

Couple with varied interests capture February LWer title

Jim and Alice White are a couple worthy to be called musicians, speakers, teachers, travelers, organizers, artists, mentors, scholars, entertainers, parents and grandparents.

Added to the list this month is the title "Leisure Worlders of the Month." Home Federal Savings and the Leisure World Historical Society announced that the Whites will be honored at a special ceremony on Wednesday, Feb. 1 at 10 a.m. in Clubhouse 6. The public is cordially invited to attend.

The Whites met while they were doing postgraduate study at the University of Chicago. Jim had graduated from the University of Virginia with a master's degree in economics and served on its faculty as an instructor in accounting. At Chicago he was on a fellowship for graduate research in public utility management.

Alice came to Chicago following her graduation from Beloit College and a master's degree in French from Marquette University. Additionally, she had been in France for a year's study on an international scholarship.

Before completing his doctorate at the University of Chicago, Jim took a job with a Chicago accounting firm as a management analyst and Alice returned to her teaching of French at Dakota Wesleyan University. Shortly thereafter, he found himself behind the teaching podium at Lawrence College.

At the end of his year at Lawrence, Jim became associated with General Motors in the development of an engineering executive training program at Flint, Michigan. This pilot venture was very successful and developed into the widely acclaimed General Motors Institute. After 17 years, Jim left the institute for

assignments as executive and consultant in industry, including participation in the early space navigational and missile guidance projects sponsored by NASA.

Throughout this time, there was plenty of activity going on with Alice, too. While living in Flint and Grosse Point, she devoted herself to raising a family, working with the Girl Scouts and teaching piano. She still practices at least an hour each day. Her four-hand piano duets with Agnes Neumann are popular around Leisure World.

Music runs in the family, as Jim played violin in the Flint Community Symphony and in the Laguna Hills String Ensemble. He has a collection of violins, and he loves to explain the background and unique characteristics of each one.

After Jim's retirement, the Whites took their first of many trips abroad. It is on these trips that Jim compiles material for another of his avocations, photography. He was instrumental in starting the photographic program at Leisure World. He helped equip and set up the Clubhouse 4 darkroom facility and organized classes for budding shutterbugs.

He uses his photographic expertise to produce audio-pictorial presentations which feature selected color slides, synchronized narration, background music and sound effects.

His programs range from "El Mundo Sereno, the Story of Leisure World, 1964-1974," to American and European travelogues, including the royal wedding of Prince Charles and Lady Diana.

Alice doesn't waste the trips abroad, either. As she travels, she sharpens her French. Back home at Leisure World, she works with a French conversation group that has



Alice and Jim White

met regularly each Monday for the last 10 years.

Alice's talent stretches well beyond the fields of language and music. Many Leisure Worlders know of the stuffed animals which she fashions from leather, mink, wood and other materials. A life-sized and very lifelike replica of the Whites' poodle, Monsieur Philippe, sits on the back of their couch. She has made elephants, lions, horses and even a unicorn! She also does some oil painting, her favorites being landscapes and flowers.

Jim has an interest in opera and theater. He has assisted in the production and direction of several performances of the Laguna Hills Theater Guild. In addition, he is a active member of the Toastmasters and the National Speakers Association. His current platform talks include such

varied topics as Americana, astronomy, the energy crisis and profiles in humor.

Since coming to Leisure World, he has used his talents as a mutual director, president of the Moulton Kiwanis Club and as an elder of the Presbyterian Church. He is also a 32nd degree Mason and is remembered as master of ceremonies for "Bijou," a Kiwanis-sponsored benefit.

Alice keeps her name in the Leisure World spotlight by offering piano music at various club meetings and frequent exhibits of her stuffed animals at the annual flea market. She is also a 50-year honorary member of the American Association of University Women.

Jim and Alice have been married 55 years. They have three children and seven grandchildren.