THE PEOPLE OF THE PARK:

Al Cook
Founding Member of The Jammers

“Can You Play Me a Memory”

by Dale Dauten

A few years back, it was one of those beautiful Silveridge autumn days and Al Cook decided to bring his Gretsch guitar out on the back deck to work on some country-western licks. Before long he looked up and saw a neighbor walking his way, carrying a guitar and asking, “Can I join you?” From that start grew a group that eventually would come to be known as The Jammers, Silveridge’s very own house band.

Al soon had two or three other residents joining in, and when they needed more space (and more power outlets), the new group moved into one of the meeting rooms. They were good enough that people started to stop and listen, and soon they had a crowd outside the door. That’s when they got permission to move into the park’s movie theater and they’ve been there since.

I visited their last performance of 2017, along with an enthusiastic group of music lovers. The Jammers are now six members, and they take turns on lead vocals and on wisecracks. One example of the latter: drummer Moorie Woodruff, explained to the audience, “We took pictures before the show tonight. Color pictures. And we all wore black and white.”
As Another Year Draws To A Close, it’s natural to reflect on the last 12 months pluses and minuses. If your 2017 was somewhat like mine, it brought challenges but also rewards. I’m thankful to have survived the tough days and even more grateful to have experienced the happy ones.

With 2018 upon us that it is a good time to think about setting some new goals. Buried in a nostalgic box I have several dog eared papers with some goals and pictures. On those sheets of paper were my yearly personal, family and business goals. Losing weight was always a personal goal while a family goal was to take a vacation to Disneyland. The goals kept me on track as they were posted on the refrigerator to see every day. I did not always attain the goals but I know I accomplished more than if I had not tried at all. Through the years, I have not been as diligent about written goals with pictures—Now I just call my personal goals my bucket lists!!

However, as your Activity Director I feel the responsibility to constantly be thinking of new goals and ideas to make your time at Silveridge and enjoyable and rewarding experience. To accomplish this it takes some quiet time to creatively “think outside the box.”

Webster's Dictionary defines thinking outside the box as thinking differently, unconventionally- or from a new perspective. What I like about this way of thinking is that it challenges us to think of possibilities of accomplishing things we never thought we could do. Recently I have been thinking of some individuals and groups that have been practicing this art.

*A lapper started with doing 50 laps, then 75 and now is at 100 laps in the pool—and he accomplishes this with a shoulder injury!

*Bingo Funds were down and through creative thinking and advertising the attendance and funds multiplied!

*Room 9 was busting at the seems with 3 different groups and class sizes growing. By rearranging their schedules and room design they accommodated another class!

*Did you know that the Computer and Technology Club has expanded to 250 members with over 20 sub-classes that are taught? Come and check out the Club Expo on January 13th and see how the club leaders are thinking outside the box to make things happen!

Not to be outdone, I have some things up my sleeve for 2019:

A potluck Chili Cook-off where local Fireman judge the best chili. Fee is a Toy. (Sponsored by the Decorators)

How about a bi-weekly lecture series about Arizona in the theater? Anyone up for a real horse drawn sleigh ride as part of an all park Christmas block party?? (Just need to find someone to follow the horses- HA!)

So with the new year upon us. Let’s all set some realistic goals and remember it is never too late to learn how to connect those dots. And yes, the kids did get their trip to Disneyland!

Thank you everyone for your wonderful gifts, cards, and delicacies. I treasure you and your thoughtfulness

Sue

From Rhonda, Sue, Kay, Sheila, Sharon, William, Jerry, Tracy, Kim, Kelly and crew, and gate hosts, we all wish you a Happy and Healthy 2018!

*** The New Directories are here! Come to the Activity Office to receive yours copy.
The Newtones
Friday, January 5th  6:30-9:30pm

The Newtones are new to Silveridge. I have been trying to get them here for 7 years—Success! They are playing at our once a year Friday night Dance. Do not miss this rock and roll 50’s and 60’s band. You will love dancing to this band. * Note that this is just a dance, no dinner served. BYOB and Snacks.
www.thenewtonesband.com

The Fairlaines
Tuesday, January 9th

The Fairlaines have given us many dances through the years, and they have always been a hit! Sammy C has played in a variety of bands This is his “Classic rock and roll band.”
www.sammycee.com

Five January Boogies!

The Newtones
Tuesday, January 9th

The Fairlaines
Tuesday, January 9th

All Tuesday Boogies are from 4:30-6:30 pm. BYOB and Tableware.

