



The Award Winning

Malibu Rotary Club Surfwriter

December 3, 2014

Official Newsletter of the Rotary Club of Malibu
Malibu Rotary Club President Margo Neal

Edited by Dr. John W. Elman
Pictures by Dr. John W. Elman

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- **Next Week: Malibu Rotary Club Holiday Party -- Malibu Rotary Club annual holiday dinner will be Wed. Dec 10 at the Italian restaurant Gravina, at the corner of PCH and Kanan Road at 6:30 pm. Instead of the traditional gift exchange where one member ends up a skull, etc, President Margo Neal is requesting the attendees bring a child's gift to be given to local children's charity**
- **Next Malibu Rotary Club meeting Dec 17 11:30 a.m. in room LC152 Pepperdine Drescher Graduate Campus—Special presentation of checks to recipients of Malibu Rotary Club Halloween Fundraiser**
- **Last week: Rick's Underwater Images -- A slide show you didn't want to miss**
- **Malibu Rotary Club Supports RainCatcher.**
- Check [Calendar](#) on Malibu Rotary website www.maliburotary.org

- Rotary International Website: www.Rotary.org
- Rotary District 5280 Website: www.rotary5280.org/
- RI President (2014-2015) Gary CK Huang
- Rotary District 5280 Governor (2014-2015): Elsa Gilham

Rick's Underwater Images –

A slide show you didn't want to miss



Pictured above—Rick Mendoza, donned in his Los Angeles County Certified Underwater Instructor’s Jacket, Shows a Treasure Trove of Underwater slides from his collection.

Most of us who have known Past Rotary District Governor Rick Mendoza for his many contributions to Rotary and the Rotary Foundation, did not know of his life before Rotary. We knew he had knack for photography, because after his year as District Governor in 2002-2003 he would often be seen at Rotary District 5280 events, snapping pictures which appeared in the district newsletters and website. These were all on land, above water. We didn’t know Rick had a whole other life *beneath the sea!*

Rick joined Rotary in 1986 - was club president in 1993-1994. And he served as **District Governor in 2002-2003** –

In 2009 he was recognized with Rotary International’s highest award the “*Service Above Self*” award.

In 2012 he was recognized with The Rotary Foundation’s highest *award, the “Distinguished Service Award”*.

He served a three year term as the District Rotary Foundation Chair for D-5280. And, he is currently serving Zone 26 as the Assistant Regional Rotary Foundation Coordinator in 2013-2015.

His other life started long before that, in the 1970’s, when he moved from West Covina to Palos Verdes. Like Malibuites he was drawn to the sea, the ocean view that we all enjoy. But the ocean looked so good from the bluff top view he had from his new home, he wondered what it looked like from the bottom. What did the ocean look like under water?

With diving mask and snorkel he was fascinated by what he saw. Already a fan of Jacques Cousteau, he wanted to see more, learn more, and explore the coastal waters, not only of Southern California, but around the world.

In 1973, as a hobby, he became a Los Angeles County Certified Under Water SCUBA instructor - and was cross certified with NAUI and PADI. He taught SCUBA for 4 years certifying 200+ students.

He combined his underwater hobby with another hobby—photography. He took thousands of underwater pictures.

As he became more involved with Rotary he had less time for diving and underwater photography. His slides were put into storage. Recently when he went to look at them he found that some of them were disintegrating.

He decided to transfer them into a digital format, picked out some of the best ones, combined them with underwater video and music and has put together an entertaining presentation and various local Rotary Club meetings.

As the slides are rolling Rick explains to the audience what they are looking at, the species, the places. Rarely are the pictures taken below 75 feet. It is too dark and too dangerous to go below 100 feet. The audience is mesmerized by the beauty and serenity of the world below.

Now that we've wetted your appetite with Rick's Underwater Show you might be wondering where you might see it if you weren't at the Malibu Rotary Club meeting on December 3. For most of our speakers we can direct you to a website, a facebook page, a YouTube video. If you didn't see Rick's Underwater Images you might wonder where you can see it in the future. Well it probably won't be at a theater near you or on TV.

You see, folks, Rick's Underwater Images can only be seen at Rotary Club near you. I have been warning you as I had been promoting Rick's presentation it would be a slide show you wouldn't want to miss.

