

Leisure World's a safer place, thanks to George

It's safe to say that Leisure World is a safer place to live because of the contributions of George Oates.

Oates, who has spent a good deal of his life urging people to "take time to be safe," will be honored as Leisure Worlder of the Month for July. The public is invited to a ceremony in his honor at 10 a.m. Monday, July 1 at Clubhouse 6. The program is sponsored by Home Federal Savings and the Leisure World Historical Society.

Oates began working for the Leisure World community just a month after his arrival in January 1971. Beginning as Gate 1 security officer, he soon became a patrol officer, and was appointed safety officer in 1972.

His main concern in that office is elimination of hazards to community residents and employees. Oates is well qualified for that task, having had charge of accident prevention and first aid training during his 42 years with Bell Telephone Com-

pany of Canada. He retired as headquarters staff superintendent for buildings, vehicles and supplies.

His on-the-job safety record speaks for itself. When he was a plant superintendent with Bell, 30 years passed at his facility without a single lost-time work injury. For the past seven years, he has contributed to a similar record for the Professional Community Management employees in the Recreation Division and the golf course maintenance section—and for the past six years, for the streets and sidewalks maintenance section.

Oates' work in accident prevention and first aid to the injured was recognized and honored by Queen Elizabeth. In 1960 he received the title "Serving Brother" from the Venerable Order of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem. The appointment was conferred upon him in Montreal by the late governor general, Georges Vanier.

Leisure World's safety officer also holds a 25-year "No Acc

Safe Driving" award and a 30-year "First Aid Training" award from Bell Telephone of Canada.

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

He is a native of Bristol, England and a longtime resident of Montreal and St. Lambert, P. Quebec, Canada.

In their 16th year in Leisure World, George and his wife, Mary, are proud of their family: eldest son Douglas and his wife, Marilyn, who live in Phoenix, Ariz., and son Russell and his wife, Gail, who live and work on a cattle farm in Snohomish, Wash.

They have two grandchildren—Jason, 11, a budding football star, and Brianna, 9, the goalie for her school soccer team.



George Oates

6/20/1985