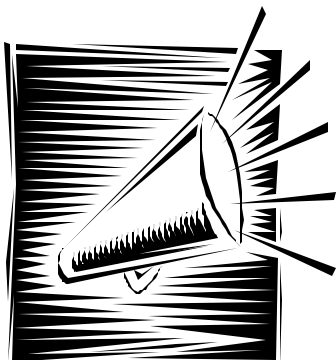


ELYSIAN FIELDS

September, 2000

The Official Paradise Valley Estates Residents' Newspaper

Volume II issue 9



SOUND OFF

By Bob Steinkraus

Last month I got the needle out for Bill Anderson. I should have known better than to take on an old pro like that. Herewith

is his response.....to quote:

“Of all the dirty, dastardly, diabolical deeds, none will surpass those of Bob Steinkraus when he kicked off his lead story in the *Elysian Fields* by impugning my character and painting me as a mercenary. Herewith the riposte:

First of all, the term “fishwrapper”, which I was alleged to use regarding our PV newspaper, is not necessarily a derogatory term. It was created during the conservation period of the war when butchers used to sell their fish wrapped in newspaper. Not only did this conserve paper, but made everyone happy but the fish.

As to my receiving a dollar a word for magazine pieces, this came about when *Reader's Digest* condensed a book of mine (BAT-21) in their international edition. When I heard they were paying a buck a word, I tried to stuff the piece with all the adjectives and adverbs I could dream up, but, alas, I was shot down by gimlet-eyed RD editors. Figuring it was a good round number, I charge this for magazine articles. Books and screenplays, of course, are an entirely different ball game.

As for doing a column for our literary lagniappe, there is nothing I would rather do, accepting the same payment as the other staff on the *Elysian Fields*. This talented group of writers receives nothing, nil, nada, zilch for their highly professional and talented work. As I'm sure the staff will be the first to agree, people do not realize the behind-the-scenes work that goes into publishing a periodical – even as modest as our PVE newspaper.

HELP WANTED — SURROGATE FAMILY

By MajGen (USAF Ret) John Collens, NCROC Chairman

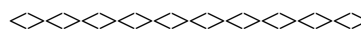
I make it a point to visit the Laurel Creek Health Center at PVE every time there is a scheduled NCROC business meeting, at least monthly. I consider it an obligation to take time to greet residents and non-residents alike who are in the Health Center for needed services.

On a recent visit I was made aware that a number of the patients do not have family members or friends nearby and there are not enough PVE Volunteers, the *Angels in Paradise*, to function as surrogate family. We must do something about that, and it requires very little effortjust a few hours on an infrequent basis would do.

Place yourself in the position of someone who is either temporarily or permanently in a wheelchair, or unable to leave the room without assistance. Without family to visit them now and then, or other caring PVE resident-friends, the days and hours can be very lonely....and it need not be.

If more of you will join the *Angels* those lonely hours will disappear. The male patients need some bonding that guys can give. Just a little talk about shared experiences, holding hands, listening and saying “see you again, very soon” as you depart can make the difference. Since lady-patients outnumber the men in the Center, all PVE ladies could help fill some of those empty hours. With enough Volunteers the empty hours you will spend each month at the Center will be very few. No one will be turned down and we need numbers.

Someday you may need the comfort of a surrogate family and the cheer that these Volunteers bring each day. Please add your name to the list of Laurel Creek Volunteers, the *Angels in Paradise*. Call Marybeth Dow or Jinny Rogers who are the Co-Chairs of the Committee --- today ---?



A FLAT AREA OF GROUND WITH A TRAILER ON IT..... BECKONED

By Betty St George

When life started for John McBeath in the Province of Saskatchewan, Canada, who would have thought he would eventually end up in Paradise Valley Estates with his wife Awilda 'Willy.' Willy says she started life as a "muck kicker" in eastern Oregon.

In 1927 John's family moved to Tucson, Arizona. Schooling there took him through two years at the University of Arizona. As a member of the Army National Guard he soon decided the Air Corps looked better than the Infantry. In 1939



he was off to Kelly Field, and in 1941 John was sent to Luke Field. Since the field was being built, everyone assigned there was trucked to Sky Harbor where the planes were kept.

John kept volunteering to go overseas which found him being sent to Walla Walla, Washington, to join the 88th Bomb Group of B-17's as a flight engineer. The Marcus Whitman Hotel provided a memorable evening for John because that was where he met Willy. John went on-leave to visit his family in San Francisco. One night at about six o'clock he called Willy, and by 10

o'clock she was on the train headed to San Francisco where she and John were married. Upon returning to Walla Walla from leave, John found that the 88th Bomb Group had been shipped to Avon Park, Florida. He smiled and said that anyone who had been shipped to Florida during the war would remember Gate J in Jacksonville.

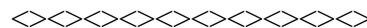
John volunteered again, this time for B-29's. The war was over and he was sent to Johnson AFB, Japan where Willy joined him in 1948.

Next came a tour of duty at Hamilton AFB, CA where he received a direct commission as a First Lieutenant. He retired as a Captain with 23 years of service. John received his BA in Anthropology while still in the service and later his MA, also in Anthropology.

