

Part II

THE RECIPIENTS BY YEAR

Most of the regular text in this section is about *why* each person received the award (though, in the early years, sometimes there is extra information about the person).

The shaded boxes contain *related information*—about the selection process, about related events happening at the time, or (as with Cal Covell and Sam Brinley) more detailed information about the person for whom the award is named.

When the Davis Chamber of Commerce handled the awards, the information on the recipients comes from a variety of sources—recently obtained.

Starting in the late 1970s, most of the information comes from the nomination letters and newspaper articles that Peggy Hoyt saved in the files.

All information on the recipients is either quoted (I often didn't use quotation marks) or paraphrased, with the main source usually at the end. My few comments are always in bracketed italics.

JJW

The First 78 C. A. Covell Award Recipients
Award for Outstanding Service to the City of Davis: Citizen of the Year

| | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1944 C. A. Covell | 1967 Ernest F. Hartz | 1990 Lea Rosenberg |
| 1945 Flora McDonald | 1968 John Brinley | 1991 Nancy Keltner |
| 1946 C. A. Maghetti | 1969 Christine Blanchard | 1992 Robert & Rachel Hagan |
| 1947 Ben D. Moses | 1970 William Lotter | 1993 Foy S. McNaughton |
| 1948 Richard Barlow | 1971 Kathleen Green | 1994 Doug Arnold |
| 1949 Helen Perry | 1972 Warren A. Westgate | 1995 Cass Sylvia |
| 1950 Gray Rowe | 1973 Robert Oliver | 1996 Dean & Janice Labadie |
| 1951 L. N. Irwin | 1974 [Not presented this year] | 1997 Dick Frost |
| 1952 B. A. Madson | 1975 James F. Wilson | 1998 Jay Gerber |
| 1953 Vernard B. Hickey | 1976 Herb & Hanna Bauer | 1999 Judy Moores |
| 1954 Leonard F. Smith | 1977 Dair Rausch | 2000 Ted Puntillo |
| 1955 Edgar H. Markham | 1978 Dick & Lois Grau | 2001 Donna Lott |
| 1956 Helen M. Heitman | 1979 Fred Foerster | 2002 Paul Hart |
| 1957 Edward B. Roessler | 1980 Betsy Truffini | 2003 Renée Liston |
| 1958 Joe J. Truffini | 1981 Peggy Epstein | 2004 Debbie Davis |
| 1959 Percy E. Symens | 1982 Joyce D. Wisner | 2005 Ray & Verena Borton |
| 1960 A. Vern Ihrig | 1983 Barbara Kado | 2006 Betty Berteaux |
| 1961 Harry J. Whitcombe | 1984 Thomas H. Frankel | 2007 Carol Lee Coss |
| 1962 J. Price Gittinger | 1985 Judy Wydick | 2008 Mary Philip |
| 1963 Kathryn T. Chiles | 1986 Vic & Camille Lim | 2009 Shirley Aldous Goldman |
| 1964 A. Doyle Reed | 1987 Bill & Nancy Roe | 2010 Jim Becket |
| 1965 Craig Armstrong | 1988 Richard & Barbara Lindholtz | 2011 Adam & Jan Bridge |
| 1966 Herbert H. Rourke | 1989 Ruth Asmundson | 2012 Rick Gonzales |

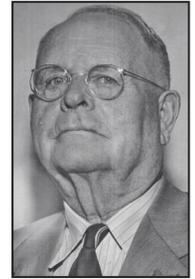
The First 47 A.G. Brinley Award Recipients
Award of Special Merit for a Particular Project That Benefits the Community

| | | |
|--------------------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| 1969 Joann Leach Larkey | 1984 Dorothy Laben | 1998 Pat Hutchinson |
| 1970 Bill D. Bartholomew | 1985 Wesley Wooden | 1999 Jane Pomeroy |
| 1971 Max D. Rothe | 1986 Bob Dunning | 2000 Shirley Kreissman |
| 1972 Sam DeMasi | 1987 Anne Hance & Evelyn Buddenhagen | 2001 Charles Russell |
| 1973 Kathleen M. Murphy | 1988 David Burmester | 2002 Judy Gabor |
| 1974 [Not presented this year] | 1989 Frederick Lange | 2003 Vicki Plutchok |
| 1975 John H. Jones | 1990 Mimi Cariño Sen | 2004 Russell K. Kusama |
| 1976 Ronald E. Whitehead | 1991 Steven Cavagnolo | 2005 Katherine F. Mawdsley |
| 1977 Patricia P. Allen | 1992 Barbara Jackson | 2006 Martha Dickman |
| 1978 Donald P. Kessler | 1993 Paul E. Hart | 2007 Nancy Crosby & Pat Miller |
| 1979 Red Steffler | 1994 Pat Williams | 2008 Janet Berry |
| 1980 Richard Brunelle | 1995 Mary Ellen Dolcini | 2009 Helen Cole |
| 1981 Joan Snodgrass Callaway | 1996 Ruth Shumway | 2010 Dorothy Peterson |
| 1982 Sharon D. Rose | 1997 Ernst & Hannah Biberstein | 2011 Joe DeUlloa |
| 1983 Marinka Phaff | | 2012 Janet Boulware |

The First Davis Citizen of the Year

1944 C. A. Covell (1874-1969)

Jim Wilson presented the trophy at the Chamber's annual meeting Monday, Feb 1, 1944, at City Hall. The announcement was in the Thursday, February 4 *Enterprise*.



C.A. Covell
Source: internet

Covell had long been the mayor (since 1931), and had always been very involved in the community. In his speech to the Chamber the night Covell was selected, Wilson said "the decision was easily reached that Mayor C.A. Covell should receive the award for **1943**" and have the further honor of the cup being named the

C. A. Covell Trophy for Community Service

[Apparently, before the trophy was inscribed "1943," the Chamber of Commerce decided that the next recipient wouldn't be selected for well over a year (i.e., July 1945) and inscribed the award as having been for 1944.]

The *Enterprise* article said Covell was selected for his — participation in the acquisition of the block for the high school and being instrumental in organizing it (1927); — being a member of the high school's first board;

- his involvement in the court fight to override the efforts of Miss Harriet Lee, the then Supt of Schools for Yolo County, to prevent Davis from forming a high school district;
- his work to secure a new city hall (1938);
- his help in the several scrap-gathering drives;
- initiating the fund for the Veterans' Memorial Building;
- his aid in the formation of the Davis Defense Council;
- his efforts on behalf of the Chamber of Commerce;
- long involvement in the Davis Masonic Lodge and Davis Community Church; and
- his position [and all he'd done] as Mayor of the City.

Mostly from the Feb 4, 1944 *Enterprise* article.
See page 55 for the full article about the award.

C. A. Covell

Calvin Arthur "Cal" Covell was born December 1, 1874, five miles northeast of Winters. His father had come across the plains in a covered wagon in 1857 and moved to Yolo County ten years later in 1867.

After his parents purchased land one mile north of Davisville in 1881, he attended the nearby grammar school and, after that, Hesperian College in Woodland.

After a brief period of ranching with Charles E. Greene, he worked with Wright and Harby in their Davisville butcher shop and slaughter house. Covell later purchased the meat market and operated it for another 12 years before selling the business.

He then assumed ownership of the family ranch property, now known as Covell Park, having become a subdivision in 1968.

The ranch's southern boundary, Road 31, was named Covell Boulevard in his honor.

In 1904 (at age 30), "Cal" married the widowed Dollie Tufts Philliber, who had two children, Mabel (married Frank P. Liggett) and Charles L. Philliber, Jr. After Dollie died in 1943, he married Mrs. Lelah Horton Hays, who lived until 1965. No children were born of either marriage.

Covell had a long and impressive record of civil service, as is seen above. City leadership began in 1917 when he was elected to the first city council and served as president after the first president resigned. In May 1928 he was again elected to the city council, and in Jan 1931 (age 56) he was named mayor—a position he held until he retired from public life in 1947.

Beyond the points mentioned above, he received special recognition on two occasions: in 1963 as a 50-year member of Athens Lodge F.Y.A.M.; and in March 1967 (at age 92) on the occasion of the 50-year anniversary of the incorporation of the City of Davis.

from *Davisville '68*, p. 158, by Joann Leach Larkey

He died Jan 8, 1969, at age 93. His last home was at 329 F St., since razed.

Cal Covell's name was originally pronounced "CO'VI," but apparently he later preferred to pronounce it "Co VELL," which may be why the subdivision has that pronunciation. The original pronunciation of his name is something remembered by all who knew him, well into the 21st Century, with those who pronounce it "Co VELL" (like the subdivision) being corrected with an explanation.



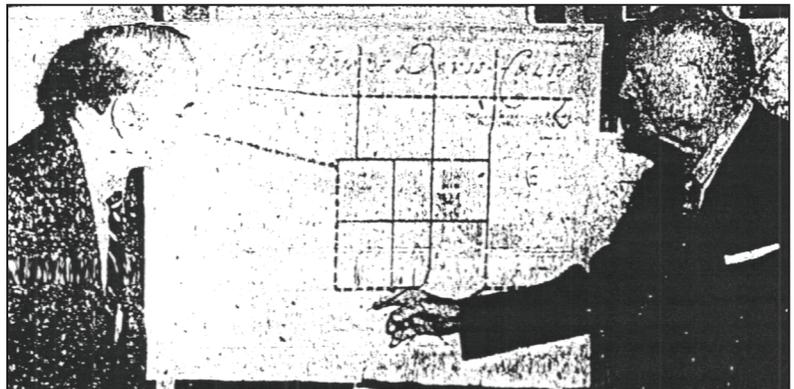
John O. Rowe, in his oral history, says Covell was a water witcher on the side. "I saw him witch wells over a fifty year period. He first used a willow douser but switched later to a whalebone douser I had gotten from John Cheney and gave to Cal."

Johnnie Shorthorn, p. 11
1978, Regents of UC

1957 Davis:
Mayor Vern Hickey, left, checks over the master plan of 1927 with Cal Covell.

A new master plan for the city is currently being worked out.

Enterprise photo
April 25, 1957



1945 Flora Y. McDonald

Selection Committee:

Chairman: Dr. C. L. Roadhouse Mayor Covell
Delmer Marshall (Schools Supt) Mrs. L.D. Davis

McDonald was the wife of Alex McDonald, the Scottish herdsman who came to Davis in 1911 to manage the University Farm's herds. Campus leader (1938–52) Dean Ryerson noted that Flora was the secretary at City Hall who kept him in touch with what was happening in the community (Ryerson, p. 332). [Clearly Flora was also helpful to Mayor Covell, who was on the Selection Committee.]

On March 23, 1945, the Chamber directors voted to have President Walker appoint three people "to investigate an outstanding citizen in the community to receive the Covell Trophy." The group [above] was announced at the April 20 open meeting. The July 7, 1945, *Enterprise* said, "The award was made to Mrs. Flora McDonald, City treasurer and in charge of the water department office in the City Hall."

She is also

- chairman of the Red Cross Relief Committee;
- secretary of the Davis Chamber of Commerce.

The Chamber's 1943 Annual Report posted in the *Enterprise* [see pp. 56-57] notes that

Award presented by Dr. Roadhouse July 4 at the City Park

- her office was designated by the Yolo Co. Farm Adviser as the employment office for the Davis district. In addition to assisting the farmers in the district, the office recruited help for [Spreckles Sugar and area canneries];
- she acted as Secretary-Treasurer of the local Defense Council.

