit to make it neater. It took quite a bit of pounding to get 8 feet of pole into the ground. In the afternoon I worked some more on the convention DVD, finished the Holtkamp video and made videos for both the main show and new intros. Dinner was a hamburger with Vidalia. I put thai pepper on mine. Tonight was the first of the new series of Rhumba amalgamations. We learned some nice ornamentation with Andy. The only other class member was Mary Lindsey. I enjoy dancing with her. Tonight she wore her painted on tights with a white tee shirt. Nice!

~

August 06, 2014 Power!!!

Finished solar wiring to the breaker box. Threw the switch at 1:30 but could not see anything on the Envoy. Moved the envoy to the garage and used the outlet in the corner where the cameras are plugged in and hooked to the internet there. The envoy found the inverters and started

reporting the power output. Happiness!!! Later I found the envoy is reporting to the enphase website. I updated the bookmarks and put them on traviata and onedrive. We had a very good rumba lesson with Robert. After a dinner of Salmon and Lima beans we went back in the evening for Roberts 8:00 bronze rumba class. It went pretty well. We tried some spiral turns and also the cuban break. I feel we did well.

~

August 07, 2014 little work

Finished up the DVD, burned a final couple to go out tomorrow. Worked on securing the soffitt where it pulled away from the woodwork on the back porch and added a clamp and screws for ground conduit from the solar array. Dinner was salad covered with tuna. Eating light.

~

August 08, 2014 dance

It's supposed to rain over the weekend so I spent some time spraying 4 gallons of roundup along the fence and along the creek and the side of the hill. The hillside was a maintenance dose.

I did a Home Depot

trip and ordered a new sliding glass door to be delivered. It cost \$429 with tax, delivery and new screen. We had another poor day of solar production. It was a mostly cloudy day. I'm getting to like the solar system. I'm already thinking of 4 more panels.

We had a light

dinner of hamburgers and Lima beans. Went to 80s movie night where Libbie was Gertie from ET and I was Patrick Swazee from Dirty Dancing. We had a nice time tonight. I danced with Atlanta for the first time tonight, a cha cha. After dance we went out to the pub and sat with Nancy and Steve and Ken and Anita. We had 2 Yuenglings and a half plate of wings. Yummy. The talk was for drag queen bingo to be held tomorrow night at the fair grounds.

~

August 09, 2014 rain

I woke up to rain this morning. The TV station said we might get 5 inches over the next two days. It kept me indoors. I'm cleaning up misc odds and ends that I left hanging before the DVD work. I tried moving the envoy gateway in a few places in my office and didn't have any luck. It will have to live in the garage for now. It's a dark dreary day. solar production is a minimum. Oh well, I should expect days like this. I did some preliminary accounting and we should be able to pay the Visa bill this Wednesday without dipping into savings. I did a lot of catch up work today, scanning an old performance into LifeBits and also making a copy of the squeeze player software run on the Pi in my office. I'm happy with the new version. In the future i won't have to burn a new image - just do an update in place. This is an improvement. They also have some nice web based tools to rename the host name and the name seen in squeezer. Nice. Dinner was Chinese 3 meat takeout from china chef which was very good as usual but a little bit spicy. My sinuses really cleared from this one!!!! We had a bottle of Shiraz with dinner. It rained a total of 1.47 inches so far at 9 pm and it's still raining!!!!

~

August 10, 2014 tree

The rain cleared a little. We had a total of 2.5 inches in the last 2 days. Not good for solar production! We made less than 1kwhr of electricity each day. Saturday was only 500 watt-hr, Sunday was 800. I needed to move the ladder off the house and put it away but first I leaned it against the leaning tree and climbed it to hook up the come along. Made a little cut in the base with a brand new chain then hooked up a second come along and pulled the tree to the side and made a bigger cut. Kept pulling to the side until it eventually fell down.

Now I need to move it. Spent the rest of the time indoors reading about how to display graphics on a display attached to a Pi. There's a library called pygame that looks promising. It uses the IDE named Geany. It's made mostly for gamers but should suit me for displaying large letters on the screen for my family room mounted display. Went to Walmart twice for socks - the first time I bought ankle socks.

Returned them for crew socks and also picked up some sticky traps for the critter in our cabinet. Dinner was Libbie's pizza. My side had thai pepper and onion. Her side burned a little cause she left the

broiler on from warming the stone.

~

August 11, 2014 DVD

After GMA this morning I sat down, hooked up the headphones, and listened to the entire convention DVD slide show, marking the recordings that were bad. Almost done with this piece of the puzzle. Talked with the Nicholas's. They didn't receive the DVD until after 6 PM. They had a few corrections for the DVD that I started working on. Today was a light day so we had tuna over salad.

~

August 12, 2014 doors

Did a pretty big grocery run today - \$80. Picked up the ingredients for crabcakes for the party Friday night. It was a pretty good solar day most of the day. The new patio doors came this morning. I took the old doors out along with the door frame and sized up fitting the new frame into the rough in area. We went to Rumba almagamations which was pretty good since Andrew focused mostly on techniques. Mary and Jennifer were the other two ladies in the class. Dealt with the charge back this morning by calling blue pay. got the runaround and found the money was credited back to us but the person has 45 days to contest the amount. Dinner was spaghetti and tomato sauce.

After Rumba

we drove home in a blinding rain. We got 2 inches at home - there were many reports of flooding around Raleigh. It was the worst rain we have driven in since the Shriners dance in June.

~

August 13, 2014 beer

I framed out the rough in to fit the door frame and bolted it down. next I slid the doors and the screen door in, allowng me to take down the plastic. I noticed one side of the glass from the old doors is good enough to put into the spot where the glass window is. I removed

the glass with the expectation of putting in the old glass from the door. We went to our private lesson with Robert which was pretty good. We learned terms for rumba. I learned the fifth position to close where I need to turn the lady 90 degrees. Dinner was hamburger that we picked up in Kroger on the way home. We also picked up beer for the party Friday. Had one of the beers with our hamburger.

~

August 14, 2014 window

I cleaned up the old window, mounted it in the old aluminum frame and with a lot of struggling, I hefted the window into the opening. Wow, this was heavy going up the ladder. It's one of the hardest jobs I have ever done physically. My body is tired from this one. I finished up the DVD and got it into Priority mail late at night after I took a phone call from Joan Santino. Linda can't make it to our Saturday convention meetings and may have to resign as Secretary. Dinner was salad with tuna on it since it's a light eating day.

~

August 15, 2014 wine & beer tasting

This morning I worked on the door hardware and the latch. This took a lot longer than I expected, almost all morning. I had to run out to Lowes to get more door trim wood and PVC. Worked all afternoon fitting the frame to the door but didn't finish. We made crab cakes for our contribution to the Ballroom beer and wine tasting. I took an extension cord and a hot plate for the food table. We left at 7:45 and got to the studio at what I thought was early but we were among the last to get there. It was a fun evening, I tasted some beers I would seek out such as the Yuengling Porter and the Don Equus. I also liked the Carolina Pale Ale and the Sierra Oktoberfest. The party seemed to go on past 9:30 but we left at 9:40. We met two new people, Rebecca and Marlin. Father, daughter that seemed nice. Hope they stay with the program.

~

August 16, 2014 Luau

Worked outside on the patio door and fixed glass window trim. Had to do a Lowes trip to get some 1x3 instead of the 1x4 I had on hand. Finished this job up and also moved the old glass around to the side yard along with the aluminum frames. We left at 6 for the Lauau at the Shriners which was over the top. I overate. We started with cheese, crackers and salasa chips along with a glass of wine. Talked a little to bill Price who stopped by the table. We sat with charlie & terry, Anne and Mike as well as Adrian and Marie and their friend Betsy.

I danced a waltz with Marie who is very nice. Dinner was fried and boiled shrimp, salmon, fried fish, pulled pork, clam chowder and an array of salads, chicken and other stuff. I felt way stuffed and couldn't function well on the dance floor. I had a nice time but was clearly impaired.

~

August 17, 2014 xbee

This morning I tried debugging the thermostat interface I started working on yesterday. I first discovered I hooked to the wrong set of wires in the thermostat. I need to get on the Y and common leads. I now get 24 vac when it calls for cooling. Interfacing the HCPL3700 opto turned out to be difficult. The 10k series resistors didn't work.

I lowered them to 5 k but still no output change whenn 24vac was applied. Removed the DC filter cap on the front end and was able to get AC out when 24 vac was applied. Added a simple lowpass filter output consisting of a 1 mfd cap and the avr internal pullup resistor. It's solid now but the AC only ran shortly. I found out that the Xbee is not working. I looked through my parts box from Adafruit and found I have an Xbee. Now I have to figure out how to program it to the correct channel unless it's already correct because this was used as the monitor. Libbie made her nice pizza which I doctored with thai pepper, onions and had it with a bottle of Sierra Nevada Oktoberfest. Yumm.

~

August 18, 2014 solar sensor

I finished up the trim on the sliding door this morning. it involved a trip to Lowes to pick up some more 1x2 trim boards. The work was hampered by on and off raindrops but I eventually finished the job. My Davis solar Sensor arrived today. I found that it was not made for the Vantage Vue, only the Vantage Pro weather station. In the meantime I had climbed on the roof to take the station down. I ended up putting the station back up and requesting an RMS from Rainman weather. This is too bad since I wanted the solar sensor. I found that the Xbee wasn't working anymore on the plant room AC controller. I decided to hardwire the AC status reporting by putting a current sensor inside the circuit panel in my tool closet. I ran cat 5 up into my workshop to try some test circuits. With a 500 ohm burden resistor across coil I measured about .5 volts with the compressor running and 0 volts without it. I need to interface this to the Arduino. Dinner was salad with tuna over it, a light eating day. We had a sudden burst of rain around 8 PM. It got dark, windy and the heavens dumped on us. I measured one inch of rain in this single storm. We sure have had enough rain this year. The nicholas's sent an email saying they received the DVD. I cringe that everything on it has come out OK.

~

August 19, 2014 Mozart2

After a lot of work and trials over the past several days I finally got the Mozart 2 controller taking commands from the Honeywell WiFi thermostat and sending out IR signals to the AC across the room. I finally ended up hooking the current sensor up to the ADC 0 input and programmed the Arduino to measure the pin voltage. This is working well. I eliminated the state machine and used a simple timer to hold off retry cycles if the AC toggle did not activate or de-activate the AC box. I caulked the new trim work but did not paint since the wood was still wet. Joined Esquires today by filling out the application and sending a check for \$100. We went to amalgamations class at 7:15 but Andy didn't show up, only Jennifer. Duchess and Gustavo came as we were on the way out. We went back in and hung around a while trying the Rumba bronze routine. After a while we finally got it figured out. Before class dinner was spaghetti with tomato sauce and cheese. We had yogurt for dessert after we came back from our non-class.

~

August 20, 2014 paint and rumba

Went outside and painted the new slider trim on the inside and the outside as well as the fixed window. This was not too bad of a job. Libbie was at quilting class all day while I did this. I also went to the greenhouse to recycle a circuit breaker for my solar panels. Unfortunately there was a big wasp nest next to the breaker panel. I went to Harris Teeter on 1010 and bought a can of hot shot wasp and hornet spray. I let them have it for about a minute from behind the door.

It worked well and I was able to remove a few breakers for recycling.

We need to kill the power feed to the greenhouse since this is costing money. The bill this month was \$34 for 8 kw. which is too much.

Libbie came back in time and we went to Rumba class with Robert. Today we focused on the bronze pattern and also some spiral turns. We did well for this. When we left Robert was calling a carpenter about a screen enclosure over his deck. On the way home we picked up a rotisserie chicken and had it for dinner with baked beans. I put the correct breaker, 20 amps, into the breaker panel for the solar panels.

Still need to label this.

~

August 21, 2014 tango

Went outside and did the second coat on the new slider and the fixed window.

Next step was to set up the ladder and start painting the rest of the doors as well as the soffits and fascia boards. Got two doors done. No work tomorrow since I have an eye doctor appt in the morning and we make a honey chipotle bean salad in the afternoon. It will be good to have a day off. I need to call a realtor and also do the PCI compliance for Bluebird. Dinner was leftover chicken with Lima beans. After dinner we went to Tango foundations. I learned a few good styling techniques from Andy. While at the studio I got my spoon back from Mitzi. We left it at her house when we brought bean salad to the graduation party.

