



The Award Winning

Malibu Rotary Club Surfwriter

August 24, 2016

Official Newsletter of the Rotary Club of Malibu
Malibu Rotary Club President of Record Bill Wishard
Malibu Rotary Club President of the Month Margo Neal
Malibu Rotary Club President Elect Bianca Torrence

Edited by Dr. John W. Elman

Pictures by Dr. John W. Elman and Bill Wishard

In This Issue (click underlined topics for web link when connected to the Internet)

- **Last week: Aug 24 Pepperdine Student Stuart Slayton, President of Lambda Sigma Service Chapter of Pepperdine's Psi Upsilon fraternity tells how the tragic events at local fraternity turned it around, and how the extraordinary accomplishments made it one of the campuses highest achieving organizations gaining national recognition and winning every possible national fraternity award**
- **Next Regular Malibu Rotary Club Meeting August 31 at Pepperdine Graduate Campus Room LC 152 with fellowship at 11:30 a.m. and meeting at noon. This meeting will be a Malibu Rotary Club Assembly led by President of the Month Margo Neal and Bianca Torrence where final plans and duties for Malibu Rotary's booth at the Labor Day Weekend Chili-Cook-Off will be discusses**
- **Other news and guests from last Malibu Rotary Club meeting**

Check **Calendar** on Malibu Rotary website www.maliburotary.org

- **Rotary International Website:** www.Rotary.org
- **Rotary District 5280 Website:**www.rotary5280.org/
- **RI President (2016-2017) John F. Germ**
- **Rotary District 5280 Governor (2016-2017) Greg O'Brien**

Student Stuart Slayton, President of Lambda Sigma Service Chapter of Pepperdine's Psi Upsilon fraternity tells how the tragic events at the local fraternity turned it around, and how extraordinary accomplishments made it one of the campuses highest achieving organizations gaining national recognition and winning every possible national fraternity award



Even before Stuart Slayton told us the incredible story of what transpired during the past 2 years at the Pepperdine chapter of Psi Upsilon fraternity we had some inkling of great accomplishments of this fraternity. Malibu Rotary Club Past President Bill Wishard has been Psi Upsilon alumni advisor since the fraternity started a chapter on the Malibu campus in 1983. Bill was introduced to the Malibu Rotary Club by Malibu Rotary Club charter member the late Jack Corrodi, who was also an early alumni advisor to the fraternity, with Bill having been a member of Psi U at Williams College and Jack a member at Wesleyan College. Malibu Rotary Club Past President Chris Bauman was a member of Psi U Lambda Sigma Chapter at Pepperdine when he was a student. The national fraternity started in 1833 at New York University.

Psi Upsilon is noted for its excellence and many firsts. It was the first fraternity to hold a national convention (1841), first to print a membership catalogue (1842), and the first fraternity to issue a fraternity magazine (1850).

Some its alumni include US Presidents Chester A. Arthur, William Howard Taft and Prime Minister Paul Martin of Canada. Other notable alumni are Nelson Rockefeller (Vice President of the USA), William Cohen (Secretary of Defense), Supreme Court Justice John Paul Stevens, author Horatio Alger, Peter Coors (Founder and CEO of Coors Brewing company and owner of the Colorado Rockies), William Clay Ford (VP Ford Motor Company and owner of the Detroit Lions), Jay Berwanger (First Heisman Trophy Winner), Dan Brown (Author of The Da Vinci Code and other notable works), film director Michael Bay, Amos Aonzo Stagg (pioneering college football coach), Oklahoma Sooners football coach Bud Wilkinson and Gilbert Grosvenor (First full-time editor of National Geographic magazine).

With its rich history it is easy to see why the fraternity would attract high achieving young men like Malibu Rotarian Jack Sherrer III, and Stuart Slayton.

At the August 24th meeting of Malibu Rotary Club said that when he pledged the fraternity as a freshman he expected, "Brotherhood, Excellence and Service."

On its website Psi U states in its mission statement that "Psi Upsilon's system of self-governance nurtures development of mature decision-making, individual responsibility and moral leadership."

"Psi Upsilon's members are guided by principles of responsibility, civility and courtesy."

"Psi Upsilon encourages service to college, community, country and Fraternity."

