

Valley View Voice

Valley View Retirement Village • Rock of Ages Mennonite Home • M.A.I.D.S. • McMinnville, Oregon • Autumn 2020

IN THIS ISSUE:

<i>Joyce Robinson</i>	1
<i>From Delvin's Desk</i>	2
<i>Chaplain's Corner</i>	2
<i>Honoring our Employees</i>	3
<i>The Lighter Side</i>	4
<i>Life in the Village</i>	5
<i>TLC Clinic Update</i>	5
<i>Endowment</i>	6

Valley View Voice

Published quarterly
by
Rock of Ages/Valley
View Retirement
Community
15600 Rock of Ages
Road
McMinnville, OR
97128

Editor:

Gordon Martin

Photography:

Gordon Martin

Contributing Editor:

Victoria Wilbanks

Joyce Robinson by Victoria Wilbanks

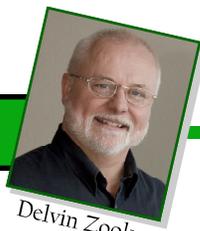
Joyce Robinson was born in Clovis, California in 1946. She was the youngest with three brothers and one sister. She claims that she was a “surprise baby”, born just a year after her last brother. Joyce recalls they were a very close family. She had lots of fun with her siblings, and the family was lucky enough to have everything they needed. All of the children went to college if they so desired. Her father owned a construction company and her mother was a homemaker. Her father was gone a lot with his business, and the family moved around at holiday times to join their father, but maintained a nice family home on an acreage in El Cajon, California. Joyce graduated from high school in El Cajon, and went to community college for two years, and then continued at San Diego State. She always harbored a dream of being a flight attendant, but in those days the airlines would not hire anybody under the age of 21, or anybody who was married. Consequently, college for Joyce was simply something to do until she could fulfill her dream of working for the airlines. During this period of college and thinking about her future, Joyce became a very important person in the lives of her neighbors, the Robinson family. They had a daughter with Down Syndrome; and Joyce was care-giving for a family who had a child with autism. Joyce met the Robinson family through this connection, and they came to rely on her as a “nanny” to their child with Down Syndrome, because she had such an affinity with special needs children. Her love for the Robinson child was returned, and they became very close. Joyce did not know this at the time, but her association with the Robinsons would change her life forever, and derail her dreams of becoming a flight attendant.

During this time, Joyce saw an article in the paper asking for young people to be pen pals to our service men in Vietnam. Being a girl with a big heart Joyce stepped up to do her patriotic duty and began writing letters to our boys in Vietnam who were craving letters from home. It was during this period that Joyce discovered the Robinson family had a son in Vietnam. She enthusiastically included him in her list



(Robinson continued pg 4)

Delvin's Desk



Delvin Zook

What a beautiful summer weather-wise! Yes, there were a lot of happenings that distracted us from seeing just how our summer has been, including COVID, wildfires, political unrest, and other events. Not too hot and not much too cool and rainy. Now we are moving into Oregon's beautiful fall colors.

From the Weather Atlas: *October is the time for peak fall foliage in Oregon as the state braces for a drop in night temperatures. The average high temperatures are comfortably warm in the 55°F (12.8°C) to 70°F (21.1°C) range, but the nights are cold with the average low temperatures in the 32°F (0°C) to 48°F (8.9°C) range. The coastal areas offer gorgeous warm days at the beach, but the Cascades may see the first flurry of snow. The skies are partly cloudy as the state witnesses an average of 18 sunny days in the month.*

Precipitation increases significantly as the beginning of the wet season brings 5" (127mm) to 7" (177.8mm) of rainfall along the coast. Cedars, maples, and willows display peak colors from orange, red, purple, yellow, to gold by mid-October. Traversing the scenic bikeways, motorways, and waterways is the best way to experience the colors.

Dressed in layers of God's finest beauty I hope we all will find ways, despite whatever the day's events may be, to enjoy and experience a refreshed heart and soul this time of year. Our little Village is tucked right in the best of it all. We truly are blessed living where we do! Let me remind you to keep your head high and your eyes bright so you can see the tremendous beauty all around us! May you all enjoy the autumn days filled with splendor!

Chaplain's Corner



Mark Nissley

About Prayer

As believers we often hear the encouragement to pray, and rightly so. To communicate with our Heavenly Father is an awesome privilege that we all have been given. The current events of 2020, our gains, and our losses along with our age, have given us a new appreciation for prayer, a desire to communicate with our Heavenly Father. Do you ever feel guilty when you pray for yourself? Maybe you think your prayer requests should only be for others? It is good to be reminded that God considers you as important as anyone else. We all matter equally to God. He wants all his children to live abundant, full lives and He cares about everyone. It is fair to say we can all serve God better when our lives are in order; however, we cannot do that by ourselves. We need God. Scripture assures us that Jesus' purpose in coming to earth was to offer us the opportunity for a satisfying life through a relationship with him. In John 10:10 Jesus tells us, *I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.*

Jesus wants to bless us with a joyful life spiritually, physically, emotionally, and mentally. What an exciting thought to think that God desires the absolute best for us in every area of our lives! Yes, he does want it for others too, but remember that believers are the apple of God's eye. The psalmist writes in Psalm 17:8, *Keep me as the apple of your eye; hide me in the shadow of your wings.*

If we are not living up to our fullest potential, God tells us to surrender to him and ask for his intervention in our lives. There are many different meaningful prayers in Scripture.

