

January 01, 2018     Happy New Year  
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We watched the Rose Bowl parade this morning starting at 11. There seemed to be a nice array of creative floats and flowers in this version.

I wish we were there for the day after party to see all the floats lined up along Sierra Madre Blvd. I spent a lot of time making a schematic of the NCID interface electronics with Huzzah. Part of this time was learning Eagle.

Dinner tonight was Pizza, an unusual meal for a Monday but because we went out yesterday on Sunday for New Years so we did not have our traditional pizza on Sunday.

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January 02, 2018     The Day After  
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This was a work day around here. I cleaned the Smoker from the last batch of ribs I then covered it for winter. Next was the Christmas tree. I helped Libbie take the tree down then carried all the boxes to the attic. The new attic stairs are fantastic. The back porch door was not latching so I got out a file and enlarged the striker plate hole so it fit better. The latch now securely closes the door. Libbie vacuumed and put the furniture back.

It's better cold outside today.

The high is only in the twenties.

I spent some time this afternoon

with Eaglecad trying to do a layout for the NCID display box.

I upgraded to version 8.51 and can't get it to work as well as the old 7.6 I had been using. I finally found a micro USB footprint for Eagle.

It was on a blog complete with Digikey part number. All I have to do is get this thing to route completely.

Dinner was the leftover

taco salad mix over the last of our lettuce. We had this with a bottle of Cabernet. We're trying to work down the leftovers for when we travel. I'm having real problems with the high notes on my Clarinet. I tried going to a lower strength Reed and it was better. I'm not sure what that means.

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January 03, 2018     dance

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I struggled with Eaglecad until I finally figured out how to get some routing done to a micro USB connector. Youtube once again has been my savior. Eagle is not great compared to Orcad but the support online is fantastic with tutorials and available parts libraries.

we went  
to our dance lesson at 3:30 and brought the 8 foot table we are giving to the studio. We had a wonderful chacha review of a few things we could not get straight before.

It's bitter cold outside and snow is expected at 9 PM tonight. On the way home from the studio we stopped at Kroger for wine. While there we found ribs on sale so we picked up a half rack which we had with baked beans and a bottle of Cabernet.

The  
snow started really coming down hard around 9. By the time I went to bed at 10:30 the sidewalk, driveway and road were covered.  
Bad news is that Wunderground seems to have dropped my weather station. I really need their graphical tools to track our weather.

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January 04, 2018     snow

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My Weather station seems to be back on wunderground. Not sure what the problem was but it showed the importance of not relying on external sources for visualizing data. We went nowhere today because of the snow. I finished up the Eagle Cad schematic for NCID and sent it to OSHpark. I also ordered the missing connectors such as the USB and the 2x5 headers that plug to the NCID display.

Dinner tonight was steak,  
baked potato with sour cream and Cabernet. My clarinet playing has gone to shit. I'm having trouble with the high notes. Later today I tried to get the fireplace gas log going but had no luck. The pilot won't stay lit and in addition the pilot leaks and has a flame in the side of the tubing. This thing is 14 years old and was not a

very good deal for us. We paid too much in Goles furniture. \$400 for the unit and another \$150 for the remote which failed after one year so we had to buy another.

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January 05, 2018      haircut

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I went out this morning at 10 AM and got a haircut. There wasn't anybody there probably due to the ice and snow which was good.

I spent

the day learning to graph data on Node-red. I got my crawl space humidity and temperature probe working again. It was a bad Huzzah.

I don't know why.

I removed the fireplace logs and removed the thermocouple.

It tested good with a flame. I put it back and still couldn't get the logs lit. I decided to trash the logs and went to Lowes Cary to get a new one. They had them in stock, Apex did not. I also bought an installation kit which was a flexible pipe, two connectors and some pipe thread grease. The whole thing went together well. I tested it and like it better than the old one. The remote has thermostatic control. Also, the pilot doesn't leak like the old one did.

We

went out to Dance at 8. Most people were there but Robert closed the dance early at 9:15 so we went out to the Pub early. I had 1.5 Yuenglings and most of a plate of 10 chicken wings shared with Libbie. She only had 3 or so. When I came home there was a message from Justin confirming our 9 AM lesson. I responded from bed at 11:30.

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January 06, 2018      music

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I started gathering things for Sarasota, mostly electronic stuff. I also fixed my glasses which lost a screw a week ago. Need to complete all this before we go. IT's bitter cold today. Justin pointed out what I did wrong with the high notes. My ligature was too high and also my fingers were not flat against the keys. I listened to Hansel and Gretel while continuing to read about chart making in Node Red.

***Due to a serious problem on the Traviata Server, files from here until Oct 5, 2018***

***Are lost!!!! This includes our trip to London and the Netherlands.***

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10/5/2018 Star Wars

I cut the plywood this morning and painted it. Libbie went walking with Anita and when she came back Anita brought some wireless headphones over that she couldn't get to work. I dug an old VCR out and we plugged it into the audio out jacks while Mefistofeles played. They worked fine. She then took them to her Mother-in-Laws and plugged them to her old VCR player and they worked there as well. She had been trying to plug them into the Blue Ray player for unknown reasons. We had the leftover Squash soup from last night for dinner before leaving at 6:40 for the 8 PM Symphony performance. We got parking on the side street next to Meymandi and went to Will Call to get our tickets. There were characters dressed in costume in the lobby. We posed with Darth Vader then Libbie posed with a Storm Trooper. The movie with the Symphony playing was fantastic. There were 2 little boys in front of us one of whom could not sit still. He was drinking a bottle of Pepsi and eating candy which I think was part of his problem. What a fun night of music.

10/6/2018 Disaster

Music lesson this morning with Justin covered scales and the higher notes in the C scale above high G. Stopped by Foodlion on the way home and picked up a steak for tonight as well as bread rounds for our lunch today. Libbie made sandwiches for the Opera intermission with the bread rounds. We left for the 12:55 Met performance of Aida at 11:40 and arrived at the theater almost at 12:30. We went to Chapel Hill because all the Raleigh theaters were full. They now do reservations which means less seats. We went up 751 and then Martha Chapel to Fearington Road. It was raining lightly on the way to the theater. Aida was the opening of the HD season and had Anna Netrebko as Aida. We enjoyed the opera thoroughly. The theater provided wine and cheese during intermission which was amazingly nice.

Before dinner I tried to access Traviata and could not get the server to display. I went upstairs and noticed the Backup drive was being activated. I rebooted and still the same then I discovered all the files were being encrypted. I pulled the plug and plugged the power drive into Manon to study the damage. I lost LifeBits and the blog. The backup in Florida is only up to date to January.

Dinner tonight was sirloin steak, butternut squash and broccoli. We had too many glasses of Cabernet with dinner. I went to bed pretty sad over the loss of Traviata.

10/7/2018 Lethargic

This is a lethargic type day. I was literally out of breath all day and at the same time still agonizing over the loss of all my data on Traviata. At least I did not lose the photos, just lifebits and my blog. The blog had equal importance to the pictures. The good news was my weight this morning was at 229. I would like it to be around 220 in 2 weeks when I visit the Dr for my wellness check.

After the morning shows we went to Trader Joes for apples, almonds, pizza cheese and misc. After our lunch of a salad I mounted the painted piece of plywood in the front hall closet and then mounted the two landscape power packs onto this board. The power pack mounting is easy, finding the right sized wood screws was much harder. Of course I could just drive over to Home Depot and buy the screws. I did not mount the alarm panel. Still more work to do! I spent a lot of time this afternoon reading about ransomware detection, prevention and recovery. The biggest thing needed for backup is a backup that is not accessible by the computer until needed for its purpose, backup.

### 10/8/2018 Dancing

I was pretty happy this morning when the scale said I was at 229. I broke under 230 on this nice reduced eating plan. Unfortunately we are going out to the Roadhouse tonight so that may not hold. I mounted the alarm panel in the closet today after using the punches to make a large hole in the bottom. I used a service entrance fitting clamp in the hole. After it was mounted I routed all the wires into the panel and bundled them with plastic ties. I also put new wire on the transformer and routed the 25 VAC transformer cable into the panel and hooked it up. Now I need to go through the wires and label them all. I also need to run an ethernet cable to the router in the other closet and a control cable to the garage for the keypad.

I took the afternoon off and laid on the bed reading about backup plans for data and ransomware protection. This morning I ordered Kaspersky anti-virus from Newegg as well as Acronis True Image backup software. After rebate they claim it would be free.

We left at 6 PM for the Roadhouse. We got seated in the back at 6:30 and nobody was there. We ordered our food and drinks and ate alone while David Quick and his band setup. We split a flatbread salmon BLT. I ordered Sweet Potato Fries but got French Fries instead. They offered to replace them but I kept them. I had a Red Oak Amber beer with the meal. Libbie and I split another beer afterward. We danced quite a few dances to David's singing. I was pretty tired. We left at 8:50. It was a fun but tiring evening.

### 10/9/2018 WeeWx

I spent some time configuring and studying WeeWX to try to get my weather station up and running and uploading readings to Wunderground. I found several examples online to use. I settled on using the Moteino to receive packets and put out raw data. This piece already exists. I stayed up late writing the Huzzah part of the equation which will do the actual upload to Wunderground after decoding the packets. I made chicken parm in the air fryer this evening for dinner. I used the recipe of cooking 6 minutes on one side, flip and do 3 minutes on the other. This didn't work. I ended up microwaving the chicken for 1 more minute. In the future I should do 6 and 6 minutes with the last 3 minutes with the sauce and cheese. We had a glass of 14 hands Red Blend named Hot to Trot with dinner. Weight this morning was not good. I gained 2 pounds from going out last night.

## 10/10/2018 Programming

I took the morning to work on the ESP8266 Wunderground uploader. I put this aside at noon when I had to get ready for my 12:30 appointment with Dr Amy. It was a good eye exam. I got new contacts made with a new material. I also purchased a new frame for my glasses to replace the frames from hell. What a difference. I can see again with these 2 year old glasses. Previously I had trouble keeping them in position for good vision. I had a salad for lunch then Libbie and I went to Walmart for groceries. When I came back I started setting up the Synology Disk drive. So far I really like this thing although it is complaining about not having a gigabit connection. I may move this to the downstairs closet. I'm very happy that it will run subsonic on it's processor. It also seems to have a dokuwiki app as well as PHP. There should be no reason it can't also run pppBlog. Dinner was Salmon and Butternut Squash with a glass of Cabernet.

## Oct 11, 2018 Micheal

The hurricane is supposed to be here today. We have a light rain this morning. I continued copying files onto the Synology and also installed dokuwiki and pppblog. In the meantime I debugged the weather station receiver and Wunderground uploader. I found a number of issues and corrected them. My Clarinet practice is coming along better. Getting the high notes out is getting better and better most of the time. The winds picked up around 5 PM and were fierce. The house got pelted with sticks and pine cones creating a racket inside. It was too frightening to wander outside. Around dinner time the power blinked several times taking out SmartThings and also requiring the router to be reset in order for NCID and the MQTT program to work. I first thought I lost the flash for the NCID Pi and started making a new one. I did not have a backup. This is something I need to do. Dinner was spaghetti with tomato sauce and cheese. We had the normal sized bowl but it was too much food since I got used to eating less.

## Oct 12, 2018 Cleanup

This morning I went out and cleaned up the remnants of Michael. We had branches, twigs and junk all over the sidewalks and driveway. Libbie handled the cart and loaded the larger wood while I used the blower to clean all the walks, the deck and the driveway. After a lunch of our traditional salad I started to tackle the Wunderground upload program. I previously had it reading the hex characters from the Moteino. Today I got the NTP working. It took some time to figure out what was needed by the Wunderground upload packet. Now I need to add pressure from the BME280 I purchased last month. Dinner tonight was Pork Chops with Broccoli and Butternut Squash. We had a couple glasses of Cabernet with dinner. After dinner I continued to work on the Wunderground program while uploading more files to the Synology Diskstation. That thing is quite a box. The operating system is beautiful with lots of apps. I also listened to La Fanciula with Eva Marie Westbrook. I

really enjoy that Opera. I bought tickets to it at Crossroads for later this month. I also purchased 3 sets of tickets to the Sarasota opera and to the Sarasota Ballet.

#### Oct 13, 2018 Hardware

I went to Clarinet lesson with Justin. He didn't like the pauses I was taking for example a half note coming in at 3 beats instead of 2 because I paused taking a breath. He considered that not mastering the score. I need to focus on this more. I also had some scale problems, especially which scales get flats and which get sharps. More work needed.

I finished the Wunderground software and started the hardware build. Before the build I struggled with the Adafruit BME280 since it wouldn't work. I found the pins swapped on the I2C bus. Pin 4 has to go to SDI which implies that it is the data pin. My breadboard will have the Huzzah, the Moteino, the BME280 and a 2 pin terminal strip to attach a power supply. I may also put 2 header pins on board to attach a terminal for serial monitoring although I'm not clear what voltage is present on the serial monitor inputs.

We went to Foodlion and picked up Shrimp for dinner as well as some additional salad fixings and some glue traps for the garage. We caught a mouse under the light stand so I needed a replacement there and one for the garage. I have some dCon bait that I may also put in the crawl space. Dinner was peeler Shrimp, Broccoli, Rice and Cabernet.

#### Oct 14, 2018 Wunderground

I built the hardware with a Moteino, Huzzah and BME280 chip as well as a 3 pin header to jumper between received packets and the Huzzah Tx line. Getting the software debugged was harder than anticipated. At the end of the day I finally got it uploading to Wunderground but couldn't believe it when I checked while in bed that the rain counter was reporting 1.28 and there was not a drop of rain in sight! More debugging required. Libbie made her best pizza ever this evening for dinner. She did not open the oven to pop her bubbles and claims this kept the heat inside the oven made the pizza better. The crust was a perfect thin crisp crust.

