

## **23 YEARS AND COUNTING**

There are people that have done so much in their lives. At times, these folks are not recognized for what they have accomplished and go about their lives.

This describes Bill Herrick to a Tee. Bill was born in Louisiana, grew up in Kansas. After a two year stint in the navy he completed college and married his Iowa college sweetheart, Rosemary, in Iowa at the age of 23. He obtained a Master's Degree in Vocational Rehabilitation Counseling (with the help of the G.I Bill) at the University of Iowa. Bill then worked at several jobs relating to his degree, including an Easter Seal Rehab Center and the Iowa Division of Vocational Rehabilitation He worked for that agency for 33 ½ years, retiring as the Chief of the Administrative Services Bureau.

Bill and Rosemary have now been married for 64 years. They have 4 children, 9 grandchildren and 1 great grandchild. The beautiful thing is that most of them live here in Northern California.

In 1997 Bill and Rosemary came west following their children to California. Bill said that they were tired of the snow and missed their kids. They moved directly into Rossmoor never looking back, enjoying and continuing to enjoy, every one of their 24 years here immensely.

Interestingly, Bill played golf a few times in his teens, encouraged by his father, a Minister who never got into the game. In his forties, when time and weather allowed, he would play. It was not until he was 59 years old that he had an actual matching set of golf clubs. On their arrival to Rossmoor, Bill began taking the game of golf seriously. The first year, he established his handicap at 21 and having a 9 handicap several years later. In 2008, Bill shot a gross 70 on the Dollar Course. He has had Holes in One on holes 4 and 2. He said that he wasn't able to see either one of the balls go into the hole as it was in the shady part of the greens. However, there were witnesses.

Bill explained that every day is the best day on the course. He enjoyed all the tournaments. One of the highlights of his years here were his participation in the Invitational Tournaments. At his 1<sup>st</sup> Invitational, Bill met a guy with whom he played in the Tournament for 10 straight years, becoming good friends. He was on the Rossmoor 12 Man Team for many years. He continues to treasure all that he has accomplished and looks forward to continuing his golf experience. The most treasured part of the game for Bill are the friendships that he has developed.

Bill's accomplishments associated with the game of golf did not stop at the 18<sup>th</sup> hole. Early on he jumped into Rossmoor Men's Golf Club hook, line, and sinker. Bill served on the Board for a total of 3 terms. He was a committee chairman, president elect, president, treasurer, secretary and after all that, he continued to participate on the Board in a non-elected position as Parliamentarian. Bill was a Course Marshall for 15 years and was the Chief Marshall for 13 of those years.

Bill is part of the history of our RMGC as well as a part of its future. He said, "I love the club and it has been a very important part of my life". As a matter of fact, he would consider another term on the Board.

I spoke with Mark Heptig, our Chief Golf Pro who said that Bill is an Institution in RMGC. Mark listed his thoughts about Bill. He said that once he joined RMGC he was involved at all levels. He is dedicated, thoughtful, unruffled and deeply caring. He was key in establishing the Marshall's program. His participation on the Golf Advisory Committee was important providing ideas and solutions to the many issues presented.

This quiet man deserves recognition and thanks. He has improved our overall golf experience here in Rossmoor. To know him is a privilege. He is truly an extremely caring man!