
Leisure Worlder of the Month

George Oates

LAGUNA HILLS — It's safe to say that Leisure World is a safer place to live because of the contributions of George Oates. He's spent most of his life urging people to "Take Time To Be Safe."

George will be honored as Leisure Worlder of the Month on Monday, July 1 at 10:00 in Clubhouse Six. The public is cordially invited to attend the program, which is sponsored by Home Federal Savings and the Leisure World Historical Society.

George Oates began serving the Leisure World community just one month after his arrival. That was back in January 1971. Beginning his service as Gate One security officer, he soon moved to patrol officer. He was appointed Safety Officer in 1972.

George's main concern as safety officer is to eliminate hazards to residents and employees. George is well qualified for the job. He served 42 years with the Bell Telephone Company of Canada, headquartered in Montreal. He retired as Headquarters Staff Superintendent for buildings, vehicles and supplies. He was also responsible for accident prevention and first aid training.

George feels that it's a pleasure and a privilege to be associated and in service of the residents of Leisure World. He's equally proud to be associated with the employees of the Laguna Hills Division of Professional Community Management, Inc.

George's record speaks well of the job he's done. As a plant superintendent with Bell, 30 years passed without a single lost-time work injury. For the past seven years, the same can Leisure World's PCM employees of the recreation division and the golf course maintenance section. And for the last six years, the streets and sidewalks section of the maintenance division.

George's work in accident prevention and first aid to the injured was recognized and honored by Queen Elizabeth. In 1960, he recieved the title "Serving Brother" from the Venerable Order of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem. This appointment was conferred upon him in Ottawa by the late Governor General Georges Vanier. George also holds a 25 year "No Accident Safe Driving" award and the 30 year "First Aid Training" award from the Bell Telephone of Canada.

George is past president of the S.F. Sise Chapter, of Quebec and Ontario, Telephone Pioneers of America and a past president of the Canada Club of Leisure World. He is a member of St. George's Episcopal Church and a member of the American Society of Safety Engineers.

George is a native of Bristol, England and a long-time resident of Montreal and St. Lambert, P. Que., Canada. George and his wife, Mary, are in their 16th year in Leisure World. They are very proud of their family; Douglas, their eldest son and his wife Marilyn who reside in Phoenix, Arizona and Russell and his wife Gail, who live and work on a cattle farm in Snohomish, Washington. The Oates' have two grandchildren, Jason, age 11, who's a budding football star and Brianna, who at age nine is the goalie for her school soccer team.