#### Oct 15, 2008 State Fair

I had no resolution this morning for the data corruption between the Moteino and the huzzah. The received data is good but when I do a CRC check on the serial data at the Huzzah almost half of the packets are corrupt. I shut down the software. We had melted cheese on toast for lunch then went to the State Fair around 1 PM. It was a beautiful afternoon. They let us park in the handicap lot even though we said we were not handicapped. This worked fine since it was close to the new tunnel. We walked down the stairs and under the street to the Fair gate and went right in. We enjoyed the perfect afternoon and our samples of hushpuppies, peanuts and fudge. Our first visit of course horticulture. Next stop was the Village of Yesteryear before going to the Fruits & Veggies where we met Jennifer and MacKenzie working the pumpkins and peppers. We walked through the animals, saw a sow feeding her brood and then saw some of the goat judging. Outside we met Allison from Libbie's Violet club then sat and listened to a

German Polka band. They were not great but it was fun to sit down and listen. Next it was the quilts where we talked with the docent while she flipped through all her quilts on display. I went over to the cakes where my favorite was a Halloween cake with a haunted tree on top. Libbie liked the Moon Pie cake. Next stop was the Arts and Crafts for a while before we got on the Sky Ride over the midway. It was worth the \$10 since we got an overview of the midway and it got us back to the gate easily. The weather couldn't be more perfect. We had to deal with a little bit of 4 PM rush hour traffic but it wasn't too bad. Dinner was La Cocina where I had a beer and a Quesadilla. The bad part was the chips and salsa which were delicious as a delivery vehicle for the chips. It was the end of a perfect day. Our counter offer of 165K to the 155K offer was rejected. Now we wait.

While reading in bed I stumbled across a serial transfer library that does error checking on an Arduino to Arduino serial connection which is what I think I need.

### Oct 16, 2018 Wunderground revisited

I left for my blood appointment without breakfast this morning at 7:15 AM and slogged through rush hour traffic. The appointment was efficient and done on time at 7:40. On the way home I stopped in Walmart and picked up some replacement salad fixings. I implemented the EasyTransfer library and used the program on both the Moteino and Huzzah and got perfect packet transfer. Not a single error in site! I had it uploading data all day while I worked on the MQTT portion of the software. I want the Huzzah to send out MQTT for recording by Node Red. I made Chicken PARM for dinner. I used 1:1 on the Panko to PARM and cooked the breasts 6 minutes on one side, 5 minutes on the other then added tomato sauce and Italian cheese. Back into the Air Fryer it went for another 3 minutes. Dinner was delicious and consisted of chicken parm, broccoli and a glass of Cabernet. Yummy. We listened to Samson and Delilah live tonight from the Met.

### Oct 17, 2018 Rework

Up at 4:30 this morning to take Lib to the airport. We left at 5 for her 6:40 AM flight. Interestingly, Hertz wanted proof that she was the spouse of an IBM retiree. This was in PVD at the rental counter. I texted a photo of my retiree card. The IBM website says no ID is required for Hertz rentals because they stopped making retiree cards in March of 2018.

We had .12 inches of rain last night. Unfortunately the totals did not reset at midnight. Looking at the code I found that the initial calculation of what day it is was not present. I fixed this but need some rain to see if this really fixes thing.

While I was fixing this I also added MQTT packets to the Huzzah decoder. When a frame comes in from the Davis ISS the observations are extracted and stored. The observations are also sent out as MQTT messages. Now the task will be to store them in Node-Red for my own charts. This is a significant development that I have wanted for many years.

I had a salad for lunch then went over to Dr Amy's office to order my contact lenses. I get a year's supply for \$90 and then get a \$120 rebate from B&L. I'll believe it when I see it.



I'm enjoying Norma with Monserrat Caballe tonight. For dinner tonight I air fried a potato and stuffed it with BBQ baked beans. It was the best potato I ever had because of the tasty crispy skin. Yum! I want to do this again.

#### Oct 18, 2018 Wunderground

I added the rest of the MQTT messages to the Huzzah that is loading to Wunderground. I also added the NTP time synch which I inadvertently left out. I installed the Synology downstairs in the closet to be closer to the router. The Huzzah thing is working well enough that I put it on the top shelf of my server tower where it will stay permanently. Now I need to set up WeeWx with the MQTT driver.

I had the normal salad for lunch then did something different for dinner. I liked the baked potato in the air fryer so much that I made baked potato parmesan which was a baked potato cut open at the end of the cooking time and then filled with tomato sauce and cheese and returned to the air fryer for another 3 minutes to warm the sauce and melt the cheese. Really, really good.

#### Oct 19, 2018 WeeWX

I started this morning by flashing a new image to an SD card and then configuring the Pi to accept a new install of WeeWx. I configured the MQTT driver which picks up MQTT packets and uses them as input to WeeWx. After a whole day of debugging I still don't have WeeWx accepting data. Late in the evening I found the logs and the fact that the data is getting to the logs. It seems to fail because there are too many packets not mapped to WeeWx values. Tomorrow I'll try cutting down the number of packets targeting the WeeWx installation to see if that makes a difference. I worked a little on the Magazine page for Teresa combining all the nodes on the page into a single node for easier editing. I had the usual salad for lunch but dinner was different. I did a Trader Joes run for Apples and Olive Oil. In the frozen seafood aisle I was looking for a piece of Salmon but stumbled on Ahi Tuna. I went out to Foodlion as well for BBQ Beans and Brown Rice. I chose to have Rice and frozen steamfresh peas with my meal. I tried cooking one of the 2 Ahi Tuna filets in the Air Fryer. It came out on the dry side but I'm not discouraged. Tomorrow I will try a rub on the tuna and use the air fryer again. Dinner was the Ahi Tuna, Brown Rice and Steamfresh Peas. This has definitely helped my waistline. Today I was just a hair under 227.

#### Oct 20, 2018

My desktop weather display on the dresser is showing 2.0 inches of rain this morning when in fact we only had .02 inches or 2 bucket tips. I looked at the MQTT packets and noticed they are registering 2.0. There is a calculation error somewhere.

The scale showed me at 226. It has been slow going but at least it is going in the right direction. In the Huzzah weather uploader I found that the global variable for rain count should have been divided by 100 before sending it out. I spent the rest of the day trying to get WeeWx working with MQTT. I'm close but there is something wrong. It keeps reporting an error in the value for

the pressure even though the log shows the correct pressure coming in. I may save the configuration files, remove it and re-install all over again.

I had a lesson with Justin today and found my timing is better but the high notes are still having problems. He noticed one time I had the classic holes not covered up by my fingers. This is getting frustrating.

I had the normal salad for lunch today but it's getting a little cold for salad lunches. I'm freezing even though it is 73 in the house and the temp is in the 60s outside.

Dinner was spectacular. I had Ahi Tuna steak with the Paul Prudhomme rub I made from scratch from an online recipe. Wow, was it good. Accompanying this I had the leftover rice and peas from yesterday. I did the tuna in the airfryer for 3 minutes per side. It was cooked quite well even though I was going for "rare".

### Oct 21, 2018 Lightroom

Worked on learning Lightroom today. I don't like the idea of "importing" pictures which makes another copy of what I already have. I would rather organize in place. I had a salad for lunch and also think I fixed the precipitation issue with the weather uploader. We shall see.

Dinner tonight was chicken parm in the airfryer with steamfresh southwest veggies. It would be too spicy for Libbie but I enjoyed it.

### Oct 22, 2018 ACDCee

Downloaded a trial copy of ACDCee today as a lightroom replacement. I can tag photos in place without importing them. Tagging is hard however. I guess there is no easy way.

Spoke with Vicki about Bob. He came home from the hospital today but weighs 120 and is on oxygen. It sounds pretty bad. His sister is there, brother is coming. I continue to move files from the backup drive. Today I hooked up the 2 T drive from Traviata to the mini multimedia PC I built a few years ago. Will use that to dump the hard disks, one at a time.

Skipped lunch and had the leftover Southwest veggies instead then half a can of baked beans. Dinner tonight was chicken parm again with the rest of the baked beans. Weigh in today was 225. Dr appt tomorrow. With clothes I will probably come in at 230.

### Oct 23 Libbie Home

I installed Win 10 on the ThinkServer on an old hard drive. This went well from a thumb drive that was labeled Dell Win 10. I think the source was Microsoft not Dell but who knows? I could not get Subsonic to run on either the Synology or the Win 10 machine. I would rather have Subsonic on Synology in order to not expose my Music. I looked up configuring it and there is a properties file not exposed on the control panel that I will have to SSH into for Synology. I have never SSH'd into Synology. I picked Libbie up on time at 11 AM then came to change clothes and went to My Dr appointment. I weighed in at 228 which was pretty good because my home weight was 225 which meant the clothes were only 3.

I continued working on the Win 10 machine before dinner. Dinner was Lobster Ravioli with a small salad as a side. Unfortunately we had a whole bottle of wine with dinner. It was a quite good variety, 14 Hands Kentucky Derby which was a premium wine (limited reserve) from Trader Joes.

### Oct 24 Spicy Ahi Tuna

I finally was able to get Subsonic running. I deleted the old copy then did some reading about how the installation creates a user named supersonic and that this user needs to be given read access to the music folder. I re-installed subsonic and assigned user subsonic to the Music folder. This worked. We can now play music from the music folder on Sonos. Good deal!

I let the ThinkServer PC update itself with Win 10 updates. This machine is going to hold Blue Iris for the cameras and Calibre. I have Dokuwiki running successfully on the Synology and did a little updating of Tom's Life Bits. The version I uploaded was last updated in 2015. Hopefully the Florida backup drive will bring me more up to date.

For dinner I made Ahi Tuna which came out too spicy even for my tastes. With the tuna we had broccoli and brown rice. We also opened the 3 buck chuck Shiraz and each had a glass with dinner.

### Oct 25 Dance

This was a productive day. I finished emptying the backup drive onto the Synology then set up the Hyper Backup app in Synology. I'm sorry I bought the Acronis backup software however it was free after rebate. I got the printer working yesterday and used it today to print the Acronis rebate pdf and the invoice to mail in with the UPC code. I also submitted the Bausch and Lomb rebate for the contact lens. That one was easier since I just submitted it online along with the UPC codes and a scan of the invoice. I backed up the Synology using the Hyper software which was really nice to use and worked well. The initial backup took 6 hours. It has the ability to schedule periodic backups which I definitely will use. I also fixed the huzzah weather uploader to do a better job in resetting the rain total at midnight. I hope it works.

I left for the dance studio without Libbie. I waited until 4:00 for a 4:15 lesson and decided she probably went directly to the studio. She didn't, she was just running late. The lesson went well. We got a few pointers for Foxtrot that I forgot about and also covered some Rumba moves that needed fine tuning.

Dinner tonight was mushroom stuffed ravioli in a truffle sauce. We had a glass of Shiraz with dinner. This ravioli is a real winner although the sodium content is moderately high. I listened to Tosca live from the Met this evening although I missed part of the first act. Today is Thursday when the garbage is supposed to go out but I forgot.

### Oct 26 Party

The serial number for Blue Iris that I bought on eBay was in the mail this morning. I installed the program and entered the serial number then struggled with configuration. The advantage of

version 4 over what I previously was using is less CPU usage and better user interface. I finally got the server configured on port 2220 of the Traviata IP so that the camera can be viewed remotely. Now I need to add Calibre. Regarding the external USB drive on Synology, a new overnight backup added the movies to the Synology backup. Hopefully individual files are accessible. Regarding Traviata, only Calibre needs to be added along with TeamViewer for remote access. I need to learn how to use the Synology VPN to access my LAN remotely and then get into specific devices.

I went under the house today and investigated why the dehumidifier was not doing it's job. Humidity had climbed to 58% beginning 3 days ago. I first thought it was the first time we used the furnace and that either water was leaking from the exhaust or the air injector was blowing humid room air into the space. The device just needed power cycling. I was thinking that a Sonoff device may be useful here for cycling the power via MQTT.

We had baked potatoes stuffed with Broccoli and melted cheese for dinner along with a glass of wine. This was costume night at the studio this evening. We put straw hats and Hawaiian leis on and went to the party. It was a fun night although attendance was low. I danced a swing with Terry but that was it. We didn't go out afterwards. It rained all day today and rained even harder when we went to the studio. This is the remnants of the West Coast hurricane Willa.

## Oct 27, 2018 Opera

I was disappointed this morning that the rain gauge did not reset at midnight last night. I'm thinking that it's time to implement a state machine for reset.

I went to a Clarinet lesson at 9:30 instead of the usual 9:00 and had a terrible time over the break. Justin had many suggestions with how to deal with embouchure including a flat chin and jaw exercises saying oooww. In addition, he recommended a piece in the first book called grenadilla as well as playing the lowest note on the clarinet, B flat followed by a high "B".

Preferably slur the two notes but tongue them if that doesn't work.

I found the problem with the reset I think. There was a misplaced bracket in the function that calculates whether it's a new day. Hopefully this fixes it but i won't know until it rains. I also started adding the web scraper function into this Huzzah so that I can have it send solar data to node-red.

We left for the opera La Fanciulla at Crossroads at 12:10 and got there early at 12:28. We were the first ones in the theater. I absolutely love this opera with the dream cast of Eva Marie Westbrook and Jonas Kaufmann. Wow, what chemistry. We were wondering if the audience could see it like we did in the HD broadcast.

