

# U-CLUB NEWS



Rogue River Valley University Club

August 2022



## Welcome Two New Club Members!

Dennis Stevens  
Joey Minear

More on pages 2 and 3

**It's U Club Summer Party time again!** Wednesday, August 17 at RoxyAnn Winery (Thanks Chad!). The buffet meal — plus Roxy Ann wines - and music by Rick Millward. All for \$35/person

Millward worked on the West Coast until moving to Nashville in 2000 where he was part of the Music City songwriter community, collaborating with other artists and producing over 30 projects including two EMMY nominated soundtracks. Now in Southern Oregon, Rick's new record "Loveland" is available on Spotify and other streaming platforms. Members who loved Rick's performance at our March Annual Meeting specially asked for his return for our Summer Party.



**Great Food  
Great Wine  
Great Music  
Great Friends**

Reserve Now at:

[Summer Party Reservations](#)

member

# SPOTLIGHT

## Dennis Stevens



Dennis Stevens is a new member. He is a traveling nurse and he is making plans to cut back and semi-retire. He has a home base here in Medford, and a house on Windsor Avenue.

Dennis grew up in Southern California, graduated from Crafton Hills College and San Jose State University. He studied nursing at San Jose State and his specialty in his work is “progressive *care* nursing.” What is that, we wondered? He said it is the care of people in that transition zone between Intensive Care and regular hospital room care. We asked what it meant to be a “traveling nurse.” Dennis explained that he had a series of short-term contracts with hospitals to fill staffing needs. The traveling works for him. He said he is a “lifelong bachelor.” He is currently trying to work out a schedule with a hospital system in the state of Washington that will allow him to spend ten days a month at his Medford home.

He said he had no stories of high school or college athletic triumph. “I was sort of an academic type.” His hobbies reflect that. He is a Ham Radio hobbyist. We asked if people still did Amateur Radio in this era of FaceTime, WeChat, WhatsApp, Skype, and just plain old international telephoning. He agreed that there was a retro element to this, and that the

people who got interested in Amateur Radio are the electronics-oriented early adopters who quickly transitioned into computers. But there is still appeal, he assured us, of using that old technology. You meet and visit with like-minded people through Amateur Radio.



Dennis taught us a new word: Vexillology. It doesn't mean the study of irritating, vexing things. It is the study of flags. Dennis studies flags. Outside his home he flies the American flags of different eras, plus the state flags of places in which he has lived (Alaska, New Mexico, Maryland and Oregon), and recently the Ukraine flag.

For now, Dennis goes back and forth, in and out of Medford, but he tells us he would like to settle down and take a permanent position here as he implements his semi-retirement plan.

Thanks to Peter Sage - our Member Spotlight editor!

member

# SPOTLIGHT

## Joey Minear



Joey Minear grew up in Medford. He attended Lone Pine elementary, Hedrick, North Medford High School, and then Southern Oregon University. The name “Minear” is familiar to Medford old-timers. His family owned an orchard off South Stage Road, but the orchard was sold about the time he was born. We asked if he did anything exciting in high school. He said he played saxophone in the band. Saxophones are the cool instrument.

Anything interesting stories to share about your youth, we asked? “Well, there’s my name. Joey is my real name. It isn’t a nickname. It’s Joey.” We asked if he parents knew they were giving him the same name as a baby kangaroo. “I’ve talked with my parents about that, yes,” he said. Anything else interesting I can tell club members, we asked?

“I married my high school sweetheart. There’s that.” He said he has been married for 13 years. I asked how old he was. He is young enough to be happy with the answer: 31. His wife is Adrionna—spelled with the “O”—and he has two children, ages 11 and 7. Joey had part time jobs during college, waiting tables at the Manor and Veranda Park and then an internship at D.A. Davidson. After college he joined the Air Force. He was the fleet manager for the Air Force’s F-15s. He said that meant keeping them operational as much as possible while they were being serviced and updated. He explained. “For example, when we were doing scheduled maintenance on the engines it was the time to be doing updates on the avionics.”



After almost eight years he was medically retired. He failed the altitude chamber, causing migraines and other issues. He said his ears don’t re-regulate their pressure fast enough if, at 40,000 feet, the plane loses air pressure because of a bullet hole in the cockpit. That’s it, we wondered? “That’s it,” he said. It isn’t something likely to come up in civilian life. He is now an Ambassador for the Air Force Wounded Warrior Program, helping other veterans and active-duty military.

Joey returned to the Rogue Valley and linked up with U.S. Rep. Cliff Bentz. He is a Field Representative. Meanwhile, he is also studying for his doctorate through Northeastern University via remote study and in-person study at its Seattle campus. He is studying “Law and Policy” with a concentration on Forest Policy that might best address forest fires. Important work.



*“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

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.**

## Contact Us

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

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Visit us on the web at  
[www.rrvuclub.org](http://www.rrvuclub.org)

# MEMBERSHIP

**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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