

LEISURE WORLD NEWS

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Andrew Scholer/*The News*

Charlotte Schaefer, the Historical Society's first Leisure Worlder of the Month for 1988, with some of her prize roses.

organizations, says the honoree "has the wonderful ability to make everyone feel comfortable."

"Working for her you seldom see any rifts - in fact, she still meets with one of her old boards to play bridge."

Adds Barbara Leeper of Ebell, "You can't help but be drawn to her - everybody loves her."

Background A Leisure Worlder since 1979, (formerly Charlotte Stern), was born in St. Louis, but became a Golden Stater in 1936, when she hied to California with her mother and brother and settled in Glendale where she later wed and started a family.

Widowed at a young age and with young children to support, she worked for Lockheed, RCA and, finally and most advantageously, with Glendale Federal where she took on a variety of assignments from

public relations to new accounts.

Even after she moved to Leisure World she maintained her association with the banking institution until her retirement in the early 1980s.

After becoming a Leisure Worlder, she met and wed Jules Stern.

But after nearly 14 years of marriage, she became a widow again.

Although Schaefer didn't have much time as a working girl to belong to many clubs except the PTA, Cub and Girl Scouts and Job's Daughters, after moving to Leisure World, one of the first things she did join was a dance club - and it was through a dance club party that she met her present husband.

It was a Christmas party and Schaefer says she met "across a crowded room." Three month's later, on St. Patrick's Day, they wed.

The newlyweds say they hit it off right away because they were both "middle kids" in the family. "That means you have to be nice or no one pays any attention to you."

Joe adds that what he liked best about Charlotte was that she was so outgoing "a happy type of person."

They also shared a love of travel, gardening (sharing the work on two plots in the Garden Center) and piano playing (especially each tinkling the ivories for the delight of the other).

"And I have a lot of energy," explains Charlotte.

She points out one needs a lot of energy to make a real contribution to a club ("you don't work in clubs for appreciation, you work in clubs to work") but the effort is worth it. "You do get to know a lot of nice people - but I never sit down!"