~

August 22, 2014 dance

This was a day off from painting. I spent some time online learning about the Pi then went to my eye doctor appt at 10:45. Surprisingly I passed the Klingon test in my right eye. I never thought this test was valid with the right eye which is not corrected fully for 20/20 vision.

I talked with Atkins realty and did not like the guy on the phone.

In the afternoon we made the baked bean mixture for the party tonight. Went to the party and participated in the surprise birthday present for Robert - a big motorcycle that Mitzy bought him. He was happy. I ate too much and couldn't get a lot of the dancing straightened out. I don't know what it is but what a mess. Need to really do something since we put a lot into htis and get not much out. Talked with anne of Anne and Paul about listing our land with her firm. The party was nice I had Italian sausage with onions and pepper and some potato salad from the Pub as well as my own baked beans topped with a chocolate cheese cake. It was Dan's 50th birthday and also Jordan's 16th birthday. We signed cards and had birthday cake which wasn't needed after the other food.

~

August 23, 2014 paint

Went outside and painted 2 more doors in the back. I found the center swing door needs replacing. Lowes said it would be about \$350 to order a new one. I was pretty tired when done. We had a pretty good rain, one inch total only a few hours after I finished but the paint seems to be OK. Picked up groceries in Kroger but they didn't have any ribs. Lib and I went to Lowes to return wood, buy a heavy duty electrical cord for my shop and look at choices in doors. We then next door to Target and got our ribs as well as a 50th anniversary card for the Guenthers. Target was crowded. School starts Monday and there were lots of back to school shoppers with long lines at the cash register.

Dinner was ribs, baked beans from yesterday, Primal Root wine from Kroger and a yogurt for desert. Yumm.

~

August 24, 2014 Painting Done!

I finished painting the back of the house this morning. It actually was cold outside and felt as if it was goeing to rain any minute. This

was a big job finally finished. Hooray!!!! Came in exhausted and lay on the bed for 2 hours after taking a shower. Talked to Anne Kane about going to her office at noon to list our property. Worked on Pygame tutorials in the afternoon. I think I'm getting somewhere with this stuff. Need to try it out on my monitor with HDMI output. I mowed down the Irises which were covered with weeds. I also did a little mowing the backyard and much to my dismay I saw that the septic is leaking again. I need to pull the pump and look into this. Ugggh. Dinner was Libbie's wonderful pizza again, from scratch this time. She really outdid herself today. The floors are all clean and waxed. I tried spraying with the Ortho Max product but had to stop 75% of the way through because the sprayer was clogged. Not sure why.

~

August 25, 2014 seafood

Got the tractor going and mowed some of the front and back. Visited KW offices in Cary and talked about land value with Ann. She stopped by our home at 3 and we listed the property with her firm. She was nice. We won't get as much as we wanted out of the property but it has several problems. I went to Walmart and bought 2 quarts of oil for the tractor. Boy, this stuff has really gone up. It's 4.54 a quart. Dinner was skippers Fish Fry. I had the 2 meat platter which was flounder and clam strips with slaw, hushpuppies and fries. It's a lot of food.

~

August 26, 2014 rumba

Took all the stuff in the side yard to the dump then went to the greenhouse and got all the scrap aluminum. Hauled it all to the scrap metal place and got \$70 for our efforts. Stopped by the farmers market and picked up fruit and tomatoes. dinner was spinach salad and tuna. We had a Rumba almagamation class with mitzi tonight. I learned a proper cuban as well as a box step rock step. I also learned a proper cross body lead which I was doing wrong.

~

August 27, 2014 pi

I stayed somewhat clean today since we had dance this afternoon. Worked on understanding pygame on the Raspberry Pi. This should work for me. Updated the AVSA web site with the 2014 convention DVD info. At dance today Robert helped fine tune our Rumba. For dinner we went out to mariachi night at La Cocina where we had the usual of a Yuengling and Quesadilla La cocina.

~

August 28, 2014 land walk

Went out to the greenhouse property on Jessie and using the map we went looking for the corner stakes on the golf course. We had success and located both irons. Did not find a stake near the Wrenn driveway but there is one on the corner where our driveway comes in. We got covered with mosquito bites and sticker pricks from the dense brush. Took a walk down the pipeline and found Levi or Raymond Wrenns old electric fence line which approximates the boundary. Dinner tonight was spaghetti with pieces of tomato and cheese.

~

August 29, 2014 party

Went to Lowes and got a new spark plug and a 2.6 oz bottle of 2 cycle oil. Stopped by Lowes food to get a fresh gallon of gas to which I added the oil. Put everything in and on the chain saw and started it up. After some rough running it straightened out and ran pretty smoothly. Took the saw to the back and cut down all the pine trees which were blocking my path and also growing in front of the bird house. Next step was to hop on the bike and ride around the block, coming across the dam and through my freshly cut path. Success! After a dinner of Lloyds pulled pork BBQ and the remnants of the baked beans we went to dance at 8. It was not a bad night, we tried out some of the new patterns we learned with Mitzi this week. Afterwards we went to the McGregor Pub at McGregor shopping center. We had wings and beer. This pub is much quieter than Cary pub and was nice. I like the waitresses in the little short shorts.

~

August 30, 2014 Visitors

This morning Ken and Anita came over to see the Violets. We had a nice visit, they were amazed with all the projects and we were glad they came over. I worked some more on Nieto II and finally was able to retrieve temperature and solar data and display it. I learned quite a bit about pygame and python which was great. Dinner was ribs with corn on the cob from Kroger and a bottle of Shiraz. For desert I had yogurt with cherry and dark chocolate. Very good. We had our last glass of wine and yogurt on the back porch, enjoying the evening. For August, it's remarkably comfortable.

~

August 31, 2014 sunday

This was mostly a day of relaxation. Watched the morning shows then went outside and did a little outdoor work trimming of the lawn in front before going out for a bike ride around the neighborhood which I enjoyed.

The new helmet is nice and secure feeling especially when I go a little faster. Did a bunch of web updates for AVSA by adding the new magazine, etc. Libbie made her excellent pizza once again for our sunday night dinner.

~

September 01, 2014 labor day

Labor Day. I put the package together to protest the chargeback from the McLaughlin's in Alabama. I'm afraid we'll lose this round and over \$200. I had quite a bit of success today at descreening the door frames and also programming the fullscreen buffer of the Raspberry Pi. Dinner this evening was spaghetti.

~

September 02, 2014 meeting

We did a little light cleaning, I blew out the garage and the driveway and the violet club folks started coming at 10 am. Joy was here at 9, they all were grooming and caring for plants before the meeting. We started the meeting at 11:30 then went to the main program which was the AVSA convention DVD. I showed the Main show as well as the Holtkamp tour. It was well received. We tried some more packing and then picked up a Chinese takeout which we had with Shiraz. That finished me for the evening. I fell asleep early and was out for the night.

~

September 03, 2014 travel

Up early after passing out early. We finished packing this morning for our trip then left at 10 AM for the airport. Everything went smooth. We were in the new terminal for Southwest. Security was a little different in that our palms were swabbed. Mine were done twice. The flight was totally full to Phoenix. It was a relatively smooth flight. We had a nice young girl between us. for the first time in many years the stewardess was very attractive. This was quite a surprise. Landed in a very hot Phoenix where we had our peanut butter sandwiches. Couldn't have them on the plane because there was a person aboard with peanut allergies. They didn't serve peanuts either. I liked the snacks though. Arrived a little early in OC. Joe picked us up with Paige in the Chrysler. It was very cold outside on Joe's patio where we had Thai takeout and a Sam Adams Oktoberfest. This was good food after a very light eating day.

~

September 04, 2014 HB

I woke at 4:30 and couldn't get back to sleep. It's 7:30 Eastern time. Had a shower at 6 to begin the day then caught up on email and stuff. Joe made bacon and French Toast for breakfast which was yummy. Paige is quite a handful. She needs constant attention. After a restful day of playing on the computer and writing the NCID client in python, Christa came home early. She had a Doctor appt that Joe went to with her. We left in the late afternoon for the La Copellia happy hour.

I had a Margarita and two of the specials - a cheese quesadilla and a tortino. The specials were 1.49 each. Paige was incredibly good through the meal. It was a nice dinner.

~

September 05, 2014 electrical

Up at 5:30 Pacific time, hung around in bed then took a shower at 6. Joe made waffles for us which were incredibly good. We saw Christa off then I started transferring the MAAVS files. The electrical inspector came this morning. I went on the roof to see Joe's installation while he inspected it. Everything passed except Joe didn't have a ground bonding system. We chopped a hole in the sheet rock in the garage looking for an electrical ufer ground but didn't find anything. The alternative is to drive a stainless steel ground rod below the electrical panel. Libbie and I took a walk around the neighborhood while Joe went somewhere with Paige. When Christa came home from work we were going to have BBQ at the beach but we went down there and the parking was miles away and Christa has a broken ankle that's healing. We went to Mama Mia in Newport Beach instead. This was an outstanding dinner. We ordered a bottle of Avalon Cabernet Sauvignon with my Chicken Parmesan. The bread and olive oil was also outstanding. It was a nice night out but the bill was \$166 with tip. Ouch.

~

September 06, 2014 saturday

Joe went to the beach this morning. We found there was no cereal or milk so I went down to Stater Bros and got shredded wheat and skim milk for breakfast.

Christa and Joe picked up sandwiches from Meatheadz in Huntington Beach for lunch. Wow, easily the best sandwich I ever had. I had tuna with their own sauce. Really nice. Tonight for dinner we had a bottle of beringers cabernet with the leftover sandwiches.

Joe and Christa took off to a music and food festival on the beach but they stayed outside the fenced, pay for admission, area. I'm really enjoying the Mine by John Healdt, a free eBook from bookbub.

~

September 07, 2014 picnic

After a slow morning we packed up and went to Lapworths for a picnic. We had some delicious chicken salad and cranberry on sandwich bread from Costco and then some snacks. Craig showed his movie of Paige first few weeks which is way too long at 32 minutes. The ladies went to a jewelry demonstration party down the street. It was warm in Whittier today, almost 100. I enjoyed it. Craig cooked some nice Carne asada beef and chicken which I had on a flour tortilla with lettuce, sour cream and salasa. Yumm. Topped it off with a Pacifico beer. For desert we had banana pudding. What a nice picnic. I stayed up in the evening and finished reading the Mine. It was a 10 in my book.

~

September 08, 2014 tri tip sliders

After finishing the Mine last night I went to Amazon and ordered the second book in the series by John Heldt, "The Show". It follows the tale of Grace leaving 1941 to seek out Joel from the first book. I debated a long time about getting this one. Libbie and I went out in the morning, put gas in Joe's car and went downtown. We walked Main Street then the pier. It was cloudy and cool, I had long pants on. We parked up Main Street past the parking meters but in a 24 minute space which we exceeded. Joe and Christa went out to Hurricanes in the evening since it ws Monday Night football while Libbie and I did babysitting. Joe previously made some nice sliders for us from ground up tri tip. We had them with a bottle of Ravenswood Zinfandel.

~

September 09, 2014 wiring

This morning I went with Joe to Home Depot for electrical parts then helped him string wire through his garage from the roof solar panels. He managed to drill 1/2 inch hole in the sidewalk for his ground rod. I'm pretty happy since I got the MAAVS database transferred and Drupal working on the site. I previously had transferred the files but they were down one directory. I used the host gator file manager and

moved the tree structure to the expected location. The website works well now. I made a few minor edits here and there to update the site.

Libbie

made us tuna sandwiches for lunch and Joe cooked an excellent tritip for dinner which we had with a bottle of Los Olas Merlot.

Before dinner we went to Pams house in the Landmark subdivision. Nice small 2 bedroom condo. Early to bed at 9 PM, I was tired.

~

September 10, 2014 Utt Elementary

After breakfast and after paying the credit card bill online, there was a planned electrical outage. We packed up and went to visit Christa at Utt Middle School for lunch. We picked up some salad bowls at Rubio's.

i had an Orange chipotle with blackened Tilapia bowl. Wow, was all this good. It had corn, black beans, avocado, lettuce and mandarin oranges. I drizzled the Mandarin Chipotle Orange sauce over the mix. Nice. We had this in the conference room at Utt. We had Paige and took her into the cafeteria to meet the staff then she went into the office and was passed around to many of the staff. We met her principal Dean who said he had 3 kids ages 8, 12 and 14. We left there around 1:30 which was a long lunch for Christa. Joe drives like a maniac on the freeway. It didn't seem like there was any reason to be so reckless.

