

Life Membership Voted for Anita Brightman and Genie McMahon

Two long-time members of the Historical Committee were voted Life Memberships at the Annual Meeting on February 22. They are Anita Brightman and Eugenia "Genie" McMahon. Both women were honored for their numerous contributions during their combined service on the committee of 36 years.

Anita Brightman

Anita is now 92 years old but still going strong!. A former teacher, school principal and outstanding community leader, she became a member of the Club at age 71 and immediately volunteered and was accepted for committee service. Fortunately for the Club, she was selected by the Historical Committee in 1983. She has been a member ever since.

Her first assignment was on the Library subcommittee. Next, and ongoing, she is on the Clipping subcommittee. The Club has been a subscriber to a clipping service since the early 1970s. Supervision was rather haphazard and when Anita took over in 1983, there was one bound volume of clippings. She assumed the monumental task of overhauling the entire program with the result the Club now has annual volumes dating back to 1978, beautifully bound, cataloged, indexed and secured under lock and key.

A few years ago, she originated the "This and That" scrapbook, the purpose of which was to assemble and publish special recognition given to the Club and its membership including items of historical events. It met with instant success. She is now on her fourth scrapbook.

In 1989, Anita conceived the idea of a Sunshine Committee responsible for sending out get well and sympathy cards to Club members. She is still a member.

She also provides scrapbooks of annual canoe racing and other athletic events. She developed the Historical Committee's original microfilm program. She has also served on various adhoc committees including chairperson of a Fashion Day program, authored articles for the Outrigger magazine and assists whenever and wherever needed!

Anita personifies the ideal committee member. She rarely misses a meeting-usually only if ill or on a trip. Above all, she really loves her work. Once after completing a difficult assignment, she demonstrated her appreciation for help given by her fellow members with a round of champagne!

A prime significance of her work is that she has assembled data for the Club's ongoing computerization program which otherwise might not have been available.

Anita is an ideal candidate to become a Life member.

Eugenia McMahon

Genie, now 82, is the widow of John McMahon, the famed California surfer and all-around water man who frequented the Club in the late 1930s and early 40s. She first visited the Club on a belated honeymoon with John in 1949, leaving young Jimmy at home in Malibu.

In 1952, the family moved to Hawaii and John officially joined the Club as a regular member in 1953.

During the 50s and 60s, both John and Genie



Anita Brightman



Genie McMahon

worked in Waikiki virtually living at the Club. They became very much involved with the Club's athletic programs—paddling, surfing, sailing—and with Club social functions.

John died in October 1976. With him gone and her two boys grown up, Genie became more involved than ever in Club activities. In January, 1979, almost 20 years ago, she became a member of the Club's Historical Committee and has been there ever since.

In her first few years on the committee, she served on various sub and adhoc committees including the Library and Archives committees.

She also prepared written profiles of all the Club's "Winged O" recipients which included one of husband John who was inducted into this auspicious group in 1976.

For the last nine years, she chaired the Photo subcommittee. Without a doubt, this is the most important and time consuming subcommittee. There is a constant inward and outward flow

of pictures and negatives which have to be identified, classified, cataloged, stored and sometimes destroyed.

Requests for pictures and information are received from all over the world—like the gentleman from Florida who wanted a picture and description of Duke's Australian Crawl. The media in particular, and the variety of requests, is unbelievable. One local paper asked if the Club had a picture of Governor Cayetano's father who once worked for the Club. We didn't, but at the time it had to be researched.

The subcommittee is also responsible for the ongoing Club and Bar picture displays. The value of this committee's recent excellent work was revealed in the current survey of those items which are to be included in the Club's computerization program.

Genie is to be commended for the work of her committee and her devotion to the Club. Life membership is a fitting reward.

