



LEISURE WORLD NEWS

An Orange

Leisure World honoree

Career skills benefit charity, clubs

By Cheryl Walker

The News

Last year, Saddleback Memorial Medical Center's Thrift Shop in the Long's Shopping Center presented \$240,000 to the Laguna Hills hospital through the diligent efforts of more than 150 volunteers.

The latter receive, sort, display and sell donated goods and keep the store tidy during working hours, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Saturday.

Because of turnover, it isn't easy to keep the volunteers motivated and coming back, but Leisure Worlder Mary Jones, twice president of the group, takes it all in stride.

Ceremony facts

Who: Mary Jones
What: Leisure Worlder of the Month for April
Where: Clubhouse 6
When: 10 a.m., Wednesday, April 5
Sponsor: Leisure World Historical Society

For nearly 40 years Jones, first with Bell Systems, then as an independent contractor, was as a training instructor, skills she's put to good use not only at the shop, but in her notable work with other clubs, groups and organizations both in and outside the Leisure World walls.

See HONOREE, page 10



Rod Veal/The News

Mary Jones has been named Leisure Worlder of the Month for April by the Leisure World Historical Society.

HONOREE

From page 1

For sharing generously those skills and her time and considerable personal energy, the Historical Society has selected Jones Leisure Worlder of the Month for April.

"I went into shock when they (the Society) called" Jones said. But her colleagues say the recognition is well warranted.

Ruth Wiltse of the Women's Classified Service Club calls the group's former president a "great organizer and a real sweetheart."

"She's an all-around super person - hard working, sensible, knows what's right and wrong, tactful, dedicated, always doing something for someone - and so busy you usually have to talk to her answering machine when

you call her at home."

Former Thrift Shop President Bruna Hurd adds that Jones is always willing to do what's necessary to get a job done without complaint - "And she has a wonderful personality and wonderful sense of humor."

Background: The native of Naples, Italy came with her family to the United States in 1930.

After completing high school, she was hired by Bell Systems where she proved such an exemplary associate that she moved up through the ranks becoming a trainer and instructor.

After 37 years working full-time with the communications firm she retired, then spent another two years under contract to Bell and then another three years as a training consultant where, among other topics, she

taught banking procedures.

In 1987, she moved to Leisure World and helped in the consolidation of five service clubs - Pilot, Soroptomists, Zonta, Quota and the Business Women of America - whose overall goal was to foster the development of women all over the world.

She also was involved with the Lady Lions and, in the last five years, various ministries at St. Nicholas Church including participation in the Little Company of Mary prayer group and teaching 7th grade candidates for confirmation and Liturgy of the Word for Children.

Jones says that although she wants to thank the Society and those who forwarded her name for the Leisure Worlder of the Month honor she never expected recognition for what she's done as a volunteer. "I just try to do what I believe is right."