For dinner tonight I cooked 2 huge baked potatoes, this time for 30 minutes on each side in the air fryer. We had salmon, broccoli, baked potato and Cabernet for dinner.

## Oct 28, 2018 AntiVirus

After the Sunday morning shows I went up and looked some more for the battery charger for my small camera. What a surprise, I found it in the camera bag. I immediately started charging the

Canon 710 battery. Today I installed Plex Media Server and also Kaspersky anti-virus on Traviata as I slowly bring this PC up to speed. I also did the Microsoft updates and installed Calibre. It still needs the Filezilla server.

I tried an update to avregistration and had a huge failure. Drupal core needed updating and it failed. I restored the backup I made and it still did not fix the site. When I restored the database everything was back to normal. Wow. Thank goodness for the backup. I need to do the same to avsa.org and don't look forward to it.

Libbie made her outstanding pizza once again. This time she cut cherry tomatoes in half to use them up before our trip for our tomato topping.

### Oct 29, 2018 Packing

Lots of last minute things to attend to today before our trip tomorrow. I got up early and checked us in at 6:40. Later I noticed that the crawl humidity was not reporting again so I changed the software but it didn't work so I put the old stuff back in. Meanwhile I updated the access permissions for Joyce then posted some changes for Teresa and then posted the indices for Terry. Brenda wanted some changes to the MAAVS website which I also did. Wow, everything seemed to hit at once.

I packed up the suitcase and because I have to bring the wireless microphones I have to use the large suitcase. Libbie went with me to Costco to look at suitcases but they didn't have a medium size. I wanted something in between the large one and my carry on. We came home and had salmon for dinner along with Cabernet and broccoli. What an ending to a productive day.

### Oct 30, 2018 fly to San Antonio

We got up at 4:15 this morning and went out the door at 4:44 AM for our 6:40 AM flight. I had a Cinnamon Sugar bagel with Cream Cheese at the airport with a cup of coffee. Libbie managed to find an egg sandwich in the terminal. We parked at the Park and Relax lot. The flights were on time. The next flight was already boarding in Nashville. We walked from one to the next with no waiting time. The flights were pretty smooth and seemed to go quickly. The RDU to Nashville was a little over an hour while Nashville to San Antonio was 2 hours. We got our Hertz Corolla in the terminal and drove 5 miles or so to the San Antonio Botanical Garden. We used reciprocal admission to get in. The garden was unbelievably nice. A treat was migrating Monarch Butterflies everywhere. After the garden we stopped for lunch at a little hole in the wall BBQ joint, Smokey BBQ. It was great. After lunch we drove to the Embassy Suites on the Riverwalk. Our room is a suite on the 12th floor with a balcony. We overlook the river but it's just a little spec from up here.. Oh well. We had a little rest then went for a walk along the river. We visited the Briscoe Art Museum which was free after 4 on Tuesdays. They have an outstanding collection of Western Art sculptures with the bigger ones outside in the sculpture garden.

After the museum we walked back along the river to our hotel for the free Happy Hour which included wine, cheese and chip & dip. Very nice. There was a class of 62 Texas A&M reunion going on in the huge lobby. Around 7:30 we left for our reservation at Boudros. Our first table in

the back room was horrible. It was loud and noisy as well as crowded. We waited for a table in the front which was much better. We started with the table side guac which was excellent. I then ordered the wood grilled salmon while Libbie ordered an appetizer of 2 scallops with some hominy corn.

After a nice meal with wine we were faced with walking back. Instead we rode Cinderella's pumpkin pulled by a Clydesdale named Gabriel. Our driver was Melissa. It was a nice ride back on city streets getting pulled by this ridiculously lit up pumpkin pulled by a horse. It was a lot of fun for \$60 including tip.

## Oct 31, 2018 McNary Art

This morning after a nice breakfast of a bacon and cheese omelet in the Embassy Suites dining room we sat around and did some email and watched the morning shows before fetching our car from the valet. We went to the McNary Art museum and were wowed. At first we couldn't find the entrance but later found out it was being constructed. Once inside we paid the senior rate of \$15 each and started walking through. The collection really appealed to me. There was a lot of European impressionist paintings. Names like Chagall, Renoir, Monet, Sisley, Pissarro, etc. I really enjoyed the place. In the middle is the courtyard which is nicely landscaped and adorned with tiles and a Renoir sculpture in a pond.

After the museum we stopped at the Smokin BBQ where we also had lunch yesterday. We split a Chopped Brisket BBQ sandwich and had a Shiner Bock. I had the Spicy Corn while Libbie had Mac and Cheese as a side.

Once we got back we chilled in the suite then went downstairs for the Happy Hour. I had a couple of Margaritas and some chips with a dip of cream cheese and raspberry chipotle. I didn't really taste the Chipotle. Maybe the Raspberry sweetness wiped it away.

We did a long walk on the riverfront and stopped for dinner along the water's edge at Rio. I ordered the fish tacos that had a corn slaw and a side of baked beans. A glass of Cabernet accompanied the meal. We then walked the long way around along the river back to the Embassy. What a lovely evening!

## Nov 1, 2018 Luckenbach

Up early this morning and saw a phone message from Nancy that Bob Lanner died this morning. I talked to Vicki and she said he was alive for his meds at 3 but at 5 he was gone. Then she started crying and Arlene took over.

We then went downstairs for the Embassy breakfast. I puzzled over what to do and did not have a solution. We checked out and drove South to the Missions of San Antonio National Park. We took the 11 am tour of mission San Jose. The history of the native people and the early Spaniard missionaries was fascinating. We learned a lot of the culture and hardships the settlers endured including drought and the invading Apaches. For lunch we found a Taco fast food place and each had a beef and a chicken taco which was very good. We then drove to Luckenbach using I-10 then a series of country roads for about 50 miles. The place was great as usual.

Three guys with guitars were in the backroom of the store playing and singing around the wood stove. We supported them by buying a CD which he autographed. I'll rip it when we get home. We had a beer and a bag of Doritos. We then tried going to Kerrville using GPS but there was no signal out there. I navigated via a Google map but without navigation. We got to Kerrville without difficulty and checked in OK. It was nice seeing everyone. We ended up going to MamaCitas where I had the Carnitas. Our dinner companions were Richard Craft and Anna.

### Nov 2, 2018 Travel Arrangements

We had the Breakfast buffet this morning in the hotel and sat with Richard and Anne Nicholas. After breakfast I booked United Airlines to Newark then went to the judges and Clerks instructions at 8:30, i was assigned Gesneriads with Dolores Gibbs, Bill Price and Paul Kroll. I had fun. Once done I went back to our room and booked a Hertz car then canceled the Southwest tickets and booked a 10 PM return flight Monday.

I talked with both Vicki and Arlene today. Bob will be cremated this afternoon and his remains will be at the service Sunday.

We went to a nice Deli for lunch, Bumbledoodles. I had a soup of cheese and Broccoli and a half of a Reuben sandwich.

I did some show photography of the head table and winning designs.

For dinner a large group of us went to Mamacitas. We had a Margarita and I ordered a Pasion Mare which was a skewer of Shrimp and a blackened Snapper. This was really good. At our end of the table was Sue Ramser, Chuck and their Son Christopher. We had an enjoyable time.

### Nov 3, 2018 Presentations

Buffet breakfast again this morning in the Inn of the Hills. This is our last breakfast with them. In the room I booked our return flight out of Newark for Monday night at 10 PM. I then talked to Arlene about our travel plans.

Namecheap had a 50% off deal going so I checked with Richard and Terry Post then bought the domain and web hosting for \$26.60. This also includes a free SSL which is a really good deal.

I went to Debbie's mini presentation which was outstanding. We then went to Bumbledoodles again for lunch. I had potato soup and a Reuben. After lunch we went to David's technology presentation. First Class for All looks great. I would like to incorporate some of his ideas into the mobile products.

The auctions were done at 3:15 pm. I ended up closing out the auctions. Libbie got the Penny knitted scarf for \$50. Later we went to cocktails at 5:30 then dinner at 6. We sat with David and Alva, Bev Williams and husband from Canada, Kathy Bell and Richard and Anna. Penny had her birthday today as well as named the Paula Foster recipient. After the banquet i went to the front desk and checked out for tomorrow then went to the president's reception. I had a glass of wine and chatted with Richard & Anna while they were checking into Southwest for tomorrow.

## Nov 4, 2018 travel & memorial

Up at 3:15 am then on the road by 3:45. We saw a few deer in town before even getting to I-10. Gas at a Valero just before 410 then in a light rain we got to the airport in plenty of time. I had a bagel with egg and sausage in the terminal. Our flight at 7 am was on time and arrived 20 minutes early in Newark. It was a smooth flight with just a few bumps. The Hertz skip the counter is fantastic. We found a Corolla, hopped inside and drove off. We got to Vicki's house around 12:30. The funeral was nice. The hot rod club all came in their colorful cars, the priest had some nice words about Bob. Afterwards we went back to Vicki's house for sandwiches and salads. David and Doris were there as well as all of Arlene's girls and grandchildren. Barbara & Nancy's kids are incredibly nice. When all left we stayed behind and spent the night at Vicki's house.

## Nov 5, 2018 Hanging out

We had a good sleep last night. Woke at 6 and had a shower then downstairs where Vicki was up already. I had cheerios for breakfast and some coffee cake. We chatted while it poured rain outside. Arlene came over for lunch. We had yesterday's leftovers consisting of wrapped sandwiches, potato salad and coleslaw. They took some cheesecake slices and put candles in them for a Happy Birthday song and cake. Perfect.

In the evening Barbara & Nancy came over with their kids. The girls, Emily and Lauren, are going to stay over tonight. Both families are really nice with nice children. We had lasagna for dinner which was very nice. There was a light rain falling outside when we left for our flight at Newark. I got gas on Valley Road to top off the tank. I really hate the NJ law where you can't pump your own. The two guys fueling my rental tried to jam \$5 worth of gas where I would have stopped the pump at just under \$4 worth. We returned the car at Newark then took the Airtrain to the terminal where we checked in and breezed through TSA because we were TSA pre. Our flight was full. It was united so we had to pay baggage fees and had assigned seats in the back of the plane row 32 out of 33. The flight was on time landing at 11:30. After we bailed out our car we got home at 1 AM.

## Nov 6 Happy Birthday

I had many many greetings on Facebook this morning. I answered them all. I spent a lot of time updating the AVSA site then installing the SSL and Drupal on the new site. I also got the winners list from David and posted it to LSVC along with a few pictures from my camera. I also downloaded the camera and backed it all up to the Synology which in turn backs up to the USB drive which I'll take to Florida for the exchange with the backup drive down there.

Dinner tonight was spaghetti with cabernet. Libbie baked a Lemon Meringue pie using two Meyer Lemons from her Lemon tree. It was a fantastic birthday pie. I looked at oceanfront hotels in Jacksonville but they were all booked so I need to find something on I-95 tomorrow night.



## Nov 7, 2018 Travel

This morning I decided to only go part way to Sarasota. I booked a hotel in Jacksonville on Commonwealth Ave. Choice Hotels said the night was free with points. How nice. I spent the morning doing some AVSA and LSAVC stuff. We left home at 12:45, had a lunch stop in Florence at Wendys for a single with fries then resumed our journey to the hotel in Jax. We went out in the evening for ribs for dinner at Cross Point BBQ next to I-10. I had a half rack with salad and Pit BBQ Beans which were outstanding. They were beans with bits of pork and a BBQ flavor. On the way back to the hotel I got gas at a very seedy Speedway that had characters hanging out in the shadows and some kind of police action going on in a corner of the parking lot. Nice to get out of there and back to our hotel.

## Nov 8, 2018 George

We had the normal hotel breakfast of eggs and sausage. They had a pancake maker which I tried. It was funny but put out pretty tough pancakes. I'm not sure what was wrong, but interesting concept. We got going after breakfast and had a good trip. Around the area of the FL turnpike Libbie got a call from Mary that George had passed away. Mary is busy arranging final details she is the POA and the executor of the will. Libbie cried quite a bit since she talked to him everyday. We got to the condo around 12:30 PM. We called Charles and looked at the 2 story house in Stoneybrook Estates. It certainly meets our needs at 2300 square feet. The materials used to finish the place were very cheap. They used Pergo in the bathroom and linoleum throughout the downstairs.

Mefistofeles is on tonight at 7:30 so went over to rib night at 6 PM which got us out at 7. My prime rib was good with baked potato, veggies, bread and yorkshire pudding. Libbie did not like her scallops. They were small and in heavy garlic.

## Nov 9, 2018 Apprentices

This morning I gathered my pictures together that we took of the Knightsbridge house. We then took a walk over to the neighborhood and walked around the house but we had to leave because we had to go to the apprentice concert leaving just before 11. The concert was fantastic. Sarasota has some great young singers. We sat in the front row and thoroughly enjoyed the performance. After the concert we walked down Main Street and got an outside table at the Hub, the restaurant on the corner of Main and Palm. I ordered Fish Tacos and a glass of wine. Libbie had a quiche. It was enjoyable sitting in the sun having our food and sipping wine. We then retrieved our car and were delighted the parking kiosk said there was no charge. Back at the condo we decided to email Charles with an offer on the Knightsbridge House for \$350K. For dinner we had a salad consisting of lettuce, carrots, raisins, sunflower seeds and green bell pepper. Dressing was creamy ranch.

