

# *LEISURE WORLD HISTORICAL SOCIETY*

*PRESENTS*

## **IRA JOSS**

*Leisure Worlder of the Month January 2002*

IRA JOSS was born, raised, and received all of his education in the environs of New York City. He graduated from George Washington High and subsequently matriculated at CCNY (City College of New York) where he obtained a BS in Chemistry. He attended Brooklyn College for the MA Degree in Chemistry and returned to CCNY to complete an MBA Certificate Program in Business Administration.

With the aforementioned training in hand and head, Ira took a position as Research Chemist with the E.R. Squibb Company. After eight years Ira made a transition to Kolmar Laboratories, INC. (worlds largest international contract manufacturer for the cosmetic industry) and stayed on for twenty years as Vice President of Sales. He retired in 1989.

Ira was involved in a number of civic and community activities. He was a member and President (1973) of the Cosmetic Industry Buyers and Suppliers Association, The Founder and first President of the Institute for Learning in Retirement at State University of New York at Farmingdale, a five year Volunteer at the Mercy Hospital Emergency Room and a Volunteer Docent at the Old Bethpage Village (Historical Site).

Business and pleasure travels took Ira to many of the World's geographical areas including Europe, India, Australia, Japan, Canada and Mexico. He has also left footprints in almost all of the fifty states including Alaska and Hawaii.

The Joss family includes wife Carol, two each of sons and daughters and eleven grandchildren divided almost evenly, six males and five females.

Carol and Ira came to Leisure World in 1996. Ira became "involved" almost immediately in a potpourri of clubs and activities. He was a member of three Project 21 Committees, participated in Planning and Publicity for the City hood Campaign, served as an Associate Instructor in Digital Imaging for the Computer Club and prepared publicity for the Hikers Club. In addition, Ira has left his service imprint on the Reform Temple of Leisure World and many other social entities. He is currently Co-Chair of the Leisure World Historical Society's Survey Committee and serves on the Society's Board of Directors. He has also participated in Community governance as a member of Third Mutual's Nominating Committee and as a member of the City of Laguna Woods Community Relations Committee. He and Carol are active avid square Dancers.

Ira's love of active participation in a diversity of Leisure World groups is reflected in what he considers personally satisfying. "I like to do many different things - enjoy a variety of activity and Different people