

The Rags Bag!

An odd gathering of events and articles that may at times have something to do with the Ragsdale Clan and their adventures in Europe. This might include their latest musings, ministry updates, news, maybe even a song or picture that is in some way or another related to our ministry, extended family and friends. Our hope is that whatever comes out of "The Rags Bag" will not frighten, but instead, enlighten and encourage you to pray for us and TWR.



Dear Family, Friends & Prayer Warriors:

July 2019

As you read this letter, pray that God would grant to us His peace and understanding and that we would experience His direction and provision over the next few weeks.

Celebrations and Transitions

We were blessed a couple of weeks ago to have Carol's older sisters Jené and Teresa and niece Hannah join us for a couple of weeks in Vienna. They came over the time of Jean Marc's graduation. It was a joy and special blessing to have family from overseas here with us for that event. Jean Marc graduated with honors and received a couple of notable awards during the ceremony. We are so thankful that he finished out high school so well.

Nicole finished the school year with very good grades and received some special awards for achievements during the year. She went with friends to the end of year formal and enjoyed having her brother to hang out with during the event. We praise the Lord for His leading in their lives.



Plans Change

The last time we wrote to you, we told you that by the time you received this July letter, we would have just arrived in Paphos, Cyprus. Well, plans have changed. After consulting with our leadership team it was decided the best course of action was for all four of us to return to the USA for the months of July and August, and then enter Cyprus on September 1st. There are many reasons leading to this decision, but one of the main ones is to allow Nicole to start school on September 5th at the International School of Paphos and not have to withdraw her for at least three months. This is because when we enter Cyprus, we will do so on a 90-day tourist visa. We then have those 90 days to obtain a work/residence visa. We were advised that the month of August in Cyprus is a very difficult time to get

official paperwork processed due to so many people in government offices being on holiday leave. There are a couple of other issues I will not go into due to the length of explanation that would be needed, just to say that we will now arrive in the US on July 2nd and will be in New Port Richey, Florida, with Carol's mom for the first few weeks. Then around August 12th we will head up to Georgia to get Jean Marc settled in at Toccoa Falls College before we return to Europe and down to Cyprus on September 1st.

Packing out

Due to the planned move to Cyprus we had to vacate our apartment in Vienna and prepare our belongings for shipping to Cyprus. The last two weeks of June we were fully engaged in preparing for the movers to come, getting rid of items we are not taking to Cyprus, and closing all accounts and de-registering as residents in Austria. Amid all this the discussions and decisions were being made for us to return to the US instead going to Cyprus on July 2nd. We are thankful that in all these things that involve "unknowns", we are truly in God's care and He knows our every need and goes before us.



Goodbyes

With all transitions and relocations come the goodbye's and final experiences in cherished locations. One of the places we have felt loved and cared for and able to use our gifts has been with our local fellowship at the International Chapel of Vienna. We are deeply thankful for the opportunities the Lord provided for us to serve the church community and will miss this unique international fellowship of believers. The last time we led worship, our whole family participated.

As we move to the USA for July and August and then prepare to move to Cyprus in September, pray that God will keep us faithful and true to His leading as we serve in this ministry with TWR. Thank you for your love, prayers and support.

Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John & Carol".

John, Carol, Jean Marc & Nicole Ragsdale
Serving the Lord with TWR in Europe & CAMENA

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