## Nov 10, 2018 Members Day

We left the condo at 7 for Selby's Members Day. Gates opened at 8. We stood in a short line waiting for the opening then went inside and made our plant selections. We then turned the paper slip in at the meeting room and had coffee while we waited for the meeting to start at 9. Jennifer is a dynamic speaker. She outlined the plans for the Selby expansion and new facilities. We then collected our plants and picked out a few other plants and stood in line to pay for our purchases. I also picked up 2 books for \$1 each. We went straight back to the condo where we had salad for lunch. Charles sent the offer papers which I signed but Libbie's phone would not let her do the signing. Charles had to print the papers out and bring them over for us to sign. We went to Walmart neighborhood grocery and picked up Quesadilla fixings for dinner which I made in the air fryer. We had chicken quesadilla with onion and pepper and mexican cheese. I had 2 glasses of Cabernet with dinner. Shortly afterward Charles called with a counter offer to our \$350k bid. The counter was \$360K, I immediately accepted. We bought a house!!! Once again Libbie was not able to sign using her device while I had no trouble. We had to each initial the new price. I posted a pic of our new place on FB and received several comments immediately. I went to bed happy but a little anxious over what we had done. I hope we're OK financially.

## Nov 11, 2018 Sunday Matinee Sarasota Opera

We have an opera today at 1:30 and Charles is conducting an open house at 1 PM. In the meantime Libbie was able to get the Dotloop document working after the Dotloop support people got involved. They apparently were having problems with more than Libbie's device. We left for the Opera at noon and found parking on Palm 2 blocks from the theater. We were early enough that Libbie said we should find a sandwich shop. Hard to believe but we parked right in front of Nicky's Restaurant, an attractive restaurant on Palm. We sat outside and ordered. I had a grilled chicken sandwich which came with a small salad and italian dressing. Libbie had Broccoli and cheese soup. We then walked to the Opera. I bought 2 more apprentice series tickets which are in March on succeeding Fridays.

The performance of Barber of Seville was over the top outstanding. We had excellent seats in row D in the center. The lady next to us was from Manhattan and here for 3 months. She is staying at the condo named 1350 Main which is on the corner opposite the bookstore on Main and Palm.

We love, love, loved the performance of the Barber. It was a strong cast with fabulous voices. On the way home we stopped at the new house to look at the position of the sunset which is not in the backyard because it faces North. We met the young couple next door, Aresan and Julia and their 4 month old baby Olivia. I liked the pool in their Lanai. They told us we may have a gator next in our Palmetto near the water because their landscaper was chased by a gator. Gators are not aggressive unless you are near their nests.

For dinner we ordered a Dominos 3 topping pizza which included diced tomatoes, extra cheese and mushrooms. It wasn't ready after 30 minutes so while Libbie waited in Dominoes I ran over to Lowes and bought a laser distance measurer. They have a Craftsman unit as a Black Friday special for 19.95.

Nov 12, 2018 Administrivia

I spent the morning looking for insurance. Amica is no longer writing policies in Florida. I used a website they recommended called FMAP which resulted in many, many phone calls. Charles also gave me the name of an agent I called but I didn't like him. I did like the lady he gave me from the Farm Bureau. I gave her my info and got a quote later in the evening. IF I can get a favorable wind mitigation report I can save a lot of money on a policy from them. IF the roof is toe nailed on then the rate is over \$3000 annually. If the roof is held on with hurricane clips then the rate will be around \$1200. Annually. I also set up an inspection for Wednesday morning at 9. I let Charles know by eMail but he called later in the day and did not know about the eMail. We then took a walk towards Knightsbridge and took lots of pictures. We also sat on the Lanai with Erens and Julia, our neighbors. They told us about their restaurant in Venice, Bodum which is named after a city in Turkey and their restaurant in Manhattan. They recommended a friend's Turkish restaurant Antalia NYC on 46th Street. We had a delightful visit with them before resuming our walk back. We then had a salad lunch and went over to Havertys to browse furniture. We found quite a few pieces we really liked. It is too premature to definitively order anything yet. After Havertys we were tired and didn't want to do our Walmart run for groceries. We ended up in Beckhams On The Trail, the little pub next door to Haverty. We each ordered the daily special which was Sea Bass with Pineapple salsa, white rice and grilled asparagus. It was yummy. I had a Yuengling draft with dinner, Libbie had a glass of Cabernet.

Nov 13, 2018

This morning we chose to drive to the Orchid Show at Selby. Wow, they really outdid themselves in Orchid displays including a ribbon of Orchids throughout the tropical display house. It was beautiful. We also toured the Payne Mansion where there was a display of herbarium plants, botanical sketches and rare old Orchid manuals from the 1700s. We had lunch at Michaels in the Selby House. We split a Cuban warmed on a Panini press. I had a tangerine juice with the sandwich which was outstanding because it was 100% tangerine juice. After lunch we walked to the point and back then visited the gift shop. On the way home we stopped at Walmart and thought we were buying chicken and stuff for dinner but later in the evening we discovered we did not have the Panko and Parmesan. We ended up going to the Italian Grill where I had a glass of Cabernet with Eggplant Parmesan. Our server was Wendy. The tall thin manager was very friendly. We asked her about the ingredients in the oil that came with the bread. It has minced garlic, Italian Spices, Vinegar and Olive Oil. Very nice. I had to locate the Mary Condon Music files on Synology back at the Downing home. Sue was supposed to have sent music to the funeral home but all she did was send them an email pointing to a bunch of You Tube videos. This was crap and of course they didn't use it which pissed her off. We ended up in the middle of her negligence. Libbie was taking it hard until she talked to Mary. Mary consoled her and told her Sue will get over it. I had a hell of a time with MAAVS. While trying to add Vicki's photos I did an update to Panels and Ckeditor which failed and the site would not run. I was ready to cry over all the pressures.

Eventually I erased panels and Ctools then reinstalled them from the control panel. This allowed the site to at least run. I have not checked the editor yet.

### Nov 14, 2018 Inspection Day

We went over to the house at 9 AM with pencils, paper, laser measurer and camera. Our inspector was there already and Charles arrived shortly thereafter. The pest guy arrived later. I took him upstairs to show him the ants on the window sill. He said they were carpenter ants and were not a concern. That was sawdust on the window. This is disconcerting but he said it was minor. The inspection was amazingly thorough. The dryer and broiler don't work, the smoke detectors don't work, the outside AC disconnect is missing parts, some door latches and one door are bad and the kitchen sink base cabinet has bad particle board. There were numerous other smaller issues including cleaning out the gutters.

While the inspector went about his job Libbie and I did floor plan sketching and measuring. This was a lot of work, created a lot of numbers but I'm confident I will have it all put into the software to print floor plans.

After the inspection we were wiped out so we went over to Evi's Spanish Point and sat by the water. I had a Yuengling and blackened fish tacos which came with nachos and salsa. It is not nearly as good as chili head Salsa. It was an enjoyable time out after working this morning on the floor plan measurements.

In the afternoon I did a lot of cashing out of stocks trying to raise cash for the house purchase. It is scary that I have to raise \$310K plus the furniture money. This nearly wipes out the individual account leaving just the PSEG bond and the Hillman stock. Hillman monthly proceeds will just barely cover the condo payment of 858. Hillman spins off 726 quarterly. Finances will be tight until the condo sale which should recharge us with about \$150K.

I sent the remaining MP3 files to Connors funeral home today for the 13 minutes that were still remaining on the photo show. From NJ Vicki sent me the slide show of Bob's burial in Washington Crossing Veterans Cemetery. Barbara posted the same but better quality pictures on Facebook which I grabbed and am going to add to the Family Search website run by the Mormons. I previously added the George Condon obituary to his record on the site.

Nov 14, 2018

We sent the rest of the pictures for the memorial to fill in the 13 minutes we were short.

For dinner we had the leftovers from the Italian Grill plus a salad. My leftover was eggplant parmesan and spaghetti. I set up the MP3 recorder to capture the Pearl Fishers from the Met which was live this evening at 7:30.

### Nov 15, 2018 Spanish Point

Later in the morning we took a ride over to Spanish Point and then walked the grounds. It was a nice enjoyable walk. At the boat house we met a guy dressed in character who gave us a little lesson in Mangroves. There were 3 types there - red, black and white Mangrove. He showed us the differences. Once done walking Spanish Point we went over to Walmart for toothpaste and milk. I bought a Tommy Mango. It was 1.38 which is cheaper than a chopped up Mango. I never bought a whole Mango before but may buy more if this one is good.

Back at the Condo we had salad for lunch then started dealing with house papers. I got the new insurance quote with the wind mitigation figured in. The Sellers countered our \$2,000 price reduction with a \$1,000 reduction for the broken appliances. We accepted and moved on. Unfortunately we had to use dotloop to approve the change in price to 359 instead of 360. This worked for me but once again Libbie's phone and also her tablet did not work. Charlie was at work at St Armands so when he drove home he stopped by with a printed copy for Libbie to sign. I talked with the lawyer office and got the transfer details. It looks like tdAmeritrade will do wire transfers to banks so I'll use the wire transfer numbers on the brokerage account. I still need to consolidate funds to get up to \$270k.

We took a trip to Lowes to look at appliances and picked out some appliances on Good Friday sales. Now we need to do the purchase and arrange for delivery.

After Lowes we went directly to the Clubhouse for rib night. We got the high top tables and had Matt for our server. I ordered the half rack of ribs which were delicious. They were tender and moist with a tasty BBQ sauce. With the ribs came bread, veggies, and a baked potato. I had a Cabernet to accompany dinner.

#### Nov 16, 2018 Friday Clubside

I worked on insurance and also finances and internet service providers in the morning. With the sale of Hillman I now have \$305k in the brokerage account. Libbie's \$50k will get us up to \$354k. There is \$10k in savings to help with the rest except for attorney fees so it will be close. After lunch we made the trip for a 2:00 PM appointment at the Farm Bureau. We purchased one year of insurance from Jodi and also joined the Farm Bureau for \$40. I'm not sure what any of this got for us but she was more pleasant to deal with than the other Sarasota insurance guy or the West Palm agent.

At Clubside I discovered the carpet was wet in the closet. The washing machine hose was dripping. We made a trip to Lowes for new hoses. While there Charles called with an offer for our condo. We countered the offer and then bought the hoses and a new dryer and range for delivery a few days after our Dec 10 closing.

I made Chicken Parmesan in the air fryer for dinner which we had with Broccoli and a glass of Cabernet. After dinner while Libbie spoke with Anne about her Dad and our house purchase I ran over to Lowes to buy a box fan to dry the wet carpet in the closet. I want to run the fan all night long drying the carpet.

#### Nov 17, 2018 Saturday Condo Sold!

Libbie and I went grocery shopping this morning but first we stopped to size up housewares in Costco. While looking at TVs and talking to their sales person about Costco Direct TV specials Charlie called with the news that our condo was sold. Inspection is Monday at 9:30 AM. We decided to stay through inspection Monday because I'm responsible for repairs. We then went to Walmart for our salad fixins for lunch.

I called Lorraine about getting together this weekend but Ted was sick with the flu so we definitely don't want to go there.

At sunset we took a walk to Knightsbridge and took a walk around the back of the house. It's still there! When we got back to the condo I fired up the air fryer and made chicken quesadillas. Instead of Fajita chicken I used a cut up chicken breast. It was just as good as the Fajita stuff and very good. We enjoyed a dinner of the quesadilla and a few glasses of Cabernet. It was more Cabernet than usual but it was a meal for the occasion, the sale of the condo. The good news here is no more golf and condo fees!!!

### Nov 18, 2018 Sunday

While the morning shows played on I ordered FIOS internet service. \$44 dollars per month the first year, then \$60 the next year which includes \$16 per month for a router I don't want.

We walked to the KB house this afternoon. I carried a bottle of Tarro and an aluminum cap that came from the base of a votive candle. I put some Tarro in the cap at the foundation point where the ants were coming in. They still have a back and forth stream. I squirted some on the stream and put some in the cap. We saw Libbie's favorite, the squirrels climbing up and down the lanai screen. I ordered a pizza from dominos in the evening for dinner. They still are having problems, especially with the app that is supposed to tell you when it was done, It didn't and our pizza was cold. We wanted to sit on the Lanai for sunset but the smoke from downstairs was horrible. The bitch downstairs went out on the grass and Libbie said something. She didn't even look up. What a piece of work.

I used some Kiltz and a brush and painted the water spots on the door jamb for the closet. The door does not close, it needs to be planed. I will bring the electric planer back with me along with the 100 foot extension cord.

### Nov 19, 2018 Monday Travel to NC

We had a home inspection schedule for 9:30 today. Before the inspection I was able to make a call to Vicki to see how things were going. Charlie was there and Mike from Accuspect came and did the inspection. He found 4 items. One was a missing chain on the guest BR fan, the sticking lockup closet door, missing insulation on the outdoor AC unit, and the big one was he flagged missing Master bedroom doors. We got going around 11:14 on our trip home. Traffic was pretty heavy. We stopped for gas and lunch in Bushnell which was a mistake. The Wendys was seriously in need of more help. Our stop ended up taking almost an hour which was a break I didn't need this early in the trip. Our next stop was gas and bathroom at the SC Visitors center. Libbie picked up some Nabs which ended up being our dinner for today. We didn't want to waste time stopping again for dinner and gas since the lunch stop took too long. Traffic remarkably went away after the I-26 interstate. All the trucks turned that way and a lot of the cars as well. That interstate feeds into the Midwest and leads to all the congestion on I-95 between Savannah and I-26. We listened to my recording of Mephistopheles twice and then in the evening the Met did it live over Sirius XM so we listened again. We got home at 10:45 PM. All looked well on Downing Place except the driveway was buried under leaves.

