

The Globe is Lit!

After many delays, the lights are on, and the Globe project is finished. It took longer than expected, but there is a happy ending. When Patron member Don Will died last December, Joyce, his widow, suggested that memorial gifts might go to "light the globe." The lighting of the globe came on his birthday! Such gifts are truly a thoughtful and lasting tribute.

Docent Tours Reinstated

Yes, the tours are back on schedule on the first three Thursdays of each month! Justine Ratner, coordinator for seven years, chose to "retire" and Eleanor Cooper is her replacement. Persons interested in becoming Docents may contact Eleanor directly at 859-8086.

Exercise Challenge 2003

The City of Laguna Woods has a very ambitious goal for this April, 280,000 miles. Be a part of this challenge, and then "challenge" yourself for the rest of the year. More on page 4.

Check List for All Members

(Projects that need your input.)

WWII veterans: If you have not registered, please do so. Project update on page 5.

Are you 90 or will be 90 in the next 12 months? Then let us enroll you in the "Historically Advantaged" group. Call 206-0150 and we'll mail you a short form to complete.

Are you a 2nd generation resident? We'd like some information on you and your parent(s) who lived here. Call the office, 206-0150 and we'll mail you a form. If you know someone who is second generation, do tell them or give us the name and we'll follow up.

Leisure Worlder of the Month Alumnae Group

Over 300 persons have been named "Leisure Worlder of the Month" since the program started on January 1, 1976. Over 150 still live in Leisure World. Every one of them has special talents, but some are no longer as active as they once were. How do we utilize their broad experiences for the betterment of the community? Planning for such a group is now underway. We'll keep you informed.

PRESIDENTIAL MUSINGS

John Fuller

What does one say after being chosen as President of the Leisure World Historical Society, succeeding Evelyn Shopp? I can only thank you for the trust you have shown in me. Evelyn has been President of this Society for the past five years and before that, served in various offices for a total of 18 years. During this time, she has been the "Historical Society." My experience with the Society has been as Treasurer and Board member for the last two years. So it has only been with the assurance that Evelyn would continue to serve on the Board that I agreed to succeed her.

We also have a very talented and hardworking board that is willing to take the action needed to get our work done. Most have already played an important part in initiating and carrying out the many services now provided by the Society.

We have a very competent office manager in Sherry Hamilton and a volunteer organization that staffs our office every day and supports our various projects. Marjorie Williams has been our Archivist for several years. Sheila Lichtenstein is Project Archivist for the the WWII Veterans Project, under the guidance of John Bradley. This is currently a very active project.

Evelyn has promised to help me climb a very steep learning curve in assimilating the history of the Society. She will also be chairing a new Publications Committee, which will handle all of our publications, including

the Newsletter, which she has been so ably editing. So you can see that my job is going to be reasonably easy and you won't be seeing any immediate changes.

I hope over a period of time to fine tune our office so that we may be able to improve our day to day operations and make more time available for carrying out our many present and future projects. This organization, like many Leisure World organizations, exists through the efforts of its many volunteers. We always need more and encourage you to come in and see where you may help.

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The World in Needlepoint

When member Wanda Cunningham traveled in Europe in the early 1970s, she bought a partially completed needlepoint "world" which reminded her of Leisure World. She completed the piece and had it framed. When neighbor Sam Mitchell did some chores for her, she gave him the piece. Sam took it over to the Mac Learning Center where it hung on the wall for several years.

When the Learning Center moved, Sam did not find an appropriate place for the "World." Where better than the Historical Society, he wondered? And so this unusual piece of work now hangs in the office of the President, a welcome addition to several pictures, photos, and other globe items on display in the building.

\$852.19 -- That is the amount earned by the Society in 2002 from **Fremont** Investment and Loan's *Deposit Incentive Donation Program*. We have been in this program since 1998. The amount received varies, depending on the number of accounts credited to the Society, and the interest rate. Thirty eight accounts were credited to the Society this year.

