



SANTA BARBARA

YACHT CLUB

Dr. James “J.C.” Brainbridge, 1919

1863-1929

A physician (Ear, Nose & Throat) and surgeon, Dr. James Carden Bainbridge came to Santa Barbara in 1898 and wasted no time getting involved. He vigorously supported organizations that worked to serve the betterment of his community. He was a founding member of the Santa Barbara Fraternal Brotherhood of Eagles in 1899; he was an exalted Ruler of the Elks and active in the Masons, Knights Templar, and Mystic Shriners, and he was the examining physician for Woodmen of the World (a fraternal benefit society). A natural continuation of civic involvement was to lead the Santa Barbara Yacht Club as it was getting back up to speed. In 1918, the Yacht Club acquired its flagship Royal, but unfortunately, during Bainbridge's commodore year, it was destroyed during a launch. One of the many great community leaders active in the Yacht Club, Dr. Bainbridge served as Santa Barbara County Physician from 1908 to 1921 and he was the first physician to bring an x-ray machine into his office practice in Santa Barbara. Interestingly, his father, grandfather, and father-in-law had been physicians, and his great granduncle was Commodore William Bainbridge, a revolutionary Naval hero! Dr. Bainbridge made his home at 1306 Garden Street.