



**A Brief History of the
Rotary Club of Santa Barbara Sunrise
on the occasion of the
25th Anniversary Gala Celebration**

March 6, 2010

**Compiled and Edited by
William Sheldon Abel**

Acknowledgements

The editor would like to thank a number of people who have been instrumental in providing assistance, information, documents and all manner of support in the creation of this document. First, thank you to Sandy Grasso-Boyd for numerous newsletters, photographs, scrapbooks and information. Also thanks go to Harold Kono and Steven Boehm for their incredibly complete collection of Early Bird Bugle newsletters from December, 1984 to December, 1998. Thank you to all the Past Presidents who contributed their thoughts, which constitute the main body of this work. To the Gala Committee and President Sister Christine Bowman who asked me to prepare this history I pass along a gentle nod for several sleepless nights. I would like to give a very special thanks to Karen Kawaguchi who designed the cover and printed several hard copies for the 25th Anniversary Gala Event held at the Biltmore Hotel on March 6th 2010. Thank you also to those I may have overlooked or forgotten! Bill “Barely” Abel

The Rotary Club of Santa Barbara Sunrise was nudged into existence by a jovial group of well meaning Rotarians from the six clubs of Group 8, Rotary District 524 (now District 5240) on or about December, 1984. Prominent among the founding fathers were Norman Anderson, Jack Cunningham, Fred Allen, Jim Johannsen and, destined to be our first President, Brooke E. Sawyer, Jr.

The group gathered together at what is now the International House of Pancakes (then Turnpike Lodge Restaurant) near highway 101 and Turnpike Road. Rotary International was interested in expanding its membership. Rotary Clubs tended to be territorial, so it was not possible to garner new members from existing territories. With the establishment of breakfast clubs with no territorial boundaries, expansion of Rotary membership was possible. As the weeks passed sufficient new members had been proposed to meet the requirements to form a new Rotary club and the club was chartered on March 6, 1985. On April 20, 1985, over 250 Rotarians and guests gathered at the Sheraton Hotel in Santa Barbara to celebrate the new club. The twenty-seven charter members included the following:

Steve Boehm; James B. Bond, DVM; Robert Bowen; Joe Cole; John Dunlap; **Fred Gaeden**; David Gillig; Larry G. Goodwin; Alan M. Griffin; David Groom; Glenn Gunsolley; James Hurnblad; Dennis Iden; Roy W. King; Harold Kono; Hewitt R. Lang, M.D.; **Steven N. Mascagno, DDS**; Dean Maxson; Joe Maxwell, Jr.; Robert C Mitchell; Jim Rehfus; Dan Sauro; **Brooke E. Sawyer, Jr.**; Jeffrey C. Schneider; **Jerry D. Smith**; **E. Russell Smith**; and Michael Young.

The members whose names are in bold print are still with the club after 25 years! Many of the above named people still participate in club-sponsored events. That kind of loyalty is a litmus test for just how wonderful the Sunrise Rotary club is.

On May 1, 1985, the Sunrise Club moved to the University Club of Santa Barbara located at the intersection Santa Barbara and Sola Streets. Over the years the club has met at the Sheraton (Radisson) Hotel, Cabrillo Arts Center, Santa Barbara Yacht Club, The Santa Barbara Club and various business and non-profit organizations for special vocational or charitable occasions.

In April, 1986, The First Sunrise Rotary Charitable Golf Tournament was held at Sandpiper Golf Course. May 24, 2010, is the date for the Twenty Fifth Annual Sunrise Golf Tournament that will be held at Rancho San Marcos Golf Course. Tim Marme has been the Chairman of all of these events including a few springtime golf "marathons" which also raised money for the Sunrise Rotary Charitable Foundation. In addition to golf tournaments, Sunrise Rotary has sponsored nine Fiddler's Conventions, two Swap Meets, An Evening of Magical Romance on February 14th, a Walk for Health/Walk for Life event to combat youth obesity, and supported many other non-profit events in the community. These events and club-member's generosity have raised \$323,364.52 to date in All-Time Giving to The Rotary Foundation. We have 148 Paul Harris Fellows and 25 Benefactors associated with our club. In addition our club has donated several hundred thousand dollars to local non-profit youth-oriented charities over the last 25 years. We

have built and help maintain a Centennial Picnic Area at Elings Park at a cost of over \$50,000. We have helped maintain Camp Whittier Boys and Girls Club Camp each year. We have ushered thousands of children at Youth Symphony Concerts and provided hundreds of dictionaries to third-grade students in the Santa Barbara Area. For years we raised money for and supported the Red Ribbon Anti Drug and Alcohol Abuse program in Santa Barbara. We have supported Career Day events at local High Schools and sponsored many Ambassadorial Scholars going abroad and attending local colleges. We have sponsored a student-of-the-month program at our local alternative high school to encourage troubled youths to achieve excellence in their education. We have helped establish dyslexic awareness centers at local libraries and raised thousands of dollars for the Salvation Army and the Red Cross. We sent a crew to Biloxi, Mississippi to help rebuild a house damaged by Hurricane Katrina.

