

### Missions of California

(A Bowers Museum presentation)

Thursday, **September 27** 1:30 pm HS Conference Room  
Who built the missions? Why and where were they built?  
How did they affect the lives of Native Americans?

Presenter: Stephanie Ortiz, past chairman of the Speakers Bureau of the Bowers Museum; voted Volunteer of the Year and Docent of the Year.

This presentation is open to **Members** only. Because of limited space preregistration is required. Call 206-0150.

### Medical Lecture Series Resumed

Wednesday, **October 3** CH3 DR2 7:30 pm

Speaker: Dr. Jonathan R. Pirnazer, Asst. Clinical Professor of Ophthalmology  
University of California at Irvine (UCI)

Topic: New Technique in Cataract Surgery + Do You Have Dry Eyes?  
(Dr. Pirnazer, distinguished physician and researcher, has primary interests in Cataract Surgery, LASIK and refractory surgery, Corneal transplant surgery and Dry Eye Disease.)

Note: This lecture is open to the public. Refreshments will be served.

### BUS TRIP and TOUR

**KELLOGG HOME AND ARABIAN HORSE RANCH, POMONA, CA.**

Thursday, **October 18**

Leaving CH 3 at 9 am and returning at 5:30 pm

For full details, see the enclosed flyer.

Early registration advised.

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## PRESIDENTIAL PONTIFICATION

August may be a slow month for most of the clubs and organizations in Leisure World, but not so for the Historical Society. Our Committees have all been very active and the reports you will see throughout the Newsletter attest to the energy being expended.

A good example of that is on the front page. Three different and interesting programs speak to the work of Chairman John Bradley and his committee. They are also considering other programs for the months ahead, and will undoubtedly have something for everyone! John reports that he has received several excellent suggestions from members, but can always use more. Do send him your ideas.

Ward Payne and his membership committee are making plans for an all out fall drive. That's no small undertaking and working out the details has taken hours of their time. A successful campaign would make "1002 in 2002" reality!

As you know from reading the Leisure World News, the Society is actively working on a plan to move the globe, an "artifact" of great historical importance, from Laguna Hills to Laguna Woods. For some unknown reason, Laguna Hills does not feel our globe belongs in their city--and neither do we. Before anything can be done, a plan must be developed and a cost basis determined. Hopefully, the cost will be within our range. Bob Miller is chairing the Globe Committee.

Harry Schwartz is chairing a committee to establish criteria for the Dr. Tracy Strevey Community Service Award.

Our first winners were Channel 6 (Rob Merritt and George Phelps) and the Leisure World News (Myra Nevins and Cheryl Walker.) This Award is not related to the Leisure Worder of the Month program.

The activity which has generated an unusual amount of interest is our World War II Registry. Since the page 3 report was written, a second meeting produced the basic form which is now being developed and will be out very shortly.

In the meantime, dozens of veterans have called in and expressed an interest. Their willingness to be "registered" is indeed gratifying, and reassures us that the project is a worthy one. Marian Mosher has been added to the Committee, so it is no longer all men! You will be hearing a lot about this activity in the next few months.

Our Archivist, Marge Williams, has returned from Houston where she was hospitalized with a hip fracture. Although she is not yet back at her Archival duties, we are taking advantage of her expertise by phone. It is great to have her back.

Do take a good look at our Roll of Historically Advantaged Members on page 7. They are very special people!

Your Society recently received a \$1000 bequest from the estate of Robert Dozier. We have also been notified of other small gifts being left in wills. And we are touched by this recognition of the value of the Society, and grateful for all the people, present and past, who believe in its mission.

