

LEISURE WORLDER OF THE MONTH--
Honoree Worksheet

NAME: RUTH MC CLEARY PAYNE SPOUSE: WARD OVERTON PAYNE

CHILDREN: None, but Ward and Ruth have been blessed with a splendid nephew, four lovely nieces and two handsome, business-oriented godsons.

No grandchildren.

DATE HONORED: Sept. 2, 1992

BIRTHPLACE: Ruth's family lived on a 100-acre farm in Mountain View, CA. See Page 2

EDUCATION: Ruth graduated from the schools in Denair, CA., with honors. She attended Modesto Junior College. See Pg. 2

DEGREE (S) HELD: BA degree

RELATED ACTIVITIES: (Fraternity, Sorority, etc.) NONE

CAREER: (Job titles, responsibilities, location and year of retirement) Personnel Dept., Boeing Aircraft Co., Seat Seattle, Dec. 1941 to Feb. 1943. Staff of American Red Cross U.S. Naval Hospital, Shoemaker, CA., 1944 to Dec. 1945. Social Case Worker and Social Case Work Supervisor, Los Angeles County, Dec. 1945 to Jan. 1950 when Ward was assigned a five-state sales territory covering Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, North and South Dakota. In June 1951 Ward was recalled into the Army and was sent to Korea as a Captain with the Cont'd Pg 3

COMMUNITY/CIVIC ACTIVITIES: Ruth was President of the Essex County Women's Republican Club of N.J., 1967-69. During her Presidency the Club, with the assistance of the Newark Evening News led a successful fight to locate Essex County College in Newark, N.J. so multiracial and those from low income families could acquire skills. She served on the Board of the Freeman Gardens Assn., of Glen Ridge, 1962-1979. Ruth and members of the Garden and Conservation Dept. of The Women's --Pg. 3

HONORS AND AWARDS: Ruth is an Honorary Life Member of the Women's Club of Glen Ridge, N.J. The Ebell of Laguna Hills, and an Honorary Trustee of the Glen Ridge Freeman Gardens Assn., and a Life Member of the University of Washington Alumni Assn.

TRAVELS: As an Army wife she travelled with Ward to postings in the Deep South during World War II. After Korea when Ward was made an Eastern Regional Sales Manager for Hall-Mack which became a division of Textron, Inc., and later later Franklin Brass of Los Angeles, they travelled from Maine to Florida and to the Mississippi on special assignments with winter holidays in the Caribbean. In retirement they have been to Hawaii and on tours of western Europe and fishing trips to British Columbia and Mexico.

BIRTHPLACE---Cont'd.

across the road from what is now Moffett Field Naval Air Station. Grandmother-Rachel established this working farm in 1861 after a five-month covered wagon journey across the plains and through Indian country in a caravan from Michigan with a sick husband and three young children. The little family travelled West seeking land and good water rather than gold at the end of the rainbow.

Due to medical problems mother's doctors admitted her to a hospital in San Jose, CA., for surgery for my birth in 1918.

In 1926 father-John McCleary, who had been in ill health moved his family to the San Joaquin Valley which had a warmer, drier climate.

EDUCATION---Cont'd.

in Modesto, CA., and received a BA degree at the University of Washington, Seattle, 1941. She was sent to the American University, Washington, D.C. for an American Red Cross Training Course in 1944. Later she was in Graduate Studies in Social Work at the University of Southern California, Los Angeles.

CAREER---Cont'd.

40th Infantry Division. When Ward was in Korea she was reemployed by Los Angeles County as a Social Worker.

Ward retired at the end of 1980. Earlier that year they moved from Glen Ridge, N.J. to the manor that previously had been owned by Ward's parents. Coming to the Community in 1946, the senior Paynes, along with Ward's aunt and uncle, Mr. and Mrs. Russell Rouse, were among the earliest Leisure World residents. Auntie Al still resides here.

COMMUNITY AND CIVIC ACTIVITIES---Cont'd.

Club of Glen Ridge prevented bull-dozers from tearing up the Rose Garden and other portions of a beautifully landscaped property deeded to the Borough by the Freeman Estate, and they cared for the Rose Garden until the Borough was able to make this private garden into the public Freeman Gardens for all residents to enjoy. She was President of the Women's Association, Glen Ridge Congregational Church, 1974-77. She was a member of the Glen Ridge Civic Conference, The Glen Ridge Community Fund which was merged into the United Way. For several years Ruth was Vice-Chairman of the Republican Finance Committee for Glen Ridge. She also headed fund raising for a survey of the Borough which put Glen Ridge on the Registry of Historic Districts in the USA, with its old gas lamps and lovely historic homes. One of the homeowners boasted of an active ghost in her living room!

LEISURE WORLD

When did you move to Leisure World? 1980

Which of the community's clubs, organizations, sports, and activities do you participate in, and in what capacity? Ruth is chairing the Ebell Book Reviews. She continues as Church Clerk for Mayflower Congregational Church of Laguna Hills. She is assisting Director Jeanne Truan with the USTA Women's 65 and 75 Hardcourt Championships here Sept. 28. She was President of the Garden Club, 1983-84, and President of The Ebell of Laguna Hills, 1986-87. She was chairman of Ebells Past Officers Club, 1987-88, and former chairman of Ebells Old Treasures Antiques Guild. She is an active member of the Washington State Club and the Canine Club because of the Payne's beautiful Golden Retriever, Amber.

Through the years you have accomplished many things. Of those, which do you feel is the motivating source for your award? Ruth has regarded it as a special privilege to serve on various Boards and Councils. She has met some truly caring people. Residents do not agree on every issue. That is to be expected. From the Founding Fathers of this great nation there have been conflicting viewpoints, but through compromises they reached an agreement on the Constitution, a model document which we have used over 200 years. She has been committed to working out differences. This has been one of her strengths. She continues to believe Leisure World is a retirement community with rich possibilities for close relationships with others.

Thank you for providing this information. You will receive a manuscript for your approval prior to publication in the Leisure World News.