On the international front we have shipped thousands of wheelchairs all over the world to help needy people get off the ground and become mobile. Clean water projects have been completed in Thailand and are under way in Kenya. We have sent medical equipment to Zambia, Kenya, the Philippines and all over the world with the help of Direct Relief International. We have assisted SEE International several times with cataract surgeries in Mexico. We have purchased and delivered a full sized MTD bus to an orphanage called City of the Children in Salamanca, Guanajuato, Mexico. We have sent funds and people to National Immunization Days in India, Ghana, and Nigeria to help eliminate the scourge of Polio, a major Rotary International Priority project. We helped build a laundry in a facility for mentally challenged individuals in Korea.

Our club has been active at the District level in many, many ways. We have sponsored two District Governors, Jim Johannsen and Luz Maria Ortiz-Smith. We have volunteered to serve as Assistant Governors, Group Representatives, Instructors for Leadership Programs like PRLS, numerous Committee Members and Chairmen for District Conferences and Assemblies.

The Santa Barbara Sunrise Rotary Club, in addition to all the above activities, is a fun club with lively, interesting and informative meetings held at the terribly early hour of 7AM. We enjoy wonderful healthy (sort-of) breakfasts with plenty of humor and banter. Each outgoing President can expect a step-down ceremony worthy of the amount of time and energy he/she has devoted to the club. Past Presidents have been marooned on islands, left floating in lifeboats, hand-cuffed, tried and convicted of anything from 50 counts of impersonating a Rotary Club President to blame for the World's economic crises. Past Presidents have been captured by Knights of the Round Table and buried in elephant poop or left on lily pads floating with frogs. Most have survived their step-down ordeal and gone on to greater heights in the Rotary world. Lord knows what will happen to our current President, who happens to be a Catholic Nun?

If there is any doubt about whether or not it was worth the effort of those optimistic founders back in 1984/85 to launch the Sunrise Club, just look at the above accomplishments which would not have happened had these noble people ignored the opportunity to found one of Rotary's best and most productive clubs ever to exist!

Past President's Thoughts

Brooke Sawyer (1984-85)

Santa Barbara Sunrise Rotary began well before the Charter date of March 6, 1985 - about 2 years. Rotary International set a goal of 2 million members and was making little progress, given the fact that most of the world was covered by existing Club's territory (every Club had a territory restricting any new Club). To move forward Rotary International concluded that the best way to expand was to establish new Clubs, and new morning meeting Clubs would be exempt from territorial restrictions. To meet R.I.'s request a Committee with members from Santa Barbara area Clubs was formed to determine if a morning Club could be formed. A number of Club representatives were afraid that existing Club's memberships would be damaged, so that it was agreed that an effort would be made to establish a morning Club with the restriction that no member could transfer to a new morning Club from any Santa Barbara Area Clubs. With the help of members from the Clubs recruiting potential members and running demonstration meetings the required 25 potential members were found. A problem existed that no potential leader of the new Club had any experience in Rotary. It was therefore agreed that one transfer member would be allowed. Brooke Sawyer, a member of the Montecito Club, was chosen as he had been a Charter Member of a new Club (East Sacramento).

Stuart Colville (1988-89)

When Bill asked for a memory or two of 1988-89, I had to search my few remaining brain cells. After all, I was an accidental President and my primary objective was not to sink the ship.

By accidental, I really do mean it. Back in those days the President came from the existing Board of Directors. I had been appointed to the Board a few days before the fateful meeting to replace a Director who had left the club. When the meeting was called to order both David Groom and I were late. Parking around City Commerce Bank was brutal. David and I walked into the meeting together 15 minutes late, giving each of the other Directors the opportunity to graciously decline the position. David, having read the agenda in advance, begged off to the following year leaving me as the next President. In spite of such shaky start, it was a wonderful year highlighted by the expansion of the golf tournament and the successful conclusion of the first Polio Plus campaign. Being the President of this dynamic club was one of the great experiences of my life.

Since moving to Orange County 6 years ago, I have been an active member of the Newport-Irvine Rotary Club. I had hoped to attend this event but am unable to due to a family matter. However, I am looking forward to the 50th anniversary come hell or high water.

David Groom (1989-90)

AAgghh!! No that's not a clip from Jody's step down, it's the realization that tomorrow is February 19th, 2010 and I have to submit something to you NOW!! It's also the realization that my Presidency was 20 years ago and the principal of CRS (can't remember s**t) has hit with a thump!!! Can you believe I have Bugles from everyone else's year except mine??

So the theme of my year was 'Enjoy Rotary' and at that time I certainly took that seriously. In fact it should have been 'Enjoy Life'!

It really started in Seoul Korea with my International Convention, an amazing experience as I'm sure all Presidents feel. However I think the most memorable part of my Presidency was our trip to Celaya Mexico. It was a chance to help with surgeries in our sister city, raise some money and bring supplies to the children's hospital there, but also get to know some of the members of the Rotary Clubs of Celaya, particularly the ladies!! It was also a chance to get to know the members of my own club a little better and see our surgeons, Mike Paveloff and John Padilla at work. After Celaya we were fortunate enough to visit San Miguel de Allende for the annual running of the bulls. A scary adventure in the streets watching young matadors from the City trying to make a name for themselves, before being tossed in the air by a very annoyed bull! We were much closer to the action than we ever anticipated, a few feet separating our stomachs from a passing bulls horns. The following trip to the Bull Ring to witness the professionals preparing our steaks for the night was, unfortunately a part of Mexican life that I still don't understand. I was cheering for the bulls!!

