



DEE FAIRBANKS

2006 – 2007

Rotary Club of Oroville

Dee Fairbanks was the 12th District Governor in District 5180. He joined Rotary in May 1982 with the classification of “General Engineering”. His sponsor was Keith Stutznegger. William “Bill” B. Boyd from New Zealand was the Rotary International President and his international theme was “Lead the Way”. Dee also had a district theme “Celebrate Kids”. His goals for his year focused on membership development, strengthening the Four Avenues of Service, increase Foundation giving and performing all achieving in a balance budget.

Dee has several memorable elements in his year. Two new Rotary clubs were chartered; Gold River and Pocket Greenhaven. 26 of 37 clubs had a net increase in membership. Foundation giving was \$315,000 which reflected a \$154 per capita for the year.

Dee and his wife, Donna, enjoyed their club visits and always found themselves welcome with every club. They recall three club visits that were true standouts, Lincoln, Sacramento and Dee’s own club; Oroville.

Dee’s DG year included a Group Study Exchange with District 2350 in Sweden. In keeping with his District Theme, “Celebrate Kids”, he created an International project. The outgoing GSE team from District 5180 participate with the Rotarians of District 2350 in visiting and presenting gifts sponsored by District 5180 to children confined in Swedish hospitals.

Dee’s District Conference was over the Mother’s Day Weekend in May 4 – 6 2007 at the Double Tree Hotel in Rohnert Park. His conference emphasized his “Celebrate Kids” theme with the programs centered around performances by youth. Throughout the conference, Clubs made presentations on projects involving youth in their communities. Saturday evening entertainment included three young ladies singing popular songs from the 70’s and 80’s. The local Boy Scout troop presented the American Flag followed by the Rotary Youth Exchange students parading into the room with their country flags. The Rotary Club of Lincoln was selected as the Outstanding Club of the year. He had both the incoming and outgoing GSE teams do their presentations at his conference.

Dee always considered himself a true Rotarian since his Grandfather had membership in Rotary. However, he recalls that a trip to a small city in Mexico delivering medical supplies to a hospital with the aid of the local Rotary club as a real eye opener and a spiritual confirmation of the real values of Rotary. That was when he says “I became a True Rotarian”.

Both Dee and Donna are multiple Paul Harris Fellows and Major donors. They have also made most of their 7 children (5) Paul Harris Fellows.

Outside of the District Dee has served on the Zone Institute Committee.

Dee composed a document entitled "Reflections of Rotary" where he attempted to relate to what Rotary meant to him. He described it as follows "1. Rotary isn't all about me but it is all about you and all the 'yous' out there I have come to know and the ones I haven't met and probably never will. 2. Rotary is about building relationship of trust. 3. Rotary is about feelings of concern, sharing, love, and joy. 4. Rotary is doing and I have found the doing is very fulfilling." Dee's advice to future District Governors is *"Go for it! It is well worth the time, effort and expense!"*