

SAN MARINO ROTARY CLUB

President Lloyd C. Ownbey, Jr.'s Year
1987-1988

1987-1988 was the year that women were admitted into Rotary in the United States. We were determined to follow the tradition of Rotary and seek out the finest. With Bill Steele as chair, we did. In 1987 our first woman was Barbara Bice who had been an honorary Paul Harris Fellow for her work with Operation Shadow (now Career Connection). Her father was a Rotarian for over 30 years at the time.

Our second woman was Debbie Lowrey. Her father had been a member of San Marino Rotary Club. She has become our first woman President. The number of women would reach five during the presidency term. Women have become a welcome addition to Rotary.

Our second challenge was Polio Plus. Rotary International had agreed that Rotary would provide the money necessary to eliminate polio as a disease within this century. San Marino had almost, from the beginning, contributed to those that had been struck by this disease. Now the tools were available. Rotary, with help from others, provided far in excess of our financial goal. It also provided manpower in most of the countries of the world.

A side effect was a concern that this effort might dry up the planned giving that supported the traditional giving to scholarships/ambassadors of goodwill. We were determined that these monies would be new monies. Jack Morlan and Dick Ohlson made sure that we exceeded our traditional giving. (The district was less than 50% in unrestricted giving for the first time since the beginning of the foundation.) Steve Garrett insured that we met the challenge of Polio Plus.

Our District Governor, Tim Siu, met with our club at the Huntington Library. His wife and board wives had a catered dinner in a home in San Marino. One of our past Rotary scholars spoke to the wives about her trip and education in Hong Kong.

We set forth the concern that our charitable giving not be diluted by increasing club costs. (This goal was achieved in Joe Lewis' year). We continued to make significant financial contributions such as \$1,000 annual giving to South Pasadena/San Marino YMCA. We steadfastly supported the San Marino Schools with projects such as the Operation Shadow/Career Connection; the 4-way test, student of the month, and recognition of the most successful graduates.

We gave, as we have for years, our time to run the games for the grad night extravaganza. We also supported the Interact Club, which is the strongest club at San Marino High School.

We recognized Lois Mathews as a Paul Harris Fellow at a luncheon at the San Gabriel Country Club. We attended the District Convention in Santa Barbara, and the International Convention in Munich, Germany.

San Marino Rotary continued to support the Rotary Float in the Rose Parade, and to have the Rose Queen and her court meet with our fellow clubs of Altadena and East Pasadena.

With fine programs and inspired service, we were all justly proud to be members of the San Marino Rotary Club.

