



The Award Winning
Malibu Rotary Club Surfwriter

April 3 2019

Official Newsletter of the Rotary Club of Malibu
Malibu Rotary Club President Bianca Torrence
Malibu Rotary Club Vice President for April John W. Elman
Pictures by John Elman and City of Malibu

Edited by Dr. John W. Elman

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- **Next week regular meeting of the Malibu Rotary Club regular Meeting will be April 10 2019 8:00 a.m. in room LC 152 on the Pepperdine Drescher Upper Graduate campus. Speaker will Eva Johnson. She will talk about Home Health Service and the expanded definition of Hospice Care—she will talk about the various levels of home healthcare service available and eligible for Medicare**
- **Malibu Rotary Club Website: www.maliburotary.org**

- **Rotary International Website:** www.Rotary.org
- **Rotary District 5280 Website:**www.rotary5280.org/
- **RI President (2018-2019) Barry Rassin**
- **Rotary District 5280 Governor (2018-2019) [Joe Vasquez](#)**

Editors Note: Bulletin Writer Resigns—I have written the digital edition of the *Malibu Rotary Club Surfwriter* for 17 years. In my 40 years as member of the Malibu Rotary Club I had written the bulletin several years in the 1970's before going to digital. We used to use a typewriter and send each issue to members only by postal mail. In general that subscription list only had about 20 names. Part of the job was applying Xerox copied address labels and postage stamps to each newsletter. When I was club president in 2001 I decided we would go digital using something people were just starting to use—e-mails. There are now 157 names on the e-mail subscription list but only 133 of those will actually get the e-mailed edition because some of e-mail addresses may not be valid. Our club uses ClubRunner for a variety of services, including keeping track of speaker schedules, reporting members and terminations to Rotary International, attendance, as well as ClubRunner's secure e-mail service, which is used to send the weekly newsletter. A neat thing about ClubRunner is that it has statistics showing who received e-mail and who opened e-mail.

I have always tried to be accurate in describing each week's Malibu Rotary Club speaker, often truth checking statements the speaker said in his presentation, checking website links. Sometimes a speaker's story was so compelling I would start researching the subject, trying to make sure the inflection the speaker made about the subject was correctly written. As a result each issue has taken me several hours to write. And because I also have a business to run and several websites to attend to, and family, and my music, and the only time I have to write the newsletter is Sunday evening, I usually do not finish the writing, saving, and sending of the often 12 page tome until about 2:00 or 3:00 a.m. I did not have time to proof read, and with my eyes half closed I might not have noticed typos and other errors. By Monday I would be at work in my office not having time to look back—and once I hit send there is no going back. So, although I will still be club secretary, update the website, and participate in other Rotary business, this my friends, may be the last *Malibu Rotary Club Surfwriter* bulleting I write.

Richard Garvey CERT: Malibu Community Emergency Response Team tries to save Malibu during the Woolsey Fire despite state police keeping them from doing it



Malibu CERT Team members (left to right) Richard Garvey, Darlene Dubray and Devo Brown are shown at the Zuma Beach supply distribution center after the Woolsey Fire.

Richard Garvey, Director of CERT (Malibu Community Emergency Response Team) spoke at the Malibu Rotary Club meeting April 3 corroborating stories that most of us in Malibu had heard about the trials and tribulations of those who chose to stay in Malibu had with law enforcement officials during this disaster. When certified CERT team members tried to help save people, animals and property during the Woolsey Fire they were thwarted at every turn by uniformed officers who were supposed to “Protect and Serve.”

As a CERT volunteer Richard and his fellow CERT volunteers had been trained to help people during disasters. The various components of their training is listed at the end of this article. When the City of Malibu Public Safety Manager Susan Dueñas activates the CERT team they spring into action. After First Responders such as the fire and sheriff’s department, the CERT’s volunteers are supposed to be allowed to give support as needed to help out.

When the Woolsey Fire began on November 8, Richard was home in Point Dume, a place that was never supposed to burn. When cell tower transmission went down he said it was still possible to send and receive text messages. He knew that Susan Dueñas had activated CERT. At the time there were about 30 members of CERT, but only 2 of them were in Malibu, the rest having been evacuated and unable to return because sheriff blackades wouldn’t let them back in .

