

7/12/06

The recent Robin Renton Chapter of Red Hat Luncheon, hosted by Gloria Eisen and Pat Mc Donald was fabulous. When Pat and Gloria team up to decorate, whether a tea table or something much larger, such as Gloria's deck, the results are always outstanding. The food was prepared by Gloria Eisen with the help of her husband, Pat. The next event planned for the Red Hatter's will be a picnic lunch at the Alpine Cellars Winery.

You may have noticed the Trinity Lake receding, in fact it is down by 8.67 feet since June 10. It is still high enough to make those who ski, tube, or fish happy. And by the number of vacationer's arriving, there are a lot of happy people out there.

Norm Zeppa sang at a recent function that kept him from attending the Firemen's 4<sup>th</sup> of July BBQ at the Koa Campground Saturday, July 1. The money he received for his "gig" was promptly donated to the firemen's funds. As Roger Chatterton said, "This guy is one class act". Another very nice lady I know who could not attend the BBQ also sent the TCVFD a check. She is a class act too. The fire department really needs the money to adequately maintain and update their equipment, and they have outgrown the original fire department building and need to add an additional "bay" to house all of the trucks.

The next regularly scheduled training meeting for the TCVFD is Weds 12 July at 6 PM. All FEAT members and TCVFD Auxiliary members are invited to attend.

I would like to introduce you to a very special lady. Kerstin Froukje Shipper is my neighbor and my friend. She is also a very young looking mother of nine children, most of them are over six feet to almost seven feet tall and all have grown into the finest family I have ever met. Watching Kerstin and her husband, Pete interact with their family of gentle giants helps to understand how love and respect is contagious and passes from the top down from one family member to the next.

While Kerstin grew up in the Netherlands and the war-ravaged Europe, Pete grew up on a farm before his family moved to Oregon and then back to San Jose where they started a family landscaping business from scratch. It has grown into a profitable business employing over 100 family members.

Kerstin and Pete, both over six feet tall, met in her native Netherlands where Kerstin, at age 20, was attending the Royal Academy of Art in the Hague, and Pete, who is an American born Dutch, was visiting Denmark and Holland at an international convention for his church. It all started when Pete asked her if she wanted to go get an ice cream cone. Not long after that, Kerstin took him home to meet her family. When he left, she felt they had a very special friendship, but she admits she liked him much more than a friend. Before Pete returned home he asked her if she would like to see America or California. Kerstin said, "Yes, of course".

After she graduated from the Royal Academy of Art, the two corresponded for a while, and one day there was a check included in the letter for a one way trip to California. She arrived in November, they announced their engagement in Dec and married the following June of 1970.

You may see the Schipper's riding their bikes, kayaking, or swimming in the lake. Kerstin will often take her camera with her at the crack of dawn or just before sunset to get the "just right" lighting on pictures she sometimes uses in her art work, and her artistic talent covers several different mediums. Her art work appears in many homes shops and restaurants. Many of us in Trinity Center have been treated to a glimpse of her work in hand painting and glazing tile-murals at last years Labor Day BBQ and Art Show. A few of us have caught Kerstin in the middle of one of her artistic frenzy where she had at least 5 oversized canvases covering every workable space in a room in her home in Trinity Center whether it was on the bed, floor, table or leaning up

against the wall. And she was painting them all at the same time. Each canvas had a different theme that matched the personality of the person she was painting it for. I believe the lucky recipients of these paintings were her children and grandchildren. I wonder how I can be adopted into that family.

Kerstin is hard at work, both here and at her home in Los Gatos, preparing more tiles and tile-murals for this year's Labor Day BBQ and Art Show. We are all in for a treat.

Dick Eyman maintains he is innocent of the 4<sup>th</sup> of July "Hit and Run Garbage Can Caper". Cheever Wright, who was sitting just beyond the garbage can, barely escaped serious bodily injury, and the trauma to the women of Coffee Creek and Trinity Center, (and some of the men) will forever hold the image of the white Dodge pickup, which was borrowed from a friend, and driven by a person that looked amazingly like Dick Eyman, backing, first into the fence and continuing on to the tin garbage can, heading straight for poor Cheever. Dick did, however, repair the broken fence, and a few people have overheard him say he was getting directions for two women, and he didn't realize he hit the fence but did hear the rumble of the garbage can before he "slowly driving away". The eye witnesses, who gave him a standing ovation, describes the escaping truck as going so fast, they could not really be sure it was Dick behind the wheel. By the way, his friend and owner of the truck, Merv Dahl, is still speaking to him.

Our Fire Department is once again very busy saving lives and property. Here is the Fire Log starting from June 27.

6/27/06: Dispatched on report of wild land fire. 6/28/06 Fire (smoke check) USFS Bonanza King Lookout reports smoke observed somewhere in the general vicinity of KOA/Wyntoon. Legal/permitted debris burn pile located. 7/1/06; Medical report of male who had fallen. Treat/transport. 7/3/06: Medical Report of hypoxic male. Treat/transport. 7/04/06: Report of possible uncontrolled campfire between Squirrel Flat and East Fork. Area checked, UTL. 7/04/06: Traffic collision/medical. Solo ATV collision with two female patients. Treat/transport. 7/05/06: Training/meeting. Hardline pump drills on #1134. Wash #s 306 & 1134. Distribute new structural turnouts. 7/08/06: Medical/SAR. Mutual aid to Weaverville FD on patients in water and missing on Stuart's Fork of the Trinity River at USFS Bridge Camp. 7/08/06: Medical Report of female with fx femur enroute TC Marina in a boat. Patient actually went to Lakeview/Trinity Alps Marina.