



STEVE LEMMON

2004 – 2005

Rotary Club of North Sacramento



Steve Lemmon was the 10th District Governor in District 5180. He joined the Rotary Club of North Sacramento in 1980. His sponsor was Dolph Hill. Glenn E Estess Sr of Alabama was the Rotary International President that year and his International Theme was “Celebrate Rotary”. Steve selected a District theme for his year: “Rule #1: Have Fun”. His District Logo was unique in that it was a cartoon characterization of himself in a referee uniform (See upper right). He had a sports theme for the district in his year.

Steve’s main goal for his year was to recognize clubs in the district for their local projects. He asked each club to adopt a Centennial project. His most memorable club project was seven clubs sharing in the building of Rotary House in Sacramento. Two high points for Steve in his year were first; celebrating the 100th anniversary of Rotary (February 23, 2005) and second; holding a special dinner event for RI President Glenn in Sacramento.

Steve recalls a club visit at the Rotary club of West Sacramento where the meeting was opened with the local high school band playing the Star Spangled banner.

His District Conference was held at the Double Tree Hotel in Rohnert Park in April 7 – 10. At that event he had a dunk tank where the president’s rep took a turn to help raise money for Polio Plus. Steve participated in the Group Study Exchange program and had the GSE team from Rotary District 2500 in Japan in attendance at his conference. The outstanding Rotary club of the year, West Sacramento, was awarded the Governor’s Bell.

Steve is one of the few District 5180 governors who served as a GSE team leader. He led a GSE team to South Africa in 2012. Being raised around Rotary, Steve always felt that joining a Rotary club made you a Rotarian. However, it wasn’t until his experience as a GSE District committee chair did he feel he became a “true Rotarian”. He was working with a GSE team from South Africa in the late 1980’s overcoming apartheid that made him proud to be a Rotarian.

Steve has served in many Rotary roles outside of District 5180 including an instructor at the Far West PETS, GETS, & GNATS. He also has served in various capacities at Zone Institutes plus

Regional Rotary Foundation Coordinator for Zone 25. Steve and his wife, JoAnn were chosen to serve as Presidential representatives to District 7150 (Central New York) in April 2014.

Steve is the recipient of multiple Rotary awards including Citation for Meritorious Service in 1999-2000, Distinguished Service Award in 2005-06 and Service Above Self in 2013-14. Both he and his wife, Jo Ann are multiple Paul Harris Fellows, Major Donors, members of the Bequest Society and Paul Harris Society. They have also made their two sons Paul Harris Fellows as well as their grandchildren.

If he were to serve as a DG again, Steve noted he would do more planning in his DGN and DGE years. His advice to future District Governors *“is to explore how other districts approach things and steal good ideas. For the District Governor Elect, use the year wisely to prepare and build a team. It is the year for maximum effort in order to have a great year as DG”.*