

**LEISURE WORLDER
OF THE MONTH
MARCH, 1997**

MANNY ACKERMAN

The Leisure World Historical Society is pleased to announce the selection of **MANNY ACKERMAN** as Leisure Worlder of the Month for March, 1997. This event is sponsored by the Society and supported by the Ross Cortese Commemorative Fund.

Manny Ackerman was born in Cleveland, Ohio and received his elementary and secondary education in his home town. He followed up his basic learning with matriculation at John Carroll University and obtained his B.A. from that institution.

Manny served as a bottom turret gunner during World War II. He worked as a self-employed draftsman, followed by a 33 year span as a structural engineer, all in the Buckeye State..

He was always interested in nature and quickly found a certain fascination and interest in the process of transplanting young saplings found in empty lots into neighbors' back yard with the result that the neighborhood is full of beautiful maple and oak trees. He became known as "Manny Appleseed".

Manny and his wife, Rose, have three sons - Robert, Dennis and Gary- and are grandparents to Jennifer, Danny, Alana and Gregory..

Manny's vocation and avocation did not deter the Ackermans from treading the soil of such foreign shores as England, Spain, France, Italy, Holland, Belgium, Scandinavia, Israel, Canada, Mexico and the non-contiguous state of Alaska.

Leisure World became the beneficiary of Manny's enthusiasm for trees in 1989. Early on he joined the Audubon Society. Noting the great variety of trees in Leisure World, he enthusiastically did library research to identify each species, which led to his suggestion to put labels on the trees and thus to the Adopt-A-Tree Program (adoption of individual trees by residents and clubs). He became a prime mover in that program and a leader in Arbor Day Tree Planting and the semi-annual Tree Walk. He served as Audubon Society President from 1994-1997, is co-vice president of the Hikers Club, is a member of the Sierra Club and is also a member of TRP. He admits to two hobbies -- gardening and hiking.

When asked about his most personally satisfying accomplishment. he responds --as one would expect --"The Adopt-A Tree Program in Leisure World is the most rewarding to me."