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Missouri or Bust!

by Tamara Blodgett



Seldovians John "Red" and Marilyn Kvarford sail off into the sunset...

The cargo trailer is filled to the brim, the house is up for grabs and these two spring chickens have flown the coop! Leaving Seldovia is always a difficult choice and with twenty-two years here and a quiet existence coming to a close, the long winters become harder to bear. Far flung friendships and family ties call more insistently each moment. Resisting this evolution of life is not in the cards for Red and Marilyn who take the 'bull by the horns' and wish to go while the goings good.

Just three brief years ago the Reulings', dear friends to the Kvarfords, made a similar decision and moved to northeastern Missouri. Cost of living is better and with four seasons, the winters are shorter and gardening is heavenly. The Reulings' have enjoyed their eighty-acre spread very

The golden years...

Red retired three years ago from what he calls a "gentleman's" fishing charter business. Using hard-working and reliable deckhands while also scaling down the hours of operation is what allowed Red to continue on during a time most people have already quit the business. Marilyn has been done with accounting for some time but worked ten years as the bookkeeper for Main Street Market.

With four grown children, twelve grandchildren and the fifth great grandchild on the way, there are a lot of family or "clan" as Marilyn puts it to visit. A grown son and daughter-in-law (she is Scottish...see above) live in nearby Oklahoma. With their self-contained trailer to guide the way, the Kvarfords are ready to go anywhere with the need for a stationary "home base" not an issue.

much and will be a great touchstone for Red and Marilyn when they arrive.

The Kvarfords anticipate the move to be an all-September drive through Canada , Montana and Wyoming , before they finally settle in for a protracted visit with old friends. Marilyn said that the local real estate agents will get a tough work-out when they roll into town! They hope to find acreage, which is what they have always liked.

Red and Marilyn's decision to move on has more to do with age and long winters than any other reason to leave the beauty and serenity of Seldovia. They will be looking for a similar slice of heaven in Missouri , complete with wildlife, land and peace and quiet. Sound like anything we know? Good luck; we'll miss you!

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