## Nov 20, 2018 Tuesday Dentist and things

Today I didn't get up until 6:50 AM. I slept soundly through the night until then. It was the tiring driving yesterday which wiped me out.

I went to the dentist at 12:30 and did not like my report. He wants to yank a tooth under my bridge in the back. I think he is wrong. This is the issue with a new dentist. They want to create a management plan for my mouth instead of letting it be and address issues should they arise. After the dentist I got gas at Costco and then made the mistake of going into the store. It was incredibly crowded. I got wine, coffee, and rinse aid I didn't need. I rejected the tissues because there were too many boxes in a shrink wrapped package. I bought tissues in Foodlion where Kleenex was on sale for \$1.49.

Charles called today and said the inspector added no inspections for the plumbing to our inspection report. The seller needs to agree to buy the place like this.

Dinner was Salmon, mixed veggies and 2 glasses of Cabernet.

Later Charlie sent a paper to be signed that said the seller wants the closet doors replaced, doors that I threw away 10 years ago. She did agree to accept the place without inspection.

## Nov 21, 2018 Wednesday

I ran over to Lowes to look at louver door sizes and a Miter Saw. Happily, they now have Craftsman Miter Saws. I will probably get one in Sarasota when we get there. I applied for and was approved for a Havertys credit card of \$10,000. I added our furniture selections to the shopping cart to get a price. Happily the Black Friday prices went online at 6 PM today. It's showing we will save \$300. I also found nicer end tables called the Newport style.

Dinner tonight was spaghetti with shredded cheese over the top.

## Nov 22, 2018 Thanksgiving

We looked long and hard at the hot tub that is on sale starting today online at Costco.com. In the end we decided to pass. We'll deal with a hot tub some time in the future. The new house needs many other things.

We watched the Macys Thanksgiving parade taking special note of some of the Broadway shows. I liked the My Fair Lady revival. Reality is that we only have 2 free evenings in NY to do this, Friday and Sunday. We arrive Thursday evening and have an Opera Saturday which only leaves the 2 free days. Visiting the wall at Ellis Island would be nice one of those days and walking the High Line is also on my list. Maybe we can do the High Line and visit the Whitney?

I let time run away and ended up starting the Smoker late today. I got the ribs in at 1 PM instead of noon. It takes 6 hours so I shaved some time off by only doing the first part for 2 hours instead of 3. I also had some Smoker problems. It quit and would not restart. I rapped on the control panel with my knuckles and it seemed to start heating again. It lasted the rest of the cooking cycle. I took the ribs out and Libbie cut them up. We had the ribs with Kansas City baked beans, butternut squash and Cabernet. This was an unusual Thanksgiving dinner but we emptied the freezer.

## Nov 23, 2018 Black Friday

This is Black Friday. I looked for furniture deals and didn't see anything. I found a substitute dining room table at Macys but balked at the \$400 delivery charge. After many calls I put the order in with June in Havertys Sarasota. I ended up having to go to the local Havertys on Glenwood. Libbie came with me. They needed to verify my signature since the card had never been used. I also gave them my Visa card for the 10% down payment. Funny that the local manager insisted that there is no 60 month financing until she found it tucked into the bottom of a promotional sheet. She then said she didn't get any promo material for the store. After we settled all this we then got onto 40 and went to Cary Quilting where Libbie went to investigate gift cards at 20% off while I went to Walmart for groceries for dinner tonight. I also ended up buying Van Wezel tix at 50% off today for Black Friday. We'll go to the Salute to Vienna New Years celebration on Jan 2. It took quite a bit of doing today but we finally bought all the Havertys furniture. Now we need lamps and an area rug. The rug will help hide the power cable for the recliner chairs. The Google WiFi router 3 pack came today I ordered from eBay. This is for Sarasota. Dinner was quesadilla with a glass of Cabernet and pumpkin pie for dessert. Il Tabarro was live from the Met tonight but before that I set the recorder up and recorded the YoYo Ma plays Morricone I found on YouTube. It's 56 minutes worth of YoYo and Morricone.

## Nov 24 Cyber Saturday

Cold and rainy morning today. I went to my Clarinet lesson at 9. It was great to be back. We stayed on the scales where he had me going up and down the break using half notes. Back home I gathered some more stuff for our return to Florida including a stud finder. I'm torn over the dining room table and chairs. I want to keep our current table but close replacements are expensive. The best I could do is \$900 at Macys. I may have to order this. Dinner tonight was the other half of the rack of ribs. We had this with BBQ beans, butternut squash and a glass of Cabernet.

## Nov 25 Files & Sonoff

This morning I prepared 3 Sonoff devices for firmware updates by soldering a female connector onto the PCB. In the PM I flashed the devices using the Tasmota firmware. I've never used this before but it seems like an easy way to get a device with MQTT On/OFF and status. I made a Walmart trip for extension cords and purchased 3 for 1.37 each. This is a pretty good deal. I assembled the 3 Sonoffs for use in Knightsbridge. One will be a Christmas Tree switch, one possibly will be for landscape lighting and the last inside the house somewhere. I started using the 6 Tb backup files I brought from Sarasota last week and have been updating the shares drive. When complete I will erase the backup then attach it to the Synology for use as the backup drive.

Libbie made an outstanding pizza. The crust was thin and crispy, the sauce was the Foodlion organic tomato and basil. It was all really good.



## Nov 26 Registration & Mosquito

I finished up transferring files from the backup drive to Synology. Now I need to erase the drive and set this up as a synology backup target. I flashed an SD card with a newly downloaded copy of Raspbian for the Pi I will use as a home hub in Sarasota. I will try to run this thing on one of the backup batteries I bought from newegg a year or two ago. This is a less expensive alternative than using an Adafruit battery with power breakout which would be around \$50. I loaded the Scargill script onto it and named the Pi "scargill" to distinguish what it is. Once I get it in place on Knightsbridge Circle I'll use the MAC address to set it's IP, probably to something like my Downing ncid device, 192.168.1.105 which has a mosquito broker onboard.

Today I also did the database import to the Drupal site I had moved from avregistration to the new AVSA site. It worked! I found a module that would reset the database to a blank, removing all customers and orders. This was handy because I moved the LSAVC shopping cart over and needed to purge the customer data. Now I need to customize it to be an AVSA shopping cart.

I picked up our photos in Walgreens today for our Christmas card.

Dinner tonight was spaghetti with the rest of the tomato sauce from yesterday's pizza. Libbie said it was thinner but it does have a lot of flavor.

## Nov 27 Tuesday Hanging Out

Libbie worked like crazy today making the new King Quilt for Knightsbridge. It looks really nice. I spent some time on the computer trying to figure out Drupal Commerce so I could implement the AVSA convention registration. Dinner tonight was some coconut shrimp I bought when Kroger was closing 6 months ago. It was OK but unremarkable. I prepared this in the air fryer. Accompanying the meal Libbie made mushroom truffle ravioli from Trader Joe. We had this with a glass of Cabernet.

## Nov 28 Wednesday Wrapping Up

I spent the day getting ready for NYC. I added one more webinar to the AVSA store at Penny's request. Now I need to pursue the convention registration in earnest. I researched cord cutting services today and concluded Philo is a great deal. It requires a Roku box as a media streamer then I can apparently subscribe to Philo through the box. They have a 7 day free trial that I'll sign up for in Sarasota when we get settled. Charley sent us another dotloop to sign electronically because our buyer can't get a mortgage as a trust but instead must apply for her mortgage as an individual. We approved the name change. I spoke with Sabrina today at the attorney's office. She said we should have final numbers on next Monday and that wire transfers are instantaneous. My plan is a wire transfer next Wednesday night.

I ran out to the CU for money for our trip tomorrow. I also stopped by Foodlion and got sandwich rounds and celery for sandwiches and Kind bars for the train trip. For dinner we went out to La Cocina and ordered the standard Quesadilla La Cocina and a Yuengling draft. It was convenient.

## Nov 29 Thursday Train trip

After breakfast I checked the Amtrak status. Our train is 20 minutes late due to track construction between Raleigh and Charlotte. We eventually got onto our 9:45 train at 10:30. In the station we chatted with a nice college girl who was returning home to Richmond after visiting her Mom here. She said they went to see Hamilton.

Our train ride was comfortable. We had an incredibly friendly Amtrak car attendant. He is retired and does this on Thursday and Friday 4 times a month. What a great job, up from Charlotte on Thursday, overnight in NYC then back on the Carolinian the next day.

We had tuna sandwiches for lunch that we brought from home. Amtrak provided complimentary beverages. Later after the Washington DC stop where they change engines we went to the Cafe car and ordered a ham and cheese on Rye sandwich along with a bag of chips. We easily pulled into Penn Station and went up to 8th Ave I had trouble getting an Uber, I kept getting an error so we found a yellow cab that was dropping somebody off. It was a short ride from 33rd street to 46th and Broadway where we checked into the Marriott Marquis. We have a fantastic room overlooking Times Square and looking directly into the ball. After settling into our room we ventured out and went up to the bar on the 42nd floor. This is a rotating restaurant and bar called the View. Drinks are pricey at \$19 each. I had a Bourbon Bloody Mary and also a Mango Squeeze. I loved the tabasco in the Bloody Mary which was garnished with celery, olives and bacon. The Mango drink was sweet and was garnished with pineapple and a strawberry.

Libbie had a Hot Chocolate. We stayed until the bar closed at midnight. It was a surprise that it was so late. We arrived at Penn Station around 9:45 and arrived at the hotel sometime around 10:15 so after settling into our room we probably went upstairs to the bar just before 11. Last call for drinks came around and we found out the place closes at Midnight. It was hard to believe it was midnight and we were still going.

## November 31, 2018 Friday. High Line and Beautiful

I was up as usual at 6:30 this morning. We went over to McDonalds for an egg McMuffin breakfast and coffee then visited the ticket desk at the Marriott. Included with our stay was 4 tour tickets so we chose a Gray Line Lights tour at night and the Gulliver Miniatures Museum across from the Marriott. We next got onto the subway to 14th St and walked to the high line. The High Line Park was amazing and wonderful. There is much new construction all along the pedestrian way along with art. The buildings were very amazing with designs ranging from something that looked like a space ship to tall and sleek glassy luxury condos. We walked all the way to Hudson Yards and around the Yard before finding a subway station where we picked up the 7 subway to Times Square. Once off the subway we found Johns Pizzeria and waited for a table which took around 30 minutes. We were lucky if that we got an upstairs table away from the crowd. We split a large pie and a Yuengling. We looked at the TKTS booth and saw the line so we stood there and got in line. It was 2 PM and they don't open the ticket windows until 3 PM. WE met a Woman from St Louis in line and had a nice chat. Eventually we got to ticket window 6 in a light rain. We got 2 tickets to our first choice which was "Beautiful", the Carol King Musical. Two tickets in row Q cost \$165 which was 50% off. We went back to the hotel room

and collapsed on the bed after a nice day. Around 5:30 we went downstairs to the Marriott Crossroads restaurant and had a delicious dinner at a not bad price. I had a Cod fish bowl which was broiled Cod over a chowder and veggies base with tiny potatoes. We only had wine with the meal. We then walked over to the Sondheim theater for Beautiful. The musical was fantastic. I thoroughly enjoyed the show. It was a surprise that the lady in line with us at TKTS had tickets next to us in the theater. They were trying to get tickets to Waitress so we were surprised to see them at Beautiful.

The talent of the actors in this production was unbelievably good. The singing, acting and dancing were all perfect. What a nice evening. We walked back through unbelievable crowds and tried to get into Juniors but it was too crowded so we went upstairs to the View bar at the Marriott where I enjoyed a Bourbon Bloody Mary. There were no olives this time with the drink which was disappointing.

## Dec 1 2018 Mefistopheles

Today is the day we are in NYC. We didn't do anything in the morning since we had to leave before Noon for the Opera. Around 11:15 we walked down to the 50th St station for the subway. I wanted to top up our subway cards but the machine was down so the attendant let us onto the train for free. This is great since we only have one trip on the card which we will use for the return trip. We got off at Lincoln Center and went up onto the Plaza before walking to the back corner and then over another block with the destination of John's Luncheonette on 10th and 67th St. It was perfect for lunch. Libbie had an omelet with an English Muffin while I had a BLT. This was perfect for lunch. We encountered a gaggle of little girls in the luncheonette window when we were out on the sidewalk. They were waving so Libbie asked if they were going to the ballet by doing a pirouette with her arms over her head, fingers touching. The girls excitedly nodded yes and gave her a thumbs up. What fun.

The Opera was beyond expectations. The music was incredibly glorious with the full chorus, the children's chorus and the orchestra playing and singing at full volume. What a marvelous experience. We enjoyed every minute of it. Angela Meade was especially good in the production. She has a severe weight issue but what a voice!

We took an incredibly crowded Subway back to 50th Street and went back to the hotel. We decided to do the Gulliver Miniature museum on 44th St which was mildly entertaining and definitely not worth spending money on. Admissions is \$36 but we had a Marriott pass. In a very light rain we walked down 45th through the incredible Times Square crowds in search of Antalya NYC. I am very glad that we did because the food was fantastic. We found the owner and told him about our neighbors and their Turkish restaurant. What fun, we took a picture with him. For dinner we both had the Lamb Shish Kabob with a bottle of Cabernet Sauvignon. We had Baklava for dessert. What a pleasant experience. We walked back to the hotel and went up to the hotel bar on the top floor and sat by the window watching the rotating world go by. I ordered an Irish Coffee which was excellent and just what I needed to finish the evening. We went back to our room early this evening, about 10 PM.

