

Dear Family and Friends,

We send our Best Wishes to each of you for a very Happy and Healthy Blessed Christmas Season and New Year! We look forward to hearing your latest news.

We've Moved:

Mr. & Mrs. B. D. Briggs

500 Park Blvd. S. #102

Venice, FL 34285

Home Phone: 941-484-6169

<https://goo.gl/photos/rFZCGQNVKkwvUVbz6>



Whew, what a year! In case you haven't been following our Facebook posts (not that either of us post much), the news is that we have moved into our condo in Florida after selling our house in California. We both love the condo right on the Gulf in Venice, but decided we needed a place to spend the hot weather and a place for the things from the house in California. The condo is about 1,000 sq. ft. and fully furnished from being a rental property for years. The house in Ca. was about 1,700 sq. ft. and even though we gave away some big things (piano and workbench) and left the washer, dryer, and refrigerator, we still had LOTS of stuff that went into storage.

After getting unpacked in, Florida we made a quick trip to Asheville NC, found a house that we liked and bought it. We take possession Dec. 14, so will arrange the moving van after that date. Asheville has been an area that we have liked since we went to Biltmore Estate when we lived in Atlanta. At one time we had a membership for Biltmore Estate and took guests there to enjoy the house tour and the grounds. The Blue Ridge Parkway is a couple miles from our new house, and the Corvette is going to know it well.

Our Summer House:

67 Winter Wren Circle

Hendersonville, NC 28792

Barry's cell 408-761-2837

Pictures: <https://goo.gl/photos/u6gS58yDA7DKzYbj7>



The move from California did not go smoothly. Both of us are packrats, plus we had Anne's mom's things. We spent a couple of months loading up the recycling and trash bins to their load capacity every week. We had to segregate the remaining things into a condo room and things destined for storage went to other rooms and the garage. The condo room was supposed to be moved in a Pod. Barry carefully selected one that would fit our three big bookcases that contain the photo albums, books, and TV equipment. Ted came at the end of August to help Barry celebrate his 70th birthday, but helped pack the Pod and move furniture so the house could be staged.

The Pod packing did not go well. In spite of double checking the size, the Pod was not as advertised. The bookcases would not fit standing up, so we had to lay them down. Of course, that meant they occupied more square feet of floor space than planned, so several things that should have occupied that space would not fit. We rented a storage unit for furniture and boxes that overflowed the garage and Ted helped with that too. After the staging items and furniture were removed, Barry had to empty the storage unit and make sure boxes were in the right rooms (Florida or Storage). The things that did not fit in the Pod, ended up in a U-Haul and in the back of our Mazda5.

We pulled the U-Haul across the US. We had lunch with Anne's sister and her husband in Glendale, Ca. and stopped at Ted's in Austin to drop off the Carter side of the family Rocking Chair (with newly replaced cane seat), plus a marble top bedside table and another table that works well as a luggage rack for Ted's second guest bedroom.

After arriving in Florida, we spent a couple of weeks emptying boxes, getting drivers licenses, car titles, insurance and medical coverage. Then we found a realtor in Asheville, who was a friend of a realtor friend of Anne's cousin Annette who lives about 40 minutes from Hendersonville. We allotted three weeks maximum to find a new house, but ended up taking only a day!

We are finding life here in Florida to be a dream come true! Anne swims a mile each morning in the lovely heated pool outside our patio door and takes walks on the beach at sunset regularly. Barry walks the 4 1/2 miles down to the jetty and back Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. We are looking forward to having Jon and hopefully Ted here with us for Christmas. Our Brazilian Daughter, Ana-Paula, and her family plan to come visit from Tampa (which is 50 miles north) on Christmas day. Hope to hear from many of you this Holiday Season!

Contact info (Our emails have stayed the same):

Barry: briggsbd@gmail.com Cell: 408-761-2837

Anne: briggsap@gmail.com Florida: 941-484-6169

We screen all our calls, so make sure you leave a message on the machine. If we are there, we will pick up, but if not, we will have your message.

With Love and Best Wishes,

Anne + Barry