If you have accounts at Fremont, or open a new one, help the Society by asking them to credit the account to the Historical Society. There is no charge to you or to us, no minimum balance requirements, FDIC insured. The Society is not given any information on participants. Hopefully, we will be credited with twice as many accounts this year. Yours will count!

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LIFE MEMBERS

Life memberships in the Society were available from 1980 through 1989. Three members were granted life memberships by the board after that date for a grand total of 71. That number is now at 17 and four of them no longer live in this area. Those living in either Leisure World or Freedom Village are:

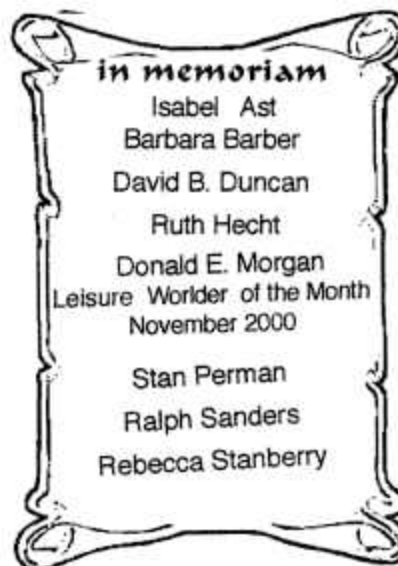
Jean Brown	Evelyn Shopp
Don Davis	Bill Shopp
Pauline Garton	Dr. Edwin Short
Madelyne Hanson	Mabel Southworth
James Hinkle	Merle Trail
Joseph Iacovo	Jean Woollett
Luther Self	

At the February meeting, the Board of Directors approved a category of "Honorary Life Members". Members on our list of "Historically Advantaged" who reach their 100th birthday will be eligible. More about this special group in the next Newsletter.

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A minister was asked for the best prayer he had ever heard.

Lord,
please make me the kind of person
my dog thinks I am.



The Historical Society has received several gifts in the last few weeks. We are grateful to those who have chosen to honor friends through their gifts to the Society.

In Appreciation and honor of
Frank Prophet, Jr. and Ione Peikert

In memory of
Tom Gaylor
Doyle Selden
Donald F. Will*

*for "lighting" the globe

Several members gave membership gifts for 2003. Two of them gave more than one:

Joan Long
Frank Prophet, Jr.

On several occasions, Leisure World Clubs who chose to discontinue as clubs have given money remaining in the treasury to the Society. The latest gift came from **Circle of Friends**. This group, not a "social" club, was established for "residents with no relatives nearby". They helped each other -- trips to doctors' offices, visits in hospitals, help with moving -- the kind of things relatives most often do. After 4 years, the group decided to disband. A core group of 12 intend to continue their activities together, but not as an organized club. We are sorry a club with such a worthy program is disbanding. Perhaps another group will consider such activities in the future.

Thank you, Circle of Friends.

New Board Members

Three new members were elected to the Society Board at the Annual Meeting. Martha Hellmann was elected for a three year term and one year vacancies were filled by Milton Ray and Charles McLaughlin.

Martha Hellmann has been active in many groups, including the Hospital Associates and the Gift Shop. Her home town is Louisville, KY. She says her hobby is watching and rooting for the Louisville basketball team, now #2 in the nation. Biggest disappointment is inability to get California friends to pronounce Louisville correctly. It is "LOOAVULI" Martha and her husband of 55 years enjoy their large family that includes two sets of twins and a set of triplets.

Charles McLaughlin has been in California since he was 18 months old. A graduate of Cal Poly in San Luis Obispo, he served in the Air Force during WWII. Ranching and owning a general insurance agency were among his business experiences. A second generation Leisure Worlder, he moved here in 1988. He is an active Republican. A member of the original ETRPA, he worked vigorously to defeat the conversion of El Toro to an international airport and was Co-Chair of the Measure S committee. He was active on the Committee for Cityhood, and served on the United Board. His hobbies include Genealogy and traveling.

