

SALINA SAMS

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Long time Salina Sams members Bill and Norma Reinbold have decided, after camping over sixty years, it is time to permanently park their motorhome. Bill and Norma have been dedicated members of the Salina Sams for nearly 30 years. The Reinbolds have been active members in both the local and national organization since joining the club in 1991. Bill served as Chapter President more than once and also as photographer for many years, capturing many memories documented in numerous yearbooks. Norma, for many years, volunteered to write up articles for the local newspaper about the club's monthly campouts and meetings.

Camping has been an important part of the Reinbold's lives since early in their marriage over 66 years ago. Their camping experience began with five kids in a station wagon when the three girls and mom slept inside the vehicle while dad and the boys slept outside on army cots. They've done it all from tent camping to having a VW van, utilizing a bumper pull, to graduating into a brand new class A motorhome which they purchased new and recently sold after 25 years of service. Bill did most of the routine maintenance himself including most minor repairs and hanging oil, et cetera.



When asked what attracted them to camping initially, Norma said it was a fun and inexpensive form of family entertainment. Bill said they like being outdoors and thought it was important to spend time with his family. They continued traveling and camping after their family was grown. One of the Reinbold's favorite places frequented during the hot summers was Fun Valley Family

Resort, South Fork, Colorado. Another fond memory recalled was an extended trip taken with several Salina Sams Club members to South Dakota the North West and Canada. This six week trip was mostly spontaneous, completed without setting up advance reservations or having a specific route or timeline to follow.

The Reinbold's always could be depended on to attend the chapter's planned monthly campouts with their Salina Sam friends. And it was quite common to see the Reinbolds extend their stay by several days or going out to one of the area lakes to spend time by themselves. Bill, an accomplished wood carver, focuses much of his time carving while Norma, an avid reader, spends much of her time reading and watching TV on these outings.

They both try to exercise every day by walking either in the mall in inclement weather or enjoying the sights and sounds of the outdoors. When not camping, in addition to his carving, Bill loves to tinker and build things in his metal shop. Norma enjoys reading, watching TV, and playing pinochle and other card games with their Salina Sam friends.

At the age of 93, Bill when questioned what he's attributed his good health and longevity to, stated that having a wife that "treats you good and feeds you healthy food" is key as well as staying active in both mind and body. The Reinbold's epitomizes the lifestyle that is only dreamed about by most folks. Their presence at monthly campouts will be sorely missed.