

**EL TORO AFTER MEASURE W
A REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY**

SPEAKER: BERT HACK

WHAT IS THE CURRENT STATUS OF THE EL TORO PROPERTY?

WHO ARE THE CURRENT PLAYERS?

WHAT ARE THE POLITICAL AND LEGAL CHALLENGES TO A FINAL SOLUTION?

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Leisure Worlder
of the Month
"Honor Roll"

PRESIDENTIAL PONTIFICATION....

Lots of great news this month! The Leisure World News "scooped" us, but then they had all the advantages on their side--professional staff, reasonably intelligent computers, and weekly publication vs. a volunteer editor, an irresponsible computer, and bimonthly output. However, we got a beautiful story in the July 4 News, with a colored picture of "Global Peace" on the front page. Thank you, Leisure World News!

There are a few details I can share with you. It is a lovely piece and will be prominently displayed at the front of the building. We have been advised by the company reattaching a dove separated from its moorings that it should be displayed in an air tight display case. When we find the appropriate case, and the repairs are completed, "Global Peace" will be on display. In case you missed the News story, the original "Global Peace" was presented to General Secretary of the Soviet Union, Mikhail S. Gorbachev and the people of the Soviet Union by President Ronald Reagan in December 1987 on behalf of the people of the United States. Limited edition #43, given by the President to Ross Cortese has been on display at the Regency for 13 years. It comes to us to "commemorate the continued friendship between the two Laguna Woods neighbors."

The **Renaissance at the Regency** is also funding the Leisure Worlder of the Month program for the next year. (See page 3 story) We are very pleased with this new relationship.

Cushman Clark, Society President for 1986, Board member for several years, and an Archives volunteer until he and

Helen moved to Freedom Village, died on May 29. Cush had a long history of Historical Society involvement in South Dakota. He was the sixth president in our first ten years, none of them still living.

There have been 5 presidents in the last 15 years. A very scientific, totally secret and unauthorized survey (which will not be added to the Archives,) indicates that I am the youngest of the lot. It is so gratifying to be the youngest of something!!

Hopefully, we will be publishing a short 25 year history of the Society, with a good portion of the book devoted to Leisure Worlders of the Month. The last booklet on them was in 1993. This is an expensive project. We have received \$1000 in a challenge grant, and we need to secure that with matching funds. More about this later.

People keeping asking me to define "pontification." I don't think I should need to define the word. I invented it! However, since it might be improper for the Archival Newsletter file to have a word prominently displayed in every issue that might cause problems for some future Archivist, I resorted to the dictionary and found that to pontificate was to "speak or act in a pompous or dogmatic way." Since that definition did not meet my criteria, I have come up with one: Pontification: A scholarly discourse written under presidential immunity with no recourse to the reader, except not to read. That is, "No letters to the editor, no emails."

Evelyn Shopp

P.S. Yes, I am still walking Max. He hates every dog in the neighborhood and my neighbors with dogs are now avoiding me. Remember that old stuff about one good deed deserving another? Well--I have my doubts!

Membership Committee

Charles Hellmann, Chair

Your membership committee has been working aggressively to recruit new memberships for the Historical Society. We are proud of the Society's many accomplishments over the past years, but we need your help to continue our membership growth in all three areas. These areas are:

- 1) Individual memberships
- 2) Leisure World Clubs and Organizations
- 3) Community businesses and professional groups

Please help us grow by urging additional participation from all three sources listed above. If you need help in making contacts, or have a good prospect, call Charles Hellmann, 830-2141. And do share your ideas -- they may be the perfect answer!

Thanks so much for your cooperation.

Leisure Worlder of the Month

The Historical Society Board of Directors has for some time recognized the need for outside funding to help defray the expenses of this very successful and important program. They wanted to be sure, however, that the funding organization and the Historical Society would be comfortable in such a relationship.

A fortitious contact with the staff of the **Renaissance at the Regency** led to an agreement with their parent company, the **Renaissance**, to fund the major expenses of the program for a 12 month period.

The **Renaissance at the Regency** hosted a special reception on June 26th at which time this program was officially announced and the "Globe" (see page 2) was presented to the Historical Society.

Scott Reid, president of **Renaissance**, Cathy Ellis, Executive Director of **Renaissance at the Regency**, and Bebe Shaddock, Retirement Counselor, were present at the July Leisure Worlder of the Month program.

WELCOME, New Members, and members renewing for 2002--

NEW

LEVICK , Esther 778 Via Los Altos		859-6255
FULCO , Carl 4064 Calle Sonora 0 Unit 1C	(C)	457-0118
HOY , Charlene 84 Calle Aragon Unit A		380-7081
HOLLAND , Richard P.O. Box 3317 Laguna Hills 92654		837-3088
MORTON , Elizabeth A. 3398 Punta Alta Unit A	(C)	587-1798
MOSER , Willa 700 Ave Sevilla Unit C	(C)	837-7512

RENEWAL:

HILL , Walter 3143 Via Vista Unit O		235-0266
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ASSOCIATES

RENEWALS

LIONS CLUB William Luedeking	Sustainer	380-8362
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COLLEGE CLUB Margaret Guider	Friend	830-1255
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NEW PHONE NUMBER

Edwin Korklin	951-7813
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NEW ADDRESS

Gaylor , Thomas 24921 Muirlands, Lake Forest 92630	707-4501
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APOLOGIES

to new member, BETSY MEIER. Her name was misspelled in the May Newsletter.