Milton Ray, elected to serve as treasurer, is returning to a position he held in the early 1990s when the Society first began using the computer for "bookkeeping." He was also responsible for producing a series of "position papers." Milt, a tax attorney, has been active on the governance boards.

All three of the new members have been Leisure Worlders of the Month.

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Officers for this year are

President.....John Fuller
1st Vice Pres.....Harry Schwartz
2nd Vice Pres....Cynthia Chyba
Secretary.....Frank Prophet, Jr.
Treasurer.....Milton Ray

Speakers Bureau

Roslyn Rhodes

Our Speakers Bureau has been active in supplying speakers to organizations and clubs. We do not charge for our speakers, and audiences have found our subject matters in covering the history of Orange County and of Leisure World most informative.

Society speakers have appeared at Ebell, Lions Club, Garden Club, and the United Methodist church, to name a few.

If your program chairperson is interested in having one of our speakers for your organization, contact Roz Rhodes at 829-8714 or leave a message at the Society Office, 206-0150.

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Financial Terms Updated for 2003

CEO: Chief Embezzlement Officer

Value Investing: The art of buying low and selling lower.

Broker: What my broker has made me.

Profit: An archaic word no longer in use.

Standard & Poor: Your life in a nutshell.

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"Reach for the Moon"

That is the goal for the Laguna Woods 2003 Exercise Challenge -- and it is a mere 280,000 miles! Leisure Worlders who participated last year are already signed up for this year. If you didn't participate last year, now is sign-up time, with the actual Kick-Off at City Hall on April Fools Day. You can participate by exercising a minimum of 15 minutes a day. And the nice thing about this is that age counts more!! Pick up your sign-in form at City Hall or sign up online at

www.exercisechallenge.com

WWII Project Update

Sheila Lichtenstein

Project Archivist

When asked to write a one column story on how volunteers have assisted in this project, I thought, "piece of cake." Not so. It is more like a whole cake, well iced and decorated, and a beautiful one at that!

Over 700 questionnaire responses have been filed in the computer. Mary Williams and Sydelle Lepoff assisted with input. Sydelle also trained and scheduled computer input volunteers.

Members of the Video Club of Leisure World have given and continue to give their time, equipment and expertise in taping veteran interviews. Marvin Green, President, and chief photographer, Carly Luetzow, plus Mike Ayotte, Dick Tyhurst, Mike Evans and Bob Jenks deserve our deepest gratitude.

After several training sessions in the "Art of Interviewing," our volunteer interviewers faced both veterans and cameras. As we reviewed the finished tapes, the poise, confidence and sensitivity of the volunteers was truly remarkable.

The first tape, named our 'first baby', went to the Library of Congress project. They, too, were pleased with the product. Tobey Greenspan interviewed Dick Baisden on this tape, covering prewar, exciting war action, and postwar life. This is a tape that is pure magic.

To date, over 15 interviews have been completed, from Dick Baisden to Max Stark, with thirteen in between. 6 interviewers are on the first list, and there are a number on the backup list.

Ellie Glomb and I reworked the questionnaire so that it covered as much as possible of the veteran's life. The list to be taped is quite long and will require many taping days. Hopefully, we can one day do a program with parts of these exciting tapes.

John Bradley, Board of Directors Coordinator, and Ira Joss, Publicity, have been especially helpful with this project. We appreciate help from all the office volunteers who have taken a multitude of calls with "patience and fortitude."

ON-Off Tours are ON

Justine Ratner

Happily, I can report that the Docent led Leisure World Tours have been reinstated by the GRF. At their February meeting, they approved a resolution to charter buses for tour use for the balance of 2003. The regular schedule of 3 tours per month was resumed on February 20.

