

CATHY BURROUGHS
HONORARY GRAND MARSHAL
76th Temple City Camellia Festival

I am extremely honored to be part of the 76th Camellia Festival. Although I grew up in El Sereno, just west of Alhambra, the Camellia Festival has been part of my life since I was a child. My grandparents lived in Temple City on Live Oak. Almost every year we would drive to their house, walk up to Las Tunas Drive to watch the parade, and then go back to their house for lunch.

My career in Temple City began in 1977. While attending Cal State Los Angeles, I needed to complete an internship for my Recreation Administration Degree. My professor knew the Recreation Supervisor in Temple City at that time who offered me a job as a Recreation Leader. I worked as a Recreation Leader for five years before taking a job as a Recreation Specialist in the City of Rosemead. I returned to Temple City as the Recreation Supervisor in 1985 and continued to work for the Temple City Parks and Recreation Department until my retirement in July 2019. During that time, I served as Recreation Supervisor, Recreation Manager, Community Services Manager, Community Services Director and Parks and Recreation Director.

One of my responsibilities as Parks and Recreation Director was to be the City Liaison to the Camellia Festival. As a Board member, I quickly learned what an incredibly hard-working group of individuals volunteer their time to plan each year's Festival. What I loved most about my job in the Parks and Recreation Department was the interactions I had with so many members of the community; whether it was at a summer concert or at a youth basketball game, just getting to witness firsthand how much our programs impacted people was amazing.

I have now lived in Temple City for over 30 years. My two children, John who is 33 and Jennifer who is 32 attended Temple City Schools and participated throughout their childhood in Temple City recreation programs.

Since my retirement last July, I have simply been enjoying my free time. I plan to begin volunteering in the near future, maybe even for the Temple City Camellia Festival.