Wait...was that even my year?? Who cares, it's still an everlasting memory, along with a trip to Puerto Vallarta, Group Study Exchanges, housing Rotary Scholars, donating money raised from our golf tournament to the many youth charities in the area. Polio Plus, and the fellowship enjoyed every week when I was privileged to be able to stand up in front of the 55 members and call the meetings to order. My life was busy at that time, a new business running a bed and breakfast, coaching soccer and softball for my 9 and 11 year old, running an insurance agency and trying to help my wife around the house, but I still 'Enjoyed Rotary' and will continue to remember the good times I had with some of the best people Santa Barbara has to offer.

Congratulations on making 25 years worth of meaningful contributions to our Community and communities around the world!

Enjoy Rotary, and Enjoy Life!!

Past President David Groom 1989/1990

Mike Young (1990-91 & 1995-96)

I can't remember yesterday. How do you expect me to remember way back then? I do remember that Dave Groom was the immediate past president (VP) and Bill Abel was Chief of Community Service. Alan Griffin was Prez Elect. Sam Greene was our District Governor and he was a real gentleman.

As I recall, a bunch of us Charter member Rotarians knew early on that if we stayed around long enough we would eventually become a Prez. So we all kind of looked at what was happening with our business personal lives and kinda lined up in an informal order and worked through the chairs to become Prez. It was an enjoyable time for all of us because everyone in our club was very supportive. My personal goal was to have good informative programs and limit the number of non-profits that came to us to do a program so they could ask for money. I also tried to push the camaraderie. During my first term we tried to do a "no brainer" swap meet at La Colina Jr. High and I think we made \$2.50. We didn't do that one again. Once again we made most of our money from the Golf Tournament. I went to 3 different International Conventions and those were really enjoyable. I am not sure why, but maybe it is because of how Brooke set the tone being our first President and the fact that we are early riser's the Sunrise Rotary Club has always been he best club in the area. There has always been a lot of energy in the club and we get things done.

Mike

Alan Griffin (1991-92)

When I attended the 1st meeting to organize Sunrise Rotary I don't think I really knew any of the other potential founding members (in fact I am not sure how I got there); 25 years later I have ongoing friendships and business relationships with many of the people who were in that room. During the 11 years I was a member my Rotary friends helped me celebrate the good things that happened in my life but more meaningful was the support they gave me during the hard times.

Thank You Sunrise Rotary!!!

E. Russell Smith (1992-93)

Thanks for the opportunity. When I think back about my year as club President very clear memories come back as to the highlights of my year. About six months before I started as President, it was about January, 1992 Dr. Doug Katsev shared a story with the club about his volunteer experience with Surgical Eye Expeditions. He had volunteered his time to go to a developing country and perform cataract surgeries for the underprivileged. This experience brought him in contact with Rotarians from that country that befriended him during the experience. I was very impressed with his story and decided that the Sunrise Club, during my year as President, 1992/93 would do our first International project. With myself and three other members we organized a cataract project with the all female Rotary club in Celaya, Mexico, the Nat-Hai-Hi. This project has gone on for the last 16 years and continues to be an annual event. The story of Rotary Club of Santa Barbara Sunrise's experience not only inspired us to be one of the most proficient International Service clubs in this District, it also inspired other clubs into the world of International Service and now our District is one of the frontrunners in International Service in the world.

My year as President also planted the seed for a future District Governor who now attends our 25th year anniversary event. During my year I also formed a committee that formulated and started our Charitable Foundation and Endowment corporation. Need I say more.

Warm Regards,
E. Russell

Don Bennett (1993-94)

INITIAL POLIO PLUS CAMPAIGN

In 1985, Rotary International became involved in the world-wide effort to eradicate Polio. By 1988, all clubs were asked to be a part of the Polio Plus campaign to raise funds, with a goal of \$120, 000,000.

I was asked to chair the campaign for Sunrise Rotary. With vivid memories of the impact of polio in the early 1950's, I knew that this was something that I could be enthusiastic about. This was my first major responsibility in the club. A committee was formed and we began to organize to raise money. Every member of the club was asked to make a pledge that could be paid over three years. Another event that was well received was having a continental breakfast once a month, with the money saved by not having a full breakfast going to Polio Plus. There were also many small events throughout the campaign that raised money.

At the end of the three year campaign, Sunrise Rotary had raised \$33,000. Worldwide, approximately double the initial goal was raised. The goal to eradicate Polio from the

world was the year 2,000. Currently there are only four countries that are not Polio free, and the efforts continue. There have been many funding campaigns since the initial one in 1988, and RI is currently raising \$200 million to meet matching money donated by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Several members of our club have participated in National Immunization Days in countries still striving to become polio free. Our club continues to be a leader in the district with its financial support of Polio Plus.

It is very difficult to get to the 100% eradication, especially in the underdeveloped countries. But Rotary is committed to achieve that goal. I hope that it will happen in my lifetime.

Gary Jensen (1994-95)

All I really wanted to do was edit and write the Early Bird Bugle, But...

