

THE SEVENTIES

1970

- **Physical therapy added** as a new medical service.
- The average **length of stay for hospital patients is 6.2 days.**

1971

- The first patients were brought by **helicopter** to the hospital.



1974, Lodi Lions Club raises the necessary funds for LMH to have San Joaquin County's first emergency heliport.

1972

- **LMH celebrates 20 years of service.** Board President Robert Rinn at the annual meeting reemphasized the tenets of Lodi Memorial, a non-profit hospital: No stockholders; no dividends for stockholders; board directed by volunteer lay people from the community; all income from profits and gifts are used for operating costs, maintenance and patient care; and this non-profit hospital will be Lodi's greatest community institution, provided by the citizens for the citizens.
- **Telemetry, fetal monitoring and several fiberoptic instruments** were added to the hospital's list of equipment.
- **First total-hip replacement** operation was completed.
- Respiratory-therapy program launched by **Mike Dixon, CT.**
- **ER fully staffed** for night, weekend and holiday coverage.

1973

- 4,456 patients lead to a revenue of \$1,614,541, from "regular" patients; \$1,158,136 from Medicare patients; and \$301,103 from Medi-Cal patients.
- 376,745 pounds of laundry processed; 123,615 meals served; 76,298 lab tests performed; and 61,521 prescriptions filled.

1974

- **Donald Saunders, MD,** was chief of staff.
- Continued unrealistic reimbursement formulas for both Medicare and Medi-Cal patients imposed by the federal and state governments.
- **Lodi Lion's Club donates heliport** to LMH.

1975

- The PRSO law (Professional Standards Review Organization, HMO law (Health Maintenance Organization), and the Health Planning

Laws, combined with Medicare and Medi-Cal reimbursement challenges, acted in concert to inflate the cost of hospital care to private-pay patients out of proportion to natural inflation. Hospital staff made **every attempt to reduce costs** by using the services of a group-purchasing plan among other efforts.

1976

- **Jane Klemeyer and A. A. Cristofani** lead an association-membership drive

resulting in 350 new members. Association membership reaches 3,000.

- Robert Rinn marked 30 years of continuous service to the Lodi Memorial Hospital Association. During 18 years as board president, he guided the hospital through two expansions.

- New departments continue to be added at the hospital. In this year, the departments of **Safety and Infection Control** and **Education** begin.



1979, Lodi Memorial celebrates a "mortgage burning" after paying off a \$1 million loan. (L to R) Robert Rinn, A.A. Cristofani, Ben Schaffer, Ole Mettler and Laura Wiederrich

- LMH's **OB Clinic** for low-income moms is inaugurated.
- Expansion plans for lab, surgery, ICU, maternity, central supply and the dining room underway. Costs expected to be \$4.5 million.

1977

- The hospital celebrated a **quarter century of service** to the community.



View of the hospital in 1977.

- The \$1 million mortgage for hospital expansion entered into in 1967 has been paid in full.
- The hospital converts to a **computerized-payroll** system.

1978

- The average cost per patient per day: \$213.



1973, Emergency service in action! 24-hour coverage by physicians, specially trained nurses and technicians.