This afternoon I helped him to move solar panels onto the roof. We attempted to put down the first row of panels but had difficulties with attachments, layout and cabling. Joe will modify his design. For dinner we had sliders, salad and mesquite potatoes with a couple of Coronas.

~

September 11, 2014 solar

Lib and I took a walk downtown this morning. We stopped by Wahoo's and picked up three Kahlua bowls for lunch. this was a bowl of lettuce with teryaki pulled pork, rice and beans. It was yummy. total bill was \$28. After lunch I rested a little and then Joe and I started moving panels to the roof. We managed to get all the panels to the roof, 3 yesterday and 6 more today. We got the entire system mounted and

wired up. This was tiring work. I got the J box put together and installed on the conduit, then wired the enphase cable to the #8 copper wires. This was tedious and hard work since #8 is not the easiest to deal with.

I was really tired after this roof work. Since this was the 10th anniversary of Joe and Christa meeting we went out to dinner at La Capilla. Christa wasn't happy with the choice and during dinner got pretty quiet. I had the beef taco and cheese enchilada special with a Negra miyaga beer. Bill was \$69. I enjoyed it.

~

September 12, 2014 solar is on

Joe went surfing this morning. I hooked the terminator up to the Enphase cable on the roof and also tied the system into the power panel and ran the ground wire to the stake. The 8 foot ground stake was amazing. Joe rented a \$16 hammer drill and drove all 8 feet into the ground.

He was out returning the rental tool when I hooked it up. He flipped the switch when he came home and watched his electric meter read a negative number. It was -260 watts which increased to -460 watts later in the afternoon. We parked at the library once again and walked down main street. It was comical at the library. We did not know how to release the car seat from the back in order to put it onto the stroller. Joe eventually showed up and demonstrated the release to us. We walked the pier and ended up at Rubys for lunch. I had the black and blue sliders with onion rings which were hamburgers with blue cheese and Cajun sauce. Yummy although the Cajun sauce wasn't very hot like I expected. We stopped at the pier Farmers market on the way back after lunch. This morning I checked into Southwest and got seat A41 but was disappointed that there was no TSA Pre. on my ticket. Oh well, I'll survive. For dinner we ordered Thai takeout. I had chicken Pad Thai with a bottle of Merlot. Very good. Went back to reading "The Show" after dinner. I'm at 80% in Kindle terms (they don't give page numbers).

~

September 13, 2014 fly home

Joe and Libbie went for a walk while I did some computer and picture maintenance.

They brought back a bagel and cream cheese which was yummo. We left at 11 for the airport and got there in ample time for my 12:45 flight. TSA was easy but I had to take out my computer and take off my shoes. Waited at gate 17 for my plane to Vegas which was on time. I had the exit row but there were three people. In Vegas I walked the entire terminal before stopping into Sbarros for a slice of plain pizza. This was my meal for the day. Left on time at 4 for a very smooth flight back to Raleigh. I had the exit row and no person in the middle. Arrived 35 minutes early in Raleigh at 11:00. I was the last person to be dropped at my car from a full bus. Even though it was 11:40 I went through the car wash since the car hasn't been washed in a while. Arrived home at 12:07 where I waved to Lib on the driveway cam. She called when I got into the door saying she saw me. Nice! The mail was waiting in the mailbox, I had it delivered which was a plus.

~

September 14, 2014 misc

This morning I read through the mail and found the note from the Town that starting Monday our streets will be repaved. I hooked up the trailer and went to Lowes and picked up the door which had come in while we were in Calif as planned. This thing is fiberglass clad with the center glass and is heavy!. I got it home and stored it on the back porch. I went back and picked up some conduit and an entrance lock for the back door. I had it rekeyed in the store to match our other keys.

The conduit is to run some ethernet to the tool closet to relocate the enphase hub. I think the location is a problem when the light towers are on since the hub can't communicate with the panels until the lights go off.

On the back porch I took off the door trim but didn't go any further. It's cold out and I didn't want to remove the door until I'm ready. Lunch was a Jimmy Dean frozen turkey sandwich which was a Friday Freebie. I didn't like it. For dinner I had leftover BBQ from the freezer on sandwich bread with a Quaker yogurt with raspberry topping for dessert. Went upstairs early to continue reading the book I started on the plane. I really am into it.

~

September 15, 2014 chicken

Not very motivated today. I also slept in until 7:30 -- wow, that never happens. I looked at the education page of the AVSA website. Tried a few Drupal modules out that looked like they may be useful. Discovered that it is very easy to display random content using a Global random flag in a view. My Ott lite burned out this evening making it pretty dark. I ordered a new bulb on ebay when I found that Lowes doesn't carry it. Dinner was fried chicken and potato salad. this was also lunch. Did a lot of reading on TER and BP then returned to my novel, bikini Island.

~

September 16, 2014 door

Ran out to get groceries. Also picked up some trim wood at Lowes. Dinner was fried chicken. Worked on cleaning up the door frame and removing the old trim. Vacuumed the backporch and picked up a lot of the wood in the yard to go into the garbage can on Thursday. The Ottlite came today which I only ordered yesterday. Still no alamode however. Bad news. Dinner was fried chicken and potato salad. Finished reading Low Tide bikini.

~

September 17, 2014 alamode

Not much going on today. I was supposed to have a lesson with ?Melnie today but her mother in law passed away and she was at the funeral. The alamode finally came today. I got the IDE set up on the thing and ran the demo program. I was happy with the device, not happy at all with the company, ABBRA electronics. The postage said it was \$6. They charged me \$29, then \$9 after complaining by me. It was still too much. Dinner was PBJ and also some junk snack food, mostly granola bars.

~

September 18, 2014 frame

Cleaned up the rotted wood around the door frame today and managed to nail 4 treated 2x4s in place. This was about all I accomplished. Dinner was deli lasagna with candy for desert. I had an excellent dance lesson with Melanie today. I learned waltz but not much quick step which she hates. The waltz section was excellent. I twinkled into flip flops, zig zags and waterfalls. Excellent.

~

September 19, 2014 door

I worked on sheathing the 2x3s today. To make up for the foam siding I put on two layers of 5/8 inch plywood. The result is a pretty strong structure. I installed the door frame and put the door on its hinges.

It swings nicely. Dinner was BBQ on bread. I left home at 10:55 for Libbie's 11:10 flight from John Wayne. Picked her up without problems and got to bed at 12:20 (20 minutes past midnight). I was pretty tired.

~

September 20, 2014 door latch

Hard to get up this morning after getting to bed after midnight. I managed to get the door nailed in place with the right shims. Next I put the handle on and adjusted everything. It closes and latches nicely.

I screwed up cutting the PVC brick mold. will have to buy two more new pieces for \$22. Ouch!!! Dinner was ribs, Ravenwood Zinfandel and Lima beans. Yogurt for desert. libbie is back when we can eat like this.

~

September 21, 2014 trim

After the morning shows I finished up the outdoor trim on the door. this took all day including getting two new boards from Lowes. I also started to seriously study the interfaces on the alamode card. I have a Pi and an Arduino working together and the Geany IDE on the Pi. Dinner

was Libbie's excellent pizza once again. It has been a while.

~

September 22, 2014 opening night

I worked on the indoor trim today. I spent all day on the left side trim board and the top. Unbelievable. Libbie packaged up a mountain of boxes. I got a nice surprise in the mail. A \$520 check from Constellation energy settlement fund arrived. I'm not sure what this is about but I'm happy. Dinner was egg noodles with creamed tuna and peas.

I like this stuff. Afterwards it was opening night of the Met. We listened to Figaro at 6:30 which was started off by the Star Spangled Banner. The chorus knows how to sing this and sing it well. I stayed up till the end. Sadly, Margaret was not hosting but instead they had Mary Jo Heath who is adequate but not nearly as good.

~

September 23, 2014 finishing up

Did a grocery run then started working on the last of the trim boards.

Had to rip a few pieces to fit and also used the router to carve out the hinge area. All this went pretty well although the middle hinge was carved out a little too much. I broke the window sell of the adjacent sliding door and do not have a replacement. There's always something!

Dinner was the pot pie from the Friday Freebie. I bought a second for Libbie. I listened to La Boheme live from the Met in the second broadcast of the new season. Love this opera. Stayed till the end around 10:30.

~

September 24, 2014 mariachi

We went for our lesson today but Robert was sick so we had a pretty good lesson with Mitzi. She had some pointers on starting off the back to back boxes after which we went into flip flops and zig zags. It's raining pretty hard today. We went out in the rain to Marachi night. the band serenaded us with a Spanish song, no clue what they were

singing. I gave them a \$10 tip.

~

September 25, 2014 airport

Took Libbie to the airport at noon for her flight to BWI. The rain has tapered off but it's still not a nice day. I did some measuring of trim but didn't really install anything. Chopped up all the old boards from the trim and put them into the garbage can for tomorrows pickup. They started patching Buckingham way getting ready for paving. Dinner tonight was Kroger baked BBQ chicken pieces.

~

September 26, 2014 genealogy

Worked on the trim boards for the porch. Pretty much finished everything up. Started looking at some genealogy stuff for no particular reason. It's been a long time since I updated anything. Doris had asked for the address in Skillman her Mother had lived at. That's the real impetus I guess. Dinner was more of the leftover chicken BBQ.

~

September 27, 2014 genealogy

I spent the whole day doing genealogy research. Ended up buying the registered version of Legacy 8 for \$24 and also bought a trial membership on ancestry.com This site has a lot of stuff but it's expensive. Dinner was baked Ziti from Trader Joe. It wasn't satisfying.

~

September 28, 2014 boom

Did some final caulking of the back door and started putting tools away. There are a lot of them. Looked at Drupal for genealogy for a little and tried some menu themes on the glembrocki.info site. There are

no modules to directly import GEDCOM files. Heard from Donna Labaw, a person I found on Ancestry. She is retired in SC. Decided it was time to hook up an outlet in the shop closet to test out the feasibility of moving the enphase hub. After I got everything wired up I flipped the breaker and sparks flew! The big 60 amp breaker threw. Must be a short in the outlet mounted with above the panel. I put this outlet in so I could plug the hub in near the panel. This morning I checked Libbie in for her Southwest trip from BWI to providence tomorrow. She is in Silver Spring this weekend. Dinner was a wood fired frozen pizza from Krogers. It was OK but clearly a frozen pizza.

~

September 29, 2014 enphase inverters

Went out in the shop closet and found yesterdays problem of why the breaker blew up when I flipped it. The hot wire in the outlet I mounted had an insulation flaw where it apparently came into contact with the bare ground wire. I used electrical tape to repair it and reassembled everything and flipped the breaker - no pop. Next step was to run Ethernet over to the hub in the garage corner and move the enphase to this new outlet. It was outstanding with 5 bars signal strength to the inverters. Based on this result I ran the conduit pipe across the garage and ran an Ethernet wire inside along with a mason line string for any future wires. The mason line is terminated on each end with a washer holding it from getting lost. Libbie called today from the airport. We chatted a while, i told her about the Labaw person in SC. We both discussed the new swing with Paige in it on Instagram She's only 4 and looks like she is swallowed by the shiny new swing.

~

September 30, 2014 flu shot

Today was genealogy day. I did a lot of family research and filled out more of the tree using Legacy 8. I've grown to like this program. In parallel, I'm constructing the glembrocki.info site using suggestions I found online and also playing with my Drupal skills. Dinner was a chicken sandwich with tomato and mayonnaise. It was not bad. Yogurt for dessert. Tried for a flu shot at Kroger but found out I have

to either go to the doctors office or CVS Minute Clinic.

~

October 01, 2014 TIVO

It's hard to believe that October is here. I researched replacing dish network with over the air TV and a TIVO. It's doable. The small antenna tuner I have is worthless but the TV tuner is exceptional. Hopefully the TIVO tuner is just as good. I had a productive lesson with melanie. We connected the dots which helped my dancing tremendously. We did both Waltz and Foxtrot. Dinner was another chicken sandwich. I'm using up the tomatoes.