We had a fine Board of Directors that included: Gary Jensen, Prez; Don Bennett, VP; Milt Weintraub, Prez Elect; Tim Marme, Treasurer; Bill Abel, Club Service (If you can imagine?); Steve Boehm, Community Service; Jerry Smith, Membership; Tom Heath, International Service; Dirk Van Iterson, Vocational Service; and Janet Napier, Rotary Foundation/Information; all serving under Jim Hawkins, District Governor; and Bill Huntley, RI President. Our Theme: *Be A Friend* and we were.

Membership:

Over the year we grew by eleven members: Bill Abshere, John Padilla, Paul Craig, Jody Dolan, Judith Cook, Luz Maria Ortiz, Robert Breunig, Virginia Razo, Maurey Raffensperger, and Barrett O’Gorman. Only a few are still members, but they are the best!!!

Fundraising:

We held our 9th Annual Sunrise Invitational Golf Tournament, which netted \$10,000.

Club Service:

Gary ditched the bell that starts our meeting in favor of a musical instrument or a song. Every meeting started with and ended with something different.

Gary wrote a new birthday song for each and every member of the club, which was sung by the club every week.

Bill Wilmer was selected as Club President Elect Nominee for 1996 – 1997

We had a very fun Sunrise 10th Anniversary Party at the Santa Barbara Yacht Club on April 23.

We held three separate Club visioning gatherings where the entire club membership gave their views and ideas of the health and future of the Club. Topics covered included: New

members, Positive aspects of our club, Ideas and areas of improvement, the Golf Tournament, and General comments.

We had a limerick contest to celebrate St. Patrick's Day. A Wilmer example:

*There once was a President named "Gary"
Whose face was very, very hairy.
He sang with his banjo,
Wrote limericks with tango,
Both of which were really, really scary!*

Community Service:

We hosted and served several dinners at Transition House.

The Club volunteered to usher at the Youth Symphony Concerts at the Arlington Theater.

We were a major sponsor of the Red Ribbon Dinner that raised funds for Free for the Weekend, combating drug and alcohol abuse by our youth.

Besides eating, drinking and singing, our Holiday Party included wrapping hundreds of teddy bears which were handed out at convalescent homes along with a song in the weeks before Christmas.

The Club volunteered time and energy in the Christmas Unity store over the holidays

We supplied, cooked and served a big BBQ luncheon for a USC/DRI dental clinic held at the Direct Relief International facility in Goleta. Paul Uyesaka is a great BBQ'er.

Club members participated in Career Day at Dos Pueblos and hosted the breakfast.

International Service:

We hosted a delegation of 13 Club Rotaria de Na Tha Hi guests from Celaya that included fiestas, tours and the District Conference in Indian Wells.

We were the host club for incoming Ambassadorial Scholar, Tomoko Harada, from Japan for a year.

We sponsored Victoria Rice, a winning candidate for an outgoing Ambassadorial Scholarship to Barcelona, Spain.

A Miracle in March delegation traveled to Celaya, Mexico from March 17 - 21 that included Club members: Gary Jensen, Tom Heath, Paul Craig, and Dr. Jon Padilla, plus 8 members of the Simi Sunrise Rotary Club. While there we started a new program with the goal to supply and furnish ophthalmological and dental wings of a Rotary Clinic, and to support their health and nutrition program. The project was called "Help Me Grow". On the trip John Padilla performed five cleft palate operations and one webbed hand operation. After all the good works, fiestas and fun time, Paul, Tom and Gary

accompanied Lizabeth and Poncho Delatori on a side trip to Mexico City where we toured the City and attended the Fiesta del Sol, Festival of the Sun, gathering at the Pyramid of the Sun along with 1,000,000 Mexicans all dressed in white (except for Gary's orange shirt).

And...

Not one person in the club noticed, but on my very first day as Club president I stopped shaving. For the first six month I grew out my beard, then on the 182nd day I slowly cut it off from a beard to mutton-chops to a goatee to a little thing under my lip to a mustache to a thin mustache to two little things at the corner of my mouth until it disappeared on the day of my Step Down.

Cheryl and I were honored to start the year by attending the Rotary International Convention in Taipei, Taiwan. Before the convention we had an amazing and memorable tour of China visiting Shanghai, Beijing, Xian, and Hong Kong.

The Club ended my tour of duty with a step down trial accusing me of 52 counts (weeks) of impersonating a Club president before Judge Ito (Harold Kono) and defended by Jack Daniels (Bob McPhillips). The Club won!

Thank you, Sunrise, for the honor and the privilege to serve you.

And, all I really wanted was to edit and write the Early Bird Bugle...

Gary

Milt Weintraub/Mike Young (1995-96)

Editor's Note: Here is Mike Young's tribute to Milt Weintraub reprinted from the "Early Bird Bugle" 31 July 1996 edition...

Uncle Miltie's Year

By Mike Young, Interim President '95/'96

The '95/'96 Rotary Year was a difficult one for this club because of the untimely death of President Milt. This past year was to be *his* year! He had plans, hopes and dreams. He had been a Rotarian for nearly 40 years before being asked to be a Rotary President. He was emotionally moved at the thought and very excited about the challenge.

The theme for Milt's year was: *Act with Integrity, Serve with Love, and Work for peace.* Milt lived those words long before it was a Rotary theme. When I think of Milt I think of those words. "Uncle Milt," as he was affectionately called, was one of the most caring and kind men I have ever known. When he asked, "How are you doing," he really wanted to know. You couldn't fool him either. He could read your body language and/or

look into your eyes and tell exactly how things were. He would often offer reassuring and comforting advice.