In *Enterprise* articles: Feb 8, 1946: Flora had just resigned as City treasurer to become the City clerk. July 11, 1957: she was quoted as saying she had "lived in Davis for 33 years [since 1924?]" and [had] been secretary of the chamber of commerce for nine years and city clerk for six years." [I could not find a Davis area/Woodland obituary. Her husband Alex retired in 1947 and died in 1953 at age 74.]

Joann Larkey thinks she was a native of Yolo County, because in 1945 she served as Secretary of the newly-organized first Yolo Co. Historical Society, which continued until 1948. Larkey also remembers that McDonald "was the one constant at Davis City Hall who was interested in keeping records, which in turn provided valuable resources to later historians"—including Joann herself!



Flora McDonald from her scrapbook at the Stephens Yolo Co Library

1946 Chelso A. Maghetti (~1895–1973)

Selection Committee: the Chamber Board of Directors

Maghetti came to Davis in 1919. He served as Postmaster from 1927–36. In 1935 he purchased the Davis *Enterprise* from Judge Scott, and he continued publication for 25 years.

McBride, in introducing Maghetti, said, "he took an active part in all of the organizations working for the betterment of this community and county." [Friday July 5, 1946 *Enterprise*]

"A dedicated supporter of the Davis community, . . . Mr. Maghetti campaigned successfully for construction of the Davis City Hall and Fire Department and in 1938 had the satisfaction of commissioning the Grand

Presented by Chamber President E.S. McBride July 4 in City Park

Lodge of California Masons to come and lay the building's cornerstone [at the southeast corner of 3rd and F Streets].

"The community is also in his debt for his efforts to preserve the only complete file of the Davis *Enterprise*. Fearing that the back issues might be destroyed during the early days of World War II, he placed them in the University library on the Davis campus for safekeeping.

"Recent microfilming of the entire collection [mid-'60s] now makes these valuable records accessible to all who have an interest in the community's early development."

Presented by C. Maghetti July 4 in City Park

"He was one of the founders and for 25 years served as Secretary-Director of the California Committee on Relation of Electricity to Agriculture. Because of his numerous and valuable research contributions in extending the uses of electricity to farms, the Pacific Coast Electrical Association in 1950 awarded him a distinguished service plaque."

from UC's *In Memoriam*

The post-July 4 *Enterprise* account says only that "the award was made on the basis of unselfish service over a long period of years in behalf of the youth of the community."



Maghetti
Memories, p. 107



C.A. Maghetti
Hattie Weber Museum
Larkey, p. 111

1947 Covell: Ben D. Moses (1882–1951)

Selection Committee: the Chamber Board of Directors

Moses came to Davis in 1922 to teach in Ag Engineering. According to UC's *In Memoriam*, "he always had time to say a cheerful word, or offer encouragement to others. That he had a wide circle of friends among faculty, Experiment Station staff, students, alumni, youth, and citizens throughout the State testifies to his useful and unselfish citizenship." He was also

- a devoted supporter of the Boy Scouts, serving for 15 years as a Scout Master; in 1948 he was awarded the Silver Beaver medal, the highest award for Scout leaders;
- active in the Christian Science Church;
- active in the Davis Faculty Club;
- very involved in Rotary International.



Ben Moses
1950 Rodeo ag engineers

1948 Richard Barlow (1899–1977)

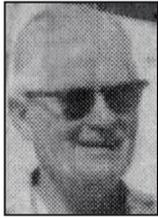
Selection Committee: Chamber Board of Directors

Barlow, who graduated in Animal Science at Davis in the early '20s, returned to Davis in 1940 to live until his retirement in 1966. He left for a while, but returned to Davis before he died in 1977. Known as a real community and Aggie booster, he

- was active in a home watch program during WWII, helping organize air raid drills and prepare in case of attack.
- served as Chamber president;
- was president of Davis Rotary Club;
- was a member of the Yolo County Fair Board;
- was very active in the Democratic Party;
- was an adviser to a UCD fraternity;
- was a member of volunteer fire department;

He first worked here with the Union Ice Co., delivering 300 lb. blocks of ice. ("He used to carve the blocks into ice sculptures and punch bowls for local social events.") Elaine Perry said he also delivered ice cream.

He branched out into the moving business (Bekins) and also delivered wood and coal around town. During WWII, his moving truck doubled as a



Barlow in 1962
Whitcombe
scrapbook

Presented by Dean Knowles Ryerson July 4 in City Park

troop transport when he would pick up military personnel while on moving deliveries, and he carted truckloads of students to sporting events.

In 1946 he and his wife opened the first plant nursery in Davis. [In 1960 when he became a realtor, he brought a clothing store to town, and in the '60s he became involved with the design of the Russell Blvd entrance to UC Davis. At some point he built Town 'n College Center on G Street. (The March 18, 1949 *Enterprise* says a new name is needed for the new shopping center on the SE corner of 4th & G.)]

Bob Warren said, "He was a really great guy. He was full of energy and would help anybody who wanted help." Bob Swisher said, "He was probably one of the most generous individuals in this town. He didn't have an enemy."

Enterprise's "All Who Make Memories," pp. 45–47

The Friday, July 9 *Enterprise* article stated only "Barlow was selected at a recent meeting of the [Chamber Board of Directors] because of his many services to the community, his ever willingness to help on any and all occasions."



Dick Barlow in '43
Memories, p. 45

1949 Helen B. Perry (1902–2001)

Selection Committee: the Chamber Board of Directors

Perry came to Davis in 1928 when her husband was offered a position teaching Ag Engineering. While raising three children, she helped others in Davis. She

- was den mother for her son's Cub Scout troop;
- led two Girl Scout troops: for the girls in her son's class and then for those in her daughter's class;
- helped get Girl Scout cabin built [*Enterprise* article 7/14/50];
- was Girl Scout Commissioner;
- in early 1945 set up a camp on a local ranch as a substitute for a Girl Scout camp that would also give the girls an opportunity to serve the war effort;
- organized and helped run the children's summer program;
- was PTA president, served on the State PTA Board;
- was active in the community church, e.g., taught Sunday School and helped organize Vacation Bible School;
- was president of University Farm Circle 1934-35;
- worked with student wives on campus;
- organized and taught folk dance classes;
- taught crafts for a Woodland rec program;
- quietly worked with the Salvation Army helping people around town in need.

She also was very supportive of her husband's efforts to help and get to know his students, so she frequently put on lunches and dinners for groups of students. And, like other

Presented by Dick Barlow at City Park July 4

Davis families during the war, she and her husband helped harvest crops in the fields and provided housing for soldiers' families who wanted to be with their husbands before they went off to war—or new faculty and their families after the war when there wasn't yet housing available.

The Perry family left Davis for UCLA in August 1953 when Dr. Perry accepted a position at UCLA. *from daughter Elaine Perry Revell*

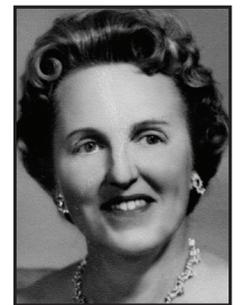
The Friday, July 8 *Enterprise* had this to say about Perry's being selected for the award:

"At the recent meeting of the Board, several names were considered with numerous ballots being taken. By process of elimination, a unanimous decision was finally reached. . . ."

When presenting the award, "[Barlow] enumerated a number of things 'this fellow' did over the years and then concluded by asking Mrs. Helen Perry to step to the platform. It was a distinct surprise.

"The decision was marked by considerable applause. Mrs. Perry responded to the presentation in accepting the cup with modesty and stated that all who have helped her in any with the things she did should feel a share in the award.

"She will retain the cup in her possession for a time after which it will be returned to the City Hall."



Helen Perry
Family photo

1950 Gray Rowe (1912–1992)

Chairman: a Chamber representative

Selection Committee: a group of previous Covell recipients

Rowe was awarded “the coveted C.A. Covell Citizenship award in recognition of his civic leadership and contributions to the welfare of Davis.” The *Enterprise* related what Mrs. Perry said about Rowe’s services to the city:



Mrs. Russell Perry handing trophy to Gray Rowe

Woodland Daily Democrat, July 5, discovered by John Lofland

- July 4th celebration General Chairman 1949;
- helped to promote and participated in the annual

Presented by Helen Perry July 4 at City Park

Christmas tree lighting project in the Davis business district; outstanding in supplying labor and trucks annually for the erection of the downtown Christmas tree;

- Lions Club member;
- City planning commission member;
- Davis volunteer Fire Department member;
- Red Cross Drive chairman 1950;
- Chamber of Commerce director two years;
- Chairman of numerous decoration committees for City events, including floats, stands and hall decorations;



J. Gray Rowe
Hattie Weber Museum

In a 1979 *Enterprise* article on DHS athletes, he was cited as being “perhaps Davis High’s greatest athlete.” He was on the new high school’s first football team in 1929, which wore old uniforms contributed by the University. In 1931 his team beat Esparto 92–0, a game in which Rowe, known as “Greyhound,” made 4 of the 15 touchdowns.

Rowe Place, north off 5th St., just east of the railroad tracks, is where the home of his parents (Jessie and Etta Rowe) was located and probably where Gray grew up.

1951 L. N. Irwin (1877–1957)

Chairman: a Chamber representative

Selection Committee: 3–6 previous Covell recipients

Irwin was born in 1877 in Galesburg, Illinois, and graduated from Knox College there in 1898. He and his wife came to California in 1911, settling in Davis, where Irwin was a breeder of purebred registered Holstein cattle until his retirement. His dairy operation provided milk for the University Farm. He played a major role in the affairs of the community and in the growth of Davis. He



1952 *Enterprise*

- was active in the Davis Chamber of Commerce;
- inaugurated the CA Covell Citizenship cup;
- was instrumental in the forming of the Davis Joint Union High School District. [*Previously students had to travel to Woodland or Dixon to attend high school.*]
- was one of a group of citizens who [in the early ‘20s] inaugurated the Gordon H. True Service Cup, awarded each year to the outstanding DHS senior boy and girl who most exhibit qualities of loyalty, service and citizenship;
- was an elder in the Davis Community Church, very active;
- was a member of the Davis Rotary Club;
- lobbied for the University Farm to offer four-year degrees as an ag college and, later, to break away from UC Berkeley;
- pushed for a veterans’ building and promoted services for senior citizens.

from his obituary and “Those Who Make Memories,” pp. 62-63

The July 7, 1951 *Enterprise* said this is what Rowe said in presenting the trophy:

Irwin “was the first person to propose the establishment of the Davis Joint Union High School, and he made the first

Presented by Gray Rowe July 5 at City Park

contribution to a fund to purchase the site for the future high school building [the current Davis City Hall].

“The block now occupied by the Intermediate School building was purchased by 37 contributors and donated to the proposed high school district to encourage the people of the area to vote for the school district. This was accomplished largely through his efforts.



1906 family pic

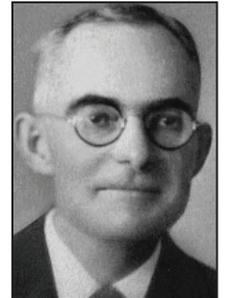
“He was an active member of a group in Davis who undertook city planning, and they met each month to discuss future developments. One of the results of this planning is the present location of the city park, schools and churches in this area.

“He is a breeder of pure bred dairy cattle with high production and the first private producer of Grade A milk for Davis.

“He has always been willing to contribute financially to community developments as well as to devote his time and efforts to them. “He has been a fine neighbor, a member of the Yolo County Farm Bureau, a good Rotarian. He donated this cup to be awarded for community service, and we think it is fitting that it should be awarded to him at this time.”

The general applause that followed the presentation reflected the approval of the public in the selection of the 1951 “Citizen of the Year.”

Irwin’s son, Paul Irwin (87 in 2012), lives on the original farm property.



