

# PLAY TIME

By Judy Fritschen

Our play time activities have varied over the years to comply with our age preferences. Most of the activities I am writing about occurred after we were both retired in 1998. We lived in Hays, Kansas, and I have to say people in small western Kansas towns know how to have fun.

On Saturday mornings a group of us met for coffee. We discussed everything from family to local and national happenings. The more fun stuff included New Year's Eve dances and wedding dances. I remember soon after we had moved to western Kansas some friends asked us if we were going to a wedding dance that was to be that Saturday night. We said "No, we weren't invited to the wedding because we didn't know the couple." Our friends said that didn't matter. Just go to the dance. Everybody will be there. So-o-o-o, we did. They were right. Everybody was there, and everybody had a really good time. That is where we learned to do the "Chicken Dance." What fun!! There was this other dance we learned. While we were doing all the appropriate twists and turns, every so often everyone stopped and shouted something. I didn't understand what they shouted but then they continued with the dance for a few minutes until they all stopped and shouted again. At the end of the dance I asked our friends what everyone was shouting. They said the name of this dance was 'The Bull Shit' and everyone was shouting, "Bull Shit." Darn! I just missed half the fun. When the dance was over usually around midnight, when the dance band was ready to call it a night, it was pretty customary for those who were not ready to go home just yet, to take up a collection to convince the dance band to play for another hour. After the dance was finally over, a group of us often met at someone's house for a late breakfast. Needless to say, we were much younger in those days.

We also went on vacation trips in those days, always somewhere in the United States. We felt that there were so many beautiful places right here in the U. S. that's what we wanted to see. We went on three cruises: Alaska, Northeast Atlantic Coast, and Panama Canal. They were all wonderful. We took some bus trips such as the National Parks, California, and Washington D.C. area. We really learned to appreciate our beautiful country.

Another type of play time for us was attending sports events. We especially enjoyed Kansas State University football bowl games and Big Twelve basketball tournaments which were held in Kansas City. Bill is a Kansas University basketball fan and I was all for K-State. I would be dressed in K-State purple and Bill in K. U. blue and red. One day when we were walking down the hall at the tournament, someone stopped us and asked, "How long have you two been married?" We were definitely a house divided.

Since moving to Wind Crest we still take part in fun activities. There are so many beautiful places to see in the mountains and that has been a new experience for us Kansas flatlanders. We went on the Wind Crest bus to get on the train to tour the Royal Gorge. We took the Wind Crest bus to tour the fall colors in the mountains. Another time we took a train ride up the mountains to Silverton. We have also gone to a couple of Rockies baseball games. We are signed up to go this Thursday, Aug. 3, 2017.

We both like to play card games. Bill plays poker on Monday nights. I especially like Jokers Wild and I play on Wednesday nights and also on Sunday nights. What a great way to have fun with our Wind Crest friends!