



LEISURE WORLD **HISTORICAL SOCIETY** NEWSLETTER

March 2004
Volume 5 Number 2

Preserving Today for Tomorrow



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March 17 Wednesday

Not Irish? Faith, and we can't all be -- but it's a lovely time for celebratin'.

April 15 Thursday

Forget about your taxes! Live it up by going on the Historical Society **Tour of Descanco Gardens and the Norton Simon Museum.** All the information is on page 7. Space is limited, so don't delay!

April 21 Wednesday

Hold the date for another lecture by a UCI Medical School faculty member. Watch Leisure World News and Channel 6 for more information. This will be the last of the series, but hopefully, the lectures will be resumed in the fall.

September marks the anniversary of 40 years of Leisure World as a community. Big celebrations planned.

PRESIDENTIAL MUSINGS JOHN FULLER

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Office Manager



Our Annual Meeting, Awards Recognition and Dinner Dance are now a part of our history! I hope it left those who came with memories of a pleasant evening. It's amazing how much effort is required for such an event. Such things as a caterer, entertainment, decorations, clubhouse arrangements, table assignments, finance, awards acquisition, director nominations, etc. don't just happen! I'd like to thank all of those who made it so successful.

Now we must move on to this year's activities. Our major activities continue from year to year, but we must review them for refinements and improvements. These are activities such as Leisure Worlorder of the Month, The Medical Lectures, Surveys, Docent tours and WWII program. We are reviewing the WWII program now through June to see how it should be structured. Decision has been made to continue the registration part of the program and open it to veterans of all wars. We need to review the information we collect, potential candidates for interviews, and whether to continue the interviews. Also, we must review our program with the Library of Congress for future inputs.

Our book on the history of the society will also include Leisure Worlders of the Month honored 1994 through 2003. We need to plan our participation in the Leisure World 40th Anniversary Celebration in September. There is some interest in reprinting our book "Fulfilling Retirement Dreams," which was published as our contribution to the 25th Anniversary celebration. Can we find some way to update our Leisure World history?

In addition to all of this, we have a lot of housekeeping chores to tend to. We have acquired a PC computer, and hope before long to have an Internet connection. We have upgraded our financial programs and hope to have reduced the time required to keep our records. Our many files need a review for possible improvement and a number of procedures need documenting. We also need to make some minor changes in our by-laws to reflect current practice.

As you can see, we are going to have another busy year!

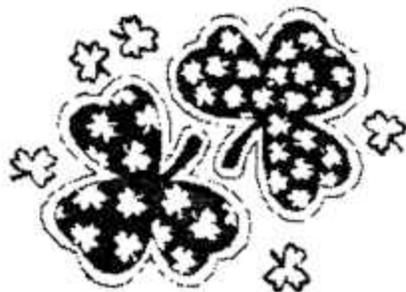
Associates

The 15 clubs listed below are either new Associates or ones who have been Associates in the past, but were not in 2003. We welcome you, and thank you for your support.

American - Italia Club
 Amigos Nuevos
 ARMDI - Golden Rule Chapter
 Ballroom Dance Club
 City of Hope, Esperanza Chapter
 Community Civic Association
 Democratic Club
 Doll Club of Leisure World
 Leisure Wheelers
 Minnesota Club
 NA'MAT, USA, Golda Meir Chapter
 Nutrition Club
 Polish Club of Leisure World
 Potters and Sculptors Club
 Saddle Club

We offer many services of special interest to clubs: Speakers, material storage and record research.

Organizations wishing a speaker may leave a message at the Society office, 206-0150 or may call the chairman, Roslyn Rhodes, 829-8714.



Money may be the husk of many things, but
 not the kernel.

It brings you food, but not appetite;
 medicine, but not health;
 acquaintance, but not friends;
 servants, but not loyalty;

Days of joy, but not peace or happiness.

.....Henrik Ibsen

VIP Group Tours

Justine Ratner

To date, the Historical Society has led two VIP Tours of Leisure World, one each in January and February. Both tours involved Japanese professionals in the health field. The first was doctors and nurses and the second, executives in the pharmaceutical field. They came to Leisure World to see the lifestyle of active, independent seniors. During their stay in the states, they also toured an Assisted Living Facility and a Nursing Home.

Fortunately for me, in addition to providing their own transportation, they are accompanied by a translator since my Japanese vocabulary consists of four words. The Tour Agency makes a donation to the Historical Society for each tour.

New Docents

Eleanor Cooper, Coordinator

We are pleased to have two new Docents "in training." If you think you might be interested, give me a call at home, 859-8086, or leave a message in the Society office, 206-0150.

A Connecticut native, **Olivia Komp** has lived in California since 1975 and in Leisure World for 20 years. An accountant, her hobbies are music, and out door activities. She wants to show the "life style" of Leisure World.