~

October 02, 2014 paint

I finally got off my butt and painted the new back porch door and the frame. Rain is expected tomorrow so I wanted this finished. I got the enphase enlighten manager working. I also have an enlighten app on my phone to see panel data. Pretty nice! I also applied for an API key so I can retrieve information via a URL in case I want to write my own app. I need to get my ass in gear and work on this Nashville First Class app. Dinner was a TJ's Chile Relano. It was pretty good. Yogurt for dessert.

~

October 03, 2014 7 oclock rock

This morning was totally lost. I woke to no internet and rebooting didn't bring anything back. I spent 80 minutes on the phone with Time Warner to no avail. I suggested that the new modem be put in, so I gave the Mac address and model number. That didn't fix anything but looking at the wire I saw the center conductor was not out all the way. I grabbed the center conductor with long nose pliers and pulled it from the cable, extending it about 1/2 an inch. Next I put a barrel couple on and added a patch cable then plugged to the modem and router. All the leds on the modem came on correctly this time. Sitting

at my computer I found I had internet service. This was around 11 AM.

I started dealing with this at 5:30 am. I took the old cable modem to Time Warner on high house and maynard and turned it in to get a \$6 per month credit. Dinner was a grilled eggplant parmesan from Trader Joes. Afterwards I went to 7 oclock rock. There was slight rain which ended shortly after 7. I danced a foxtrot with Melanie which was great. I stayed for the showcases during intermission then left. I enjoyed the evening.

~

October 04, 2014 busy day

I mowed the front and back lawns with the tractor today. It may be the last mowing for the season. Next I finished up the paint job of the new back door. I also took a trip to Lowes and picked up a 1x4 for the new shelf I will install for the router. Cut it to size then painted it in the garage. It's only 13 inches long. The driveway cam appears to be unresponsive. Not sure what's going on there. I'll have to do some troubleshooting. This morning at 7:30 I checked Libbie in for her flight tomorrow. It will be nice to have her back home but I have been pretty productive without her around. While I was at it I also did the laundry today. We need a laundry basket. I carried the hamper down and emptied the clothes from there into the washer. I had a pot pie for lunch and a cream cheese and jelly sandwich for dinner. That may be it for today.

~

October 05, 2014 airport

Heard from Libbie at 6:15 today. She's in the PVD airport for her 7 am flight. I watched the Sunday morning shows and also did cleanup on the backporch putting tools away. The door project is complete. In the afternoon after picking up Libbie I scraped the window on the door removing the excess paint. Now I need to wash the window. Libbie made her wonderful pizza for dinner. It was nice that she was home.

~

October 06, 2014 USPS

Libbie had a hige stack of packages to go out today. When she tried USPS shipping it hung up on her. I tried helping and eventually we were able to get her labels printed. She left here with the packages at 4:50. The Post Office closes at 5. This is calling it close. Dinner was spaghetti with cheese sprinkled over it.

~

October 07, 2014 done

I worked in earnest today on the Nashville app. I may have finished it. I got the wishlist and inventory working pretty good with a few usability improvements. Took a break at lunchtime and did the Tuesday groceries. Libbie and Joy were busily getting another 30 boxes ready for shipping today, mostly of leaves. Dinner tonight was creamed tuna and peas over noodles. This is a nice comfort food that I like. Marriage of Figaro was live after dinner. We listened to that a while before going to bed. Just before bed I sent Joe and John an email asking about pricing for the Nashville app.

~

October 08, 2014 dance

i did some work on uploadinf a new version of FC4A before we had to go to our lesson. Robert talked us into doing a showcase at the Christmas Ball. I agreed, we need a goal. We're going to a Rumba almagamation choreographed by Robert. Dinner BBQ on a bun before we went to the Argentine Tango class that Robert was substitute teacher in. He's a great instructor.

~

October 09, 2014 bulbs

I worked some more on FC4A, getting subscription services wroking on Google. We took a trip to Lowes and then Home Depot and picked up our Fall bulbs for planting next month. Dinner was pork chops, apple sauce,

idaho potatoes which was a Friday Freebie and shiraz.

~

October 10, 2014 friday dance

I worked in earnest again on FC4A. Mary secured a spot in the LSAVC lineup for my announcement of the product. I arranged for subscription services from Google. Dinner was a tuna sandwich before going out to the Friday Dance party at 8. After the party we went to an Irish pub in Tryon place. joining us were Paul and anne, Atlanta and Edward, Ken and Lean, Ken and Anita. It was a fun evening. We had a Yuengling and an an order of mild wings. This afternoon we went to the Farmers market and picked up pansies for fall planting.

~

October 11, 2014 Opera

I tried a custom toast module in the fc4a app that may be promising to indicate progress along with a basic timer. We left for the theater in light rain at 12:20. MacBeth was pure Verdi. The chorus dominated, Netrbeko was powerful. We re-affirmed why we come to these things. Loved it. We had peel n eat shrimp along with a butternut squash for dinner with shiraz. FC4A still has problems. Time is running out.

~

October 12, 2014 update database

I skipped the ballet from the Bolshoi this afternoon and spent the whole day working on getting updates ready for the FC4A app. I also got the orientation fixed. Apparently when I put the menu and listview setup in a subroutine it no longer functioned when the display was turned 90 degrees. It also has to be under Activity create and not in a sub. I managed to get an updated database into the sql. This time I wrote down the steps to get there. If I had done this a year ago I wouldn't have had to spend all day figuring this stuff out. Lib made an outstanding pizza from scratch today for dinner tonight. Yumm. We had chobani yogurt for desert.

~

October 13, 2014 updates

I spent all day studying updates. Still no clear way for how to do it.

I am now working on a python differences program to take the difference between an updated First Class and the previous version. This was not what I wanted to do. I need a pushbutton strategy for updates.

Dinner was spaghetti covered with cheese.

~

October 14, 2014 dance dance dance

~

October 15, 2014 dance

I got the difference program working this morning so I think it catches all differences between two first class databases. In the afternoon we left for our private lesson with Robert. This was good. We fine tuned our Cuban walk then added some open breaks to the mix. After a quick bowl of Brunswick Stew we left for Argentine Tango. Andy was back so the class was not as much fun as with Robert. Nancy, Steve and Mary made up the rest of the dance partners. After Tango we stayed for Robert's first waltz class of a series. We learned to waltz backwards while switching our lady from right to left. We came back tired but happy.

~

October 16, 2014 time

I had an excellent day of progress on my app. The updates are in really bad shape. Because spent the afternoon at quilting I got to put in some quality time. Dinner was Baked BBQ chicken from Kroger with baked

beans

~

October 17, 2014 dance

Another good day of quality debugging. i'm calling it debugging rather than programming since most of the time has been spent trying to figure out how I previously put together the update code. I had to do some adjustments to the SQL updates to preserve inventory and wishlist items but I did well. We went to dance at 8 and danced almost every dance. I still am having trouble with foxtrot. Libbie is really lost when I try to twinkle her. I wish she would spend some time learning the steps. After dance we went out to Brewsters. I had medium chicken wings which were anything but medium.. It was a nice time anyway.

~

October 18, 2014 marriage of figaro

I got the updates working correctly this morning. After the Opera in the evening I got the logging to the database working correctly. Now I need to try the whole scenario. We went to Marriage of Figaro this afternoon at 1. It was fun but the theater was freezing cold. Loved all the Mozart tunes in the opera. We stopped bby Kroger on the way home and picked up Salmon for dinner. We had salmon with butternut squash, shiraz and yogurt for dessert. Yum but we need to cut down on the calories.

~

October 19, 2014 fc4a

After the morning shows I continued to work on the update functions in the FC4A program. This has been going on for 7 days now!!!! I keep feeling like I'm getting close but then something else turns up. Dinner was Libbie's wonderful pizza, from scratch this time.

~

October 20, 2014 state fair

App work continues. The updates are finally working. I spent some time today on a hosting website for the app. Need a password protected location to contain the APK for select users. I wonder if one of the free Google Drives would work as well as a website? In the afternoon we went to the State Fair. We did all the rounds of the gardens, the Village of Yesteryear, crafts, art building, the quilts and cakes and then the animals. We watched a goat judging before seeing Jennifer monitoring the pumpkins. We spent many hours walking many miles. I was tired. For dinner we went to Skippers where I had the fish, oysters and an Aviator beer with slaw, fries and hushpuppies. Yum but too much food.

~

October 21, 2014 app

Did a grocery run this morning then came back to work on the app and the instructional web page. The app is more or less complete. I fixed a date problem but now haven't found anything else. All seems to be working the way it's supposed to. This was eating light day. We had tuna over lettuce for dinner. It was great.

~

October 22, 2014 dance

The fc4a program is coming along nicely. I continued to put the time into it, tying up loose ends. We went to dance with Robert this afternoon and learned some spiral turns which we will learn. In the meantime he reviewed our routine and had some tips on what we needed to do. The latter part of the class was two step. After a quick meal of spaghetti we went back to the group class with Andy. I'm not getting much out of Andy's Argentine Tango class. The ladies tonight were Terry, Libbie, Jennifer and a new very thin woman whose name I didn't catch. We stayed for Robert's waltz class which followed. This was much better. Robert is a pretty good teacher. We continued doing forward and reverse waltz twinkles. It was a full but tiring day. I finished up a bio this evening for my 50th HS reunion and sent it to

a lady named Sharon MacQuaide Eosso.

~

October 23, 2014 chicken parmesan

I was finishing up the documentation for the fc4a app today when I noticed the advanced search didn't work very well. I traced the problem to the makeup of the select statement. As I went to bed in the evening I still had not solved the problem. I went out in the afternoon to Kroger and picked up some provolone cheese for dinner tonight. We made the Cooking Light chicken Parmesan recipe. The chicken is cooked on the stove top then covered with hot pasta and covered with provolone cheese strips. It was yummy. We had this with broccoli and a glass of Shiraz. Listened to Carmen live while looking at obits of former classmates. Amazingly 36 have died. This is over 20%.

~

October 24, 2014 esquires

Worked on the select statement all day and got it mastered. Next task was to create a new updated database current to Nov 2014. This went reasonably well thanks to my written instructions. I used them and added a few tweaks to clarify a few parts. We got ready for Esquires tonight, our first of the season. I didn't have any gas so we stopped at Kroger on the way there. We took 540 around the long way since we didn't want to pass the State Fair which has traffic issues. It took 45 minutes but we got there at 6:45. We sat with Gary and Janet, Charlie and Terry and Jane and Jim. The food was incredible even though it was a buffet. I really like the dress up and go out to dinner aspect of this. We had a really good time. The band was half a dozen pieces of the Moonlight big band. Good band but there was a predominance of foxtrots.

~

October 25, 2014 rumba

Worked on the issue of squashed text that Glenda from Austin reported.

I couldn't figure out what was wrong so I made the scroll view wider and kept the label that holds the text the same size. The label goes inside the scroll view.

I created a truecrypt subset of the big truecrypt and put the bp directory inside. I closed the new truecrypt and uploaded it to Amazon cloud storage so I don't lose it since it has a few personal details. I probably should also do this with my scribbling writings which are basically my journals. The good news is they are in the clear on Google Drive so they are protected a little.

After a dinner of Salmon, broccoli and Shiraz we practiced our Rumba routine. Libbie planted the rest of her pansies today. The total ended up being 142 plants.

~

October 26, 2014 good day

This turned out to be a pretty good day. I finished the app and put a final version on google play but I think the initial download is a little rough. Will work on smoothing that out and delay publishing one more day. I went outside and picked up the pine straw Libbie raked on the driveway then turned my attention to the HD Vision camera. I ended up replacing it. thank goodness I made the soffit a bolt on affair.

I unbolted everything then accessed the wiring to replace the camera. Not sure what happened to the first camera. It seems to have died. I ordered a new one from China for \$92 with free shipping. We practiced our routine many times today and finally have a rough version of it down pat that we have learned the pattern for. Dinner was Libbie's wonderful pizza once again. She took our homemade chicken parmesan and chopped it up and used it as a pizza topping. Really good. I have been playing with the Chrome book setup in anticipation of taking it to TX this week.