He taught at Novato High School for ten years and College of Marin for ten more years. After retiring from the California School systems, John was offered a two year contract to teach Industrial Technology with Southern Illinois University in Ramstein, Germany; it stretched to five years.

Willy played the role of homemaker and volunteer extraordinaire. She is the mother of their four children, three girls and a boy. She earned her degree in Social Science from the University of San Francisco. Willy volunteered twice weekly teaching English as a Second Language for ten years and in VITA (Volunteers In Tax Assistance), a tax assistance program in the Mission district in San Francisco. She is a member of the Sunny Hill Guild in Novato and continues to be active. Both of them are excellent bridge players. John gets in a little golf and Willy volunteers in the PVE Activities Office.

They made a deposit down as soon as they heard about Paradise Valley Estates when it was the vision of NCROC.....and moved in on the 3rd day of the opening — back in November 1997.



SOUND OFF (con't)

So it is not monetary considerations that preclude my participation at this time. It is Father Time. My platter is overflowing as I have to come up with three columns a month for national magazines and am trying to finish my 22nd book before shuffling off this mortal coil.

In fact, one of the monthly crimes committed against the literary world, was nailing me to edit the new "Encore" column in our TROA Magazine. Since our World War Two vets are dying off at the rate of some 1200 a day, we want to preserve some of their untold stories. Hence the new column. Incidentally, to show the high caliber of your staff, one of Irwin Rosen's stories has been selected to help launch the new series. It appears in the August issue of the TROA fishwrapper.

When I have finished my book on war stories, I will be very happy to join the ranks of other contributors and do a column for our august periodical, if you'll still have me. In the meantime, kudos to you and all the staff of Paradise Valley Estates official newspaper. You are doing one helluva job.

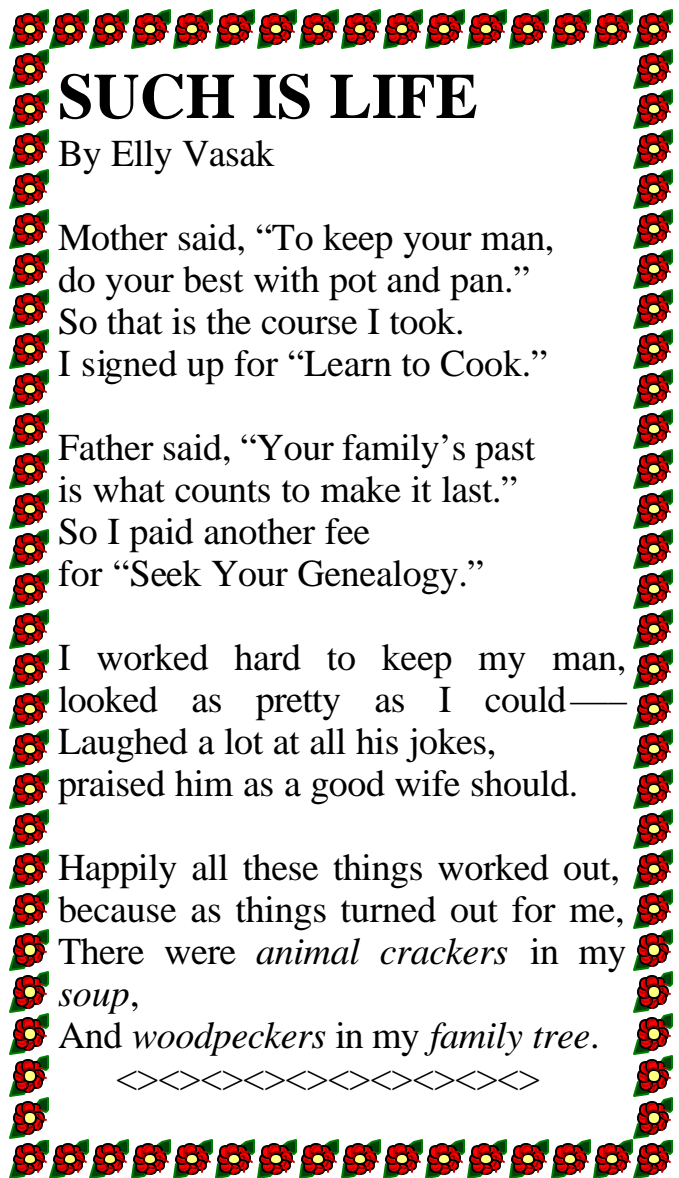
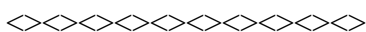
There. Bob, I hope I have set the record straight. Since this rejoinder runs some 502 words, you own me approximately \$500. I take VISA, Master Card or Discover".....end quote

Bill, I'll take it up with the PVE Residents Council. They are the people with the money. In the meantime I'll tender my IOU. However, thanks for the kind words, my friend.

Well, now what can I say? The bright light in all of this is, and you read it here, at some time in the future Bill will become a contributor.

Just one more word about contributors. I have heard the comment that some of the residents would like more bio-interviews, perhaps three or four. Man, I could not agree more, there is a lot of ground to cover here. One problem, would those who feel this way please step forward and produce one additional bio a month? We would be more than happy to publish same. We are lucky to have the talent we have to get one out.