*Evelyn Shopp*

**Welcome  
New Members**

**Brown, Virginia**  
3296 San Amadeo Unit D  
458-7893

**Grant, Edie**  
611 Ave. Sevilla Unit O  
458-7916

**Hoft, Louise**  
406 Ave Castilla Unit C  
586-8250

**Moehrle, Katherine**  
2019 Via Mariposa Unit H  
959-5388

**Sinow, Rae**  
5370 Punta Alta Unit 2A  
472-0667

**Tevis, Ruth**  
5140 Miembro  
68-5053

**Wacker, Greta**  
4006 Calle Sonora Oeste 2G  
380-8879

**NEW ADDRESS**

**Marlow, Harry**  
23442 El Toro Rd.W #216  
Lake Forest 92630



**in memoriam**

**Ruth Selden PhD**  
Leisure Worlder of the Month  
July 1992

**WW II VETERANS REGISTRY**

The newly established World War II Veterans Registry is off to a good start. John Bradley is chairing the committee, and Ward Payne is assisting. The initial committee is all men (but that will change!). Individuals present at the first meeting were: Edward Brockett, Wally Bjornson, Andrew Deboer, Frank Eger, Mike Evans, Sam Frackman, Irv Goldberg, Dr. Herbert Handler, Al Holtz, Murray Massin, Ken Rook, Marvin Popkin and Art Wirtschafter. All of them are members of one or more Leisure World organizations.

The second meeting of the group will be held as this Newsletter goes to press, and we hope they will have some great ideas. The November Newsletter should give you more specific information on the project and its progress.

This should be a very exciting project, with endless possibilities for further study. No one has any idea how many WWII veterans live in Leisure World -- care to "guesstimate?" (Your editor estimates 3,229!)

Anyway--Tom Brokaw, move over. Our "greatest generation" is about to be surveyed!



Ward Payne used his 50 year old identification card when he made a recent visit to Vandenberg Air Force base. The Sargent on duty gave him a snappy salute, and a "Have a good day, Captain." Do other vets carry identification this old in their wallets? And do they still look like their picture??

blessed are they who can laugh at themselves for they shall never cease to be amused.

### Membership

Chairman, Ward Payne

The Historical Society will soon be making its first ever "community wide" mailing, presenting pertinent facts about the Society and extolling its many virtues. The primary purpose of this "super mailing" is to give all of our Leisure World residents an opportunity to support the activities of the Society by becoming a member for 2002. An envelope will be included to facilitate the process.

We are requesting that you, our loyal present members, be on the lookout for this letter (probably in early October) and respond with your renewal check. Your committee and the volunteers can then concentrate on processing new members--and we hope that will be very time consuming!

Did you see the list of seven new members on page 3? We are delighted to have them. We also learned that one new member, Louise Hoft, is already enlisted as a front desk volunteer. Wonderful!

### Surveys

Syd Aronson and Ira Joss, Co-Chairmen

The regular Demographic Survey and the Survey of our 90 and older residents were mailed during the past two months, and the data is currently being entered into the UCI computers. As soon as that is completed, the University will prepare summary reports which we will then distribute (as was done in the past) to our Governing Boards, Management Team, Laguna Woods City officials, the press and other interested parties. Anticipated date for completion of the reports is early October.

The Survey Committee would like to express their appreciation to our office manager, Sherry Hamilton, and her wonderful corps of volunteers who spent many hours folding and stuffing the Survey documents in preparation for the mailings. There were three separate pieces for each survey--around 9000 pieces of mail.

### Great Things About Getting Older

(Copied without permission)

No one yells at you for putting your elbows on the table.

The more far sighted you get, the harder it is to see the wrinkles.

Your joints are more accurate than the National Weather Service.

You don't have to stand when someone stops by your table to say hello.

You have plenty of time to write letters to the editor.

Your spouse still snores but now you can't hear it.

More and more of your parts can be replaced.

You don't have to study history; you saw it happen.

Your secrets are safe since your friends can't remember them.

You don't have a bedtime.

Chronic fatigue syndrome gets you out of jury duty.

If you never smoked, you can start now and it won't have time to hurt you.

You can win the respect of young people merely by picking up the check.

There's Meals on Wheels!