Mary Stacey, born in the Bronx, NY, has lived in California 38 years and in Leisure World for 3.5 years. She has a long history of volunteerism. Her hobbies include golf and bowling -- and volunteering. She is enthusiastic about everything in LW and wants to share her enthusiasm.

\$868

Wendy Brennan Zimmerman, newly appointed Branch Manager at **Fremont Investment and Loan**, handed President John Fuller a check for \$868 at the February 27 Board meeting. That is the amount the Historical Society earned as a part of Fremont's "Deposit Incentive Donation Program" for 2003. We've been in the program since 1998 and to date, have received just over \$5000.

Even though the interest rate was down this past year, our check was \$17 more than the one for 2002. And the number of accounts was up from 28 to 33! That is the really good news!

If you have accounts at Fremont or plan to open one, please ask them to credit it to the Historical Society. No cost, all gain. And while you are in the Branch Office, let Wendy know we appreciate the program. Although she is new Manager she is not new to Fremont. She was assistant manager when the branch opened in 1995. She transferred to corporate headquarters, returning to the Laguna Woods branch when Manager Mary Ann Plummer retired.

Haven't visited Fremont? They are located at the far end of the Willow Tree Center, often referred to as the Von's Center.



WELCOME NEW VOLUNTEERS

Our two new office volunteers are new Leisure World residents. Each of them visited a number of retirement communities before making a choice, and both are convinced that this Leisure World is the ideal spot!

Donna Donelson, pharmacist, was born in Nebraska. After high school, she went to Colorado for college. She and her husband lived in the San Fernando Valley for 45 years. Widowed, she began her search for a retirement community, and found Leisure World. She has only been here 9 months, but she has worked four months! Monday afternoon is her regular shift.

Svea Larson came to Leisure World after living in San Diego for 40 years. She was a Social Worker with Children's Services when she retired in 1994. Born in Long Island, she moved to Long Beach with a Navy husband, and then spent 2 years in Taiwan. Here since July 2002, she works Thursday morning and is now responsible for the "Second Generation" program.

Needed: More Volunteers!

Volunteers are needed for regular shifts in the reception area. Usual shifts are 9-12:30 or 12:30-4, but other times can be arranged. Archive hours are very flexible as there are several varied assignments. People are also needed to fold newsletters and attach labels. (No experience necessary!!)

If you are available for any of these activities, call 206-0150. Sherry Hamilton, Office Manager, or Marge Williams, Archivist, will call and give you more information.

Historically Advantaged

Historical Society members who are 90 or older are eligible for our "Historically Advantaged" roster and those who will be 90 in 2004 are eligible for "Probation" status. Getting on the roster is very easy. Just call the office, 206-0150, and ask to be added to the list. You'll get a short form to complete and you are in!

As of February 15, 61 people were on the list--39 women and 22 men.. 5 of the men were 100 or older. 2 men and 4 women were born outside the US: 2 from Austria and 1 each from Canada, Ireland., Ethiopia and Czechoslovakia.

Those born in the United States came from 27 states, with the highest number, 7, from New York. Illinois, California, Pennsylvania and Washington tied for 2nd place with 4 each.

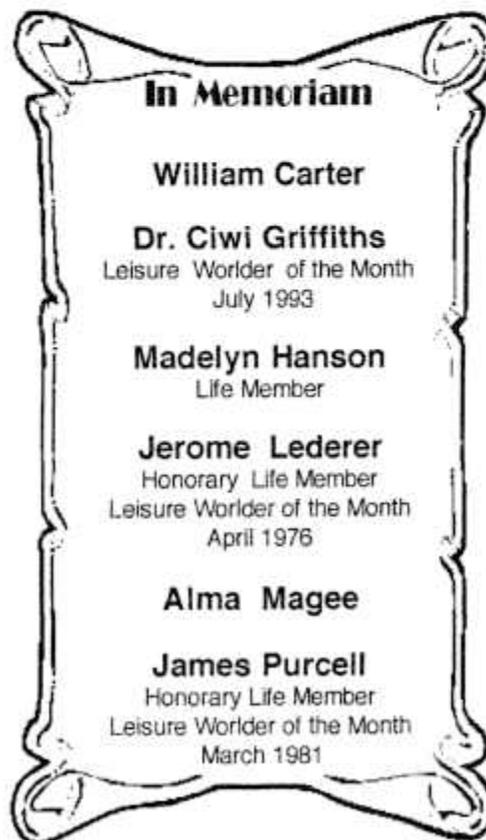
March has the most birthdays, 8. June was second with 7. 6 fell in January, February, April, August, October and November. July had only 1 birthday.