And as our ole' buddy Jim Wirrick used to say, "Peace in the Valley."



SUCH IS LIFE

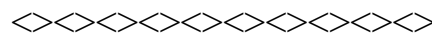
By Elly Vasak

Mother said, "To keep your man,
do your best with pot and pan."
So that is the course I took.
I signed up for "Learn to Cook."

Father said, "Your family's past
is what counts to make it last."
So I paid another fee
for "Seek Your Genealogy."

I worked hard to keep my man,
looked as pretty as I could—
Laughed a lot at all his jokes,
praised him as a good wife should.

Happily all these things worked out,
because as things turned out for me,
There were *animal crackers* in my
soup,
And *woodpeckers* in my family tree.



CHOW DOWN

By Jeanne Michael

By the time you read this, the Interest Group Faire will be history. Do hope that any of you who had questions dropped by to meet and talk to us. At our September meeting, we will be picking 3 new members for our committee – 3 (including myself) will leave by choice or drawing straws. In October we will have a meeting with both the "staying on" people, the "outgoing" and "incoming" and then the new group will be in place for the November meeting.

We discussed when would be a good time for the Labor Day picnic and it was decided that 4 PM had a lot to recommend it. This will be the

THE CORSAIR PILOT'S PSALM

By Bob Steinkraus

(The Corsair was the standard Marine Corps fighter-bomber during the Korean war. The setting for this tale is Korea, K-6 being Kimpo air-



port.)

And so it came to pass, as the fourth hour before dawn approached into the land known a K-6, a messenger goath forth to the tents of the birdmen, and he speaketh unto each saying, verily, “Arise and don thy garments and go then to the gathering place for the master has declared that it shall be thus.”

The birdmen, awakening, revile the messenger, saying his mother has no morals, and his father knoweth him not, and they arise and seek out their socks and go forth to break bread, and one breaketh his hand on the bread.

And then they are gathered together in the sanctum of sanctums known as briefing, and their voices are hushed, for they are in the presence of the master. And so it came to pass that disciples arise and speak unto them, telling them routes, altitudes and targets, for this is their manner of speaking. And at last the master ariseth and sayeth unto them, “yea, verily, thou art indeed fortunate, for thine enemy is sorry put and does naught to oppose thee. Go ye forth and gird thyselfes for battle.”

And the birdmen whisper one unto another, “Yea, verily, this will indeed be a day of great tribulation, for the master retireth to his sack and goeth not amongst us.”

Then the birdmen go to their iron birds and prepare their rituals. And some are beset by trem-

Continued on page 12

PAWS AT PARADISE

.... *And Away*

By Freddi Miller

Our New Executive Director, Ron Ridley, had “Go to Dogs” on his calendar for July 25th. So he came to the PVE Dog Owners Meeting to learn more about our needs, plans and hopes. Two possibilities for our dog park were discussed as were other plans for visiting the Laurel Creek Health Center and possibly speakers for our Meetings.

BLITZEN is a miniature poodle that lives with and is frequently seen walking with Pat Orme around PVE. Pat tells us about him: “One day, eight years ago, we went to *just look* at a litter of miniature poodles. Blitzen immediately came to my side and that has been his favorite position ever since.



“Blitzen is a joy to watch, even in his middle age, as he walks with a sprightly gait or chases his favorite toy across the floor. The only time he droops is when I put on my ‘out to dinner’ shoes.

Our most companionable times are spent walking on the beach. He loves to play in the waves, then run away from me into the fog, then make a tight whirling turn right back to me.

Currently Blitzen enjoys our daily walks where he has favorite neighbors and favorite Security Guards. He takes delight in teasing Rosie and Jezebel, our neighboring Newfoundland’s..

I appreciate so much about Blitzen – but perhaps most of all his intelligence and sensitivity. He is a good friend.”

FRIEDA AND LULU

are mixed breed dogs belonging to John and Ruth Raffety. Frieda is black and mostly Labrador; she was acquired from the Sacramento SPCA. Lulu is light brown and about



Continued on page 14

COMPUTER “KORNER”

By Jack R. Albrecht

REMOVAL OF UNWANTED PROGRAMS:

Every once in a while you may want to remove a program that you no longer use that is just taking up space on your hard drive. You should be aware that trying to remove a program by going to and using

Windows Explorer to delete a program may leave behind bits and pieces of the program, such as DLL's (Dynamic Link Libraries), or other files that were in the Windows folder.

There also could be useless data left in the Windows registry, which can slow up your system's start-up and shutdown process. Therefore, when you want to delete a specific program you should only use either third party uninstall software or the Windows 95/98 ADD/REMOVE PROGRAMS Wizard that is found at the Control Panel. If you do not have an Icon for the Control Panel on your Desktop, click on START, SETTINGS and CONTROL PANEL. Next, double click on ADD/REMOVE PROGRAMS. A list of software programs will be displayed on the Add/Remove Programs Properties screen. Follow the directions on the screen to remove a program. However, if by chance you previously used Windows Explorer to remove a program, and it is still listed on the Add/Remove Programs Properties screen, you have several options on how to delete a program name from that list. First, you can reinstall the program, then uninstall it properly using the Add/Remove Programs wizard, or you can use a third-party uninstall software such as Cyber media's UnInstaller which is now sold by McAfee (www.mcafee.com) as version 6.0 for \$19.95. If interested in purchasing it go to the URL and click on Shopping, then on UnInstaller which is under the McAfee Store symbol. The other option for removal of unwanted programs that you had previ-



ously tried to remove using Windows Explorer is to edit the Registry, but editing the registry can be a risky business because you can end up disabling your computer. This option is only recommended as a last resort.