--John W Elman

Report on October 24th Malibu Rotary Club Halloween Fundraiser and Recipients of Fundraiser Who Receive Checks at Next Malibu Rotary Club Meeting December 17th



Maggie and Hubert Lukerath both reported on the successful Malibu Rotary Club Halloween Fundraiser held on October 24th. Maggie was the producer and Hubert the treasurer and account on this very successful event.

The gross income of \$11,668.90 was mostly derived from ticket sale (158 reservations netted over \$7200), silent auction (\$2477) and donations (\$1675). The expenses of \$6246.48 mostly came from the buffet dinner (\$3200).

This left a net income, or profit, of \$5,422.42.

It was agreed that the split of that net income would be distributed as follows:

Rex and Friends Foundation, 60% = \$3,253.45.
Malibu Youth Football Team 15% = \$813.36, and

Malibu Youth Surf Team, 15% = \$813.36. The remainder of \$542.25 will go to other Malibu Rotary Club charities. When the Kiwanis Club made their donation it was specifically \$1000

directly to Rex and Friends Foundation so the check the Malibu Rotary Club will give the Rex and Friends Foundation will be for \$2,253.45. The money will distributed at the next meeting.

The December 17 Meeting will be a special presentation of checks by the Malibu Rotary Club to the recipient beneficiaries of the Malibu Rotary Club Halloween Fund Raiser:

1. Rex and Friends Foundation-- Cathleen and Rex Lewis will be at meeting to accept the check.
2. Youth Football Program—Coach Michael Bonewitz will be at meeting accept the check.
3. Malibu Youth Surf Team-- Coaches Scott, Dale and Chris will be at meeting to accept the check.

Maggie's Letter of Thanks for Help of Community and Rotarians for Success of Halloween Fundraiser

Maggie Luckerath sent the following letter of thanks for all those who contributed to the Halloween Fundraising Event:

In case you have not read my letter which was posted in the Malibu Surfside News in full and condensed version in the Malibu Times (their request to cut it to close to 300 words before they could print) and in John's weekly newsletter - I have copied and pasted it below.....but first please read my letter, highlighted in orange, to you, thanking you for all your help and support which made the Malibu Rotary Halloween Fundraiser 2014 such a success.

Hello fellow Rotarians:

I just read my saga printed in the local papers and guess I totally neglected to mention you all, my fellow Rotarians, who I guess maybe could and should have been thanked first, but now last, but surely not least! !

I must say I left that event very very drained and put such time and effort into my thank you letter...sorry I did not mention my fellow Rotarians.

So I am here to say a real special thank you to each and every one of you who helped make the Malibu Rotary Halloween Fundraiser 2014 the memorable evening it was. I surely could not have pulled it off without you and appreciate all your help.

I thank you for the opportunity to have served the Malibu Rotary Club as the Chairperson of the Halloween Fundraiser 2014 and especially to have learned so many lessons.

I found out I am never too old to learn such valuable lessons.

May you be blessed and from the bottom of my heart I give you each my sincere thanks.

I love you all....you are truly a wonderful group of people.

Maggie Luckerath

Chairperson

Malibu Rotary Halloween Fundraiser 2014

Thank you from Maggie at Malibu Rotary

This is a letter to thank the community who contributed to the success of the Malibu Rotary Halloween Fundraiser on October 24th at the Malibu West Beach Club.

Proceeds from this fundraiser will benefit "Rex and Friends" - Autism, Malibu Surf Team and Malibu Youth Football program.

Special acknowledgement to our young volunteers from Pepperdine and especially to Annalisa Averill for her coordination.

I would like to give a shout out to Tara Buran of Malibu West for being my top promoter of ticket sales and to Linda Zielski for recruiting families of the Malibu Surf team and for her help in collecting their checks also.

Special thanks to Martha Templeton, who is such a hard worker and one person I can always rely on to give me a helping hand. Sondra Valdez, from the Artific Tree was another excellent pair of hands helping at the event. Diane Peterson, my good friend and supporter who I know is so very dependable and willing to help when needed and adds her special flair. Many, many thanks to Pam Temmen (who I call my Time Warner friend) for her many hours of professional work behind the scenes on the Silent Auction as well as manning the Silent Auction tables the night of the event. Pam, always goes well beyond the call of duty on whatever she handles.

