

The series on "Commissioner Legends" continues...

Rose Mary Forehand, Thirteen Association President

As told by David Nigel

Born, raised, and educated in Mississippi, Rose Mary Forehand's career in Recreation started immediately after receiving her Bachelor's in Health, Physical Education, and Recreation Cum Laude in three years!

Beginning as a Playground Leader, Rose Mary quickly rose to city-wide Playground Supervisor for the City of Meridian Recreation and Parks Department. From there, she was assigned Community Center Supervisor of one of the largest centers in the Department.

After moving to California, she worked as a Playground Center supervisor for the City of El Cerrito located in the San Francisco Bay Area.

There, she taught swimming, was a pool supervisor/lifeguard at the El Cerrito Community Center Pool and was one of the Center's Supervisors.

Her last 'in the field' position was Recreation Supervisor for the City of Pinole. That was one of the joys of being in Recreation-setting up a department with only a few programs, then taking it to almost thirty year-round programs and activities. Taking bus-loads of kids to A's and Giant's baseball games were two events that created high anxiety... just hoping the buses came back with ALL of the kids! 😊

Upon the birth of Rose Mary's first daughter, currently an Administrative Chief with California State Parks, District 1, the family moved inland to Vacaville. Rose Mary dutifully applied to be on the Vacaville Parks and Recreation-Advisory Commission serving as Chair for sixteen years. That led to involvement with CAPRCBM!

Going through the chairs, with the full support of the Vacaville City Council, the Mayor, and the Parks and Recreation staff, she became our thirteenth Association President.

At the time, CAPRCBM contracted with CPRS for all of its services.

A few years after her tenure as President, the CAPRCBM Officers and Board of Directors decided it needed its own staff person to handle all of its office work.

That decision turned Rose Mary into the Coordinator / Consultant for the Association. She worked in the CPRS office in three different locations for sixteen years, even while teaching full time in the Vacaville Unified School District.

Upon her resignation, there were over 225 agency members, with Commissioner and Board Members within those agencies of approximately 2,200.

Rose Mary's time serving the Association was full of fulfillment for the Association, personal enjoyment, and the joy of making life-long friends.

She stated that has been an honor to have been affiliated with CAPRCBM for over thirty years.

This important and dedicated Association Member now travel extensively having been to all seven continents and she will be taking her only grandchild to Ireland this summer.

Rose Mary has been a very dedicated, active, and influential member and has truly enhanced our Association during her tenure.