



CLARENCE PARKINS

2007 – 2008

Rotary Club of Rancho Cordova

Clarence Parkins served as the 13th District Governor in District 5180. He first joined the Rotary Club of Santa Monica in 1982 with the classification of “Lobbyist”. His club sponsor was Jim Hansen. In 1992 he transferred membership to the Rotary Club of Rancho Cordova. His sponsor to that club was John Chapman. Wilf Wilkinson from Canada was the Rotary International President for the 2007 -2008 year and his International Theme was “Rotary Shares.” Clarence chose “Light Up Your Rotary World” for his District theme. Clarence’s two key goals for his year as DG were to increase membership and Foundation Giving; both which he achieved.

Clarence and his wife, Sallie, enjoyed visiting the clubs in the district. At their club visit with the Rotary club of Marysville, they both were amazed at the number of community projects being performed. Clarence was most impressed with the Rotary Club of Sacramento’s community service project. It was the renovation of a ball park in a poor section of East Sacramento. Internationally, the District participated in the construction of a science lab in Turkey.

Clarence’s most memorable event of his year was having his family attend his district conference. His conference was held at “Montbleu” in South Lake Tahoe over Mother’s day weekend; May 9 – 11, 2008. His Friday offsite event was a lake cruise on the Tahoe Queen. The Rotary Club of Folsom was selected as the Outstanding Club of the year.

Clarence participated in the Group Study Exchange program and had an exchange with a Rotary District 1920 in Austria.

Outside of the District, Clarence represented the District on the Rotary International Director’s Selection committee for Zones 25/26 and various roles for the Zone Institute, delegate to the Council on Legislation in Evanston, Chicago and as an instructor at Far West PETS. He is a Multiple Paul Harris Fellow, Major Donor and a member of both the Paul Harris Society and Bequest Society. He also is a recipient of the Citation for Meritorious Service award from Rotary International.

Clarence noted he became a “true Rotarian” when he was delivering Christmas baskets on a club service project in the pouring rain. He found that he lived the “Service above Self” experience at that time. He also stated he was “very satisfied with my year”. His advice to an incoming District Governor is *“Enjoy the ride. It will be your best year in Rotary.”*