



# Village Life

## HDV Member Profile - Dave Detweiler

For a retiree, Dave Detweiler is a busy guy. He juggles building a new home on Bend's west side, with tending to a garden back in Albany, OR and traveling either on his 3 wheel Can Am motorcycle or in 24' travel trailer. Dave has been to 49 states and made countless trips across country for family reunions. He and his six siblings like the Outer Banks of North Carolina for those gatherings.



"It was always a good time and a way for the cousins to know each other," he says.

Originally from Pennsylvania farm country, Dave had an itch to travel and see the rest of the country. In the early 70s he did a year of service in Louisiana and Mississippi under the auspices of the Mennonite church. As one of a 5-person team Dave did flood clean up and repair work for social assistance programs such as Head Start and food banks.

The call to "go west" drew him to a small college in Goshen, IN where he and Martha met. Intending to study industrial arts and teach at the high school level, Dave yearned to continue exploring the country. He and Martha considered several states, but decided to try Corvallis and Oregon State University. There he would finish his degree.

Dave says he would have been happy to teach in an Oregon high school, but the timber wars and slow economy meant schools weren't hiring new teachers in the 80s. The couple moved to Iowa where they found jobs.

By 1990 they were back settling in Albany, OR where Dave was facility maintenance supervisor at Mennonite Village, a not-for-profit, continuing care retirement community. Located on 275 acres in a rural setting, Dave recalls it was a good job with a faith-based mission. He worked there 31 years altogether.

Family needs sent the couple to Phoenix for a time, but they returned to Albany where they still maintain a garden today. Dave loves gardening and doesn't mind driving across the mountains to harvest potatoes, onions and fruit in between working on a new home here in Bend.

The time in Albany allowed Dave to indulge his passion for building homes. He built four houses over time on some property they bought for their own home. He will put his vast experience to use as he and Martha design an all-electric home with solar panels and other sustainability features with the help of their two sons who live in Bend.

It won't be all work this year as they will be enjoying some travel across the country. Both he and Martha have 50 year high school reunions to attend. They hope to top it off with a tour of Gulf Coast states early next year.

**Joette Storm**  
Village Life Associate Editor

## Carl Sagan & a Pale Blue Dot

The mention of Carl Sagan for most people brings to mind the 1980 award-winning 13-part PBS television series *Cosmos: A Personal Voyage*. The series viewed around the world by an estimated 500 million people, myself included, made Sagan a pop culture icon.

His contributions as an astronomer, planetary scientist, cosmologist, astrophysicist, astrobiologist, author and science communicator far exceeded the reach of the popular television series. Here is a much broader and in-depth understanding of the life of Carl Sagan courtesy of Wikipedia.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carl\\_Sagan](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carl_Sagan)

With that knowledge in mind, you might better appreciate Sagan's poignant message in his narration of the brief video *Pale Blue Dot* which can be viewed here.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GO5FwsblpT8>

Perhaps our species is better served by the humility that such a message can engender.

**Gene Storm**  
Village Life Editor



## Music Corner

As a poet, author and particularly as a singer/songwriter, the late Leonard Cohen touched many of our generation. While inspired in part by the holocaust, the lyrics to this haunting song have a more far reaching meaning in this performance. *Dance Me to the End of Love* is performed here by Cohen with touching accompanying visuals. Enjoy!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NGorjBVagol>

## From the President's Desk . . .

Dear HDV Members,  
A warm, sunny afternoon, good food, new friends, FINALLY seeing old friends again, and a background of beautiful guitar music combined to make a wonderful 2022 annual HDV picnic. Thank you to our rock-out Good Time Team, who impressively organized this time together. Thank you to Bambi Curtis, who made this space available to us. And also thank you to Gene Storm, who serves as our expert village photographer. See our website (under the group picnic photo) for Gene's photos and also a 2022 retrospective video, composed by Jim Powell, which beautifully captures who we are as a village members. Thank you, Jim.

We have had a successful summer working the kinks out of our electronic service request system. Members report that it is more user friendly than they anticipated. We continue to have members wanting to do more for other members. I read about a recent study that reported that "across all experiments, those asking for help consistently underestimated how willing friends and strangers were to assist, as well as how good the helpers felt afterwards." This research showed that people seem to be really underestimating how willing others are to help. We could be doing more for each other within our village. Reach out!

Finally, if you are looking for more to do as a HDV member, please call or email me: (541 390-8980) or [comerdente@me.co](mailto:comerdente@me.co). We, as a board, have ideas for you!

Happy Fall,

Pam Di Dente

## To Your Health

### Interested In Donating Your Body to Science?

This is much more complicated than it might seem. As I result, I am offering many links for those interested in more information about specific topics.

First, body donation is different than organ donation. The designated national donor organization in Oregon is Cascade Life Alliance <http://cascadelifealliance.org/> Organ donation is what you can put on your driver's license. The "D" indicates that upon death, you wish to donate any/all organs, eyes, and tissues deemed viable. You can also register on-line and get many questions answered with the FAQ section. Is there an age limit? No, the circumstances of death and your medical condition at the time of death will determine what organs, eyes and tissue can be donated. For specific information see <https://www.donatelifenw.org/content/register-now>

Whole body donation is done through three types of organizations: Medical schools; medical research firms (often for specific conditions like cancer, dementia, Parkinson's, etc.); and private companies. The most common is through medical schools and our closest is OHSU <https://www.ohsu.edu/body-donation>.

Unfortunately, med schools often don't need all donations available, so people will look for a private company, such as Science Care. Do be cautious and understand exactly what the options are with companies like Science Care <https://www.sciencecare.com/> It's a not-for profit company that offers "no cost to donors and free cremations". The news agency, Reuters, did an investigation of Science Care and discovered the owners were making \$27 million in one year by selling body parts such as a brain for \$750. If interested in donating for a specific condition, like cancer, dementia, etc, do a google search for "body donation for research".

Eight lives can be saved from one organ donor! Much research progress is facilitated by body donations. It isn't for everyone though! But give it some thought and if interested in a great read about what can happen to cadavers, I recommend *Stiff*, by Mary Roach. She explores how dead bodies have been used in research and experimentation over the last 2,000 years, leading to some of the most important innovations in medicine.

Jan Hildreth

## Village News

### Men's Current Events Forum

9 a.m. – 11 a.m. – Thursday, Oct. 6th

Hutchinson Room, Downtown Bend Public Library

Organizer: Jim Cruckshank

Register on HDV website under events tab - limited to 10 participants

### Membership Openings

Do you know a couple or single person who might be interested in High Desert Village? The Village is close to being full with our limited number of memberships (80), however we still have a couple of spots available. If you have a prospective member in mind and they live within our boundary, direct them to our website to fill out a member application. Our team is ready to give them a cheerful call!

Marilyn Sterbick

### Film Noir

Interested in film noir? If you haven't already, contact Greg Lyons, our film noir expert. He's planning film sessions and wants to hear from you. Email him at [glyons@cocc.edu](mailto:glyons@cocc.edu)

### Let's Meet for Coffee

Tuesday, September 27th at 10:00 a.m. Coffee - Juniper Park All members are welcome, especially those who have joined since 2020! Look for more info on the HDV website.

**High Desert Village Board Meeting**  
**Tuesday, September 20 - 4 p.m.**  
**Pioneer Park**