That's what Stuart was expecting when he became a member of the fraternity, but instead, Stuart said, what he saw was more like a scene out of the movie *Animal House*. There was alcohol, drugs, and a disregard, of both fraternity and Pepperdine campus codes. They had taken a dry pledge but weren't keeping it. There was also forbidden hazing going on. It wasn't everyone in the fraternity, there were 8 that seemed to be involved in this.

Stuart went to the then President of the fraternity Jack Sherrer. Jack did a daring thing—he told the authorities on the Pepperdine campus, and they called in the Executive Director of the Psi Upsilon fraternity from Indianapolis, Indiana. The fraternity was suspended from the Pepperdine campus while an investigation was done.

In the meantime one of the students committed suicide. Another, while on holiday, in Ecuador, fell off a bridge and died. Although complete details were not given it is expected that substance abuse may have been involved.

After assuring the fraternity would make changes in how they did things the fraternity was allowed to continue on campus. Stuart had run for President of the fraternity his junior year, and was not elected. Many in the fraternity did not like him for having turned in his fraternity brothers and by going to the administration.

Meanwhile Stuart headed up Psi Upsilon's fund raiser on campus, "So you want to Dance," which raises money for Sam Schmidt Paralysis Foundation to help individuals overcome spinal cord injuries and other neurological disorders. It was the largest fund raiser on the campus.

Stuart arranged for a special memorial service for the student who died in Ecuador.

Stuart knew that changes had to be made in the fraternity so the things that happened in the past year wouldn't happen again. Two of members of 30 40 member fraternity dying from substance abuse related problems is not acceptable. He told the members of the fraternity that they must keep each other accountable. He became president of the fraternity when he ran again. He changed the by-laws of the fraternity and added another member on the e-board—chaplain. They worked with social psychologists and made tried to make people aware of signs of depression.

The lessons learned, according to Stuart, is to realize there is a gap between what is supposed to be and what it is. To close that gap one must have vision. Organizations need to redraft their bylaws to let their vision become reality—to let their ideas become reality. And finally, there must be good communication so everyone understands what needs to be done.

When asked what Stuart's legacy will be he said he hopes it is she hopes that it will be that he has shown those that follow him the process of how to do things, how to utilize the resources at hand.

The awards that Stuart accepted in behalf of the Lambda Sigma Chapter of Psi Upsilon fraternity were for several things. The chapter one the Academic Award for being the campus club with the highest GPA at Pepperdine. They raised the award for being the chapter of Psi Upsilon that raised the most money in philanthropy. And they received an award that is only given when there is a club has the best overall achievement in everything. This is quite an accomplishment given their recent history.



Officers of Lambda Sigma Service Chapter of Psi Upsilon fraternity(L to R) Chris Hannum, Tyler Ryan, Josh Myers and its President Stuart Slayton, receive awards from President of Psi Upsilon Executive Council Evan Terry at June ceremony in Bellevue, Washington as Lambd Sigma Past President (and Malibu Rotary member) Jack Sherrer III and chapter leadership consultant Dominic House (Lambda Sigma 2015) look on.

This past June, the Lambda Sigma chapter of Psi Upsilon, was honored at the International convention for their many achievements over the past academic year. The chapter consisting of forty young men received every award possible at the convention, including awards for exceptional academic performance, philanthropic contributions totaling over \$30,000, and completing nearly 2,000 service hours in our community. The chapter also received the two highest national awards given, Diamond Award for Exceptional Chapters who distinguish themselves by exceeding the Psi Upsilon chapter standards, and the Award of Distinction, only given to recognize chapters when they perform in an extraordinary manner. Stuart Slayton, the president of the chapter, will be speaking on the successes of the group, how they achieved them, and what the chapter plans to do moving forward when he addresses the Malibu Rotary Club at its next noon meeting at Pepperdine's Drescher campus.

That's what Stuart was expecting when he became a member of the fraternity

Other news and guests from last Malibu Rotary Club meeting

Rotary District Events

Humanitarian Trip to Merida, Mexico will take place January 25-30 2017, and will feature Rotarians participating in 7 different humanitarian projects.

September 8th is the Rotary Literacy Breakfast at Lawry's on 100 N La Cienega in Los Angeles at 7:00 a.m. Guest speaker is Detective II Gil Escontrias, LAPD "Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) section. Full breakfast provided by Lawry's but RSVP to Hector Torres at hltlax54@hotmail.com by September 5th.

Rotary District Leadership Skills Courses.will take place February 4 and 11th.

