

SAN MARINO ROTARY CLUB

President Calvin Goodrich's Year
1956-57
(as related by Cal Goodrich)

The whole thing got started when five guys; Monroe Loy, Hal Loynd, Ben Eaton, George Woodruff and Larry Shepard; halucinated as members of the nominating committee. Yet these men did me an honor and service I'll never forget, and for which I'll be forever grateful.

I suppose, looking back, that the preliminaries were mostly routine; the committee assignments, District Assembly, etc. But Larry Shepard sure had a keen idea when he invited the outgoing and incoming boards for a weekend at his desert retreat! Those present, forgive me if I miss anyone after 20 years, were John McDonald, Bob Young, Larry, Dan Ellis, Bill "Huevos de Toros" Howard (Later known as "Bull" Howard), Randy Kerr, Paul Briede, Dave Fiscus, Elder Morgan, Don Scott, Tom Beal, Ed Brewster and some darned fool coyote that got in front of the camera. Beal, as usual, was at the kitchen tending the bean pot, while Howard, after the heuvos episode got his head lost in someone's over-sized Stetson.

The convention was great, but much more important was the demotion of that tired old prexy, Hal Loynd, and then we were off; to who knows where--- but off anyway. I remember that my good friends, Bunnie and Alex Worman, were there to assist in the proceedings.

District Governor, George Carlson, came to meet with us as is usual for a D. G. to do, but he was one of the few to get the treatment from the old "Crocketeers", the "singing" group for which the real spark plug was good olde "Out Door John Clay!"

We were active in support of American Field Service Exchange Students and of the Rotary Foundation, which I now believe is one of the most important facets of Rotary, but I suppose one of the most satisfying projects for each of the participants personally was the Rancho Los Amigos project, in which we took first class movies and showed them to post-polio patients who were still confined to iron lungs. This, of course, was a project which had run for several years and was also supported by the Vernon Rotary Club.

Perhaps our best programs were the excellent talk given by Dr. Coronado Benitez, Past President Manila Rotary Club, brought to us by Stant Turner; and the fighting talk by Cecil Read on his courageous efforts to halt the dictatorial conditions in the musicians union, brought to us by John McDonald.

The District Conference was held at Coronado - far from the gaming tables which prevail in one corner of the district. But none the less, it was fun. Yours truly was "lime lighted" briefly by Maudie Prickett as a model for one of her hats. And our cocktail party ended with bottle caps and corks in our beds - thanks to a few of the participants.

These are but a few of the highlights of my year - I've got a scrap book full of them. The main thing, of course, is that they finally booted me out in favor of the next man."

About half way through the year came a letter from "Mr. Rotary", Dave Fiscus, who got the nominating committee going again and it was all but over.

But wasn't it great to go, to the music of Ira McKay's police siren, to McDonald's Camera Shop to buy a roll of film and get a camera free!?

Thankfully and sincerely, for Rotary,

Cal Goodrich

