



The Award Winning
Malibu Rotary Club **Surfwriter**

December 4, 2013

Official Newsletter of the Rotary Club of Malibu
Malibu Rotary Club President William Wishard

Edited by Dr. John W. Elman

Pictures by Dr. John W. Elman, *Malibu Times*, Cathleen Lewis, and Frank Lamonea

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- **No Meeting Wednesday afternoon Dec 11--Holiday Party 6:30 pm at Malibu West Beach Club PCH at Trancas (prepaid guests only)**
- **Next Malibu Rotary Club Meeting December 18 at noon (with Fellowship starting at 11:30 a.m.) in LC152 at Pepperdine Drescher Campus. Speakers will be Richard Erkes and Oscar Mondragon of the [Malibu Community Labor Exchange](#).**
- **[Malibu Rotary Club Sponsors Rex and Friends Foundation](#)**

- **Malibu Rotary Club Sponsored Thanksgiving Dinner For The Homeless with SOS another Success at Webster School**
- **Last Week's Meeting: Malibu Rotary Club Assembly**
- **Obituary: Connie Cornett**
- **Other News and Guests From Last Malibu Rotary Club meeting**
- **Malibu Rotary Club Holiday Party December 11, 2013**
- **Check [Calendar](#) on Malibu Rotary website MalibuRotary.org**
- **Malibu Rotary Club Website: www.MalibuRotary.org**
- **Rotary International Website: www.Rotary.org**
- **Rotary District 5280 Website: www.rotary5280.org/**
- **Rotary District 5280 "Rotarians Doing Business With Rotarians" Website: <http://yp5280.org/>**
- **RI President (2013-2014) Ron D Burton**
- **Rotary District 5280 Governor (2013-2014): Doug Baker**
- **Assistant Governor for Malibu Rotary Club: Alice Mantean (2013-14)**

Malibu Rotary Club Assembly on December 4

The Malibu Rotary Club meeting of December 4th was a club assembly which was begun by **David Baird**, but Malibu Rotary Club President **Bill Wishard** was able to get to the meeting after it was called to order and bring up several agenda items which were discussed about both past and future events.

First item on everyone's mind was the passing of Fred's wife Connie Cornett after a long illness. Most Malibu Rotary Club members were planning to go to the memorial service for her at St. Aidan's Episcopal Church, 28211 Pacific Coast Hwy. at 10 a.m. on Dec. 8. It was decided that the Malibu Rotary Club will make a donation of \$50.00 in her honor to the Dorcas House, the Tijuana, Mexico orphanage that is a charity of St. Aidan's. Dorcas House was also supported by the Malibu Rotary Club and Pepperdine Rotaract Club after Fred Cornett had brought it to our attention several years ago.

Another item on the agenda was the Malibu Rotary Club President Elect--No name has been sent to the Rotary District for Malibu Rotary Club President for 2013-14, and the name is to be sent

in for PETS this month. A nominating committee with Bill, David Baird and Margo will be contacting the prospective nominee and a report will be given at our next meeting along with reservations for PETS.

Bill also suggested that a new member should be chosen to be Malibu Rotary Club Youth Chair. Two Co-Chairs were chosen: **David Zielski** and **Griselda Espinosa** both of who have children at Malibu High School.

There were two January events that were discussed at the Malibu Rotary Club meeting. One is was the Annual Malibu Rotary Club Middle and High School Singing Competition which will be held January 16 at 6:30 pm at the Stauffer Chapel on the Pepperdine campus. John Elman has been in contact with event chair Geoff Ortiz, as well as Malibu High School choral director Amy Loch. Pepperdine's insurance requirements for use of the venue have been taken care of. There has been suggestions that we get celebrity judges with music backgrounds. David Baird was going to ask Pepperdine music faculty. New member Griselda Espinosa was going to help Geoff in counting the votes. While votes are being tallied Geoff had suggested that there be a short program about Rotary and John is planning that.

