

J. RICHARD “DICK” TEAGUE

Dick Teague was one of the key organizers of CAPRCBM, as he was an active, bright, and devoted Park and Recreation Commissioner of the City of La Mesa, a city in San Diego County, located nine miles east of Downtown San Diego in Southern California. Dick, along with Bob Banes of the Southeast Parks and Recreation District, Sheila Hyman of Pacifica, and Everett Greenberg of Temple City worked collegially, planning, organizing, and creating our Association in 1968.

Dick’s vision to organize, train, and unite Commissioners and Board Members throughout California was a main motivation for his commitment and dedicated work towards these ends. Dick and Bob Banes had a strong working relationship and were truly the founders of CAPRCBM.

Dick served as our Association’s second President from 1971-1972 and his leadership was strong and successful. A hard-working core of Commissioners and Board Members served alongside Dick as officers and members of our board of directors and supported his efforts to guide our Association in a positive and successful direction; especially attempting to create strong ties with CPRS (California Park and Recreation Society). Three main goals included: training and workshop sessions, supporting legislation, and a scholarship program; activities that successfully continue to this day.

The California and Pacific Southwest Conference held in San Francisco in 1972 saw a well-attended banquet for commissioners and board members at the Hilton Hotel where Dick made a very impressive speech.

J. Richard “Dick” Teague was one of our initial leaders and we are grateful for his foresight and strong leadership. He retired from the La Mesa Park and Recreation Commission but continue to advise many of our Presidents and Board Members until his passing. Dick’s wife Betty also served on the La Mesa Commission and made a significant and positive impact on their programs and operations. Dick also served several successful years as a Commissioner as a member of the San Diego County Parks and Recreation Commission.

Two other strong groups organized simultaneously with our Association with strong programs and leadership. These included the Los Angeles Basin Association of Park and Recreation Commissioners and Board Members and the San Francisco Bay Area Park and Recreation Commissioners and Board Members. Many leaders of both groups became leaders in C.A.P.R.C.B.M.

Upon Dick’s passing the Teague family donated \$10,000 to our Association’s Scholarship fund... and was designated as the “J. Richard and Betty Teague Memorial

Scholarship Fund”. Past Presidents and Past Officers also contributed to this fund and guaranteed its existence for many years. Many students majoring in the subjects of “Recreation Supervision” or “Park Management” benefitted as the recipients of the Teague scholarship. The Scholarship eventually was renamed the “J. Richard and Betty Teague Memorial Scholarship Fund and Past Presidents Scholarship.” Strong communication was established by David Nigel with the four Teague children, especially Kathi Teague Holowach a retired instructor at San Diego State

University. Three Past Presidents were appointed by the Teague family to serve as custodians of the Teague Scholarship: Rose Mary Forehand, Donna Rogers, and David Nigel.

The first Teague Scholarship recipient was Stephanie Ann Martinez of CSU Long Beach, Friday evening, April 5th, 2002, at the Biltmore Hotel, Los Angeles. During the CPRS annual Conference in March 2009, the Teague Scholarship was honored as the featured write-up in the California Foundation for Parks and Recreation Scholarship Committee program brochure.

Dick Teague was truly an icon for our Association both while living and in his passing. We owe Dick a huge amount of gratitude.