



LEISURE WORLD NEWS

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Bert and Sally Posthill will be honored as Leisure Worlders for March at a March 5 ceremony.
News photo by Mark Dustin

It was hard to choose just one

Bert and Sally Posthill take Society's March nod

By Cheryl Walker
The News

If it were simply a question of merit, individually either Bert or Sally Posthill has the right stuff to be named Leisure Worlder of the Month.

She's been an active member of the League of Women Voters for 46 years, he's served the community as a member of the United Board. And those affiliations are only the tip of the iceberg of what both have done for Leisure World and the community.

When the Historical Society couldn't choose between them they chose both members of the dynamite duo as March honorees.

American Association of University Woman Past President Libby St. John calls Sally a "Very 'into-thing' person. She's

alive to all the issues and keeps us alive and informed too -- she's a humdinger."

League of Women Voters President Terry Miller adds "She's just always very knowledgeable about current issues and we're lucky she's always been an active member of our group."

As for Bert, immediate past president of the Community Civic Association, current President Mary Stone said Leisure World is "fortunate" to have as dedicated a community leader as he is. "Bert likes to get the job done ... he is a very detailed person who likes to put things in writing so you know 'what's what'."

Former United Mutual President Bob Miller adds that Bert "has contributed exemplary service to our community.

"He's filled many positions

on United's Board of Directors and also outstanding was his chairmanship of a Golden Rain Foundation ad hoc Aliso Park Subcommittee that led to much better signage and paths."

Background: Bert, a native of New York and a World War II Army veteran, got his bachelor's and master's degrees in electrical engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of

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Ceremony facts

- Who:** Bert & Sally Posthill
- What:** Leisure Worlders for March
- Where:** Clubhouse 6
- When:** 10 a.m., Wednesday, March 5
- Sponsors:** Leisure World Historical Society

POSTHILL

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Technology and a certificate in business administration from UCLA.

Sally, a Philadelphia native, meanwhile, went to Temple University in Pennsylvania, where she majored in math and worked on computers.

His major pre-retirement occupation was in computer engineering project and program management. In fact, he and Sally met trying to solve a computer problem at Burroughs in Philadelphia.

She left work as computer programmer to raise their three children while Bert held positions with Burroughs Corporation, Universal Business Systems, Varian Data Machines, Ford Aeroneutronics, Autonetics-North American and Consolidated Electronics Corporation working on a variety of projects including hydrodynamic instrumentation, digital circuits, computers, instrumentation systems, National Aeronautics and Space Association (NASA) mission control systems, missiles, re-entry vehicles, test equipment, mini-computers and check processing machines.

Both were involved in community affairs but that blossomed when they came to Leisure World in the mid 1980s.

An old colleague from the aerospace industry who was a resident, the late Harry Larson, heard Bert complaining about what he perceived were governance problems and challenged him to run for the boards.

Bert took up the gauntlet and soon was extending himself in many areas.

Besides his work on the United Board and participation in numerous Golden Rain committees, subcommittees and study groups, Bert became an active member of the Toastmasters, Backgammon Club, Community Civic Association, Earthquake and Disaster Preparedness Task Force, Audubon, Historical Society, League of Women Voters and the El Toro Water District's Citizen's Advisory Council.

Sally, who after her children were grown became a paralegal, didn't remain idle either.

She became a stalwart of AAUW, League of Women Voters, Foreign Policy Association, United Nations Association, People for a National Health Program, Democratic Club, Concerned Citizens for Peace, Audubon, the Foodies, Brandeis University National Women's Committee, Leisure World's community-wide planning group Project 21, the Golden Rain nominating committee, the Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program or HICAP (which helps seniors deal with Medicare, HMOS and long-term care issues) and South County Senior

Services (which she helped found and formulate as a member of its fledgling board).

Asked what they consider the important milestones in their lives, Bert names various career and Leisure World governance-related accomplishments but tops the list with marrying Sally and fathering their three children.

Sally agrees that "participating in a happy marriage for 50 years with an engineer and raising three wonderful children" also takes her number one spot.

But, she adds, she also enjoys having served as a "sounding board for a very active Leisure World director: Bert."