Some teach us to ask God to give us what we need personally. One such prayer is found in Romans 15:13 (NLT), *I pray that God, the source of hope, will fill you completely with joy and peace because you trust in him. Then you will overflow with confident hope through the power of the Holy Spirit.*

We have wondered at times in 2020, how this is all going to end. All the while knowing that if we are to live an abundant life full of purpose and peace, until the Lord Jesus calls us home, we have to trust that
(Chaplain continued on pg 6)

Honoring Our Employees

June Employee of the Month



Maria Ramirez was named employee of the Month for June. Maria has worked in the Memory Care unit since April 2007. She is always cheerful and committed to her work. Her husband Ismael works on the ROA maintenance crew.

August Employees of the Month by Delvin Zook

Who makes a good employee? Why is it we look forward to working with one person more than others? Who would you pick to be honored as Employee of the Month? As department leaders, we look for those who inspire by the example of their own performance.

August was very challenging. Stress levels were high, which required a high level of commitment to

make it through the month. By the first day of August we knew we had a COVID-19 outbreak. Sixteen residents and about the same number of staff ended up testing positive to the virus. With staff families and extended families, it was considered an outbreak of 38 individuals. The care center had to be divided into positive and negative sections. Five residents were selected to be moved to Pacific Rehab in Tigard so our center would have manageable numbers. Each side had to be equally staffed. Several staff left as a result of the stress or not wanting to expose family members. Initially Twila tested positive which put her and I into quarantine. Since my activities were severely limited, I wondered who could fill the void.

The following people along with many other staff had a huge part in the way our residents recovered from the virus. One resident, who initially went to the hospital because of other symptoms, tested positive and passed away in the hospital. One other resident, already on hospice, also passed within the week. All other residents have regained their strength and are doing well. We owe so much to the Rock of Ages committed staff who put in long hours, not letting their fellow staff down, volunteering for shifts, and never wanting to quit until the job was done! the following individuals led the way during COVID lockdown and have been named employees of the month.



Candice Armour

took the lead on designing and coordinating the two sided care center.



Karen Nisly

took over the very difficult task scheduling and finding new staff during a very stressful time.



Yesenia Contreras

Her years of experience proved extremely valuable at a very critical time.



Shanae Kelly

Stepped up in time of crisis and showed her true strength as an encourager even when she was weary



Katya Ciriano

Her strength also was demonstrated by her ongoing commitment. She was anxious to be back even after testing positive.

These five individuals carried us all by their strength and encouragement. Along with many others they made up an amazing team with their unfailing commitment. Even when they themselves were tired and wearing down they never gave up, but started each new day with vigor and continue to serve with excellence. Thank you all for the tremendous work of love.

(Robinson continued from pg one)

of Vietnam pen pals. As time went by and Joyce's relationship with the Robinson family grew, and so did her pen pal relationship with Steve in Vietnam.

Joyce remembers vividly the day his tour of duty in Vietnam ended and he flew home to the United States. She joined the family at the airport to meet him. She was so taken with Steve's kindness to his family, and the way he conducted himself, that it was love at first sight. Joyce said that Steve went over to his parents and kissed each of them, and then kissed his little sister. He then came over to her and tilted her over backwards, gazing into her eyes adoringly before kissing her. To say that these memories were forever etched into Joyce's memory is an understatement! Perhaps this was the moment that Joyce's dreams of becoming a flight attendant were replaced with other dreams.

Steve remained in the service another year, and was reassigned to Virginia Beach after Vietnam and asked Joyce to marry him immediately after he arrived there, which she gladly did. As a married woman, Joyce gladly conceded that she could no longer be a flight attendant. After a year, Steve completed his service obligation in Virginia Beach, and the couple returned to San Diego where Steve's family lived. It seemed a natural transition for Steve to follow in his father's footsteps, and work in the grocery business. Mr. Robinson was in Management at Safeway, and probably was instrumental in helping Steve decide to become a meat cutter. Steve and Joyce lived and worked in San Diego for some time. During this time, Joyce became employed with an organization entitled *Home of Guiding Hands* using

her excellent skills to take care of special needs individuals. However, after working for three years at this job, which she loved, she and Steve decided to start a family, and they had two girls, Jennifer and Julie. Joyce became a homemaker, and enjoyed raising the girls.

