

Senior Stars: Ruth Mae Bell, Part 2

By Jerri Cropp

When Dale and Ruth's children were old enough to enter the scouting program, Dale became a Boy Scout Master for his son's troop and Ruth became a Girl Scout Leader for her daughter's troop. When the girl scouts reached Senior Scout age the troop members went three different ways so neither Dale or Ruth continued in the program. In appreciation for her service, Ruth was given the American Flag that had been given to her troop and had flown over the Capitol in Washington D.C.

Ruth loved animals and raised English Bull Dogs. Milord Sour Muggs (with a face only a mother could love) was the first of many English Bull dogs

that she raised. Among them two other special dogs, Sir Robert Stumble Bum and Speaker of the House, who ended up as a noisy, spoiled champion. Go figure.

Tragedy struck Dale and Ruth's family in 1962 when their only daughter died at the age of 17 after swimming in a pool. They never did determine what the cause of death was but they kept their faith in God and enjoyed the family Ruth had recently found.

Dale and Ruth became HAM Radio Operators, WD6GYS and KA6QQS respectively. Ruth was plagued with chronic bronchitis and so other radio operators jokingly called her Quack, Quack, Squeak. A very memorable time with the radio operators was being part of a special radio group K6OX for the first Space Shuttle Flight

from Edwards Air Force Base. The group made a total of 3500 contacts all over the world. It was extremely interesting to hear where the contacts were coming from – even one from Russia.

Dale and Ruth were both members of the Moose Lodge in Lancaster, CA. Ruth was a 25 year member of the Women of the Moose and she still has her cap and gown from when she received her college of Regents Degree in 1989. She had kept up her membership until four years ago.

The Bell family ended up moving to Palmdale, CA when Dale got a job with Lockheed and they lived there until 1987. Dale had retired in 1980 and he and Ruth bought property in a canyon 15 miles from Tehachapi. In 1989 they moved to the canyon and Ruth spent her

time landscaping, a dream she had for many years. Dale passed away in 1991 after many years of poor health. Ruth took care of him in their home during his battle with prostate cancer.

Ruth spent another ten years at her home in Tehachapi spending her time for worthwhile causes like being an instructor for the 55 Alive Elder Driving Program going from place to place. She later became an Assistant State Coordinator for this program. She also volunteered for the State Share Program which is much like the Oregon Food Bank. During this same period of time, Ruth was a volunteer for Hospice putting her experience to good use helping the terminally ill and their families. She continued working and volunteering for 55 Alive and Hospice programs for 7 and 9 years respectively. One of Ruth's memorable hospice patients was named Jack who had been stationed on Kodiak Island, AK during WWII and he showed her many photos and told stories about the island. Ruth had always hoped to visit Kodiak Island one day but so far that is only been wishful thinking and a pleasant dream.

Ruth's son Glenn, his wife Miin and their son James now live in Fremont, CA and visit her each year

continued on page 12

WOEC Current: News and Notes From the Co-op

By Sarah Rossi

Please help us plan for your future energy needs by participating in the upcoming residential energy use survey.

During the first two weeks of January, some of you, as members of West Oregon Electric Cooperative will receive a survey in the mail asking about the specifics of your electricity use. This survey is part of an ongoing effort to help us plan for your future energy needs. If the survey shows up in your mail, please take a few minutes to fill it out and mail it back before the 15th of February. Your timely input will help with decisions regarding power supply and conservation efforts coordinated both at the cooperative level and at the wholesale power supply level. West Oregon Electric in partnership with PNGC power needs this important information to make

informed decisions.

Only a small random number of our residential members are receiving this survey. This makes your response very important to us. Your responses are held in the strictest confidence; you will not be identified in any way. Once the data from all the returned surveys is tallied up we will report back on what we learn, probably in the spring of 2013. Please don't hesitate to give us a call at the WOEC office, 503-429-3021 or 1-800-777-1276, or get in touch via email memberservice@westoregon.org if you have any questions or concerns.

Remember by completing this survey you are helping in West Oregon Electric Cooperative's goal to ensure a stable supply of electricity at the lowest rates possible for all our members.

Creature Comforts

By Michal Smith

Welcome to 2013! First off, an official summary of the "paper" puppy and kitten sale holiday fundraiser to benefit Bailey's Pantry: IT WAS A HUGE SUCCESS! The goal was to raise \$350 and we raised \$285! If we assign a monetary value to all the donated food items from customers and local folk, the total would equate to roughly--\$350!! So we'll claim success! Creatures will continually be working to keep food on the shelves for pets at Vernonia Cares Food Bank throughout the year so look for more fun ways to take part in the coming months.

Out with old and in with the new--batch of fleas that is. Yes, I've heard from numerous pet owners recently attesting to the wicked return of these little parasites AND what they

can leave behind in pets intestinal tract – worms. I've written much about these issues (fleas and worms) in past Vernonia Voice issues so will not be redundant here, however, you should know if you see fleas, worms or suspect that your pet has one or both of these, Creatures carries products in the store that will eliminate the nasties!

New in the industry are all natural flea sprays with natural oils being the active ingredients such as clove, peppermint and cinnamon. Sentry Natural Defense has recently come out with topical squeeze on flea treatments using these same oils!

Of note: we also carry puppy and kitten vaccines as well as the DHLPP boosters. Rabies, Leukemia, and Bordatella vaccines all need to be given by a vet. Also new in the store are the Easy Walk harnesses. These are

most advantageous for owners of large breed dogs or strong pullers. The unique feature of these is that the leash attaches in the front, rather than on the top of the back. This redirects the forward motion which in turn is more comfortable for the dog and owner. Sally, a local Great Dane, wears an Easy Walk harness. Her owner reports that Sally is a much easier dog to handle on the daily walks when she wears her Easy Walk...come check them out!

Creatures pet store is open Mon-Fri 10-6; Sat 10-5; Sun 12-4 or call at 503-429-PETS(7387).

Vernonia City Council Meetings and Closures

City Council Meetings are scheduled for 7 PM:
Tuesday, January 22
Monday, February 4
Tuesday, February 19

City Closures are scheduled for:
Monday, January 21
Monday, February 18


Dates and times subject to change due to conflicts of schedules

Vernonia's Voice is changing publication dates!

Starting in February we will publish twice each month on the 1st and 3rd Thursday.

Our next issues will be January 22, February 7 & 21.

Don't Sell it! Pawn it!
For fast cash!



Baseline Pawn, Inc.
2245 Baseline St., Cornelius
(Across from Fred Meyer)
503-530-8119
State Licensed PB-0388

Open everyday at 9 a.m.

IT'S TAX TIME
Call your LOCAL tax preparer

PAYROLL PLUS LLC

Edi Sheldon 503-429-1819
edisheldon@gmail.com

Licensed tax consultant • Full service payroll
Personal & small business bookkeeping • QuickBooks assistance
CORPS, S-CORPS, LLC, Partnerships • Personal one-on-one service

LTC #29629 - Oregon licensed tax consultant
RTRP #P00448199 - designated as a registered tax return preparer by the Internal Revenue Service
The IRS does not endorse any particular individual tax return preparer. For more information on tax return preparers, go to www.IRS.gov.

kaptanskraft
Custom Garment Printing

- ☉ Silkscreen printing
- ☉ Printing while you wait for small orders
- ☉ Vinyl lettering and heat transfers
- ☉ Teams, groups, special events
- ☉ Hoodies, dress shirts, aprons & more
- ☉ No order too large or too small
- ☉ No set-up fees

711 Bridge Street, Vernonia
(503) 433-4278
kavila@kaptanskraft.com