

LEISURE WORLD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

PRESENTS

SELMA RATNER BUKSTEIN

Leisure Worlder of the Month

OCTOBER 2004

SELMA RATNER BUKSTEIN was born and reared in East Orange, New Jersey. She received her primary and secondary education in her city of birth prior to completion of a Cadet RN (Registered Nurse) program at Philadelphia's Jewish Hospital(1946).

Our Honoree's career began in Los Angeles in 1947 as a Staff Nurse at Cedar of Lebanon Hospital. In the ensuing years of her working life (with time out for family) she did nursing in Tupelo, Mississippi, Chaffee and Cape Girardeau, Missouri, Mobile, Alabama and concluded her career in San Mateo, California in 1989. Selma's assignments included Critical Care Nurse, Well Baby Clinic Nurse, recovery RN and ICU (Intensive Care Unit) RN.

Despite time constraints of her assignments, Selma managed to contribute to the civic and communal life of the geographical areas of her residence. She functioned as board member, Den Mother, Red Cross Swim Instructor, president Historical society, founder/president, B'nai Brith Women's "Dolls for Democracy Program" (as presenter) for grades 3-8, national "Reading is Fundamental" (RIF Program) as "Riffo the Clown", an Israel Expo-Chair and participated in various little theater presentations.

Selma and Paul were married in 1948 and then produced their own basketball quintet of Don, Lee, Roy, Oscar and Barry. The current extended family includes ten grandchildren plus associated in-laws.

The Buksteins attended many Elderhostel programs and left tracks in places like Europe, Asia, Canada, Mexico and China. Selma "baby sat all over the U.S."

Paul and Selma came to Leisure World in fall of 1989. Selma has been "involved" since that date in the founding of the Bonsai Club (president for ten years), acting as Substitute Supervisor for the Potters and Sculptors, and is a member of the Jewelry Club, Concerned Citizens, PNHP, Community Civic Association, Theater Guild, League of Women Voters, ORT Council of Jewish Women, People for the American Way, Democratic Club and the Reform Congregation. She has been a long time member of the Emergency/Disaster Task Force of GRF and has taken her share of Emeritus Classes.

Accomplishments and personal satisfaction are reflected in Selma's being "Grateful for the opportunity and ability to organize and participate in projects that improve the communities in which I reside."