~

October 27, 2014 progress

I wasn't happy with how slow the downloads went on my tablet without any progress indication. Today //i added a separate activity which downloads a large file in a separate activity and unpacks it. it has a progress bar as it downloads. I uploaded this in place of the one that

was on Google Play. I'm considering making it go live tonight so that tomorrow I could fix any potential problems. Update: I made it live at 7 PM. Dinner was lettuce with tuna and all the fixings. I took a couple of peppers out of the garden for the salad. The Thai pepper was super hot. My mouth burned and my lips and nasal passages burned. I have met my match in hotness. This afternoon I stopped by Kohls looking for a tall man white shirt. Not any luck. I also looked for a CF card in both Target and HH Gregg. Target sells an 8 gig card for \$39 but they were out of stock. No luck at all in HH Gregg. I found there is a Fry's 1 mile from the hotel in Plano. I'll look in there.

~

October 28, 2014 getting ready

We did some practice today to music of our number. In the studio Robert went over the intro and fine tuned our Cuban walk. He had lots of praise for our memory of the steps and said we had the whole routine down pat. This is pretty much the end of it all, we'll eliminate the 5th position break on the end and call it a performance. Wow. Dinner tonight was spaghetti with cheese over the top. Tomorrow is our trip, we've been gathering stuff trying to make sure we have everything which is hard. I checked in at 7:30 this morning. I did not get TSA Pre but Libbie did. Oh well, our number is low anyway - A38 & A39.

~

October 29, 2014 fly

We got up at 5:10 to get dressed then out the door at 5:30. No problem parking and checking in. The flight was incredibly smooth to Houston. The plane was not full and we had an empty seat between us. I am reading Wyatt in Wichita about the early years of Wyatt Earp. We had a very quick change in Houston for a very full Dallas flight. While I checked into the rental car counter Libbie got our suitcase. There was no delay. We got a new Toyota Corolla then used the phone GPS and went to the Dallas Arboretum. They accepted our Selby cards and even validated the parking. The pumpkins were amazing as usual. We walked the pumpkin lined paths and then had lunch at a Brat garden where

we split a polliish brat with saurkraut and potato salad. A Shiner Bock completed the meal. Next stop was Plano and the Southfork hotel.

Drove up to Allen to get a tall mans white shirt which I found in the Mens Warehouse. We waited for the Nicholas's to arrive then went out to dinner at Chuys, a mexican restaurant which I enjoyed. Service was good and prompt, food was great. I got stopped by a Texas trooper when I turned into the restaurant for not using my turn signal.

I got away with a lecture which was good. I had the Chuys lite plate which was a single taco with yummy chili and lettuce and guacamole.

A shiner bock completed the meal.

~

October 30, 2014 Hortense

We had a wonderful hotel breakfast of an omelet. We sat with Sue Ramseur and Chuck. At 10:30 we met Andrea in the lobby and drove to Hortense's house. The phone gps led us there without any problems. Hortense and Ray were very gracious hosts. We had a huge lunch of corned beef, cabbage, onions, roast carrots and squash and more. She even had a desert ready but we were so stuffed we didn't have it. Andrea conducted the interview which seemed to go long. I was very tired by the end. We got to the hotel and met John and Judy and others. Entries was well in progress. Ron and Richard ran the computers. Anne was doing classification and supervising placement. We had dinner with John and Judy in the hotel. There was a poker tournament going on, we ordered from the poker menu. I had a California grilled chicken sandwich with avocado, lettuce, tomato and fries. A shiner bock complemented the meal.

~

October 31, 2014 halloween

We had a nice omelet breakfast in the hotel then reported for judging at 8:00 I was assigned to a panel with Judy Carter judging the semi minis. I really enjoyed it. After judging I went with John and Judy to Frys to look for a VGA to HDMI adapter. Found one that needed a female to female connector which didn't work very well when I hooked it up. I ended up going directly from the adapter to the camera. We stopped with John and Judy at In-Out burger for a nice lunch of burgers

and fries. In the classroom I struggled with getting everything to work properly. I ended up going online to read the booklet about how to get the chromebook to output video out the HDMI. I had to toggle ctrl plus the full screen icon. The DSLR did a poor job of projecting the tablet screen onto the overhead. It was rewarding to see a few people actually buy the app during the class. The hotel connection was pretty slow but quite a few succeeded. A few had errors which means I have some bullet proofing to do. Once it was over I was relieved and happy. I never made it to the showroom. Got there around 4:30 and found out it was closed already. Put my white shirt and vest on for the costume party and made a bolo tie from purple ribbon. A stick on star from the goodie bag completed the look. We stopped in the bar and got a wine and a beer before dinner. We sat with the Nicholas's, Joe Bruns and grand daughter Alison and Andrea. The Kaoroke was fun, Libbie even participated. We also danced the night away. Quite a few took videos of us doing our Rumba routine which was a nice opportunity to practice for our performance. It was a really fun evening. My meal was brisket with potatoes.

~

November 01, 2014 southfork

Breakfast had quite a line for omelets. The Red Hat ladies are huge but the lined up for omelets, and large plates of breakfast. We sat with Bill Foster and drank coffee before ordering. I had a waffle with syrup and bacon and sausage. We attended an outstanding presentation by Ben about growing trailers and violets in general. It was great, one of the best ever. We also attended the strep presentation by Patty which didn't have much content but we got some leaves. I want to utilize Ben's technique of mat watering with the egg crate and landscape cloth. We had lunch at the In-Out burger on our way to Southfork where we toured the ranch. It was beautiful and quite interesting even though we never saw the TV show. At the banquet we sat with John and Judy and the Thurmans. That was nice, I enjoy John and the conversation. After the awards we went to the Presidents reception and drank wine and had more food. Anne and Richard drove home after the reception since they didn't want the plants in the cold overnight. Tonight is the end of daylight savings time.

~

November 02, 2014 opera

Hotel breakfast of the usual omelet. We're an hour back this morning and arrived at the restaurant at 7:09. Found they only open at 7. We had breakfast with Mary Corondon. I had to leave the table and check into Southwest at 8. We got TSA Pre but our position was B08 and B09. I suspect the plane will be full. We don't have to leave for the opera today until noon. The Opera is at 2.

At the last minute I found

there was a pre-performance lecture so we left before noon. Stopped at Dickey's on 14th St and had a brisket sandwich. Yum.

With Libbie's

navigation using her phone we arrived at the opera without incident.

I parked under the place for \$15 which I thought was worth it.

Libbie commented how we just go up the escalator and we're there.

I tried taking a pic of Libbie in front of the house and met 2 women who wanted a pic and agreed to take ours in exchange. They did a nice job of getting us in front of the Opera House which we sent to Facebook.

The lecture was awesome. I'm so glad we attended. Salome was even more awesome. IT was very intense and extremely well sung. Four ballerinas handled the dance of the 7 veils while Deborah Voight waved a veil around. It was very effective since it was very apparent she could not dance. Her singing however was strong, powerful and intense. I really enjoyed the performance a lot. After the Opera we checked into the Comfort Inn Market Square. I was pleased with the quality of the establishment. We went out to dinner to La Juivita, a Mexican seafood place with all Latinos including young girls in mini skirts.

Mexican Polka music was playing. I had the shrimp and fish in La Diabla sauce. It was very very hot but delicious. I had 1 1/2 Coronas with it and also some chips and salsa. What a hot hot hot meal.

I ended up having to scrape some sauce from the fish it was so hot but I enjoyed it.

~

November 03, 2014 going home

Up this morning at 5:45. Lucky for us, breakfast was ready when we came downstairs even though it doesn't officially start until 6:30. I had egg, sausage and a sweet bun with coffee before going to the airport.

Filled up at Racetrac on Mockingbird for 2.57 per gal but only needed

4.5 gallons. Everything went smoothly. We were TSA Pre so kept shoes on and laptops in the suitcase. We had B08 and B09 but another plane had to board ours before even the A passengers so we were very full with 143 passengers. Fortunately we switched seats in Houston.

Didn't have to leave the plane so I went from row 20 up to the exit row aisle seat. What a treat! It was comfortable and relaxing to stretch out. I'm really enjoying the Wyatt Earp book. Read a few more Chapters during the flight. We got in after a very smooth flight and got home by 2. Amazingly everything went according to plan and executed smoothly.

Once home I started downloading and archiving pictures and catching up in general. Dinner was spaghetti with tomato sauce and cheese.

~

November 04, 2014 voting

Did a quick grocery run this morning and also went to St Andrews and voted. Received our new credit cards and started changing the online accounts over to the new cards. I noticed Time Warner was still charging for the modem so I did a live chat and had them remove the charge from my bill. Should get 2 months credit for this. I'm enjoying the comments on Facebook regarding the FC4A app.

Dinner tonight was chicken tenders in BBQ sauce with corn. Listened to Aida live from the Met which I really enjoyed. Libbie deposited the check from the Knights today. The \$2100 finally came yesterday after Aunt Helen died in June.

~

November 05, 2014 Dance

Verified Google Wallet with Amy this morning. They made a small deposit in the AVSA checkbook. I reported it to Google and now it's verified.

In the meantime, we have 32 installs. Did a little raking this morning of the driveway, also went to Lowes and bought Perlite for transplanting. While in Lowes we found bulbs were 25% off so we got some crocus bulbs. Looked for Solo cups in the Dollar store but it was a bust. Went to dance at 3:30 with Robert. He really liked the fact

we learned the whole routine. We got some pointers about the Cuban walk and also how we should end up in the center of the room instead of at a room end. After a dinner of lettuce with tuna and tomato, pepper and olives we went to the studio for back to back Foxtrot and two step. I got the 2 step OK but had difficulty with Foxtrot grapevine.

~

November 06, 2014 Birthday

Happy Birthday To me! It was a quiet day. Libbie had quilting in the PM, I talked to both sisters and then we ordered a Chinese dinner to go. Picked up a bottle of Rodney Strong Cabernet to celebrate. I'm now officially 68.

~

November 07, 2014 packing

Did a lot of last minute chores today since I'm driving tomorrow. Took the shade off the greenhouse, did backups of Traviata onto an external drive for storage in Florida, in the late PM Libbie and I prepared the sauce and ingredients for a wonderful Chicken Parmesan which we had with broccoli and a glass of Cabernet. Nice. Packed up everything to leave tomorrow. I don't want to go. Too much to do around here.

~

November 08, 2014 travel

Normal wakeup then breakfast and out the door at 7:17 going to Sarasota. First stop was exit 181 in Florence for gas and bathroom. Next stop was in Darien, GA at 1 PM for gas and Wendy's Single. Too much food and they put cheese on it. It's a cloudy and glum day out. Traffic through JAX is pretty heavy. Stopped at 3 PM at a rest area. After bathroom got going right away again. Traffic near Disney was crawling past the TPK and remained heavy the rest of the way. Maintained 73 MPH using the Cruise Control. Surprisingly I wasn't too sore but my knee hurt from the fixed position. I stretched my leg in an unbusy

section of road. Got to Palmer Ranch at 6:30 but first I stopped at Publix for wine, food and then subway for a foot long turkey for dinner. I had the sub with Rodney Strong which cost me 17.99 in Publix. Not happy, I thought it was 11.99. Found out later at home what the ticket said, 17.99.

~

November 09, 2014 lowes

This was a very relaxing day. I replaced the flush valve in the main bathroom since the float had broken off at the plastic hinge. I also picked up some battery operated LED lights at an attractive price. They were a string of 50 for 7.95. I'll use this for my diamond costume.

I picked up a toilet seat but had to return it since it was the wrong color. The fit was perfect but it was white. I need bone. I also looked at water filters. The current one is plugged solid. It may be cheaper to just buy a new one at Lowes which has been marked down to \$79 from \$99. While out I stopped in Publix and picked up dinner.

It was a plate of Chinese from their buffet. It's 6.95 per pound no matter what you select. I picked bourbon beef and sweet and sour chicken and some fried rice. I had this at the condo with a glass of Rodney Strong. I watched 60 minutes in the evening then went to bed early at 8:30.

~

November 10, 2014 pool party

Did a trip to North Sarasota at noon. Walked through Selby, lots of maintenance projects underway which is good. They replaced large sections of sidewalk and did some pruning in the tropical house. On the way back stopped in at Michaels, Publix and Hobby Lobby. Found my materials for diamonds in the Hobby Lobby. The costume party is this Thursday, theme of Diamonds are Forever. I played with some dowels in the condo and came up with a technique to use the tubing to hold the dowels into diamond shapes. Using twisty ties I fastened the LED strips to the diamonds. Tried lighting it up and it looks good. This is half the LEDs so far. At 5:30 I went to the pool party. Met some of the residents of the other buildings. I brought a plate of cheese and triscuits and a glass of Rodney Strong for myself. The horsed'oeuvres

that others brought were amazing. Christa brought a sheet cake from Publix which was made to her specifications. Nice strawberry filling in a yellow cake with white icing. Dinner was the party food, did not have anything else except some of the pineapple I bought at Publix.