Sheriffs were brought in from all over the southern California area. Repeatedly when Richard was trying to do his job, supplying those who stayed to fight fires with supplies, sheriffs would stop him and other CERT volunteers with “CERT? What’s that? Never heard of it.”

After a couple days 10 CERT volunteers were allowed back in Malibu and were helping Malibu with disaster efforts. Richard said as he was driving up and down PCH after the fire started he saw plenty of private citizens who were putting out fires with garden hoses and whatever means they could find to do it, but HE SAW NO FIREFIGHTERS FIGHTING FIRES. They were under orders to be here, and were waiting for further orders. Apparently the orders were not to put out fires. Many came from other cities and didn’t want to go up unfamiliar canyon roads.

Once allowed to do their job Malibu CERT Team helped in many ways. Richard said they operated under the motto “Do the most good for the most people.” It is part of their triage training. Richard estimates that as many as 2000 Malibu residents disobeyed evacuation orders and stayed to protect their neighborhoods. As bad as the losses were due to this fire, it would have been much worse without the Malibu residents who decided to disobey evacuation orders and stay and protect their neighborhoods. These are the true local heroes.

Almost immediately the Malibu CERT Team was asked to retrieve supplies from the 6 emergency bins located throughout the City and distribute those supplies where they were needed. Richard said when he opened those bins to get emergency supplies he found expired rations, expired batteries, and no flashlights. He used what he could and told those who were bringing in supplies by boat and surfboard what was needed.

Working alongside the many other community volunteers who came to aid their neighbors, CERT Team members used the supplies to help set up relief centers and distributed supplies to residents at Point Dume Elementary and Zuma Beach.

During the fire CERT volunteers gathered information for Malibu’s Emergency Operations Center personnel, conducted 45 welfare checks on older residents, provided basic first aid, and more. After the evacuation was lifted and Malibu was allowed to repopulate CERT volunteers worked at roadblocks handing out masks and informational pamphlets. In total, team members spent over 400 hours serving the community

Prior to the fire, Malibu CERT Team members spent extensive time training and drilling in preparation for a disaster. Each active member is a registered disaster service worker, and many have advanced emergency medical training. In accordance with the City’s requirements for formal CERT Team membership, active team members have gone far beyond the basic CERT training offered by the City. For active Malibu CERT Team members, CERT is an ongoing, year-round commitment.

In addition those who are on the team, hundreds of Malibu residents have completed the CERT basic training course. One of the primary tenets of the basic CERT training is that emergency services personnel may not be immediately available during and after a disaster. In these situations, community members will need to organize and take action to help themselves and their neighbors. The CERT training class provides instruction in disaster preparedness, the use of a fire extinguisher, disaster medical care and first aid, search and rescue techniques, disaster psychology and neighborhood team building.

Those who are CERT trained, but not members of the official Malibu CERT Team, are not “activated” by the City. They are trained to self-deploy, when safe, and assist their neighbors.



CERT members and volunteers organize donations at Zuma Beach immediately following Woolsey Fire.

In the wake of the Woolsey Fire there’s been a significant jump in participation of CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) classes in Malibu. As many as 60 residents signed up for classes that began in January, with more than 30 in attendance to learn disaster preparedness and how to assist the community in an emergency. And now city leaders are doing what they can to back up the team’s importance and recognition by law enforcement.

Even though a recently-published city report does not fully address the many problems Malibu CERT had during the Woolsey emergency, city leaders acknowledge the team was not recognized by law enforcement when critically needed to assist and not allowed past roadblocks.

A Malibu Times article January 23 talked about the problems CERT had when they were trying to do their job during the Woolsey Fire:

“We’re going to rectify that immediately,” Council Member Rick Mullen—mayor at the time of the fire—said.

“We need to do more with the sheriff’s department to get them to fully embrace and recognize credentialed CERT members for any future disasters,” Mullen continued. “I think it’s very important. The roadblocks were a very serious source of ire for the

citizenry. Certainly, something that should happen is a full recognition by law enforcement of our CERT team members because they're going to be working with them and assisting them. That was the major source of disappointment for me and anyone associated with CERT—how that manifests itself in the future remains to be seen.”

