

Subject: Re: Kerrville
From: John David Trolinger <john@trolinger.com>
Date: 5/31/2022, 11:21 AM
To: Gary Kelch <gary.kelch@icloud.com>

Gary,

Thank you for sharing the Izzy story. I knew he was anti-nuke and remember him saying something about nukes job was to pull the towed array and push the sonar dome but I didn't think he took it to heart. Strange. I only spent time in C school with him but -for sure- it was his anti-nuke prejudice and not you. I can tell.

The things that I learned from Bergall were important in my life. My sonar chief hated me and in general the environment was bad. Chief set up a qual board from hell which I failed.

The best example is when the 1 inch tape recorder, THE mission for sonar, broke he and Pat tried to fix it by themselves, screwed it up, and we had to pull into port for a tech assist where a guy had to fly from the states to Scotland so that we could continue. They rejected my help and I am the trained supertech, a guy that lived electronics from childhood.

When I was on Rickover the same thing happened, nearly. The tape recorder power supply failed.. and now I was the tech as I had been to school and was the 'super tech' on 709. First thing I found was that the spare power supply circuit board was smashed, the spare kit was in a suitcase kind of thing and packed to breaking.

Next thing we did was get help. Our awesome sonar officer went and found me the smartest ET Nuke that you will ever know, and he will make sure that you know, and I got help from one other electronics tech that could solder very well and we went to work on the power supply. The 3 of us fixed the circuit board. I was able to do the re-calibrations and we continued on the mission.

I got to see the guys back in 2016 and we had a great chat about motorcycles and airplanes, we were all successful and happy. During the get together last week 'Rocco' one of the ET electricians recalled the story and how the nukes saved the mission. Good times.

So Gary I wish you well on the hunt and have considered having a summer place where it is cool. My revolutionary war era family lived in the Dublin and Pulaski Virginia area and that is very nice. I really like Virginia countryside and spent the 1990s traveling all over for work and play.

Farther up 81 is Blacksburg and with all the University type towns there is good money that comes in to allow the city to shine. We have a University here and it really brings in the nice things.

Write me if you need anything. This is my forever contact address.

David Trolinger

On 5/30/2022 7:10 PM, Gary Kelch wrote:

Dave,

Thanks for the reply and the info on the area. I will definitely check the lake hills. Texas is not out of the running, but we are finding property cost and property tax much more favorable in Tennessee.

WRT Izzy the only real story I can relate is, he did not like me. He did not generally like nukes and some how I ended up on his special nuke list. Did not go out of his way to get at me, but certainly would not give me the time of day. Don't know what I did, if anything, to piss him off.

Gary

On May 30, 2022, at 11:15 AM, John David Trolinger <john@trolinger.com> wrote:

Being a veteran gets you a lot here. It is not like Norfolk or DC where you are just another vet with some basic services. In Kerrville the streets were renamed for veterans. When I go places and wear my Bergall ball cap I get discounts and thank yous, even out on the river trail. When our submariners group was meeting people would buy us lunch.

Kerrville and Kerr county. Myself, brother, uncle, parents, grandfather, and his father retired here after the Army/Navy/working lives. I moved back in 2003 when dad had prostate cancer and then worked for the county government.

My family place is out West and my brother just retired. My parents are still alive and live there too. It is on the river but remote and the state highway traffic constant. A lot of people have moved into the Hunt Texas area but it is too far from stuff for me and Jane.

I exercise every day and like to go running. Sometimes I fly to another airport and then run so I see the area. Kerrville has the best parks and recreation of anywhere outside of San Antonio. Some locals complain about all the money spent but the river trail and the parks are just awesome and I tell the workers and staff anytime that I see them around.

The Kerrville VA is basic and mostly a nursing home. My father uses the VA and must go to San Antonio for any actual medical services including diagnostics. The VA calls ambulances from the city with any major medical case. Not good. Maybe that will change back around again but I do not see it.

Growth here in the city and county is very limited. A few houses are built in town each year and the plots and plats don't change much. Very different from Boerne or over in the Austin suburbs like Burnet. New construction people buy land and build. I think that there is one development in the works and it is small. Water constricts the growth here and always will.

With that Kerrville and the area are not good and lack badly in services. When I went to build a new ham radio tower in February for example I could not find hired help and had to order concrete from Fredericksburg where the old Germans have work ethics.

Fredericksburg, Harper, Tierra Linda are all small and good places. The people that I know in those areas are well off and made good choices in advance of retirement. Not many outsiders and those assimilate to the politics and life.

I just went running and thought of some bullet point kind of things:

The elections department here has been bribed and controlled by facebook. In 2008 I saw massive mail-in votes and this has continued. This is first hand from me as I was an election official, the one that entered and posted the results of every election.

The area is experiencing 20 percent inflation. I thought that I had planned well and that SS would take care of the inflation but I was off by a couple years. Free money from the fed is apparently not free.

The county and city governments this year have been bought by the feds with covid money. Communism is here. I know this first hand. There is a book of rules and regulations that they just signed onto and things are not good. If you are in the club you will be well off.

The year before I retired I started wearing my ball cap at work and lots of people did not know that I was on submarines so it was nice to show the flag as it were.

The county formed a veteran' office after I started as IT director. Myself, the county judge, and two department heads were the few veterans and one year the newspaper noted that one day.

Local submariners group meets once a month. One of the guys installed the sonar system on Bergall. Another guy, DBF type, wears an 'I hate Rickover ball cap.' Small world.

The ham radio club has huge meetings. Not sure what they do all the time but the meetings and clubhouse are great.

This is a good place if you are self-reliant for example when the electricity in Texas was out for most of five days I found out who was really prepared. I had enough fuel for my generator by going and draining the tanks on my airplane and all the ham radio stuff but there was almost no activity. The city did keep the water and gas flowing so that was nice.

If you go to war and come home in a box even as a PFC you will get a parade and a street named. The main N-S streets are named for soldiers. The E-W road is Veterans Memorial, the loop is dedicated to war vets. There is a significant memorial at the courthouse and in November a parade and ceremony at same.

That is the stuff I can think of for now but ask any questions or come and visit anytime.

Send me an old picture of Izzy and or the boat and you.

David Trolinger