STARTUP DISK: When you were looking at the Add/Remove Programs Properties screen you may have noticed that it can also be used for Windows Setup as well as for the creation of a Startup Disk. If you have never created a Startup Disk previously, now is the time to do so. All it takes is one floppy disk and a few moments of your time. A Startup Disk is used to start your computer if and when ever you have trouble starting Windows 95 or 98. Each system will have its own Startup Disk. Follow the on screen directions. After completion, label and date your Startup Disk; then store it in a safe place where you can find it when ever it is needed.

SCANNERS: If you are in the market for a flat bed scanner or a replacement for one you now have, take a look at the latest offering from EPSON (www.epson.com). Their new EPSON Perfection 1200 is correctly named according to reviews in the latest computer magazines. The "Perfection" is available in three models, e.g., the EPSON Perfection 1200U for plug 'n play USB installation for i Mac, USB-ready Power Macintosh G3, and Windows 98 systems. The 1200S is for connecting via super fast SCSI (small computer system interface) to Windows 95 or 98, Power Macintosh and G3 systems. The Perfection 1200U Photo comes with a Transparency Adapter for scanning 35 mm slides, negatives or 4 x 5 transparencies. However, the first model, the Perfection 1200U is the one most of us would be interested in purchasing. This jewel of a 36-bit per pixel scanner delivers a hardware resolution of 1200 x 2400 dpi with precision optics and fast one pass scanning. One review stated that the 1200U has the best Optical Character Recognition package that they had ever seen. The Windows minimum system requirements are a 486/66 or higher processor, 16MB RAM (32MB recommended), 50MB of available hard drive space (minimum), CD-ROM drive, VGA monitor with at least 256 color display, USB or SCSI port, mouse or pointing device. If you have a computer with Windows 98, you will usually meet all of

COMPUTER “KORNER” (con’t)

these minimum requirements. The EPSON Perfection 1200U comes bundled with Adobe PhotoDeluxe software for enhancing, modifying, and organizing images as well as other software to assist you in its operation. The units street price is usually about \$250.00, which is relatively low considering the phenomenal scanning abilities offered by the Perfection 1200U.

COMPUTER TERMS: Sometimes it is nice to know what the other person is talking about. Hence here you see a few of the more common terms; however, these are only a minuscule number of the multi-hundreds of characters and abbreviations used in the computer and electronic world.

Byte		1 byte
Kilobyte	KB	1,024 bytes
Megabyte	MB	1,048,576 bytes
Gigabyte	GB	1,073,741,824 bytes
TWAIN: Technology Without Any Interesting Name		

PDF: Portable Document Format (files)

MPEG : Moving Pictures Expert Group

MP3: Moving Pictures Expert Group 1, Layer 3

HTTP: Hyper Text Transfer Protocol

DLL: Dynamic Link Libraries

FAQS Frequently Asked Questions

OCR: Optical Character Recognition

WAP: Wireless Application Protocol

MIME: Multipurpose Internet Mail Extension

USB: Universal Serial Bus

POP 3: Post Office Protocol Version 3

SDRAM: Synchronous Dynamic RAM

RAM: Random Access Memory

SMTP: Simplified Mail Transfer Protocol

FAT: File Allocation Table

DNS: Domain Name System

URL: Uniform Resource Locator

PPP: Point to Point Protocol

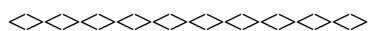
WYSIWYG: What You See Is What You Get

CD-R: Compact Disc-Recordable

CD-RW: Compact Disc-Rewritable

CD-ROM: Compact Disc-Read Only Memory

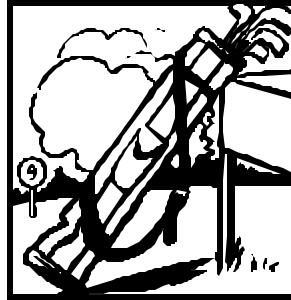
TCP/IP: Transmission Control Protocol/
Interrupt Protocol



SPORTS AND RECREATION

By John Kroyer

Wednesday August 2nd, featured the PVE golf tournament at Paradise Valley Golf Club. Our largest group ever of 34 players participated. 36 were scheduled but two could not make it. Scramble format was played



again, this time each player had to use his drive four times and when his drive was selected, he/she could not participate in the second shot for that hole. Some pretty good scores were posted. The winning team of Bill Stoneberg,

John Gearhart and Carl Johnson won with a score of 70 which is 2 under par. More challenging pool games are being played now that one doesn't need to climb the pool ladder one rung at a time. Anyone may challenge the “Best Player” in the top spot. As you might guess the name at the top has been changed several times already.