L. N. Irwin
1922 family picture

1952 B. A. Madson (1887–1974)

Chairman: a Chamber representative
Selection Committee: the previous Covell recipients

Madsen, who came to teach at the University Farm in 1914 [*when his name was spelled Madsen*], was a professor of agronomy and ultimately chair of the UC Davis Agronomy Department and Director of Agricultural Field Stations during his tenure.

“The quiet integrity of this tall white-haired man of dignity was manifested in the duties that came his way and in his manner of carrying them out.”

“Professor Madson has been described as perhaps one of the last great generalists in the U. of California. This modern age of specialists stands in awe of the vast and varied knowledge possessed and beneficially used by this servant of the University and the state. He had personal knowledge of the multifarious agriculture in every nook and cranny of the state, from Tulelake to El Centro.

“At the same time, his constant travels throughout the state kept him in touch not just with the crops, climates, pests and problems, but with the leaders of industry, farmers, colleagues, former students—those in the battle to wrest more and more food and fiber from this immense agricultural community.”

University of California’s “In Memoriam”

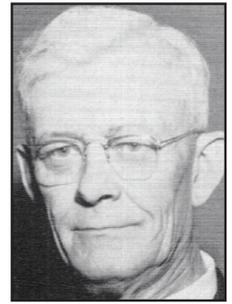
Madson Place, a street south of Fifth Street in Davis (between the post office and police station), was named for him.



1951 Chamber pic

Presented by L.N. Irwin July 4 at City Park

- He was also active in Davis. He was —on the Davis City Council from 1939-48 and 1957-60, and was mayor from 1947-48, 1957-60;
- was the Davis Chamber president 1955 and 1964;
- was the City treasurer in 1951;
- was active in the Davis Rotary Club.



Ben A. Madson
1952 Rodeo picture



Ben Madson and L.N. Irwin *Davis Enterprise*, July 10, 1952

The picture [*above left*] was on the 1951 cover photo of *California Monthly*.

1953 Vernard B. Hickey (1900–1987)

Chairman: a Chamber representative
Selection Committee: the previous Covell recipients

Hickey was an influential campus and community figure who came to Davis in 1937 to coach football and golf—and, in addition during the early years, baseball, basketball, water polo and swimming. [*He also served as athletic director from 1961 until his retirement in 1967.*]

One of the first things people noticed about Vern Hickey was his big, strong hands. A former college football star, Aggie coach and Davis mayor, Hickey left a lasting impression with just a handshake. “The first time I shook hands with him, his hands enfolded my whole arm. He took pride in that,” said retired coach Herb Schmalenberger, who likened Hickey’s hands to those of Rodin’s sculpture *The Thinker*. *from Davis Wiki*

Hickey Gym was named in his honor.



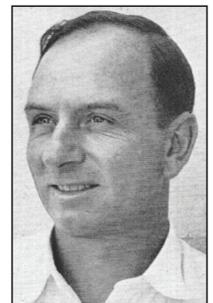
1953 Rodeo



1958 Rodeo

Presented July 4 at City Park

- Reasons given for award in July 5 *Enterprise*:
- president Rotary Club 1938;
 - pres Chamber of Commerce ‘42–44, dir ‘53;
 - Past Master of Masonic Order, Davis;
 - Commissioner of water, fire, now police;
 - Chairman Planning Commission 1950–52;
 - Chairman Recreation Commis. 1948–53;
 - City Council 1947–53 [*ultimately to ‘60—mayor 1954–59*];
 - Director of Red Cross Swimming Campaigns 1940–41, -50, -51, -52. Two weeks of volunteer teaching and organizing 250–400 people each year;
 - First Aid Classes Yolo Co 1951–53; Red Cross Yolo Co. 1953; taught first aid class in David 1951–53 (volunteer);
 - Also member of Elks and Sigma Nu.
- He has helped promote good sportsmanship in all sports; has acted as an officer in county and state health and recreation organizations.



Vern Hickey
1953 Rodeo

1954 Leonard F. Smith

Chairman: a Chamber representative
 Selection Committee: six of the previous Covell winners

Smith was the popular manager of the Varsity Theater. After serving “four years with the army in the European theatre of the war, he was honorably discharged” and was sent by his company to Davis. “When the business of [the theater] increased to the point where better, larger and more beautiful quarters were necessary, he played an important part in securing them and today, they stand as a monument to him. . . .

“Although the task of operating this institution requires long hours and careful planning, this man found time to take an interest in community affairs.” He

Presented by Ben Madson at City Park July 4 during the picnic dinner

- is a member of Rotary, on many committees & board;
- has directed the March of Dimes Campaign several years;
- helped raise funds for the Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts and other worthwhile projects;
- has long been a member of the Chamber of Commerce and on the board of directors;
- has worked harmoniously with the university students and has often cooperated in their rallies and other ventures.”



Leonard Smith
Enterprise photo

from the Davis Enterprise article on July 8, 1954

1955 Edgar H. Markham (1899–1969)

Chairman: Ben Madson, president of the Chamber
 Selection Committee: group of previous Covell winners

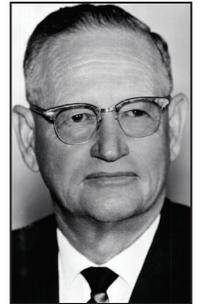
Markham had been the manager of the local branch of PG&E since 1952 and with PG&E since 1922. He was later on the Davis City Council 1962-66, serving as mayor from 1964-66;

Very active in Davis, he

- is currently [‘55] president of the Yolo County Assn. of Chambers of Commerce;
- is a member of Athens Masonic Lodge No. 228 of Davis;
- is a member of the Scottish Rite Bodies of Sacramento;
- is an officer of the local Salvation Army committee;
- is an elder in the Davis Community Church;

Presented by Leonard Smith July 4 in City Park

- was president of the Chamber of Commerce 1953-54, currently a director;
- is a member of the Yolo Shriner Club;
- was a charter member of the Lions Club in January 1945 and later president;
- was president of the Rotary Club 1953-54;
- is a member of the Ione Chapter No. 199 of the Order of the Eastern Star.



Ed Markham
 1980 Chamber pic

“Sponsored by the Junior Chamber of Commerce, the daylong celebration was climaxed by a spectacular fireworks display supervised by LaVerne Oeste.”

from the 1955 Enterprise, and perhaps Davis Wiki, which is why some information is after the award

1956 Helen M. Heitman (1915–1997)

Chairman: a Chamber representative
 Selection Committee: a group of previous Covell winners

Heitman, who came to Davis in 1946, was given the award “for her leadership in civic activities, unselfish service to the community, dependability in carrying out assignments for others and for herself, and for her interest in a variety of activities.” She



—has been active in Cub Scout work;

- ’75 —was president of the Leisure Hour Club;
- was president of the University Farm Circle 1952–53.
- was secretary of the Davis Recreation Council in ‘53;
- has served on the Little League Breakfast committee;

Presented by Ed Markham July 4 at the UC athletic field

- has been active in PTA program membership activities;
- has been a member of the Parent Education Committee;
- was the first secretary of the Nursery School Committee;
- has been chairman of the Red Cross and Polio drives;
- is now serving as the membership chairman of the Community Concern Association;



Helen Heitman

from the post-July 4th Enterprise; pictures from Emerson Junior High School yearbooks

At this time the 4th of July festivities moved to the UC athletic field, which held far more people.

1957 Edward B. Roessler (1902–1993)

Chairman: a Chamber representative

Selection Committee: a group of previous Covell winners



1957 Rodeo

Roessler was “a scholar and a true Renaissance man” who at Berkeley earned a doctorate in math and a degree in architecture at the same time and was also a musician (he played the violin), loved gardening, and was a wine judge for the California State Fair for 20 years. He designed five houses in College Park and several downtown.

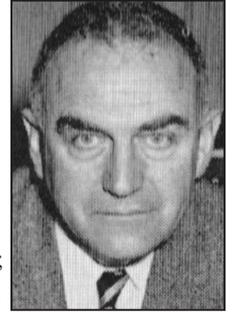
He created the math and physics departments at UCD, was acting dean of the College of Letters and Science on the Davis campus; is currently chair of the Math Department and UC extension representative for the Davis campus; has served as chairman of the campus

Presented by Helen Heitman July 4, at the “campus“track”

budget committee.

In the community, he

- was the assessor for the city 1948-52;
- was on the Davis City Council 1952-57;
- was on the Davis Planning Commission;
- was on the Citizens’ Committee for Public Schools;
- was active in the Davis Community Church;
- has been president of the local P-TA [*sic*];
- worked in the local Boy Scout movement as a cubmaster and committeeman;
- is active in Rotary, was president and recently was named district governor.



Ed Roessler
1959 Rodeo

In 1978 he received the UCD Distinguished Teaching Award.
from “Those Who Make Memories,” pp. 98–99

1958 Joe J. Truffini (1907–1984)

Chairman: a Chamber representative

Selection Committee: a group of 13 previous Covell winners



1950 family picture

Truffini, originally from Dixon, came to Davis in 1938.

After he came home from the war in 1943, he and Betsy rented a house on the outskirts of town—at 8th & G, and he managed a Shell Station at 1st & B.

In 1944 the couple bought three lots at 4th & G (where the Jack in the Box is now) for \$2,000 each where they put a filling station—the Flying A. The station also served as a site for farmers to meet with buyers to sell their crops.

Both he and Betsy became very active in the town. [*In 1980 she also received the Covell trophy.*] He

- worked to pass the bonds that built West Davis School and East Davis School;
- set up Truffini Kids, a network of several baseball teams (1952-53);
- was generally very active in the town that grew so quickly after the war.



1980 Chamber pic

After Joe and Betsy retired (and long after receiving this award), they decided to concentrate on one project: a senior center. The town needed a new one. Joe convinced Betsy to build it where the current Center is located and worked hard to gather the money and support. Phase 1 was completed in 1984 just before Joe died.

The Enterprise’s “Those Who Make Memories”

Presented by Ed Roessler July 4 at the UC football field.

“It is not by receiving benefits, but by rendering them that you have won the respect of the community,” Roessler told Truffini.

The July 10, 1958 *Enterprise* article announcing the award said that Truffini, who is an honorary highway patrolman in Yolo County, has also served the city

- in the Chamber of Commerce for 30 years, which included two years on the board and president in 1957;
- as a Rotarian;
- as a member of the Boy Scout Council;
- as a member of the Planning Commission.

“It is legendary in Davis that when any important issue faces the city, leading citizens concerned in the out-



Joe Truffini
“Memories”

come will spend hours with Joe Truffini at his big service station at G and 4th. His knowledge and advice are rated as invaluable.”

*Thurs, July 10, 1958
Davis Enterprise*



Ed Roessler handing the trophy to Joe Truffini

1959 Percy E. Symens (1911–1965)

Chairman: Ed Markham

Selection Committee: previous Covell winners

Symens came to Davis in 1936 and was with UCD's Ag Engineering until 1952, when he left to become a Davis businessman. "He has the complete confidence and admiration of all those who know him," stated the reporter. He

— was an active member of the volunteer Fire Dept, headed the first rescue squad, trained firemen to use life-saving equipment; and taught first-aid classes; he became chief of the department and remained a member until the paid department took over;



Possibly Chamber President Carl Wulff shown holding the Covell Trophy with Percy Symens (*right*). The newspaper article says it is Joe Truffini, but his daughters and others do not think so.