Dec 2, 2018 Sunday

It's a rainy morning when we went out to McDonalds for breakfast. As we sat in the 2nd story window I watched the raindrops in the puddles. I didn't think it was raining much when we left the hotel but it surely is. The good news is the mild temperatures.

We got onto the subway later in the morning and went to the Wall Street stop and walked to the US Customs House where we visited the Native American Art show and saw Allen from last night. Libbie found a beautiful quilt in the corner of the room and spent some time talking quilts with the lady about her hand pieced work. Once done there we walked to the South Ferry station and got onto the waiting subway. The #1 line originates here. We got off at 14th and walked towards the Whitney looking at restaurant menus. I found some very expensive venues before settling in on a place called the Fig and Vine. What a beautiful contemporary restaurant. There was a jazz trio playing and the decor was lots of plants including a rosemary planter and large pots of rosemary at the entrance. I ordered a chicken club which came with skinny fries. We had a house Cabernet with lunch. This was fabulous. Next stop was to stand in line for buying tickets at the Whitney. The special exhibit was Andy Warhol on the 5th floor. We walked through this and didn't see anything new except for the Andy Warhol time capsule which he created annually through his life. He filled a cardboard box with items of the times and archived these. The Whitney displayed the contents of one of these. I next went up to the 7th floor which was the highlight for me with all the American artists, especially the Hopper paintings. There were some keynote paintings. I stopped and listened to a docent led tour by a young lady who sounded like she was reciting a script. The entire presentation sounded like I was listening to an audiobook. We took a subway back to Times Square and walked the few blocks to our hotel.

For dinner we went to the Crossroads restaurant in the Marriott and found they were closing in 10 minutes at 8:15 PM because Sunday is a slow night. We had Clam Chowder and a plate of chicken wings. We did not need the wings, the soup was filling enough. A glass of Cabernet accompanied the meal. The restaurant is on the 8th floor so after the meal we went down to the 1st floor and then across the street to Juniors where I had an original cheesecake and a coffee. The cheesecake was perfect. It was nicely sized and very creamy. It was probably the best cheesecake ever.

Dec 3, 2018 Monday Travel to NJ

We packed our stuff before breakfast then went down to McDonalds for our coffee and McMuffin. After breakfast we saw that GMA was setting up an arena down in the plaza. We simultaneously watched some drummers and tap dancers on TV and through our window down on Times Square. What fun. After doing the video checkout on the TV we went down to the taxi stand and got a yellow cab to Penn Station. The ride along 9th Ave was busy and totally stopped at times. I wasn't sure that we were going to make it to our 9:37 train. Eventually we got there and purchased 2 Senior tickets to Edison and hopped onto the commuter train. The train had 11 stops to Edison. We met Arlene at the train station parking lot. Edison is a little weird in that we took the elevator down to the underpass, walked under the underpass then all the way to the corner to get to the Parking lot.

Vicki came over from the VA then we all had a nice lunch of chicken sandwiches at Arlene's. Eventually Ellie, Dave and Nancy came over. In the evening Arlene had a turkey breast with all the fixings including sweet potato, cranberries, stuffing, veggies. Dessert was apple pie that Vicki brought and homemade pecan pie that Ellie made.

#### Dec 4, 2018 Tuesday Cemetery

Rich made a breakfast of perfectly cooked over easy eggs. I had 2 along with toast. Vicki came over around 9 and we left in Arlene's car for the cemetery. It was cold and windy when we got there. Vicki was taken aback when we discovered Bob's marker was already up in place. It looked nice among the other veterans stones. The field was a little wet and muddy but we walked a little bit of it then got into the car and stopped at the offices for a bathroom break. Next it was on to Cramer's bakery. The smell was fantastic of everything baking inside Cramers. It was heavenly. I bought 5 eclairs for \$17.50. We asked the counter lady for a lunch recommendation. She suggested the Continental tavern in the same parking lot. We went in for lunch and had the \$10 lunch special. I had a chicken salad sandwich with cranberry mayo and whole cranberries in the salad. It was a half sandwich and cup of soup deal. The soup they served was the cauliflower chowder which was delicious. Lunch was a real treat. We went back to Arlene's in the afternoon tired from the car ride, fresh air and big lunch. Vicki then went home. In the evening Libbie, Rich, Arlene and myself went out to the Zimmerly Art museum on the Rutgers campus. They have an event every First Tuesday with wine, finger foods and music. There was a DJ, a guitar and a trumpet jamming near the food. I had a plate of cheese and also a few chips with hummus and also salsa. I really enjoyed the art. The American collection has a piece by John Sloan, a few by Albert Bierstadt as well as many nice paintings by artists I'm not familiar with. This was a nice venue for art. We then walked to a restaurant .3 miles away called Old Man Raffertys on George and Albany Streets. I had a Yuengling with half of a Quesadilla which I split with Libbie. Bill without tip for the 4 of us was \$69. And quite reasonable.

#### Dec 5, 2018 Wednesday Going Home

We got up early and had cereal and breakfast with Arlene before leaving before 6:30 AM. Traffic was pretty heavy and we slightly misjudged the timing. We watched the clock countdown as our train time approached and we were still on the MacArthur Highway in bumper to bumper traffic. Luck was with us. We hurried up the escalator to Track 3 after noting on the monitors that the Carolinian would be on Track 3. As we got to the platform the train pulled into the station. Wow, what luck or good timing.

The trip was pretty smooth and relaxing although towards the end it seemed long. We saw snow in Northern Virginia and the sunset as we rounded the curve towards Raleigh shortly after Wilson. We went to the Cafe car around 12:30 and split a ham and cheese on Rye and a bag of chips. Drinks were free. I had consumed some coffee, orange juice, cranberry juice and water in the course of the trip. Unlike our trip going North, the temperature was comfortable going South. This was probably due to us being closer to the center of the car instead of in front by

the door. The WiFi remained on throughout the trip allowing me to figure out how the commerce registration works. I did some reading of magazines on Texture and fell asleep a couple of times. Interestingly right after Rocky Mount we saw the Rail volunteer who said he only does the NC part of the trip and acts as a host greeting passengers.

We got off the train in Cary and into our car, driving down Academy St enjoying the Cary Christmas decorations. It was really beautiful. Once home we unpacked the car, washed our face and hands, sorted some mail then went over to La Cocina. We each had a Yuengling and a Quesadilla La Cocina.

Our realtor, Charlie Offer, said we should get the closing numbers from Sabrina today but we didn't. This was disappointing. I want to review the numbers and make the money transfer ahead of closing.

#### Dec 6, 2018 Thursday

I watched WRAL this morning and laughed at the snow they are forecasting for Sunday. It probably won't happen but watching the forecast they are predicting snow armageddon. At around 9 I went out to Great Clips next to Costco and got in right away and got a haircut by Amanda.

I received the closing numbers for the house today at noon. I tried to do the money transfer on Ameritrade but they would not allow a transfer to a third person account. After calling the attorneys office I decided to drive over to the TD Ameritrade office in Cary and have them help me. A very nice young lady named Aazrelle (pronounced like Isreal) helped me with the request. I checked later online when I got home and the transfer is in process. Good news! This was the afternoon Libbie was out so I was going to take advantage of it and work on the online registration. Unfortunately visiting the broker killed what little time I had this afternoon. For dinner tonight I picked up some Tuna Steaks that were on sale for \$7.99 per pound. I bought two which weighed a total of 0.82 pounds. It was a little too much food but delicious because Libbie cooked it on the grill with Thomas's. Last time I had tuna steak I tried the Air Fryer and a rub but it came out dry. This time was perfect.

#### Dec 7, 2018 Friday

Today it's a mad scramble to round up everything we need for our trip to Sarasota tomorrow morning. Everytime I grabbed something I found something else. Real questions started to gather about whether all this stuff will fit or not. I sure could use a couple more days at home. I submitted some rebates at my computer. One was a resubmission for the Contact Lenses and another was for the Lowes appliances. I also submitted an online address forwarding request to the Post Office. Downing mail forward to Knightsbridge Circle. Dinner tonight was spaghetti with sauce and cheese over the top.

In the evening after dinner we got the car loaded except for our carry ons with toiletries and except for the food we will be taking from the refrigerator.

Dec 8, 2018 Saturday

We finished packing the car with the misc stuff and left the house at 4:56 AM which was great. I wanted to get ahead of the rain which is supposed to cross South Carolina and eventually drift North and give snow to the Raleigh area. I had an issue with my left contact lens and while playing with it on I-95 I knocked it off my eye so I drove to Florence with only one eye and to make matters worse it was dark. I turned down the wrong exit before Florence at 193 and did not find a McDonalds. Eventually we went to 181A and got McDonalds and gas. In the restroom I was able to get the lens out of my eye and put it back in centered. Meanwhile Libbie bought two bacon egg and cheese biscuits which we found out were 450 calories each! Yikes! In NY last week we had egg McMuffins each day which were a better breakfast choice. For this trip we didn't need to buy coffee since I made a pot at home which we used to fill our thermos. There was light rain falling from Florence up until almost the Georgia border. Fortunately it was light enough that it only required the intermittent wipers. Traffic was moderate. In Georgia it was clear sailing. We took a bathroom break at the new Welcome Center and then bought gas at St Mary GA exit 1. Lunch was in the car consisting of the tuna sandwiches that Libbie made last night. They were good and very welcome. I took the enjoyable shortcut West of Baldwin going down 121 to I-75 exit 404. There was an accident at I-4 which we went around on local streets and then 301 South to I-4 East to I-75 again. The rest of the trip was without incident and we arrived at the condo a few minutes after 4 PM. We went out to the Italian Grill for dinner where we each had a Cabernet. I ordered eggplant parmesan which came with a nice salad and bread with oil. Justin was our server and he was a treasure. His service was over the top, very attentive and prompt.

Dec 9, 2018 Sunday Walkthrough

It was pouring rain this morning. We watched the morning shows about the snow and the CBS Sunday show then gathered our stuff for the walkthrough at 12:30. It was still pouring rain so we used the umbrella from the car to the front porch. I walked around the side of the house and didn't see any ants. Not sure if the Terro worked or if the rain caused them to not be out today. We did the walkthrough and determined the bedroom did not need any paint. I will replace the bathroom pocket door with a conventional swing door. That's about the only work I see that it needs. We stopped at Lowes and browsed the few items we need such as a BBQ grill, closet door, saw horses and gardening tools. We did a grocery run at Walmart then went home to order a pizza from Dominos. We had a Brooklyn crust, double cheese and mushroom pizza with a glass of Cabernet.

Dec 10, 2018 Monday Closing

We left for our closing at 9:40. It was scheduled for 10 AM across from the Osprey Post Office. Charley arrived when we did, the sellers realtor was in front of us on Tamiami in a Red Tesla. All of us had green cars. Charlie has the Volt, the other realtor has a Tesla, the sellers have a Prius and of course we drove our Prius. The attorney, Lauren, conducted a very professional

closing which went fairly quickly. Lisa, the sellers realtor, presented us with a nice cheesecake which was delicious. We then went over to the house where Lisa had to retrieve her sign in the window as well as her lockbox. We unloaded the car with our stuff we brought from NC then went to Lowes for our first round of misc stuff. I got saw horses, a new door lock, a Skil Saw, gardening tools and a new bathroom door to replace the pocket door in the Master. Unfortunately we found the lock I bought had the wrong keys. I had to remove it from the door and exchange it for a lock with the correct keys. On the return trip I bought a Christmas Tree and LED lights for our palm trees in front of the house. We stopped into Target for a stand because Lowes was out of stands. I set the tree up in a downstairs room and also installed the new lock. Still have to fix the back door lock which will involve more work. We went home pretty tired although we didn't do much physical work today. For dinner I made chicken parm in the air fryer which we had with broccoli and cabernet. Cheesecake was the dessert.

Dec 11, 2018 Tuesday

We went to the Post Office this morning and found out they were not our post office. They gave us the address of a Palmer Ranch facility on Sawyer Loop Rd. Next stop was Walmart where I went to the Hardware dept and bought a 24 foot ladder. I had to drive to the auto entrance to pick up the ladder from the store. It stuck out the back of the Prius V about 3 to 4 feet. The Walmart guys told me that if a cop saw this he might stop me. I didn't think so, it was mostly in the car. I drove around the front of the store and picked up Libbie who had her eggs and a Poinsettia we bought as an impulse purchase. It was a very pretty one.

The ladder was perfect for reaching the fronds. I went up there and used the new curved saw and sawed most of the low hanging branches. You could get carried away doing this. I wasn't sure where to stop. Everytime I cut one I saw another that could use cutting. When I made it all the way around the tree I evaluated and then cut one more before quitting. Libbie cleaned up the date palms by the front walk so that all I needed to do was wrap the Christmas LED lights around them. I only needed the one strand of 100 lights and did not use the other strand. Later we found that the strand I installed was a random sparkler strand. Not great, I wanted the solid lights, not blinking randomly. I got our water utility account setup today by calling Sarasota. They said if I set up auto draft for payments that they would remove my \$150 required deposit but I can't do that until tomorrow since the accounts take 24 hours to activate. We went out to Knightsbridge after dark to see our lighted palm trees. After I adjusted the timer they came on while we were there. Dinner tonight was a quesadilla in the air fryer along with a glass of wine. Prior to dinner I had cheese and crackers with wine. Too much food and drink.