Mullen acknowledged that more needed to be done to make CERT function as it is intended.

“In general, CERT is very well recognized by the fire department and it should also be by the sheriff's department. It's something we're definitely going to improve upon if I can have any influence at all,” Mullen stated. The council member, who is a fire captain as well as a CERT trainer for the fire department, has arranged for a CERT mud and debris flow class to take place for local CERT participants.

The director of Malibu CERT, Richard Garvey, also acknowledged complaints over the failure of CERT to be recognized during the Woolsey Fire.

“The stories you heard are completely true,” according to Garvey. “Some CERT members couldn't get back in after evacuating.” The Point Dume resident of nearly 40 years said even he struggled following the fire.

“I had a huge amount of problems getting through roadblocks,” he said. “With CERT, we are all volunteers. It's very difficult to provide assistance to the community as a CERT member when you are under mandatory evacuation and your house is in jeopardy. In fact, four CERT members lost their homes. Since many of us evacuated, the sheriffs were not letting anyone in.” Garvey, even with his CERT ID and as an official registered city disaster service worker, was not able to cross barricades—especially for the first few days after the fire. When making a welfare check on a resident that hadn't been heard from, Garvey said he got the third degree from the sheriff's department and followed to the residence.

“After a few days, things improved—thanks to Lt. Jim Royal, who tried to get the word out to everybody that CERT people are performing a valuable service to the community and should be allowed in,” the director recalled. “He was apparently overruled sometimes and couldn't always help. It got better after a few days when more sheriffs found out what CERT was. At the beginning it was, ‘CERT? Who's that?’ Fire was great. It was the sheriffs and highway patrol that was a problem.”

When roughly 20 members were allowed back, they handed out dust masks, gloves and other useful supplies from emergency bins scattered throughout Malibu. Some of the bins were filled with “things that were older or largely more geared to an earthquake, because that's a typical event that CERT would prepare for—even though we have many fires,” Garvey said. “We're in the process of updating and increasing the supplies. It takes time to get funding and figure out the best things to put in them.” Garvey initially opened bins and started ferrying water “which was the most appropriate supply that seemed to be needed at that time.” He brought it to lifeguard headquarters, Fire Station 71, Point Dume Elementary and other stops at Zuma Beach. While driving around Point Dume and surrounded by flames, he finally saw a fire truck at Zumirez, but at that point it was too

late for many homes after the fire crossed Pacific Coast Highway.

As the leader of CERT, Garvey pointed out, “There’s a gigantic difference between people who have taken the CERT course or who were a member at one time and anyone that’s active and current. You have to maintain those skills.”

Mullen just went to a meeting of recruits for the new CERT class and “told them how much I appreciate them stepping up and that the CERT program had the full support of the council.”

More about CERT from the City of Malibu website (Malibucity.org)

CERT

Following a major disaster, professional first responders who provide fire and medical services may not be able to fully meet the demand for services. Factors such as communications failures, road blockages, and the number of victims, may prevent people from accessing the emergency services they have come to expect at a moment's notice when 911 is called. People will need to rely on each other to meet the immediate lifesaving and life-sustaining needs, particularly in isolated neighborhoods that may be cut off from main roads for a period of time.

[Click here to sign up for upcoming CERT training courses](#)

CERT - COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM

The CERT program was developed in 1985 by the Los Angeles City Fire Department to provide basic training in safety and lifesaving skills to the general public. It has since been adopted and enhanced by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the National Fire Academy. The course is now recognized nationwide, and over 50,000 citizens have been trained to date.

MISSION STATEMENT

The purpose of Malibu CERT is to assist the City, as needed, with emergency disaster response in Malibu and the surrounding communities, and to promote disaster preparedness to all residents.

CERT GUIDELINES

At its Regular meeting on August 28, 2017, the City Council adopted [Resolution No. 17-32](#), which established the CERT Program Guidelines, clarifying the role and responsibilities of Malibu CERT by outlining the requirements to become a member of the team, organizational structure, team responsibilities, ongoing participation requirements, and activation procedures.