Eleanor Cooper, a Docent since 1996, has been named Tour Coordinator. Tour Docents are: Reese Barnett, Marvin Bercovitz, Ralph Bravata, Richard Holland, Charles McLaughlin, Janet McLaughlin, Leon Mochkatel, Isabel Muennichow, Frank Prophet, Arly Ray, Marilyn Robbins, Patricia Schell, Harry Schwartz and Richard Yeakel.

I would like to publicly thank the Docents for their loyalty, enthusiasm, hard work and diligence during the period that I was Coordinator. They are an outstanding group. They made my job easier, and it was a pleasure to work with them.



Medical Lectures

The final lecture in the current UCI medical lectures series was held on March 4. Dr. Jonathan Pirmizar, Assistant Clinical Professor of Ophthalmology, spoke on "Everything You Always Wanted to Know about Lasik Surgery." The Society has been very pleased and encouraged by the community response to these lectures. Another series will be scheduled, beginning in October

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A woman was at the beach with her children when her 4 year old son ran up to her and lead her to the shore where a sea gull lay dead in the sand.

"Mommy, what happened to him?"

"He died and went to heaven."

The son thought for a moment—"And God threw him back down?"

from the Leisure World News July 6, 1976

Great World

By Ross W. Cortese

Rossmoor Corp.



Participants in Leisure World's colorful festivities last Monday were true to the deep seated American Independence Day tradition — parade, picnicking, and having fun. It was a brilliant day with our national colors flying from patios, balconies, lawns and floats, proving again that Leisure World is a community for life and living, especially noted for its friendly spirit, its home-loving residents who, free from the daily chores of maintenance and upkeep, enjoy total living.

For most of us there has been, and is a deep appreciation of the "lest we forget" theme that has revived a general interest in America's early history — the early settlers, their hardships, industry, successes, love of liberty, strength of character — and, proudly the Declaration of Independence, free enterprise and progress.

Our founders must have known they were making history at every turn, for producers and programmers have found priceless documentation in national archives. Too, the "treasure chests" of some present-day descendants of early American families hold memorabilia and heirlooms that seem to give us a message.

"Remember when...?" That's part of greetings that can be heard when two or more 12-year residents meet in this Leisure World community whose growth they

have observed with admitted amazement. Earliest residents were pioneers with Rossmoor in these once-farmland hills that ranged to the horizon; where the only market was the little country store in El Toro.

Leisure World's very first Independence Day celebration in 1965 was an occasion for picnic, music and program in the gazebo area of Clubhouse 1. This year of the Bicentennial has brought honor and surprises — a visit from President Ford (doubling as candidate Ford), also from Presidential candidate Ronald Reagan.

As Leisure World approaches its twelfth anniversary of first occupancies (September 1964), a 19,000 population mark, and construction in the final Phase IV of residential development, there still is a popular demand for Leisure World residences and the life style included with their purchase.

The Big Birthday celebration is history now, a springboard to take us through the remaining 1976 Bicentennial months and into this country's third century of pioneering and promise. As Rossmoor's vision for Leisure World Laguna Hills comes into fulfillment the entire nation may look upon this project as the prototype for community development where and when, according to published surveys and projected needs, there is concern for better home life.

First grade children were given the first half of well known proverbs and asked to complete them. Here's what they said:

- * People in glass houses shouldn't.....run around naked.
- * Better to be safe than.....punch a fifth grader.
- * Strike while the.....bug is close.
- * Don't bite the hand that.....looks dirty.
- * A miss is as good asa mister.
- * If you lie down with a dog, you.....will stink in the morning.
- * Happy is the bride who.....gets all the presents.
- * Children should be seen and notspanked or grounded.
- * A penny saved is not much.
- * If at first you don't succeedget new batteries.
- * You can't teach an old dogmath.

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Publicity....What's that?

Have you noticed how great our coverage in the Leisure World News and on Channel Six has been in past several months? Part of that is because we are doing so many exciting things—the Globe, WWII project, Docent tours, UCI lectures.

