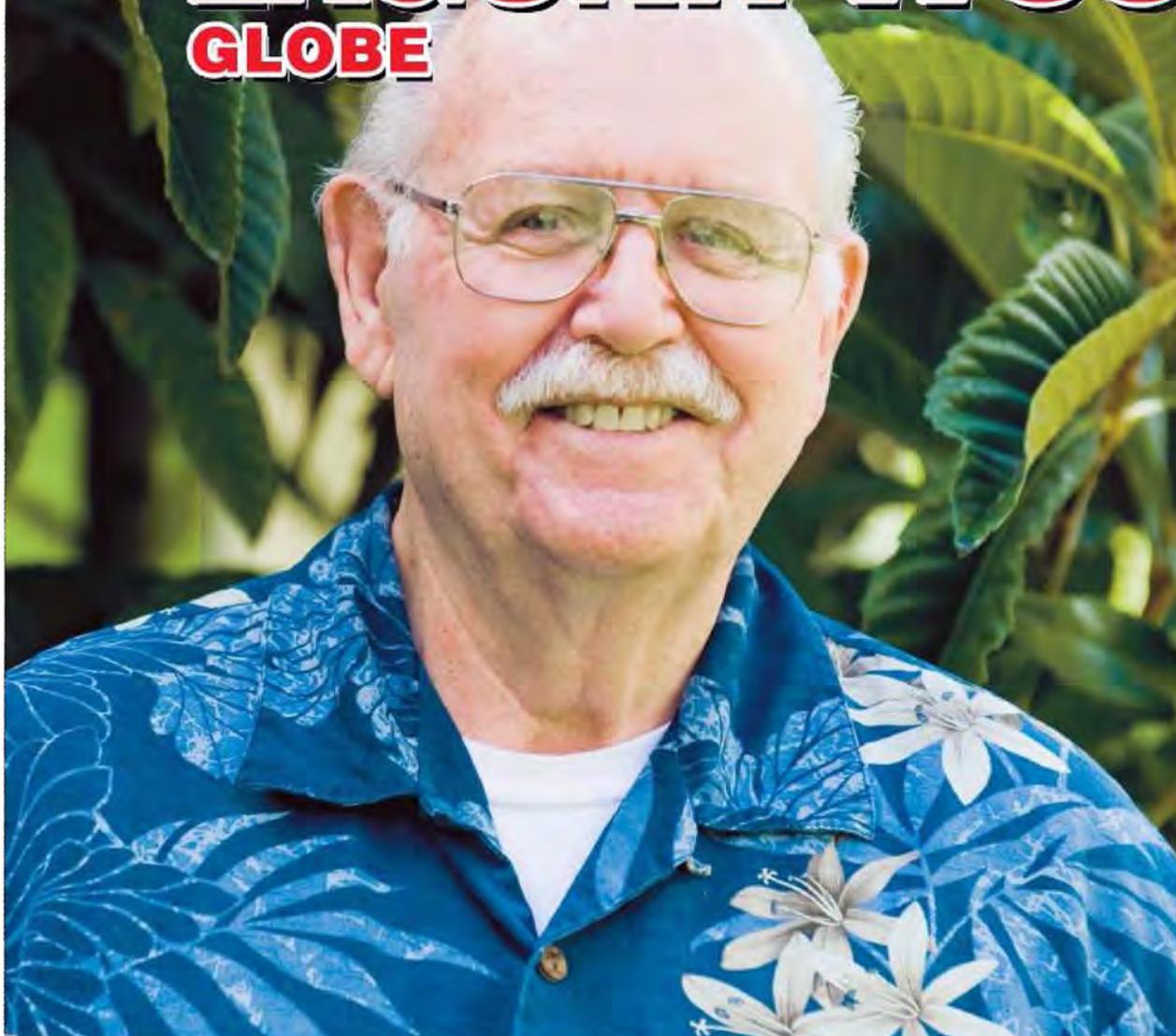


# LAGUNA WOODS

## GLOBE



Ray Gros, a retired police officer, is the November honoree for The Historical Society of Laguna Woods.

> SAM GANGWER, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

# NOVEMBER HONOREE

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# Ray Gros named Honoree of the Month

**BY CLAIRE WEBB**  
THE LAGUNA WOODS GLOBE

The Historical Society of Laguna Woods will honor Village resident Ray Gros as the Honoree of the Month for November at 10 a.m. Nov. 4 at Clubhouse 6.

Gros is the chairman of the Golden Rain Foundation Security and Public Access Committee and prior to that, served two terms on the Third Mutual board and acted as chair of security committee. He has always been involved in public service and credits his background in law enforcement and fire investigations as sources of motivation to continue to help his community.

"Because I was a police officer for many years I have a background with security," Gros said. "I feel like I need to serve.

When he received the call that he would be the Honoree for November, Gros said couldn't quite believe it. He said there are so many others in the community who deserve such an honor.

"I was overwhelmed," Gros said. "I



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was just so pleased someone would consider me for this."

Gros lives in Laguna Woods Village with his wife of 32 years Charlotte and two yellow Labradors, Kirby and Bear. In addition to chairing the security committee, he is vice president of Earthworks, a member of the city's Greening of the Woods Committee, and is a direc-

tor of the Laguna Woods Canyon Foundation.

Gros was born in New Orleans and moved to California in 1955 after serving in the U.S. Navy. He lived in Torrance for nearly 20 years and worked as a police detective in robbery and homicide as well as fire investigations. He found people were dying in fires and he wanted to find out why.

"I like to get to the truth of the matter and I don't lie to people," he said.

Gros also lived in Arizona beginning in 1994, working with the fire investigation team at Prescott Fire Department after he retired from the police force. He helped as a volunteer investigator for the hefty sum of \$1 a year. He also worked as an insurance fraud investigator.

In 2001 he and Charlotte decided to return to California for good and made the move to Laguna Woods.

During his time in law enforcement, Gros earned his doctorate in human behavior from a number of schools he said, but ultimately finished at Newport

International University. Gros said he pursued a doctorate to help assist him in his work and learn more about people.

"Because I have worked in homicide and arson investigations, people I worked with are unusual," he said. "I'm also kind of a nosy guy anyways, being a cop."

In addition to serving the public on the police force, Gros also counts his time working with cancer patients especially rewarding

"I was part owner of a cancer center," he said, referring to the Holistic Science Center in Torrance. He got involved in the center because of a family history with the disease.

"I worked with cancer patients with medical hypnosis to help with pain," and said the experience gave him true joy and inner peace.

Gros is the father of five children and also has 12 grandchildren and great grandchildren.

*See more at [www.ocregister.com/lagunawoods](http://www.ocregister.com/lagunawoods).*