



David E. Caballero / The News

Doug Wood finds time to relax in his rose garden after having served on both the Third Mutual and Golden Rain Boards.

Serving the community may be no bed of roses

By Cheryl Walker
The News

A blue ribbon display of picture-perfect red roses are the pride and joy of 110 Club President Douglas Wood but it is not

for his skills as a backyard green thumb that the Leisure World Historical Society has singled him out.

The Society recognized the former Golden Rain and Third

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Ceremony facts

- Who:** Doug Wood
- What:** Leisure Worlder for June
- Where:** Clubhouse 6
- When:** 10 a.m., Wednesday, June 1
- Sponsor:** Leisure World Historical Society

WOOD

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Mutual director as June Leisure Worlder of the Month for sharing his technical knowledge, organizational skills and leadership talents for the betterment of the community for most of the nine years he's lived in Leisure World.

Co-worker and former Golden Rain Director Doyle Selden says of Wood "he's always very thorough, very prepared and very effective, particularly in land planning issues."

Another co-worker and former Golden Rain President Alex Gunster adds that Wood "fits the mold" of a good Leisure World director-knowing both all sides of the issues involved and the different viewpoints of residents who would be most impacted by decisions.

Gunster recalls one of Wood's toughest assignments was the recent management company review.

He points out the completeness of Wood's attack at the problem: investigating different options, interviewing sources, writing and evaluating proposals and making tough choices. "He did a good job."

Another co-worker, former Third Mutual President Virginia Halley, agrees Wood was an asset to every committee he was on, especially his contributions to the Third Mutual and Golden Rain maintenance and construction committees he served as a chairman. "He was a delight to work with, a gentleman and a good leader, and so knowledgeable.

"He had the ability to pull things together and get things done; his recognition is long overdue."

Background: Wood, a native of Yuma, CO. and Marine Corps veteran of World War II, graduated from the University of Colorado with a bachelor's degree in civil engineering, a calling he says he aspired to from the time he was a child.

Although his career never offered him the opportunity to construct buildings and bridges, as

he'd originally dreamed, he was able to leave his mark in history designing innovative naval aircraft and classified spacecraft projects for Douglas Aircraft and TRW.

His contributions to his field earned him membership in various prestigious international general and civil engineering and math honorary fraternities, Tau Beta Pi, Sigma Tau, Pi Mu Epsilon and Chi Epsilon.

In his spare time, he also did volunteer work for the Lion's Club, Red Cross, Little League and his neighborhood church.

He retired in 1984 and moved to Leisure World the following year where he met resident Leon Bosch who recommended he run for a Third Board seat.

The recommendation was fortuitous, says Wood, who succeeded in his board quest. "I enjoyed it, it was a challenge and I felt I had something to offer; when you live in a place like this you feel like you want to give something back."

Wood "gave something back" for six years, first on the Third Board, then on the Golden Rain and recalls the highpoint of his directoral efforts as leader of the management review committee.

"I was bound and determined to look at everything so when it was finished no one could say we didn't do something."

Wood completed his last term on the foundation board in 1992 and, says wife Trudy, an antique doll collector/restorer, was able to clear off his desk and devote himself to travel, his own special projects (like sculpting and pottery design) and being grandfather to seven grandchildren.

But, she notes, the desire to make a contribution to the community in which he lives has gotten hold of him again: and he recently accepted the presidency of the 110 Club, named after the 110 residential units in the Gate 9 area he calls home.

"He spends so much time (committed to his job as president) ... and the stacks of paper are starting to pile up again."