~

November 11, 2014 savannah

I worked a little more on putting the lights on the diamond frames. i decided I need some more lights from Lowes. I currently have 100 light, will pick up another string of 50. Went to the board meeting at 10. I'm not happy with the situation with unit 2210. When the place is sold by the bank we only get one years worth of back fees. It currently stands at 2 years of money owed. This is the FL safe harbor law. Went out for the lights after the meeting and stopped into JC Penney and found a lightweight jacket. List price \$60, sale priced at 34.99.

I bought it. Also looked at Van Heusen tall man shirts - buy one get one free for \$50. Did not buy but I should have. Left at 1 PM for the drive home. Got to I-275 where a sign said crash ahead, all lanes closed. Took an earlier exit thanks to my smartphone and eeked through Sun City but the trip wasn't bad. Picked up gas and a snack wrap in Ocala and got into Port Wentworth at 8. Stopped into the Sweet tea grill and had crabcakes with Tybee Island blond beer. Yummy.

~

November 12, 2014 busy day

Got up early in the Comfort Inn and showered at 5:55, breakfast at 6:15. I had eggs, sausage and a bagel then on the road by 6:45. Got more coffee and a BoBerry biscuit at Bo's in Walterboro, 60 miles up the road. Made a gas stop at Santee then again at exit 181 just past Florence.

This was also a bathroom break. Got home around noon then went to dance with Robert at 3:30. Came home and soldered the battery packs together then did Foxtrot elements with Andy and 2 step with Robert.

Robert had a nice female student earlier who basically only had painted on tights on her lower half. This was very nice to watch her wiggle her hips. Dinner was BLT sandwiches between the 3:30 and the 7:00 dance lessons. What a full day. We managed to pack suitcases as well.

~

November 13, 2014 maavs

Up this morning at 5:45. After breakfast and loading the car we were out the door at 6:40. First stop was exit 4 in VA for bathroom and biscuits.

I had the coffee thermos so didn't need anymore. We stopped for construction a few times around DC before making it to the Bay bridge and hwy 301. We did a rest area on 301 before lunch and gas in Middletown. Arrived at the hotel at 2:30. It's a good sized show for MAAVS. The hotel is pretty good as well. Went out to the The Reef for dinner with John and Judy. I had Chesapeake shrimp which was shrimp in crab sauce over pasta. Yummy. It was snowing when we came out of the restaurant.

~

November 14, 2014 maavs

Breakfast buffet this morning, service in the restaurant was incredibly poor. We went back for Philly Cheese steak lunch. It wasn't much better.

I enjoyed the talk today by the lady who visited Vladimir in Russia. Her light stands are LED. We had the costume dinner and of course the Philly girls were best in show. The board meeting went today as expected only Kitty wasn't there so we couldn't do financial stuff.

We sat with John, Judy, Laurene and Walker. The dinner was a buffet with a very nice cheese steak desert. When I got back from dinner I found I had won an ipad 3 I made an offer on for \$225 before dinner.

I am now going to be an icrap developer using B4I. Still have much more to learn about how the process works.

~

November 15, 2014 Awards

We had the hotel buffet breakfast again before I got my camera and went into the showroom to do some photography. For lunch I joined Libbie for some crab soup. At our table were John and Judy and Ken and Susan.

It was a nice relaxing lunch with friends before we went to the

Jeff Smith species talk which was pretty boring but some of it was interesting. He gave me permission to put the slides onto the website.

Next was breakdown of the show which I helped Libbie with. We then got dressed for dinner and cocktail hour. In the bar we sat with Vicki and Doug and Kitty who had finished stuffing awards envelopes. Earlier I took a look at Kitty's tablet which she said did not have the pictures. I found the pictures had not completed their download so she did not have the database. I wonder how that happened? The banquet went well. The hotel food was better than average, I had the salmon but the Filet Mignon which John had looked great. I did the MC duty and tried to move things along with an agenda I copied from Mary at Lonestar.

~

November 16, 2014 travel

Went downstairs this morning at 6:45. Chatted with Jeff Smith, Paul Kroll and Mel Grice who were waiting for taxis. John and Judy came down at 7, we took them to the airport and came back to load the car and go. We got going at 8:00 then stopped for breakfast at Mickey Dees in Middletown. I had Hot Cakes and sausage. Had a pretty nice drive down 301 then decided to skip DC altogether and take 301 more. There were a lot of lights and we had to pay \$6 for the Potomac bridge after \$3 for the DE toll. Going North we only had to pay \$6 for the Annapolis bridge and and \$1 for the DE toll. We got to 95 below Fredericksburg which isn't too bad. Had a problem off 295 after Richmond. Stopped for lunch and gas and picked up a nail in one of the front tires. Luckily there was a tire place next to the gas station. They plugged the tire for \$10 and 10 minutes. Lib took over driving. We got home at 3:45 PM which could have been worse. It started raining pretty good when we got in. Went back out at 7 and got Pizza next to Cary Pub. It's NY Pizza and it's pretty good.

~

November 17, 2014 powerbook

Worked on IOS research and updating the MAAVS website. Built a basic foundation for photos, etc. In the PM my iPad arrived. Later in the day I went out chasing after a mac I found on Craigslist. Carlos in

Cary buys computers off lease from schools and refurbishes them. I bought a Mac Powerbook with software for \$250. Dinner was salad with a slice of leftover pizza.

~

November 18, 2014 pulled pork

Went out right away for groceries. They were \$105 in Kroger. Had to buy the pork shoulder in Foodlion because they had a better choice. Started working on the roast rub right away. Got the rub made, meat prepared and in the oven at 11:06 am. Libbie worked on the baked beans.

Mary and John arrived in the early afternoon after driving from Lorton.

Lib and I went out and cleaned the leaves off the driveway after we had the roast in the oven. . The roast came out for dinner which we had on buns with slaw, baked beans and beer. Pumpkin Pie was desert.

It's going to be cold tonight. We had a very nice visit with Mary and John.

~

November 19, 2014 heat

Got a disturbing alarm this morning while in the shower. the greenhouse was cold. Ran outside and found the heater was off. Did some diagnosis but fired up the porch heater and used a fan to redirect the heat into the greenhouse. Later on I discovered that the igniter had failed.

I put a replacement igniter into the unit and got it back online but not before the greenhouse had fallen to the 40s. Ordered a new one from Tennessee on eBay. I think I lucked out on this one. After that panic we practiced our routine a little more then had pulled pork for lunch. Had our lesson at 3:30 and screwed up pretty badly.

Skipped the Foxtrot lesson with Andy today and took Robert's two step class. Tried registering for the IOS developer program. The \$100 fee was approved by the AVSA EC. Had some trouble with D&B numbers which they reset after calling support. Next I need verification by AVSA that I represent them. Dinner was pulled pork with the baked beans.

~

November 20, 2014 apple google

Apple approved my application. Pulled out my credit card and bought a one year membership. In the meantime, Google didn't want my app in the education category. I edited the listing and moved it to the tools category. It's a little cold out but I planted all the daffodils.

Now I need to plant the tete a tete mini daffodils. Dinner was creamed tuna and peas over egg noodles. Listened to La Boheme live. they misspelled Puccini. I took a pic of the screen and posted it to the Met Opera group. It was quickly corrected!

~

November 21, 2014 dance

Studied IOS apps and also changes for the FC4A program. I think I figured out the font thing to address Brenda's issue with truncated text. I can detect the DPI and set the font smaller if it's only 160 dpi instead of the 200 as seen on both my tablet and Motorola X phone. Dinner was a bowl of soup and a few slices of cheese before going out to the dance party at 8 PM. After dance a group of us went out to Spirits in Cary which is a very nice and large bar. We had the wings of the month which is vietnamese wings coated with honey and jalapeno. They were quite good, even Libbie could eat them. I had a glass of Alesmith IPA to accompany this. We had a nice time and went home at 11. I had the sniffles which started just before we entered Spirits. They continued throughout the evening. I hope I'm not getting a cold, the Benzigers had colds earlier this week.

~

November 22, 2014 Barbieri

Had a nice serie of note with a lady named Peggy Barbour in Colorado. She loves the Android app and wanted a user database and also a way of sharing data. I told her those were some of the top requests. I took a 12 hour cold tablet which is supposed to be non-drowsy at 11 AM. We left at 12:15 for Barber of Seville. It was most enjoyable with Isabelle Leonard and lawrence Brownlie in a real campy Rossini opera. What fun. Dinner was Shrimp peelers with a butternut squash and Dreaming Tree wine, a Dave Matthews Band wine. I resumed reading Wyatt

Earp on the iPad downstairs before falling asleep at 9. Went uostairs and went to bed around then.

~

November 23, 2014 pizza

hooked up the trailer after the CBS Sunday Morning News then Lib and I went to buy a tree at FoodLion of all places! Wanted to get it home before it started raining. Spent the rest of the afternoon figuring out the dropbox sync techniques to use as a tool for First Class for Android synching. Dinner was Libbie's super pizza. It's been a while since we had this great dinner.

~

November 24, 2014 tea

Worked a bit on syncing with a dropbox from FC4A. Had some success but no file transfer yet. Much to do here. For dinner we went out to chinese place and our 3 meat szechuan and a couple of egg rolls with Dreaming Tree wine. After dinner we watched Dancing with the Stars, it was the semi finals. Derek was eliminated. I had some black tea after dinner which gave me breathing problems. I suffered most of the evening until bedtime. Wow, I won't do that again.

~

November 25, 2014 dropbox

Did our Thanksgiving dinner shopping this morning then went to the liquor store on 55 by Home Depot for Brandy and Rum. We were there 7 minutes before opening so we went over to Foodlion for Libbie's plastic bags then hit the liquor store. I managed to successfully list the dropbox directories. Added this code to the FC4A app. Dinner was spaghetti with tomato sauce and cheese.

~

November 26, 2014 black tie

This morning I decided to go to Mens Warehouse to check out tuxedos. They were having a Black Friday sale which started Wednesday. The deal was buy one get one free. I bought a \$650 Calvin Klein Tux with accessories. The bottom line was \$1043 but it included a second suit and I added suspenders, bow tie, shirts and studs. Wow. They all look great but I'm shell shocked. All will be ready on Monday evening for pickup. It's going to look great. In the meantime I went shopping for dinner tonight. I got a Cooking Light recipe for steamed chicken and veggies with soy dipping sauce. It was great. Dinner was chicken, snap peas, green beans, dipping sauce and Shiraz. Loved it and it was easy.

~

November 27, 2014 Thanksgiving

Went to Kroger early but they had no newspapers. I want the Thanksgiving "biggest paper of the year" so I headed over to Sheetz next on 1010. This is a very nice convenience store and gas station.

It smelled good with biscuits cooking. Bought a paper and got a free cup of coffee. She said any size but I took a small. The paper had tons of stuff but I found I was hardly interested. Lots of big TVs, tablets for \$39 and \$200 laptops. Communicated with Doris via Facebook, invited her for drinks. Talked with Vicki this morning during the Thanksgiving parade. Watched some of it but not all. Too many performances that scream and sound noisy. Am I getting old? Libbie made fruit cake this morning. We sampled one of them in the afternoon.

Did a little scanning upstairs, catching up on convention covers. Had a nice turkey breast at 7:15. We had Shiraz, potatoes, snow peas, turkey, stuffing and gravy. No dessert! We had too much food to begin with.

~

November 28, 2014 Black Friday

The Van Wezel 50% off deal was disappointing this morning. I was interested in the Viennese New Years but only the last 3 rows are on the deal. Not worth it.

I was also looking for a B4I deal but so far none,
will check on Monday. There is a deal on NewIssue, the company that
supplies PDFs of magazines. Their trial is half price for 2 months.
i don't know if this is a good deal or not.

Doris, Carl and Carl

Jr came over at 2. We had a very nice afternoon visiting and drinking
the Pouilly-Fuissé she brought with her. It was a most enjoyable visit.
For dinner we had turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes, cranberry
sauce and a glass of Shiraz. I finished reading Wyatt Earp this evening.
Loved it. I finished it on the iPad using the Kindle reading app.

