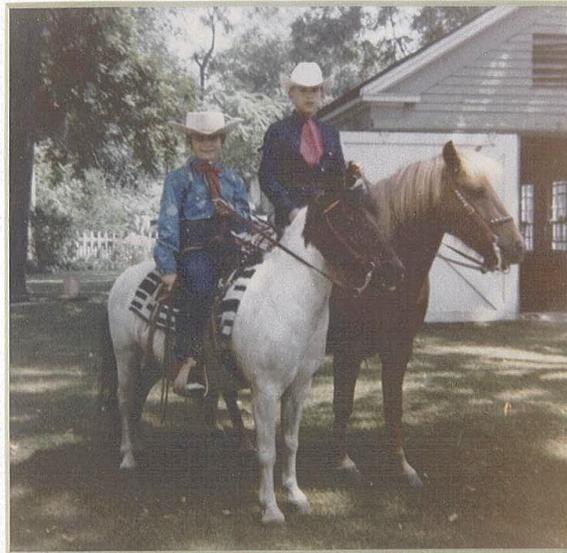


## Rob & Linda Adams – Members of Squaw Butte since January 2000

Rob was born in southwestern Michigan in 1950 and spent his youth on 40 acres of rolling hills with a creek passing through it. Before my father bought the property, it was used to grow Christmas trees. Hoss, my father was a third generation small town lawyer and while I was growing up, served as the Prosecutor of the County. Needless to say, I was highly motivated not to have a run-in with the local police. My mother Mary's side of the family "Pugsley" ran a centennial fruit farm that is still in the family and has passed the 150 year mark. As kids, we spent a lot of time working on that farm.

I was from the Roy Rogers and [Spin & Marty](#) generation and had my first pony at age five. Some friends of my Dad got horses for their daughters and after a few years as pasture pets, gave them to my Dad. This is how I got the horse that taught me to ride. A brown Welsh pony named Rex. He was a child of the devil, running away with whoever was foolish enough to climb upon his back.

I was very into horses and not really interested in things like baseball or bikes. At age 11, I got the opportunity of a lifetime, to attend a summer camp in Jackson Hole, WY. [Teton Valley Ranch Camp](#) was the chance to spend time riding and hiking in the "Real" West. I spent the next several summers, first as a camper and later as staff, living the dream. TVRC is where I went on my first of many pack trips, learned to pack and got to backpack and later climb in the Tetons. The experience shaped my life and fueled a need for adventures.



After graduating from a small high school about the size of Emmett, I attended Michigan State University, majoring in "Fish & Wild Life". In 1970 I drew a very low number in the draft, and made the choice to go to sea rather than go trudging around in the jungle. Years later I completed a degree in Computer Science. After joining the Navy, I tested well and was offered electronic school. For the next decade I attended Navy schools and was assigned to various duty stations doing ASW work in the [SOSUS](#) program. Some of the many duty stations I served at were Key West, Antigua and Iceland. I spent time TAD at a number of others. In Key West and Antigua I spent a lot of time scuba diving, and worked part time for a diving company that did training and some commercial work. After Iceland I was sent back to Key West for more schools and after graduation, was assigned as an instructor. The school I was teaching was moved to Norfolk VA. As I was living on a 34 foot boat

at the time I sailed the boat up the inter-coastal waterway. Linda and I continued to live on the boat for a number of years in Norfolk - until our son was about four.

It was in Norfolk I met Linda. She is a city girl born in Chicago and is proud of her Scandinavian heritage; having immigrant grandparents from both Norway and Denmark. She first joined the Navy in 1969 and worked in Naval Aviation. She was married to a Vietnam combat veteran in the US Marine Corps and left the Navy in 1971 because the Navy wasn't thrilled with her being an enlisted personnel married to Officer Personnel.

