

SAN MARINO ROTARY CLUB

President William Steele's Year
1979-1980

1979-1980 was Rotary International's 75th year and San Marino Rotary's 40th. We celebrated the 75th anniversary with a diamond jubilee dinner dance at the Huntington Sheraton Georgian Room dancing to the music of Joe Moshay's Orchestra. This year was the third year of Operation Shadow, the second year of the Run for Fun and the first year of our participation in the district Four Way Test Speech Contest. We were one of three clubs in our district that reached a \$2,400 level of donation to the new 3-H Program. Rotary International President, James Bomar, asked each club to name a non-Rotarian as a Paul Harris Fellow, and we obliged by naming the San Marino children's librarian, Beverly Saunders, as our Paul Harris Fellow for this year. We purchased blankets for Uganda, took a course in CPR and revitalized interact at our high school.

The diamond jubilee year saw Rotary back into the Tournament of Roses Parade with a float entry (paid for by separate Rotarian donations) and a social diamond jubilee section as a supplement to the "Pasadena Star News" and "San Marino Tribune." Each Rotary club in the Pasadena area contributed an article about their club, and the supplement which was titled "75 Years of Service Above Self" explained about Rotary on a local and international basis.

San Marino Rotary sponsored and sent Kristie Hubbard as a graduate Rotary Fellow to study in Florence, Italy. We helped host the group study exchange team from Argentina District 488 and as a separate club project sent Kindergarten supplies to a Rotary sponsored school project in Guatemala via our own Ken Veronda. We helped welcome the new Hesperia Rotary Club into District 530 and increased our local club membership by 7%. We mourned the passing of member Stanton Turner a YMCA pioneer in the Philippines and a survivor of Corregidor.

Our athletic endeavors consisted of the annual putting contest meeting at San Gabriel Country Club, a slow pitch baseball match between the north of the drive and south of the drive Rotarians at Southwestern Academy and a ski trip that was on and off many times but Mary Carlson's perseverance paid off. We held our first Governor's visit meeting at the Old Mill where we welcomed District Governor Bob Lauer. We joined with our wives and had the usual Rose Queen and Court joint meeting with Altadena and Pasadena East and were very proud to have three San Marino girls - Queen Julie Raatz, and princesses Liz Matioli and Mary McCoy. Under guidance of Ben Schmidt and all of the members of the high school Interact Club, the high school baseball stadium seats were reworked and refinished.

John Clay and Don Scott donated their Lake Arrowhead homes for a special "half-way through the year" retreat for Board Members. This was a great opportunity to review where we had been and to plan on where we were going for the rest of our year. A marvelous wild duck dinner was furnished by Herb Worcester and Bill Steele. A highlight of the year was our charter bus wine country trip to Santa Ynez Valley arranged by Richard Dick which included a full day of activities. A 7:30 a.m. departure and a stop in Solvang with picnic lunch at the Zaca Mesa Winery and a barbecued dinner at the Firestone Winery as well as plenty of wine tasting made for a wonderful day with our wives.

The district assembly this year was at Kellogg West - Cal Poly campus, Pomona and the district conference at Irvine. Bob and Kay Hull helped with the good

Thursday evening turnout by hosting a cocktail party at their home in Corona Del Mar. Being dark at the Women's Club that day also helped our attendance. We took a club picture with the help of Marv Carlson and had a good number of raffles and auctions during the year to try to bolster the club treasury. We almost won a \$42,000 motor home and Dave Latham tried a Senior Citizen's Day that was fun but didn't carry forward into another year. We had our usual Lady's Day, Secretary's Day, Berkeley Student's visit and donated several quarts of blood to the Red Cross. We drank Champagne on the last meeting of the year and combined it with our election of new officers. Barbara Steele was hostess to a very successful Rotarian luncheon in June. Our demotion party was held at the Athenaeum hosted by Larry and Sheryl Goodreau. Everything was on time but the piano which arrived at cocktail time. All in all it was a busy, fun year.

