

# LEISURE WORLDER OF THE MONTH

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## PHIL STUDEBAKER

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SAN DIEGO—Founder of the Maintenance Superintendents Association of California, Phil Studebaker has helped the public works field try to meet their goal of saving taxpayers money.

To show appreciation for all he has done, Phil will be honored as "Leisure Worlder of the Month," on Wednesday, May 3. His special ceremony will be held at 10:00 a.m., in Clubhouse Six. The public is invited to attend the program, which is sponsored jointly by Home Federal Savings and Leisure World Historical Society.

Phil was born in Whittier, California and attended school at Rio Hondo College, Mount San Antonio College, and the University of Southern California.

He enlisted in the U.S. Navy as an Apprentice Seaman in 1940. He received carpentry training while in the military and went on to work with the Crest Forest County Water District as a maintenance worker at Lake Gregory.

Phil married Dorothy Wittenberg, his high school sweetheart, December 21, 1941, in Las Vegas and then returned to ship immediately to be shipped out to Pearl Harbor. They had four children.

In 1960, Phil was employed by the City of Santa Fe Springs as their newly appointed Superintendent of Public Works, the position he held until his retirement in Sept., 1979.

In February 1962, tragedy struck the Studebaker family in the death of Dorothy.

"Through the Grace of God, I later met and married my present wife of 26 years, Geri," said Phil. "She had a 13 year old daughter, Sue, who fit in extremely well with the other four children. I don't know who needed Geri the most, me or the children."

After being recalled to the military in 1950, Phil returned to Whittier and worked in construction inspection. Later, he became the city's Senior Inspector and Survey Party Chief.

Phil and Geri moved to Leisure World in 1982. He was elected President of the Laguna Beach Kiwanis Club and has been a performer in the Laguna Beach Pageant of the Masters for the past 10 years.

In 1983, he was elected to the United Laguna Hills Mutual Board and in 1986, he became president. He is a member of the Laguna Hills Rod and Gun Club, Italia America Club and the Golden Rain Foundation.