However, a major factor in the increase is very basic. We have a Publicity Chairman, Ira Joss, who follows up on every activity and gets the story to the appropriate place in a timely manner. He also prepares fliers for all events and places them in the Clubhouses. On the fourth Wednesday he is interviewed by Rob Merritt on the Channel 6 "Leisure World Today." If you see it in the News, you can be almost sure Ira was involved!

Editorially speaking--

I'm not sure this is an appropriate heading, but when one is the editor, one gets to make important decisions, and is not forced to publish "Letters to the Editor." Oh, the joys of retirement...

I shall now proceed to speak as the immediate past president who, according to the new president, is sort of like the old Farmer's Almanac—a fount of unrelated and sometimes useless wisdom collected over the years. I do want to mention a few people who have been a joy to work with, people who always said "yes" and always went beyond the "call of duty." Board members Ira Joss, Bob Miller and John Bradley top the list.

Tobey Greenspan, an office volunteer, proof reader de luxe, volunteer in the WWII project; Sheila Lichtenstein, who moved our WWII project from a mere registry to a project with national recognition; supporters from the Mac Computer Club: Charles and Anne Clark, Ned Reed, Murray Massin; That's just a sampling of the many many people who have been special--people who made it all worthwhile!

There really is no end to this. Board member Frank Prophet not only serves as secretary but is always first to "embrace" a project -- money to move the globe; memberships for friends. Volunteer Joan Long takes care of the "Historically Advantaged", makes calls that get results, and also enrolled 5 new members. Long time Archives Volunteer Alberta Montyvadas is in week after week as is Fran Lindberg and relatively new Mary Williams. It has been a joy to work with them and with all the other really devoted volunteers. When the names and hours went up on the Volunteer Board at the end of 2002, I could not help but marvel at the time given by this group. We also have some of the best folders and labelers in the business. And we have taken full advantage of our semiofficial photographer, picture hanger, framer, furniture set-up man, and general errand runner, Bill Shopp. (He paid me for this commercial.)

I checked the editorial pages of a few magazines to see what was appropriate for an editor's page, but I found the advertisements more interesting. I think that is what we need--ads and in color with free coupons attached.

I looked over our Affiliate list and found some really great possibilities:

...**Allen Oldsmobile Cadillac**-- Buy a new Oldsmobile and get a \$1000 factory rebate or a tank of gasoline.

....**Renaissance at the Regency**--Live at the Regency for 10 years and your last month will be absolutely free.

....**Town Centre Travel** --Sign up for a cruise of 14 days or longer and get two pints of gasoline once safely home.

As you can see, a few well written ads would relieve the editor of a lot of work. I did read one interesting thing in the editor's page of Smart Money. There are 5,146 books available on retirement. And to think that I managed to retire without reading a single one!

Needless to say, I feel strongly that this space must be used productively, so I did a very scientific survey on the best way to live past ninety. I did a complete study of our members who are "historically advantaged," that is, 90 or older and the results are as follows:

....Persons born in August or November are more likely to reach ninety. Persons born in July or December are definitely handicapped.

....The 1st and the 19th are the best days for a birthday and the 2nd, 5th, 10th, 15th, 17th, 18th should be avoided.

....It is possible, of course, that good genes, good food, and good habits might be slightly more important than birthdates or months. I can only speak to the accuracy of the study I just concluded. I will attempt to explore this study even further.

Back to those great people not named in the first column: I saved this space, just to thank you so take a bow! Bobbie Bateman, Dorothy Bernoff, Mattie Ellis, Edythe Gwinn, Helen Hanson, Louise Hoft, Gloria Levine, Jean Mahlberg, Ruth Osterhoudt, Fritzie Schwartz, Rose Woods--and a special thanks to Sherry Hamilton, Marjorie Williams and to the rest of the Board members.

Lucy Shopp

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