

# THE VILLAGE VOICE

## Rocky Mountain Village Estates • October 2019

### Meet Ann Redwine

Fall foliage brings back memories of autumn in the Blue Ridge Mountains, even though Colorado's aspens don't compare with the vibrant palette of colors in western North Carolina where Ann Redwine grew up.

Asheville — the largest city in the western part of the state — is still a small city with fewer than half a million people in the four-county metropolitan area. The city itself had just about 50,000 people when Ann lived there. In the 1970s Asheville was named one of the most desirable places to live in the US.

"It's grown and changed since then," she says, pointing out easier access has led to growth. "People who wanted to keep it small opposed a larger airport." (It stayed small.)

The football games and other sports made for an active social life in high school in Asheville back in the 1950s. "It was a good place and time to grow up."

Ann recalls the only swimming pool in town was filled by snowmelt. She notes that the cool climate has gotten warmer since the 1950s. It wasn't known for outdoor activities other than picnicking.

Asheville is home to the 179,000-square-foot Biltmore Estate, the home of George Vanderbilt, reportedly the largest privately owned house in the United States and a popular tourist attraction.

"It was a wonderful life growing up there."

Ann considered going into the Peace Corps but married right out of college instead and spent much of her adult life in the San Francisco area where she



and her husband raised a family of three children. They enjoyed a 45-year marriage. After 35 years near Walnut Creek, they moved to Nevada City and then Lake Tahoe. On her own she moved to Phoenix to be closer to a son, opting a couple of years ago to live part-time in Evergreen as well to be closer to a new grandson. (Interestingly enough, she finds the air drier here than in Arizona.)

A lady who lived near her back in 1968 — a professor of art history — had books and pictures of foreign lands all over her home, triggering Ann's interest in travel. Over the years, she's been to Central America, China, Spain, Italy, France, Ukraine, the Baltic States and Russia. Since her husband's passing, she's traveled some with friends and some with Overseas Adventure Travel, which never has more than 16 people in a group, she notes. "It attracts a lot of single travelers; most of the time there's no surcharge for being a single passenger."

"I wish everybody could travel — it would be the greatest thing for the world if they could. It's fascinating to learn how other people live." But she's always glad to come back. "We are so incredibly fortunate to have everything we have."

These days she's having fun with genealogy and is centering some upcoming travel around meeting up with cousins she'd lost contact with and checking out gravesites. About 15 years ago a great aunt provided the family with details she had gathered about the family, stimulating that interest. She learned that her great-great grandfather was a doctor who'd treated a patient with tuberculosis, bringing him home to live with his own family when there was no one else to care for the man. The doctor's wife and her four siblings all contracted TB as a result, all dying from the disease.

*Continued on back side.*

**"Power-lust is a weed that grows only in the vacant lots of an abandoned mind."**

**-Ayn Rand, *Atlas Shrugged***

## **Reminders from Kari and René....**

CHILI-FEST: Friday, October 4th, 4-7 pm, Mountaineer room, Genesee bldg. Fall weather getting chilly? Come and warm up with some hot Chili! Some like it hot, some like it mild - there will be several selections for you to taste-test! Please bring your own mug, utensils, and beverage and join in the fall fun! Still time to sign up - and it's free!!!

OCTOBER BIRTHDAY-PARTY, Wed. October 9th. 3 pm: Genesee. All are invited even if October isn't your birthday-month! Cake! Ice Cream! Coffee! Social! Fun! and free! See bulletin boards for more information.

MONDAY COFFEES: every Monday (9: Bergen, 10: Genesee). Free coffee and goodies, social time, plus catch up on RMVE and other local announcements of happenings.

LOOKING AHEAD: Christmas-tree-decorating deadline: November 1st. Questions? Contact Margaret Kresge: 303-993-6477. Watch bulletin boards for more information.

OPERA FANS: next performance: Sat., November 2nd, 1-4 pm Genesee Mountaineer Room. Program: "L'Elisir d'Amore" by Donizetti streamed in from the Metropolitan Opera. Let us know if you're coming so we're sure to have enough champagne and truffles! (Bette & Charlie Carcano, G 201, 303-670-1527)

EVERGREEN CHAMBER ORCHESTRA (ECO) Guild meeting in Bergen Building October 12th 9:30 am coffee 10:00 a.m. Program: Betsy Schwarm will tell us about program notes she has collected for classic's concerts and two December holiday programs. She is very entertaining.

ACES BRIDGE will get together October 9th • Party Bridge • all levels of experience welcome. Call René Kilmer at 303-679-4907 to be included.

*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.*

## **Ann Redwine continued**

Upon having her DNA tested through 23andMe, Ann's discovered she's 99.9 percent Northern European – her descendants were primarily from Ireland, Scotland, and England. That's proven to be food for thought about another trip....

Earlier in her life she worked as a social worker, in personnel placement, and then within the international student exchange system before helping her husband in the insurance business.

Ann's enjoyed sewing over the years — stitching everything from clothing to draperies and upholstery. She's also made large dolls for each of the granddaughters with matching outfits of the girls so they looked like their dolls. While raising the kids, Ann developed a liking for hiking and camping, backpacking in the Sierras. Her fondness of hiking has caused her to join the Vagabonds here at Rocky Mountain Village.

"I enjoy all the social functions here," Ann says. She's recently put her house on the market in Arizona and now plans to call Genesee House her home year-round.

*Profile and photo by Linda Kirkpatrick.*

**WELCOME!**

**Kat DeFeo - 110-G**