

## SAN MARINO ROTARY CLUB

President Bill Howard's Year  
1958-59

Fred Cropp commented: "It isn't so very important how far you have gone, but it is most important that you should be headed in the right direction."

Rotary in 1958-59 was headed in the right way. Clifford A. Randall of Milwaukee, Wisconsin became President of Rotary International. This year in 110 countries there were 9902 clubs and 464,000 Rotarians. R.I. President Cliff called on Rotarians throughout the world to "Help Shape the Future".

District 530 had elected Charles F. Stanwood of Alhambra as Governor for 33 clubs with 2178 Rotarians.

San Marino Rotary Club elevated to its Presidency William A. Howard. This year the Club lost a number of its members, ending the year with 66, but the average attendance was the highest of any year, except one, since the Club was organized in 1939. It was 95.83 per cent. Must have been the water.

Bill and Winnie Howard honored our club by travelling to Tokyo Japan to attend Rotary International's largest convention ever with an estimated 23,000 Rotarians and guests present.

Bill Howard pledged in his inaugural address that his administration would be as "clean as a hound's tooth". As it turned out, his Rotoscope editor held him to his promise -- sometimes brilliantly; always sensationally.

Bob Gerhart (Classification - Hardware, Distributing; former Scoutmaster of San Marino Rotary Troop 4) was the Editor, and a new size, color or format was featured each week. Bob claimed that the Rotoscope was actually edited by Silky Sullivan. But the more things change, the more they remain the same. For the first time in the twenty year history of San Marino Rotary, postage rates were increased 33%. At the beginning of the year, first class postage for the Rotoscope was three cents; at the end of the year it was four cents.

The Rancho Los Amigos project, which had been a successful Community Service activity for a number of years, was turned over to other sponsorship, and was terminated as a continuing program of San Marino Rotary. The showing of feature movies to the post-polio patients in the Rancho Los Amigos Hospital had attracted the personal participation of the entire club -- husbands and wives -- and the organization and financing of the program had been a major project for several years. It was now developed to the point that its operation could be carried on by others, and the San Marino Rotary Club could turn to the development of new projects.

President Bill brought the club back to its long-time meeting place at Pierre's Restaurant, which had re-opened with a changed management team.

Honorary membership was voted for the 1958-59 year for the past honorary members, Clark Bell and Corson Ide.'

The writer notes that an item in the minutes of the Board of Directors reads, "The directors approved an expenditure of \_\_\_\_\_ for printing the club history." At least one can dream.

This seems the appropriate occasion to present an orchid to our lovely and vivacious pianist, Winnie Howard. She has cheered us each Thursday with her music and smile. For all Presidents past and future the writer again voices what each has said, "From the bottom of our hearts, Thanks, Winnie."

#### ED BREWSTER'S OBSERVATIONS

Bill Howard, our 20th president, brought his own background music when he became our president. Winnie, in addition to cheering us each week with her music and smiles, also provided us with a preview of what the well dressed woman would be wearing.

Bill, between business trips, hunting and fishing expeditions, ran a tight little club and had a highly successful year. We thoroughly approved of his frequent hunting expeditions, as over the years he has very generously provided his fellow Rotarians with a number of deer and elk luncheons.

Bill's Board of Directors meetings were unique in the annals of Rotary history. -- the following morning it was not always easy to recall what happened. One thing for sure the meetings were never dull -- and this also applied to our weekly luncheon meetings.

Bill was quite a ladies man, he had nine Ladies Day meetings during his year.

This was also the year Bob Gerhart wrote the Rotoscope as it was never written before or since -- nothing was safe -- and nothing escaped his clever humor.

