



LEISURE WORLD **HISTORICAL SOCIETY** NEWSLETTER

January 2006  
Volume 7 Number 1

Preserving Today for Tomorrow

---

Sunday February 12 2006 5 p.m.  
Clubhouse 5

ANNUAL MEETING  
DINNER AND DANCING  
ENTERTAINMENT

Interesting changes in the format of our annual meeting!  
Business, dinner, program and dancing in that order.

And a different kind of program--  
"LIVING HISTORY"  
Costumed early personalities make history come alive.

Full information is on page 7. The cut off date is February 8.  
Table reservations may be made. Bring your friends!

President John Fuller has summarized the year's activities in his report on pages 2 and 3. It was a busy year, but he outlines more work ahead. Volunteers are needed. Why not you?

"Bits and Pieces of Leisure World History" gets many favorable comments from our readers. Just think, Leisure World history is really going to be history as we go from "world" to "village" status. See page 6.

Don't miss the information on our affiliates. Most of them have such interesting backgrounds. Stories are on on page 5.

What do you think should be in a newsletter? Your suggestions on content and format, size and frequency and other observations will be helpful.

## PRESIDENTIAL MUSINGS

It is with mixed emotions that I sit down to write my last message to you as President of your Historical Society.

Five years ago, as I started learning about the Society's finances as a new treasurer, I had no illusions of ever being President, nor ambitions to do so. I rapidly learned with the able assistance of my good friend, outgoing Treasurer Burt Taubman, that this position required much more time and background than most any other organization in Leisure World (with the exception of our governing bodies who have the help of the PCM finance department). It is still a major time consuming job and we are looking at acquiring some outside professional help for it.

This past year has been one of change. We have replaced our Office Manager position with a salaried Executive Director to run our day to day operations. This relieves the President of much of the routine operation and gives our all-important volunteers better support and direction.

We have had donations of two new PC computers and two new flat panel monitors. That gives us three PC's. They were recently connected to the Internet with a wireless connection so e-mail is available on all of them. We have now completed the transfer of our financial data from the MACs to our new PCs.

We have a smoothly working membership tracking program that allows us to retrieve more data and makes it easier to put together our Directory and get it out earlier. You will find another article in this Newsletter about our

## JOHN FULLER

membership committee and its efficiently run organization and early completion.

Our Docent Tour group has done an excellent job this year. They have conducted three tours a month on the first three Thursday mornings and GRF/PCM has had our own buses available for these tours. Justine Ratner and the Docents have lead special tours for foreign groups who supply their own transportation and make a contribution to the Historical Society for our Docent support.

We have continued our Veterans' registration program for Veterans of all Wars and the Video Club is continuing to do taped interviews for those requesting them.

The Leisure Worlder of the Month program has continued with ten Honorees this year. We held the last one in the new Clubhouse 7, but although larger, we lost some of the intimacy that has made Clubhouse 6 so warm and we'll return to Clubhouse 6 for the 2006 ceremonies. With our name change, it may turn out to be the Laguna Woods Villager of the Month!

Our latest Demographic Survey in conjunction with UCI was completed and distributed this past spring. Two of our Directors, Ira Joss and Syd Aronson, were capably responsible for our part in this survey, as they have been on the three previous ones.

The Medical Lecture series, co-sponsored with the UCI Medical College, resumed in November after a short lapse due to speaker unavailability.

All in all, it has been a busy and successful year, thanks to our wonderful volunteers, and that includes our board members. Our new Executive Director, Holly Williams, has been a great help in seeing that things get done and run smoothly. We have numerous tasks ahead of us in the coming year. We have to change our name and we need to continue the revision of our Articles and Bylaws that we were unable to do this year. The revisions need to be approved by our members and we were not able to complete this in time for this year's annual meeting. We also need to get professional financial support.