Our group includes teachers, physicians, social workers, nurses, missionaries, nutritionists, engineers, business owners, librarians, ministers and various other occupations and professions. Many of them are active as volunteers, club members, travelers, golfers, bridge players -- If you are eligible and not on our list, do call!

(Joan Long, Friday morning volunteer, keeps all the records on our "Historically Advantaged" members, sends out information as requested, and mails cards. The "facts" in this column were compiled by her.)



Jon Whiff III will join the Newsletter staff full time at the completion of his 300 hour community service assignment. He will interview Board members on topics of major importance to the Society and will conduct polls as indicated. Whiff's many years in the political arena will be invaluable in this assignment.





More About the Globe

Bob Miller, responding to a series of questions

The lettering on the Globe has been very favorably received. There is now no doubt that our globe represents Leisure World. But, as in most things, we still have a problem. The lights do not show up at night despite various lighting attempts. There is some problem with installing a spot light, but we will not give up!

We had a recent question about the height of the letters. They are the same height as the letters on the back side! Those letters, incidentally, are aluminum facing on plastic and they are supposed to look "silver."

Early reports indicated that we had a major global catastrophe on February 14, when Africa detached itself from the world. Early reports, as usual, were inaccurate and greatly overstated. It was just a small island, name unknown, and it will soon return to its place on the globe.

Yes, the trees on Moulton are getting taller and do tend to obstruct our view of the globe. However, when Moulton is widened, possibly in 2006, the trees will come down. We can then have more control over plantings.

(Editor's note: Newcomers to Leisure World may not be aware that the Globe is a "newcomer" in its present location. We saved it from the scrap heap as proposed by Laguna Hills.)

Editor's "Thought for the Day"

(Swiped, naturally!)



Thought I'd let my doctor check me,
'Cause I didn't feel quite right....
All those aches and pains annoyed me
And I couldn't sleep at night.

He could find no real disorder
But he wouldn't let it rest.
What with Medicare and Blue Cross
We should do a couple of tests.

To the hospital he sent me
Though I didn't feel that bad.
He arranged for them to give me
Every test that could be had.

I was fluoroscoped and cystoscoped,
My aging frame displayed.
Stripped, on an ice cold table
While my gizzards were x-rayed.

I was checked for worms and parasites,
For fungus and the crud,
While they pierced me with long needles
Taking samples of my blood.

Doctors came to check me over,
And probed and pushed and pulled around,
And to make sure I was still living
They then wired me up for sound.

They have finally concluded,
Their results have filled a page.
What I have will someday kill me;
My affliction is OLD AGE.

DO WE HAVE A WONDERFUL SPRINGTIME TRIP IN STORE FOR YOU!

On Thursday, April 15, the Society is sponsoring a bus trip to the gorgeous Descanso Gardens and the famous Norton Simon Museum with a gourmet lunch in Pasadena at McCormick and Schmick's Restaurant.

This Springtime tour begins with a visit to Descanso Gardens, hailed as one of the most beautiful places in Southern California. The heart of Descanso is the camellia collection, one of the largest in North America with more than 100,000 plants and 400 different varieties, some soaring as high as 20-feet! You'll board an open-air tram for a 40-minute guided tour through the gardens. The tram will take you through the oak-strewn acres as your guide points out orchids, azaleas, berried plants, and daffodils. You'll see more than 6,000 roses, peaceful bird ponds and the Japanese Gardens. At the end of the tour, you'll have some free time to explore the gardens on foot or visit the gift and garden shop. Our next stop will be for lunch in Pasadena at McCormick & Schmick's Restaurant. Each guest will have their choice of entree (selections include Fresh Fish of the day, homemade Meatloaf, Chicken Breast Picatta, an Asian Chicken Salad, or Pasta Primavera). A salad of mixed baby greens is brought out before the main course, and warm apple pie and whipped cream add the finishing touch to this marvelous meal. Our final stop of the day will be the Norton Simon Museum. This famous art collection is one of the finest in the country. Its holdings include European paintings from the early renaissance to the mid-twentieth century, one of the best collections of stone and bronze sculpture from India and Southeast Asia, and works by Monet, Degas, Raphael, van Gogh and others. Space is limited to a maximum of 45 passengers on this tour.

THE TRIP BUS WILL LEAVE CLUBHOUSE 3 AT 8:30 AM AND RETURN AT 5:30 PM

Cost per person, including lunch and all tips, is \$52. To be part of this memorable adventure, make reservations as indicated below by APRIL 5

-----clip and mail with check-----

NAME _____ Phone _____

NAME _____ Phone _____

Check # _____ for \$ _____ enclosed.

NO REFUNDS AFTER APRIL 10

**Leisure World Historical Society (TRIP)
P.O. Box 2220
Laguna Woods, CA 92654
(949) 206-0150**

NEWSLETTER

LEISURE WORLD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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