~

November 29, 2014 quiet saturday

This was a relaxing day at home. Did not do much. Dinner was leftover
turkey with stuffing and potatoes. We had shiraz to accompany the meal.
I started taking off the side panel on the hot tub. This is the
only way I reasoned I could assess the leaking joints. I suspect the
slip joints have improper washers which we obtained locally.

~

November 30, 2014 warm

It was relatively warm outside. We made the decision to switch web hosts.
This was not easy. First thing I found was Perl will not work
on the Host Gator account. I submitted a support ticket. Second issue
was to get the mail transferred. this went relatively easy. Next
I attempted to purchase an SSL certificate. The first submit did not
take. I had to call support to verify so that I didn't submit two purchases.
Got the submission taken care of after filling a form. While
I was filling forms I filled out the auto reimbursement for the SSA
deduction. This involved printing verification of benefits letters
from Social security for both of us. We put the lights on the tree bu
put the plug near the top. To rectify this I went to Home Depot and
purchased a green extension cord. While there I also bought two metal
no trespassing signs for the woods. Dinner of course was Libbie's
fantastic pizza from scratch.

~

December 01, 2014 perl

I couldn't get the Bluebird website running due to the Perl module not being able to execute. I filled out a support ticket this morning asking for help. I tried researching on line but could find nothing.

It's a nice warm day outside. I started working on the hot tub. The pressure switch is bad. Ordered a new one and new seals on eBay but I can't see where the leak is. May have to dry it up real good and then examine very carefully. The tux is supposed to be ready tonight but I'll go out tomorrow instead. Dinner tonight was spaghetti with cheese.

~

December 02, 2014 website

I wrote an article for the MAAVS Memo this morning regarding First Class for Android. I also sent the article to marjorie for the Lonestar newsletter. I enjoyed doing this.

At 10 I went to Mens Wearhouse and picked up my tux and the suit. Tried them on in the store and they seemed OK but the suit fit better than the tux. I need to lose a few more pounds in my opinion.

Did the grocery run but we didn't need much after the big Thanksgiving weekend. We have plenty of food and supplies. In the afternoon I spent a lot of time with Gator support on the phone and got my Perl problems fixed. The support lady said the htaccess file needed a handler for Perl installed. Why couldn't they do this over email using the ticket I submitted? Once Perl was working i got busy and got the Bluebird site working. I also edited the invoice files to get rid of the 4821 Jessie address. I made a test purchase and Libbie was able to retrieve it from orders so all is now well. That wasn't too bad. Dinner was grilled turkey and cheddar sandwiches. I wanted to eat somewhat light to fit my formal clothes and suit better.

~

December 03, 2014 rumba

Updated the Family Address list today and sent it around. In response to a query by Kurt about a compiled list of BIS, I dug up what I had of the past 10 years and put them in my spreadsheet. We had a good dance lesson with Robert going over our routine in a dress rehearsal. It was a good lesson. Mitzi said we had two lessons left. I said we would sign up for more next week. Picked up BBQ chicken in Kroger on the way home from dance. We're going back tonight for Cha Cha after a dinner of chicken and snow peas which Libbie steamed. Good stuff. Cha Cha was a techniques class rather than an amalgamation which was disappointing. I wanted more patterns, especially for tomorrow night. Roberts Bronze class was in a class by itself. He had us decide and it ended up being Meringue. It was one of the most enjoyable classes ever.

~

December 04, 2014 dance

Tried to eat light today because of our evening tonight. I had trouble getting dressed. it takes a lot longer to dress formally. i ended up having to put all the studs and cuff links in and then didn't know how to tie the bow tie. Cocktails were at 6:30 but we didn't leave the house until 6:12. Traffic was very heavy. We crept and crawled along 64 with the traffic stopped still several times. Don't know if Old Raleigh Rd would be better next time. We got there late but at the end of cocktails and before dinner started so that was good. The evening was fabulous. I really enjoyed it, we danced quite a bit which is what I like about Esquires. It's roomy with room to dance. We stayed until 10:30, didn't get into bed until midnight. What a night! Totally enjoyable. We even were able to use some of the time to practice our spotlight routine. For dinner i had swordfish which was delicious and carved roast from the buffet. We each had a glass of wine.

~

December 05, 2014 Winter Ball

Worked on setting up the Yun today. I have a lot to learn. I built a sensor circuit to measure the liquid level measure. It's just a pull up on one end with the A/D. The other end goes to ground. Tested it

with a glass of water and got readings. Now i need to set up some kind of server. We had a bowl of soup at 6 PM before leaving for the studio at 7. This is our big night. We had a combination of performances and individual dancing. We were the last dance of the third act. Our performance went well. We probably made some mistakes but it seemed to go well anyway. We didn't stop but carried on to the end. I had the Teriyaki pork with slaw and noodle salad for dinner with a glass of wine. After our performance I had a Sam Adams Winter Lager which I enjoyed. We left around 10:30 but some of the hardcore were still dancing.

~

December 06, 2014 opera

Went to the grocery store today before the Sat opera and met Terri in the produce dept. Looking at doing something more straightforward than the Flask web server on the Yun. Still reading how to do this. We got cleaned up and went to Ken and Anita's party at 6 in Lochmere Highlands. They went overboard with drinks, hors d'oeuvre plate and a sumptuous dinner of salad and two kinds of shells - ricotta and sausage. Very nice. We played some interesting games to see how well we knew each other. Dessert was a cannoli cake which was delicious. Anita got it from Fresh Market. We moved into the living room and had gifts and a card game where you could take a gift if your name was called or trade it from another person. I started with spoons but ended up with 3 whiskey bottles. We left at 10. It was an enjoyable night. At the party were Ken and Lana, Harry and Terri and Ken and Anita plus us. What a nice night.

~

December 07, 2014 Boston Butt

Spent the morning on the Yun. After much trial and error, I found that I needed to partition and format the SD card. Next I loaded the tree measure app into the Arduino and ran the Arduino code which uses bridge to do a simple webserver on the YUN. All html statements are printed out using client.print statements, including the changing water height variable. Some of the issues were I was using the wrong URL and I didn't know how to use API commands. Basically any word you pass

in at the end of the URL is your API ekeyword. The client code looks for the key word you chose. My url is IP address/arduino/tree and

I look for the command "tree" and do print statements to send back the output. Cut the panel of the hottub to free up the drain into it's own panel. It looks like the tee is leaking. This is about a 1.5 inch pipe. I have some parts to buy. Went to Kroger and found a 7 pound Boston Butt, the only one again. Also picked up some Egg Nogg. Will marinate the park tomorrow in a rub then roast it overnight Monday night.

~

December 08, 2014 prep

Mixed up the rub this morning and rubbed the shoulder down pretty good. Went out looking for a wreath but no luck. Bought a nice Ball Mason jar in Target for my BBQ sauce. It's big enough to add all the ingredients and shake it up before pouring it into the serving container. The pressure switch arrived today but I won't mess with it until Wednesday. Dinner was cheese and crackers and a bowl of soup.

~

December 09, 2014 party

Put the 7 pound shoulder in the oven last night at 11 PM. Set the temp at 275 and it was ready this morning. Took it out around 7:30 AM and let it rest. Went out to the grocery for normal Tuesday shopping and also bought a shrimp ring for hors d'oeuvres. Shredded the pork and prepared the buffet. We had a wonderful party, most of the group left a little after 2. The Home Depot guys arrived at 2 PM to estimate the garage roof. There are 660 square feet for a total of \$2700 plus \$56 a sheet for bad plywood. We ate so much today that for dinner we had a bun with shredded pork and some of the fixings such as cranberry and cole slaw.

~

December 10, 2014 dance

This morning I installed the pressure switch in the hot tub and turned it on. There didn't seem to be any leaks. I put tupperware containers under all the likely spots and let it run all day. Meanwhile I started playing with Flask on a Raspberry Pi. Time Warner still didn't credit my account for the \$18 they owe me. I may have call or visit them again. We had a nice lesson with Robert with Foxtrot. He is putting together an amalgamation for us. Dinner was light tonight, we had the rest of the shrimp and some cheese and crackers with our egg nog. We went to Cha cha styling at 7:15 with Andy. We learned hand holds and cross over breaks. Anita and Ken joined us then stayed for Robert's Swing lesson. in the swing we learned Lyndy timing with spot turns and bunny hops to the side. Very cool. Libbie has to pack tonight for RI tomorrow. The hot tub ran all day and did not leak.

~

December 11, 2014 hot tub

Took Libbie to the airport this morning, left at 6:30 for her 8:10 flight. I picked up a bagel with cream cheese on the way home at Brueggers. Checked the hot tub and was dismayed to see the Tee fitting had a tub of water under it. It's leaking. Drained the hot tub and went to Lowes and bought plastic fittings to replace the Tee and the rain line. I'm planning to put a spigot in the line for future tub draining. This will require a door of sometype. Spent a lot of time reading BP then built a view for AVSA that displays the BIS for past 15 years. Each BIS is a content type in a view. This allows me to set up the year column as a user sortable column to get forward or reverse chronological order.

The roofing contractor showed up today to look over the job. He may be able to get this done in half a day, possibly this Saturday. Meistersinger is Saturday so I hope not. Looked up the 8 count Lindy that Robert was teaching us. Would love to learn this for the swing. Dinner was BBQ pork on a bin with the leftover fixings like slaw, broccoli salad and cranberry salad. Listened to Traviata live tonight which was delayed 30 minutes since the tenor was ill. The cover took over.

~

December 12, 2014 dance

I cut the pipes out of the hot tub this morning, ready to install the new fittings. Downloaded the Foxtrot video and did some memorization practice of the pattern. I want to learn this stuff.

While reviewing

videos on Youtube I looked at the time and it was 8:20. The dance party started at 8, oops. Scrambled quickly to put on nylon socks, grabbed my shoes and left. I got there pretty late but made the first drawing. We won a Martini Mixer kit. I would rather win dance lessons. It was beer and wine night, pretty enjoyable. Mitzi brought finger foods. I had a roast beef sandwich and a chicken wing. Danced with Anne, Jennifer and Anita. It was a fun evening.

~

December 13, 2014 roof

I went on the roof this morning at 7 AM and unbolted the dish. Two guys showed up shortly afterwards to begin stripping the shingles. I went up there to see the job and pointed out to seal the fan hole and to replace some questionable plywood which looked pretty bad along the edge of the roof. I cut the new PVC fittings this morning and tried and retried the fit several times to get it correct. Next I applied the purple primer on all the mating parts.

I listened to Meistersinger

on the Sat Met matinee while the roof work continues. They finally finished up around 3:30 PM. I'm pretty happy with the job although there are nails all over the greenhouse roof. Now I get to mount the dish again but not today.

Dinner was a Stouffer French bread pizza

from Kroger. Also picked up some Potato Salad for the BBQ.

~

December 14, 2014 roof

Did a home Depot trip and got some lumber and a PVC cap and roofing tar. Got all my tools together to go on the roof. Decided at the last minute to bolt the dish to the roof using the roofing tar I bought.

Since I had the power cord on the roof I decide to blow off both the front and the back roof. This is the first time the front roof has been blown off in about 10 years. The pine straw was thick on the front and the walk down the roof was scary. I think I will use a rope in the future, mostly for balance rather than to support me. I could probably attach the rope to a solar rail, they seem to be firmly anchored.

After attaching the dish there was no signal on the TV. I dug up my dish meter and took the feed apart to insert it inline. I left the patch cable installed with a barrel connector and weatherproofed it with electrical tape. The aiming was good, I listened to Carmen from the Met, not live, then watched the Barbara Walters celebrity special.

I was disappointed in her choice for most interesting person of the year. She chose George Clooneys wife. It should have been somebody like Elon Musk for Space X and Tesla. Dinner tonight was a Bojangles 2 piece dinner with dirty rice and iced tea.

~

December 15, 2014 airport

I worked on framing the hot tub door and finishing up the PVC plumbing.

Getting close to filling it with water. I did a little more raking today. I also played with Flask somewhat and understand a little more how that works. Cleaned up the sawdust on the sidewalk and vacuumed around the drill press. I didn't achieve quite what I wanted. Practiced a little more with the Foxtrot pattern. I had a dinner of Potato Salad and BBQ without bread. Left at a little before nine to pick up Libbie at the airport. She arrived early at 9:15. It was straight to the terminal then home without having to wait. We stayed up till 11:30 chatting before falling asleep.