On Friday, August 25, from 10 to 12 am a PVE Faire will be held in the Multipurpose Room. Many activities will be featured, one being a sports desk. One of its primary purposes is to sign up residents who are interested in playing any sport which is currently not available. I shall be at the table to answer questions concerning future plans and to prepare phone lists for various sports.

BINGO

By Ceil Bellinger

The first Bingo session in August set not one but two new records. The session opened with a Triple Bingo with a wild number. For the first time there were four winning cards on that game (three winners were the most we'd had before). And there was another “first” on that game – two of those winning cards were being played by the same person – Helen Wiley! So congrats to Helen, Bev Hummel and “Brad” Bradley. Winner of the Jackpot that evening was Jeanne Reavis.

“THE STORE”

By Fred-a Jurian, Chair, Ways&Means Com.

As many of you know “*The Store*” has been in its new location since June 27th. The Ways & Means Committee proudly reports to you, the residents, our sales for the period June 27th to August 3 total **\$1,210.30!!** This success, of course, is mostly due to you the residents. Your donations of upscale items and response to the plea for costume jewelry was outstanding and generous. Don’t you think we’ve come a long way since the table top in the Soda Shoppe ... last August to now??

Your donated ‘treasures,’ and consignment/commission items have added to our success. As you all know, or should know, the proceeds are deposited in the Resident Council Operation Fund (RCOF), and hopefully used for, and donated to, special activities, capital items, and contributions to other projects here at PVE. This money covers projects, etc., that our regular monthly care fee does not normally include. As many of you know, our first “major project” was the beautiful baby grand piano in the Multi-Purpose Room.... our Committee with you ... did that!!

In addition to the Residents, our “best customers” are PVE Staffers that include the enthusiastic Housekeepers, Maintenance, Security, and Health Center Personnel. It is a good two way street; we help them and they surely help us!

Unfortunately, however, our “inventory” is rapidly depleting and we have no other resources to replenish our shelves. Therefore, if you have not gone through all the boxes stored in the garage or storage lockers - with the hope of “gotta do that some day - soon,” please try to do so now. DON’T call Goodwill, or the like; we also give a donation slip - for the write-off. If you need help with this chore, that is at hand too...one of us from the Ways & Means Committee will come along and help you out (of course, within our limitations too). Maintenance will cheerfully move it for you to our storage garage - which is the “extension” of *The Store*.

All items are accepted, no item too small or too large. We can use all types of furniture, dishes, China, crystal, flatware, pots/pans, pictures, knick-knacks, wall hangings, linens, you name it. IF you have a consignment item, we will

store it and sell it for you and charge a 25% commission fee....it’s worked for others, it will work for you.

Unfortunately, we are unable to take clothing, with the exception of special items. However, IF you have clothing to donate, as part of our “Reach out to the Community Program,” we help with that too.....thanks to Helen Millson, who has arranged for clothing items to be donated to the North Bay Medical Guild Volunteer Program for your write-off.

The **PVE Activities Faire**, on Friday, August 25th, will feature all of the Activities Groups *YOU* could become involved with in our Community. The day of the Faire *The Store* will be open - drop in and take a look at our new project -- NEW PVE NOTE PAPER. All of our homes are depicted, in color, on the front: Manors, Duplex-I, Duplex-II, IV-Plex, Apartments, 1000, 2000, and 3000. We hope you will be as enthusiastic about this project as we are. (Note: Not “Christmas Cards” – as mentioned in the Resident Council Minutes of July 19).

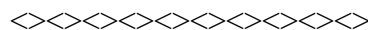
REMEMBER: *The Store* needs your donated “treasures” including consignment and commission items. *The Store* Hours: Tuesdays, Wednesdays, & Thursdays, from 11:00 a.m. > 2:00 p.m. If you have a question or need our help, please call *The Store* Manager Fred-a Jurian at 434-1710 or Helen Millson at 434-1907. And again, **Thank YOU!**

PVE LIBRARY

By Joan Teague

Do you have titles of books on your “must read some day” list? Isn’t it a pleasure when one of them falls into your hands? One such book on my list was *The Road From Coorain* by Jill Ker Conway and there it was in our own PVE Library!

Many Residents have shown interest in writing memoirs as evidenced by those who enroll in Liz Wildberger’s class which has been given several times now. For an excellent example of fascinating memoirs, check out *The Road from Coorain*. You will find it in our Biography Section. And why not recommend a book that you have found especially rewarding?



WOODWORKERS ASSOCIATION

“The Termites”

By Fred Schaffer

“The Termites” have continued to keep busy. In addition to personal projects by various members, small items for sale by *The Store*, and larger items for general benefit of PVE Residents have been constructed. Among the latter are drawers for video tapes in the Library, computer desk in the Recreation Center, and a rolling cart for hymnals for the Sunday Worship Service. The most conspicuous Termite project is the arbor at the Resident Garden entrance (mentioned in a previous *Elysian Fields* article). Frank Williams and George Yeoman are to be thanked for much of the work on both of our small and larger items.

A catalog describing items for sale, as well as samples of most of the items, is available in *The Store*. An additional catalog is posted in the In-House Mail Room; it is expected that wooden toys for Christmas gifts will be added to these items. In addition, “The Termites” will consider construction of personal home projects for any resident, such as shelves, cupboards, etc. The price would be reasonable – cost of materials plus an “appreciation” contribution (by the resident) toward expendables and equipment maintenance in the Woodshop. Please contact George Yeoman (434-8866) or Frank Williams (426-9839) if you have a special project in mind.