WALL OF HONOR

Five new plaques have been ordered for the Wall of Honor and should be in place by the end of this month.

In appreciation of
Bob Miller

In memory of
Jane Robichaud

In memory of
Foster Sampson

Martie & Gordon
King

TGIF Club of LW

Plaques are added to the wall in July and December.

The Wall of Honor was established when our building was opened. Originally, it was for donors to the building, but that has been expanded to include "gifts" of \$100 or more. Membership dues are not counted toward Wall of Honor recognition.

The five new plaques are representative of the various types of gifts suitable for the Wall: Individuals, clubs, in memory of, and for special recognition of individuals or groups. Plaques noting birthdays, anniversaries, and special honors such as Leisure Worlder of the Month would also be appropriate. Great "gift" for one who has it all!

Contributors to the **Globe Relocation Fund** will be listed on a separate plaque.

(We need names for various levels of contributions, such as World Movers, Globe Lifters, etc. If you have any good ideas, please share with the President.)

TOURS ON "HOLD"

Justine Ratner, Docent Coordinator

Due to the move into the new Leisure World Community Center, there has been a temporary suspension of the Historical Society Tours. Tours should be resuming in the near future and will commence at the Community Center Building. Tour attendees will meet in the Elm Room for a short introduction and to see a video of the Community. They will then board a bus and tour Leisure World, visiting the Historical Society Building, the Library and Clubhouses 1, 3 and 4.

SURVEY NEWS

Ira Joss, co-chair, Survey Committee

The Survey Committee has had several recent meetings with our partners at UCI. Plans and timing for future Surveys have been discussed. At this time, a definitive program has not yet been established, but we can look forward to a long and mutually advantageous relationship with the University.

As part of their continuing commitment to work with the Leisure World community, the Brain Institute at UCI has leased a 2000 square foot office in the Town Centre. You will be hearing more about the use of this facility in future issues of the Newsletter.



Did you know that the Historical Society has a Speaker's Bureau?

It is a secret Chairperson, Roz Rhodes, really wants to share!

If you belong to a club or organization that is looking for an interesting program on some aspect of the history of our Community or the surrounding area, call Roz at 829-8714, and she will find a speaker for you. This program is a service to the Community, provided by the Leisure World Historical Society without charge.

We are also looking for members who would like to join the Bureau as speakers. If you are not sufficiently familiar with a subject, our Archives contain an extensive and wide variety of interesting information which you can consult to prepare yourself to become a speaker. For more information, give Roz a call.

WW II VETERANS REGISTRY

Sheila Lichtenstein, Project Archivist

Yes, we are doing good things with the WW II Registry! To date, we have received over 650 completed questionnaires, and they are being entered into the data base at the Leisure World Historical Society.

When all the material has been entered, we will have the ability to print out almost all categories listed on the forms. The answers to many of these categories proves that veterans in Leisure World have the total spectrum of all the branches of the armed services, all ranks ever created, and services in all the theaters of operations.

For those of you who have expressed concern regarding personal privacy, please be assured that no name will ever be divulged **except** if and when we plan to do personal interviews. Such interviews would take place with the explicit approval of the veteran being interviewed.

Perusing the many interesting returns assures us that we need all of this information **NOW**, in order that future generations learn about a very important time in U.S. from those who actively participated in those historical times.

Persons willing to assist in entering responses into the iMac data base are needed. If you can give some time to this project, leave your name and phone number at the Historical Society office (206-0150) and I will get in touch with you



HISTORY OF VETS UNIT TOLD

(Excerpted from a 2/12/75 article in the Leisure World News)

The members of the Leisure World WW I Auxiliary and Barracks No. 1116 recently celebrated their 10th anniversary as an official unit.

The Barracks and Auxiliary members meet every third Thursday evening for dinner, fellowship, information and inspiration. In the early days when the group was smaller, box lunches and pot luck suppers were the rule.

In ten years, the national patriotic organization has grown from 23 to 291 members, a remarkable figure considering the fact that membership is limited to WW I veterans who are now in the 72-90 age bracket. In ten years the membership has lost 125, 94 of whom have died and 31 have moved from the area.

.....The Ladies Auxiliary with a membership of 190 had 13 of 20 founder members still active with an additional 21 10-year charter members still active.

(Any information about this unit would be appreciated. Perhaps some of our second generation residents had parents in this unit and have clippings or programs stashed away. If so, please share.)

