

Dick Blatman

Laguna Woods Historical Society - Honoree of the Month November 2011

Dick Blatman was born and educated in New York City and is a graduate of the Columbia University College of Pharmacy. He also holds an MBA degree from Pepperdine University in Malibu, CA.

He has two children, (of whom he is very justly proud), and one grandchild. After her ten year battle with cancer, his wife Joyce, with whom he had shared thirty-six very happy years passed away.

He met Caroline Epstein, who gave him some modeling clay, while he was bedridden following hip replacement surgery and due to her he discovered his talent and joy for sculpting. They have been married for eighteen years.

They moved to Laguna Woods in 2000 and he immediately became actively involved in the Community. Dick has served as President of the Potters and Sculptors Club and has been on their Board since 2005. During this period he was asked by Sandy Marzelli the Director of the Saddleback Emeritus Program, to join their Advisory Board, representing Laguna Woods.

He is the current President of The Film Club which offers 10 outstanding films each year to their almost 1500 members and guests.

For the past six years, Dick has been on the GRF Community Activities Committee and for the last three years has served as Chairman of their Continuing Education Advisory Board.

When asked for a brief recollection of his life experience, he explained that he had grown up in a loving middle class home filled with volatile people, and soon recognized that his position in the family was to be a “peacemaker”.

During his professional career, his forte was always that of a listener and problem solver, a talent that he has so successfully carried with him in the various important volunteer and leadership positions he has held in Laguna Woods.