The Woodworkers Association is open to any interested PVE resident. New residents, including the ladies, interested in woodworking are more than welcome. Instructions on safety and operation of equipment will be provided, and a helping hand is often available for individual projects or participating in group projects. Please contact John McBeath (426-5042) for certification in the use of the woodshop and its extensive equipment.



A MOST UNUSUAL SURGICAL CASE ...

By Irwin Rosen

In 1949, while on the staff at Walter Reed Army Hospital, I dropped by the surgery coffee room to chat with my colleagues. I found myself discussing unusual medical cases with one of the neurosurgeons. He told me about an amazing case the neurosurgeons still talked about. Here is Dr. Paul M_____’s story.

In 1945, in Europe during WW II, an infantryman received a grievous neck wound in combat. The medics got him off the battlefield to the 1st aid station, where his wound was bandaged, and he was transferred back to a station hospital. The surgeon there realized the wounded man was already showing signs of spinal cord injury. He felt a cervical collar might obstruct the patient’s breathing. He knew that surgical traction was the best way to protect the patient’s spinal cord, but did not have the proper equipment to do this. He needed to apply tongs to the patient’s skull with weights attached for traction. These tongs looked like the ice tongs an iceman used to carry ice up to our ice box – before the days of refrigeration.

He felt the patient would not survive slow evacuation by ambulance or jeep over cratered roads and terrain to the next medical facility where proper equipment would be available. Remember, these were the days before helicopters (Korea, Vietnam). What to do? He had an idea! He took a narrow nine inch metal pin, used for traction on extremity fractures *and drilled it through the patient’s head – from one side through the other!* He tied a rope to each side of the pin, added weights to the end of the rope and dropped it over the end of the litter, affording a traction effect to the patient’s neck. The soldier was then transferred to the rear. When the patient got to the next echelon hospital, they were startled by the strange sight of a wounded G.I. with a pin protruding through his head. They were afraid to remove it and transferred him to a major hospital in England. Again, the doctors were amazed at the sight of a metal pin sticking through the patient’s head. They also chose to do nothing and

AWAY WE GO ...

By Liz Wildberger

After a summer crammed with trips, activities and on-campus events, both the BBB (Big Blue and White Bus) and residents alike are clamoring for at least a week to re-charge our collective and figurative batteries.

Saturday, September 2 will find casual concert goers at the Jarvis Conservatory for the monthly *Opera Night at the Jarvis*. This popular series features students and graduates of the prestigious Conservatory on stage, performing selections ranging from Broadway musicals to operatic arias, as well as Italian art songs or German lieder. Intermission refreshments are elegant, and the wine served from the Jarvis vineyards is indescribably delicious. This concert evening will be a monthly event for PVE residents, so look for sign up sheets to appear regularly.

A tentative plan to tour the new Ball Park and home of the San Francisco Giants is under consideration. If a tour can be arranged, the date set is **Thursday, September 14**. Look for information on PVTV.

Thursday evening, September 14, residents will travel to Freeborn Hall on the UC Davis campus for a toe-tapping, stage-stomping colorful performance by the Ukrainian Dancers and Singers. There should be no problem about staying awake through this program. The performance will be preceded by a lecture at 7 p.m. explaining the origin of the folk dances and other information to make one more audience-comfortable.

After an evening of Ukrainian culture, Corinne Ekern promises us an afternoon of multi-ethnic dancing on **Saturday, September 16** when the Fairfield International Children's Dancers appear at PVE for a special performance. Led by Ginny Lee, the group will demonstrate dances from many lands and cultures. Corinne has been doing an outstanding job of bringing local artists to our community, and certainly deserves the "In-Reach Award" for bringing in local artists. Having programs on-campus enables many of our Laurel Creek residents to enjoy a pleasant diversion as well.

Friday, September 15 marks the Louis Armstrong Centennial Celebration with Nicholas Payton. One of the most revered and influential

American musicians of the 20th century, legendary trumpet player Louis Armstrong certainly deserves a 100th birthday celebration. Critically acclaimed young trumpeter Nicholas Payton is the perfect host, both for his playing and sense of history. Again, Freeborn Hall on the campus of UC, Davis is the host venue.

Now, for all you Dog Club members and Rent-a-Pet puppy lovers, here is an opportunity to see well-trained canines in action at the Sir Francis Drake Kennel Club Dog Show in San Rafael. It's on **Saturday, September 16**, and PVE's own Elysian Fields columnist and dog owner, Freddi Miller will be there with Drummer. It should be fun to see how the pros do it, or at least admire the dogs in action.

The historic Woodland Opera House is the setting for the rollicking farce, *Lend Me a Tenor*. A fast-paced bedroom comedy, the play is ideally suited to the theater. A tour of the historic theater will precede the show on **Sunday afternoon, September 17**.

