
Michael L. Walker: 1944 - 2009

Personal Age 65, United States Navy (USN) brat Mike was born in Santa Rosa, CA August 28, 1944. He lived there until 1947 when his USN Chief Dad, Jesse Eddie Walker, transferred to Milton, FL in 1947; Corpus Christi, TX from 1947 to August 1951; home for the 1st grade at Hugo Elementary School 1951 - 1952; 2nd grade at Atsugi, Japan, 1952 - 1953; and Alameda, CA 1953 until his Dad retired from the USN November 1955 to Hugo, OR for the 5th grade.

His first impressions of Hugo were from 1948 - 1954 for the annual visits (30 days of USN leave) to his mother's, Elsie Sylvia (Hlobil) Walker's, folks, Rudolf and Anna Hlobil, who were living in the old Three Pines School as a residence. Serious experiences with rural life and the "land" began at Hugo in 1955 as well as with pit toilets, dogs and cats, chickens, cows, and pigs on the small family farm. Soon Mike would be milking morning and night after school through 1962 when he graduated from high school. Home made butter and skim milk were consumed and sold. Today the aroma of cow manure is a pleasant sensation for Mike.

Education • Diploma — Hugo Elementary School: 1958.
• Diploma — Grants Pass High School: 1962.
• B.S. — Natural Resources, Oregon State University (OSU), 1966. Practical geographic tools transferrable to land use planning. OSU Wrestling Champion at 177 lbs, Athletic Association of Western Universities.
• M.S. — Resource Geography, OSU, 1974, program emphasis in water resources and land use techniques.
• Ph.D — ABD, all but dissertation in Urban Planning/Resource Geography from University of Oregon and OSU, 1975.

Professional Pro Bono Land Use Activist

Professional Mike loved the land and thought he would become a farmer if he could make a living at it. A long story told elsewhere resulted in Mike attending college after high school and becoming a planner.

- 1966 - 1967. Assistant Planner, Josephine County, OR.
- 1967 - 1972. Aviator Officer in the USN during South Vietnam conflict. FL, TX, CA, Philippines, Vietnam.
- 1975 - 1978. Community Planner/Interdisciplinary (ID National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Team Member, Alaska Outer Continental Shelf Office, Anchorage, AK. Environmental Impact Statements (EISs).
- 1978 - 1980. Environmental Protection Specialist (NEPA), BLM Nevada State Office, Reno, NV. Plans & EISs.
- 1980 - 1984. Technical Publications Writer/ID Team Member, BLM Medford District Office (MDO) resource areas. Plans & EAs.
- 1981 - 1982. Planning Coordinator, MDO, OR. Plans & EISs.
- 1984 - 1986. Environmental Specialist/ID Team Leader, MDO. Plans & EISs.
- 1986 - 1990. Environmental Specialist/Technical Coordinator/ID Team

Member, MDO. Plans & EISs.

- 1989. Author. *Handbook To The Rogue River's Hog Creek Float*.
- 1990 - 1998. Outdoor Recreation Planner, Grants Pass Resource Area. Team Leader of the National Wild & Scenic Rogue River's Hellgate Recreation Area Management Plan/EIS.
- 1997 - 1998. Chief Steward, National Federation of Federal Employees, MDO.



Mike's Land Use Philosophy

Land Use Activist: 1999 - Present In 1998 he retired to Hugo from federal service. Mike believes in protecting farm and forest land, especially farm lands, through the process of addressing cumulative impacts



relating to the carrying capacity of the land. His passion is meaningful citizen involvement (CI) and, therefore, an "informed public" and "informed decision-makers" when it comes to land use

decisions in the Hugo community and in Josephine County. In a nut-shell Mike thinks an effective CI program would facilitate planning decisions which better reflect the desires of the community and decrease later conflicts. Sadly, the county's CI program is failing and the local land use process is one of conflict and controversy.

- President of NEPA Design Group: 1998 - Present.
- Secretary, Hugo Neighborhood Association & Historical Society (HNA&HS): 1999 - 2004.
- Hugo Land Use Committee Member, HNA&HS: 2002 - Present.
- Education Chair, HNA&HS: 2004 - Present.
- Associate Director, Josephine Soil & Water Conservation District: 2005 - 2007.
- Founding Director, Goal One Coalition: 2003 - September 2007; Advisory Board Member 2007 - Present.
- Founding Director, Rogue Advocates: 2006 - Present.

Want more information? Contact a member of the Hugo Land Use Committee.

Hugo Neighborhood Association & Historical Society's Mission

This information brochure is one of a series of documents published by the Hugo Neighborhood Association & Historical Society (*Hugo Neighborhood*). It is designed to be shared with neighbors for the purpose of helping protect our rural quality of life by promoting an informed citizenry in decision-making. The *Hugo Neighborhood* is an informal nonprofit charitable and educational organization with a land use and history mission promoting the social welfare of its neighbors.

Land Use & History

The *Hugo Neighborhood's* land use mission is to promote the social welfare of the citizens of the area by working to promote Oregon Statewide Goal 1 — Citizen Involvement, and by preserving, protecting, and enhancing the livability and economic viability of its farms, forests, and rural neighbors. It will act, as requested, as a technical resource assisting neighbors to represent themselves.

Voluntary membership dues are \$10.00 annually and used for paper, ink, envelopes, publications and mailings. Make checks to the *Hugo Neighborhood* and send them to a member of the Land Use Committee. Send us your e-mail address if you want to know what we are doing.

Hugo Neighborhood
Email: hugo@jeffnet.org
Web: <http://jeffnet.org/~hugo/>

Edited by Mike Walker

Hugo Land Use Committee Hugo Neighborhood Association & Historical Society

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Michael L. Walker's Land Use Autobiography



*Mike Walker & Hal Anthony At Hugo History Day IX:
June 6, 2009*

August 28, 2009

*Hugo Land Use Committee
Hugo Neighborhood Association &
Historical Society*