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Leisure Worlder of the Month: Lee Bevilacqua does volunteer work for Channel 6, one of her many volunteer activities.

## Worker bee gets Society's March nod

### Historical Society to honor Lee Bevilacqua as Leisure Worlder of the Month for her volunteer services

BY CHERYL WALKER  
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At 10 a.m. March 1 in Clubhouse 6, the Historical Society will again honor a resident who may not be a headline grabber but whose hard work and diligence are vital to getting things done in the community.

Laguna Woods City Councilman Bob Ring recalls Lee Bevilacqua's volunteering at Channel 6, making untold phone calls to get out the vote to defeat the proposed El Toro Airport and assisting in the satellite office of 70th District Assemblyman Chuck DeVore.

"She is one of the silent worker bees that makes good things happen and truly deserves this honor."

Former City Councilwoman Jan McLaughlin says she first met the honoree when she came to the community at the Equestrian Center where Bevilacqua helped out in the office and coordinated the coo-kouts.

"She's one of those really good people, that when you need something done she's the one to call ... but she does it quietly, without getting a lot of attention."

Former Golden Rain Director Earl Donaldson and fellow California Club member says that organization frequently benefited from her care and concern. "She's always so reliable, anything she says she'll do she'll do and then does even more than her part."

#### Background

Born in Astoria, Long Island, of Italian-American heritage, she served two years as a Marine during World War II, working in the Commandant's office in Quantico, Va. She said she chose the Marines because of their independent spirit. "I'm not one for groups."

After the war, while raising a family, she worked for the A.G. Bayer aspirin company, starting as a clerk in the plant and ended up after 23 years as a senior buyer for chemicals.

Widowed in 1979, she met her current partner, Ted Martin, in 1980 at a New Jersey purchasing managers meeting and in 1982 she retired and in 1985 moved to California.

"The best years of my life have been my retirement years," she says, because this self-admitted "late bloomer" is "always learning something new": horseback riding, bridge, needlepoint, crochet, Tai Chi and more.

She also gives generously of her time volunteering. A partial list of where includes: the Saddle Club, the Senior Center, Ebell, the California Club, the anti-airport fight, new owners' orientation and Channel 6.

The latter is her favorite since she's totaled 15 years there doing a variety of tasks: the message board, Trading Post requests, dealing with programming issues and front desk reception.

Bevilacqua says she has no idea why she was selected when there are so many other residents who might qualify for the honor, but added, "I think I'm a good worker."