Presented by Joe Truffini, July 4 at the UC athletic field

- spent many years in Scouting;
- instigated, helped make the first street Christmas lights with aid of Ed Markham;
- was one of the first organizers of the Little League; put in hundreds of hours designing, building the Little League diamond;
- employs many DHS boys with good pay, but requires that each student's school work be kept up as a condition of employment;
- was a charter member of the Lions Club, but had to resign because of a Monday night conflict with his Boy Scout work;
- is a member of the Rotary Club;
- was an instigator of, and first president of, the Quarterback Club;
- worked very hard on the construction of the Girl Scout cabin;
- is presently on the Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors.



Percy Symens
Family picture

The first note permanently saved in the Community Awards files: June 16, 1959, E.H. Markham, Committee Chairman of the Davis Chamber of Commerce, sent a letter to "Former Recipients of the C.A. Covell Citizenship Trophy," requesting that they come to a meeting at the Auditorium of the City Hall in Davis on Tuesday evening, June 23, at 7:30 pm, to select a candidate for the C.A. Covell Citizenship Trophy for 1959. . . ." The Selection Committee consisted of previous winners of the Covell Award until 1964.

1960 A. Vern Ihrig

Chairman: a Chamber rep

Selection Committee: a group of previous Covell winners

Ihrig, of the UCD Architects and Engineers, was described as a "pioneer in the Little League movement" because, as president of the Little League organization for 3 years, he helped with the drilling of wells for water at the fields, building of the concession stand, the bleachers, dugouts, and planting grass; and has worked on the Little League breakfasts since their beginning. He is now Sixth Area Asst. Regional Director of Little League. He also is

- in Lions Club since 1954, director '55, chairman of Bulb Sale, chairman of ambulance fund drive and later the library fund drive;
- organized and directed the building of the Davis Lions Cabin at Enchanted Hills, the camp for the blind;
- member of the Citizens Committee for the Public Schools;
- building consultant for Davis Library;
- member Davis City Planning Commission since 1959;
- has worked as an advisor with the Boy Scouts.

from article on the award provided by Barbara and (Percy's son) Ed Symens

Presented by Percy Symens July 4 at the UC athletic field



Vern Ihrig (*left*) receiving trophy from last year's winner Percy Symens.

1961 Harry J. Whitcombe (1915–1986)

Chairman: a Chamber rep

Selection Committee: several previous Covell winners

Whitcombe came to Davis in 1934 to begin his career as a beekeeper—attending school at Davis, though he had to transfer to UC Berkeley to graduate (1938) in Entomology. He married Marie in 1935; and when they built their home in 1952 at Oak and 8th, it was on “the edge of town.”

In the 1940’s, he worked with Dr. Vansell at the Ag College doing research on bees. They discovered that when bees pollinated crops, the yields of those crops could improve up to 40%.



Bee photo Whitcombe



Vern Ihrig Harry Whitcombe

Presented by Vern Ihrig July 4 at UC athletic field

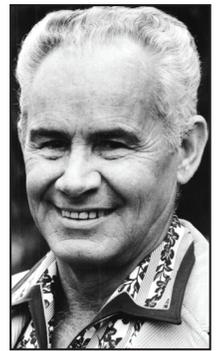
In the early 1960’s, he trained Peace Corps members on how to set up an apiary (bee farm); and when these members were sent to foreign countries around the world, he would ship bees to them on Pan Am World Airways.

He wrote a book, *Bees Are My Business*, and had articles written about him in the 1944 *Post* and in *Reader’s Digest*.

Very active in Davis, he was

- Rotarian, active since the ‘40s;
- City Council 1954–58;
- Davis Police Commissioner;
- Boy Scouts executive committee;
- Davis Taxpayers Association, director;
- Chamber of Commerce, president 1960-61) when the Christmas street decoration program was initiated; also chaired a committee that headed up the organization of the Davis Housing Authority and the annexation of College Park and West Davis subdivisions;
- Citizens Committee for Public School, finance chair 2 yrs;
- Governor’s Committee on Youth, member;
- Davis House Authority: chairman for ~10 years;
- Planning and Recreation Commissions, member of both;
- Flying Farmers of America, president (had a twin Cessna to transport bees to the Northern US and Canada).

from daughter Nancy Roe, Davis Wiki, & July 6 Enterprise



Harry Whitcombe
1980 Chamber picture

1962 J. Price Gittinger (1906–1969)

Chair: Probably Ed Markham

Selection Committee: a group of previous Covell winners

Gittinger came to the ag school in 1929 to teach English and be Supervisor of Musical Activities. Energetic and resourceful, he “could develop much out of little.” He directed the glee club, orchestra, and band; he played the viola (was in the Sacto Symphony) and trombone. By 1940 he produced a trophy-winning marching band. (The original “Aggie Fight Song” traditionally is attributed to Gittinger.)

In ‘46 he became the first Dean of Students, and he initiated the first Extension programs on campus. From 1960 until his death, he was Asso.

Director of Relations with Schools on a UC-wide

basis. In 1967, the CA Association of Secondary School Administrators gave him its annual Award for Distinguished Service—the only recipient who had never been a secondary school administrator.

While the student body was still small, he

- opened musical activities to the faculty and town; was associated with almost every musical event in town;
- directed the Community Church choir 15 years;
- was director of the Fourth of July band 20 years;
- helped with youth organizations and was often called upon to speak in neighboring towns;

Presented by Harry Whitcombe July 4 at UC athletic field

- was president of the Davis Rotary Club 1959-60, and club’s song leader several years;
- was district 516 chairman of Rotary International Students, two years;
- is governor-elect of Rotary District 516;
- arranged several annual festivals for international students under Rotary’s VISA program;
- was chairman of the Rotary Foundation;
- was [later in ‘68] chairman of United Crusade;
- was chairman of the Boy Scout drive;
- was active in Phi Beta Kappa (and when Davis students were initiated at Berkeley, several times he brought Berkeley officers to Davis for a separate initiation).

The annual UCD award to an outstanding senior is named for Gittinger.

all the above from the UC digital library

Additional activities listed in the July 5, 1962 *Enterprise*:

- Yolo County YMCA board member five years;
- chairman of the Davis Area YMCA’s fund drive;
- chairman of the Davis 4th of July celebration one year;
- vice chairman of the Yolo district of the Boy Scouts.

A 1962 article in the Community Awards files is only the second article saved, and the first time that the history of the award is given, including “the four criteria that were listed as suggested by Mr. L.M. Irwin when the trophy was donated” (see p. 3).



Price Gittinger
1960 Rodeo



July 5 Enterprise

1963 Kathryn T. Chiles (1906–1964)

Chair: Ed Markham
 Selection Committee: these previous Covell winners:
 Maghetti Madson Markham Truffini Whitcombe
 Barlow Hickey Heitman Symens Gittinger
 Rowe Smith Roessler

Chiles, a music teacher at the elementary school and talented pianist, was cited for the following:

- chairman of the Davis chapter of the American Red Cross 1953–61, member of Yolo Co ARC;
- work on drives in '57 benefiting Hungarian War victims;
- work on local polio, tuberculosis and cancer drives;
- membership and active participation in the PTA, Leisure Hour Club, Library Club, and Farmer-in-the-Dell

- Chapter of the Children’s Home Society;
- member Davis Citizens’ Com. for Public Schools;
- member St. James Church and the Davis Catholic Ladies Society;
- Davis Council of Republican Women;
- active participation in church and politics;
- during ‘55 Yuba City flood, provided emergency housing for 1,100 flood victims;
- Davis Historical & Landmarks Commis.

All from the Davis Enterprise article

In August 1964, 10 months later, Kathryn Chiles died at age 58 after a long illness.



Kathryn Chiles
Davis Enterprise

Chiles was the last winner chosen by a Selection Committee comprised of previous recipients. After this, a group of “representative Davis citizens” selected the Citizen of the Year.

1964 A. Doyle Reed (1916–2006)

Selection Committee:

Chair: Don Derbyshire
 Anderson, Don Motley, Sandy
 Carey, Joe Pearl, Bob
 La Grone, Gertrude Spafford, Ed

Reed a UCD Cooperative Extension economist and agricultural economics lecturer [from 1948–82], specialized in farm management and rural appraisal. He is currently [‘64] secretary of the California Society of Farm Managers and Rural Appraisers.

Presented by Chamber President Madson July 4, UCD athletic field

- He has also been very active locally. He
- is community leader of the Plainsfield 4-H Club;
 - is chairman of the Yolo County 4-H Council;
 - is president of the Yolo Co Board of Education;
 - is chairman of the Yocolano Girl Scout Council camp committee;
 - was president of the County School Boards Assn;
 - was president of the Davis Camera Club;
 - was chairman of the Citizens’ Committee for Public Schools. *from the July 5, 1964 Enterprise*



Doyle Reed
Davis Enterprise

Derbyshire wrote a clear report of everything he did.

On May 14, he sent a notice to the Board of Directors, Davis Area Chamber of Commerce:

“For some years the Chamber has asked the former recipients of the C.A. Covell Citizenship Trophy to nominate a candidate to receive the award.

“Last year the recipients felt they had done this long enough and that a new type of committee should be used. For the committee of six we should have Davisites who are not too likely to receive the award, but yet are representative of various aspects of Davis life. At the board meeting we will ask you to suggest any other names you feel could help on this committee and to vote for the six candidates.”

Derbyshire and Manager Gibson drew up a list of representative Davisites at the May 14th meeting asked the Chamber to vote on them, and then selected the top six from the following list:

- Business woman Mrs. Robert Isaacs, Jr. (2 votes)
- Businessmen Dick Winger (5) Don Anderson (8)
Bob Day (1) Phil Simmons (5)
- Women’s clubs Mrs. Fred Hall (1) Mrs. John Rogers (4)
- Men’s service clubs Bob Pearl (13)
- University Ed Spafford (10)
- Schools Joe Carey (10) Virginia Sprague
- City Hall Gertrude La Grone (8)

- Past com. members Joe Truffini (5) Len Smith (5)
- Newspaper Jill Brooks (4)
- League Wm. Voters Sandy Motley (6)

At the end of his report, Derbyshire said, “Our committee arranged for after the award to have a coffee and cake time, and one of the members offered her home for this. About 15 showed up for this time. We invited all the past recipients and their spouses as well as the president of the chamber.

“Be sure to arrange for recipient of award for current year to be escorted to this gathering. This affair is a more recent innovation that started about 4 years ago [1960?] and seems to be well worth the small effort. Each member of the committee contributed \$1 voluntarily to cover the cost for this reception.”

This was the news release:

“Citizen of the Year nominees sought by Davis Area Chamber of Commerce. Selection committee appointed by Board of Directors at a meeting May 19. Don Derbyshire is committee chairman. . . . Nominations with supporting information should be forwarded to Derbyshire not later than June 16, or to any other member of the selection committee—Anderson, Pearl, Spafford, Carey, La Grone and Motley.”

Press releases went to all three papers: the *Davis Enterprise*, *Woodland Daily Democrat*, and *Sacramento Bee*.

1965 Craig Armstrong (1923–1992)

Selection Committee:

Chair: Dr. Richard Larkey Oeste, LaVerne (Farmer)
 Brinley, John (Realtor) Proett, Dewey (Minister)
 Hughes, Ivor (Auto dealer) Wilson, J.F. (UCD retired)



Chamber files

- Armstrong** was the spirit of Davis High School, where he served as counselor, head counselor and Adult School principal, and, in 1969, DHS vice-principal until his retirement in 1988 after 40 years working for the district. His interest and dedication lay in students and curriculum. He
- was active in Davis Community Church;
 - was president of Kiwanis;
 - was chair of the Yolo County Health Council;
 - was a former chair of the Babe Ruth Baseball League;
 - was chair of the Yolo County Board of Supervisors Youth Activities Committee;
 - practiced multicultural curriculum before term came into being;

Presented July 4 at the UCD athletic field

- was president of the Davis PTA, the Davis Council of PTAs, and the Yolo County Education Assn.;
- served as the first Davis district team leader for the Davis Global Education Project;
- was the first at DHS in the morning, the last to leave, and never missed a play, football game or musical event;
- took a special interest in students with emotional problems, who were barely going to graduate;
- drove teachers to workshops/meetings in his own car and dime when there was no budget for staff development;
- was always leaving clippings in teachers' mail boxes to keep them abreast of their subject areas;
- was active in the CTA and Phi Delta Kappa education fraternity.