Junction 87
Tuesday, Jan 16th

This top notch country band hails from the Payson area. Well known for their upbeat grass roots country songs along with some fine fiddling Billy, Jim and Bob just want to say HI!
www.junction87.com

Come Back Buddy
Tuesday, January 23rd

This is School Mascot night! Bring a picture of any mascot from your high school and we will display it on a board. Wear your mascot if you want! Most important: Have fun and dance to your favorite band: Come Back Buddy!
www.comebackbuddy.com

3– Speed
Tuesday, January 30th

3– Speed played for us last Fall and will be here once more and for New Years Eve: 2018
Come and dance to this band that is “A little country and a whole lot of Rock and Roll
www.facebook.com/ 3speed
**Two Dinner Delights and Two Concerts in Jan.**

**Bernie and Red**  
**Thursday, January 4th, 4:30pm**  
The hilarious team of Bernie and Red kick off our 2018 season of entertainment. are a favorite. Many of you requested them again after they performed at our Volunteer party last Spring.

**“Those Were the Days”**  
**Thursday, Jan. 18th, 4:30pm**  
William Florian is the former Lead Singer of the famous Christy Minstrels. He sings music of Peter, Paul and Mary, Pete Seeger, The Mamas & Papas and also does a tribute to John Denver. If you love Folk music, you will love William Florian!

**Casino School**  
**Friday, January 22nd**  
**11:00am Social Hall**  
This extremely fun one hour class rewards those who attend with two Laughlin Fun Books loaded with “Free” BOGO Buffets, Rooms, & more at all 9 Laughlin Casinos plus each will receive an Arizona Fun Book with 5 “Free” Bogo rounds of golf and other discounts in Mesa. Learn how to Stingy Bet and win more! Slots, Blackjack, Roulette, Video Poker and more. The class is $10.00 per person at the door. Learn how to go with the class to Laughlin in February.

**Jimmy Travis,**  
**Thursday, Jan11th**  
**Show at 7:00pm - Wine and Cheese Night**  
Jimmy is a top notch hilarious comedian and a talented singer, songwriter and musician. Bring you friends and enjoy this talented comedian over a bottle of wine and a cheese platter. BYOW and cheese / snacks.

**Concert: Elvis, The Gospel Years**  
**Thursday, January 25th, 7:00pm**  
Tribute artist Victor Trevino Jr. knows the Elvis moves well! He has starred in the ultimate Elvis Competition and the Legends in Concert in Las Vegas. Ladies, bring your hankies, and get ready to swoon over this legendary Elvis.

**Theater Lecture**  
**Friday, January 19th, 10:00am**  
**Back By Popular Demand,** Marilyn Stewart Osborne will present a lecture on the Australian outback in the Silver Screen theater. Marilyn is a missionary kid who grew up with the aborigines and speaks one of the many outback dialects. Marilyn will have her published book for sale “Child of the Outback”. and have interesting artifacts from the out back of Australia.

***Marilyn will also be teaching the Women’s Bible Study that will start on Thursday, January 4th at 9:30am in Room 4. A new study guide has been created by Marilyn. Come and join this uplifting Bible Study***
January Breakfasts and Club Expo
January 13th, 2018

After all the holiday cooking why not treat yourself to a couple of breakfasts? Chef Jerry and many volunteers will be cooking you breakfast. Come to the Social Hall on Saturday, January 13th and January 27th from 7:00-9:00 am and get breakfast for only $5.00! You can enjoy a hot breakfast of sausage or ham, eggs, toast or pancakes, (plain or blueberry) coffee and juice. Before or after breakfast on January 13th come and visit our 4th Annual Club Expo. The Silveridge club leaders are hosting a special time where you can come and find out about what their clubs have to offer! We have over 40 clubs that can offer you the opportunity to learn something new while getting to know your Silveridge family. Our Club leaders are promising an informative time with some demos, videos and door prizes. This is a great opportunity for new residents to learn what the clubs have to offer as well as those who are looking for something new to learn. See you at Breakfast and the Club Expo!!!

Market Day, January 20th

We will have over 50 vendors tempting you with unique treasures from 9:00-12:30. Bring some extra money for you may win one of the many raffles that day! The Ceramic Club is having a Bake Sale Fundraiser! There will be all kinds of handmade goodies. The Woodworkers will have their 50-50 tickets for sale. The Pickle ball club will have their unique basket raffle. The Silveridge Quilters will have their new quilt displayed. Chances will be sold. When you need a break go the Social Hall and sit down with your friends and enjoy a delicious lunch served by our kitchen crew.

