

Court reporter honored for August

When she retired and moved to Leisure World she had plans to write her memoirs, group her transcripts and publish a book from her experiences of more than 40 years as a court reporter. However, she says she is now too busy with volunteer work and other enjoyable Leisure World activities to tackle such an undertaking.

So stories of the Chowchilla school bus kidnapping, notorious murder trials and reporting for Melvin Belli and other nationally known lawyers are all locked in the memory of Verlie Nolan.

But maybe she'll be persuaded to tell some of them when she's honored as Leisure Worlder of the Month on Wednesday, Aug. 6. The special ceremony, which is sponsored by Home Federal Savings and the Leisure World Historical Society, is held in Clubhouse 6 at 10 a.m. The public is invited.

Nolan's father, John M. Eager, led a pioneer family across the country from Kentucky to New Mexico be-

fore Nolan was school age. She began her academic career at age four, believing that "anything my older brother could do, so could I."

The Depression caused the family to move to the forest country of Washington, where her father had an interest in a logging company. By now, Nolan was old enough to attend college and she did.

She majored in economics and English at Washington State University and was honored in her junior year by early election to the scholastic honorary, Phi Beta Kappa. She graduated summa cum laude in 1932 and joined the WSU faculty, teaching economics, accounting, business English and secretarial science. While on campus, she assisted in the production of a film on "The Teaching of Typing in the Secondary Schools," which was used for years at teacher training institutions until made archaic by the advent of the electric typewriter and the IBM Selectric.

Nolan married her college

sweetheart, Jim while at WSU. He was enrolled in the College of Veterinary Medicine.

After taking eight years off to enjoy the childhood of their only daughter, Verlie became a court reporter. In California, she served in Superior Courts in Fresno, Merced, Madera and Mariposa counties, with the majority of her time spent in Madera. Her last assignment before retiring involved the kidnapping and burial alive of a busload of Chowchilla school children.

Upon retirement, Jim became mayor of Madera and took up golf and painting. They moved to Leisure World ten years ago when Verlie retired. Natural joiners, they quickly became involved in many of the community's varied activities, clubs and classes. Katie Wright immediately enlisted Verlie as a volunteer and secretary of the board of the Leisure World library. Although Jim died in 1981, Verlie has retained her affiliations with the California Club, the Washington



Verlie Nolan

Club Ebell, Aliso, DAR, PEO, Kappa Delta Alumnae Club, Panhellenic the Masonic Auxliary.