Craig Armstrong
1963 Hattie Weber

The 1998 library/classroom facility was named after him.

from "Those Who Make Memories," pp. 96 & 99

In his report May 1966, Larkey said that he, Derald Gibson and Paul Garritson submitted a prospective list of Chamber members, from whom the Chamber selected the above committee members, who requested that their names not be published in the paper. They met on June 15 and June 25, and at the latter meeting took a secret ballot.

The results were kept secret, except for one assistant who notified the wife of the award recipient, with whom arrangements were made to make sure that he would be in town on July 4.

Two days prior to the presentation, the three newspapers were given the name of the recipient. They did this

because pictures had to be obtained and the column set up at that time. The reporters were asked to keep this secret until publication.

After the award was presented on the evening of July 4, the Chamber officers escorted the recipient to Chairman Larkey's home, where he and his wife held a reception comprised of officers of the Chamber, the chief speakers, the July 4 celebration committee members, and local political figures.

This post-4th event started about 1960. Larkey recommended that funds be obtained from the Chamber for this reception in the future.

1966 Herbert H. Rourke (1897–1992)

Selection Committee:

Chairman: Ed Markham Madson, Ben
 Hartz, E.F. Hickey, Vern McKinley, Donald (schools)
 Hibbert, Jack Roessler, Ed Simmons, John, Sr.

Rourke was a State Farm Agent whom everyone liked. The Tuesday, July 5 copy of the *Enterprise* at both the Shields and Yolo County Libraries is missing, but the *Sacramento Bee* said that he was cited for his years of contributions as a "keystone" leader in the community. He

- is a former [1952] president of the Davis Area Chamber of Commerce and now [1966] a director;
- headed the recent Salute to the University of California, which drew Northern California business leaders and writers to Davis; and he
- is a past president of the Luther Laymen's League of Northern California and Nevada.

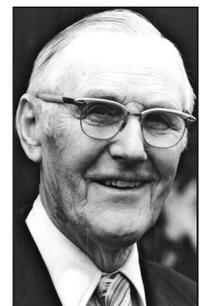
Presented by Chamber President Bill Streng July 4

Active in the building industry, Rourke

- supervised construction of the Davis Lutheran Church;
- ten years ago traveled each weekend for 28 weekends to Bijou, Lake Tahoe, to work in the building of St. Andrew's Lutheran Church there.

Elsewhere, other contributions were listed. He was

- president of Davis Rotary;
- on the city's 1958 business license and ordinance committee;
- appointed from 1955-57 to the committee to study Davis's overall public works planning and financing;
- appointed to Davis's Urban Renewal Advising Committee in 1955, where he served on the Bond Issue Committee, Sales Tax Committee, and Capital Improvement Committee from 1955–57.



Herb Rourke
1980 Chamber picture

1967 Ernest F. Hartz (1904-1969)

No report in our files, so no idea of who was involved.

Hartz “was dedicated to Davis” In the ‘40s he opened Hartz Motor Co. Ford dealership at 430 G St. He knew a lot of people in the business and would often travel to the manufacturing plant in Milpitas to watch cars being built that he would sell. He earned a pilot’s license after taking lessons from two local WWII pilots. He also



Feldmiller congratulating Hartz
July 5 *Enterprise*

- helped start up Little League baseball;
- sponsored the Thunderbirds Babe Ruth League from 1950 through 1953;
- started the Punt, Pass and Kick competition for children 6-10 years old, a sponsor ‘61, ‘62;

Presented by Chamber President Richard Feldmiller July 4, UC athletic field

- was chairman of a committee that organized and formed a Chapter of DeMolay for young men in 1959;
- was president of the Davis Rotary Club;
- was a member of the Yolo Shrine Club;
- was on Public Works Planning Com. ‘55-57;
- was on the 1956 Davis Redevelopment Com;
- was on the Davis City Council from 1960-62 and “narrowly lost being the mayor when the dice literally didn’t roll in his favor.”



Ernie Hartz
“Memories”

Text from “Those Who Make Memories,” pp. 120-121

And from the July 5 *Enterprise* article, he served on

- the Urban Renewal Advisory Committee (1955);
- the city’s Business License and Ordinance Committee (1956);
- the city’s bond issue, sales tax, and capitol improvement committees (1956).

Last time to hold event at UC’s athletic field.
Next four years at El Macero Country Club.

1968 John W. Brinley (1919-2002)

Selection Committee: Chairman: Ernie Hartz
Hardie, John Aronson, Ralph
Rourke, Herb Stromgren, Mrs. Rebekah

Presented by Mayor Ralph Aronson at the Chamber Dinner Jan 24, 1969
at the El Macero Country Club

Brinley, according to the *Enterprise*, was so involved that his “community contributions sound like a roll call of nearly every worthy non-profit origination in Davis”:

- Boy Scouts; —church work; —art committee;
- Red Cross; —UCD Arboretum; —youth programs;
- Citizens’ Advisory Committee;

- president, Yolo County Housing Authority; during his 17 years there he created low-income housing in the county, including two farm labor camps;
- Historical Society, helped with “Davisville 68”;
- committees to form the City’s master and core area plans;
- Business Improvement District;
- Historical and Landmarks Commission;
- UCD Library Association president;
- Yolo Co. Board of Realtors president.

He was also a major supporter of the Hattie Weber Museum, named after his favorite aunt.

The newspaper release, dated Nov 8, 1968, stated, “Nominations with supporting information, should be forwarded to Ernest F. Hartz, Chairman, Selection Committee, c/o Davis Area Chamber of Com., not later than Dec 13, 1968.”

On December 11 Hartz sent letters to the selection committee:

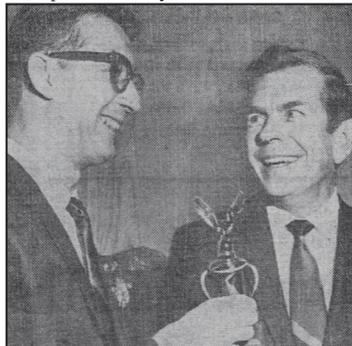
Thank you for accepting the responsibility of helping to choose the 1968 ‘Citizen of the Year’ for the Davis Community or the C.A. Covell Award.

Enclosed are copies of each letter previously held, and subsequent letters received by the Chamber of Commerce at the close of business on December 13.

During the next thirty days, we would like to have each member of the Committee study the reports submitted, and gather any additional information available on each possible Candidate. All of this work should be done on a strictly confidential basis.

Approximately one week before the annual Chamber of Commerce meeting on January 24, the complete Committee will be called together to make the decision on the “winner” on a secret ballot procedure.

Bee photo January 25



Newly-installed C of C president Kenneth Newton and Brinley



John Brinley Mayor Ralph Aronson
January 27 *Enterprise*

The 1968 folder contains a list of addresses of the previous recipients still living, plus the addresses of the deceased recipients’ children, Irwin’s son, and Moses’ daughter.

An April 17, 1968 flyer listed all past recipients of the Covell Trophy and gave the history of the award and guidelines for selecting a winner.

Brinley Honor Instituted

The news release alerting Davis to the Covell Award was sent out December 5, 1969, with a January 5 deadline.

On January 19 before the January 23, 1969 Chamber Dinner when the Covell Award was to be presented, this article appeared in the *Davis Enterprise*.

A new award honoring a Davis citizen for his contribution for the community was announced this morning at the Davis chamber of commerce board of directors' meeting and will be given Friday night at the chamber's annual dinner.

The special merit award will be named the A. G. Brinley Trophy in honor of the father of John

Brinley, who has donated it.

The award will be given to a person who has made an outstanding contribution in some specific field of service in the community. It complements the Covell award to the citizen-of-the-year, which is based on the honoree's contributions in a number of different areas of the community.

The honorees were notified of their award on January 20.

To formalize this decision, Brinley sent a letter to Chamber Secretary Derald Gibson on January 26, 1970, after the presentation. His letter describing the award is on the next page (p. 28).

1969 Christine Blanchard (1909–2005)

Selection Committee:

Chairman: John Brinley
Hardy, Alan (B of A Asst Mgr)
Proett, Rev. Duane (DCC)
Skinner, Dr. Maynard (City, UCD)



Christine Blanchard
From St. Martin's Church

Blanchard "is a health care and education advocate who

- was a STEAC volunteer;
- helped get St. Martin's Episcopal Church started;
- was an early supporter of Davis Parent Nursery Sch;
- helped organize a day care center for children of migrant workers, Ciudad del Sol outside of Davis;
- was early member of the Davis Comic Opera Co;
- worked in Democratic Club when were few Democrats;
- worked on the bond to support the Davis branch of the Yolo Co Library; helped start Friends of the Davis Library.

From "Those Who Make Memories," p. 70–72



"Memories," p.70

A media library was named after her at the Davis School District Administration Building, since dispanded due to cuts. The main community meeting room at the Stephens Branch of the Yolo County Library, however, is named after her.

And from the January 26 *Davis Enterprise*:

"Mrs. Blanchard, a protean figure in town, county and even state affairs, hit the ground running from the moment she first arrived in Davis in 1951. . . . Currently she serves in the following capacities:

- a member of the DJU School Board and curriculum council;
- the chairman of the clamor club [*Chatter Club!*, which helps international visitors at UC Davis];
- a member of the Davis Human Relations Council;
- a member of the Davis League of Women Voters;
- a charter member of the Davis Art Center;
- a charter member of the Davis Community Theatre;
- cofounder, on board of the Yolo Co Family Service Agency;
- treasurer of county's Economic Opportunity Commission;
- co-founder, on board of the county's Family Planning Assn;
- the State School Bd's Com on federal aid & nominating com;
- the state-wide commission on social science curriculum;
- on the Governor's Youth Conference as a Davis Area rep;
- PTA Council; Girls Scout troop leader; and much more."

Brinley Award: Joann Larkey

The awards were presented by Mayor Maynard Skinner at the Chamber Dinner Jan 23, 1970, at the El Macero Country Club.

Larkey was selected after writing the first history of Davis, a multi-year project.

Joann Leach Larkey had just completed *Davisville '68, The History and Heritage of the City of Davis*, the first definitive history of Davis. Recognizing the book's importance, John Brinley felt her work should be recognized by the city, and his Selection Committee decided to present her with another kind of award. It was established in memory of John Brinley's father.



Joann Larkey
from her book

From the January 26 *Davis Enterprise*:

"Mrs. Larkey, who was born in Woodland and graduated from the Davis school system and UC at Davis and Berkeley," and who married and lived [all over] with her husband, returned to Davis in 1962.

"She entered on the five-year project of the history of Davis pretty soon after her return. She was appointed by the Davis Historical and Landmarks Commission in 1963 to undertake the task and had it completed by 1968 in order to commemorate that year as the city's centennial.

"She began with Warren Westgate's collection of historical photographs, she explains, and wove the story behind them together into the final long volume.