The announcement of our annual Dinner Meeting is included in this Newsletter. The meeting is required by our Bylaws to be held no later than February 14 and the only business will be the report of the Nominating Committee and election of directors. To save time at our annual meeting, the special organizational board meeting will not be held until 9 a.m. Friday, February 17 when the board will elect its officers for 2006.

It is time for a new board to consider our Mission and goals for the future. Those taking up residence in Laguna Woods are a newer generation and their desires and expectations are not the same as much of our current population. Their interests and concerns must be considered in our future planning.

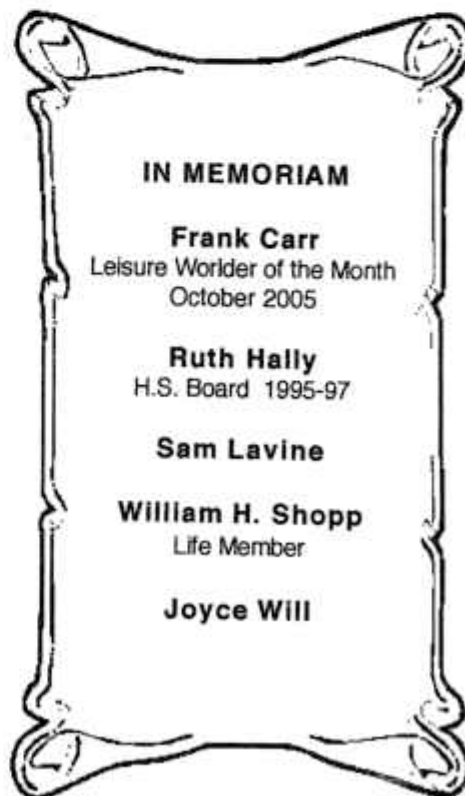
Finally, I wish to thank our Board members, our volunteers, our past Office Manager, Sherry Hamilton, our Executive Director, Holly Williams and you, our members, for the trust you have given me as your President for the past three years. Without these, I could not have handled the position. Thank you.

## HOLIDAYS and Stuff

New Year's Day is a federal holiday in the United States. It had its origin in Roman times, when sacrifices were offered to Janus, the two headed Roman Diety who looked back to the past and forward to the future

Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday, January 15, was declared a federal holiday in 1986. This year it will be celebrated on Monday, Jan. 16.

Thursday, February 2, isn't exactly a holiday but it is very important in some parts of the country. It's Groundhog Day! If the groundhog comes out and sees his shadow, he goes back to his hole and winter will last another six weeks. Who needs all this fancy weather stuff?



**THE PHILOSOPHY OF CHARLES SCHULTZ (creator of "Peanuts" comic strip)**

(Your editor got this e-mail from Illinois, Connecticut, and California.  
She got attached to it and decided it was only fair to share.)

There is no need to answer the questions. Just read straight through and you will get the point.

1. Name the five wealthiest people in the world.
2. Name the last five Heisman Trophy winners.
3. Name the last five winners of Miss America.
4. Name ten people who have won the Pulitzer or the Nobel prize.
5. Name the last half dozen Academy Award winner for best actor and actress.
6. Name the World Series winners for the past decade.

How did you do?

The point is, none of us remember the headliners of yesterday. These are no second rate achievers. They are the best in their fields. But the applause dies. Awards tarnish. Achievements are forgotten. Accolades and certificates are buried with their owners.

Here's another quiz  
See how you do on this one.

1. List a few teachers who aided your journey through school.
2. Name three friends who helped you through a difficult time.
3. Name five people who have taught you something worthwhile.
4. Think of a few people who have made you feel appreciated and special.
5. Think of five people you enjoy spending time with.

Easier?

The lesson: The people who make a difference in your life and not the ones with the most money, the most credentials or the most awards. They are the ones who care.

\* \* \* \* \*

100 years ago in the United States

Only 14% of the homes had bathtubs. Only 8% had a telephone. The average wage was 22 cents per hour. More than 95% of the births took place at home.

