

# Boys Club Is Ready For Boys

Santa Cruz' newest organization went into operation this week, the spacious Boys Club of Santa Cruz, located at the corner of Lincoln and Center streets.

If yesterday's initial signup of youngsters to enroll in the club is any indication of future interest, the organization is off to a great start.

It had a remarkable opening with more than 500 persons turning out for ceremonies Saturday afternoon and a total of more than 3000 persons visiting the club at the weekend open house.

Financed principally through gifts from John T. and Ruth Mallery, the Santa Cruz facility is recognized as one of the outstanding buildings of any city this size in the United States.

It is truly a magnificent facility.

It contains a large, indoor swimming pool with diving facilities plus a unique adjacent sun lounge which provides an excellent indoor-outdoor operation to enhance the popularity of the pool.

It has a first rate gymnasium with hardwood floor and stage for both sports and meeting facilities. Small folding bleachers will allow space for spectators as well as participants in both the gym and the pool areas.

The club has a library, an arts and crafts room, a wood workshop plus recreational facilities for boys of various age groups, including pool and ping pong tables as well as game facilities.

An adjacent kitchen will provide the ability to serve snacks.

Ample storage areas, showers, equipment rooms are designed to allow for the greatest possible use of the plant.

It has been a long time in the building stage for it was necessary to obtain as much volunteer labor as possible to build the structure with the available funds.

The weather, of course, didn't help matters either in the time for construction.

Contributions to the building fund to supplement the Mallery grant aided in providing sufficient money to complete the building although it was necessary to use loan funds from the Boys Club of America to complete the swimming pool.

As a result, the Boys Club of Santa Cruz still needs contributions from interested citizens to maintain the construction fund as well as to supplement the operation funds, which come from both a

Mallery grant and from the United Fund of Northern Santa Cruz County.

But just as important is the enrollment of boys from 8 to 15 years of age so that the club can achieve its foremost function, the training of young boys in physical and mental tasks, designed to build good character and good men.

Many members of the building trades in the area donated their time and skills in the construction project, others donated both time and money to aid in numerous functions required in the planning and building program.

The sum total has resulted in an outstanding facility for the community and one in which we all can take great pride.

We sincerely hope that more and more citizens of the community will take the opportunity to visit the club, to talk with the staff, and the boys to see for themselves what is available for the boys of the Santa Cruz area.

We congratulate Mrs. Ruth Mallery for her extraordinary contribution to the community.

And we offer our best wishes to the club, its directors, staff and members for a most successful venture.

It is a fine step ahead in the development of a better Santa Cruz.