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Leisure Worlder

OF THE MONTH

ARTHUR PANCOOK

Col. Arthur John Pancook, a big, smiling, affable man who enjoys the friendship of many Leisure Worliders, has been selected by Rossmoor Corporation as Leisure Worlder of the month for January, 1978. Arthur's many friends stem from his Leisure World activities, especially from his five years as a Security Officer and as an Officer in the Shrine Club which he helped to start; the Scottish Rite Club, Masonic Club, Kiwanis and as first president of Leisure World Mutual 26.

Col. Pancook retired from the United States Army after 37 years in the Active Army, Army Reserve and National Guard, both in California and Hawaii. In reserve status he commanded the famous 442 Infantry, known as the "Go For Broke" Regiment composed of Americans of Japanese ancestry and one of the most decorated regiments in the U.S. Army. He earned all grades and ranks from Private to Colonel with the exception of two enlisted grades and the rank of Warrant Officer. He served for 33 months in the Pacific Theatre overseas during World War II and earned numerous medals and commendations. He retired as Colonel, Adjutant General's Corp. At the time of retirement he was Adjutant General, IX Corps (Augmented).

A banker by profession, Col. Pancook was employed by the Bank of America in the greater Los Angeles area from 1929 to 1941 and in 1946 and '47. He was associated with the Bank of Hawaii in Hilo and Honolulu from 1947 to 1969 and retired as Assistant Cashier.

Col. Pancook's distinguished career as a Mason began in 1928. He has held memberships in Riverside, Ca., Los Angeles, Hilo and Kailua, Hawaii and in Laguna Beach.

Masonic honors include election to Royal Order of Scotland in 1972 and to Red Cross of Constantin in 1975.

Next December he and Margaret will visit Kailau, Oahu, where he will receive his 50-year Masonic pin.

There has also been great dedication to DeMolay activities in Col. Pancook's life. He became a Charter member of the Riverside, Ca., Chapter in 1924 and has been active in this State and in Hawaii ever since. After 10 years as Active Member, he was elected Emeritus Member, International Supreme Council (for life) Order of DeMolay in 1977. There are only 28 in the world who own this honor.

Col. Pancook is also Past President, Toastmasters International, Riverside, Ca.; Commissioner Kilauea Council, Hilo, Hawaii, Boy Scouts of America. Awarded Silver Beaver by that Council; Past Commander, Fontana, Ca., American Legion Post; Past Finance Officer, Hilo, Hawaii American Legion Post; Past County Council Commander, American Legion, San Bernardino County; Past President, Honolulu Chapter, Reserve Officers' Association; the only Caucasian member of the Hilo Japanese Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors for four years. He is a member of the Leisure World Kiwanis Club and Life Member, Retired Officers' Association.

In civic work, Col. Pancook was Disaster Chairman, Fontana, Ca., District, American Red Cross 1946-1947; Disaster Coordinator, County of Hawaii, State of Hawaii 1948-1949; Chairman Bank Division, Emergency Preparedness Council, Island of Oahu 1960. Awarded Certificate of Appreciation by United States Government for that work.

Service to mankind and friendships to all seems to come naturally to Arthur Pancook. He firmly believes that if you wish to have a friend, you must be a friend.