Back to Benicia for lunch at the gracious Steven Mattingly's home on **Tuesday, September 19**. Our Dining Services Director has opened his home to residents on several occasions, so if you have been the recipient of his incredible hospitality (and rhubarb crisp!), please defer to fellow residents who have yet to enjoy the pleasure. The Glass Works is also on the day's agenda.

Mark your calendars for **Sunday evening, September 24**, when the Not-Quite-Ready-for-Prime-Time Players, directed by Jan Holderness, lead us through a murder mystery/dinner theater experience.

Look for a return of several popular characters from the first mystery, and be prepared for some new and exciting twists. Playwrights Liz and Marty Wildberger and their committee promise an evening of motive, methods and means, and Dining Director Mattingly will provide a themed mystery menu. (No, guys, NOT the infamous *Mystery Meat* of your military days).

On **Thursday, September 28**, Peg Cutshall has designed another unique trip to the Wine



AWAY WE GO (con't)

Country. A feature will be a visit to the Bale Mill located between St. Helena and Calistoga. This historic site has a 36-foot diameter wheel that was once used to grind flour for local farmers. It has been restored and once more grinds flour and cornmeal. Then, in profound gratitude that one doesn't have to go home and bake bread, participants will be led to Tomatino's Pizzeria in St. Helena. Ever eaten a Piadine? It's oven warm flatbread topped with cool salads that you fold and eat like a sandwich. Or you might like Pastina – tiny dot pasta, sweet corn, cherry tomatoes with mushrooms and fresh basil. There's something for everyone on the extensive luncheon menu. The trip continues after lunch to the St. Supery winery for a different kind of wine experience. Smell-a-Vision! Visitors are invited to blind-sniff various varietals to determine the subtle aromas that permeate really fine wine.

September events are filled with gastronomic sensations, and the PVE bus will probably need new shocks and springs before the group sets out for another round of adventure. Until then, *Bon appetit!*

COMMUNITY GARDEN NEWS

By Jan Holderness

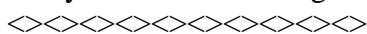
Five dauntless gardeners braved the heat last month to collect some wonderful compost: Fred Schaffer, John Barber, the Bolands, and Jan Holderness. This was "really good stuff" from the home of an incoming PVE resident.

Our group had an inspiring visit to Napa and the home and extensive garden created by the Card's daughter and her husband. Lunch beside the pool followed, as we shared the vegetables brought from our own PVE garden.

We hope everyone will stop in to visit the garden this summer. You will probably leave with a luscious tomato or a rose.

Personalized bricks are always available to order. Just call Pat Orme or Jan Holderness.

A big thank-you to George Yeoman for repainting our entry. It is a welcoming landmark.



COMPUTER USER GROUP (CUG)

By Dominic Battistella

The Computer Demo on 10th August was well received by over 80 Residents and we are now ready to begin our monthly meetings. Meeting dates and Group Leaders are:

- 1st Friday - Basic Computer- - -John Gearhart
- 2nd Friday - Basic Internet- - -Jackie Peterson,
- 3rd Friday - Advanced Internet- - -Jack Lindeman

We are will try to hold all meetings at 7:30 p.m. in the Multi-Purpose Room on these dates. The old signup sheets for each group are being replaced by new ones. Interested Residents are again invited to signup at the reception desk. The \$15.00 annual dues by cash or check may be given to the Group Leaders at the first meetings. Checks should be made out to the Resident Council Operating Fund **or** RCOF (Memo: Computer Mtg.).

Residents with tutorials and other educational materials that may be useful are invited to bring them to the meetings.

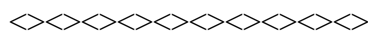
We are happy to announce that a MacIntosh - Apple Computer, donated by Donald and Barbara Richardson, will now be available for our meetings. Thanks - Don and Barb.

INTERNET NEWS: The Internet can help win the Battle of the Bulge - try **www.thedietchannel.com** – it provides over 600 Links on the subject. Planning a Reunion or looking for a long lost buddy? - go to **www.troa.org/locator**. Two websites for investors - **www.morningstar.com** and **www.finance.yahoo.com**.

CHOW DOWN (con't)

only meal served that day. A new Take Out menu was discussed – it should now be in effect. Also by now a new menu is probably in place – but was not available during the meeting. The Committee discussed a name change for the Soda Shoppe and passed on to the Council the suggestion of "The Café."

It was a pleasure to have the new Executive Director, Ron Ridley, drop by to meet us and ask about our committee.



WHERE WAS GENEVIEVE WHEN THE LIGHTS WENT OUT?

By Ancil Baker

Not in the cellar eating sauerkraut: rather, in the rear cockpit over Shreveport at 2000 feet, or about.

Yes, in the good old peacetime Army Air Corps, pilots were permitted to take their wife and mother up for a ride once a year.

So there she was, on a night flight when the entire battery electrical system failed. This didn't affect the performance of the engine because it operated off two magnetos of its own. Trouble was, the red light on the left wing tip, the green light on the right wing tip and the white light on the tail of the airplane were not lit, so nobody could see it.



Shreveport was in the northwest quadrant from Barksdale Field and this was not the only aircraft assigned to that same quadrant, not to mention the other three quadrants. Radios in those days were not at all reliable anyway, operating as they did in the low frequency range. Army Air Corps control towers operated on a frequency of 395 kilocycles. So control tower operators still relied on the trusty old high-intensity directional spotlight with a choice of red, green, or white light.