"As for the future, she says she does not plan on much more historical digging than she is doing currently. . . ." [*She has become an authority on area history, having written several books since then.*] She is also

- charter secretary and VP of the Yolo Co Historical Society;
- a member of UCD Prytanean alumnae;
- co-chair of the Davis Centennial Committee;
- a member Sacramento Symphony League;
- an organizer of concerts for young children;
- a secretary and director of the UCD Library Asso;
- a Cub Scout and 4-H leader;
- chairman of the women's auxiliary to the Yolo County Medical Society.



Jan 26 *Enterprise*



John
Brinley

The A. G. Brinley Award

On January 26, 1970, Committee Chair John W. Brinley wrote “Mr. Derald Gibson (Secretary, Davis Area Chamber of Commerce, 215 G St.) that the 1969 Nominating Committee for the Covell Award felt there was need for an additional award of ‘Special Merit,’ which was given to Mrs. Joann Leach Larkey at the annual Chamber of Commerce dinner on January 23, 1970.” In the letter he said the following:

To help future committees in selecting a recipient, the four committee members suggested the following criteria be established:

1. Outstanding service to the Davis community during a specific year.
2. The award is not necessarily an annual award.
3. The award may, however, be given to more than one person in any given year.
4. In no way is this award to be compared with, nor overshadow, the C.A. Covell Award, whose criteria point up that the recipient has been active in many fields over a period of years.

The following year (1970) when Chris Blanchard was chair, they *added* the following suggestions for the Brinley Award:

1. That it be understood that the recipient of the Brinley Award not be excluded in following years from receiving the “Citizen of the Year Award.”
2. That tickets to the dinner be given free to recipients of the awards and their spouses.
3. That seats be reserved for them near the head table. The Chairman of the committee can see that they do not suspect why.
4. That a series of stories be released about former recipients at least 3-4 weeks before the deadline for nominations.
5. That the period for nominations be closed before Christmas vacation—or not opened until January 2. It would be preferable they be closed by the 20th of December, as this gives more time for publicity but Christmas vacation should not intervene.

In 1971, Will Lotter’s committee used the above as their criteria for the Brinley Award and added these two:

1. Outstanding service over a period of several years in one particular area of community service.
2. Could be a public official.

[They also added a fifth point to the Covell Award: “Not be an appointed or elected city or county public official.” It is the first time we have seen this put in writing.]

The first record in the files of what was to go into the newspaper says the following in May 1973:

“The Brinley Award was established by John Brinley in honor of his father [A. G. (Sam) Brinley], a widely-known member of the community for many years.

“Unlike the Covell trophy, which is given for overall and often long-continuing service to the city, the Brinley plaque is intended to recognize citizen contributions in some particular civic project.

“It is not necessarily awarded every year. Joann Larkey was the first recipient, in 1969; it has since been presented to Bill Bartholomew and Max Rothe.”

A. G. “Sam” Brinley

Sam Brinley was the genial host of the Davis railroad depot and founder of the Brinley real estate agency, whose many meritorious services to the Davis community make this award an appropriate memorial.

This long-time Southern Pacific agent brought nationwide honors to Davis citizens who performed patriotic services to keep the railroads running during World War II. When working as an SP agent, he enlisted the help of college professors and anyone else capable of manual labor to maintain the heavily traveled portions of track from the causeway to Dixon. Sam’s volunteer program was quickly copied throughout the entire Southern Pacific company.

Brinley came to Davis in 1912 as a telegrapher, married the youngest daughter of Davisville pioneers George and Anne Hunt Weber in 1916, and was promoted to agent of the Davis station in 1918. When he retired in 1948, he had served the railroad for 48 years.

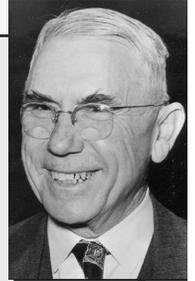
Sam was a charter member of the Davis Rotary Club in 1926 and was its first secretary. He later served as president of the organization.

He was the man most instrumental in organizing the Davis Area Chamber of Commerce: while serving as president of the old Davis Businessmen’s Association, he had conceived the idea of changing the group into a chamber of commerce, and his suggestion was followed. He later served as Chamber president.

Although an earlier chamber of commerce existed intermittently during the early 1900s and the idea of broadening the Businessmen’s Association into a community-wide organization had been espoused in 1921 by *Enterprise* editor William H. Scott, the fact remains that it was under the administration of the Chamber of Commerce headed by A.G. Brinley in 1925 that the first comprehensive efforts toward city planning were initiated.

It is also interesting to note that the first official business conducted by the new organization was student-oriented—the directors agreed to sponsor a float in the Picnic Day Parade and to assist in publicizing the campus event.

from *Portraits of the Past*, by Joann Leach Larkey



Sam
Brinley

The First 47 A.G. Brinley Award of Special Merit

| | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1969 Joann Leach Larkey | 1984 Dorothy Laben | 1998 Pat Hutchinson |
| 1970 Bill D. Bartholomew | 1985 Wesley Wooden | 1999 Jane Pomeroy |
| 1971 Max D. Rothe | 1986 Bob Dunning | 2000 Shirley Kreissman |
| 1972 Sam DeMasi | 1987 Anne Hance & | 2001 Charles Russell |
| 1973 Kathleen M. Murphy | Evelyn Buddenhagen | 2002 Judy Gabor |
| 1974 [Not presented this year] | 1988 David Burmester | 2003 Vicki Plutchok |
| 1975 John H. Jones | 1989 Frederick Lange | 2004 Russell K. Kusama |
| 1976 Ronald E. Whitehead | 1990 Mimi Cariño Sen | 2005 Katherine F. Mawdsley |
| 1977 Patricia P. Allen | 1991 Steven Cavagnolo | 2006 Martha Dickman |
| 1978 Donald P. Kessler | 1992 Barbara Jackson | 2007 Nancy Crosby & Pat Miller |
| 1979 Red Steffler | 1993 Paul E. Hart | 2008 Janet Berry |
| 1980 Richard Brunelle | 1994 Pat Williams | 2009 Helen Cole |
| 1981 Joan Snodgrass Callaway | 1995 Mary Ellen Dolcini | 2010 Dorothy Peterson |
| 1982 Sharon D. Rose | 1996 Ruth Shumway | 2011 Joe DeUlloa |
| 1983 Marinka Phaff | 1997 Ernst & Hanna Biberstein | 2012 Janet Boulware |

1970 Covell: Will Lotter

Selection Committee:

Chairman: Chris Blanchard

Brinley, John Streng, Bill Uribari, John Larkey, Joann Dolcini, Mary Ellen

Lotter, who received his Ph.D in 1960 from UC Berkeley, came to UCD in 1952 as assistant football coach and head baseball and track coach, then became head football coach for 10 years. Also very involved in Davis, he

- served as chair of the city Recreation Commission, after spearheading the present Davis recreation program;
- helped local schools establish their sports programs;
- ran free clinics for little league players, coaches and housewives interested in tennis;
- was on the city Master Plan Park Develop. Com. 1954–57;
- was a Chief of Indian Guides;
- was president of the Davis Human Relations Council;
- was on the Com. for Migrant Children, got day care center;
- was on Davis Child Care Com, officer of 1970 UN Com;
- was leader in founding of STEAC; a volunteer counselor;
- was instrumental in the formation of Diogenes House;
- was on the Cal Aggie Christian Center Fund Committee;
- was awarded the 1970 Danforth Fellowship for outstanding teaching and for promoting good relations between faculty and students.



Mayor Vigfus Asmundson Will Lotter Jane Lotter

Brinley: Bill Bartholomew

Mayor Asmundson presented the awards Friday, January 22, 1971, at the Chamber Dinner at the El Macero Country Club.

Police Chief Bill Bartholomew was recognized for his work with the youth of Davis.

Bartholomew, who came to Davis in 1962 as police chief, “has provided the leadership necessary to make the Davis Police Department one of the most progressive departments in the state of California,” said Asmundson. “He has made the policemen feel that they should be concerned with the underlying causes of violations of the law.”

Aside from membership in many forward-thinking professional organizations, he has instituted programs in the Davis Police Dept. that have benefited all Davis citizens:

- the Davis Police Reserve Program;
- Davis Girl Police Cadet Program, Boy Police Cadet Prog;
- Davis Police Department 3-R School Program;
- Educational Incentive Program for the department;
- the Citizen Rider Program for the department. He also
- is on executive council of parent and child counseling;
- was on 1968 United Crusade steering committee;
- was chair of the ‘64-65 Boy Scout Fund;
- was 1969 member of Yolo Co Action Committee for Control of Juvenile Delinquency;
- was chairman four years of the Salvation Army service unit;
- is member of Rotary, on 1970 board;
- was founder and member of Davis Drug Abuse Coordinating Committee;
- is a two-year member of the Neighborhood Commission for Explorer Scouts;
- is the institutional representative for Explorer Scout Post #498.

from January 25, 1971 Enterprise

1971 Covell: Kathleen C. Green (1921-2002)

Selection Committee:

- Chairman: Will Lotter Bartholomew, Bill (City)
- Brinley, John (Chamber) Lyberger, Jim (Sr Citizen)
- Heitman, Helen (Davis Public Schools)
- Kimble, Janet (Women's Civic Organizations)

They met in Heitman's office at (Old) Emerson Jr High School.



Kathleen Green
1971 family picture

- Green** said that since she had come here in 1950, Davis had "been [her] hobby." Asmundson introduced her as "the mother of Davis Parks: and "the great dissenter," referring to her four years ('58-62) on the City Council when she worked to have Community Park developed and often cast dissenting votes when other member assented. Besides the City Council, she
- served on the City Recreation Commission;
 - was member of 1966 Yolo Co Grand Jury;
 - served on the West Davis PTA executive board, currently is its legislative chairman;
 - was charter member, president of the LWV;
 - is chairman of the DJUSD Citizens' Tax Override Study and Promotion Com, now working to convince voters of the need to approve an increase in their school taxes;
 - was a charter member of the Davis Improvement Assn;
 - was on the West Davis school dist. Tax Study Committee;
 - was on the board of the Yolo Co Family Service Agency;
 - was on the board of the Yolo Co Tuberculosis & Health Assn;
 - was a charter member of the Davis branch of AAUW;
 - was a charter member of the Enchanted Hills Club.

from the Jan 24, 1972 Enterprise for both winners

Lotter and his committee applied the following criteria for selection of the recipients:

Citizen of the Year:

1. Has the citizen been a leader in civic activities?
2. Has he shown unselfish service to the community?
3. Is he dependable in carrying out his own assignments as well as those of other people?
4. Has he shown an interest in a variety of activities?
5. Not be an appointed or elected city or county public official. *[Lotter just added this to Irwin's original four criteria.]*

Note: These criteria were used by this committee, but we are not implying that they were always used in the past or should be used in the future. *[This is Lotter's note.]*
[The fact is that committees continued to abide by #5.]

Brinley Award:

1. Outstanding service over a period of several years in one particular area of community service.
2. Could be a public official.

Brinley: Max D. Rothe (1926-2006)

Mayor Vigfus Asmundson presented the awards January 21, 1972, at the Chamber Dinner at the El Macero Country Club.



Max Rothe

Rothe was recognized for his outstanding work with Suicide Prevention, where he volunteered as unpaid director for seven years.

Rothe, who has been in Davis since 1963, has played the major role in establishing Suicide Prevention here in 1966 and has spent two hours a day on work there since its inception. The organization responds to an estimated 300 suicide attempts throughout Yolo County annually.

Rothe is a civil engineer with the Urban Planning Dept of the Calif Highway Division. He is also a leader of an adult class at Davis Methodist Church and was chairman for two years of Boy Scout Troop 198 at St. James Catholic Church.

