

## Act seven:

We have to have luck in our lives! Ingrid was fortunate to meet a Swedish-American man, who wanted a new wife, someone to cook, wanting to provide for her, go camping & be a participating partner. RV-travel opened her eyes to a beautiful America. Calle got his wish fulfilled when Ingrid finally agreed to move to Sweden. Ingrid has both citizenship and language skills to facilitate such a move. She agreed to move despite dark winter days, when convinced of good easy-living years were offered to her. Life is full of adventures! We are so lucky to be given such opportunities. Life is good! Next January we hope to spend several weeks enjoying the warm sunny weather in the Gran Canary Islands.

Obtaining a drivers license in Sweden is no easy task. You must read the drivers guide and learn all about the rules of the road but also about clean energy, how much a car/truck pollutes, the cost for that etc. Learn from Greta Thunberg, live a clean life and do not pollute! Then you sign-up for a driving school and eventually you are qualified to drive after answering almost all questions correctly on a written test. Many of our friends say that they most likely would not be able to pass this rigorous test today.

Ingrid was extremely fortunate to have kept her original driver's license she received at age 18 all these years. After agonizing for months she read the driver's guide, search the Internet of how to proceed. Did she have to take both a written and driving test? Her US driver's license expired in December 2020. She could not transfer her US driver's license to a Swedish one! She faced a difficult situation. Eventually she got the help she needed. Ingrid copied "her old" Swedish driver's license, sent it together with copies of her California license, passport, current Swedish ID-card along with letter explaining why she had not renewed her license every 10<sup>th</sup> year according to traffic rules. This was achieved after hours of Internet research, long phone conversations, e-mails and regular mail. The representative at the traffic authority search through the paper archive, found a copy of her license confirming her story. After providing a photo, had her eyesight check-up, paid a fee and a new drivers license was mailed to her. A sigh of relief is an understatement!

Five years ago or so the Board of Directors for this complex decided to drill then install six 300 meter long tubes drilled through the granite to provide "bergsvärme" thermal heating. It works beautifully. The colder it is outside the more heat is directed inside. It turns out to be a great savings compared to the electric heat previously provided. We receive water, heating TV & Internet connections paid for with the monthly maintenance payments. It works for us! We subscribe to Netflix in order to get entertainment in English and listen mostly to BBC, Aljazeera & CNN to get our news feed.

When asked, Ingrid volunteered to take a position on the Board starting in May. Is anyone surprised? We must know what needs to be fixed/change/improved and express our own wants and needs, i.e. parking issues & solar panels. Calle wants a gym and a heated swimming pool! He keeps on dreaming!! We currently have a parking place and await a garage. There are only 30 garages for 50 condominiums! The garages were build in 1985, when all cars seemed to be miniatures, and you must be extremely careful when driving in the car as there is only one foot available on either side. We are 7<sup>th</sup> in line to get a garage. Last January, during the coldest days, the backdoor to our Toyota was locked with ice for 3 weeks. We plug in the motor heater every day, but it heats only during for an hour, so predicting your departure time is absolutely necessary. It helps it makes it easier to scrape the windows clear etc. but the car seats will still be cold.

Your phone is your daily companion, something Ingrid is still getting used to. Maps; weather station; financial applications; news; messages; messenger; e-mail; camera; translation; health; library; watch; DN; and the ever important QR Reader. One pays bills on the phone or computer. Ingrid made bill-paying simpler by arranging for autogiro for standard expenses.