

THE VILLAGE VOICE

Rocky Mountain Village Estates • October 2021

Meet Ruth and Jack Salter

In their case, it was roadkill. It's funny, isn't it – the strangest things can bring two people together!

The members of Evergreen Audubon were holding an informative program on roadkill, and Ruth was on the board.... She really wasn't interested, but being afraid no one would attend, she reluctantly decided to go. Jack was there and asked her out for dinner. They'd known each other from church and were aware they'd each lost a spouse.

Both Ruth and Jack Salter have an interest in birds and the outdoors, and both have been involved with Evergreen Audubon. Jack's been a plant lover and gardener, growing flowers and vegetables until the time they moved into Bergen less than a month ago. Ruth's interest leaned toward the birds, having been a bird counter in years past.

After raising two children (and volunteering in the classroom), Ruth had a career as an Occupational Therapist, working for Mount Evans Home Health Care and Hospice for 16 years, covering a territory from Silver Plume to Bailey and beyond.

In the late 1970s Ruth was one of seven founders of an organization that still goes strong in the Evergreen area – Bootstraps. (It was she who suggested the name.) Initially, the program was designed to provide interest-free student loans to Evergreen High School graduates who were not likely to continue their education for any one of a variety of reasons that often included financial need and lack of encouragement from parents. Board members were teamed with students as mentors throughout their years of continued education, frequently extending well beyond.



In about 1990 the organization merged with Evergreen Scholarship, which had its origins in 1945, and cumulatively has awarded nearly \$4 million in scholarships and loans to 1,900 local grads over the years.

In addition, Ruth was a charter member of the Jefferson County Historical Society and involved with the Hiwan Homestead Museum. "I remember I decorated it for Christmas the first year the Historical Society took possession [of the Hiwan Homestead]."

Professionally, Jack was a registered pharmacist who worked for Abbott Labs, then as a consultant to the drug industry on agricultural chemicals, which required a good deal of traveling. After retirement, he held workshops for the Environmental Protection Agency as well as holding workshops for The American Marketing Association and The American Management Association.

Ruth grew up in Racine, Wisconsin, and recalls lots of beach parties on Lake Michigan. She's a graduate of the University of Wisconsin.

Jack grew up in Chicago and experienced all of his schooling there, including the University of Illinois Pharmacy School. His working as a soda jerk at the neighborhood pharmacy when he was a kid led to his interest in being a pharmacist. He loved attending Chicago Cubs games back in the day when he could get into the stadium and have a hotdog and Coke all for less than a dollar! "I was what they called a bleacher bum," he says. He'd be in the bleachers when they had batting practice and get lots of baseballs too!

About 20 years ago Ruth began showing signs of what

Continued on back side.

It's not what you don't know that kills you ...
it's what you know for sure that just ain't true.

-- Mark Twain

Memo from the Manager

Time for a refresher on recycling... Around and on the recycle bins and on the doors where they are located, there are numerous notes with information about what is ok and not ok to put in the recycle bins. Please read these. The main don'ts are:

- No food or unwashed food or drink containers
- No styrofoam
- No boxes that have not been broken down small enough to lay flat
- No plastic bags

Please do not give out the door code. These buildings require the door code to prevent entry by people who don't live here. If you are having visitors, family, friends, helpers, contractors, delivery people, etc., please do the right thing and be available to let them in personally either by the intercom button or by going to the lobby to meet them. The more folks you give the code to the less secure you become. Please be courteous to your neighbors and **don't give out the door code!**

Reminder that **no bird feeding** is allowed other than for hummingbird nectar. Putting out water is ok, but bird seed attracts rodents and bears to the buildings. Sadly, it appears the hummers have left for the season.

Please give wildlife their space. When elk come this time of year, which is mating season, it is unwise to approach them, even if they appear to be damaging the landscaping. Bull elk can be especially aggressive and have been known to run over folk! The same goes for the deer bucks. Also, the bears are attempting to fatten up before hibernating and may be more present than normal, looking for trash since all their other food sources are going dormant. Be aware when you are out after dark and make noise so they have time to run off before you encounter them.

If you see something that needs attention by staff – the sooner you report it to me, the sooner it will be addressed. Thanks as always for your help in making RMVE a clean, safe and enjoyable place to live.

-- Kathy

Ruth and Jack Salter continued

has been labeled “Essential Tremor,” something shared by 40 million people in the US. It affects her vision, hearing, hand coordination, and balance. Her father had the same affliction, and two of the five children in her family have it. It doesn't keep her down, however, as she and Jack enjoy walking in Buchanan Park and look forward to getting back to that as soon as they have settled in. Ruth uses two walking sticks for balance. She also likes the proximity to the Rec Center where she takes a Pilates class.

Although they've just moved in, Ruth's been visiting Rocky Mountain Village for many years, involved with residents who sometimes host a book club she's in – or part of a discussion group, which also involves some residents. “I think we'll like it here very much when we get settled,” she says.

Their bird counting is now relegated to viewing the feathered friends on their walls. A relative of Ruth's late husband was an artist and a naturalist in Yellowstone in the 1920s, so even indoors they are surrounded by nature.

Profile and photo by Linda Kirkpatrick

WELCOME!

Dorothy Manchette - 207 B

Joan Mickelson - 218 B

Annie Robbins - 204 G

Ursula and Steve Post - 322 G