After they divorced, she rejoined the Navy, and changed jobs, becoming an Ocean System Technician (OT). After attending school in Key West and being stationed in Bermuda she was transferred to Norfolk to attend school again. We were introduced by a mutual friend in 1978. Since she had been married to a Marine and I had been married to a Wave, neither of us was particularly anxious to get involved with someone in the service again so we were perfect for each other and have been together ever since. We both knew from first-hand experience how hard both partners being on active duty is, and as a naval career was a lot more important to Linda than it was to me, she stayed in and I eventually got out of the Navy and became a contractor to the Navy so we could be together in the same location.

My first contractor job was in "Special Projects Submarine Sonar" for a Navy lab in Norfolk. This job entailed being on a Tiger Team that traveled on 12 hours' notice anywhere in the world as needed. During the time I worked there, I rode submarines, and spent a lot of time on airplanes and in shipyards. After she got out of the Navy, Linda used her G.I. Bill to go back to college. She attended Old Dominion University and got a degree in Computer Science. Then she, too, worked as a contractor to the Navy. During that time she founded her own software development company doing commission database work to help small businesses. She sold one of her pieces of software for use in the Norfolk public school system.

A friend suggested I apply for a job doing R&D work on a project called [SURTASS](#) which was being done by the Bendix Field Engineering Company. The job still had a lot of travel, but it was scheduled, and the pay was better.

I worked on various Navy contracts for the next 15 years. Bendix Field Engineering was purchased by Allied-Signal Company, which later purchased Honeywell, and took its name. In 1995 the company leadership sent a memo that contracts valued at less than \$25 million per year would no longer be bid. People on existing contract would be RIFed as their contracts ended.

This was a major turning point in our lives, for the first time we could pick where we wanted to live. The DOD contractor life had gotten very old, and we wanted a new adventure. Linda researched places to live and work that fit the lifestyle we wanted. We checked out Boise, and made that our destination. Our move to Idaho rivaled those who came before us in covered wagons. We had no job, no place to live, and neither of us had ever been to Boise before. We sold the house in Maryland, put our belongings in storage, rented a U-Haul van, and came West just knowing it was going to work out.

We arrived in Boise mid-August of 1995 and found a place to rent; got Christian enrolled in middle school and started looking for a job. A couple of Boise's selling points for us were the high tech companies where I might find a job and the local VA hospital where Linda could get medical care. Linda was diagnosed with MS in 1992 and after a paperwork battle, was granted VA disability coverage. The fact that Boise had skiing, kayaking and other outdoor activities that Christian and I love to do was also a big part of the decision.

In November 1995, I got a job with the JR Simplot Company in their computer department. Before coming to Idaho, we had never heard of Simplot, but it turned out to be exactly the right place to go to work. I didn't want to live in town, so we started looking for around 10 acres where I could retire and putter around on. We had looked at a couple of lots in Emmett and looking at the map, saw that we could get back to Boise via Horseshoe Bend on Highway 52. Our first visit to the Sweet Valley was love at first sight. That day we bought the 25 acres we currently live on. The next summer we built our house and moved in. A neighbor, who became a friend, mentioned that she had horses she rarely used and if I was interested and could catch them so Christian and I could ride them. One of that herd I bought and still ride, my buckskin Willow.

Linda and I joined Squaw Butte BCH in January of 2000. At that time we owned two yearling mustangs, a compact truck and had no trailer. It didn't matter, we were interested and supportive of BCHI, the horses would grow up, and the required equipment would be accumulated.

Son Christian graduated from Horseshoe Bend High School, attended the University of Idaho for one year and then was accepted into the US Coast Guard Academy. During his second summer his class sailed the Tall Ship Eagle to Ireland, France and Portugal. His third summer he served on a buoy tender in Guam. Since graduation he has served on two ice breaker/ buoy tenders in the Great Lakes and a cutter in Oregon. He and his fiancée Rebecca are hoping his next set of orders is for command of his own ship. He has been approved for command of three different types of Coast Guard ships; he just needs a bit of luck when he comes due for assignment later in 2012.



