

## Steve Mick and Alicia Watson

Marianne and I recently spent one of those hot September days with Steve and Alicia. Before we started our "interview" with them, we had a tour of the garage that Steve built and the "warehouse/back shack" that Alicia uses to store and assemble the supplies for the packages that her group mails to the troops in Iraq. More about that later.

Alicia is another native Californian. (It's amazing how many club members have that distinction.) She was born in San Francisco but only spent the night at the hospital and was taken back to her home in Oakland. (Her mother liked the San Francisco hospitals better.) She graduated from Oakland High School, eventually went to San Francisco State majoring in Education and ultimately got her teaching credential.

Steve, on the other hand, is another member from the middle of the country – Ohio to be exact. He was born in Newark and graduated from Utica High School. He ended up in California when he came to visit his mother. He is also a Vietnam Era veteran, having been in the navy from October 1965-August 1969. He was an Electronics Technician, 2<sup>nd</sup> class, and was stationed at San Diego, Treasure Island and Guam.

During high school Alicia played in the band and acted in several plays and musicals. In fact she participated in a program that brought the theater to different children's venues. As for Steve's high school activities – "they were too numerous to mention".

Steve and Alicia met through a friend in a snow skiing club. They actually were married in Carson City at the first church established in the state of Nevada. "We've been married long enough to have two children and two grandchildren." They have a son and a daughter and a grandson and a granddaughter.

Steve worked at Lawrence Livermore Lab in the computer security area. He retired a few years back after having worked for them for 25 years. He was also the President of the High Tech Crime Investigation Association.

Alicia taught the 5<sup>th</sup> grade at Walnut Heights in Walnut Creek and also retired the same year Steve did. Many of you may remember the reunion she had for her 5<sup>th</sup> grade classes in 2000 – the article was in the Contra Costa Times. Through the years she had given a red pencil to her students that had imprinted the date of the reunion – Father's Day, 2000. Many of her students held on to their pencil and at the reunion 300-400 of them joined Alicia for the party. She still does volunteer teaching at Charlotte Woods School in Danville.

Another of Steve's hobbies is woodworking. He has built some impressive furniture for their home. And many of us have enjoyed the concerts with the Danville Community Orchestra where Alicia plays clarinet.

Both Alicia and Steve had early encounters with Model A's that left quite an impression. Steve's grandfather had one on his farm in Ohio and Steve had the vivid memory of being a little child and riding with his grandfather in the car. That memory stuck with him and he always wanted to get one for himself. Alicia's memory is connected to her grandmother's Model A – she remembers what fun she had riding in the rumble seat.

They joined our club in 1995, before they actually had their "A" and it was Vern Brooks who led them to their Tudor. Steve currently has a project "AA" in his 2<sup>nd</sup> garage.

Steve served as Secretary in 1997 and President in 1998 & 1999. Alicia was Historian for 2 years. They received the Outstanding Service Award in 2003.

I think club members would be as surprised as we were about the number of organizations that Steve and Alicia are involved in. I mentioned earlier about their "warehouse" of supplies where her sorority, Delta Nu Psi, assembles care packages for our troops serving in Iraq. Besides that they are involved in 16 different organizations. With some of the organizations they are on the Board of Directors. There is actually no way I can name them all but some are veterans related (Steve is actually on the Board of Directors for the Veterans Memorial Building Development Committee of San Ramon Valley); some are Alamo/San Ramon related (Parks and Recreation, Beautification Committee etc.); they are docents at the Blackhawk Museum and also related organizations to Blackhawk (one dear to my heart because of my background – Wheelchairs for the World Foundation); Tahoe Rim Trail Association and many others. We saw their calendar and wondered how they were able to squeeze us in.

Besides being webmaster for our club, Steve is also the webmaster for NCRG and two other organizations. In fact, thanks to him, the Diablo A's website was a 2007 winner of the MAFCA Chapter Website Award.

Both of them said the most exciting thing that happened to them was meeting each other. A couple other exciting events include a 17 day cruise to Australia/New Zealand and a 17 day river cruise in Europe.

If Steve could do one thing that he has not been able to do yet is to take a trip to Great Britain. He finds the history of it fascinating. Alicia would like to feel the sensation of weightlessness – or as Steve says – "go on the vomit comet."

Thanks for lunch, the tomatoes and fitting us into your busy schedule. Sorry we couldn't do all your volunteer work justice.

