

Amazing Women of SBWC

A glimpse of the women who contributed to our club's history...

This is a series of interviews chronicling the women of SBWC, a background of their lives and contributions to women's clubs. The SBWC board has chosen several members to interview and these narratives will be posted monthly in the Buena Briefs then archived on the club website.



Linda McNutt

Linda McNutt was born in Ventura in 1940 and raised on Lingdooley Ranch in Santa Paula. After graduating from Santa Paula High School, she enrolled in the nursing program at Ventura College then worked at Santa Paula Hospital. She married Steve in 1959 and they were together for 50 years until he passed away in 2009. They had three sons all born at Community Memorial Hospital. Linda was a stay at home mom while her children were young. The family moved several times for her husband's work, the longest was to Carpinteria where

they lived for 18 years before returning to Santa Paula. During this time, Linda helped to administer the Free Lunch Program and the Vision and Hearing Program for the Carpinteria School District. She retired in 2013 from Coastal Embroidery but the company asked her to return and help out the growing company. She also volunteers at CMH each week. She has seven grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Linda joined San Buenaventura Women's Club in 1989 when her aunt invited her to a club tea. Thus began her clubwoman career. In 1990 she was the 2nd vice president on the SBWC executive board, 1st vice president in 1992 then president from 1994-96 and for one year in 1998. During her presidency, her teddy bear symbol became a 5-year project where the club provided blankets and teddy bears for children. The items were given to local Sheriff and Highway Patrol Officers who then gave them to children involved in accidents to help soothe them. She served on Tierra Adorada District's executive board as 2nd vice president, 1st vice president then president from 1998-2000. Linda and Eleanor Tillquist together organized six TAD conventions during this time. She was the Spiritual Value Chair for TAD and California Federation of Women's Clubs. Her proudest accomplishment was as state chair of the Make a Wish project which raised \$10,000 for the foundation. She held several CFWC positions as the Meeting Planner Chair, Leadership Chair, Financial Secretary, Treasurer, Director of Finance and Area B Vice President. She traveled with Alice Ludes performing inspirational programs called 'Ventura Voices' at CFWC functions. Linda revealed her biggest challenge in holding a club position was "trying to please everyone and knowing you can't. You always want to do the best you can. Every position held was an honor. It has been a wonderful, rewarding ride."

Linda's message to women joining the club now is to "be open to all positions that await you. Never be afraid to take on something new." What an amazing ride for an amazing woman of SBWC.