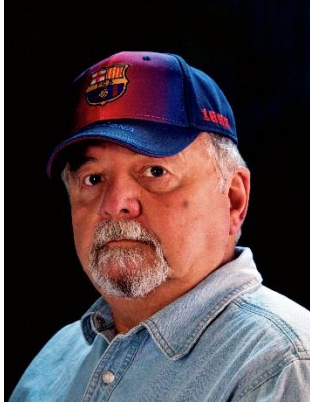


INTERVIEW WITH RICK PHILLIPS



Rick had a peripatetic (traveling from place to place) 30 year career at SDG&E: he worked in District offices ranging from Oceanside in the north, to Chula Vista in the south, and Eastern in the... well... east; and, there were stops in the Phone Center, Planning, Rates, collections, energy services, Large Consumer Billing, Meter Services Staff, Distribution Asset Management; and, the merger team!

During vacations, he honed his interests in archaeology by assisting the U.S. Forest Service with digs in California, Arizona, and Nebraska. Also, he spent many weekends excavating the Early Man Site, on I-15, east of Barstow. Eventually, he began digging deeper and helped a National Geographic team excavate the pelvic girdle of a plesiosaur and, assisted The Smithsonian with the recovery of a Cretaceous Period Horseshoe Crab in Wyoming.

After work he was involved in service organizations, political campaigns, and youth sports. He spent eight years teaching martial arts and earned second-degree black belts in taekwondo and hapkido (the Korean hard and soft forms of self-defense).

Since retiring, most of his volunteer time has been above ground serving as a docent for Tallac Historic Site (<http://www.tahoheritage.org>), the Natural History Museum, Cabrillo National Monument, and, currently for the Living Coast Discovery Center in Chula Vista (<http://www.thelivingcoast.org/>).

In their RV, Rick and his wife, Mary Ellen, have driven all the western states; visited most of the Indian pueblos in Arizona and New Mexico; and, driven Highway 1 to its northern terminus to see the lighthouses along the way. Now, except for the occasional weekend trip, the RV is gathering cobwebs as they have turned to cruising. So far, they've done an Atlantic crossing, Venice to Galveston; the Panama Canal; Mexico's 'Gold Coast'; the Western Caribbean; Alaska; and cruised round-trip to Hawaii. Next October, they are booked on a cruise from Los Angeles to Tahiti via Hawaii. Twice, Rick has been on cruise ships and seen other SDG&E alumni.

On the topic of alumni... every couple of months, Rick has lunch with three of his old bosses: Gary Wright, John Vanderlinde, and Jim Teeter. And, whenever he travels north of Los Angeles, he stops to see Marianne Selindh, his So Cal Gas boss on the merger team.

"I started taking photos as my high school's newspaper and yearbook photographer and have never stopped," is how he described his longest lasting interest. Currently, he writes a blog on photo venues in San Diego (<http://www.examiner.com/article/photographing-a-working-ranch-mexico>) and, "I make a little pocket change doing portraits."

Rick is offering free portraits (2-3 electronic images) to any SDG&E retiree who comes to his Bonita in-home studio before March 31st. To make an appointment, send an email to PhotosbyPhillips@aol.com

Currently, he spends time four-wheeling his Jeep in the Anza Borrego or photographing his family: his daughter is a director of an international financial services firm and she has a three-year old son and a two-year old daughter. His son is a Captain with the Solana Beach Fire Department and he has a daughter and son, with another "...bun in the oven..."

<http://about.me/PhotosByPhillips>