

Laguna Woods

GLOBE

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INSIDE



Jim Hart Honoree of the Month

Tax aide volunteer Jim Hart will be honored by the Historical Society as Laguna Woods Village Honoree of the Month at 10 a.m. Nov. 7 in Clubhouse 6. See page 3.

Tax man Honoree of Month

BY CHERYL WALKER
THE LAGUNA WOODS GLOBE

Jim Hart likes to do taxes and help his fellow residents, that's why, he's been volunteering as an American Association of Retired Persons tax aide that provides free services to members of the community at the Florence Sylvester Senior Center.

And he will even make house calls, "whenever needed, anytime during the year."

Why would anyone like to do taxes?

"My background is numbers," explains the UCLA graduate who says that is also why he has served as an advisor to the Golden Rain Foundation and Third Mutual's finance committee and volunteered as well to take part in the community's budget planning processes.

Long-time Village co-worker, Virginia Templeton, herself a former Villager of the Month, says Hart is too modest by far glossing over the scope of his contributions.

"He has been giving to our community by assisting hundreds of residents with the preparation of their income tax returns for the past 17 years; he meets regularly with the finance committees of Third Mutual and GRF and gives his expertise as a former accountant; he works as a building captain and has provided leadership in the Garden Villa Association in the past; he is a behind the scenes worker who has used his accountant knowledge and skills to help in-



MARILYNN YOUNG, LAGUNA WOODS GLOBE

TAX HELP : Jim Hart, 83, is the November honoree in Laguna Woods Village.

dividuals and provide much input during the development of the budget for Third Mutual and GRF; and I have found him to be an extraordinarily ethical and highly principled man."

Hart says his love affair with numbers began with high school math. He also took business accounting and for most of his career worked for Sparklett's water.

"I'm not into politics," he said. He just likes to help.

The California native says he bought a manor in, what was then, Leisure World in the late 1970s but didn't call the community home until more than a decade later.

Once here he volunteered as a tax aide and site coordinator, worked on the nominating committee and joined a variety of clubs including Foreign Policy, the Historical Society, Key-

board Concerts, the Film Club the Computer Club, the Discussion Group, Serendipity Film Club and Saddleback Emeritus exercise class and more.

"But what really got me involved was the Garden Villa Association. "When we wanted more details particularly about how our money was being spent".

He also became a building captain for the community's earthquake task force and is a former member of the Third Mutual Board.

Hart says his primary objective in life is to keep it in balance. "When I am able to achieve this objective, I find it to be personally satisfying."

Hart will be honored by the Historical Society at 10 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 7, at Clubhouse 6.