

Do you know Steve Simler? Steve moved here last year after being exposed to The Villages when growing up through friends of his parents (his mother played in tennis tournaments here!). When they were ready to downsize, The Villages was a natural choice, especially since their two children and three grandchildren are nearby. They felt it was important to be in an active community.

Growing up, both Steve and his wife Valerie were athletic; Steve played tennis in High School and on the SJSU college team. Valerie, who he met while at SJSU, was an athlete in her own right; recruited for her gymnastics ability. Shortly after moving here, Steve and Valerie began playing Pickleball, and were quickly hooked. Earlier this year, he was “volunteered” to lead the group play sessions for Pickleball, joining our Board.

In addition to Pickleball several times a week, he’s also active in other sports. His favorite is racquetball, although he can also be found playing bocce, tennis or golfing twice a week. His philosophy is these are his “go go go” years - he wants to stay active as long as possible. His inspiration is his Mother, who continued playing tennis until late in her life.

Anyone who knows Steve and his love of diverse learning and exploring intellectual pursuits would not be surprised at his career path. He began his career at Lockheed, as an engineer and expanded to computer science, programming, system engineering and project management. After leaving Lockheed, he worked with startups, and still continues to mentor engineers he worked with.

Despite a busy life, Steve finds great joy in collaboration and creation. He’s created and published games, which can still be found online. Not only is he an innovator, but he is a mean game-player, who is always up for a challenge. His favorite thing to do is not act his age.



Steve and Cookie Monster (the secret to his dynamic serve!)