The other January event is the Rotary District 5280 Breakfast held Tuesday, January 14 at the Westin LAX Hotel, 5400 W. Century Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90045. Malibu Rotary Club voted that in lieu of having a club meeting that week on January 15, Malibu Rotarians instead go to the District breakfast, which always is an inspiration for what the district is doing. Normally the district breakfasts cost \$35.00, but the Malibu Rotary Club completely subsidizes new members going to the district breakfast, and the rest of the members only have to pay the club treasurer \$10.00 to attend. Registration opens at 7:00 a.m. Free self-parking is available in the hotel parking structure. The club must make reservations because seating is limited. Malibu Rotarians planning to attend the January 14th Rotary District Breakfast are Griselda, Bill, Hubert, John, David Baird, David Zielski, Margo, and Irene.

Several agenda items, both past and future, were discussed by **Maggie Luckerath**. These were the Malibu Rotary Club sponsored SOS Thanksgiving Dinner on November 21st, as well as the

Malibu Rotary Club sponsorship of the of Rex and Friends Foundation. These item are discussed in detail below.



Obituary: Constance Mary Cornett

Constance “Connie” Mary Cornett, born May 14, 1928 passed away Nov. 26, leaving behind her husband, Fred Cornett, and four children, Deborah, Jennifer, David and Peter.

“She was a faithful wife, a beloved mother and remarkable woman,” a loved one said.

A longtime resident of Malibu, Connie moved with her husband and first two children, Deborah and Jennifer, to Las Flores Mesa Dr. from Pacific Palisades in 1954. She bore her next two children, David and Peter, completing the family.

Connie and Fred enjoyed the seclusion of a grassy bluff overlooking the Pacific Ocean as the first residents of Las Flores Mesa.

Connie participated in the PTSA of Webster Elementary School and Malibu Park Junior High School. Connie also was a Boy Scout mom,

helped with carpools and served on the Alter Guild and Vestry of St. Aidan’s Episcopal Church, which she and her husband helped establish.

Connie and Fred lost their first home in the 1993 fires and rebuilt a new homestead, christening the home in 1996.

“She will be greatly missed by her husband, by her four children, by her seven grandchildren and three great grandchildren,” a family member said. “We know she will also be missed by her many friends of St. Aidan’s, of the surrounding community and her extended family in England.”

A memorial service will take place at St. Aidan’s Episcopal Church, 28211 Pacific Coast Hwy. at 10 a.m. on Dec. 8. (from *Malibu Times* Dec 4)

Malibu Rotary Club Is One of the Sponsors of Rex and Friends Foundation Concert

Hollywood Forever presents

Rex Lewis-Clack

Gabriela Montero

Sun, December 15, 2013

Doors: 5:30 pm / Show: 6:00 pm

The Masonic Lodge at Hollywood Forever

Los Angeles, CA

\$35.00 - \$50.00

Venue Information:

The Masonic Lodge at Hollywood Forever

6000 Santa Monica Blvd

Los Angeles, CA, 90038

<http://www.hollywoodforever.com>

The Malibu Rotary Club is one of the sponsors of Rex and Friends Foundation concert on Sunday, December 15 at 6:00 p.m. at the Masonic Lodge at Hollywood Forever Cemetery.

Several members of the Malibu Rotary Club will be attending this event.

This is a special fundraising event for the Rex & Friends Charitable Foundation



Rex, Gabriela and Sam will be joined by the students of Performing Arts Studio West, whose mission is to provide an environment where adults with developmental disabilities can enhance self-esteem, social skills, and employment opportunities through participation in a performing arts curriculum combined with a vocational training component.

Together they will perform a varied program of classical, jazz, pop and improvised music, and explore the crucial role of music in the lives of those with blindness and autism.

Members of the Malibu Rotary Club were among the first to become aware of Rex when a neighbor of his mother, who was a piano teacher, spoke at our club when Rex was about 5 years old. Born blind, Rex was diagnosed with autism as a toddler. He had an unusual reaction to sounds, and could not communicate at all until he was introduced to music.

Once that happened, and his ability to recognize musical sounds appreciated, he was labeled a musical genius (piano). By the age of 7, musicologists became astounded by Rex's ability to play back complex piano pieces he had heard only once, and then transpose them into other keys or improvise off themes with little effort. Considered a prodigious musical savant, Rex ranks as one of less than 50 people throughout history to combine blindness, intellectual disability and prodigious musical ability.