## ODDS AND ENDS FROM THE 1980-82 HISTORICAL SOCIETY JOURNALS

### Among the Advertisers

AMERICAN SAVINGS with assets of over \$9 billion

GLENDALE SAVINGS .. \$4 billion strong and starting construction on their new four story building

LAGUNA FEDERAL SAVINGS

HOME FEDERAL SAVINGS ..\$4 billion

MERCURY SAVINGS AND LOAN

ANAHEIM SAVINGS AND LOAN

If you have been here long enough to remember all these financial institutions, you also remember that each gave gifts when new accounts were opened, furnished coffee and cookies, had beautiful calendars and were very generous with pens. How times have changed!

### ABOUT THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

In 1981,

the membership was 225. Irma Franklin, Joseph Iacova, Irene Puhmann, Mabel Southworth, and Luther Self were among the members.

\$10,000 had been appropriated for the "Archives, Publication and Building Fund."

Associates and Affiliates were not yet a part of the formal structure, but several businesses were listed as supporters:

PCM Cass and Johansing

Jim Boyd at El Toro Shell

Eldorado Bank

Rossmoor Electric

United California Bank

The Historical Society Speaker's Bureau had a "interesting, informative, amusing slide show about Leisure World" and was offering to show it to clubs. Wonder where that show is?

### About the Community

1963 (Volume 1, page 37)

El Toro Country Store was located next to the railroad tracks on El Toro Road. At first this was the closest place to buy groceries being just a fraction of a mile away. On sale days, you could buy 5 loaves of bread for 99 cents, pick up a pound of ground beef for 49 cents, and a dozen medium size eggs for 45 cents.

About Security (Volume 2, page 13)

Before the walled and fenced security was what it is today, Willner one night found himself playing the role of a cowboy in a patrol car as he helped the Moulton Ranch cowboys round up a herd of errant steers that had found L.W. pastures greener.

...swarms of bees were not uncommon. A dark cloud, creating an unusual din, would come down out of the sky and attach itself to the limb of a tree. Who to call? Security, of course.

About the Towers (Volume 2, page 23)

The Towers also has a medical facility with a registered nurse on duty 24 hours a day. An intercom system, for emergency use, connects this facility with each residential unit. Those who were about to become residents knew they would receive weekly maid service. Also they could have small pets. Furthermore, under no circumstances would tipping be allowed.

About the churches (volume 4, page 11)

The chirping birds in the olive trees beside the little white frame church in El Toro greeted a few Leisure World residents in September, 1964, on their first Sunday in the Saddleback Valley. Inside the church, the hanging kerosene lamps provided a cheerful glow. Candles flickered on the altar, the organ played softly. And in the pews lining the central aisle, the small congregation knelt, oblivious to the obligato furnished by the birds that had found their way into the screened ventilator in the roof. This was St. George's Episcopal Mission Chapel, founded in 1891, the first church in the Valley.

## FUTURE OF THE SOCIETY

Excerpts from a 4/11/87 draft of an article by Robert Price, Past President

It is of the nature of a historical society that its value is appreciated by so few in its early years. Many years later, its work is praised, or if it has done little, universally criticized. Our Leisure World Historical Society has suffered under this same agony.....

It takes both dreams and money to fully fund the potential of the Society. The dreams are vital. Combined with some reasonable knowledge of what can and should be done, it can lead to a program of development and promotion which would make possible the realization of these dreams. The Society, at its tenth year, is really at a crossroads. It can continue to steadily plod along, in the right direction....or it can embark on an aggressive promotion. The goals stand out in sharp focus:

1) continue its good work, expanding the use of volunteers and strengthening its

paid staff, as funding is available.

2) It must seriously lay big plans for facilities and staffing for the future.

3) Based on what can be developed in definable goals, an aggressive fund raising campaign can be undertaken.

The Society has a very salable program. It merely needs some selling!.....

We are blessed now with a fine board. Such leadership has the challenge of securing expanding support and not allow itself to suffer volunteer burn-out which has plagued many volunteer groups. Personal leadership needs to be supplemented by organization structure, which, in itself will definitely stimulate participation.....

We should expect growing interest and enthusiasm. ...The next 10 years will be filled with enthusiasm and growth. The momentum dictates that such will be so.

