

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

October, 2009

During the morning of October 11, 2009 the SDMS office was broken into and the thieves removed our computers, printer, fax machine, as well as other machines. This was a serious set-back for the Society. While the computers contained our total data base, it did not contain Social Security numbers. The process of restoring the data base will take several weeks but business is going on as usual. Members will experience no loss of ability to use their membership privileges and new members will be added as usual. Our office manager, Barbara Thomson, will continue to answer the phone and provide information to all.

If you are a member who has joined since August, 2008, we would like you to either phone the office to verify your address and phone number or send them to the Society's office so we can match the information against what we have. We will also need your membership no. and date joined. If you are a member who joined before August, 2008 and moved, please let us know your new address.

The SDMS Board is considering ways to protect our equipment from theft. It is considering several possibilities for security: providing security bars and intrusion alarms for the present office, moving to a new location that is more secure, and placing the office in the home of one of our members and out of the business park atmosphere. A decision will be made soon.

The San Diego Memorial Society continues to serve members with simple, dignified, inexpensive funeral services. Nearly 30,000 members have joined since it began in 1958 and our current role includes more than 10,000 active members. We are very thankful that the faithful membership of the Society continues to provide support so we can carry the message throughout the county. We all need to be prepared for the time of our death and by planning for that eventuality, we save our heirs significant heartache.

Russ Armstead