



December 20, 2016

Season's Greetings to One and All!

This is an interactive newsletter. Click on any picture or link for larger images.

Dear Friends and Family,

HOME

Ron and Caryl have had a great year with the exception of our disappointment on November 8. We feel very lucky to live in a beautiful place like Port Townsend, where we are surrounded by nature and spectacular views. We are delighted when we can share our home with friends and this year we enjoyed visits from out-of-town friends Alden & Karen Mead and Jan and Ned Wass. We also hosted our annual family reunion for members of the Bryer and Howell clans in August. We do love to see friends and family, so if you are coming our way, be sure to contact us. We just had to share this cute picture of a coyote pup that came to drink at our garden fountain last summer. Ron shot the picture from Caryl's studio window. Click for a [larger image](#).



We finally completed the last major project of the remodeling we started in 2014. We wanted to bring more light and visibility to our entryway, as well as to add more visual interest. We found Mark Olson, a glass artist in Bellevue, who often makes designs with swoopy shapes similar to those Caryl often uses in her own work. The design we selected uses only clear glass in a 3-layer sandwich, but employs different textures to create a pattern that ties together the panels in the doors and transom. Here are the before and after pictures. Click for a [larger image](#). We're really delighted with the way the glass panels add light and sparkle to the entry.



Our place was on the annual Port Townsend Secret Garden Tour this year, which we combined with an Open House and Studio Tour. The new entry art glass was installed in time for visitors see it while also viewing Caryl's work.



TRAVEL:

We continue to enjoy visiting new places. Our year began with a wonderful trip to South America, which we mentioned last year. If you missed it, click here for a [SLIDE SHOW](#).

To celebrate Ron's birthday in July, we did a 12-day driving tour to the Canadian Rockies, with stops in Vancouver, Whistler, Kamloops, Jasper, Banff and Kelowna. The scenery was spectacular and Ron enjoyed breaking in his new high resolution camera. Click here for a [SLIDE SHOW](#).



Our big splurge of 2016 was a month in the Mediterranean in September and October. We flew to Barcelona, a city neither of us had previously visited, and spent 5 days there enjoying the art, architecture and [food](#), then we boarded the new ship Regent Seven Seas Explorer in Monaco for an 18-day cruise to destinations in Italy, Greece, Montenegro, Croatia and Slovenia, ending with 3 days in Venice. A small sampling of the 2800 photos we took can be seen in our [SLIDE SHOW](#).



QUILTS & SHOWS:



Caryl completed six new quilts this year, and continues to show her work both nationally and locally.



In May, she had a month-long show at our local Northwind Arts Center, here in Port Townsend.

Of course we continued to travel to attend the openings of Caryl's out-of-town exhibitions, including 40-year retrospectives at the [University of Mississippi](#) (January to April) and the [Cedarhurst Center for the Arts](#) in Mount Vernon, Illinois (July-August).



On our trip to Illinois, we managed to work in visits to our friends in Paducah, St. Louis, and Minneapolis.

Caryl usually documents our comings and goings, her new work, and exhibitions throughout the year on her news page, so if you want to see what we're up to, visit:

<http://www.bryerpatch.com/news/news.htm>

If you will be in Georgia this winter, check out her new show at the Donald W. [Nixon Centre for Performing & Visual Arts](#) in Newnan, January 9-February 7.

Living as we do in the beautiful Pacific Northwest and with the stimulating arts community of Port Townsend, it's tempting not to think about the dark and ugly path that the last election has placed us on. We can only hope that the damage will not be permanent.

Best wishes for friends, family and country in 2017,

Ron & Caryl