I wonder how this past year would have gone had we had “Uncle Milt” at the helm all year. On one level the club would probably be more or less the same. But on a personal level I can’t help but think we all would be a little kinder and a little gentler.

Bill Wilmer (1996-97)

I recall my Presidential year fondly for the great camaraderie of our members during the Club meetings and for the interesting programs organized by Mike Young. Leading the meetings and encouraging the members to come to the podium to discuss their Rotary business was great fun. Interacting with our guest speakers was a joy.

The business meeting started at 7:20 am and I never ate all my breakfast until after 8:30 am. That was the year I started setting up early with Brooke Sawyer before others started arriving. It was the year that Sister Christine joined the Club. It was the year that Director of Community Service, Joanne, organized and initiated the Boys and Girls Club workday with the professional on-site guidance of Tom Heath. It was the year that the International Convention was in Calgary. It was the year that club management software was introduced to the Club and operated by Jeff Devine. Bill Abel was Club Secretary. It was the year we moved back to the University Club and we enjoyed great club service and a robust golf tournament thanks in great part to Club Service Director Francesca Cava and many meetings at her Montecito home. Luz Maria Ortiz was a relatively new member of the Club.

It was also a painful problem-solving year for the Club that created much tension in the Club and at the District governance level. I was, and still, remain very thankful for the support of then Directors Joanne Schoenfeld and Judith Cook, and Past President Luz Maria Ortiz with regards to that matter.

Bill Abel (1997-98)

Here is a reprint of my year-end Bugle contribution of June 24, 1998...

When I think of all that transpired this past Rotary Year I am truly amazed. From the trip to Glasgow to today’s awards ceremony this has been an outstanding year for me and for Sunrise Rotary. Events this year are too numerous to mention in their entirety, so I will review a few highlights.

Number one would be our successful Golf Tournament, Barbeque and Silent Auction. Thanks to **Judith Cook** and **Ken Doss** with their committee and total club participation we were able to net \$12,500 for the Foundation. Next in my memories was the productive trip to Cochabamba, Bolivia by **Janet Napier, John Padilla, E. Russell**

Smith and Luz Maria Ortiz, where they discovered several new project opportunities and brought home a project for the Bolivians to do for us in the form of a dyslexic awareness center for local libraries. **Tom Heath** recently journeyed to Celaya, Mexico to help open the new clinic that grew out of past projects that our club originated. Our most successful spring fundraiser originated by **Tim Marme** in the form of a golf marathon raised \$3,850 for the Foundation. We had a lot of fun and nursed our blisters for a bit after that one! The Community Service committee provided another outstanding year of local events topped off with the **Swift of Ipswich** tall ship program that greatly benefited some twenty tri-county youngsters and was a great deal of fun, too. Transition House dinners, Youth Symphony, Red Ribbon, the Liberty Project and Camp Whittier also contributed to our local community's outreach to youth.

Vocational mixers, awards, a 4-Way Test essay contest, and Career Day at Dos Pueblos High School were highlights of the Vocational Service Committee. Regarding Club Service we had outstanding programs this past year thanks to club members suggestions and follow through by **Stuart Colville**. **Barrett O'Gorman and Ken Doss** made the raffle and cake auction something everyone looked forward to meeting after meeting. **David Jochman and Patty Farmar** patiently greeted arriving members and guests and collected the money that fuels the finances of our organization. **Jody Dolan** welcomed five new members to our club this year and helped them get started with a new information brochure generated by **Gary Jensen** who also did a marathon quality job editing the club bulletin, The Early Bird Bugle.

The Foundation Board helped us to collect and distribute the revenues from our fundraisers and member's generosity. Many thanks to **E. Russell Smith, Fred Gaeden** and the other Board members who graciously gave their time to help others.

Now stay tuned as our first W-O-M-A-N President, **Joanne Schoenfeld**, helps us achieve even GREATER goals. Show Rotary Cares now becomes Follow Your Rotary Dream. Thank you for allowing me to preside over this wonderful organization! Barely

Joanne Schoenfeld Orenstein (1998-99)

Being honored as the first woman to represent Sunrise Rotary was a great honor. I would say that attending the RI Convention, even if it was in Indianapolis in June, was an incredible experience. I think that this was the time that I really "got" the incredible scope of our organization and the good that it does in the world.

Judith Cook McCaffrey (1999-2000)

President Judith Cook

1999-2000

Theme: Act with Credibility, Consistency and Continuity

It was an action-packed year full of fun, community service and Rotary fellowship! I had an active and enthusiastic board. Club members were very active with two hands-on community service projects a month including cooking at Transition House, holding a Blood Drive, partnering with the Junior League for a Bone Marrow Drive, work day at Camp Whittier and many others.

With a club from Bangkok Thailand, the club partnered on an international project to build a youth recreation center in Bangkok's largest slum. The El Puente Student of the Month program was started. The Club also celebrated its 15th Anniversary with an event at the Carriage Museum that year and made the move from the University Club to the Santa Barbara Club.

With member Scott Burns as El Presidente, the Club Golf Tournament moved to August and was integrated into Old Spanish Days Fiesta events increasing the revenue brought to the club. At club meetings, members enjoyed celebrating their birthdays at a decorated birthday table set up once a month.