'Betsy Ross' Mends LW Flags

(from an article in the LW News 12/11/75)

Isabel Blevins, often called the 'Betsy Ross of Leisure World' by the clubhouse sewing room supervisors, was mending her 37th flag for the year when she was interviewed. An active member of the Aliso Canyon Chapter of the DAR, she estimated she had volunteered over 100 hours mending flags. She began mending the Clubhouse 3 flags and soon added those of Clubhouses 1 and 4. Wind, she indicated, did most of the damage. At that time one 8 by 12 foot flag cost \$75, and thanks to Mrs. Blevins, the flag bill was reduced by half.

She also made costumes for the DAR pageant.

(Was Mrs. Blevins the only "flag mender" in Leisure World? How long do flags last and what do they cost now? Information appreciated!)

New Docent

Patricia Schell, our newest Historical Society Docent, recently retired from her position as manager of Volunteer Services for the Saddleback Memorial Medical Center.

The Schells, having lived in Massachusetts, Virginia Beach, VA, Woodland Hills, CA and Coronado, CA., moved to Leisure World as renters in 1991. In October 1993, on the day of the Laguna Beach fire, they purchased their manor here

Patricia's hobby is making handmade layettes for stillborn babies. She is a member of the California Club and the Southern Ca. Golfing Association. Her special interests are golf, dining out and cooking and entertaining for friends.

We are pleased to have her as a Docent.

**A committee is a group
of the unwilling
chosen from the unfit
to do the impossible.**



"After you are gone people may forget most of what you have done but they will never forget whether or not you loved them."

....Final paragraphs from a 2/18/81 press release..... Paul Zimmerman

"Before the growth of Leisure World Laguna Hills stimulated the vast development of this segment of the Saddleback Valley, the globe stood in a tiny sylvan dell in a dip on El Toro Road, just a stone's throw away from what was then called Camino Real -- the King's Highway that the San Diego Freeway would eventually supplant.

"Rotating slowly above a fountain whose spectacular spray jetted from the Antarctic axis and sometimes inundated the Southern hemisphere, it presented a picturesque sight, especially at night when colored floodlights played upon its expanse.

"The Leisure World globe had to give way and move like many more pristine landscape identifications, due to the changes of progress.

"The moving of the symbol coincided with a time when the nation suddenly felt the pangs of an energy crisis that cut back both the use of electricity and water. In moving the globe it also was discovered that the bearings on which it rotated were about to wear out.

"Because of the combination of these turns of events it now stands as a mute monument to Rossmoor Leisure World, without doubt the most successful adult community of its kind in the world.

"It guides to their destination a constant flow of gerontology experts from as far away as Japan and Germany who come to view and study this phenomenon of adult living created by Ross W. Cortese."

LEISURE WORLDER OF THE MONTH "HONOR ROLL"

The Rossmoor Corporation started the Leisure Worlder of the Month program in January 1976. At the end of 1980, a booklet entitled "First Five Years" carried half page bios on each honoree. The Corporation wanted to be sure the program was continued after it was no longer a part of the community and looked for a company to fund the program. In August 1981, after 67 ceremonies, Rossmoor handed the responsibility to Home Federal Savings and Loan, and the Historical Society became their "consultant."

The Second Honor Roll, published in 1983, carried pictures of all honorees since the program started. There were no bios, only the name and the month honored.

The third booklet was the Leisure World Silver Anniversary Honor Roll. Honorees from 1976 through 1988 were listed and profession was added. Pictures of 1984 through 1988 honorees were included.. This booklet was funded by Home Federal as was the previous one.

Home Federal funding ended Dec. 1991. The program was suspended until another donor was secured. A Cortese Commemorative Fund" was established at the same time with the hope that it would eventually be large enough so that the interest would support the program.

The last booklet was published in March 1994. It covered the honorees for the years 1989 through 1993. The grant covered the basic expenses of the program for several years but did not provide for another booklet..

2002 is the silver anniversary of the Society. We want to combine a history of the Society with pictures of Leisure Worlders of the Month for the years 1994 through 2002, along with the listing of all honorees, 1976 to present.

These booklets have always been given to all members and to all Leisure Worlders of the Month, as well as other selected individuals and firms.

Although the Historical Society would like to provide this, we are unable to do so, and would like to secure a single corporate sponsor or, if that is not possible, several sponsors, as well as contributions from individuals.

As of now, we have a \$1000 commitment in a challenge grant. The grant will expire September 1 if another \$1000 has not been raised. The estimated cost of the book is over \$5000, because of the large number of pictures to be included.

If you wish to contribute to this project, send your check to the Historical Society. Mark it **Honor Roll**. If you have a suggestion for a corporate sponsor, please call any member of the board, or leave a message with Sherry Hamilton, 206-0150.

to brighten your day

Some folks entertain a new thought as if it were an unwelcome relative.

If you want to truly understand something, try to change it.

When someone says "to make a long story short" look at your watch every 15 minutes.

LEISURE WORLD HISTORICAL SOCIETY
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LAGUNA WOODS, CA 92654
949 206-0150

President	Evelyn Shopp
1st V. P.	Harry Schwartz
2nd V.P.	Charles Hellmann
Secretary	Frank Prophet
Treasurer	John Fuller

Office Mgr.	Sherry Hamilton
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