

## SAN MARINO ROTARY CLUB

President Chris Datwyler's Year  
1995 - 1996

Chris and Sally began the year at the Rotary International Convention in Nice, France in June. It was the largest Rotary Convention ever held in Europe with 34,000 in attendance. The Rotary theme was "Act With Integrity, Serve With Love, Work For Peace. Ken Miller of the Las Vegas Club was the District Governor.

Club officers were: Lois Derry, President-Elect; Lee Mothershead, Past-President; Judy Almond, Secretary; Gerry Wolcott, Treasurer; Ken Veronda, Bulletin Editor and Warren Yetter, Sergeant-at-Arms. The Directors were: Margie Lowe-Francis, Club Service-House; Bob Warnock, Club Service-Membership; Dennis Magrdichian, Club Service-Programs; Paul Crowley, Community Service-Events; Debbie Priestler, Community Service-Youth and Schools; Bob Eichel, Foundation and International Service; Jim Tanner, Foundation and Bill Hyland, Vocational.

Jim Tanner displayed his new Harley-Davidson "hawg" at the first meeting and, dressed in his black leather riding suit, invited Rotarians to sponsor his ride to South Dakota with all proceeds going to Rotary charities. We wondered if he had a Rotary Wheel tattooed under the leather. After returning, he gave us a slide presentation with pictures of the thousands of "hawgs" and fascinating bikers gathered in Sturges, South Dakota. Jim presented the Club with a \$2000 check from his sponsors.

Our first social event was the Governor's visit, held in the gardens at the home of Past-President, Lee Mothershead. District Governor Ken Miller talked about his goals for the year. Grace Wang, our Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar, was about to begin her year of study in Hong Kong and told us about her plans.

Outstanding luncheon programs were a goal for Chris' year. Emile Baile chaired the Program committee. Speakers were selected with an emphasis on government and schools, community activities, business, culture, and Rotary. Programs included presentations by the Chairman of the Planning Commission, the Mayor giving his "State of the City" address, and the Director of Athletics at San Marino High School. Many programs were presented by club members which included Cliff Smith, owner of the San Marino Tribune; Tom Godley, Superintendent of Schools; Jim Folsom, Director of the Botanical Gardens and David Zeidberg, Director of the Library at the Huntington; Frank Wills, Police and Fire Chief and Bob Warnock, Executive Director of the South Pasadena-San Marino YMCA. The new SMnet-San Marino's Internet Project was the topic of one program. Several meetings were scheduled away from the Woman's Club. They included the Botanical Gardens at the Huntington, the Girl Scout House, the new Fire Station at City Hall and the El Molino Viejo.

In early August, Ambassadorial Scholar Jeff Jonker, was welcomed home from a year of study at the University of St. Andrews in Scotland. Cliff and Candace Smith invited us to their home and gardens for the party.

Our first and perhaps last Mystery Dinner was held in October. Unbeknownst to the guests, the dinner was at a new mess hall at the Boy Scout camp in the mountains above Monrovia. Unsuspecting diners boarded a bus that headed toward the camp. All went well until the paved road ended. Almost immediately after starting up the dirt road, the bus became hopelessly stuck. Ladies in high heels and men in suits were forced to hike the last mile in total darkness, listening for rattlesnakes and mountain lions in the forest. The dinner was wonderful!

Our Christmas Party was at the University Club in Pasadena. The following week the club visited the Altadena Rotary Club along with the Pasadena Sunrise Club where we met the Queen and Court for the Pasadena Tournament of Roses. Other joint meetings were held with the South Pasadena and Arcadia Clubs.



The Club's focus on youth continued with the annual Career Connection where over 200 students from San Marino High School and Southwestern Academy visited business and professional offices to see, first hand, what they might actually do in their careers. They all joined us for lunch and a presentation by a San Marino High School graduate who owns a successful women's apparel store in Pasadena. In addition, the club selected 8 high school students to attend the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) conference sponsored by the District. Several San Marino Rotary Club members, including Steve Garrett, PDG, continued to provide leadership for this event which attracts over 300 outstanding students in District 5300.

Community projects included joint participation with the Rotary Club of Altadena in an Immunization Clinic, refurbishing the Girl Scout House under the direction of Warren Yetter, and in June, members staffing the game booths at the High School Grad Night Party. Fund raising for community projects included a theater party at the Pasadena Playhouse and a community-wide campaign for contributions to our Mini-Grant program to fund projects proposed by individual teachers.

Three-quarters of our Club Members are Paul Harris Fellows. Under the direction of Stu Cypherd, Foundation Chairman, nearly every member of the club contributed to the Foundation during the year. Paul Harris Fellows were honored at our annual Luncheon held at the Athenaeum at Caltech, where we presented honorary Paul Harris Fellowships to D. Scott Cameron, coach and teacher at San Marino High School, and Richard E. Giss, former School Board member. Both were recognized for their outstanding service to the community.

The District Conference was held at the Flamingo Hotel in Las Vegas. The Club was recognized for its many accomplishments during the year. The Club was awarded the Presidential Citation by Rotary International.

Throughout the year, Grace Wang, our Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar, kept us informed with periodic reports delivered via e-mail - our club's first use of e-mail for international correspondence. After she returned from Hong Kong in June, a welcome home party was held at the home of Paul and Marie Crowley.

After several years of absence, the Rotary Club of San Marino entered a float in San Marino's Fourth of July parade. As Chris' year ended, the Float Committee chaired by Dick Hultine, built and decorated the float in preparation for the Parade.

Building membership was a goal of both our Club and Rotary International this year. Eleven new members joined the club.

Chris was roasted at the annual Demotion party at the Athenaeum at Caltech.