

Morning Edition

Patti Payne's Cool Pads: \$2.5M Queen Anne Georgian Colonial manse hits the market

[Patti Payne](#)

Columnist- *Puget Sound Business Journal*

[Email](#) | [Twitter](#)

A meticulously remodeled 1931 brick Georgian Colonial style home designed by noted Seattle architect [Elsworth Storey](#) has just come on the market for \$2.5 million.

This stunning manse, at 1521 Ninth Ave. W., is owned by **Lew** and [Lindy Barrett](#), who have lived there for 30 years and were drawn to it because it had all the elements on their check list: a quiet and safe street, a house with character, longevity and huge views.

The main house, with four bedrooms and two fireplaces, features period hand-crafted details very difficult to replicate: perfectly maintained Honduran mahogany trim, doors and staircase; leaded glass windows, oak floors.

"Wherever we could, we tried to take our cues from the existing stuff," says Lew, regarding the remodel, which in addition to the living, eating and sleeping areas, included updated wiring, plumbing, furnace, on demand water heaters and even a complete earthquake retrofit.

"We built a covered porch that is stunning, with a deck attached to it," says Lindy. "I am never going to have a house without a porch again," she says.

"We put in the basement, rebuilt the swimming pool, redid the whole kitchen which had been three small rooms and is now one big one, redid the landscaping, and I love our marble master bath which we put in," she added.

Windermere broker [Colleen McCann](#) raves about the basement.

"It is masterfully remodeled," she says.

The fully finished basement is a showcase for entertaining and for guests featuring a high-end kitchen, two more bedrooms, two full bathrooms, laundry, and French doors that open to a fully fenced yard and third deck with in-ground swimming pool. [Lew Barrett](#) told me they used it as a vacation rental and it brought in about \$50,000 a year for them.

"The house paid for itself," he said.

The Barretts were in the audio and visual electronics business, selling wholesale sound systems and equipment which are installed in places in our region such as Safeco Field, EMP, Benaroya Hall, churches, radio stations and recording studios.

Retired now with three grown daughters, they are downsizing.

"We grew old in this house," says Lindy. "Walking up and downstairs is not as easy now. We now have six bedrooms and we use only one of them. It's just too big for us."

The Barretts are going to Nashville to work on a home they co-own with one of their daughters. Then they will travel to places such as Vietnam, France, Peru.

"We are on the no-plan plan," she says with a laugh. "We just know we are going on a great adventure."