At 7, his abilities (coupled with disability) came to the attention of CBS's 60 Minutes, who made the unprecedented decision to follow his life and development. 60 Minutes aired Rex's first profile in 2003 called "Musically Speaking," which was followed by two subsequent profiles, each titled "Rex," the first in 2005, and then a second in 2008 (winner of 2008 Edward R. Murrow Award as Best Feature in a Newsmagazine). Rex has been sharing his life and piano gift with select audiences around the world since the age of 7, inspiring YPO (Young Presidents' Organization) audiences with his unique life and gifted piano playing and helping raise funds and awareness for select causes such as autism, blindness or other disabilities. In 2006, he was the winner of the "Winspiration Award" in Germany for taking the hand he's been dealt in life and using it to not only "win" but also for "inspiring" others to do the same.

Other media coverage includes a 2011 Science Channel profile on a documentary series called "Ingenious Minds" as one of eight segments, each featuring an exceptional life (another segment featured renowned autism expert Temple Grandin). Rex was also featured alongside British Savant Derek Paravicini in the highly acclaimed British Production (in conjunction with

Discovery Health) called "The Musical Genius" for the series "Extraordinary People." The profile aired under the title "Musical Savants" on Discovery Health Channel in 2006.

Rex's biography "Rex--A Mother, Her Autistic Child and the Music that Transformed their Lives," by Cathleen Lewis was published by Thomas Nelson in 2008 and subsequently translated into seven foreign languages.

In 2011 Rex was a scholarship recipient to attend two prestigious European piano academies, The International Piano Academy in Freiburg, Germany and The Mozarteum in Salzburg, Germany where he studied alongside gifted piano students from around the world.

Gabriela Montero

Links

“Montero’s playing had everything: crackling rhythmic brio, subtle shadings, steely power...soulful lyricism...unsentimental expressivity.” - The New York Times

Gabriela Montero’s visionary interpretations have won her a quickly expanding audience and devoted following around the world. Her engagements include acclaimed performances with the New York Philharmonic, LA Philharmonic at the Hollywood Bowl, Cleveland Orchestra, Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, San Francisco Symphony, Chicago Symphony, Pittsburgh Symphony, Philadelphia Orchestra, Philharmonia Orchestra at the Royal Festival Hall, and WDR Sinfonieorchester Koln. Recent collaborators include conductors Claudio Abbado, Gustavo

Dudamel, James Gaffigan, Lorin Maazel, Yannick Nezet-Seguin, and Leonard Slatkin. In recital she has appeared at the festivals of Salzburg, Istanbul, Kuhr, Ravinia, and Tanglewood, as well as the Koln Philharmonie, Tonhalle Dusseldorf, Kennedy Center and Library of Congress in Washington DC, Wigmore Hall in London, Gewandhaus Leipzig, National Arts Centre Ottawa, Orchard Hall Tokyo and at the 'Progetto Martha Argerich' Festival in Lugano where she is invited annually.

Ms. Montero's 2012/13 season highlights include her debut with the Rundfunk-Sinfonieorchester Berlin and a European recital tour with cellist Gautier Capuçon. She returns for performances with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra and Rotterdam Philharmonic. Ms. Montero recently toured with the Academy of St Martin in the Fields and The Cleveland Orchestra, and she performs regularly with Vienna Radio Orchestra and the Zurich Chamber Orchestra.

In addition to her brilliant and nuanced classical interpretations, Gabriela Montero's unique personal style comes from her improvisational gifts. "I connect to my audience in a completely unique way – and they connect with me. Because improvisation is such a huge part of who I am, it is the most natural and spontaneous way I can express myself". Today, in both recital and after performing a concerto, Gabriela often invites her audience to participate in asking for a melody for improvisations.

Malibu Rotary Club Holiday Party December 11, 2013

Maggie Luckerath reminds everyone the Malibu Rotary Club Annual Holiday Party is at the Malibu West Clubhouse next Wednesday evening, December 11th, starting at 5:30 The address is 30756 PCH

When going west on Pacific Coast Highway Trancas Canyon Road is Right and Broad Beach Road on left...