The standard newspaper release was sent out Nov 16, 1971. Green and Rothe, like their predecessors, were not aware they had been selected until the award was announced to the public

The Committee also made these recommendations:

1. **That next year's 1972 awards be given at the Fourth of July ceremonies** or some other similar public gathering. The committee felt it is vital that the community be able to attend the presentation as was done in the past. The present system of presenting the awards at the Chamber dinner makes this impossible. **It was suggested that the presentation speech should be brief, if it is returned to a public gathering.**
2. The Committee strongly reinforces all the previous years' committees' five recommendations. The committee especially urges that
 - a. seats for both recipients and their spouses be reserved for them near the head table;
 - b. a couple, preferably close friends, be asked to serve as hosts and hostesses for the recipients and that they also receive tickets to the dinner.
3. That in addition to the Covell and Brinley Award that a Youth-Citizen of the Year award be given using the same criteria as the Covell Award.
4. That a list of those seriously considered for all awards be passed on to the next year's committee with the letters and supporting documents.

Subsequent chairmen followed Lotter's committee's recommendations. Note that John Brinley was on this committee.

The Chamber presents the awards six months into the next year

The Chamber probably had planned to present the 1972 awards at the January 1973 Dinner, but Lotter's recommendation to return to the July 4 date changed that. Had the Chamber gotten into action immediately after

the January 1972 dinner to prepare for presenting the 1972 awards on July 4, 1972, no year would have been missed. Instead, for whatever reason (perhaps the recommendation was late), they waited until July 1973 to present the 1972 awards.

1972 Covell: Warren Westgate (1904–1989)

Chairman: Kathleen Green (who began the process May 10)
 Selection Committee: “Representatives of the Chamber of Commerce, women’s civic organizations, schools, senior citizens, and university students.”

Westgate wryly noted, “In view of my image: crusty, closed-minded, sometimes a public nuisance, obstreperous, and a Gray Panther, I have a feeling that the committee just felt the need to preserve an endangered species.” His activities:



Warren Westgate

- Senior citizens: longtime advocate and leader in obtaining programs and facilities for seniors, who now have a Center and Senior Citizens Commission representing seniors before the City Council;
- Yolo County Grand Jury;
- Fought for special housing for the elderly, low income and fixed income people;
- Peace activist: for six years he has stood in the G St. Plaza, often alone, in the weekly vigil praying for peace;
- Talented photographer and artist: he avails his works free of charge to local newspapers, exhibits in the Senior Center and elsewhere; works for “visual awareness” programs for seniors and others. His photo gallery at 412 G St. is dedicated to introducing the works of young photographers.

both from the July 5, 1973 Enterprise

Brinley: Sam DeMasi (1930–1995)

Councilman Holdstock presented both awards (on behalf of Mayor Maynard Skinner) before 10,000 people at **Community Park** July 4, 1973. *[A slow fireworks show kept people at the park until 11 pm.]*

DeMasi, who owned Davis’ two movie theaters, was recognized for his generosity in using his theaters to help the town.

DeMasi’s goal, as proprietor of the theaters, has been to make them a part of the town by

- allowing the people in the Davis Convalescent Hospital to visit the theater free of charge and supplying refreshments;
- inviting migrant children to visit the theater free of charge;
- offering the theaters to UCD groups that require 35mm facilities;
- allowing local groups to rent the facilities for a small fee for fundraisers, very helpful with advice and alternative suggestions.



Sam DeMasi Holdstock

For the first time, the Selection Chairman told the men soon after the meeting that they had won. And the awards were announced in the newspaper June 29—before the formal presentation July 4. This is no doubt because the huge crowd (waiting for the fireworks) would not allow for a long description of their accomplishments, and most people couldn’t even hear what was being said on the stage.

1973 Covell: Robert V. Oliver (1934–1974)

Chairman: Warren Westgate
 Selection Committee: not in the records

Oliver, who had died March 16, 1974, at the age of 38, received the award posthumously. It was accepted by his wife Helen, of 830 Linden Lane, and their children Craig Alan 15, Brian David 13, and Lisa Marie 12. He was Al Stehli’s partner in the Insurance Agency of Davis, Inc.



Robert Oliver
Enterprise picture

He was active in city government, an organizer and participant in youth activities, and a strong supporter of local sports. (Out of UC Berkeley, he was a 1958 draft choice for the LA Rams.) He

- was highly active in the Boy Scouts;
- was a member of the Parks & Recreation Commission;
- was a charter member of the Davis Optimists Club;
- was leader of Davis Boy Scout Troup 466;
- was an 11-year manager of a Little League team;
- chaired the Davis Recreation Commission;
- was the chief architect of the Recreation Department’s ongoing project for backpackers.

He was also instrumental in pushing for the Davis Manor swimming complex, the Veterans’ Memorial building, and the Teen Center.

He was cited as “Layman of the Year” in 1972 by the California Park and Recreation Society.

from the July 2, 1974 Enterprise

Brinley: Kathleen Murphy (1923–2008)

Mayor Joan Poulos presented the awards at Community Park July 4, 1974.

Murphy was recognized for her outstanding work with STEAC (Social Temporal Emergency Alleviation Committee), of which she has been president the last three years.

Kathleen Murphy, a nine-year Davis resident, has been the prime mover of STEAC, a local program set up eight years ago to aid persons in emergency situations.

By dialing 758-1301, a person is put through by an answering service to a selection member (one of five), who in turn calls on a volunteer in the appropriate area. If she does not have the resources to help the caller, she will refer the person to another source of help.

- Mrs. Murphy has also been active in
- St. James Church;
- Davis Human Relations Council;
- the International Friendship Committee (past president);
- the YC Advisory Com. on Youth Service & Health Planning;
- the Yolo Co Mental Health Association (past board member).



Kathleen Murphy
Family picture

The news release of impending awards was sent on May 15, 1974, with due date of June 3.

The recipients were told in late June, the *Enterprise* announced the results July 2, and the awards were formally presented July 4, 1974, at 6:30 pm in the Community Park.

1974 No awardees.

Because the previous Citizen of the Year (Robert Oliver) had been selected posthumously, there was no previous recipient who would automatically take on the chairmanship. By not presenting the awards until July the following year (July 1974 for the 1973 awards), they were already giving the awards half a year after the year for which they were being awarded.

They might have moved the 1974 presentation up from July 1975 to January 1975, but perhaps they were still wedded to July 4 when the whole community could attend. Or perhaps the Chamber didn't want to have it at their annual dinner in January. In the end the decision was made to skip a year and start the process in April 1975 for a 4th of July presentation that year. *See below.*

Gambatese readjusts the process in 1975 The 1974 year is omitted

Chairman Roger Gambatese, the Chamber-appointed representative for the awards, decided the situation was getting out of hand. Rather than continue to present the awards seven months after the year for which the recipient was being honored, he and the Chamber decided to skip the 1974 year and present the awards for 1975 in 1975.

The news releases seeking nominations went to the *Davis Enterprise* and the *Daily Democrat* on May 15, 1975, with a deadline of June 7. Remembering how awkward it was to give the awards during the 4th of July celebration in Community Park, they instead held a press conference at the Chamber office at 3 pm on June 27 to publicly announce who had been selected, with the award recipients invited. *[See large picture on next page—p. 33.]*

The awards were presented to the recipients at the City Council meeting at City Hall on Wednesday, July 2, at 7:30 p.m. At this formal presentation, Chamber President Margaret Hoyt gave a brief background of the awards. Committee Chairman Gambatese presented the recipients to the Mayor with brief comments about them, and Mayor Joan Poulos presented the awards.

People agreed that the formality of the Council meeting was better suited to the occasion and was

a distinct improvement over ceremonies in prior years at the Fourth of July festivities in Community Park—even if the presentation wasn't very well attended.

Afterwards, Gambatese presented a careful outline of events to help the next awards chairman.

After everything was over, when Gambatese thanked the people who had sent in nominations, he told them who the recipient was, and then the following: "As I am sure you understand, the choice of recipients of these awards is difficult, for there are many persons in Davis deserving such recognition. We will place your letter nominating _____ in the file for use by future committees. We urge you, in addition, to send a separate letter next year."

In a letter to Executive Director Derald Gibson on July 28, Roger Gambatese said, "I have inserted the five nominating letters which I received in a separate envelope in your file, which includes nominating letters from prior years. *[From this we can assume that all the nomination letters were held by the Chamber.]*

In the newspaper picture, the Brinley award clearly shows 15 brass plates on the plaque. The trophy appears to be getting quite full.

Thursday, Jan 22, 1970 *Enterprise*. Margaret Hoyt, chairman of decorations, and Roger Gambatese, Master of Ceremonies, discuss the Chamber dinner to be held on January 23.



1975 Covell: James F. Wilson (1892–1975)

Chairman: Roger Gambatese

Selection Committee:

Bolt, Phyllis (women's groups) Bryant, Del (public schools)
 Cole, Harold (senior citizen) Comiskey, Paul (UCD student)
 Lagerstrom, Ronald (clergy) Murphy, Kathleen (Brinley)
 Yeoman, Nelva (city employee)
 Oliver, Helen (widow of Covell winner)

Gambatese announced the 1975 award winners Thursday, June 26—after first notifying the recipients.

Wilson was a UCD professor of Animal Husbandry and was considered a pioneer in the sheep and wool



Jim Wilson

industry. He came to Davis in 1919 and was active in many civic activities for many years until ill health intervened. Wilson was respected enough to be selected to present the first Covell Award in 1944. He

—was on City Council 1924-26;

- was UCD Faculty Club president;
- led the city acquisition of the final parcels of land that make up present-day Central Park;

He also served as

- the first chairman of the City of Davis Planning Commission;
- Boy Scout Commissioner for Yolo Co;
- Davis Chamber of Commerce director;
- member of the Yolo County Juvenile Justice Commission for two years;
- president of Davis Rotary Club;
- 1974 Rotarian of the Year;
- chairman of the Davis civic defense and disaster committee during World War II;
- a member of Woodland Memorial Hospital Board of Directors during construction of the new hospital;
- area chairman for the American Cancer Society fund drive;
- Disaster Coordinator for the Yolo County Chapter of the American Red Cross.

Professor Wilson was respected internationally for his knowledge of sheep and wool. One of Jim's remarkable characteristics was his genuine common sense. This, coupled with his wide knowledge and native wit, enabled him to command the attention of most any group to which he spoke.

from UC's "In Memoriam"

In his letter to the members of the Selection Committee, Gambatese states, "Our selections need not necessarily be limited to persons nominated by the general public, so please feel free to make your own nominations at the meeting."

Brinley: John H. Jones (1920–1991)

Mayor Joan Poulos presented both awards at the Council Chambers Wednesday, July 2, 1975.

Dr. Jones was recognized for founding the Davis Free Clinic in April 1972.

The Clinic is currently recognized as a regional drug treatment center, helping people throughout the greater Sacramento area. It is located at 603 4th St. and receives from 800 to 1,000 visits a month from people seeking help for drug-related disorders, venereal diseases, pregnancies, family planning problems, and other health concerns. *July 3, 1975 Enterprise*



Mayor Joan Poulos, Dr. John Jones Mrs. James Wilson Chamber President Hoyt Peggy Wilson received the trophy for her husband Jim who was 82 and ill.

Jones, who grew up in Arkansas, came to Davis in 1952, where he joined the medical practice of Cooper and McKinney. He gained his reputation as a rock doc in 1967 in San Francisco when he worked at the Haight-Ashbury Free Clinic helping runaways, hippies, junkies and street people who didn't take care of themselves and had no health care.

In time, Jones realized that Davis, too, had its share of health problems. There he could also help students and migrants and anyone else who couldn't afford a doctor. That's when he started the Davis Free Clinic, based on his experiences at the clinic in the Haight.

