

VERA ING
President, 1996-1997

Nancy Lucks, Jim Osborn, May Wan, Phil Ginsberg and Annie Wong-Daly come to mind as board members during my term. Gary Ewing was stricken with cancer during that year, so it was a difficult time.

One of the highlights of my year as president was the Rotary reception held at my house for the Mayor of Davo, the Phillipines, whom I met during my trade mission with Velma Veloria, Washington State legislator. Thanks to help from Rotary member Gary Ikeda and Group Health Cooperative, we initiated an international project to supply hospital equipment to a Manila hospital. Another highlight of the year was Paul Ong's library project.

I initiated the idea of having club "get together" socials throughout the year at the Wing Luke Museum in order to give members a better feeling for Asian culture and to help another organization in its effort at community outreach.

Other organizations we assisted were the Denise Louie Day Care Center, the Asian Counseling and Referral Center, and the International District Improvement District.

The Club was involved with the International District Street Fair held in July, and used this event to promote our club in obtaining new members and to explain the goals of Rotary. Members sold ice cream bars, but the bars quickly melted and we had a gooey mess!. However, we all had fun.

The annual fund-raising auction held at Union Station was a grand event, but not without its anxious moments. A few hours before the event was to begin many of the auction items had not arrived from the storage warehouse. At the very last moment the items arrived, and members quickly set up the items to be auctioned.

I also have fond memories of the dinner we held in an Italian restaurant in University Village where just-announced candidate for governor, Gary Locke and his wife Mona attended our event in one of their first outings as his campaign began. I also remember the nice year-end dinner we held at House of Hong's back room.