

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR

Janis Frakes: Menlo Commons Is Perfect For Me



TGN: When did you arrive at Menlo Commons?

Janis: It was June 2016. I saw the for sale sign, contacted the realtor, and immediately was shown the place. The moment I saw it, I loved it and bought it. I felt it was the perfect place for me. I am very happy here, and I felt God's hand was on my shoulder. I started attending Menlo Park Presbyterian Church on Santa Cruz Ave. in 2006, so I knew I was going to be close to it. I act as a volunteer there, attend Bible studies classes there twice a week, and help with events such as senior dinners. I also act as an offering money counter after the Sunday services. I meet many nice people there. Anyway, the move to Menlo Commons was a good move and I feel so blessed being here. It's perfect for me. People are very cheery here and that makes me happy too. I just attended my first Town Hall meeting, and I look forward to other events.

TGN: What other activities are you involved in?

Janis: I bowl twice a week in San Mateo. Also my sons visit me often and keep an eye on me. I am very fortunate. I do knitting, crocheting, sewing, and play the piano. My sister and brother and I get together from time to time. We had a reunion in Indiana (in Goodland which is a couple of hours from Chicago). I have two grandsons living on a small farm in Vermont, ages 21 and 19, who I can visit. Then we have a family reunion coming up in Estes Park, Colorado. One trip I have taken with a church group was to Branson, Missouri. I enjoyed the shows there. It was a clean, wholesome trip, and we plan to go again this year.

TGN: What else?

Janis: I have taken a cruise to the Bahamas out of Orlando. Also, I loved to play tennis when I was stronger. I also enjoy watching TV sports events, such as the Olympics which is going on right now. That's really fun!

TGN: Well, thanks for sharing with us about yourself and your family and your many interests. Look forward to seeing you at Menlo Commons events in the future.

TGN: Janis, tell us about your background.

Janis: I was born in Chicago, but our family soon moved to Cheyenne, Baltimore and Denver, as my father was with an airline because of his job. Finally we settled in California in 1952 where my parents bought their residence in the Redwood City area near Stockbridge and the Alameda. I went to Menlo Atherton High School. After that I was graduated from Colorado Business College in Denver, a 2-year women's business college where I acquired secretarial and shorthand skills. I moved back here and worked at Allstate Insurance Company office on Sand Hill Road.

TGN: How about your family life?

Janis: My first husband was a deputy sheriff in San Mateo County. We had two sons, the oldest is Rob, now 50, who lives in Sacramento. The youngest is Michael, now 47, who lives in Hayward. However this marriage did not work out, and I married my second husband, a California Highway Patrol officer. Eventually we moved to Visalia where I lived 25 to 30 years. I worked two jobs there - one at the Visalia Community Hospital in Emergency doing registration, and the second for a construction company in the accounting office. In 2006, after my second marriage ended, I came back to Redwood City to help take care of my elderly mother who still lived in the Stockbridge area residence. I have a brother in Texas and a sister in Victoria, B.C., and we all decided that I was the best person to do that. Mother and I had a real bonding time together particularly during the last couple of months for her life. She passed on in 2013 at age 96, I stayed in the family residence 2 ½ years before selling the family home.



Please correct the spelling for the names **Bob and Lilly Schulte** who were interviewed in the July 2016 issue of **The Good Neighbor**.

The Good Neighbor

August 2016

Page 2

August Happy Hour: Around the Pool!



Debbie Reif Joins the Party!



Lee Stauss and Marilyn Kinney Enjoy Together



Privash Gharavi Is Here Too!



Cheers! Says Gwen Leonard



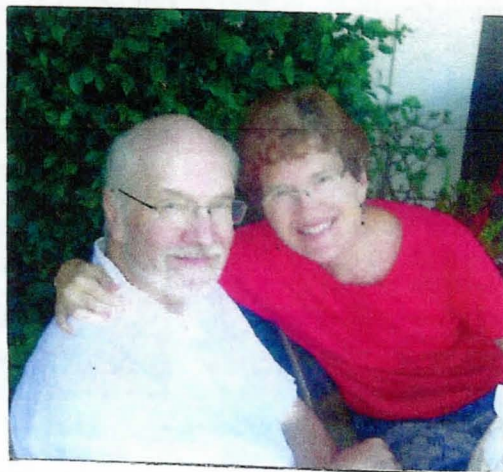
Eugenia Van Salza and Brigitte Esmailzadeh Chatting



Chuck Kinney Salutes the Event



Shirley Stewart Likes Parties



Ken and Ingrid Rogers Love Summertime!



Gloria Dawson Celebrates Wit h Us