

WALNUT REGION 624

AYSO 2008



## A little History And A Good Bye

When we moved here in January 1987 Walnut Ranch was just being built. The only houses in the area were in College Wood. Country Hollow Road stopped at the bottom of the hill and Westhoff elementary school was only an idea.

When the fields at Walnut Ranch opened in the fall of 1987, there were just the fields, no lights or buildings and just a dirt parking lot with a road off of Amar Road. The city of Walnut soon took care of that. There was soon a paved parking lot, snack bar and rest rooms, lights for the fields and the tennis courts. Westhoff was not far behind first being portables and now a showcase for elementary schools. There was one thing that we do not have now that we had then, cows that would get through the fence on field D.

Little did I know when I signed up to coach my son's U10 team that I would spend the next 22 years with AYSO and at Walnut Ranch. In 1988 Walnut became a region of its own (624) and I was asked to be on the board and I said yes and have been here ever since then. Through the years I have met a lot of very good people so many that it is hard to recall all of them. The wife and I will be out somewhere and someone will stop and ask "are you still with AYSO" and I will spend the next hour trying to figure out who they were. There are kids that I have coached and watched grow up and now are bringing their kids to play soccer. It is kind of neat to watch them being parents.

Being on the board has been a rewarding experience from the beginning to now as the region commissioner. There are so many people to mention that have put so much time into making the region work for your children so that they have soccer to play here would take this whole book to list all of their names. As a good start just look at the present board list.

This is my last year as the region commissioner and if all goes as planned will be moving with my wife Janet to North Carolina sometime in 2009. I would like to thank her for putting up with me for all the time that I have spent with soccer. She has been very understanding. There are just the two of us now. My son Brian is living in Hawaii and my daughter Jodi who passed away last year. I would like to say thank you to them also.

I need you, the parents, to volunteer to keep the region going as good if not better than the time that I have spent here. Really it is not that hard if I can do it any of you can. Just remember it is for your KIDS. One last Thank You is to the kids, parents, and board members for letting me be a part of region 624. I will miss you all!

Good Bye!  
Harry Dalton RC

