

The Good Neighbor

Holiday Edition 2017

A Publication for Menlo Commons Residents

No. 41

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR

Judy Zeitlin & Ray Pestrong: It's Most Attractive Here!

TGN: Judy, tell us where you're from.

Judy: I was born in the Bronx, New York, and spent my early 20's there. I was graduated with a BA in Sociology from Hunter College in New York City and became a social worker. I came to California in 1972. I was married and gave birth to my son Lucas - who now lives in Boston, works as a financial analyst, and has two children. After I divorced, I met Ray in 1991. We lived in Redwood City first and then built our own place - a Mongolian round house in a beautiful forested area of Portola Valley where we lived for the last 20 years before moving to Menlo Commons in October 2017.

TGN: How about you, Ray?

Ray: I am from Manhattan - the lower east side. I got my bachelor's degree in geology at City College of New York and my master's degree at University of Massachusetts. After that I moved West and lived on the Peninsula. I got my PhD at Stanford in geology. I have been a geologist ever since, and wanted to become a teacher. So I taught at San Francisco State as a professor of geology, retiring after 45 years. However, I am still teaching at Osher Lifelong Learning Institute of Santa Clara University. I make power point presentations, and try to stay current on the topics.

TGN: What is your family situation, Ray?

Ray: In my prior marriage I had two daughters each of whom has two of my grandchildren. We try to get together as often as we can. One of my daughters lives in Mountain View so we can easily get to enjoy her and my grandchildren more often. We try to spend a couple of weeks at some place with them every year. We have recently been with them to stay at the beach areas in San Diego and Los Angeles.

TGN: What else do you enjoy doing, Ray and Judy?

Ray: One of the enjoyable things I have been able to do as a teacher is to go on cruises with Judy and given lectures on geology. We have traveled many places in the world this way. I also like leading people on geological field trips. We have rafted the Colorado River through the Grand Canyon several times. We have also driven across the country - visiting the National Parks and historical places. We really love nature a lot. We're looking forward to a cruise in April to Hawaii from San Francisco. I also like to develop community with people, and this was an advantage of being a lecturer on a cruise ship. I sense a community here at Menlo Commons which I look forward to participating in further. I also volunteer at Stanford Hospital in the Jewish chaplain program. I work at maintaining my physical fitness, but have been limited lately because I have had a hip replacement.

Judy: In regard to our lecture cruises, one of our favorite trips was a cruise from Hong Kong to Dubai. We have also been to New Zealand, Australia, Alaska and to the Mediterranean on cruises. We have been on larger size cruise lines such as Celebrity and the Princess. We like to dance and the ship cruises have given us the opportunity. Other things that I do here is work with people, one on one, who are suffering from grief. I act as a volunteer for the congregation at our synagogue Kol Emeth in Palo Alto which gives me this opportunity.

TGN: What brought you to Menlo Commons?



Ray: We decided a couple of years ago to change from living in our home to something that did not involve as much work to maintain. After looking at many places, and also trying to find a buyer for our Portola Valley place, everything clicked this year. We found the buyer for our home, and immediately this unit became available. I like it here as it is a beautiful place with a stable environment. I can relax here.

Judy: We think that it is most attractive here, and well maintained. We are getting to know some new friends here and look forward to participating in this community. I also look forward to just settling down after the moving we have had to do.

TGN: Thanks, Judy and Ray, for letting us get better acquainted

The Good Neighbor is published by Jim Palmer, E-303, for the residents of Menlo Commons. You can contact him at jdpalmerjr@aol.com.

Music, Spirits, and Dinner: Festive Holiday Party *Menlo Commons Residents Celebrate the Season in Style!*



Nancy and Bruce Frymire have fun



Soprano Terra Terwilliger with Gwen Leonard at piano



Richard and Carol Clarke eat well!



Darlene Regis & John Loughlin enjoy dinner



Bob and Lillian Schulte with full plates



Hal & Judy Harbatkin, Pam Kaiser & Jeff Lazarus join the event



Marina and Duane Clapp dressed for the occasion



John and Susan Barnett are new residents



Marilyn & Jim Palmer, Chuck & Marilyn Kinney together