

Dean's List by Mayor Shirley Dean

special edition for the Marin Circle Fountain Dedication, September 15, 1996

MARIN CIRCLE FOUNTAIN DEDICATION



"The reward of a thing well done is to have it done."

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Berkeley has a rich and colorful past, present and future. No matter where you go in the world, people know Berkeley. Yet, Berkeley is a small City so that you can still chat with your neighbors at the grocery store. We have the best of all possible worlds here; the sophistication of an international City and the warmth of a small one. Our city has remarkable architecture, a world renown University, and spectacular views of the Bay and the Hills, but what makes Berkeley really so special is the people who live here.

Nothing illustrates this point more clearly than the rebirth of the Marin Circle fountain. Organized solely by hundreds of volunteers and contributors from all of Berkeley, this fountain is the product of true community involvement. For three years, professionals, City staff, artists, historians and other volunteers have worked shoulder to shoulder on this successful resto-

ration. From mailing parties, soliciting contributions, researching history, digging holes, painting, planting flowers, to writing checks, people came together in common purpose in the largest grassroots effort in Berkeley's history for the improvement of a public space. This type of authentic community action is the cornerstone of Berkeley's spirit.

I cannot begin to tell you how much I appreciate and admire all of the hard work everyone has put into this exciting and positive project. All of the fountain's friends and supporters deserve the highest recognition for the years of pleasure and beauty their hard work will bring to the City.

This fountain, a gift from the community, stands as a monument to the people and spirit of Berkeley and to the wonderful magic of this great place. Thank you, everyone, for what you have done. It is truly a thing well done and a great reward to all.