



DON LEHMAN

1996 – 1997

**Rotary Club of Yuba
Feather Rivers Sunrise**



Don Lehman served as the second District Governor for this District. Luis Vicente Giay of Argentina was the Rotary International President that year and his International Theme was “Build the Future with Action and Vision.” Don, being a recipient of the Boy Scout’s Silver Beaver Award, chose “Be an Eager Beaver” for his District theme. He presented each club president with a small stuffed beaver during his official club visit. This symbol of his district theme was a revenue generator for the clubs in that many presidents paid ransom money for the return of the “stuffed beaver” by “fund raising” club members during that year!!

Don retired from the Army in 1984 as a Brigadier General. His classification in Rotary was “Military.” He joined the Rotary Club of Colusa (District 5160) in 1962; and when he, his wife, Janet, and their two daughters moved to Yuba City in 1976, he transferred his membership to the Rotary Club of South Yuba (Yuba Feather Rivers Sunrise). He remained a member of that club for the remainder of his life.

Don was unique in his choice of dress. Regardless of the weather or occasion, he wore Bermuda shorts. His definition of dressing up was wearing his Rotary blazer with a pair of Bermuda shorts. He was given the nickname of “General Short Pants” in the district. His goals for his year as DG were to encourage clubs to qualify for the presidential citation, increase membership District wide by 5% by participating in the Membership Challenge Plus program, achieve a district-wide donation of \$140,000 to the Rotary Foundation Annual Fund; and lastly, have at least one new Benefactor per club.

Don held his District Conference at John Ascuaga’s Nugget in Sparks on May 9 - 11, 1997. The outstanding club of the year was the Rotary Club of Marysville. Don was familiar with Group Study Exchange (GSE) having served as a GSE team leader to Columbia in 1992. He had both the outgoing and incoming (District 1850) teams attend his District Conference.

Don continued to serve the district in various roles until his passing on January 26, 2006.