
Leisure Worlder of the Month

Ross Appleman

If you aren't aware of Ross Appleman's handiwork, chances are good you have benefited from it anyway. After receiving his bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from the University of Illinois in 1928, Ross went on to design the original electric motor for the Insinkerator garbage disposal, for the Jacuzzi whirlpool bath and the electric hospital bed.

Appleman is retired now and living in Leisure World. This month, he will be honored as "Leisure Worlder of the Month," in a special ceremony sponsored by Home Federal Savings and the Leisure World Historical Society. The program is Wednesday, October 2, at 10:00 a.m., in Clubhouse Six. The public is invited to attend.

Ross received his professional electrical engineering degree in 1936. In his career, he worked in research, development, design, as Chief of Electrical Engineering, Chief Engineer and factory manager in the electrical motor manufacturing industry.

He has held secret clearance from both the United States Air Force and the Navy. Just prior to retiring to Leisure World, he taught engineering as an assistant professor at Cal Poly, Pomona for three years.

His talents have been recognized by the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers, which named him a "Life Fellow." Ross served on the national committee of both the American Institute of Electrical Engineers and on the National Electrical Manufacturing Association. He was listed in *Who's Who in Commerce and Industry*, *Who's Who in the Midwest* and is still listed in *Who's Who in Engineering and Who's Who in Technology Today*.

Ross and his late wife Alberta came to Leisure World in 1965 by way of Dayton, Ohio. They both thought Leisure World was the best place they had seen. But Ross easily confesses to his favorite part of living in the community, "I like all the activities," he said with a smile, "but we're not forced to do anything."

Actually, Ross has done most everything, except sit still. He married Mildred Cutler in 1980, and they are both avid members of three ballroom dance clubs. If you do find the Applemans off their feet, they are probably relaxing on a cruise ship, bound for one of their exotic ports of call. Ross is past president of Travel Club Number One and together they have been around the world, through the Panama Canal, the Straits of Gibraltar and to South America and Mexico, to visit the Aztec ruins.

Closer to home, Ross has played piano for the Lions Club since 1967. He was also the first pianist for the Masonic Club and has been president of that group.

Ross is also active in politics. He is a former president of the Leisure World Republican Club and served on the First Laguna Hills Mutual Board. He's served three years on the physical properties committee, one as chairman and two years on the community relations committee as chairman.

He keeps busy with the Geneva Presbyterian Church where Ross has been in charge of communion and ushering.