Dec 12 2018 Wednesday

We had to go to Knightsbridge early today since our window for FIOS installation was between 8 and 10. I brought the shop vac and the tools since I want to work on the master bath pocket door and start the removal process. While working on trim removal the FIOS guy, Adrian, showed up. He was great and installed it the way I wanted. He put the terminator in the garage and gave me an ethernet jack above the closet in the laundry room. He ran the wire through the attic which was great. I'll use the same technique for the electrical wire I have to run from the breaker panel. A short piece of conduit should get me to the attic then I'll run the wire across to



the laundry room wall then down to an outlet box I need to install. We went home for lunch then out to Lowes when we got a call the appliance delivery was 10 minutes away. We quickly payed for our purchases so far and met the truck in Stoneybrook. They brought the wrong cord for the range so we had to go back again and exchange for the correct one. It was back to Lowes where we scored half price on 2 more sets of lights and picked up a tree mat to protect the floor from water damage. Libbie and I put the lights on the tree as our last act today. After the internet was live we also streamed Sonos to our speaker. Libbie chose Christmas music. After lunch today our Worx blower was delivered. I took it to Knightsbridge, installed the battery and used it to clean the driveway and walk. We met out neighbor across the street. She's not very bright. We took an old table out of her scrap pile in front of the house for our back porch. We also took the glass top but it is too big to use. We'll probably outfit it with a wood top and put the glass one in the dumpster. There is much to do here. For dinner tonight we went out to Beckhams on the Trail in the Publix shopping center. We had a half rack of ribs with steak fries and a Yuengling draft. Very good.

#### Dec 13, 2018 Thursday No delivery appointments today

This morning I bit the bullet and ordered a Synology NAS box and a pair of 6 TB NAS drives. The total is a breathtaking \$670. And matches the setup back at Downing Place. I am going to have the two systems synch with each other over the internet. Each will also have a backup drive attached via USB. I'm planning to mount this in the cabinet above the washer and dryer in the laundry room.

I finished up installing the bathroom door and then attach the trim pieces on both sides. I did not have a punch so I used a nail to countersink the nails but this isn't working so well. I really could use a punch. I looked for a bathroom handle in Lowes but could not find anything. I found one on Amazon so I ordered it. In the afternoon I started taking apart that bar on the Lanai. Unfortunately, the floor will need painting. Also, the thing is screwed into the floor and screws are so rusted they broke off. The studs will need to be ground down.

For dinner tonight we went out to the Club where I had the Prime rib with baked potato, veggies and a roll. We had this with Cabernet. I brought half the prime rib home for tomorrow.

#### Dec 14, 2018 Friday Furniture delivery

The Havertys truck arrived but couldn't get through the gate. We saw him out the back door so I jumped into the car and let the truck through the gate. Three guys delivered all the furniture and set it up. We were missing the two King pillows and the hardware for the bedframe as well as we need a marker to touch up the dresser that has a scratch in it. It all looks great.

We then went to Costco and bought a 55 inch LG TV and then on to Bed Bath and Beyond for a mattress pad, blanket, and two sets of Royal Dalton dishes. We used our 20% off coupon and saved \$68. Next we stopped into Publix for Shrimp for tonight then over to Havertys Customer Service to report the pillows and missing hardware. It was a long morning of driving around. We went to Clubside for lunch then over to Walmart for groceries and then Knightsbridge Circle where we sat in the new chairs and vegetated a while. I ran over to Lowes for a board to mount the TV on, a new lamp for the bedroom and a bunch of sticks to modify the kitchen cabinets

because the new dishes are wider than the cabinet shelves. I came back and tried the new lamp which is only 18 inches high and definitely too small. We'll see if it fits the bedroom furniture before potentially returning. We returned to Clubside for dinner which was shrimp peelers, broccoli and Cabernet wine.

### Dec 15, 2018 Saturday La Traviata

At 8 AM I made a trip in light rain to Lowes and bought a 10 inch compound miter saw. I reasoned that I needed this more than I needed the Skil Saw I bought. I found that it is on sale for 179 with original price of 229. It was marked down once to 199 then on sale for 179. This thing is a good saw and will cross cut up to an 8 inch board. I used it to make smooth square cuts on the  $\frac{5}{8}$  x  $\frac{5}{8}$  shims I nailed onto the kitchen cabinets. I next re-installed the doors then sat in the easy chair for a few minutes before leaving for the theater. We left at 12:10 and were really surprised that the theater was completely full. We found the last two seats together in the top row of the house on the side. Traviata was the best performance of the Opera ever. There was a nice clip during the intermissions where the conductor, Yennick, is seen working with Diana Damrau going over the phrasing to achieve emotional delivery. Wow, was it good. I thoroughly enjoyed this performance and will definitely download it from BBC Opera 3. We chose to come back to Clubside and let the Opera soak in instead of going back to work at Knightsbridge.

Dinner tonight was the leftover prime rib cooked with onions and peppers and put onto a Borilla roll. We had wine with dinner and cheese and crackers with wine beforehand. It was heavily overcast so there was no sunset to see.

### Dec 16, Sunday 2018 Paint

We watched the Sunday Morning programs then stopped into Lowes for a nail punch on our way to the house. While there we picked up a box of three lamps which were two 28 inch and one floor lamp for the living room.

I punched down all the nails on the door frame and also the kitchen cabinets and filled them with spackle. After rubbing them down with a sanding sponge Libbie nicely painted the upstairs door and door frame. Meanwhile I hung the coat rack in the laundry room then climbed above the laundry cabinets and cut a hole in the wall for the duplex outlet. This will power all the internet equipment in the cabinet which will include the Google Hub and the Synology NAS in addition to any other devices I come up with, possibly a server. It was too hot to go into the attic to run the power line so I started on the TV mounting. I mounted 2 vertical 2x4s on the wall. At first I mounted them even with the top of the TV then realized they have to be down where the bracket will be which is more towards the middle of the TV. Thankfully they were screwed into the wall so it was a matter of unscrewing them and remounting them lower. In order to get the angles of the horizontal board correct I made a template of the angles from the cardboard of the TV box. Tomorrow I'll cut the two 2x8 boards which will support the TV. On our way home from the house we stopped by Lowes to do our returns and picked up a roll of twine and a package of lawn bags. We'll try again with disposing of the landscape materials. We next went to Publix for wine and more Swiss. Back at the condo we had cheese and crackers with wine at sunset

which set under a perfectly clear blue sky. This also meant it was just the setting sun with no clouds backing up the reflected light so there was not a spectacular display.

### Dec 17, 2018 Monday Internet Powerline

When we got to the house I started on running the wire from the power panel to the new outlet next to the ethernet jack. I eventually found out that the back of the new outlet goes directly into the garage attic blocked only by a piece of insulation. I didn't have to drill any holes or do any routing. How easy! Once I got the outlets installed onto the wire I shut the circuit breaker down for the FIOS modem and attached the wire to the outlets in the box hanging from the bottom of the panel. Once all was hooked up I moved the router and changed the address pool of the DHCP server to the 192.168.1.x range to match what we have at home and also to work with the IOT devices I have programmed. This meant the SONOS devices needed to be reprogrammed. It was a struggle to get the new device setup and also to reprogram the one we have been using in the kitchen which came from our Downing back porch. One of the issues was I did not know my SONOS password and user id. I thought my 33mail address was sonos@ but it was sono@. I did have the correct password which is Offbeat103. We had lunch back at the condo then took off back to the house so I could work on the TV support 2x8s. Joe from across the street came over and gave us the dump on his next door neighbor who I concluded is real trailer trash although she has a nice family. The two 2x8s went up quite well. Now I need the piece of plywood on top which will make a shelf behind the TV. We came back to the condo and had cheese and crackers with wine then I made Chicken Parm in the air fryer which we had with Broccoli and Cabernet. After dinner I spent some time listening to music on YouTube.

### Dec 18, 2018 Tuesday Kitchen Table & Gulf Breeze Garden Center

We did some Craigslist shopping for propane tanks and dining sets. I sent a few texts about 2 dining sets a propane tank. I heard from the propane tank lady and went to fetch the tank off of Webber in a very nice subdivision. \$10 for the used tank. I spent the morning cutting a sheet of plywood for the top shelf of the TV bracket. I next used a rasp and smoothed it down then spackled the holes. I got a call from the person with the kitchen table that I texted about. The table was at her Son's garden center in Englewood. We had lunch on the journey at a McDonalds in Venice. This was a mistake since I had a Big Mac and Medium Fries which was too much food. I felt sluggish after eating this. Gulf Breeze Garden Center was a delight. The Mom has a gift shop in front and Dad refinishes furniture in the back. The Son owns the garden center. We bought the table and chairs for \$125. I found the blue flowered shrubs that I want to put around the Pine tree in the backyard. I need 12 of them, Libbie said 6. We may do a return trip for the shrubs. After we got the table back we went into the front yard and tied up some of the landscaping materials. I was exhausted. We bundled around 5 bundles of branches and bagged one bag of misc leaves then went back for sunset and wine, cheese and crackers. Dinner tonight was spaghetti with cheese and tomato sauce. It seemed like a lot of spaghetti. After dinner i ran out to Walgreens to pick up the Synology NAS that arrived via FedEx. I had

the NAS delivered to Walgreens which is a FedEx receiving facility. I'll unbox it at Knightsbridge because that is where it will be setup and I don't want it on a different network like we have at the condo. It was very early to bed, around 8:30 PM.

#### Dec 19, 2018 Wednesday Englewood, TV mounting

This was a busy day. I had to drive out at 7 AM to fetch my milk from the Knightsbridge refrigerator where I left it yesterday. I helped Libbie in the front yard tie the bundles of landscape scrap and fill another lawn and yard bag with material before I went inside to sand the spackle and paint the TV support. Once I finished painting I went upstairs and installed the doorknob on the bathroom door. We left for lunch then tried to get money at the Publix ATM but machine didn't seem to be working. It complained of wrong PIN. We stopped into the clubhouse to change our Envera cards at 9579 Knightsbridge to us as new owners. I then stopped into the accounting office to have a \$5 golf charge removed from Nov 2 that I did not make. They explained it was for a raffle. I had the charge removed from my account. We then drove to Englewood and bought the 3 bar stools for our Kitchen counter breakfast bar. This part of the house seems to have all it needs. Once back from Englewood I mounted the TV bracket and then installed the TV onto the bracket. I did not use the spacers which may have been a mistake but somehow I got it all to work. We then left for a while and tried to go to the board meeting at 5 PM but there wasn't anybody there. We stopped into Joe's house to inquire but he didn't know about there not being a board meeting. Dinner tonight was Chicken Quesadillas in the Air Fryer accompanied by Cabernet.

#### Dec 20, 2018 Thursday Rain, Landscape Debris

It is pouring rain today. We ended up having over 5 inches. McIntosh road has a canal running along it complete with ducks swimming in the water. Pretty cool. I spent some of the early morning playing with the LG TV. I set it up and then tuned to some YouTube videos to get an idea of the TV capabilities. I think we have a TV that is too small for the room.

When the rain eased up a little I went out to Lowes to get a junction box that I needed for the closet light and a drill bit for the TV shelf as well as a long wood bit for drilling through the floors from the laundry room to the office. When I returned from Lowes the landscape materials were all picked up from the front yard. Yayyy!!!! We worked at following the rules tying the branches in bundles not longer than 4 feet and bagging the loose stuff including palm nuts and smaller sticks and palm bark. It was nice to see all this stuff gone that we created the day after closing 1 ½ weeks ago.

I cut the hole for the box in the hallway for the smoke detector and also cut the hole for the closet light. Fortunately I was able to use the smoke detector hole to run a wire over to the closet light. I did all this while waiting for the Havertys repair guy. He stayed until 5:45 adding the headboard bolts they forgot to bring, repairing the chip in the dresser and then repairing the 2 drawer slides that did not work. While he worked I continued with the closet light and the smoke detector. I finished it to the point where the power will need to be turned off and the hot lead tied in. The smoke detector is operating on a battery for now until I get the power hooked up. We left totally exhausted and decided to go out informally for dinner instead of wearing nice

clothes at the country club for rib night. We went to Beckhams next to HAvertys and each ordered the baby back ribs with black beans and rice. The black beans are out of this world delicious. After dinner we went over to Walmart to get pillows and some kitchen items including shelf paper that Libbie needed. It was a good but tiring day overall.

### Dec 22, 2018 Friday Hot Tub

I texted a person about office chairs and set up an appointment to go get them at 9:30. We drove to a warehouse in North Sarasota and bought 2 chairs for \$15 each. They were from an auction where the person wanted the desks but had to take the chairs as well. We got two very nice office chairs. Mine is very comfortable with nice shoulder support but has a stain. Libbie's is nice but there is a small tear in the seat. We next went to a very eclectic warehouse that had oddball decorator type stuff. It was fun walking around. We stopped into the UPS on 17th St in Sarasota on the way home then I saw "Legacy Hot tubs" which is a business I had looked at online last week. We looked at many of the Hot tub models and liked a Nordic model called "Retreat". It is a plug and play 110V model advertised for 5 people. Cost was just under \$4,000 at \$3953. including tax. Delivery is Dec 28 which means I have about 1 week to run a 110V line to the Lanai. We came back to Clubside for lunch then out to Knightsbridge where I played with the Hulu subscription I took out during breakfast. They are running a free 30 day trial then \$5.99 a month thereafter for the first year. I was disappointed that the channels don't seem to be live. It was amazing that we are running on WiFi and everything is coming in smooth. I do plan to run an ethernet wire to the location as well as an outdoor antenna. I wired the power to the closet light and downstairs smoke detector. The light works well and turns on when the closet door is opened. I also replaced the smoke detector upstairs then discovered that there are two detectors upstairs. I only replaced one. Dinner was shrimp peelers with broccoli and cabernet. We had cheese and crackers at sunset but there wasn't much of a sunset. It was a weird day. We had periods of sunshine then severe squalls with high winds and sheets of rain.

