

Four More New Rossmoor Scholarship Foundation Trustees

Janeen Ehrhart was born in St. Louis, graduated from the University of Iowa, and after serving for several years as an Eastern Airlines flight attendant returned to school for a degree that prepared her to run an Early Childhood Development program. After 10 years with “the little ones,” however, she began working with students and teachers in “on site learning” programs in the Washington, DC area, a position in which she honed marketing career and event planning skills she intends to harness for her RSF trustee responsibilities. After moving to Rossmoor three years ago (“best decision I have made!”)—she began “looking for a meaningful way to share my talents and join an organization where I could give back to young people.” In RSF, “I have for sure found that organization!”

Although born in New York City, Dick Friedman grew up in Newton, MA, where he “became steeped in Boston’s kaleidoscopic sports culture.” He earned a BA in History at Harvard, then began a career in magazine journalism (People, TV Guide, Sports Illustrated), mostly as an editor but also as a writer. At SI he covered a variety of sports. After retiring, he became a contributing editor at Harvard Magazine. He and his wife Meryl moved to Rossmoor in 2017 to be nearer their daughter Leah, a content marketer who lives with her husband Evan in Alameda. As a member of a Harvard Club schools committee, Friedman frequently interviewed applicants to the college. “I was fascinated to learn what made them tick, and also delighted (and a bit dismayed) at how much they could teach me. I hope the skills I developed there will be of use to RSF.”

Jane Emanuel moved from her hometown of Philadelphia to California and after high school attended UC-Berkeley “during a transformative time in the 1960s.” There she earned a BA in Art History, but got an equally valuable education on the streets “where I learned lasting lessons in the importance of social action and free speech.” For three years she managed a Baskin-Robbins Ice Cream franchise while her husband Roger made a career change to start their tax and accounting practice in Concord. When they sold the store, she studied tax law, then joined the practice for the next 25 years. All that time “Rossmoor had been in our thoughts. My mother was the very first resident at the Waterford in 1990 and we already had friends here.” They moved from Lafayette to Rossmoor in 2021. During her career most of her volunteer experiences involved teens. “When I read in the Rossmoor News about RSF’s work, I knew I wanted once again to help students...often the first in their families to attend college, pursue their dreams of higher education.”

Bill Riess was born in New York City, but lived in Scarsdale through high school. After earning a BA from Wesleyan University and a PhD in Psychology from UC Berkeley he spent fifteen years on the staff at Oakland’s Children’s Hospital Medical Center before starting a private practice in Berkeley. He and his wife, Ray, moved to Rossmoor in December 2023. “I was drawn to RSF work when I first heard about it, and that interest was furthered by the frequent articles about RSF in the Rossmoor News,” he notes. “The opportunity to help high school and community college students move toward their educational goals is very appealing, as is the collegiality of working on a such a meaningful project.”

Submitted by: Wayne A. Wiegand, RSF Trustee