

This year marks the 85th anniversary of Lindsay's Orange Blossom celebration. It all started with a joint effort between Lindsay and Strathmore to celebrate the most beautiful crop in Tulare County. Today Orange Blossom is a source of pride and a time for Lindsay residents to gather and celebrate. This year's Honored Couple has a long history in Lindsay that began in 1905 with the Tienken family and their story is fascinating. **The OBF Foundation is proud to announce this year's Honored Couple: Mr. & Mrs. Jeff Tienken.**

The Tienken family's story crossed paths in 1905, when Albert "Al" C. Tienken was a 24-year-old from San Francisco. He had dreams of opening his own drug store in a nice place...Hello Lindsay! What is now the northeast corner of Honolulu Street and Elmwood Ave became the "hone" for Tienken Drug Company as well as Tienken Bakery and Restaurant. Al devoted his time to his lovely wife Mae and their three sons. Chet, Gene and Robert and to the town he loved.

Robert "Bob" Tienken was a born salesman, entrepreneur, and devoted family man. He married his college sweetheart, Barbara Sanborn, and they raised 3 boys, Jim, Jeff, and Brian. They embraced their lives in Lindsay; Bob became one of the town's most faithful advocates and he inspired his sons to serve their community as well. Bob passed away May 12th 2009, a headline in one of the newspapers said about him "Lindsay Loses a Living Piece of History."

Jeff and Patti both attended Lindsay High School and C.O.S. They began dating in college and married in 1972 and started their family: Chad, Brandi, and Doug. Deciding to build their own home, they cleared the land and completed construction in 1979 - the same week their youngest Doug was born.

Patti jumped right into working with the other moms to build a strong Washington Elementary School Parent Group, then Jefferson, and Steve Garvey Hr. High groups. Jeff coached Lindsay Recreation League Soccer, T-ball, and baseball teams. He volunteers for the Lindsay Cultural Arts Council, donating equipment and labor. He has helped with the Orange Blossom Crate Derby, using his quads to haul the cars back to the starting gate on Todd's Hill. He currently serves as Board President for L.S.I.D. and is a board member for the Lindsay-Strathmore Cemetery and the Friant Powers Authority.

Together Jeff and Patti have served on the LHS Ag Boosters and the LHS Athletic Boosters. Jeff also volunteered as a member of the "chain-gang" for all the home football games for 22 years. They helped found the Booster Burgers Booth, a huge money maker for the athletic boosters.

Patti is a charter member of the P.E.O Chapter UZ Lindsay, volunteer for the Lindsay Skimmers, group leader for 4-H, OBF volunteer and helper for the Lindsay's first Olive Festival. Patti currently serves on the board of the Lindsay Cultural Arts Council helping to preserve Lindsay's history.

The First Presbyterian Church has been "home" to the Tienken Family. Patti volunteered as church babysitter while in high school and when her children were older she helped run an active Youth Program at the church. In 1987, she was a recipient of the AAUW Community Award. She currently enjoys reaching out on her own to the senior citizens in Lindsay who all have a special place in her heart.

Jeff and Patti have been blessed with three grandsons, Jack & brother Pete who live in Oakdale with their parents Chad & Darci, Chase who live in Lindsay with his parents Doug and Keri and their first born son Brody, who passed away.

They too, have followed in the footsteps of other family members who have experienced the OBF "spotlight". Jeff as well as their son Chad both served as OBF crown bearers. Al & Mae Tienken were honored couple in 1957 as well as Robert "Bob" and Barbara Tienken in 1995. Daughter Brandi was an Attendant in 1993 and was delighted to serve as the 1996 Lindsay Orange Blossom Festival Queen.

Jeff & Patti are honored and excited to be a part of Lindsay's History. They feel most comfortable being behind the scenes working and volunteering their time but the friendships they've made along the way has been the best part of it all. With grateful and humble hearts they look forward to this memorable occasion. They invite everyone to come and join them and see what Lindsay has to offer as the community celebrates "Royalty Reigns in Lindsay."