

Great World

By Ross W. Cortese
Rossmoor Corp.



Paying her dues to the human race is the explanation given by Mrs. Dorothy Colver in explaining her many years of volunteer service to the Saddleback Community Hospital.

Such service brought Mrs. Colver the distinction of Leisure Worlder of the month for December, and we want to add our congratulations and thanks.

Currently serving as secretary of the hospital board, she is also chairman of the Support Group Council, personnel committee and Scholarship Committee of the board.

She has been a member of the hospital board for five years, becoming active in the group shortly after she and her husband Earl moved into Leisure World in 1974.

She was one of the organizers of the group's Thrift Shop, and served as its first president.

Mrs. Colver's volunteer work at Leisure World follows a long career of service with the government labor office. She began as a farm labor coordi-

nator during World War II.

Earlier she had worked for six years with the Covina Argus, serving as society editor and feature writer.

After war broke out in 1941 she was hired by the United States Employment Service following successful completion of a civil service examination.

In her new assignment, Mrs. Colver was given the task of coordinating the recruiting of labor for the Southern California agriculture industry.

She recalled that citrus and walnut growers were desperate for workers, and had to settle often for inexperienced help.

"One inexperienced crew ruined an entire crop," she said. "They worked hard, but through ignorance, they pulled out the onions and left the weeds."

Mrs. Colver also remembered the lady who showed up in a mink coat and flashing diamonds, volunteering to help with the harvest of walnuts. When she saw that the walnuts stained her hands, her patriotism disappeared.

Mrs. Colver also recalled that the labor shortage was later lessened when a German prisoner of war camp, established at the Pomona Fair Grounds, provided workers for the harvests.

Mrs. Colver's work during the war also included coordinating all USO and Red Cross special services at five East San Gabriel Valley communities. She provided furnishings for recreational rooms, arranged entertainment at military bases and family visits for lonesome servicemen.

Her career continued after the war with various promotions including being named Employment Security Administration officer of the Los Angeles district and becoming state representative to the Regional Manpower Administration while on loan to the U.S. Department of Labor. She was given the Department of Labor Superior Performance Award in 1973.

It seems natural that Dorothy Colver would continue working to help others after she retired from official duties and adopted the lifestyle of active Leisure Worlders.

It is always a pleasure to recognize such outstanding members of our community. They help make Leisure World more enjoyable as a place to live.

Again, our thanks and congratulations.