

2023 CRA CITIZEN OF THE YEAR – PRESS FACT SHEET

Event Details

Carmel Residents Association (CRA) – Citizen of the Year Celebration – 27th Ceremony

Web Page: www.carmelresidents.org/cras-citizen-of-the-year

Please visit this CRA web page for the history of this event and our prior honorees.

Date/Time: Sunday March 26th – Doors open at 1:30, 2 PM Program Begins, 3-4 PM Wine and hors d'oeuvres

Location: Carmel Woman's Club, SW Corner of 9th and San Carlos, Carmel-by-the-Sea, Ca 93921

This event is open to the public, as space allows.

Our Honoree – Donna Jett

Donna's History associated with this Citizen honor – a partial background:

- Born in the Midwest, moved to the sunshine state of California beginning with San Diego, then Los Angeles and today Carmel-by-the-Sea, she is the mother of three and the grandmother of 3.
- While leading various charitable events and fund-raising programs over the years, she **expanded her education** with courses in local Architecture, Art, Comedy and Theater at Monterey Peninsula College. This course work added to her prior collegiate work in Speech, Business, Art, and History. Donna brings these interests and skills to the table with everything that she takes on.
- Donna's early work after moving to our area was on the administrative staff at the **Chartwell School** in Seaside where she was responsible fundraising events and programs for scholarships, and more.
- **Donna's long roster** of local membership, volunteer time and work include Joining Hands – Benefit Shop for the Homeless, Planned Parenthood, Monterey Museum of Art, Outdoor Forest Theater Foundation, Carmel Youth Center, and Pacific Repertory Theater as Volunteer of the Year.
- Her **Monterey Regional civic** work includes a 2006 term on the Monterey County Grand Jury, as Chairperson of a committee and she also represented Carmel on the 2011 Monterey Redistricting Commission.
- **Regional Event Volunteer** She was a corporate volunteer to the annual Concours d'Elegance hospitality programs from 2000-2015. From 1998 – 2014 she volunteered at the annual AT&T Golf Tournament. And at the 2000 and 2010 US Open Tournaments, Donna supervised the Corporate Village program.
- Donna was invited to join the **Carmel Woman's Club** beginning in 2000, where she was quickly recruited to join the Board. She has held multiple chairperson roles and since 2021 holds the role of President. Donna will be chairing the Carmel Woman's Club 2025 Centennial Celebration. Her skills in leadership, event organization, recruiting fellow volunteers and successful programs continue to increase the membership, the charitable giving Carmel Woman's Club programs and its presence in the community.
- Since joining in 2005 as a **City of Carmel Community Activities Commissioner**, Donna's commitment to our village excels. She supplies new ideas and hands-on delivery of many programs including early AM setup for Homecrafters, multiple annual seasonal event decorating, and brings new recommendations to the weekly Carmel Farmers Market. During the COVID19 times – she offered multiple creative ideas for what *was possible* given the challenges we were facing. All the while, she is highly valued and respected by her fellow Commissioners and the City Staff.



CRA honors Donna Jett, as a 25 year + extraordinary example of a Carmel-by-the-Sea volunteer and leader who continues to bring community engagement, activities, and benefits for us all to enjoy and participate.

We look forward to and appreciate your participation on Sunday, March 26th.