~

December 16, 2014 blue pay

It rained pretty hard today, we registered .39 inches. I checked our rain gauge against several in the area, we are right in the ballpark, agreeing with almost all surrounding stations. I did a grocery run then handled a phone call with Blue Pay who said they sent me a terminal. I told them I never received a terminal. They had my address as 4821 Jessie which I changed with the lady on the line. Next step was

to drive to the greenhouse and check out the mail. Sure enough we had a new credit card terminal in the mailbox. I called back and they sent a prepaid UPS sticker via eMail. I'm having trouble printing it so I rebooted the Traviata server. Dinner was spaghetti with pasta sauce and cheese.

~

December 17, 2014 Meistersinger

Finished up a lot of the framing for the hot tub but still no water since the inside needs cleaning. We went to Lowes to get stain to finish the job. Also went to the UPS store next to Lowes foods to return the terminal blue pay sent us that we didn't ask for. I also deposited the AVSA check for \$99 for the Apple Developer account. Edna screwed me out of \$6 since the bill was \$105 not \$99. In the meantime, Google made a payment of \$504 to the AVSA checkbook from First Class for Android sales. We had a good dance session with Robert continuing our Foxtrot amalgamations. We concentrated on the open right and spins. We added to this zigzags and grapevines. We went to Meistersinger Encore performance this evening, bringing tuna sandwiches for intermission dinner. During the second intermission we bought a medium popcorn for \$7.50 and also wanted some hot drinks but the machine was broken so no coffee, no hot chocolate. We got out of the theater at 12:35 midnight. I screwed up the start time. I thought it started at 6 so we left at 5:45. Unfortunately it didn't start until 6:30 PM. There was one other couple in the theater for the showing.

~

December 18, 2014 pine straw

Went outside and raked some more pine straw from the roof into my cart and spread it around the azaleas. I did a Walmart trip and got a teddy bear to hack up for my Christmas Sweater. Libbie went to her quilting group today so I got to play with the Flask protocol uninterrupted.

Dinner tonight was a quick and easy Chinese Takeout, our usual egg roll and Szechuan three meat entree. We had this with a glass of wine and a slice of fruit cake afterwards.

~

December 19, 2014 dance

After studying various options of seating at the met I ended up buying 2 more dress circle tix for the Saturday Matinee in late Feb with Juan Diego and Joyce DiDonato. Thats another \$540 on top of the evening performance for \$540. The Met sure has our money this year. Libbie cleaned up the hot tub and I hooked up the hose to fill it. Our base temp is 58 degrees, need to go up to 100. We made some chicken parmesan for dinner which we had with one glass of Merlot. After dinner I attached my LED string to the green sweatshirt to make an ugly Christmas sweater for the party tonight. I previously charged the USB battery in the afternoon using the cell phone charger. Around dinner time I also talked to John Glembock about what's going on in the family. We went to the party tonight where the time really went by fast. We danced almost every dance. Afterwards we tried to go out downtown to the pub next to the Cary theater but it was still under construction. Instead we went to Spirits. Jen and lana, Ken and Anita and the Cains with their daughter Alice all went. Alice is a cutey with a wonderful personality. We had onion rings, cheese sticks and 2 beers at the bar tonight.

~

December 20, 2014 rj45

I spent most of the day reading about serial ports and Flask. I need a way to read the serial port periodically in a Flask structure. At noon I went to home Depot for RJ45 jacks and electrical tape. Marriage of Figaro was live on the Met matinee. Dinner was the left over chicken parmesan with a glass of Merlot and Fruit Cake for dessert.

~

December 21, 2014 hot tub

After the morning shows I put the covers on the hot tub. it's ready to use! Libbie took advantage and jumped in. meanwhile I struggled with getting the YUN configured. By the end of the day I decided to abandon ship. Tomorrow I'll go back to the alamode since that platform

uses a real raspberry pi and has built in tools to expand the SD card which I was struggling with on this platform. Libbie ended up with a soggy crust on the pizza today which was a shame. Meanwhile I bought a Pink Martini xmas album on Amazon and downloaded 5 other albums from the pirate torrents. I would have bought the CDs last night but they didn;t take plastic, it was cash only.

~

December 22, 2014 ham

I had lots of success configuring the Alamode for my home automation server.

I found that I can call a Flask task using a cron job. This will fix the problem of periodically reading the serial port so data can be put into a web page from global variables that are current. Woo Hoo. Next big task is physical in nature. I have to get ethernet up to the shop where XB Enviro is located. There are a number of options - locate the switch in the greenhouse or locate it in the workshop.

We went to the Post Office this afternoon then stopped by Kroger and got a Christmas ham early. Dinner tonight was the ham along with sweet potato and peas. Accompanying the meal was a single glass of Chardonnay.

~

December 23, 2014 wiring

Picked up the normal Tuesday groceries. The store was packed and parking was difficult since tomorrow is Christmas Eve. Hopefully I got everything we need. I had to chat with the pharmacist since my prescription auto renews but I won't be here next week so I wanted it early.

I told her I would be in later to pick it up. I spent the time at home running ethernet cables from the sprinkler control on the porch to the workshop. This line comes directly from downstairs. I'll put a switch in the shop and run the sprinkler off that as well as a web server on the shop switch to report greenhouse temperatures. Dinner was ham and sweet potato. Neither of us was hungry after the eggnog, cheese and triscuits before dinner. I set up my multimedia PC, Orlofsky, to record Meistersinger. This was a task since I needed cables, the receiver as well as the software which I downloaded. I stayed

up past midnight when it ended and turned everything off before bed.
Will edit the results tomorrow.

~

December 24, 2014 bad wire

I tried out the new wiring and no go. The sprinkler timer won't work. I suspected the card got corrupted so I spent a few hours preparing a new sprinkler but the new card wouldn't work either. I next put a battery in the LAN tester and found 2 wires were crossed in the line from the shop to the sprinkler control. It was dark when I found this, will deal with it tomorrow. Yesterday I sent Arlene a check for \$800, her share of the Aunt Helen life insurance. We got a total of 1293 each which was the leftover amount after the funeral expenses and the grave marker. Arlene sent a pic of the stone, she went out to the cemetery with Ellie in the rain and took a picture for me. It poured here. We had 1.5 inches today and over an inch yesterday. Dinner was ham again with Yam, Apple Sauce and a glass of Sauvignon Blanc.

~

December 25, 2014 Christmas

Libbie and I opened the gift from Joe and Christa - it was their Family portrait and a smaller pic of Joe and Paige. I put both of them on the wall where a pic previously was located. The watercolor of a barn window then went into the Dining Room replacing a moldy pic of a Bob Timberlake mountain snow scene. Libbie opened the box of Russel Stover that Santa brought. Libbie called Joe and Christa. During this call we did a Facetime chat and luckily Paige was getting up. It was fun to see her, she had such a big smile on her face. She is one happy baby. Then it was time to get about our activities. I replaced the bad connector on the Porch sprinkler connector and also labeled most of the cables in the process. It tested good using the LAN tester which was a step forward. Christmas dinner was slices of ham with Butternut squash, apple sauce and a glass of wine. Libbie invited Sue and Bruce to join us on Saturday night when Bill and Barb come through. They accepted.

~

December 26, 2014 post christmas

The day after Christmas. I went to the grocery store this morning to get wine and other foods for our guests tomorrow. Libbie's menu is going to be 15 bean soup with the ham bone, corn bread and salad. I found the wiring error in the porch sprinkler. One of the ethernet connectors has 2 wires swapped. It doesn't look like I will be able to get Meistersinger replaced before we leave for Sarasota. I made reservations for Savannah for Sunday night so we can get a head start. Libbie went away to her Mardi Gras party tonight. I stayed home and had a ham sandwich for dinner. Dessert was a nice piece of fruit cake.

~

December 27, 2014 cleanup

Libbie ran around vacuuming and cleaning in general. I did outside raking of the pine straw off the mondo grass and off the deck. I also blew out the garage and the turnaround. The driveway wasn't too bad so I let it go. I ended up taking down the cam I installed in back porch since I couldn't get it to reliably work. I was able to get a camera installed in the plant room using the old wireless cam from Stoneybrook. I'm using it in wired mode. It has tilt and pan which is useful for monitoring the room. We kept getting updates during the day from both Bill and Sue. Bill left RI at 5 am to get through the NY area but was stuck first at the bridge in DE and then stop and go in VA. They ended up arriving at 8:30 PM after almost 16 hours of driving. Sue and Bruce took 8 hours to get from DC. They arrived at 8 PM. We had wine with chip and dip. I made the dip using the mexican dip mix I got from judging at Plano. Libbie said it was too hot for her family. They loved it!!!! Afterwards we had bean soup, corn bread and salad. Bruce brought lots of wine which we drank. We had almost a bottle each. Bed at 11 PM. Bill and Barb downstairs, Sue and Bruce in Joe's room.

~

December 28, 2014 travel

Libbie made eggs and ham on english muffins for everyone this morning. Sue and Bruce left first at 9:30 followed by Bill and Barb at 10. We decided to try to make the drive even though it's the Sunday after Christmas, Christmas weekend. We left at 11 and got stopped right away in Dunn. Fortunately it was only an accident so we got going again in pretty heavy traffic but maintained the speed limit. We stopped for gas in Florence and got going all the way till Lake Marion where the phone was shopping red ahead. We got off onto 15 right after the lake and stayed off 95 all the way till Ridgeland using a combination of 15 and 17 alt. W got back onto 95 and went stop and go all the way to the GA border. Once we hit GA we got going at 70 MPH again although there was light rain on and off. We got gas in St Marys, GA and stopped for dinner at Wendys. I had a single which was very good. It's been a while, the onions, tomato and lettuce in the burger were quite good. We got going again and only slowed down a little around the Disney complex although traffic was unbelievably heavy. We got in to the Condo at 11:35 PM. We only took one carry on inside plus the food and left everything else for the morning.

~

December 29, 2014 arrived

Today was a little bit of rest from the drive. We made one Walmart trip for groceries then took a walk around Stoneybrook. Did not do too much else today. An incredible fog rolled in just before sunset making it dark early and doing away with the sunset. We went out this evening in the fog to the Spanish Pointe Pub. We each ordered the fish and chips special which was made with Black Grouper, a local fish. I had fries with it, Libbie had Onion rings. A couple of Yuenglings accompanied the meal. Aida was live from the Met this evening on Sirius. I fell asleep during the last act.

~

December 30, 2014 pedego

This morning we went out to the Bike Shop on Osprey. I put the bike rack

in the trunk in case we got a bike. Otherwise we were going to go to Selby. We talked with the owner for a while and eventually bought a Pedego 36V/10A for \$2095 plus rented a second one for 30 days for \$200 which was a savings of \$350 over the normal monthly rental. We took a ride down the Legacy trail but around the bike sculpture at Bay Rd Libbie stopped to observe a Hawk sitting on a picnic shelter. She stepped in an ant mound disturbing the nest. She was bit many times. Since we were on Bay Rd we chose to go down this road towards Tamiami Trail and bought Benadryl at Walmart. We were pretty tired as we got back but it was a good ride on the Pedagos. Libbie reheated the Christmas Bean soup along with corn bread and salad greens. I really like the Spicy Ceasar dressing. It's a new favorite. We had a Schroeder Vineyards Melbac with the meal. Earlier we had a glass of wine with triscuits and sour cream which was left over from the dip I made over the weekend.

~

December 31, 2014 happy new years

We didn't want to get too tired today so we relaxed. Took an eBike ride out to McIntosh and then all around through the wetland area where we stopped for a while then back to the condo. I got dressed up in my tux early and we headed over to the clubhouse at a little before 7.

We were seated all the way at the far end of the dining room. The hand passed hors d'oeuvres were outstanding. The meal was excellent. It started with a course of lobster followed by salad greens. We had a sorbet in champagne then Filet Mignon. The dessert was a chocolate raspberry and meringue concoction which was over the top. The people at our table were awful. What kind of person puts ketchup on Filet Mignon? Libbie said her table manners were terrible - no napkin, elbows on the table etc. Her conversation was one run on sentence all about herself. He was wearing a golf shirt. The band was terrible. Christa warned us. The music was not danceable. We left after dinner and didn't stay for midnight. We watched fireworks on the Lanai and then the ball drop on TV. This was too bad since we always enjoyed New Years Eve at the clubhouse.

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