They moved to Oregon in 1984 and enjoyed life together as a close knit family until 2003 when Steve unexpectedly died of a medical condition of which he and the family were not aware. While adjusting to losing Steve, Joyce filled her days doing what made her happy—volunteering and serving others. Joyce continued to pursue the work she excelled in, working with individuals with disabilities. She first worked at Oregon Mennonite Residential Services, and later was called to work for Mid-Valley in the residential area. She stayed in this position for approximately 25 years, and ended her career as Executive Director.

When Joyce walked the track, visited, and occasionally volunteered at Rock of Ages, she made the decision that she would like to spend the rest of her life in this beautiful place. When the time was right, she put her home on the market, and it sold immediately, allowing her to move into a Valley View cottage, where she feels secure and happy. As a person of faith, it is easy for Joyce to look back and see how her life has been divinely guided. She is fortunate to have a close relationship with her daughters Jennifer and Julie, as well as Julie's husband John and their son Brenden. Joyce says Julie's husband is a fine man who looks out for the entire family.

The Lighter Side

From the Cloverdale Farms reader board:

- Time flies...and you're the pilot
- When you're in deep water, the best thing to do is shut your mouth
- A goal is a dream without its work boots on.



Vic Banke and Russ Olson enjoyed a pleasant afternoon at the pond. I didn't see any fish. I think they mostly drowned worms!

Life in the Village

Big Old Boy's Toys

Gary Binder and Gary Noland have been working to get the ROA Fire Engine tuned up and running. There were a number of things that needed fixing and some hoses, nozzles and other parts that needed to be purchased. But Old Betsy is now ready to go!



Filling the tank and testing levers and valves



1-1/2 inch hose at much less than full pressure

Since no instruction manual came with the truck it took a lot of research and experimenting to find out how all the levers and valves worked.

This Western States fire truck was built in 1963 and has a dual ignition, dual carburetor, Waukesha 6 cylinder, 240 HP engine with a 5 speed manual transmission. The tranny sends power to either the wheels for travelling or the pump, which can produce well over 150 psi. We don't know how much water the truck will hold but basically the entire rear section is one big tank.

Something to consider

We currently have 20 resident ducks. About 8 of them are females. Last year the one female we had hatched 15 ducklings. If all the ducks survive the winter and each female lays and hatches the same number of eggs next Spring, how many ducks will we have? You do the math!!

TLC Clinic Update

By Kim Martinez and Ashley Zook

We have been grateful for the opportunity to provide adult primary care for many residents and staff at ROA and individuals in the greater community. We are treating patients with chronic diseases such as diabetes, high blood pressure, heart failure, COPD, and Asthma. We also care for patients with acute problems such as urinary tract infections, skin tears, falls, vertigo, and acute pain.



Kim

Ashley

Covid-19 has presented many obstacles this past year, but our goal is to provide individual, compassionate care and continue to expand our services. We have been very busy, so we try to focus on working as a team in health care to ensure no one is left behind or neglected. We hope to serve even more individuals this coming year. If you are interested in establishing care, please contact the TLC Clinic at 971-261-6130.

The clinic is currently staffed by Kim, an Adult Nurse Practitioner, who is board certified in adult primary care, and Ashley, a Certified Medical Assistant. They have many years of experience working in the healthcare field, Kim for 27 years, and Ashley for 18 years. The majority of Kim's experience has focused on managing chronic diseases and preventing disease complications in older adults. Kim believes it is important to build trusting, open relationships with her patients to help them achieve their health and wellness goals. She likes to remind her patients they are their ships' captains, and she is their first mate.

Kim has a deep respect and fondness for the work done at Rock of Ages and often prays for wisdom and guidance to help herself and the clinic fulfill the mission of Rock of Ages.

About Prayer Bible Mennonite Fellowship, Inc. dba
As believers we often hear the encouragement to pray and rightly so.
To communicate **Rock of Ages**

NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
MCMINNVILLE, OR
PERMIT NO. 11

*Valley View Retirement-M.A.I.D.S.
15600 SW Rock of Ages Road
McMinnville, OR 97128*

Return Service Requested

Label

**Thank you for considering Rock
of Ages Endowment in your
estate planning!**

**Your gift will keep giving and
help**

**Rock of Ages provide loving
care for those we serve.**

**Call 1-800-280-CARE(2273)
for additional information**

(Rock of Ages is a 501-C-3 organization)

(Chaplain cont'd from pg 2)

God is who He says He is. That He loves us and really does know the plans He has for us that they are for good and not harm, even when we are not sure what He's up to.

Many of the residents of ROA have mentioned the huge letters on the campus lawn spelling HOPE and the comfort that it bought. Knowing that we have this hope, we can always be full of joy and hopeful even in the worst situations. We can have confidence in the Holy Spirit guiding and directing our lives. We can live with faith, not fear. This is how we all want to experience life.

In God We Trust is far more than a slogan on our money. It is how we live as Christians. Ask God every day for a filling of the Holy Spirit and then trust that inner voice you hear throughout the day telling you which path to take. He has a plan.