



GORDON BORDSEN

1994 – 1995

Rotary Club of Marysville

Gordon Bordsen served as the District Governor for 5190 during the creation of District 5180. He joined the Rotary Club of Marysville in 1974. His sponsor was Dick Stage. Gordon retired in 1990 with the classification of "Transportation Administration". Bill Huntley from England was the Rotary International president and the theme for his year was "Be a Friend". Gordon had adopted a District Theme; "Growth, Service & It's Gotta be Fun". Gordon and his wife, C J, resided on a ranch raising sheep and growing rice. So it seemed appropriate that his District newsletter be titled "The Sheep Skin". The title of his monthly report in the newsletter was "Baa! Baa! Baa!"

His most unforgettable experience of his year as DG was participating in the division of the District 5190 into two Districts; 5190 & 5180. Along with many of the club visits, his visit to the Rotary Club of Loyalton (District 5190) was quite memorable. Following his sharing a story about the "Old Shepherder", the Loyalton Rotarians responded to his tale by holding a "Lamb Bar be Que" in his honor. Gordon fondly recalls the District participating in an International project; drilling a water well in Africa. Fortunately the District had learned of the need by a young woman from Marysville who was living in the African community at the time. She had shared the need for fresh water back home with the Marysville Rotarians and they made it a project.

Gordon held his District Conference on May 5 – 7, 1995 at John Ascuaga's Nugget Casino in Sparks, Nevada. His Conference theme was "Highway to Friendship". PDG Tom Harris was in charge and it was the last district conference before the 79 clubs divided into two districts. Gordon had a Group Study Exchange (GSE) with Districts in both Chile (District 4350) and Japan (District 2820). All four GSE teams (incoming and outgoing) attended his conference. The outstanding club of the year was the Rotary club of Marysville (Gordon's own club). The president of his club was Herb Brennen.

Gordon served as the District representative to the Council of Legislation on April 21-27, 2001 in Chicago, IL. Gordon stated he became a "true Rotarian" when "I knew that here and in most countries Rotary leaders saw that the money spent and the time given went to those people who really needed it". His recommendation to incoming District Governors is to be *"Be confident and be flexible. You have the district behind you."* Gordon is a multiple Paul Harris Fellow.