## Meet Your Neighbor

For the past six years, residents have had the benefit of a great FHF website. This first-class production was the brainchild of webmaster, Bob Kuhn, who pioneered the concept and then modified and expanded its contents over the years.

Bob Kuhn (pronounced "coon" as in raccoon) is a native of Red Wing, Minnesota. In fact, the family mascot is just that, a raccoon. He is the first born in a family of four, one brother and two sisters. His parents live in Sun City (Phoenix), Arizona and spend much of their leisure time traveling. Those familiar with Bob know that the apple doesn't fall far from the tree, as Bob and Mary enjoy traveling as well.

Bob graduated from the University of Minnesota with a mechani-

cal engineering degree. An employment opportunity with GE took him to upstate New York where he met his wife, Mary. It was love at first sight, and they were engaged following just a seven-week courtship. Bob and Mary just recently celebrated their 40<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. The Kuhns moved to Pennsylvania in 1978 and lived and worked in Lionville, which is located north of Exton. From Lionville they moved to Fox Hill Farm in 1998.

As an engineer, Bob always had an interest in computers. In the early 1980's, Bob and his four children enjoyed tinkering with the early versions of personal computers, like the Commodore 64. The entire Kuhn family is computer literate, and they have used the technical skills learned at home in their current jobs involving engineering, information technology and networking. Even Bob's Mom and Dad are proficient in corresponding by e-mail.

Bob's knowledge of constructing websites is largely self-taught.

There is a large amount of program coding needed to produce a small website. Bob learned how to access the coding behind other websites to learn how they were constructed. Today, software programs have been developed to minimize the enormous coding

and to speed the process along, but were not available in the early years. In the mid-1990's, Bob took courses in HTML language and software programs for websites at Delaware Community College as well as Penn State to fine tune his skills.

Bob is truly an engineer; deep down ... he has an engineering mind ... he loves to solve problems. The engineering went home with him from work each night; it couldn't be turned off. Mary on the other hand, is the romantic of the family. As they ascend the mountain on a ski lift, Mary is checking out the flowers poking through the snow, while Bob is calculating the force needed to support the ski chairs.

The FHF website is not his first; Bob has served as webmaster for other sites as well. His initial interest was in developing a family website that included genealogy references, pictures of family members and useful links to computer tools and information. Other websites included the Sun City library where Bob's parents reside, a local restaurant and a manufacturing firm in Florida.

Bob saw a need for FHF residents to have community information readily available. In 2001, he developed a website under GeoCities that is part of Yahoo. However, this endeavor had space limitations and the annoyance of pop-up ads. In March 2002, he made a proposal to then Communications Chair, Connie Getz, to establish a website at the annual cost



Bob Kuhn

of \$60, plus an additional cost of \$20 for the domain name, foxhillfarm.org, which Bob had secured. The proposal was accepted. After more research on his part, Bob was able to secure our current web host in 2004 at a reduced cost, and with considerably more

space. Over the years, the FHF website has increased in its use and popularity. There were 1,337 visitors to the website in June 2003; in June 2007, that increased to 4,868. The website is used by realtors, and there are residents here in FHF as a direct result of the website. Bob is also quick to gratefully acknowledge the support and help of residents like Linda Bryson and members of the Communications Committee.

Over the years, Bob has routinely assisted neighbors with computer support. He has assisted some township residents in establishing websites of their own. Five years ago, he helped Clubhouse Chair, Ray Duncan, with setting up the security system for accessing the clubhouse premises. Although he knew nothing at the outset, he researched the matter, bought a computer, learned the software and resolved issues with data backups and door releases in the case of fire. Bob is grateful for the computer updates by Joe Davis. Bob is also involved with the computer and the camera clubs.

Bob's involvement is truly a labor of love. The value of his technical services is conservatively estimated at \$7,000 per year. Bob's only compensation is the satisfaction of knowing that he supports the community that he loves. The residents of FHF are deeply indebted to Bob for his technical expertise and dedicated support in providing us with a first-class website.