

U-CLUB NEWS



Rogue River Valley University Club

April 2020

Coronavirus and the Club



**Club
Annual Meeting
POSTPONED**

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The Club is temporarily Closed — and we're missing our friends, Jason's spectacular lunches (and SOUPS!) and Lori's welcoming presence. But we can still stay in touch!

News from our Members

— **Art Ekerson says:** Aloha, Not much to report since we're stranded on an island 🏝 in the middle of the Pacific, but here's a quick update. Restaurants are closed except for some takeout, Taco 🌮 Bell and MacDonalds good as usual. Cruise ships can stop for fuel only. Anyone arriving by air is required to 14 day quarantine. Park's closed, Most hotel's closed, no toilet 🚽 paper, thank heavens we have the Toto, (Jack Day can explain if you need an explanation) (love it) It got below 79 last night. Two weeks ago when this was ramping up we debated whether to come back early while all the flights were still flying or hole up at the beach 🏖. The next morning we decided (that's a no brainer) The couple who purchased our boat left the Bahamas yesterday for Florida. They had been there all Winter. Monday the Bahamas stopped them from landing and said go home. When they were leaving they went through 8 big cruise ships 🚢 anchored off from Freeport. Most of the big ships are registered in countries other than the US.

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member



Ron Naumann

Ron Naumann was born in Grass Valley, California and went to school there. He said he wrestled and played football in high school.

"I wrestled at 168, about 2/3 of my present weight," he said. We asked if he needed to do anything special to get down to that weight. "Not really. That was about what I weighed all year. That is what explains my position on the football team." We asked what that was. "I played Tackling Dummy. I was flat on my back."

He explained that he never made varsity and in practices the good players scrimmaged against the guys like him. "Players like me would get plowed right over."



"What about college?," we asked. Ron said he went to a technical institute in Portland and became a manufacturing engineer. "The *design* engineers would create something wonderful and then turn it over to *manufacturing* engineers like me to figure out how actually to make the thing in a real factory. I worked in the real world. " He said what they made was test equipment for television stations.

"After 9-11 I made a transition to the financial advice world. I worked with Don Todd for several years and he showed me the ropes of the industry." Long-time Medford people know the Todd family, we told Ron. Angus Todd, his father, cut hair here in Medford for many years. "Yes! I hear that all the time," Ron said. Ron has worked as a Financial Advisor for twenty years, constructing portfolios for people, mostly using mutual funds.

Ron met his wife of forty years, Jill, at a square dance. We asked if he brought her there for a date. "No, we just met there. My mother set us up. My mother knew Jill and told her the dance desperately needed women to show up, so she accommodated mom. In fact there were 3 gals for every guy. I guess in that context, I looked pretty good."

We asked him to tell us about some adventures or mishaps. He said that walking fifty miles of the Pacific Crest Trail was memorable and then added a story about being left in the Alaska Wilderness, just below the Arctic Circle, for 7 days.

He said that he and his son were flown into a remote spot. "The plane landed on a lake. We had a raft and a tent and the outfitter said he would be back in 7 days, and he left. It was just us. It was the last week of June, so it was light all the time. We had no weapons but my son and I each had a canister of pepper spray in case bears menaced us. We put our kitchen and eating area well away from where we slept so bears were attracted to our food and not to us. We never had any trouble. We had no trouble at all catching lake trout. We brought food back with us."

"It was near freezing at night, then warmed up to a comfortable temperature in the day," he said. "Mosquitoes were a problem. They were everywhere buzzing around us, all the time. And there was wind. One day the wind blew so hard it left the tent flattened over all day. We huddled in it for 24 hours. My son was pretty much stir crazy. He was ready to go home. But I loved the adventure."

The stock market is adventure enough for some people about now. Financial Advisors need to watch out for the bears.



In the absence of our customary lunch “catching up” with one another — here’s what’s going on for some of our Members during the coronavirus time

- **Peter Sage says:** Farm Report: Heads up on hemp. Most of the people who grew hemp in 2019 did not sell it and five months after harvest most is in storage, which is good news for people with warehouses but bad for the hemp grower. The federal government changed some definitions, so the hemp that was grown legally now can’t be sold for anything but pet food. Prediction: There won’t be much grown in 2020, which is bad for farm ground owners, but good for people with horses. Some of that hemp ground will go back to grass. Meanwhile, I am preparing the ground to put into melons which need to be planted the first week of May. No one anywhere close to me - so it is easy to keep distance from others.

- **Eric McLaughlin says:** 've been telecommuting for almost 10 years, so working from home is not new to me. However between living alone and telecommuting it does get very isolating, so by the end of my work day I'm usually out the door to the gym, happy hour, volunteering, or catching up with family and friends. Volunteering helps me stay connected to my community and socializing at the University Club (and Rotary) keep this extrovert sane. Since my clients are state health & human service agencies, fortunately I haven't experienced any impact to my job security. The worst part for me has been the social distancing, as I'm very close to my family and haven't been able to visit them in person since March 5 (two of them are in the high-risk category and they all live together) and with most businesses closed there's nowhere for me to visit with friends. I'm happy I live in Jacksonville where I can go for walks around town and the Woodlands Trails and see other humans! Looking forward to seeing my new U-Club friends soon.



- **Ron Kramer reports:** I’ve always thought of myself as a somewhat above average kind of guy in technology but I had actually never used video calls other than very occasionally for business. However, since no one can visit my family has discovered video calling and it’s really pretty cool and easy. I’ve been coordinating a lot of video calls for far-flung family members and my 96-year old mother. And, according to the New York Times, people are also re-discovering radio (which makes me happy!) Cheers to all!

- **Sandy Abell writes:** Since the coronavirus situation hit, I've noticed some wonderful things happening. The stay-at-home order is allowing families to spend time with each other in ways they don't usually do. I've seen parents and kids playing together, gardening together, and taking walks as a family. I've also seen some wonderful chalk art on sidewalks in our neighborhood. Dad, Mom and kids using chalk to create art like kids did a long time ago.

It's heartwarming to see parents slowing down and focusing on quality time with their children. I believe this situation is helping people get clear on what is truly important.

I'm sharing some of our neighborhood chalk art, which has inspired me. I hope you enjoy it too.



At the U Club -

The Way Things Were ...

And Will Be Again





"Let us remember that the University Club has been here since 1910. The culture of the Club may need to change with the times but the tradition and fellowship needs to carry on for future generations."

— President Jack Salter
August 2002

Many Members have previously provided for the Club's future in their estate plans and their generosity has helped create the experience you've enjoyed here.

Please consider helping to strengthen the Club's future by securing a bequest invitation form from [Jerry Jacobson](#) at 541-773-2727. **Your bequest can be made to either the Club or the RRVUC Foundation.**



Do You Know Someone Who Would Like to Join the Club?

A Personal Membership Application can be
downloaded at:

[Personal Member Application](#)

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Give us a call for more information about our services and products

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