

Great World

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It is not often that a librarian is singled out for praise.

And this isn't to suggest that librarians are not important because they most certainly perform a valued service to people everywhere who enjoy books and other services of a library.

But, let's face it, librarians most often are merely taken for granted. They take care of our reading needs, and we may give them a smile from time to time, but that's about it.

Now, we have a librarian who has been singled out for the high honor as Leisure Worlorder of the Month for June as selected by the Leisure World Historical Society and Home Federal Savings and Loan Association.

We think it's about time someone from the "quiet world" received special recognition and we offer our special thanks and congratulations to the honoree, Irma Franklin, a resident of our community since 1969, and a member of the library volunteer staff almost from her first day here.

Miss Franklin is a retired teacher of business who was born in Kansas and came to Southern California to find her niche as a teacher of accounting, bookkeeping, business English and typing in the Los Angeles area school system.

After retirement and a move to Leisure World, she began a

second career, that of stockbroker. This came about when a local investment brokerage firm sought her expertise.

Her understanding of business made her a much sought after adviser, and she continues helping others including the Saddleback Medical Center, where she aids residents with insurance claim problems.

But most of her volunteer service is devoted to the library and she has many stories to tell about people and their reading tastes.

But just because she is a keeper of the written word in that quiet corner of our community, one should not get the idea that she closes herself in from the world.

On the contrary, Irma Franklin is much the outdoors adventure lover who enjoys travel, photography and gardening. She is a confirmed naturalist who has been a member of the Audubon Society for 40 years and does volunteer work each month at Caspers Wilderness park.

One final surprise; she's an avid mountain climber and she says she will keep climbing as long as she can.

We have to admire that kind of spirit, and we certainly appreciate the volunteer services Irma Franklin provides which helps make our community the wonderful place it is.