TRAINING PROGRAM

CERT classes contain the following modules:

- **Disaster Preparedness**
- **Fire Suppression**
- **Medical Class #1**
- **Medical Class #2**
- **Light Search and Rescue**
- **Terrorism**
- **Team Organization and Disaster Psychology**
- **Course Review and Disaster Simulation Drill**

The next CERT training opportunity is set to take place in May:

- **Saturdays, May 11th, 18th, and 25th**
- **10 AM to 4 PM**
- **Malibu City Hall**

To receive notification of future CERT training or other emergency preparedness classes offered by the City, go to MalibuCity.org/news and subscribe to the Emergency Preparedness Calendar.

Malibu Rotary Club Middle and High School Singing Competition is ON

After discussion with the choral director of Malibu Middle and High School, Teresa said students still were looking forward to having the annual Malibu Rotary Club Middle and High School Singing Competition this year. There was no venue available at Pepperdine and was decided that this year's event would be at 7:00 p.m. at **Malibu High School, 30215 Morning View Dr, Malibu, CA 90265.**

Last year 16 Students from Krysta Sorensen's vocal classes at Malibu Middle School and Malibu High School competed for prize money at special concert program at Raitt Recital Hall at Pepperdine University. Except for the venue this year's format will be the same. Emcee will be Ted Silverberg. Judges from the music industry will score student performances. Cash awards of \$200, \$100, and \$50 are given to the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place finishers in both the middle school division and the high school division,

Other Malibu Rotary News

Guests

Guests at the April 3 meeting included Nagy's wife interior designer **Kathy Henein**, and First Bank Branch manager **Keri Canady** who were both proposed for membership and will be inducted into the Malibu Rotary club at the next meeting on March 10, by visiting Past District Governor **Tom Bos**, who be going back to his home in Holland, Michigan for the summer, after this meeting.

Rotary Project in Peru

Malibu Rotary Club President **Bianca Torrence** was on her way to the Rotary District 5280 Humanitarian Trip to Lima Peru April 3-8. Via e-mail prior to the August 8 meeting Bianca made a formal proposal to the Malibu Rotary Club Board of Directors: Her proposal was that the Malibu Rotary Club commit to be the Lead club for the grant #10 on the Peruvian Rotary Humanitarian District trip **BARRANCA-Smile Project**. It takes \$5k to be the lead club on the Global Grant project. Bianca pointed out the Malibu Rotary Club already had committed \$2k for the project and she will work on getting the rest so the Malibu Rotary Club will be recognized as lead club in this project.

Malibu Rotary Board approved the funding of the Peruvian **SMILE BARRANCA** project at the August 8 meeting. The **SMILE BARRANCA** was the project that was in most need of funding of the eleven humanitarian projects of the Rotary District 5280 Humanitarian trip in Peru. We are sure Bianca will bring a big smile to the people of Barranca.

Bianca spoke at the Pacific Palisades Rotary Club September 20 and was persuasive enough to have the Palisades Club join the Malibu Rotary Club in sponsoring the Peruvian **SMILE BARRANCA** project.

That project specifically is hosted by Rotary Club of Barranca, District 4465 Serving the marginal urban and rural sectors, and in educational institutions where there are deficiencies in oral health care in Supe Pueblo, Puerto Supe, Pativilca, Paramonga and Barranca. Needs Assessment Oral Health in Peru is a public health problem, so a comprehensive approach is necessary, applying effective measures to promote oral health and prevent the consequences of poor oral health. Poor population, as well as non-poor, presents needs for the treatment of oral diseases. One of the human groups sensitive to such public health problems are minors, including children between the ages of 3 and 6, where the habits of hygiene and oral care are generated and reinforced, which will be sustained during their future development. This need was assessed by visiting the schools and population evaluation by dentists in Barranca. Project Description • Preventive care and education to children who belong to the Non-school Initial Education Program. • Oral health care for beneficiaries of urban and rural sectors. • School and population training in Barranca Area of Focus: Disease Prevention and Treatment Goals The objective of this project is the promotion of oral health and oral hygiene in marginal urban and rural sectors without health coverage and children from Not Standardized Initial Education Programs.

