

SAN MARINO ROTARY CLUB

President John S. Harris' Year
1984-1985

So wrote Ken Veronda, Bulletin Editor, of the beginning of John Harris' term as President: "Four Ruffels and Flourishes Followed by 'Hail to the Chief' by the Tamaki Marching Band announced the entrance of our new president, John S., at the beginning of this Thursday's meeting. Mr. Harris has decided to restore the Imperial Presidency, lost to Rotary by the recent series of more modest leaders. He called a Club Assembly this week as a chance to discuss plans for the 84-85 year.."

As John Young stepped down in a cheerful celebration of his year of Rotary leadership and Lee Starkey was celebrated as "Rotarian of the Year", Carlos Canseco, President of Rotary International, challenged all Rotarians to "Discover a New World of Service."

Olympic activities: There were many special activities in July including an All-City Greeting to the Republic of San Marino's Olympic Team and an All-Rotary meeting of the group. Nineteen "real San Marino" athletes arrived together with sundry staff officials, and were present for a barbecue dinner at Southwestern Academy with open bar, steak dinner by Irene's Music and Entertainment, door prizes, and a gala show for friends from the Republic of San Marino, the oldest in the world (founded 101 A.D.)

Nick Bruschi, a citizen from the Republic of San Marino, and other visitors were at the regular meeting of the San Marino Rotary Club. Nick was the speaker of the day. His daughter and two of her friends and other visitors were guests in local homes.

Over \$54,000 was raised in our district for the Polio Eradication program-PEP-last year. The district decided that the children of Paraguay would receive the benefit of this project.

President John advised all members not to show up at the Women's Club Thursday, August 30, but meet at the Old Mill for the annual meeting with the District Governor. "DG", Myron Stolp, having served far above self with many community service organizations, was a welcome guest with a real upbeat presentation.

One of the high points in San Marino Life during the year were the little black boxes of the "Water Co" and only Andy Kruegar, President Elect and "Water Co Chief" could explain how they were to be used by the local residents. No one ever understood but he went on to become President anyway.

Rotary International presented a new two-year pilot program, known as Rotary Friendship Exchange. Rotarians and their families can take reciprocal visits, staying for a few day as guests in the homes of Rotarians in other countries.

The Community Chest honored Rotarian Harold Wagner and named him "Advisor-for-Ever" at an All San Marino organization meeting in the garden of El Molino Viejo.

Our club joined Altadena East for the meeting with her majesty Queen Kristina Kay Smith and her Royal Court of the 1985 Tournament of Roses. "Youth-Bridge to Tomorrow" was the Rotary entry in the parade, "The Spirit of America" being the theme.

The Annual Paul Harris Fellowship luncheon, under the direction of Charlie Mead, was held at the San Gabriel Country Club. Honors were extended to a number of Paul Harris club members with new special pins indicating their continuing financial support for the Rotary Foundation.

Alan Hostrop announced a new club project: Student of the Month, selected at San Marino High School on the basis of high achievement in attitude, performance, character and leadership.

On Ladies Day, the ladies took over and conducted our regular club meeting. Will the club ever be the same after leadership of Rotaryannes like Randy Day and Sheryl Goudreau?

Starkey does it again. Planned a Special Rail Tour, leaving L.A. Union Station traveling to Capistrano Depot for a gala dinner and returning the same evening. Some Bash!!!!

Nearly 200 boys and girls left their High School classes on a Spring Wednesday spending the day at various factories, offices, studios, kitchens and laboratories as a part of the annual Operation Shadow Week. As usual, Barbara Bice deserved a hearty applause for her superb organization and great effort to make this event such a huge success.

San Marino's 4 Way Speech Contest winner and district runner-up B.G. Williamson of Southwestern Academy pocketed the \$300 for his fine performance.

A high point for President John was the May "Rotoscope" devoted to his 1st Grandson, Zachary, in which Editor Veronda Predicted the young man would excel at everything, well beyond any reasonable expectation. It concluded with a statement that he would run for president of our country in 2220, his 1st year of eligibility, and invite the entire Rotary Club to his inaugural celebrating his victory. Needless to say, President John had it framed!

The club met at Caltech Athanaeum to demote John Harris. He has served the club well with many accomplishments during his year. Our club concludes 46 years of service to the local and world community, and again our leader, John, had a great part in making his year, 1984-85, the success it was.

