

THE VILLAGE VOICE

Rocky Mountain Village Estates • January 2020

Meet Sharon Adams

Born and raised in Ft. Worth, TX, Sharon Adams relocated to Colorado a little over a year ago, settling into a third-floor Bergen unit. “My daughter’s husband grew up in Denver, so they moved here three years ago; I got here as fast as I could.”

“It’s so pretty here,” she says, elaborating on how her life has revolved around the natural world for most of her years.

While her father was in the Army in 1943, she and her mother lived with her paternal grandparents on a farm that backed up to a nature preserve. She recalls fondly the walks down to the lake ...

the peanut butter and jelly sandwiches ... paddling in a canoe. “There were lots of trails,” she remembers. Nature played a part in her life early on.

As a youngster her folks lived in the suburbs, an area surrounded by trees — oak, elm, cottonwood — and everyone in the neighborhood walked the paths. It was like a nature preserve, botanical gardens,” she recalls, “with wild turkeys and foxes.”

She married a husband with similar interests in the out-of-doors. They both enjoyed reading, gardening, and bird watching. “We had a small garden with vegetables and flowers.” She chuckles as she tells the story that her young daughter refused to eat the vegetables “because they came out of the ground — ‘we should buy them from the grocery store!’”

Sharon and her husband — married close to 50 years before his passing — both taught school.



Sharon focused on the first-grade level until the two started a family, and her husband taught math at the middle and high school levels (later at the college level). They’d known each other for many years by the time they became a couple, having gone to the same grammar school, although in different grades. “We lived in the same neighborhood, attended the same church, had the same set of friends.” Together they had two children — a boy and a girl.

They enjoyed sports together. “If it had a ball — baseball, football, soccer, ping pong — we liked it.” They also enjoyed camping, an activity they participated in with other couples and their children — all within 50 miles of where they lived. “The kids grew up loving it.”

Sharon had a calligraphy business at home, ornately penning the names on certificates, creating wedding and baby-shower invitations, and addressing the envelopes, recalling the little splatters that make each piece unique. “It was so much fun!” She specialized in Copperplate script. “I can’t do it any longer because of my hands,” she says, referring to her arthritis.

She’d minored in art at college. For about 15 years she painted, taking after her mom and uncle who both enjoyed painting landscapes of the Texas countryside as well as still life. She tried her hand at it as well — mainly landscapes — in acrylic, oil, and watercolor. Although she was good enough to have sold all her paintings, she admits she never really liked it. “I enjoy just looking at paintings more than the actual doing of it,” she says, getting special enjoyment out of watching children do it.

She loved the Monet exhibit at the Denver Art Museum.

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“The more grateful I am, the more beauty I see.”

-Mary Davis

Memo from the Manager

The annual owners meeting packets will be delivered and mailed the week of January 6th. The meeting will be held on January 24th at the Bergen Park Church. Sign in will start at 12:30 pm.

Watch the bulletin boards for sign-up sheets for transportation and for providing food.

Please read through the materials so you will be informed when you attend the meeting.

-- Kathy

Reminders from Kari and René....

A huge thank-you to **the Genesee Kresge-Crew and women residents** who helped decorate our Genesee lobby and Mountaineer Room with such creative flair for the 2019 holiday season a Visual Feast of Delights, "walking through our winter wonderland"!

Monday coffees & announcements: 9 am: Bergen 10 am: Genesee residents: PLEASE NOTE: There will be no coffee-time January 6th, as the Betty Luzadder family has reserved the Mountaineer Room for a family reception.

Aces Bridge – Wednesday January 8th 1:00 — 3:00 pm in the Evergreen Room at Bergen. All levels of play welcome. Contact René Kilmer at 303-679-4907 in advance if you'd like to play.

Wed. Jan 9th: 3 pm: **RMVE January Birthday Party**, Genesee Mountaineer Room! Everyone is welcome to attend the cake, coffee and ice cream celebration. You don't need a January birthday to be able to participate in the fun!

POTLUCK VENUE CHANGES: Bergen will host the second Mondays. Genesee will host the fourth Mondays. Both begin at 5:30. See bulletin boards for more details and what to bring besides food to share.

Be sure to check bulletin boards for other local community events.

Reminder: if you post a flyer, be sure to place posting date, your name and phone number on the item. Be sure to check the bulletin boards for other happenings such as exercise classes, EPRD excursions, art events, etc. If you have any RMVE information you'd like to see in the newsletter, contact Genesee 'reporter' Kari Miller, 520-390-5109 or Bergen 'reporter' René Kilmer at 303-679-4907.

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2020, EVERYONE!

Sharon Adams continued

Over the years she's travelled some — mainly with other teachers — to Europe for a month or so. Her list of destinations included England, France, Germany, Italy, and Spain "during a time that was safer to travel." She and her husband travelled domestically, driving to take in the scenery.

Colorado is not new to her. She recalls the annual summertime drives to see her grandparents who lived in Thornton, reflecting on when the Eisenhower Tunnel was built and many of the changes that have occurred in the Denver area over the years. It's when she first developed an appreciation for the mountains.

"My Granddaddy taught sixth grade," she says, and every summer he'd take us to the museum to see the dinosaur bones. We'd spend hours and hours there. Then when we'd get home to his house we'd measure out the distance" that equated to the length of the dinosaur.

Here at Rocky Mountain Village she loves the people, finding them friendly and outgoing. The proximity to the park enables her to walk frequently; and she finds it convenient to walk to the store, to restaurants, and to Natural Grocers.

She's had to do a quick refresher on how to play bridge, playing occasionally with her neighbors in Bergen. She also enjoys Rummicub, Mah Jongg, attending Bergen Park Church, and hanging out with her kids.

"I do like it here."

Profile and photo by Linda Kirkpatrick.



Happy
New Year!