

Great World

By Ross W. Cortese
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Ross Cortese's guest columnist today is Eugene Gilbert, a nationally-renowned architect who now is better known for his published pencil sketchbooks. Gilbert was the initial Leisure World of the Month, selected by the special committee for January of 1976.

Leisure World offers its residents many advantages, some of which are not apparent on the surface. The very environment has the effect of instilling confidence in people to do things like the hobbies they perhaps had dreamed about undertaking.

Living in Leisure World for almost eight years has proven to be a great place for my wife and me. Margaret and I left Brentwood and came here to find a beautiful garden-like retirement community. Here we have no fear of going to sleep at night. Our adequate security is something we did not have before.

We believe this section of Orange County offers the best climate in this country. Even the cloud effects you see in this area are something to behold.

Where else in these United States can you find a no-fare mini-bus system that takes you from the door of your manor to markets, shopping mall, banks, savings and loans, postoffice, medical offices, churches, hospital, golf courses, six clubhouses, swimming pools, bowling and tennis, etc., plus a fine library of your own?

It was not long after arriving there that I was exploring the local area, making pencil sketches of historic spots. As a result of this endeavor some 75 of these sketches were published in a book by First American Title Insurance Company of Santa Ana. It was titled "Orange County's Past in Pencil."

The last three years have kept me busy preparing a new book covering the history of California, my native state. Its title is "The California To Remember," by Copley Books. It is a hard back of 200 pages, containing 312 sketches, and is now available at our Leisure World library.

Yes, we are happy we moved here eight years ago.