So, now the name of the game was to watch out for everybody else, sneak in and buzz the control tower when nobody was close, hope that the operator heard and saw, found the derelict with his white spotlight and then shoot it with a green spot indicating a clearance to land.

In those days airplanes did not have landing lights, but all Air Corps landing fields had huge batteries of flood lights at each end of the landing

field all focused in the direction of landing.

The tower got royally buzzed, the airplane got the green spotlight and an anticlimactic landing was made.

Genevieve was none the wiser – sez her pilot.

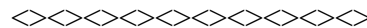
Most Army landing fields at that time had no runways: they were simply grassy fields that were kept mowed. Many airplanes still had tail skids that would not have worked on paved runways anyway. Barksdale Field was three miles long and about a half mile wide, at that time the largest airport in the world. Three squadrons of A-17A aircraft would line up across the downwind end and another three squadrons of P-26 aircraft would line up in front of them and when a rocket flare was shot from the control tower all would blast off like a spooked flock of ducks. What a show! (*that was known in some other aviation circles as a GROUP GROPE.*)

All over the United States and Canada there were emergency landing fields with no runways and no floodlights. To land on them at night Army pilots would drop the first of two magnesium flares. A 25-foot parachute would pop out, igniting the flare and hold it in midair while the pilot cased the joint. Then he would jettison the other flare and make a landing before it burned out.

Regular parachutes were made of silk; not so., these little gems. They were made from a new-fangled creation called nylon. The gals used to love to fall heir to a recovered one. They made all kinds of good stuff from one.

Ladd Field, Fairbanks, Alaska had the second paved runway I ever saw, Crissy Field at the Presidio of San Francisco being the first. For night landings lighted smudge pots were placed across the downwind end of the Ladd Field runway and along the left hand side. It worked very well

A good question is: “What would Geronomo yell as he jumped out of an airplane?”



PAWS AT PARADISE (con't)

the size of a Beagle; she was the runt of a neighbor's 16 pup litter. The Raffety's especially like their very gentle and loving dispositions. They are out walking every morning – on a good day about 2 miles but are very happy to ride in a car or truck. When night falls they each find their place beside their master's bed.....

.... And Away Going to the Dogs

The PVE Activities Committee has planned a trip to the Sir Francis Drake Kennel Club Show in San Rafael on September 16th. Every dog lover will find something of interest, from the conformation judging of most of the 148 AKC breeds, obedience and earthdog events to the agility trials at this Show.

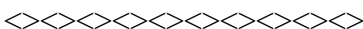
The main purpose of dog shows is to encourage better breeding and the preservation of the standard of each breed. Dogs and bitches are divided into classes and the winner of each class competes for Winners Dog and Winners Bitch; then these two winners compete for Best of Winners and against Champions for Best of Breed. There will be many rings both indoors and outdoors with judging many different breeds at the same time. In the afternoon each Best of Breed winner competes to win one of the seven groups and then those winners compete for Best in Show.

Obedience and Agility trials run during most of the day. Obedience is fun to watch as the dogs and handlers try to execute the judges' directions with perfection. Agility is the most entertaining as the dogs, many with wild exuberance, run a timed obstacle course off lead (my Scottie, Drummer, runs in Agility). Earthdog Trials will also be run for



of the time.

dogs bred to "go to ground" but it is not very much of a spectator sport as the dogs are in tunnels most



Elysian Fields

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Contributions to *ELYSIAN FIELDS* are welcome. E-mail to steiny@jccomp.com or frjurian@aol.com. Otherwise, please place copy in box 4019, double spaced and type-written where possible. Submissions must be in not later than the 20th of the month.

BENEFITS OF GROWING OLDER

Compiled by Steiny

(Some of these are sad but true.)

In a hostage situation you are likely to be released first.

It's harder and harder for sexual harassment charges to stick.

Kidnapers are not very interested in you.

No one expects you to run into a burning building.

People call at 9 p.m. and ask, 'Did I wake you?'

People no longer view you as a hypochondriac.

There's nothing left to learn the hard way.

Things you buy now won't wear out.

You buy a compass for the dash of your car.

You can eat dinner at 4 p.m.

You can live without sex but not without glasses.

You can't remember the time you laid on the floor to watch TV.

You consider coffee one of the most important things in life.

You constantly talk about the price of gasoline.

You enjoy hearing about other people's operations.

You get into a heated argument about pension plans.

You got cable for the weather channel.

You have a party and the neighbors don't even realize it.

You no longer think of speed limits as a challenge.

You quit trying to hold your stomach in, no matter who walks into the room.

You send money to PBS.

You sing along with the elevator music.

You talk about "good grass" and you are referring to someone's lawn.

Your arms are almost too short to read the newspaper.

Your back goes out more than you do.

Your ears are hairier than your head.

Your eyes won't get much worse.

Your investment in health insurance is finally beginning to pay off.

Your joints are more accurate than the National Weather Service.

Your secrets are safe with friends because they can't remember them either.

Your supply of brain cells is finally down to a manageable size.

You read stuff like this in the paper.