



LEISURE WORLD NEWS

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By Rod Veal/The News

Eleanor Cooper, Leisure Worlder of the Month for August, poses under a bower of flowers behind her manor.

Quietly getting things done

People person gets Society's nod for August honor

By Cheryl Walker
The News

Twenty year resident Eleanor Cooper says she was "absolutely stunned" when the Historical Society told her she was their choice for August Leisure Worlder of the month.

The retired librarian says that, although she participates in a number of activities here at Leisure World she's not what you'd call a joiner.

She golfs three times a week with a circle of friends, swims in the pools, does circuit train-

ing with her husband, reads, gardens, entertains, travels, enjoys continuing education (and ElderHostels) and is a former tennis player and equestrian.

But, otherwise, she's not someone who enjoys life in the spotlight.

Ceremony facts

Who: Eleanor Cooper
What: Leisure Worlder of the Month for August
Where: Clubhouse 6
When: 10 a.m., Wednesday, Aug. 1
Sponsor: Leisure World Historical Society

Even so, in her quiet way, the New York native has made a difference sharing her time and talents with others via the Leisure World Foundation, which helps out community members going through tough times; Third's landscape committee; the Golden Rain aquatics advisory group; at St. Joseph's Hospital and the Florence Sylvester Senior Center, where she counsels senior citizens with problems, both emotional and physical; and at the Historical Society, where she serves as a docent and enjoys boosting the merits of Leisure World.

Cooper says she is the greatest fan of Leisure World ever since she came out on a weekend to visit a friend and decided to make the community her home.

Although friends at first thought she and her husband Mervin were crazy to trade the East for the Wild West Coast they soon came around to the Coopers' point of view.

In fact, says Cooper, most of her old crowd have now become Leisure Worlders.

Among those friends are Milton and Marilyn Robbins who have known the Coopers for 45 years.

Marilyn, a fellow tennis player and golfer, says her well-organized friend is a very special person and well deserving of the Society's distinction. "She's thoughtful, kind, attentive and always there for you."

Charles Little, president of the Leisure World Foundation, agrees with Robbins' assessment of the former president of the Tennis Club (which he now also heads) who now acts as the Foundation's liaison with the City of Laguna Woods. "She's really a very lovely lady."

But, the Coopers haven't restricted their coterie of friends to an old guard.

Explains Eleanor, "One of the best things about Leisure World is everyone came here as a stranger and everyone is friendly and wants to make new friends."