B I N G O

Food Served from 5:00-6:00pm. Open to all residents.
Do not have to play bingo to eat.
Dinner is $7.00 / $6.00 with Bingo Ticket
Sandwiches are $3.50. Soda, water, popcorn, pies, and cookies sold.
Check with the Activity Desk for menu
Games include: Double Action, Odd/Even, Money Ball, Betty Boop
King and Queen Bingo Payouts– Door Prizes!!!
Bingo Wednesdays resume on January 3rd.

Every Wednesday 6:30pm.
Happy New Year from the Bingo Team

$1,000.00 Progressive Jackpot

January Breakfasts
Santa wants you to know that as he visited with all of you how giving and caring you were of one another. You touched his life. Thank you and wishing you the best in 2018.
Reported by Santa
Silveridge Christian Fellowship

Our service is every Sunday at 9:00am in the Ballroom. We invite you to join us for our non-denominational service. There will be a New Years Eve morning service on Sunday, Dec 31st at 9:00am.

Celebraiton

Of Life

Verna Ruth Arnold  November 3rd
Louie Waldenbach  December 11th

Rose Garden Tea

Friday, January 26th, 1:00pm

Ladies, bring a tea cup. Teas tastes better in China! There will be Entertainment. Tea dress appropriate but not necessary. Hats or Fascinators are good!

Please sign up for a small plate to pass.
(Savory Finger Foods such as tea sandwiches, quiche, cheeses, olives, fruit. Sweets such as bars, cookies etc.)

Tickets $5.00 @ Activity Office

Ticket Event Information

The Activity Office is always looking for better ways to serve you. We appreciate your generosity in the purchasing of your tickets. Many of you have ordered your tickets early this year. It has worked well to have you each fill out the ticket order list. We know that there can be reasons why you may not be able to attend an event that you have purchased tickets for.

If you are trying to sell your tickets, we are asking that you first try to re-sell them on your own. On the bulletin board outside the activity office we will post re-sell information which should help get your refund back to you more quickly. There will be blue slips with the available ticket information. Make sure to include a phone number where you can be reached. Tack the slip to the bulletin board.

If you are looking to purchase tickets, check the blue re-sale slips for the event you are looking for. Find the table or seat number and locate it on the seating chart. The seating charts for each type of event will be on the board (boogies, dinner shows, concerts.) We have always tried our best to re-sell the tickets for you in an emergency situation such as medical reasons where you have to leave the park.

Thank you again for coming out to the shows. If you have suggestions for shows please let me know. I am gathering ideas for the 2018-19 season!
Below: Our Annual Light Parade. Winners in order 1st: The Nativity, Russ Winkleblack and Shirley Davenport, and the “Wise Women”. 2nd: Don Offer and Shirley 3rd: Rich and Esther Rusk and Ron and Penny Dates as Mr. and Mrs. Santa

On behalf of the decorators and the Mesa Fire Dept. I would like to thank Silveridge Santas for their kindness and generosity. We collected almost 200 toys to be distributed to families in the Mesa Area

Yvonne Rowley
The group plays a range of songs, including on that night:

- “Nowhere Man” (One of many Beatles songs announced in a British accent – two of the members are from Great Britain via Canada.)
- “Sloop John B” (As one Jammer put it, “This song has been done by many bands including the Beach Boys… and now by us.”)
- “All My Ex-es Live in Texas” (This one prompted one of the many self-deprecating comments: “It’s a sad song but that was downright pitiful.”)

And then there was “Piano Man,” which seemed particularly fitting as it was Billy Joel’s first single, from back in 1973, and has the line, “Son, can you play me a memory?” Yes, the Jammers can play memories. And watching, you saw them transported in time, back to when they played the songs as young men and when the songs were young, too. The hips sway, the heads nod and we all traveled back with them.

The original Jammer, Al Cook, played in a band in Colorado called Country Junction for twenty years. He now splits his year between Silveridge and Longmont, Colorado. Reflecting back on the evolution of The Jammers, he says, “I started the group on the country line, but over the years I’ve transferred a lot of it to the younger guys. For one, I don’t know the Beatles and we have two guys from England. But I learn it and they tolerate me.” Watching the band play, they do much more than tolerate Al – when he takes the lead on guitar riffs, you’ll hear a band member merrily call out, “Bring it, Big Al.” And oh, Big Al brings it.

If you’d like to hear The Jammers for yourself, they play next on January 8th in the Silver Screen movie theater. It’s free. (The Jammers never take money for their performances – as Al puts it, “It’s all from the heart.”) And I guarantee they’ll play you a memory.

For more information on the park, and for back issues of The Silveridge Sun, please visit our website at www.silveridge.com.

Send your thoughts/comments or story suggestions to Dale -- dale@dauten.com.