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Houston Chosen Realtor of the Year

A capacity audience at the annual installation dinner and ceremonies of the Torrance-Lomita Real Estate Board on Friday night saw local realtor, Don L. Houston

awarded Realtor of the Year honors by the Achievement Committee for 1959.

Houston, a broker-salesman for Ken Miller Realty Co. received a handsome plaque which was sponsored by the Arrow Escrow Co. of Torrance. The citation took particular note of the fact that as membership chairman of the Real Estate Board, he had been personally responsible for bringing in 142 new members.

In a brief address, Mayor Albert Isen welcomed "the Torrance-Lomita Real Estate Board, as mayor of Torrance, at an affair in the heart of Redondo Beach." In more serious vein, Mayor Isen praised the Board as "probably the best example of the cooperation which is possible between the two commu-



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nities."

Said the mayor, "The various organizations and the many, many people with civic pride in the two communities could well emulate the example of this board. Torrance is interested only in being a good neighbor!"

"There are over 100,000 people living here," he pointed out. "There are also 100,000 working here. That means that there is a great demand for housing in our expanding area. You are the people who understand and meet that demand."

Donald Hitchcock, attorney for the Board, was Master of the Ceremonies, which included an Invocation by Torrance city councilman, Nicholas Drale, and saluting of a large nylon American flag with 50 stars presented by the Land Title Insurance Co. The salute to the new flag was led by Charles Kastner. Kenneth Miller, retiring president, reported on the Board's record in the past year, and was presented with a plaque and gavel by Irene Baker in recognition of his outstanding leadership of the group.

Mr. Bob Farnsworth, who is retiring as vice president of the 21st District of the California Real Estate Association, retired the past officers who include, Kenneth Miller, president, Delbert Vaughn, vice president, Rose Craig, secretary, and Paul Hill, treasurer. Impressive installation of incoming officers and directors was conducted by incoming 21st District Vice President, Mr. Jack Tarney.

New officers and directors for 1960 are: Lee K. Dawson, president, Irene Baker, secretary, Don Houston, treasurer, and Directors, Don Borden, Hallie Crow, Bob Hatcher, Kenneth Miller, Kenneth Peters, Delbert Vaughn, Rose Craig, Paul Hill, and Bill McEwen.

Corsages, which were donated by the Guarantee Escrow Co. of Westchester decorated the new officers of the Women's Division who are: Rose Craig, president, Edna Mullin, vice president, Ruth Schildmeyer, treasurer, and Thelma Turner, secretary.

Final highlight of the evening were the three special presidential awards given by past president, Ken Miller to the three realtors who have done outstanding work during his term. The surprised recipients were Rose Craig, Bill McEwen and Irene Baker. Miller and Hitchcock also expressed appreciation to the Planning and Publicity committee for the event, Rose Craig, chairman, Irene Baker, Lee Dawson and Don Houston.

Rodman's Speech Takes First Place

Stacy Rodman's description of "What a Year in Toastmasters Did for Me" was good enough to win him a first place trophy for formal speeches at the Wednesday night meeting of the South Bay Toastmasters Club at the Redondo Beach Elks Lodge. Rodman, Torrance, described his improvement from a poor, timid speaker to a self-confident man able to express himself well, citing his Toastmasters training as the cause. Second place winner was John Barton, Torrance, who spoke on "The Smutkateers."

Spud Menahan, Manhattan Beach, won first place in impromptu speaking competition. South Bay Toastmasters, which meets each Wednesday at 6:45 in the Redondo Beach Elks Lodge, is composed of men who meet to improve their public speaking. Further information can be obtained from George Shipway, FR 8-1739.

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