Too bad Bob Price and other early members of the Society can't see how far we've come--how we've developed our programs, our connections, our scope-- They would be proud of us, no doubt, and rejoice in the stature the Society has achieved. Bob spoke of a Society at a 10 year mark, and next year will be out 25th anniversary, truly a milestone in the life of any organization, and time to define our goals for the next ten years.

Where do you want YOUR Society to be in 2012?

### GREAT THOUGHTS

If it works, copy it.  
(That's what we did!)

The reason ideas perish quickly in some heads is because they can't stand solitary confinement.

Most of us insist on the best and then complain about the price.

### ON CHANNEL 6

The "Historical Society report" is a regular feature on the fourth Wednesday of each month, usually near 8:30 am and rerun in the early afternoon of the same day. Publicity Chair, Ira Joss, arranges the programs.

## WALL OF HONOR

When visitors come through the building, we always point out the WALL OF HONOR and its significance. Originally planned to credit those who gave to our "Building for Tomorrow Fund," contributions continue to come in and names are added. These gifts, ranging from \$100 to more than a \$100,000, are over and above dues paid by members, Associates and Affiliates. Gifts may be designated for the general fund, the Endowment Fund or the Memorial Fund. If no designation is made, it is added to the Memorial Fund. Plaques are added in June and December.

Recently, the list was updated and alphabetized. A quick count found 73 individuals, 58 couples, 36 clubs, 25 businesses, and 2 estates in addition to the special plaques listed below.

### in appreciation of

Gene Conser  
Rex Perkins

### in honor of

Barton Gilbert MD  
Arlene Roster

### In memory of

Walter M Africa  
Margaret E. Bollinger  
Bruce Bartholow  
Eleanor Dickinson MD  
Robert B. Dozier  
Samuel F. Garton

Alex Gunster  
Allen Hurwitz  
Dr. Eileen Jacobi  
F. Margaret Nelson  
Ruby Orr  
Albert & Marion Pardo

Ernest Stuart  
Kathryn Strassburg  
Barbara Sampson  
Janet Smith  
Dr. Tracey E. Strevey  
Isabel Tashman  
Al White

## HISTORICALLY ADVANTAGED

Who are the "historically advantaged?" They are the members or friends of the Historical Society who are 90 or will be 90 by the end of 2001. These are the people who have lived history, and are still concerned about and interested in the community in which they live. Your neighbors, your friends--you. We feel they are a very special group of people and are deserving of recognition from your society. And so we have been collecting names of these people, along with birth dates and state where born. And we have been recognizing them with greetings on special occasions and on birthdays. But there must be more of our members who should be on our list. If you are in this group, or know someone who is, let us know. You'll join a very prestigious group. Now, there are 44 in the group, just over 7% of our members. Within Leisure World, approximately 5% are 90 or older.

### our "historically advantaged"

Ast, Dr. David  
Ast, Isabel  
Balmes, Violet  
Barrett, Katherine  
Brown, Bill  
Caldwell, John  
Clark, Cushman  
Clark, Helen  
Coblentz, Seymour  
Conser, Eugene  
Conser, Helen

Frankel, Al  
Franklin, Irma  
Gleason, Joanne  
Goodman, Ed  
Griffiths, Dr. Ciwi  
Hanson, Helen  
Helfert MD, Irving  
Hanning, Emma  
Loney, Hazel  
McClellan, Dorothy  
Mintz, Sally

Nelson, Anfred  
Olson, Dorothy  
Packard, Bo  
Peikert, A. Ione  
Pennington, Kathryn  
Petersen, Richard  
Pick, Hanne Marie  
Polkinghorn, Pricilla  
Puhlmann, Irene  
Pursell, James  
Rankin, Lucille

Sampson, Foster  
Sampson, Margaret  
Sant, Edna  
Sant, Merlin  
Schneider, Art  
Schoene, Irene  
Scott, E. Claire  
Strevey, Margaret  
Tedstrom MD, Milo  
Title, Olive  
Valanta, Theresa

