



**WOMEN IN ROTARY**



Sylvia Whitlock

**Do you know someone who has been in Rotary for 30 years or more?** If so, it's not a woman - women have only been officially allowed in Rotary for 26 years. The first women to join a Rotary club were members of the Rotary Club of Duarte, a small town in Southern California. With only eight members, including the Superintendent of Schools Dr. Richard Key, the club voted to invite three women to join the club.

However, Rotary International revoked the charter of the Duarte club. The club decided to continue to meet as a quasi-Rotary Club. An X was placed over the Rotary insignia, new pins were made, and the club was called: The Ex-Rotary Club of Duarte.

In 1978, the Rotary Club of Duarte, California, filed suit in Los Angeles Superior Court. After many appeals, the United States Supreme Court, on May 4, 1987, affirmed the 1986 ruling of the Court of Appeals of California in a 7 - 0 opinion to allow women members.

When the Duarte club received an invoice/recap sheet to list existing members as of June 30, 1987, and assessed international dues based on the membership as of that date, it was the end of the Duarte charter revocation and its reinstatement in Rotary International.

Sylvia Whitlock served as president of Duarte for the 1987-1988 Rotary year and attended her first International Convention, in Philadelphia in 1987. She was the first woman President to attend an international convention.

To this day, Sylvia Whitlock still serves the Duarte club as secretary. The club has celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and women still are a critical part of the spirit of **“The Mouse That Roared, the Rotary Club Of Duarte.”**



Ambassadorial Scholar **Sahira Dubon Molina** from Honduras who is studying at CSU Stanislaus, attending her first sporting event in the US - a 49er game.



2006 ROSE PARADE FLOAT



Randy Broughton in Honduras

**PRESIDENT STENHAMMAR'S VISIT**

~from the article by John Freeland, Rotary Club of Salida—Rotary International President Carl-Wilhelm Stenhammar addressed an inter-city meeting of 450 Rotarians at Modesto Centre Plaza on August 12, 2005. This was the first time in Rotary's 101- year history that a current international president has come to Modesto to address the local membership. His theme for his presidential year goes to the heart of our organization: Service Above Self. President Stenhammar stated that he wants to hear from the local clubs about how Rotary International can help them succeed. It is the local clubs that perform the tasks that leads to Rotary's success. He talked about the interaction of politics and Rotary's ability to expand its member clubs. He told members he believes that Rotary must adjust to the times in which we live. We wish President Stenhammar much success during his tenure as president.