### Dec 23, 2018 Saturday Lights in Bloom

It was an easy day because we wanted to stay rested for our volunteer job tonight. I took the measurements for the power line for the hot tub. Still not sure about the plug but code says there needs to be a disconnect within sight of the spa. I measured the doorbell voltage and determined the button was probably dropping too much voltage but would need to be destroyed because it was cemented into the wall. I decided it wasn't worth taking apart to get the bell to go ding dong. Maybe a higher voltage transformer than 16V will do the trick. I was thinking of 24V. I also drilled a hole in the TV shelf to drop the power cord for the outlet strip and plugged the TV into it. I packaged up the defective disk drive and installed a driver for the printer so I could print out the RMA label to send it to NewEgg. On our way to the condo we stopped at Walgreens and fortunately a FedEx driver was outside the store. He took it into his truck and scanned it. That is now back on it's way to Newegg. After lunch we visited Walmart for groceries and didn't go back to the condo. We chilled for a while then got dressed for Lights in Bloom. We were assigned door guards for the Selby experience which is a high end open bar

and food for supporters of the garden. IT was a fun but long night. I started at 6 and finished up at 9. At 9 I was able to sneak in and grab a cannoli from the dessert table. There was only one incident during the night. A group of 3 had the wrong color wrist band and had to wait quite a while for Mike to get there and get them fixed up with the correct bands. We got home around 9:30 PM after turning in our green vest and blinking festive lights.

#### Dec 23, 2018 Sunday Bolshoi Nutcracker

After CBS Sunday morning I made a trip to Lowes and picked up the electrical parts I needed to run a 110V line to the Lanai for the hot tub. I will mount a disconnect on the house wall but am not sure how the conduit will pass through the screen - maybe under it? I came home and left at noon for the Hollywood 11 downtown for the Bolshoi Nutcracker performance. We had no trouble getting downtown straight up Osprey to Main St.. The performance was incredible as only the Bolshoi could do. Katerina was wearing a stunning Christmas dress. Libbie wanted to see if it was long or short. After the theater performance we took Fruitville home and stopped at Lowes where I bought a Blue Lamp for the bedroom and the missing closet folding door. For dinner after our cheese, crackers and wine at sunset we went over to Dominos to pick up our pizza I ordered online using a 7.99 coupon for 3 toppings. They are just as disorganized as ever but make a tasty pie. I was really tired today and fell right asleep after our pizza and wine. The toppings were the usual tomato, mushroom and extra cheese. I always choose the Brooklyn hand stretched crust and the robust tomato sauce whatever that means.

#### Dec 24, 2018 Monday Christmas Eve

Today is moving day. We chose to move into the house and started moving many boxes of stuff. We filled the car twice but still have much more stuff to move. Libbie worked in the kitchen baking a pumpkin pie and then later prepared the turkey and stuffing. I called Arlene about how to make the cranberry dressing from real cranberries. IT was easy. Mix sugar and hot water then boil the cranberries in the solution for 15 minutes, It came out good but very tart. Today I took apart the rest of the bar on the Lanai and used two of the legs to fashion a TV stand. I mounted the HD antenna on the roof of the porch as a trial. It seems to work most of the time, other times it has severe fading. I will try mounting it higher on the house wall to see if it makes a difference. I did quite a bit of studying about how to run the power to the hot tub. I settled on drilling through the screen frame to the disconnect box then using a flexible conduit to go from the disconnect, over the top of the door and then down to the GFI plug in a covered box. This will be safe and meet code. Christmas Eve dinner was Butterball turkey, stuffing, mashed potato and fresh cranberry. Dessert was pumpkin pie with whipped cream topping.

#### Dec 25, 2018 Tuesday Merry Christmas

It was a quiet Christmas Day. Our one present was a pair of Pink Flamingo paintings from Christa & Joe. While sitting in the "living room" for the first time we decided that we really

should be on the other side of the kitchen with the better view. Later in the morning we moved all the furniture to the other Living Room. This meant taking down the TV and disassembling the TV stand I put up in the corner. I will have to recut the two 2x8s to match the new location where one side is shorter. I managed to get the vertical supports mounted but will have to use the saw to cut the 2x8s which I didn't want to do on Christmas day.

For lunch we realized we did not have any bread for the turkey to make sandwiches. Libbie got an email from Walgreens saying they were open so we drove over to Walgreens and bought bread. How convenient. There were a surprising number of people in the store, probably because it's the only one open on Christmas Day.

I spent some time configuring DocuWiki on the Synology to get my Lifebits up and running again. I really miss it since it went down in October. This has been my first opportunity to get it fixed up. I got it mostly working except for requiring a password when logging in externally. Dinner was turkey, stuffing, potatoes, gravy, fresh cranberry and Cabernet. Before dinner we had cheese and crackers with wine. We toasted the sunset but it was overcast in late afternoon so there was no sunset.

#### Dec 26, 2018 Wednesday Day after Christmas

Back to work today! We made a trip to Lowes for a lamp shade and to investigate Bosch dishwashers. The appliance guy doesn't arrive until 11 so we went home and I ordered the Bosch dishwasher using a Bausch and Lomb \$100 contact lens rebate. Libbie cruised the clearance plants and found hundreds of Geraniums being cleared out for 50 cents each. We filled 2 shopping carts with plants. I got my lamp shade as well as some shelf brackets and used a coupon giving me \$10 off of a \$50 purchase. The mail came this afternoon with a coupon with Charles Offer's name on it giving 10% off at Lowes. When the dishwasher was ready for pickup I went back and asked about the 10% off coupon which they honored. They rewrote the sale with the 10% off then applied the \$100 Bausch and Lomb rebate Visa rewards card. I put the difference on the Cap One Visa. The dishwasher won't be addressed until the hot tub wiring is complete. Vera today texted asking if we could volunteer at Selby Lights in Bloom tomorrow night. We said yes after the positive experience we had at the Selby fund raiser a few nights ago. Dinner tonight was sliced Turkey, the rest of the stuffing, fresh broccoli and a glass of Cabernet. We earlier had cheese and crackers with wine before dinner.

I finished moving the TV this afternoon and hooked it up but the antenna was not working, not to mention that the cable just barely reached the corner. I disconnected the antenna and took out a YouTube TV subscription which is free for 7 days. YouTube is working pretty good wirelessly. We watched a Chevy Chase Family Vacation movie and then played with some of the network programming. I'm very impressed with YouTube TV but unfortunately it does not have HGTV or the Food channel which are 2 of our required channels.

#### Dec 27, 2018 Thursday Selby again

I started working on the Spa disconnect and succeeded in mounting it on the house wall inside the Lanai. I stripped the outer plastic casing from 50 feet of 12/2 romex and threaded it inside 3 of the 3/4 inch conduit sections. I also made a hole in the screen and passed a 90 degree

conduit section through to the other conduit pipes laying on the ground. I stopped this at noon and after a lunch of a salad I did light tasks because we have to work at Selby tonight.

This morning when Costco opened at 10 I went to get coffee beans and raisins. I also found bundles of plastic tubs at 6 for \$15 so I got a bundle for the garage. When I arrived there the line went out the door. Thankfully I found the line was the returns desk, not the store entry.

I breezed through Costco at this time of the morning and was home in 19 minutes.

After lunch today I cut up a stack of the wood from the bar and made garage shelves. I really like the Miter saw. Because it is a sliding Miter Saw it is capable of cutting wider boards such as the 2x8 TV shelf and the 2x6 garage shelves. I put the new Costco tubs on the shelves. This will help organize the house and garage.

We had Turkey sandwiches in the car on the way to Selby at 4 PM. Our assignment today was to check wristbands at the South gate at 5:30 and then after 6 PM we monitored the games on the bay side of the mansion. It was fun watching the people playing all the games, especially the Jenga stacking blocks. When I got home I looked up the Jenga game. You can get small blocks for \$8 from Walmart or Target but the big 2x4s are in Home Depot plans using 4 2x4x16 or 8 2x4x8. The trick is to get well dried kiln dried lumber and sand the sides after cutting the blocks to 10.5 inches each.

#### Dec 28, 2018 Friday Hot Tub Delivery

I went up on the roof of the porch and removed the antenna and cleaned the gutter. The antenna wire would have been in the way of the Hot tub installation. I ran out to Harbor Freight to chase down a hammer-drill for 59.95 with coupon. I also bought some large masonry drill bits. This worked better than imagined. I am leery of harbor Freight tools ever since the belt sander I bought lasted about 10 minutes. This was over 5 years ago. I drilled the hole into each side of the wall and had to enlarge it a little for the L Junction box hub piece to fit into the hole. I trenched all along the foundation for the conduit and was surprised at how easy this was in the soft sand. I got the wire buried all the way to the hole in the wall. I needed a conduit coupling to mate the two ends together - one end coming from the panel and the second end coming from the Lanai. This finished my electrical work for now.

We took the tree outside and cleaned up the porch floor sweeping and blowing all the pine needles off the floor. The Hot Tub arrived around 1 PM with two guys and the tub on a trailer. They had no problem getting it into the porch and then setting it up. They nicely explained how to start the chemicals and maintain the tub.

Libbie cut the Palmetto some more and bundled the branches. We greeted the landscape trash truck to insure they took everything. We had a lot of bundled Palm fronds that they took.

We did a Lowes run later in the afternoon to get the missing conduit coupling and stopped by the Condo to dump off some cardboard and scrap wood into the dumpster. I also picked up two more of the dining room chairs to move to Knightsbridge.

Dinner was the last of the Turkey along with Broccoli and mashed potato. Accompanying dinner was a glass of Cabernet. Earlier we had cheese and triscuits with a glass of Cabernet.



## Dec 29, 2018 Saturday Fire Up Hot Tub

I finished up the wiring this morning for the Hot Tub. Thank goodness for the oscillating cut off saw. I used this saw to cut a notch in the plastic cover that goes over the GFCI plug for the Hot Tub. This also means it is not exactly sealed from rain. Hopefully it is OK because the outlet is on the covered part of the porch. We started filling the tub after a long discussion about where the cover is going to go and how it will go back on. I did a Lowes run to get stainless steel screws for the conduit clamps. I also purchased one LED can, 1200 Lumens or 100 watt equivalent to see how it worked in the Kitchen. It was perfect. Now I need to pick up 3 more of these cans. The original is some kind of CFL bulbs that are pretty dim. We also did a Walmart grocery run and ended up buying a shopping basket full of clearance plants from the rescue table in the garden shop. Libbie spent the afternoon planting the annuals in front of the house. Dinner tonight was Chicken Quesadilla with cheese, onion and green pepper. Accompanying this was a glass of Cabernet.

## Dec 30, 2018 Sunday

After the Sunday morning programs Libbie and I jumped into the new Hot Tub for the first time. The temp was 102. The water and the jets felt great although at first I didn't like the beating of the water on my skin but after relaxing for a few minutes it felt great. I did two timeouts in the tub which is approximately 15 minutes each. Very nice.

Once out of the tub I was done for the day but I did set up the drop cloth on the patio pavement then moved the super heavy glass table top onto the plastic drop cloth and gave it a whack with the hammer. This did the trick allowing me to put the large pieces of glass into the 30 gallon trash can and also into the recycle bin lined with a garbage bag. I also had several very large pieces that did not fit the two buckets but they were large enough to carry so I put them onto a piece of cardboard in the back of the car along with the buckets. I took all of this to the dumpster at Clubside and also tossed in a few wood scraps. The wood is the last remnants from the old bar on the Lanai. I still have some of the better pieces of wood that will be recycled into shelves and a workbench. These pieces include the 4x4 legs and some of the top boards. It was nice to get rid of this stuff. After emptying the glass into the dumpster I brought home the bike rack and sand chairs.

For dinner we ordered a Dominos three topping pizza with extra cheese, mushrooms and diced tomatoes and then watched 60 Minutes because the Paul McCartney interview was on again. Libbie has been watching a series on Hulu called "Young" which I have watched a few times with her. On the way to Dominos I stopped into Lowes and picked up some LED light can replacements for the kitchen.

## Dec 31, 2018 Monday New Years Eve

This was an easy day. I took a look at the dishwasher replacement and found out the new Bosch needed a 90 degree fitting. I went to Lowes and picked one up as well as a couple of

one foot brackets to add to the top of the garage shelves so I could add another shelf. The next batch of shelves will be above where the proposed workbench will be.

The one piece of work that I did accomplish today was to install the lights in the kitchen ceiling. The kitchen is bright now! I may have to put a 3 way dimmer on the lights because they are so bright. We took a ride to Selby Gardens and walked from the Welcome Center to the point. The purpose of the Selby trip was to pick up some free wrist bands for Lights in Bloom. We split a Cuban and a bag of Pita chips. I didn't care for the Pita chips, the Cuban was OK. We had this with water. The total with members discount was \$20. On the way home we stopped at Walmart for groceries but they didn't have hams. We went across the street (Beneva) to Publix and found a 10 pound ham. Dinner was the ham, yams and broccoli. Because it was New Years Eve we had a bottle of Champagne with dinner. During dinner we were serenaded by fireworks a few doors down from us on the lake. I spent the rest of the evening watching some YouTube videos on woodworking, sears bankruptcy, failing malls and some predictions for 2019 from an NYU professor who correctly predicted Amazon would purchase Whole Foods.