At the end of the year, District Governor Otto Austel awarded the club with the highest award that a club could achieve in his recognition program- the Governor's "Super Club" Citation- for the club's many accomplishments. It was such a memorable year for me; I thank the members of the club for the great opportunity!

Jim Moore (2001-02)

Jim Moore

SB Sunrise President 2001-2002

Memories

- Saying "Yes" 6 months before my year as club president began
 - · Attending the RI Convention in San Antonio
 - · Meeting soon-to-be RI Presidents Rick King and Bichai Rattakul
 - · Singing "One Ton Tomato" to the club
 - · Leading the club meeting the day after 9-11
 - · Giving a speech at the District Conference "Cruise" and telling all present that Sunrise was the best club!
 - · Ringing Salvation Army bells with my dog Chelsey
 - · Announcing getting married to Dyah
 - · Writing "Chelsey Says" articles
 - · Our club winning District 5240 awards for International Service and Club Bulletin

Janet Napier (2002-03)

MY YEAR AS PRESIDENT

In preparation for our 25th Anniversary celebration, I was asked to make a few comments about my year as Club President. So, I went back and took a quick look at the articles I had written for our weekly newsletter, the Early Bird Bugle, to remind me what we had done during the year.

Of course, the year started off with attendance at the RI Convention in Barcelona. Wow! It was my first ever Convention and I remember it well. Incoming DG Marc Vertin told his incoming presidents to enjoy the visit, mix and mingle with visitors from around the world but don't worry about attending every single workshop. I followed his advice but did attend every plenary session, the highlight of which was a presentation by former Soviet premier, Mikhail Gorbachev.

Another highlight of the year was a trip we made in March 2003 to Salamanca and Celaya, Mexico, to visit the City of the Children orphanage, where we had recently upgraded their kitchen, and to assist with the Eye Surgery Clinic, along with Dr. Mike Paveloff. We'll be repeating this trip this year, seven years later. While there, we had the honor of presenting Padre Pedro with a Paul Harris Fellow award.

Fundraising for the Polio Eradication Program was a major push. DG Marc and our own Bill Abel agreed to lose weight during the year and we pledged dollars based on their weight loss. In April 2003, Marc had lost 30-40 lbs and Bill had lost 15 lbs. However, the weight loss didn't last. I'm not sure that this proved to be the most successful fundraiser!

Can you believe, under immediate Past President Jim Moore's leadership, we started working on a revision of our bylaws. Now, seven years later, we actually have completed this task. And, our own Colin Stephens led the GSE team to Brazil. Again, seven years later a group of us will be making a Friendship visit to Brazil in November this year.

During the year, I presented many ROSE (Recognition of Service Excellence) awards. Yes, real roses to the many club members who went above and beyond to carry out our many community and international projects. At the end of the year our club received the Governor's Citation at the awards ceremony.

Jody Dolan Holehouse (2003-04)

Rotary Club of Santa Barbara Sunrise
On the occasion of our 25th Anniversary 1985 - 2010
Past President Jody Dolan Holehouse (2003-4)

Every day that I have occasion to work with my Rotary friends, I celebrate how much we have done for humanity worldwide. I can say "we" as we are a part of an organization that embodies that we are one in our quest for Service above Self and improving the human condition. Our Club has worked tirelessly together from our founding days in 1985 to today to bring forth the greater good for all concerned. From our passion for international projects in Mexico, Thailand, Brazil and other countries to delivering wheelchairs far and wide to our local focus in assisting youth serving organizations, we continue to grow and snowball the effects of past experiences into even better and more successful projects.

Personally and professionally we rise to new heights because of the opportunities that Rotary has provided us. As we learn and grow, we do "get it", as our own current District Governor Luz Maria Ortiz Smith said in her February 2010 District Governor's message. Through the opportunities in Club and District participation and leadership, we are improving our own lives as well as the lives of those around us.

Daily I am reminded at home and at the office that we will all have a better outcome if we live by the Four Way Test. The answer to the problem is evident when we use these self-truths in arriving at the conclusion. What a blessing Rotary has been in my own life to provide a forum for learning and gaining understanding of those around us. These are experiences and skills we use to bridge the gaps of communication, cultures and backgrounds.

May we continue for many future years to come together in Rotary fellowship to use our talents. May we remember just how important being part of Rotary is and always make our participation a priority. Let the party continue. I'll see you at the 50th!

The Future of Rotary is in OUR Hands.
A tweak of the 2009-2010 Rotary theme

Sandy Grasso-Boyd (2004-05)

I enjoyed my year as centennial president and mahout immensely - Although our members didn't go with my efforts to get them singing, they were great in everything else. I think the highlight of the year was how we all came together at short notice to make the visit from the City of Children's Choir so memorable for them as well as for us.

We also celebrated an anniversary - our 20th that year as well as the 100th anniversary of Rotary. Planning for the Centennial Picnic area at Elings Park began and we organized a

Move on community day to get Santa Barbara exercising. Good international projects and a fantastic Early Bird Bugle also helped us really fulfilled our theme to Celebrate Rotary.

I remember playing the tune “Celebration Now” and "We are Family" at my first meeting and thanks to our Sunrise Rotarians, we ended the year on a high note winning several district awards, which can be seen on our banner now.

