

HISTORICAL SOCIETY
LEISURE WORLDER OF THE MONTH
MAY, 1997

JOAN NUGENT

The Leisure World Historical Society is pleased to present Joan Nugent as Leisure Worlder of the Month for May, 1997. The event is sponsored by the Society and supported by the Ross Cortese Commemorative Fund.

Joan's life has been, and continues to be, crowded with activity and achievement. Born in San Diego, California, she received her elementary education in that city, going on to the University of California, Berkeley, where she earned her Bachelor of Science Degree. She was a member of Gamma Phi Beta Sorority and Mortar Board.

Her first career was in accounting, and in 1952 was chief accountant to the San Diego County Treasurer. Following her move to Cedar Rapids, Iowa in 1953, Joan became an officer and founding member of the Symphony Women's Association. She was serving as President when the move to Fort Dodge, Iowa came.

Her next stop was Duluth, Minnesota where she quickly became President of the Junior League, while developing a career in Residential Real Estate. Never content with free time, she became a board member of the Mental Hygiene Clinic. She assisted in founding the (I.C.C.C) Interim Cultural Center Committee, culminating in converting the Great Northern Railroad Depot into a cultural center housing four major organizations.

Opportunity took Joan back to Iowa. In Waterloo she was a Television Talk Show Host. She was associated with Community Concerts, a Division of Columbia Artists, and was one of fifty national representatives.

In Washington, D. C. Joan volunteered to assist with the National Symphony Orchestra that led to the position as Development Associate. She found enough time to serve as Treasurer of her church parish in Georgetown, and worked on a junior league literary project.

Making a major cross country move, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, she quickly became Development Director of the Portland, Oregon Opera, and following, the Portland Civic Theater. Finally, Joan and husband, Burns, joined their talents in Broadcasting. She was named President of Nugent Broadcasting Corporation. Utilizing her spare time, she was active as a member of JTPA, a private industry council for a 27 county area.

The Nugents have two children, Lelia Nugent Hall of Snowmass, Colorado, and Peter Burns Nugent of Worcester, Massachusetts. A highlight of Joan's life are her grandchildren, Lisa 21, Lindsay, 17, and Katie 12.

The Nugent family are avid travelers. They visit various countries in Europe, and the islands of the Caribbean.

Joan came to Leisure World well prepared for activity and leadership. She is a member of the Tennis Club, was Social Chair for one year, and played on the Racquettes Team. She belongs to the Minnesota Club, and a member of the Philharmonic Committee. Joan together with her husband, serve as Vice President of Opera 100. And are Co-President of the Leisure World Community Concert Association.

What does Joan do in her spare time in Leisure World? Her favorite activities are Tennis and Swimming.