Guests

.There were four guests at the Malibu Rotary Club meeting August. **Lauren Desai**, who works at Pepperdine and wanted to see our extraordinary Speaker Stuard, **Michelle V. Santamaria, Esq.**, who has been to all our meetings this month, but who will be gone in September, **Teresa LeGrove**, who with California Coastal Real Estate and is niece of Rotary International Past President Roy Wilkinson of Canada and who came to Malibu Rotary Club with e-mail introduction by Rotary Foundation International Chair Paul Netzel, and **Perri Pierre**, who is in the Pepperdine graduate of fine arts and who was a member of Rotoract at the UN, and who is the son of Rotarian in Haiti.

Chili Cookoff--Malibu Rotary Club Volunteers

The 35th Anniversary Malibu Kiwanis Chili Cook-Off, Carnival and Fair takes place on Labor Day weekend, September 2-5, 2016 at Civic Center Way and Stuart Ranch Road. Hours are 6-10pm on Friday, 10am-10pm Saturday/Sunday and 10am-6pm on Monday. Even though the Girl Scouts may be selling water, Malibu Rotary is still planning to sell water and watermelon at the Malibu Rotary Booth, as it has done the past several years. Bianca was to try to get local markets to donate water and watermelon and she has tent being stored in Carlye's garage along with gear we used at Art Festival and we have aprons and things we needed to operate the booth. Usually the Malibu Rotary Booth is open Friday night (from 6:00 p.m. until about 9:00), and Saturday and Sunday from 10:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. with 4 hour morning and afternoon shifts each day--with shifts changing at 2:00 p.m. We close the both Sunday night after the big raffle. Volunteers

can be Malibu Rotarians, friends and family. Volunteers get free admission to the carnival that day to use before or after their shift. Sign up sheet will again be brought to next Malibu Rotary Club meeting.

Chili Cookoff Malibu Rotary Booth Shifts

Friday 6:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m
Saturday 10:00 a.m-2:00 p.m
Saturday 2:00 p.m-6:00 p.m.
Sunday 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
Sunday 2:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.

Malibu Rotary Club Presidents of the Month (2016-2017)

Malibu Rotary Club President of Record (2016-17) Bill Wishard

August 2016-----Margo Neal
September 2016—David Zielski
October 2016-----John Elman
November 2016—W. David Baird
December 2016—Bill Wishard
January 2017-----Robert "Bob" Syvertsen
February 2017-----John Elman
March 2017-----W. David Baird
April 2017-----Margo Neal
May 2017-----Robert "Bob" Syverstsen
June 2017-----David Zielski

CALENDAR (see up to date calendar on maliburotary.org)

- **August 31—Club Asssembly Meeting featuring Margo Neal and Bianca Torrence making sure all assignments for Malibu Rotary Club booth at Chili-Cookoff are covered.**
- **September 7 Speaker at Malibu Rotary Club will be Alec Tuckman who will tell How Recent Events Affect the Stock Market**
- **September 8th is the Rotary Literacy Breakfast at Lawry's on 100 N La Cienega in Los Angeles at 7:00 a.m. Guest speaker is Detective II Gil**

Escontrias, LAPD “Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) section. Full breakfast provided by Lawry’s but RSVP to Hector Torres at hltlax54@hotmail.com by September 5th.

- **September 14 Will be A Malibu Rotary Club Assembly Preparing for District Governor**
- **September 21 District Governor Greg O'Brien, his Executive Aid and Assistant Governor visit the Malibu Rotary Club to talk about Rotary District events. It is also a time when officers of the Malibu Rotary Club tell the district governor and his aid the plans and events of the Malibu Rotary Club for the year.**
- **October 11 the second Rotary District Breakfast of the year will be held at the Westin LAX and 7:00 a.m.**
- **October 22nd is the Rotary Foundation Celebration Dinner aboard the Battleship USS Iowa (sold out).**
- **November 9 John Elman and Divid Zielski will talk and show how to use Rotary websites for communication**
- **November 10-13 will be Zone Institute at Fess Parker Resort**
- **November 15 will be USC/UCLA Tailgate Lunch**
- **November 16 Speaker at the Malibu Rotary Club will be Gern Munro. Gern is Director of Amarok Society, a registered Canadian charity that provides education programs to the very poor in Bangladesh, Pakistan and Nigeria.**