

*HISTORICAL SOCIETY*  
LEISURE WORLDER OF THE MONTH  
MARCH 1998  
*ROBERT P. RAPSON*

The Leisure World Historical Society is pleased to present Robert P. Rapson as its Leisure Worlder of the Month for March, 1998.

Those who know Bob see him as a survivor! He never gives up.

An only child, his father passed away when he was fourteen. He quickly recognized that he had become the patriarch of his immediate family. He continued school with zealously, maintaining a high grade average, yet at the same time he went to work earning money for himself, and financially helping his mother, who had not worked in an earning capacity following her marriage.

The motivation to succeed lead him into the University of California, Los Angeles, majoring in Business Administration. Later to University of Southern California with a specialty in Advanced Accounting and the American Institute of Banking.

Bob's early life's experience instilled in him a determination to succeed, a characteristic that is demonstrated in his activities in the community. Although he retired in 1977 from the State Board of Equalization, he did not arrive in Leisure World until July, 1988. With him came a will not to retire but like many others to become active in clubs and organizations.

When Bob took charge of his own life in his early teens, and recognized "responsibility" following the death of his father, there was no mystery that he set goals for himself that were beyond his years, and in retrospect accounts for the continuity of successes he has experienced during his working years, as well as the years following his residency in Leisure World.

In 1991 he ran for and was elected to serve on the Leisure World United Board of Directors. He was appointed to serve on various committees including Community Activities and was appointed Chairman of the Traffic Commission. Bob ultimately was named second Vice President.

He recognized the wisdom of taking part in promoting opposition to the conversion of El Toro Marine Corp Air Station to a Commercial Airport.

The high points in Bob's life is spending time with his closely knit family. He has two daughters one of whom presented him with six grand children. Talking about his grand children, and great grandchildren, is one of the joys of life that he willingly shares with friends and associates, and to anyone who will listen.

Yes, Bob shares his life -- he is a very generous and gracious person!