



BARBARA TRACY

2016 – 2017

Rotary Club of South Sacramento



As the 23rd District 5180 Governor, Barbara Tracy was the District's second woman governor. Sponsored by Craig Stevenson, she joined the Rotary club of South Sacramento in 2004 with the classification of "Educational Administration." John Germ from Chattanooga, Tennessee served as the Rotary International President the year of her governorship, and his International Theme was "Rotary Serving Humanity." With a District theme of "Feel the Power of Rotary," Barbara's goals were expanding each Rotarian's vision and experience in Rotary, increasing membership, supporting PolioPlus, celebrating the family, and commemorating the 100th Anniversary of the Foundation.

Barbara thoroughly enjoyed seeing and hearing about all the wonderful projects taken on by 5180 clubs, and she called this the most memorable part of her year. On one visit, Barbara and her husband, Jim drove around the local town and were amazed to see the Rotary wheel displayed throughout the community on projects done by local Rotarians. It reminded them of the impact Rotary can have on a small town. In addition, several clubs participated in international projects involving clean water, housing, and schools. Barbara added that the District's first reverse grant, which focused on helping the victims of human trafficking as well as prevention, started in her year.

Barbara's husband Jim is also a Rotarian in the same club as Barbara. He chose to be called "The DG's Detail Man," as her chief supporter and one who continually helped with logistics. He accompanied her on all her club visits and documented their visits with photographs. This interest in pictures led to the "The Zany Photo Contest" and the display of clubs' entries at the district conference. Held on May 5-7, 2017 and at the Marriott Hotel in Santa Clara, the 2016-17 conference had an international theme, and participants were invited to dress in the attire of another country for the Saturday evening session. In prior years, the Friday evening event had been held away from the hotel property, but as the committee found out, even the best laid plans can run into problems. At the last minute, the Friday evening venue opted not to honor the contract with the District forcing the committee to come up with another venue and activity quickly. The committee successfully located an alternative program—a murder mystery dinner—that turned out to be a great success. True to Barbara's background in education, the 2016-17 District Conference was very informative, and attendees enjoyed learning more about Rotary. Many awards were presented with the Rotary Club of Point West taking the trophy as the Outstanding Club of the year.

Barbara stated she became a “True Rotarian” when she and Jim participated in a wheel chair delivery in Peru in 2009. That feeling was further strengthened when they both served during a National Immunization Day (NID) in India in 2014 and distributed water filters in a favela in Sao Paulo, Brazil in 2016.

Barbara and Jim are multiple Paul Harris Fellows, Benefactors, Bequest Society members, and Major Donors. They continue to support Rotary as members of the Paul Harris Society.

When asked if she had any advice for future District Governors, Barbara made this recommendation. *“First of all, do your homework and enjoy your year! Then, make sure to note where the Rotary International Convention is being held during your year. If it is to be held in North America, consider having a fall conference to avoid potential impact on attendance at either event.”*