

Mayor Liz Harris

Liz Harris was elected to be a member of Big Bear Lakes' City Council in 2000. She was honored to serve as Mayor in 2003 and 2004. More recently, she was again chosen to serve as Mayor in 2010.

Liz is a native Californian growing up in Imperial Valley on ranches and in El Centro. She is a graduate of San Diego State University where she received her Bachelors and Master's Degrees. She received an Education Specialist Degree from Nazarene College on Point Loma in San Diego County. Her Doctorate in Education Administration is from Northern Arizona University. Liz is a retired Educator with 35 years of experience as a teacher and principal in San Diego County, Assistant Superintendent at Burbank Unified School District and retired from Rancho Santiago Community College District where she was the Chief Human Resources Officer.

In 1992, she and her husband were vacationing in Big Bear and got a flat tire. Stopping to pause to get the tire fixed led them to buying their first piece of property called Doc's Getaway, a second home and lodge. They fell in love with the Valley and moved full-time to Big Bear Lake in 1996.

Since that time she has been very active in the community. She is an original member of the Big Bear Cowboy Gathering Committee. The Gathering brings cowboy poetry, music and culture to the Valley for 4 days during the summer. For 10 years she has worked to improve the college offering here on the mountaintop. Currently, she is working with a core group of like-minded individuals, who have started Big Bear Valley Education Trust. The goal of the Trust is to expand educational opportunities for all members of Big Bear Valley. She is an active member of Rotary and is President of the Board of Big Bear Center for Spiritual Enrichment.

Liz says, "This is a wonderful town. The generosity of time and talent given to others here is above and beyond most communities of our size. It is my honor to serve our community as Mayor."