My step down was a little embarrassing with piles of elephant dung* spread about the room and my husband half naked as Tarzan. It's no wonder that Bill Abel has still not given me the censored photos of that occasion.

***Editor's Note:** Sandy's Step-Down as “Mahout” or Elephant Leader, was, of course, the timeless search for the proverbial “Elephant Burial Ground!” The best way to find the Elephant Burial Ground is naturally to follow the “poop!”

Colin Stephens President (2005-06)

[“Wordy” Award Winner]

June 2005

Attended the Rotary International Convention held in Chicago June 2005 Held a Reception at my suite at the Hotel Sofitel attended by large numbers of Rotarian friends including Amaury from Maringa, Brazil. It was self-catering with Sister Chris in her rented PT cruiser (top down) delivering and returning the drinks and food to Costco. A great experience for Angela and myself. We attended a Ball Game together with PDG Arnie and DG Sally

July 2005

Colin's first speaker was Dr. Otto Austel who spoke about the Rotary Polio project. Otto was DG when I joined Sunrise Rotary.

Colin introduced his office assistant Barbara Altman who will be editing the Early Bugle that Colin will write every week. The Bugle will contain interesting stories and facts, Richard Redmond's Mind Bender of the week, Joke of the week along with photos and reports of various Rotary events.

20th annual Fiesta Golf Classic. The Nomura family and Eric Tomooka won first place “Championship Flight” prize. A Great dinner afterwards at Oak Park. As usual Tim Marme did a great job with his golf committee

Colin introduced the Tuesday night Rendezvous fellowship meetings at Dargan's Pub. This was based on the UK model. A place to drop by and possibly meet some friendly faces. Colin also introduced the "Joke" to liven up the meetings, barred from the process were David Groom and Tim Marme for obvious reasons.

August 2005

Scott Johnson joined our club. Colin introduced his grandson Colin to the club members. Club members participated in the annual "Old Spanish Days Fiesta" Float, where we had Huell Houser join us on the Rotary float. As usual Walt Stephens managed the whole effort with flowers from the Carpinteria flower growers organized by Roxanne Nomura. Our District Governor Sally Adelblue also participated. The USS Ronald Reagan aircraft carrier visited Santa Barbara and many of our members participated in a tour of the vessel.

September 2005

GSE team from Mexico in SB Oct 13 and 14th. Visiting DG Sally attended the club business meeting and in the evening we all had a fellowship visit to Ty Warner Sea Center on Stearns Wharf. Bill and Sandy and Janet and Connard volunteered at the Katrina disaster. Colin introduced the Sudoku puzzle in the Bugle.

October 2005

34th annual Fiddlers Convention was a great success with a good attendance. *Still waiting for the final accounting!!* The student of the month awards continued throughout the year.

Rotary District Conference at Rancho Mirage presided over by DG Sally. Chris attended the NID polio program in Nigeria. We entertained the GSE team from Guatemala to Santa Barbara. Sandy reported on the Tsunami Recovery efforts in Thailand.

November 2005

Visiting Rotarian Tom Sheehan from Edmonds WA visited and became a regular visitor. Don Bennett continued with the Ole jokes. Richard Redmond explains his latest mindblower from the Bugle. Bill was a wiz with the camera and voiced his annoyance with the Welsh Dragon on the podium. We had great programs every week. Chris returned and presented me with a Nigerian Fez cap. The club received a report from Ambassadorial Scholar keva Jeffrey-West who is spending a year in Nottingham England. Colin, Janet and Connard attended the final launch of the titan 1V rocket blast off from Vandenberg AFB. PDG Arnie presented a program on RI Foundation.

December 2005

Ringling the Bell for the Salvation Army started once again. Our bell ringers were visited by congresswoman Lois Capps. Our members used many gimmicks to draw the donations: dogs, cats, kids, funny noses, funny hats and fish etc.

December 6th was the official groundbreaking of the Rotary Sunrise picnic area at Elings Park west.

Holiday Party Doug Katsev's home where everyone had a good time as usual. We were visited by PDG Chungsam Doh. Jody got her past president's badge. PP Judith was presented with a Paul Harris sapphire. Chris Baxter presented a program on his NID visit to Nigeria. Some of our members went down to Pasadena for the Rose Parade Rotary float decoration on December 28th. Angela and Colin reported on their visit to Brazil

We lost some members and gained some new ones

January 2006

Gary was the first Joke master for the new year. DGN Dennis was introduced to the club members. (Little did we expect those future boring Nautical terms). We had a program with Julie from Red Cross who was supported by our Red Crossers: Janet, Connard and Bill. The Salvation Army thanked us for our help in their Bell Ringing effort. The student of the year program continued.

Many Sunrise Rotarians joined our outgoing GSE team at a BBQ off 154, with PDG Jan Lindsay being the BBQ Master. Also there were; DG Sally, GSE chair Luz Maria and Toni Valasquez

The month ended with a great Super Bowl party at Dennis and Virginia's home.

February 2006

Jerry Lewis's son Chris presented a program on the Rotary Wheelchair project. (theirs are more modern and expensive than E Russell's). David Velarde earned his Blue badge. Bill Boyd attempted to read the Thai version of the HIV booklet. Work continued on planting at the Sunrise Centennial picnic area, with Connard being highlighted in the News Press.

