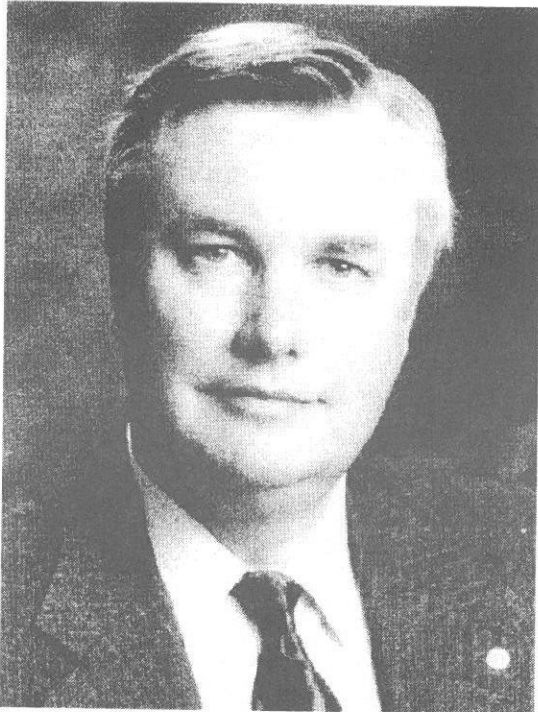


## STEVE GARRETT

Governor, District 5300, 1994-1995



A review of the year I served as District Governor brings many fond memories. The year began by visiting each of the sixty-three Rotary Clubs that made up District 5300. A whirlwind tour of Southern California and Nevada where Mage and I had the opportunity to make the acquaintance of three thousand Rotarians who shared our vision of what Rotary was capable of.

We witnessed several major successes within the district during the Rotary year of 1994-95. Included within that list of successes was the idea of a five fold increase in the scholarships awarded by both an Stover Music Awards and Four way Speech contest to \$5000. A simple matter of promoting the participation in these events and charging an entry fee.

During the Rotary year our district hosted a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar from the non-Rotary country of China. Yu Zhao from Nanjing University was selected by a special committee of San Marino Rotarians to study business at The University of Nevada Las Vegas campus. Our high hopes of her returning to Nanjing

and building bridges of friendship were dashed when political upheaval in China forced her to seek refuge in Canada at the end of her studies in the United States.

Another accomplishment of the Rotary district 5300 was an outstanding Peace Conference fuels at Beckman Auditorium at Cal Tech, featuring Dr. Arthur Chilangarov, the Vice-Chairman of the Russian Duma. Over one thousand Rotarians from several districts throughout Southern California participate in this event of increasing international understanding.

The district began a new program of leadership development during the 1994-95 Rotary year called PRLS, the acronym standing for Practical Rotary Leadership seminar. The whole program was based on the idea of increasing Rotary knowledge and leadership skills among Rotarians long before they are nominated to leadership ads president of their Rotary club. A good beginning for a program that we hope will eventually grow into one of the key reasons why people join Rotary.

The district celebrated the beginning of the Interact Symposium, another program that would grow over the following years into a major three day training event for incoming Interact club presidents and advisors. This event was chaired and financially supported by district 5300, while participants came from all seven districts in Southern California and Nevada.

The Rotary year was completed by a District Conference at the Sheraton Grande Hotel in La Jolla, California. More than 600 Rotarians Ad spouses participated in the celebration of a year of success for District 5300 of Rotary International.