

Great World

By Ross M. Cortese



Nothing is more joyful than happy music, and we are most fortunate to have our own community fun-band in the Kool Kats who give us so much pleasure with their performances.

And it seems most fitting that the Leisure World community should bestow high honor upon one who is responsible for that fine entertainment.

Bunnie Gormley who directs the Kool Kats is the Leisure Worlder of the month of June, and it is a happy pleasure that we join with the others to offer our congratulations.

Selected by the Leisure World Historical Society in cooperation with Home Federal Savings and Loan, Mrs. Gormley joins a list of remarkable Leisure World residents who have been singled out for this honor over the years, and we are delighted to help sing her praises.

Bunnie has been leading the band since 1973, and is credited with broadening the band's repertoire and bringing about some rollicking performances that have won the band recognition as well as representing Leisure World as a place where life continues to be lively and

meaningful.

Being involved in music comes naturally for Bunnie. She explained that she comes from a "singing family" whose earlier generations include a grandfather who performed for President Lincoln's inauguration. She also has a sister who has performed professionally as a dancer and her mother, Mrs. Izma Suess who plays the kazoo in the Kool Kats band.

A former teenage singer with the Evanston, Ill. Light Opera company, Bunnie performed with a travelling puppet show and sang with choral groups on a weekly radio show.

After her first husband's death, Bunnie met Joe Gormley, a part-time professional musician while on a vacation cruise. The two performed in a shipboard variety show and eventually married.

Now they delight their audiences with vocal harmony during the Kool Kats performances, and Leisure World has one other reason to be considered a most harmonious community.

Again, our congratulations and thanks to Bunnie Gormley for giving us happy listening