March 1st 2006 St Davids Day

Youth Symphony started under Joe Weiland. Luz Maria announced that the GSE team survived their visit to ?. Colin showed a video of Stephanie Edwards's speech from the District conference. Gilda Coussa joined our club.

The March "Mexico or Bust" bus delivery* to the Salamanca orphanage occurred with Bill Abel, myself and my friend Miguel driving, doing the grueling bus ride on a standard City bus obtained through our Sherrie. Mike Grant from Goleta noontime RC presented a program on the SEE visit to Morelia which Colin also participated in.

Joel Unger and Bob McPhillips reported on their Indian NID experience. Luz Maria, E Russell and Colin attended the annual fundraiser at Tecate. Janet worked hard to help establish the local SB city Rotaract club.

March was a busy month even Dr. Mike Paveloff showed up one week.

April 2006

A team of Sunrisers left for the Mexico for a week's work March 27- April 2 at the orphanage. Bill Abel took some great photos in addition to the painting work. Janet reported their experiences to club members where they had a ribbon cutting ceremony for the kitchen equipment the club purchased (Washer, Fridges etc. (Where are they now!!!) President Elect Scott attempting to fill his Board for 2006-2007. Barbara continued with her student of the month program. (two presentations this month) Club members enjoyed the Heart Surgery program.

Colin held a mixer at his Las Vegas office where our members were joined by Colin's make-up club Las Vegas Sunset RC. After which a party was held at Tom and Raquel's home where many members stayed. En route Bill's Cadillac overheated and caused expensive repairs. While waiting for the tow truck, Bill, Judith and Jody enjoyed the hospitality of the Mad Greek Restaurant in Baker

May 2006

We lost a good member when Fred Piori left Santa Barbara, while Janet Stanley joined our club. Judith's parents visited our club where Judith presented her dad and mom with a Paul Harris pins. Luke Brothers a Rotary Peace Scholar presented a program. Colin showed slides of Brazil . Colin's podium was filled with a Welsh Dragon, the bell and a bottle of Tequila (lottery win). As usual lots of jokes and comments from many club members. Student of the month award. Club meetings continued with lots of participation and jokes.

June 2006

Colin presented his Board members with Thank You gifts also the board members presented their committee members with gifts for their hard work. Colin presented Angela and Barbara Altman with Paul Harris pins for their help throughout the Rotary year. Sister Christine reported on her visit to Brazil

Where the members produced a wonderful program with DG Sally attending as Princess Daffodil. We had many Knights including Jody as "Not Tonight" The program developed

had great lyrics by Bill Abel set to the music of Tom Jones biggest hits. Sir Colin was knighted by Judith before a murder was discovered at the Louvre and King Arthur's knights slaying the welsh dragon

Colin presented all club members with a nice magnetic Sunrise Rotary badge.

The presidency was handed over to Scott Burns.

Review

I think our club had a very good year with lots of good programs , Pay and Tell and plenty of fun as well as many ongoing projects for our community and internationally. I made made many new friends throughout the year.

***Editor's Note:** Due to many delays, the bus trip actually took place near the end of September, 2006. It was a fun trip!

W. Scott Burns (2006-7)

["Sparse" Award Winner]

Sure: Rotary without Guilt

And the one meeting that I had to leave as soon as I got there, and asked Karen K. to fill in for me.

Dennis Johns (2007-08)

Memories of my year:

- 1) Mine was the year the flush toilets failed at the Olde Time Fiddlers Convention. Oh Crap!
- 2) Mine was the year our club evolved the speaker gift program to the current Dictionary Project in which we deliver over 700 dictionaries to local area 3rd graders.
- 3) Always in the top five clubs in the district for attendance, we achieved the top spot the last quarter.
- 4) Mine was the year the PR Director became a member of the club board and that position remains a board member in alignment with the Club Leadership Plan promoted by RI.

5) Mine was the year the Membership Exemption to encourage early-career professionals to become members became part of the Club Traditions.

That doesn't seem like much but we did have a lot of fun.

Dennis

Sister Christine Bowman (2009-10)

President's Perspective

Being part of RCSBS has been such a blessing in my life, the wonderful experiences, the warm friendships, the great fellowship. Then to top it all off came 2009-2010 and the awesome experience of being President. I have enjoyed this role so much and I'm honored you would have chosen me to do this.

We have a pretty amazing group and the works that we do in "Service Above Self" has been a wonderful legacy we leave to the community domestically: El Puente School; sending dictionaries to 3rd graders; hosting a Fiddler's Convention and 25th annual golf tournament. And on the world stage: the thousands of wheelchairs sent abroad; the work with City of the Children orphanage in Salamanca; participating in NIDs; team going to Mexico for cataract surgeries; family trip to southern part of Brazil; assisting in relief in Haiti. The list just goes on and on. When we look back on this year we can be proud of so much in all that we together have accomplished.

We celebrate a quarter century of presence and our vision is fulfilled:

In giving of ourselves, the members of the Rotary Club of Santa Barbara Sunrise...

Will make a difference - doing ordinary service in extraordinary ways - in the international and local communities.

Sunrisers, we have made a difference!

Sister Christine Bowman, OSF

In Memoriam

Suzie Anderson

Bill Hendrick

Eric Maedgen

Dean Maxson

Dr. John Padilla

Pat Perrett

Donna Valle

Milt Weintraub