

Bob and Sandi Rigor

This month my column is devoted to our 2009 President and *First Lady*. (It just seems appropriate with our country also getting a new president and first lady this month.) So, with Marianne in tow, I headed to Concord to meet with Bob and Sandi Rigor.

Bob was born in Oakland and attended Pleasant Hill High School. (How many of you remember that school?) He received an AA from DVC and a BA from San Francisco State in Radio and Television. He entered the Air Force and went through Officer's Training School and became a 2nd Lieutenant. This was during the Vietnam era. He spent 6 ½ years in the service. He actually spent some of his time in Greenland (which he thought should actually be called Iceland – since it is so desolate). He was the Information Officer in charge of an armed services radio and TV station. For awhile he was a DJ of a jazz show which aired from 6 a.m – noon. When he left the service he was a Captain.

Sandi was born in Modesto and graduated from Ceres High School. Yes, she was a farm girl. Her father, although being a contractor, had a peach and apricot farm. In fact she still does canning and said her children always had homemade bread. She also attended San Francisco State and eventually received her teaching credential.

So as you may guess – Sandi and Bob met at San Francisco State. They had a science class together. Bob hated science so it was the most basic science class he could get. Without that dislike for the sciences – they may never have met and been married in Pacifica on June 24, 1967. (Although, was there marriage legal? Ask them about that.) They have 3 sons and 6 grandchildren (5 boys and 1 girl). Sandi said that probably the most exciting thing that ever happened to her was having twin boys and their granddaughter all born within 12 hours of each other. Bob actually said the most exciting thing that happened to him was the birth of their first son.

They moved into their Gumwood home in 1973. Bob worked various jobs and also published the *Valley Merchant*. In 1994 he started teaching at Carondelet High School. He had a teaching credential in Business so he taught business, economics and journalism classes and was the advisor for the yearbook. In 2006 he retired from there and has since been teaching for Heald College. He currently is teaching computer sciences and “bonehead” math.

Sandi started her teaching career with 5th & 6th graders in Illinois. She retired June 2008 after teaching for 30 years. Her last school was Monte Gardens Elementary School which she taught the 1st grade.

Bob said he had always been interested in old cars. And he loved to fish. A deadly combination! One day on a fishing trip up to Twain Harte he spotted an old Model A coupe in front of an antique store. (Very appropriate.) He purchased it, on the spot, from a member of the Sonoma A's. (This gentleman also told him that when he got home he was to call Bob Grady and join the Diablo A's.) When he got home did he have a surprise for Sandi who was probably expecting a few fish. No – she was informed that they were going to need to rent a trailer to go get the new addition to the family.

The first meeting Bob and Sandi went to in 1996 happened to be a potluck. (He said that he thought all of the meetings were pot lucks.) The first tour they attended was the January brunch to Napa. On the way home they got a flat tire which was then followed by a blown rod.

Bob has served as Tour Coordinator and PR and Advertising Coordinator. This past year he was Vice President which evolves into his upcoming Presidency. For some of you newer members that means in 2010 he will be Past President/Keeper of the Stuff.

Besides Model A'ing, Sandi recently joined the Red Hat Ladies and both she and Bob are involved in their church. Bob also enjoys photography.

One of the most memorable times they had together was in 1969. They bought a Triumph Spitfire in England. They actually picked it up at the factory in Coventry and drove all over Europe before having it shipped back to Chicago. They toured for a month and figured they visited 8+ countries. They told us about a few comical incidents that happened during the trip – but alas, there is not enough room to tell them here.

When I asked Sandi if there was anything that she would still like to do – she said she did that last year. They were able to go to Sweden and visit her ancestral home in a small village. She said it was absolutely wonderful.

As I've often said, it really is a lot of fun meeting with the different members and learning more about them – and especially laughing a lot. Thank you Bob and Sandi for another interesting afternoon.

