
Dr.-Ing. Holger T. Sommer, MS, DIC, VDI

Personal Age 58, born in East Germany. Parents Helga (teacher) and Helmut Sommer (carpenter and owner of wood processing facilities), both deceased. Sister Helgard: High School Principal, Muenster, Germany. A well known saying in Muenster is "*Entweder es regnet oder es läuten die Glocken. Und wenn beides zusammen fällt, dann ist Sonntag*" ("Either it rains or the church bells ring. And if both occurs at the same time, it's Sunday.").

The Sommer family "sneaked" across the "Iron Curtain" during the summer of 1959 (the Berlin wall was built beginning in August 1961) and left major real estate, and businesses possessions. These properties were recovered after the German Reunification in 1990.

Education School: Jungen Gymnasium (High School) Bottrop, in the main Industrial Region of West Germany.

Universities: Rheinsch Westfaehliche Technische Universitaet Aachen (RWTH Aachen)

Degrees: Dipl.-Ing. (Diplom Engineer) Mechanical Engineering (ME), 1974; Dipl.- Kaufmann. (Master of Business Administration (MBA), 1975; Dr.-Ing. (PhD) Mechanical Engineering, 1979.

Imperial College, London, UK (part of the University of London System)

Degrees: Master of Science (Physics: Laser Optics), MS, 1976; Diploma of Imperial College (DIC) (PhD), 1976.

Professional Pro Bono Land Use Advocate¹

Professional 1979-1981. Solar Research, German Science Foundation, Boulder City, NV.
. 1981-1986. On the Engineering Faculty of Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh.
. 1986. On the Faculty of the University of Maryland, College Park
. 1986-1991. VP Business Development and Technology : Pacific Scientific Co. Silver Spring, MD.
. 1991-1995. VP Business Development and Technology and Partner Met One Inc. , Grants Pass, OR.
. 1997-2001. ART Instruments, Inc. Grants Pass, OR.
. 2001- present. President TEAM Engineering, Inc.

Involvement in Local Affairs and Land Use

Chair, North Valley Citizen Advisory Committee, Josephine County, Oregon: 2001 - 2002.

Member and Stake Holder of North Valley Rural Community Boundary Committee, Josephine County, Oregon.



Holger "Saw problems with how the land use planning process was managed in Josephine County, Oregon and took on the self-assigned task to 'level the playing

field' by forcing the local governments and the developers to operate according to Oregon's exemplary land use rules."

¹. Walker, Mike. January 31, 2009. Interview of Holger Sommer for his Rogue Advocates' autobiography. Hugo, OR.

Holger's View

Involvement (continued) Holger's view was that "It took from 2002 -2006 to get Josephine County to accept changes in the way it accepted and evaluated planning applications. The most significant help came form a change in county government's attitude when the current Board of County Commissioners was voted in. The county and cities now have knowledgeable planners and competent Planning Commissions who really care about the people, not like their predecessors where many were driven and manipulated by special interests."



Holger

"When land use issues arose at the city – county interface, the urban growth boundary, I also investigated the land use practices of the City of Grants

Pass. It became evident that some procedures the city was, and still is, applying are not conforming to State of Oregon land use statutes. The biggest challenges I found were with the City of Cave Junction which has no planning resources and is totally driven by rampaging development and corruption."

Hugo Land Use Committee Member: 2006 - Present.

Rogue Advocates Advisory Board Member: 2006 - Present.¹

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.

Volunteer 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.

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

Edited by

Hal Anthony, Wayne McKy, & Mike Walker



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Hugo Neighborhood Association & Historical Society

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Holger T. Sommer's Land Use Autobiography



*Holger Sommer & Mike Walker Assisting Neighbor's
At Local Land Use Meeting*

January 31, 2009
Updated July 7, 2009

Hugo Land Use Committee
Hugo Neighborhood Association &
Historical Society
Rogue Advocates