Make a Left on Broad Beach Road - as soon as you make a left you make a quick left and the Malibu West Beach Club will be there!

Park across the highway in the Trancas Shopping Center or on Trancas Canyon Road. There will be a few parking spaces available at the club house.

It was decided that we would have a "gift exchange" for those who are interested. If you bring a gift you take a gift. Gifts are to be \$10 and under.

Those attending were to have paid Maggie or Hubert prior to the event--Bill Frenz has catered for the number of people turned into him by the end of the last meeting so if you haven't RSVP'd and paid assume you will not be admitted.

**Malibu Rotary Club Sponsored Thanksgiving Dinner For The Homeless with
SOS another Success at Webster School**

by Maggie Luckerath



Malibu Rotary Kitchen Crew at the November 21st SOS Thanksgiving Dinner for the Homeless at Webster

Left to Right:

Anne de Brouwer, Cindra Raineri, Maggie Luckerath, Martha Templeton, Bill Wishard, Griselda Espinoza, David Zielski, David Espinoza, Hubert Luckerath, Crystal Soufer
Missing from Photo: Linda, Katelyn, and Nicholas Zielski, Peter Formosa, and David Kaplan who were in the back still carving turkeys and Sally Formosa who was serving deserts. (Picture by Frank Lamonea *Malibu Surfside News*)

Malibu Rotary Volunteers along with SOS community volunteers cooked and served 17 turkeys and all the trimmings for an estimated 300 people at the event.

I received many compliments on how efficient and organized the serving kitchen was. My response was "it was my support team who made it happen - they were the greatest".

I can't give enough thanks to all who helped in the kitchen and especially Linda Zielski who came in for the first time and kept all the serving pots refilled - she was outstanding!

Also thanks to all who contributed turkeys and all the trimmings.

Again, it was a great feast...

Maggie

Guests At Last Malibu Rotary Club meeting

Returning guests at the Malibu Rotary Club meeting Dec 4 were **Jeanne Custis**, and **Alain Doisy de Villargennes, Ph.D**

Please see Malibu Rotary Club Website www.maliburotary.org for latest Calendar and future speakers and facebook pages for other news.

Like Rotary Club of Malibu on

facebook

Calendar

(All Malibu Rotary Club meetings are at 12:00 Noon in LC 152 at the Pepperdine Drescher campus Villa Graziadio Executive Center unless otherwise noted)

Dec 11, 2013

Malibu Rotary Club Holiday Party (no meeting at noon)

"Evening Holiday Party at Malibu West Club House PCH at Trancas in Malibu (no meeting at noon)"

Dec 18, 2013

Speaker: Richard Erkes and Oscar Mondragon

Topic: Malibu Community Labor Exchange

Malibu Community Labor Exchange Director Oscar Mondragon is a recent Dolphin Award recipient. He and Richard Erkes will outline Malibu Community Labor Exchange activities and needs at the Malibu Rotary Club meeting Dec 18 in Room LC 152 of Pepperdine University Grazadio campus in Malibu. . Oscar has vigorously served this community for the past 20 years and our services have grown. Oscar and Richard will talk about the need for volunteers, donations and supplies.

Dec 25, 2013

Christmas Holiday (no meeting)

"Christmas Holiday (no meeting)"

Jan 01, 2014

Happy New Year (no Rotary meeting)

"Watch the Rotary Float in the Rose Parade"

January 8th, 2014

Griselda Espinoza will give her craft talk

Jan 14, 2014

Speaker to be Announced

"Rotary District Breakfast"

District 5280 Breakfasts are held at the Westin LAX Hotel, 5400 W. Century Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90045. Registration opens at 7:00 a.m. Free self-parking is available in the hotel parking structure. Valet parking at Westin Hotel rates.

Jan 15, 2014 (no noon meeting at Pepperdine)

Jan 16, 2014

Malibu Rotary Hi School Singing Competition

6:30 p.m. at Stauffer Chapel