

Member of the Month

May 2017

This month's Members of the Month are some of the most familiar faces around The Pointe. Although they are long-time members, and even have a donated brick in front of the building with their names on it, we still were able to learn a lot about this lovely couple when we sat down with them this month.

Congratulations to May's Members of the Month: **Ben and Zita Reyes**

Originally from the Philippines, Ben and Zita came to the United States in 1967. In fact this month, on May 27 they will have been in the U.S. for 50 years. They both received a BA in Architectural Engineering from the University of Santo Thomas in Manila, Philippines. For five years after that Ben worked in construction and design in the rehabilitation of war damaged public buildings.

Eventually, they found themselves in Missouri and both went on to work for St. Louis County. Ben worked as a Building Code Plan Examiner (later reclassified as a District Inspection Coordinator) involving site development, commercial building inspections and ordinance requirements.



Zita always loved the design and planning aspects of architecture and worked as a Landscape Architect for the County Parks and Recreation Department for many years. In this role, she did lots of manual drafting work since it was before a lot of the technology and programs that are available today. For many years she did this work as the only woman in her field, impressing many people along the way!

The list of their professional accomplishments is long, but this couple can also take pride in many other aspects of life. Six children, 14 grandchildren, and 4 great grandchildren later they find themselves happily retired since 1999 enjoying all life has to offer. For fun, Ben loves to bowl and is a past president of the Filipino-American Community of Greater St. Louis. Zita still enjoys drawing and painting and you can also frequently find her dancing (tap, line dancing, Zumba, you name it!). Together they love to travel, visiting France, Switzerland, China and Italy to name a few.

Zita encourages fellow Pointe members, "Keep moving, for your health! You'll live a lot longer when you keep your mind and body active." Obviously this is advice they've taken to heart because this couple participates in just about everything we offer at The Pointe. "They come to The Pointe all the time," their nominator wrote, "to workout and to come to programs and events. Ben and Zita are some of the nicest people around."

Clearly, the feeling is mutual. Ben shared, "You feel at home here. Everybody is approachable, and overall it's a laid back community."

We're so glad you feel at home here Ben and Zita, we look forward to serving you for many years to come. Congratulations on becoming May's Pointe Members of the Month and HAPPY 59th ANNIVERSARY this month too!



*Know someone who deserves the title "Member of the Month?"
Ask for a nomination form at The Pointe's Front Desk today!*