Thanks to the generosity of Carlos from Trancas Nursery for his donation of the straw bales, pumpkins and gourds and making the delivery. What would we do without such good neighbors!

Without the following donors we would not have had such a great Silent Auction: Danny Klein, Nati from nati clothing at Trancas, Craig Clunies-Ross from Drill Surf and Skate, Laura Burdge of Malibu Beach House, Greg and Kristy of Kristy's, Saddle Peak Lodge, Chipotle, Yvonne Gelbman, Barbara and Rick Springfield, Josh from Duke's, Sean McCaffrey and Joe at Spruzzo's, Scott from Malibu Film Society, Cathleen and Rex Lewis, Marie Therese Retourne, Antari at Trancas Starbucks, Fred Cornett, Rex Levy, Claudia, Andi, Rick and Julia at Malibu Playhouse, Veera at Malibu Chronicle, Bill Wishard, Dr. Alan Pfeiffer, Dr. Taber Chinn of Malibu Health Center, James Pearse, Ruth and David Gomez of Gomez Vineyards, Casa Escobar at the Malibu Inn, and last on my list but not the least, Dr. Anthony and Renee Virella.

What would we have done without our generous sponsors: Lisa Semler from Malibu Family Wines; Ashleigh and Chris at Malibu Surfside News; Lilianna at Anheuser-Busch, Inc.; Eric, Mary and Executive Chef Bruce at Vintage Grocers; Karen, Arnold and Melissa at The Malibu Times.

With pleasure I want to acknowledge our contributors and my good friends Denise and Robert Hayman, Margaret Rifenbark, John and Sal from Malibu Kiwanis Club, Patt Healy, Diane and Hans Laetz, and last but not least Cynthia from Pavilions.

To Chris from Malibu Surfside News and Devon from Malibu Times, I say you both took some real great photos. I thank your newspapers for the publicity given the Malibu Rotary Club in their issues last week.

All the others I would like to acknowledge with appreciation are too numerous to mention - you know who you are - and have my heartfelt thanks for making this event the memorable night it was.

I admire the talent of the "Rex and Friends" group from Performing Arts Studio West - you are a wonderful group and everyone was so amazed at your performance. Cathleen and Rex, you are one of my biggest inspirations in life!

Maggie Luckerath

Chairperson

Malibu Rotary Halloween Fundraiser 2014

Guests and Other News from the Last Malibu Rotary Club meeting

Malibu Rotary Club President Margo Neal told us that several people in our club, namely Delving Glymph, Irene Bettler and Peter and Sally Formosa, did a great job in the kitchen at the last Malibu Rotary Club event, the Thanksgiving Dinner at the Presbyterian Church two weeks earlier. The event was the front page cover story in the *Malibu Surfside News*. Margo announced that the next District Breakfast will be January 13 at the City Club in Los Angeles—speaker has not been announced.

14 people had made reservations for the Malibu Rotary Club Holiday Party at Gravina Restaurant on December 10 (remember no meeting at Pepperdine that day).

The next regular meeting of the Malibu Rotary Club will be December 17. The meeting at our normal meeting room LC 152 at Pepperdine Drescher Graduate campus will start earlier 11:30 a.m, and feature presentation of checks to recipients of Halloween fundraiser and induction of at least two new Malibu Rotary Club members.

Guests

Guests at the Malibu Rotary Club meeting Dec 3 included regulars **Bianca Torrence**, **Chris Bashaw** and **Tom Bos**, who is back in Malibu for the winter from his home in Holland, Michigan, where he is Past District Governor.

Malibu Rotary—Home Club of RainCatcher Executive Director David Zielski

Every 21 seconds, a child dies from a water-related illness. Women and children spend 200 million hours a day collecting water.

There are over a billion people who do not have access to clean drinking water. RainCatcher is efficiently doing something to try to reduce that number. They get low cost, low maintenance and sustainable water systems to Uganda and Kenya so women and children have a safe and close water source.