**ABOUT OUR AFFILIATES**

----- Martha Hellmann

**THE HEFLIN TEAM.. Laguna Woods Properties**

Laguna Woods Village has been an important part of the Heflins' lives for many, many years. Phyllis' parents, Dorothy and Earl Wilber, moved to Leisure World in the 1960s. After her father died, her mother sold her co-op and moved to the Towers, as one of the first residents. She thought she had "died and gone to heaven" and enjoyed every day she lived there. Two aunts, Eleanor Hamilton and Ruth Kelly, moved here, as did Van's parents, Opal and Harvey Heflin.

In 1972, the Heflins opened a gift shop, the "Coral Tree", near Long's Drug Store. When the Mall opened in 1978, they sold their shop and became third generation realtors. The Heflin team is still going strong. Son, Brent, joined the team, then opened his own office in Long Beach. Daughter Jennifer joined them six years ago. They are located at Laguna Woods Properties in the Laguna Woods Town Centre.

Phyllis is currently President of The Associates of Saddleback Memorial Medical Center. She was the first President of the Leisure World Christian Women's Club.

As 18 year residents, the Heflins have watched the area grow and believe that it is still the best place to live. They have been great supporters of the Society, and that support is greatly appreciated.

**KAREN AND SHARON Estate Sales**

Karen Chandler Vicker and Sharon Chandler Hawkins (twin sisters) have been in the business of conducting estate sales and appraisals throughout southern California for the past 33 years.

As graduate certified appraisers, their education, experience and knowledge are in fine arts, period furniture, accessories, Oriental and Indian rugs, glass, pottery, porcelains, silver, jewelry, orientals, oil paintings and general household furnishings.

Karen and Sharon have studied in Europe and in the United States with experts from Sotheby's and the Henry Dupont Winterhur Museum. Their knowledge of antiques and collections has been recognized in the Orange County Register and the Los Angeles Times due to important collections they have handled. These collections included those of a U.S. president, a Russian heiress, military generals and ambassadors.

When handling an estate, services include: appraising, advertising, setting up and conducting the sale, resulting in a detailed inventory of the estate. Any charitable donations are valued for tax purposes.

The Society is indeed grateful for the continuing support of Karen and Sharon.

## BITS AND PIECES OF LEISURE WORLD HISTORY

(Selected from the *Leisure World News*) ..... **Mari Jan Vested**

### **Forty Years Ago January 1966**

Orange County population hits 1 million. More seen by 1970.

Veterans plan memorial service for four chaplains who perished on troop ship Dorchester after giving life jackets to other soldiers. Were last seen bowing their heads in prayer as the ship went down.

Residents are enthusiastic about new painting class. Attendance is high.

Many clubs from individual states are forming. Iowans conduct Champagne Holiday dinner; Gourmet group schedules three luncheon meetings at Las Solteras. LW Saddle club is formed.

Many residents participate in free hearing tests offered by Orange County Easter Seal Society.

United California Bank installs 51 benches and donates them to Leisure World.

Bus run approved. Service expected within 60 days. Consultant suggests shorter hours.

### **February 1966**

LW Valentine Dance is planned.

Newly formed Latin America Club readies for first meeting.

Stamp Club exhibition planned. Theme is "Discover America".

Four thousand attend Hobby Show at Clubhouse I where more than 50 residents display collections.

Ground breaking ceremonies are held for construction of first unit of Laguna Hills Methodist Church. Land is a gift of Ross Cortese.

### **Twenty Five Years Ago January / February 1981**

Police patrol reports alcohol related traffic fatalities. "Worst Christmas Season Ever"

Leisure World moves toward cityhood.

Cortese considers liquidation after the last 110 luxury units are sold.

"Magic, Mime, Music" presented by Ebell Club at Clubhouse 3 meeting.

Electricity costs rise; residents turn thermostats down and shiver in their manors.

New law is passed allowing handicapped persons to get aid at gas pumps.

Fire destroys manor at 2197 Via Mariposa E. Described as faulty connection on electric blanket.

Rings and silver stolen from a manor on Calle Pico.

