

HARRIETTE ELLIS, Treasurer

Southern California Media Professionals

Harriette R. Ellis has been involved in journalism since the seventh grade, when she launched her middle school's first newspaper. In high school, she was a charter member of the national Quill and Scroll Club and in college wrote for the newspaper and served as art editor of the senior yearbook. That foretold her future. Sidetracked by her art and English majors at the University of Alabama, she worked toward a master's in theater arts at U.C.L.A.

When her husband served in the Air Force during WWII and they lived in Albuquerque, Harriette edited and wrote for a shopping magazine, even getting it published (while still in the hospital) as she gave birth to her first child. On moving to Long Beach, Calif., she became editor of the Jewish community newspaper, serving a readership from South Bay to Newport Beach. She edited, wrote stories, took all photos, did the layout; in essence, was chief, cook and bottle washer of a 16 to 36-page tabloid for 12 years. Next, she was writer and editor for four of the newspapers published by California Apparel News in Los Angeles. After five years, she became editor at Valley Magazine.

Later, she worked in public relations for Joan Luther and Assoc. in Beverly Hills where, besides writing press releases and representing clients, she also edited a newsletter for Rodeo Drive. And was that fun! After 10 years, she returned to the Jewish newspaper published in Long Beach and remained there for 16 more years. During that period the paper celebrated its 50th anniversary and received congratulations from dignitaries all over the country.

Currently the contributing editor of Orange County Jewish life, she writes profiles and special features, edits a bi-monthly newsletter for National Council of Jewish Women, volunteers in several organizations, and serves on the boards of Temple Israel, the Jewish Studies Program at Cal State Long Beach, NCJW and the Jewish Film Festival. She is proud to have been a part of the commission to bring fluoridated water to Long Beach in the sixties. A member of NFPW since 1981, she served as vice president, president and treasurer, and is listed in Who's Who of American Women and Who's Who in America.

She has three lovely daughters, two of whom have achieved their doctorates (University of Chicago in music and University of Virginia in education). She also has two wonderful grandchildren and great sons-in-law.

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