



# YEAR REUNION

# TERRA NOVA '65

## Jeannine (Jeannie) Janson



### **Current residence (from 2006):**

Yachats, a village—population about 700--on the central Oregon coast  
(with my partner, Mari Irvin)



Jeannine right, Mari left

### **Other places I've lived in order:**

San Francisco, Vallemar, Westlake (for a minute with Cathy Cheseboro ), back to San Francisco for 37 years (21 to 58) S.F. most definitely the favorite

### **If money/family/job posed no obstacles, where would you like to live (and work)?**

London or New York

### **Marital status:**

Mari and I are thrilled with the recent Supreme Court decision in favor of marriage equality. We were pronounced "legal" in San Francisco in 2008, but our marriage story began on April 25, 1998, when we exchanged thoughtfully-written vows at St. Francis Lutheran Church of San Francisco, in the context of a

worship service that lasted two hours . . . but was not recognized by the city or state.



*Jeannine left, Mari right*

Our first attempt at legal marriage was at S. F. City Hall in 2004 when Mayor Gavin Newsom opened the doors to gay and lesbian couples. Those marriages were declared null and void several months later.

In the fall of 2008 we were able to try again. That “ceremony” took place in a restaurant with friends. Our pastor “pronounced us” over dessert. It took about two minutes, max, and was valid. The two-minute pronouncement in a restaurant made us “legal,” but our 1998 service is the one that counts for us and is the anniversary we celebrate.

**Employment.** Beginning July 5, 1966 (after a year of secretarial school), I worked as a secretary/legal assistant in law firms for 35 years. I was lucky to know from the get-go what I wanted to do, and I loved it. I took 7 years off (2001-2008) to be a full-time volunteer for ReconcilingWorks, an organization that works for the welcome and full participation of LGBT people in the Lutheran Church. [www.reconcilingworks.org](http://www.reconcilingworks.org)

Currently, I work part-time as secretary at the Presbyterian Church in Yachats and as the Financial Secretary for a homeowners association. I am also a partner in *Mari’s Books and . . .* (pictured). Mari, her sister, Mary, and I opened Mari’s Books in March of 2006. I am the behind-the-scenes paper partner.



**How do you spend your non-work time:**

Mari and I enjoy getting together with friends, going to movies, buying books for the store, and talking . . . about all kinds of things. We also like to play poker-- mostly cash games, occasionally tournaments. Sometimes it’s profitable, mostly it’s instructive. And there’s the occasional trip, e.g., London, Scandinavia. I visit family and friends in S.F. several times a year. I also like to watch *Chopped* and then pretend that I, too, can make lovely, tasty meals.

**Best place to visit:**

London

**Your “bucket” list - things you still want to do that you haven’t done yet:**

See/hear Beethoven’s 9<sup>th</sup> performed at Royal Albert Hall; ride in dykes on bikes in the SF pride parade; clean the garage; work in a San Francisco law firm one more time; be a supernumerary in an SF opera.

While not in the same league as supernumerary in an opera, I did appear (and sing) on stage earlier this year in *Yachats Goes Wild*, a fun little show with low expectations of the performers.



I’m on the far left.

This was my first appearance on stage since I sang *Silent Night* (with Jean Barnhart) at Terra Nova during *The Man Who Came to Dinner*, the first-ever senior class play, directed by the then-new English teacher, Dave Campbell.

In *Yachats Goes Wild*, we were the talk of the town AND made it to youtube! I should probably quit while I’m ahead.

**Technology:** tablet, desktop, laptop; I-phone (mostly as a camera)

**Tech Activities:** text; e-mail

I don’t drive, so no car stories.

**Greetings to Classmates:**

I still have a good memory so I know I had a great time at Terra Nova . . . classes, teachers, Girls Athletic Association, dances, friends, acquaintances, rooting for the Tigers, going to high school with kids I first met in the 4<sup>th</sup> grade. I’m sorry to miss this milestone, but thanks for the memories . . . they’re all good.