Besides the obvious health benefits, providing a local and safe water source multiple other social, economical, and educational benefits also accrue. There can be an increased girls' school attendance, level of education and literacy rates, as they no longer need to miss school to secure water for their families and have adequate and separate sanitation facilities.

There can also be reduced physical injury from constant lifting and carrying heavy loads of water, reduced risk of rape, sexual assault, and increased safety as women and girls do not have to go to remote and dangerous places to defecate or to fetch water during the night.

The Malibu Rotary Club along with the Rotary Clubs of Beverly Hills, CA USA and the Rotary Club of Entebbe, Uganda has applied for a Rotary Foundation Grant to assist Raincatcher.

There are several videos available on You Tube that show the amazing things Raincatcher is doing bringing clean drinking water to places in Uganda and Kenya where there was previously

no



clean drinking water. David Zielski, Executive Director of Raincatcher, makes regular trips to Uganda and Kenya to do Raincatcher installations and maintenance. The latest video showing what David and the Raincatcher people are doing was shown at the Malibu Rotary Club meeting on August 20. A link to the video is now on the Maliburotary.org website. The direct link to the video is at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=59rzOcM-RL0&list=UUFetq8NgjHXhtkVf0idcQUg>

After viewing this RainCatcher video on YouTube look at some of the others. This is a project that all of the Rotary world should be participating in. Malibu Rotary Club is proud to take a lead in this endeavor.

Upcoming Speakers (yet to be confirmed)

Dana Sherman of the Fleet Street Bike Project

Dan Wise on history of the 25,000 acres from Marina Del Rey to PV Peninsula to Western Ave

Calendar (for details on these programs see maliburotary.org)

Evening Dinner Holiday Party Dec 10, 2014 Malibu Rotary Club annual holiday dinner will be Wed. Dec 10 at the Gravina Malibu Restaurant, at the corner of PCH and Kanan Road at 6:30 pm. 28925 Pacific Coast Highway

Instead of the traditional gift exchange where one member ends up a skull, etc, President Margo Neal is requesting the attendees bring a child's gift to be given to local children's charity.

Dec 17 will be Budget Meeting Club Assembly

The December 17 Meeting will be a special presentation of checks by the Malibu Rotary Club to the recipient beneficiaries of the Malibu Rotary Club Halloween Fund Raiser:

4. Rex and Friends Foundation-- Cathleen and Rex Lewis will be at meeting to accept
5. Youth Football Program—Coach Michael Bonewitz will be at meeting accept.
6. Malibu Youth Surf Team-- Coaches Scott, Dale and Chris will be at meeting to accept

In addition the Malibu Rotary Club will induct at least two new members before having a club assembly.

Shannon Latson Jan 14, 2015

Managing Conflict at Home and at Work

Description: Few of us like conflict, but it will always be a part of our lives. Dealing with conflict in healthy ways can deepen your relationships, permit personal growth, and improve the outcome of challenges that you face. Join us to get some tools on how to approach your next difficult conversation.

About the Presenter: Shannon Latson works as a Marriage and Family Therapist for Stillpoint Family Resources in West Hills, and she also works as an Office Manager in the International Studies and Languages Division of Pepperdine. She obtained her undergraduate degree in Business from Michigan State University, her master's degree in Psychology from Pepperdine University, and her Certificate in Dispute Resolution from the Straus Institute at Pepperdine's School of Law. Shannon volunteers as a club convocation leader for Pepperdine students, serves as the faculty/staff advisor for the Pepperdine Swing Dance Club, and she has presented at many community organizations, including a psychiatric facility, a gang prevention unit of the Van Nuys police department, a domestic violence shelter, Many Mansions, and the National Alliance on Mental Illness.

Malibu Rotary Club Middle & High School Music Comp Jan 21, 2015

Khoi Pham Jan 28, 2015

Community Service Integrated into Affordable Housing for Low Income

Khoi Pham MBA, UCLA Anderson School of Management, one of last helicopter evacuees out of Saigon as 8 year old, and now Executive Director of Bella Communities, will talk about integrating community service into affordable housing for low income.

Third in Malibu Rotary Club exclusive series of outcomes of American involvement in Vietnam war.

- See more at: <http://portal.clubrunner.ca/2529/Speakers#sthash.uJTvcsUe.dpuf>