Globe could be abandoned if GRF refuses custody. Costs \$3,500 to paint and taxes are \$234 a year.

### **Ten Years Ago January 1996**

Transportation committee suggests more accessible vehicles for busses.

Directors vote to put golf bridge on hold. It is called "discriminatory to bikers and walkers."

Mutuals vote to ante up more funds for Anti-Airport fight. Fund totals \$500,000.

### **February 1996**

Residents taken to bank by a pair of clever scam artists. One hands over \$2,300 in Laguna Hills Mall to a man who claims to be from her bank.

Developer may buy manors for upgrading.

GRF begins negotiations to acquire more than 147 acres of Rossmoor Business Park and El Toro Water district using funds earmarked to rebuild the Administration Building.

Landscaping updating planned for 1997; needs to have a 21st century look, some directors believe.

Concessions are granted for "Handicap Card" violations. Fines are reduced by half.

# Leisure World Historical Society

HEAR YE!!! HEAR YE!!!

COME ONE - COME ALL

Sunday, February 12, 2006 - 5:00 P.M.

Clubhouse Five

ANNUAL MEETING  
DINNER AND DANCING  
ENTERTAINMENT BY: "LIVING HISTORY"

*Be greeted by personalities from the past. Meet the daughter of Don Juan, say hello to the first woman lawyer in California or chat with Kit Carson. See living history come alive as they dance early California dances.*

## PROGRAM

No host bar open at 5:00 p.m.  
Annual Meeting - 5:30 - 6:00  
Dinner catered by Jolanda  
Presentation of Strevey Award  
"Living History" presentation  
Dance to the music of

## RUSH ROBINSON

## DINNER MENU

Hors D'Oeuvres - wine  
Salad  
Succulent Roast Leg of Lamb  
Salmon en Croute - fresh salmon  
wrapped in spinach and baked in  
a flaky crust  
Rock Cornish Hen  
Seasonal fresh vegetables  
Fabulous dessert - Beverage

*Make reservation by mailing check payable to Leisure World Historical Society, P.O. Box 2220, Laguna Hills, 92654 Tariff: \$25.00 per member, \$28.00 per guest.*

*Checks must be received by February 8<sup>th</sup> Members of your group: (Groups wishing to be seated together, please send checks together)*

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 6. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_ 7. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_ 8. \_\_\_\_\_

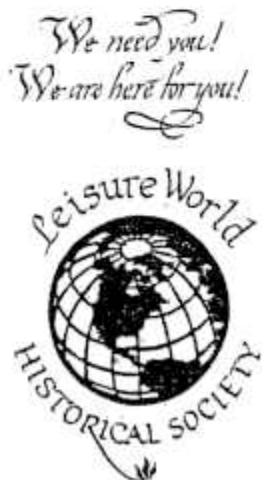
4. \_\_\_\_\_ 9. \_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_ 10. \_\_\_\_\_

Indicate how many Lamb \_\_\_\_\_ Salmon \_\_\_\_\_ Hen \_\_\_\_\_ Vegetarian \_\_\_\_\_

NEWSLETTER  
LEISURE WORLD HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
Evelyn Shopp Editor  
P.O. Box 2220  
Laguna Woods, CA 92654  
949 206-0150

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
Permit No. 340  
Laguna Hills, CA  
92653



**2005 Board of Directors**

**John Fuller**  
President

**Ward Payne**  
1st Vice Pres.

**Charles McLaughlin**  
2nd Vice Pres.

**Frank Prophet Jr**  
Secretary

**Mel Dollar**  
Treasurer

**Syd Aronson**  
**Martha Hellmann**  
**Ira Joss**

**Charles Little**  
**Robert Miller**  
**Charles Nahas**  
**Robert Ring**  
**Harry Schwartz**  
**Evelyn Shopp**  
**Linda Wilson**

**Holly Williams**  
Executive Director

**Fran Lindberg**  
Acting Archivist

**John Toellner**  
Consultant