Bianca said her family has had a charity project in Peru for years she has decided to have her family charity project to contribute an additional \$1000 to that project in behalf of the Malibu Rotary Club, doubling the Malibu Rotary Club contribution from \$1000 to \$2000.

MALIBU ROTARY CLUB 2018-2019
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Vice-President

Margo Neal

Vice-President

W. David Baird

Vice-President

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Teresa LeGrove Cherkas

Rotary Foundation

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Club Administration

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Margo Neal

Bianca Torrence

Historian

David Baird

Bob Syverstein

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Carlye Rudkin

Fundraiser Co-Chair

Margo Neal and David Zielski

Malibu Rotary Club Rotating Presidents for 2018-2019

July 2018	W. David Baird
August 2018.....	Margo Neal
September 2018.....	Margo Neal
October 2018.....	Margo Neal
November 2018.....	W. David Baird
December 2018.....	W. David Baird
January 2019.....	W. David Baird
February 2019.....	John W Elman
March 2019.....	John W Elman
April 2019	John W Elman
May 2019.....	Teresa LeGrove Cherkas
June 2019	Bianca Torrence

CALENDAR

April 10 2019 Eva Johnson will talk about Home Health Service and the expanded definition of Hospice Care—she will talk about the various levels of home healthcare service available and eligible for Medicare

April 17 2019 Emmet Finch "The Malibu Poet" Emmett Finch, "The Malibu Poet," is a war veteran, sailor and seafarer, private pilot, adventurer, retired firefighter, yachtsman, traveler, naturalist, poet and writer. Emmett has lived an unusual life-which set the stage and background for his unpretentious style of writing. He attributes much of his inspiration to the good fortune of living in Malibu by the Sea and writing his Poetry for over half a Century.

April 23 Rotary District Breakfast at Westin LAX hosted by Rotaract and Internact

April 24 John Elman Rotary information and communication using Maliburotary.org

John Elman has been maintaining Malibu Rotary Club information on the ClubRunner website located at Maliburotary.org since 2005. The site is can be a tool for both Malibu Rotary Club members and the public to find out about what the club has done and what it will be doing in the future. In addition, through its secure e-mail program the ClubRunner site is a valuable communication tool. John will be demonstrating this at the April 24 meeting of the club.

May 1 2019 Mark Lipps speaks on the subject of SOLAR (May be changed to another date because of evening Singing Competitin)

Mark is a member of the Manhattan Beach Rotary.

He will talk about the future of solar for residential and commercial. Legislatively what is going on and what can we expect in the next few years.

May 1 2019 Malibu Rotary Club Annual Middle and High School Singing Competition 7:00 pm. . at Malibu High School, 30215 Morning View Dr, Malibu, CA 90265.

Students from Krysta Sorensen's vocal classes at Malibu Middle School and Malibu High School compete for prize money at special concert program at Malibu High School.

Emcee will be Ted Silverberg. Judges from the music industry will score student performances. Cash awards of \$200, \$100, and \$50 are given to the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place finishers in both the middle school division and the high school division,

May 8 2019 Board Meeting presided over by President Elect Teresa LeGrove

May 15 2019 Dawn Herscher “Developing techniques of storytelling”

Dawn Herscher is a recent TED* talk speaker and offers a very compelling and memorable workshop on storytelling, and how stories are necessary for branding and making money! She is a professional speaker, and has 10 years experience as a speechwriter. She should provide Malibu Rotarians and visitors with an enlightening morning.

*TED is a nonpartisan nonprofit devoted to spreading ideas, usually in the form of short, powerful talks. TED began in 1984 as a conference where Technology, Entertainment and Design converged, and today covers almost all topics — from science to business to global issues — in more than 110 languages. Meanwhile, independently run TEDx events help share ideas in communities around the world.

June 12 2019 Malibu Rotary Club meets with Malibu Chamber (Paradise Cove Cafe) (no meeting at Pepperdine)