

LEISURE WORLDER

OF

THE MONTH

VERN MCGUIRE

LAGUNA HILLS—Not having touched a trombone for more than 30 years, soon after moving to Leisure World in 1970, Al McGuire rented one and, after a few weeks, was accepted by the Leisure World Orchestra. Today, he'll tell you that "Saying it with music keeps him young."

On Wednesday, November 2, you can see just how right he is, when Vern McGuire is honored as "Leisure Worder of the Month." Al's ceremony will be held in Clubhouse Six, at 10:00 a.m., and the public is invited to attend. The program is sponsored by Home Federal Savings and the Leisure World Historical Society.

November's honoree was born on a farm 50 miles south of Spokane, Washington. Shortly after, his father retired and the family moved to Salem, Oregon and then to Spokane where he attended elementary and high school and then Washington State College (now Washington State University) in Pullman.

During his school years McGuire played many instruments but his favorite was the trombone which he played in bands and orchestras. He also worked nights for Western Union delivering telegrams on a bicycle and, during summers, worked in a department store and in the office of a meat packing company.

After receiving a degree in Business Administration with a minor in Accounting and having no job opportunities, McGuire traveled with the Blue Baron Dance Orchestra. Later, he settled in Seattle, and worked for General Paint Corporation. He started as a Division Accountant, progressing to Office and Credit Manager, and then on to Assistant Manager.

About 13 years later he was transferred to the corporate offices in San Francisco as Chief Accountant, progressing to Export Vice President and then to Senior Vice President during which time he was in charge of all foreign operations.

In 1960, Glidden Co. of Cleveland, Ohio purchased the U.S. portion of the company and he was in charge of selling all the foreign operations.

Not wanting to leave the West Coast, McGuire moved his family to San Diego where he worked as Assistant to the President of Ryan Aeronautical Co. Ryan soon sent him to a subsidiary in Pasadena, Aerolab Development Co., who designed, manufactured and flew Sounding Rockets. Shortly thereafter, he purchased the company along with two others and Marshall Industries of San Marino, CA. In 1964, McGuire was transferred to Marshall Industries' head office as Financial Vice President, eventually selling all his interest in the company and retiring in 1967.

McGuire belonged to leading civic organizations in each of the communities he called home. While in Seattle, he belonged to the Seattle Association of Credit Men, College Club, Washington Athletic Club, West Seattle Athletic Club, and Central Elks Club. In California, he was part of the United Crusade and America Red Cross of San Francisco, San Mateo Elks Club, Los Angeles Financial Executives Club and National Management Association. He has also served on the Board of Directors of seven corporations.

From 1960 to 1970 the family lived in La Canada, and, after all three boys were in college, McGuire moved to Leisure World with his wife. He says he's been extremely busy ever since, enjoying life to the fullest with his music, dancing, bowling, classic and antique cars, traveling by ship and by car, and reading.

Very shortly after moving to Leisure World in 1970, McGuire was elected to serve as Vice President of Mutual 31, which he did for one year.

He was then elected, and served, three years as Director of Third Mutual during which time he spent two years as Treasurer and Chairman of the Budget and Finance Committee. Immediately following, he was elected to the Golden Rain Board for three years where he again served two years as Treasurer and Chairman of the Budget and Finance Committee.

McGuire has also served on the Golden Rain Nominating Committee, Ad Hoc Committee, P.C.M. Contract Negotiations, S.A.A.C. Bylaws Committee, Chairman of the Tax Study Committee, Community Relations Committee, and Advisor to the Golden Rain Finance Committee.

He is a life member of the Leisure World Historical Society where he has served six years as a Director and is currently serving eight years as Assistant Treasurer.

Also, he has been very active over the past 14 years in the Washington State Club of Leisure World where he has served as Vice President and twice as President as well as being their official Bingo Caller for many years.

Other activities include being a member of the Leisure World Bowlers Club and, outside of Leisure World, a very active member of the Lincoln Continental Owners Club, where he and his wife have served in many capacities. Automobiles, he says, particularly Lincolns, have been a part of his life for a very long time.

In addition to contributing to these many organizations, music has again become very important. In addition to the aforementioned Leisure World Orchestra in which he played for many years, he also joined the Saddleback Community Band at Saddleback College and, during the last 11 summers, has sat in with the Anaheim Community Band. He has played with the L.W. Dixieland Jazz Group, was a member of the original Leisuresettes, and is currently a member of the 19-piece "Senior Class" which plays music from the 1940s and 1950s. They have played in Leisure World for tea dances and on New Year's Eve and they play throughout Orange County for special occasions.

McGuire has a favorite motto taken from the 1924 Douglas Fairbanks' movie "Thief of Bagdad" — "Happiness must be earned", and he is a very happy man.