According to Jones's wife Nancy, he would spend all day at the Cowell Heath Center on campus (where he began working in 1961), then go to the Davis Free Clinic evenings; and on weekends he often helped out at the free clinic in Sacramento. He loved helping people who needed it the most.

In 1971 he was given the Davis Humanitarian of the Year award. A few years before his death, the John Jones Humanitarian Award was established in his honor.

The Enterprise's "Memories," pp. 41-43

(1910–) (1918–2002)
1976 Covell: Herb & Hanna Bauer

Chair: Peggy Hoyt

Awards presented by Chamber president Albert Smith Sunday, Oct 10, 1 pm at Central Park

Selection Committee:

- | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| Armer, Austin | Bartholomew, Bill | Jones, John |
| Challey, Ed | Darling, Rev. Darrell | Kamai, Rob |
| Wilson, John B. | Epstein, Mrs. Peggy | Spafford, Ed |



Herb Bauer

Portraits are all family pictures

Herbert Bauer —has provided 24-hour accessibility to anyone in distress, with follow-up; —years ago, when polio immunization became available, he found that small print permitted acquisition of additional vaccine in lieu of administrative expense. With a group of other volunteers, he immunized 86% of the local population himself evenings and weekend, giving Davis and Yolo County the highest polio immune status of any community in the US (still has a callous on his shot finger); —spent a long night with a dangerously violent, armed person whom he finally convinced peacefully to seek treatment, possibly saving a number of lives, including those of the police; —is past president of Yolo Co World Federalists, UNA, Yolo Co Mental Health Assn, Tuberculosis Assn, Heart Assn; —Board member of the Family Service Association, whose founding grant he had procured; —works with Unitarian Church of Davis, Cub Scouts, DPNS; —volunteers teaching Davis school children, from hand-washing and health discussion with nursery school children, to teaching Greek and Problems of Biological Ethics to secondary students; —available year after year, to any organization that asks for a speaker in areas of health, and he considers peace as a major health issue.

Music, classical language, the theater, and public sanity and ethics are just a few of his major interests and involvements.

As of this writing in 2012, Herb is 102 and continues to be, as Bob Dunning says, “the Conscience of Davis.”

Information about Herb & Hanna is from their nomination papers



Hanna Bauer

(19 -2012)
Brinley: Ron Whitehead

Ronald E. Whitehead was recognized for his outstanding work with local youth.

Whitehead is currently Director of the Youth Services Division and has served as its director for the past five years. Under his direction, this division has developed into an effective city resource that provides

- counseling for troubled youth and their parents;
- guidance to minors with drug or drinking problems;
- law enforcements;
- school and city awareness; and
- recreational and educational training programs such as Fire Cadet and Police Cadet.



Ron Whitehead Albert Smith
 Monday, Oct 11 Enterprise

Hanna Bauer: involved in civic aspects of professional duties “beyond the call”:

- service-oriented organization of special services for children within the Davis schools;
- Yolo Co Mental Health Assn: president, organization and direction of local programs, emphasis on children, child advocacy;
- Sacto Valley Psychological Assn: president-elect, development of programs aimed at coordinating and improving psychological services on regional basis;
- Mental Health Advisory Board: president-elect; emphasis on humanistic services for our citizens. Civic supporter of, and contributor to, art and science;
- continuous support of local endeavors in art and music. Author of books, depicting poetry and technology;
- participation on numerous local committees;
- teaching the civic responsibilities of science by addressing numerous groups within the community and at UCD.



Hanna Bauer



Albert Smith Hanna and Herb Bauer
 Davis Enterprise, Monday, October 11, 1976

The deadline for nominations was September 10. Nominations were to be given either to a member of the selection committee or delivered to Hoyt’s office.

Hoyt noted that in having the awards presented at Central Park when the Davis Art Center had their annual Art Show and Fair, “the ceremony worked out very nicely. Quite a number of citizens came to hear the awards presentations who would not ordinarily have attended the Art Fair. It was a very nice gathering with quite a large number of citizens present.”

“The atmosphere was certainly much better than the awards ceremony presentations during the past several years”—at the Community Park just before the fireworks!

The next year, however, she returned the presentation to the Chamber Dinner, where it has remained.

1977 Covell: Dair Rausch

Chair: Peggy Hoyt

Selection Committee:

- | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------|
| Bauer, Herb—Covell | Small, Art—UCD |
| Burch, Glen—Senior Citizen | Thomson, Helen—Schools |
| Burrill, Rev. Bill—Clergy | Webster, Barbara—City |
| Shideler, Idella—LWV | Whitehead, Ron—Brinley |

Rausch: A teacher by profession, she
 —has volunteered in the schools for the past six years, teaching mini-
 courses in creative writing, math and the aging process;
 —was on first committee that wrote the Master Plan for Early
 Childhood Education for the Davis School District;
 —visited every state, county agency connected w/nursing homes;
 —received Mental Health Bell Award for initiating and carrying
 through as Program Director of “Citizens Who Care”;
 —helped write guidelines for first Advisory Com. at WDE;
 —wonderful resource person, always willing to share
 her knowledge and materials;
 —testified for the State Assembly Health Committee in
 support of a nurse’s aide training bill;
 —instrumental in convincing the Davis Adult Education
 School to sponsor a nurse’s aide training course;
 —planned a workshop to train volunteers to work with
 convalescent hospital patients and the elderly;
 —had weekly unpaid column in *Democrat* to educate pub-
 lic regarding problems of the aged, giving solutions;
 —contacted all local churches to encourage their involve-
 ment in convalescent hospitals. *January 4, 1978 Enterprise*

Brinley: Pat Allen

Hoyt presented the awards at the Chamber Dinner Saturday, January 14, 1978,
 at the UCD Faculty Club.

**Allen was recognized for her contributions as
 the volunteer director of Suicide Prevention.**

- schedules Suicide Prev volunteers, clergy, 2nd backup to cover 24 hrs/day (2nd to be reasonably available);
- keeps Davis Answering Service informed of daily and frequently hourly changes in on-call volunteers;
- plans, conducts crisis intervention training program of 10 sessions open to public; used by others, e.g., UCD parental stress and resident advisors for their crisis training;
- plans, conducts informational meetings 1x/month for on-going SP volunteers, periodically w/back-up clerics.



Dair Rausch

Pat Allen

(1920–2002)

1978 Covell: Dick & Lois Grau

Chair: Peggy Hoyt

- Selection Committee: Poulos, Joan
 Allen, Pat Boll, Fr. John Rausch, Dair
 Bach, Max Motley, Sandy Glock, Bob

Hoyt presented awards at Chamber Dinner Jan 13, 1979, at UCD Faculty Club.

**Don Kessler was recognized for his outstanding
 service in organizing the Davis Artists Se-
 ries, a program of musical and cultural events.**

The Graus together:

- STEAC volunteers: Lois now president; for nine years, they would take weekend calls together; he runs night errands, does pick-up & delivery;
- Davis Human Relations Council: members from inception, Dick has been on the board three years;
- Citizens Who Care: both on the board, are active volunteers at Driftwood Convalescent Hospital;
- Unitarian Church: Social Concerns Committee: Dick was board chairman two years; both taught Religious Education and are on current Building Committee.

Dick: —Affirmative Action Committee, UCD

- Potential Scientist Program: locat-
 ed disadvantaged jr/hi students,
 trained them during summer.

- Lois:** —Welfare Housing;
 —Suicide Prevention volunteer;
 —Grand Jury 20 months;
 —County Advisory Committees;
 —City: Quality of Life Report;
 —Schools: involved many parents.

Davis Enterprise, Jan 10, 1979



→
 Chamber
 snap
 shots
 ↓

Rachel Kessler

Peggy Hoyt

Don Kessler



Dick Grau

Lois Grau

Peggy Hoyt



The Graus and Kessler

Enterprise

1979 Covell: Fred Foerster

Chair: Margaret Hoyt
 Selection Committee:
 Blanchard, Christine
 Kanoff, Roy Lim, Vic
 Tomasi, Tom Lotter, Will
 Thomson, Helen Marchand, Betsy

Hoyt again urged committee members to make nominations themselves or bring nominations from others.

Foerster, of the popular Larry Blake's restaurant, has been a leader in
 — Yolo County Care Continuum (YCCC)
 — Chamber of Commerce, a director
 — Boy Scout Troop 66, Cub Scout Pack 496
 — Heart Association — Diogenes House
 — Special Olympics — Kiwanis
 — Ducks Unlimited — United Crusade
 He has helped these with fundraisers:
 — Symphony League — Diogenes House
 — St. James Church — Kiwanis
 — Cal Aggie Camp — Special Olympics
 — Ducks Unlimited — Madrigal Singers
 — United Crusade — Boy Scouts

Information is from the nomination letters.

Brinley: Red Steffire

Hoyt presented the awards at the Chamber Dinner January 19, 1980, at the UCD Faculty Club.

Steffler was recognized for his activism in senior citizens affairs.

Steffire felt more should be done by seniors, for seniors, when he came to Davis in 1975. He instilled a sense of togetherness and spirit in the seniors and raised membership from a few hundred to 1,050. He currently chairs the Senior Citizens Commission. He initiated the Seniors' Thanksgiving and Christmas Dinner Programs in 1976 and has been searching for grant funds for a permanent senior center.



Enterprise photo

Fred Foerster Red Steffire Peggy Hoyt

1980 Covell: Betsy Truffini (1912–2002)

Chair: Margaret Hoyt
 Selection Committee
 Cole, Cynthia—LWV Gambatese, Roger—CofC
 Foerster, Fred—Covell Mrak, Emil—UCD
 Kanoff, Roy—Chamber/Kiwanis
 Rausch, Dair—mental health
 Traverso, Bob—Asst. City Manager



This year the file contains the first note thanking Dick Luna for engraving the plaques.

Truffini was involved in all of these:
 — PTAs: Honorary Life Membership;
 — Committee for Better Schools in Davis, chairman 1952–54;
 — Davis Community Church, charter deacon 1952;
 — Yolo County Grand Jury, secretary 1953–55;
 — Davis Blue Birds, co-chairman originating the group '57;
 — 4-H Cooking Class, leader 1953–1958;
 — Recreation Commission, member 1964–67;
 — Davis Recreation Commission, chairman 1968–70, helped to establish bike lanes in town, and helped create the Community Park (for which she was criticized because it was too far out of town);
 — Advisory Com. for use of Emerson Jr. High 1971;
 — Original Senior Center Advisory Committee, member 1973;
 — Pink Ladies, Davis Community Hospital;
 — Camp Fire Girls, started a chapter;
 — Wrote "Senior Smiles" for the *Enterprise* for 20 years;
 — Well-Baby Clinic, Davis;
 — Davis Election Board, member 15 years;
 — Senior Center, currently Tour Director, having started the Travelaires.

Davis Daily Democrat, Jan 18, 1981

Brinley: Dick Brunelle (1933–2009)

Hoyt presented the awards at the Chamber Dinner January 17, 1981, at the UCD Faculty Club.

Brunelle was recognized for his outstanding contributions to music in the Davis High School and in the community.

Among his *many* contributions:

- co-founder of DHS Musical Theater Productions (1967–81);
- co-founder of Madrigal Dinners and POPS Concerts;
- director of *numerous* large-scale Davis musical performances;
- director, Davis Comic Opera Co and DArtCntr productions.

In 2009 the DHS performance hall was named after him.

Daily Democrat photo



1950—family Betsy Truffini Peggy Hoyt Richard Brunelle

The Truffinis are the only couple—to date [2013]—to receive the same award at different times. Betsy Truffini received the Covell Award 22 years after her husband received it in 1958.