

LEISURE WORLD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Presents

LEISURE WORLDER OF THE MONTH

For JANUARY 2000

MOLLY BLANK-MITSCH

The Leisure World Historical Society is pleased to present the **LEISURE WORLDER OF THE MONTH, MOLLY BLANK-MITSCH, for JANUARY 2000.**

Our honoree became a population statistic when she saw the light of day in New York City. Her primary and secondary education occurred in her place of birth. Subsequently she attended and earned credits at the New School of Hunter College. Her early aspirations in sculpting and dance were eclipsed by early marriage to Max Blank. When Max died Molly was left with two young sons and a relatively new business to run.

Molly's experiences were "hands on" in the generic drug manufacturing and distribution business begun by her husband. Her responsibilities included marketing, personnel and preparation of product catalogs. Eventually she became President of Sherry Pharmaceuticals and Blank Drug. She retired in 1979.

Family and business were not deterrents to Molly's participation in community/civic activities. She worked for SCORE as a business counselor for six years and is currently an "emeritus" member. She became active in National organizations such as the City of Hope, Hadassah, ORT, National Council of Jewish Women, ARMDI and others.

Leisure World became the beneficiary of Molly's talents, abilities and philanthropy in 1986. During the ensuing two years she was a commuter, but she settled in as a permanent resident in 1988. She became active in the Roundaliers, Opera 100, Theatre Guild, Computer Club and Bridge Club in addition to continuing her affiliation with the community groups mentioned above. She is a board member of the Leisure World Foundation and the Jewish Community Center of the Jewish Federation of Orange County. In additions, Molly is active in the Anti-Defamation League of Orange County and has donated the Arts and Crafts Room at the Florence Sylvester Senior Center where she has taught sculpting to those afflicted with Alzheimers or Parkinson's. Her philanthropies have extended to a variety of organizations.

Honors of many types have been bestowed on Molly: The ARMDI "Benefactor Award"; the "Spirit of Life" by the City of Hope and the Anti-Defamation League's "Diplomat of the Forum".

Molly's family includes new husband, Wayne Mitsch, sons Arthur and Michael, and six grandchildren, plus daughters-in-law.

Despite her many interests and activities our honoree has traveled extensively in Japan, China, Russia, Europe, Israel and Greece.

In Molly's own words about her relevant accomplishments and satisfaction: "The most personally satisfying is raising two sons who are extremely successful, but more important, are exemplary in their outstanding philanthropies and concern for their fellow man. It has been said that the apple falls close to the tree. I would agree since I taught them my own philosophies of caring and giving. My creed: 'You pass through once. Make it count!'"