



The Award Winning

Malibu Rotary Club Surfwriter

December 12 2018

Official Newsletter of the Rotary Club of Malibu

Malibu Rotary Club President Bianca Torrence

Malibu Rotary Club Vice President for November David Baird

Pictures by John Elman and Marianne Bema

Edited by Dr. John W. Elman

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

- **Malibu Rotary Club Holiday Dinner Meeting at Tra di Noi Restaurant—Celebrates The Season of Giving**
- **Malibu Rotary Club to disperse Gift Cards to Student Fire Victims on December 18 3:30 p.m. at the Malibu Boys & Girls Club Teen Center in Malibu**
- **Malibu Rotary 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](#)**

2018 Malibu Rotary Club Holiday Party and the Spirit of Giving



The Malibu Rotary Club held its annual Holiday Dinner Party December 12 in the wine room of Tra di Noi Restaurant in the Malibu Country Mart. Malibu Rotarians and guests pictured at the event are (L to R) Bob and Jeanne Syverstsen, W. David Baird, LaVern Schendelberg, Margo Neal, Joy Arcenas, Mark Koller, Marianne Bema, Anita Hanson, Bianca Torrence, Bill Wishard, Lee Ann Stevens Elman, John W Elman, Teresa LeGrove Cherkas, Nagy Heinan and Kathy Heinan.

This was not a normal holiday dinner meeting. It followed the repopulation and recovery of Malibu following the devastating Woolsey Fire that destroyed 670 structures in Malibu. While none of the Malibu Rotary Club members lost homes in this fire, there was a responsibility felt by the members of Malibu Rotary club to do what they could do help their neighbors in the community who were less fortunate. At the season of giving it seemed to be even more important this year. Indeed, other clubs in the local Rotary District 5280 and the district leadership itself looked to the Malibu Rotary Club to help direct donations that had been raised for fire victims.

Before insurance companies, FEMA and other organizations could help those who lost everything, there were several groups that were collecting and giving away clothes and other essentials to help survivors of the fire. The Boys & Girls Club of Malibu is working together with state and local officials and serving directly as fiscal operator for the Malibu Emergency Relief Fund to support the needs of the Community. The Malibu Rotary Club had received a check of over \$11,000 from the Playa Vista Venice Sunrise Rotary Club for Malibu fire relief efforts. The morning of the holiday dinner most of the Malibu Rotary Club members met at member Carlye Rudkins home where preliminary plans were made for how to best disperse this donation to fire victims.

At these 2 meeting on December 12 a plan was devised. Malibu Rotarian banker Nagy Heinan would have First Bank create \$500 Gift Cards. On Tuesday December 18 the Malibu Rotary Club will be giving 23 of these \$500 gift cards (\$11,500 total) to Malibu students who had sustained losses in the recent Woolsey Fire. The losses included many personal items of area

students. The students could use these cards for their immediate needs in replacing these items.

The distribution of the Malibu Rotary Club Gift Cards will take place at 3:30 pm at the Malibu Boys & Girls Club Teen Center at Malibu High School, 30215 Morning View Drive in Malibu. The 23 students receiving these gift cards were decided by a survey of losses conducted by Malibu B&GC Executive Director Kasey Earnest and her staff of volunteers. The distribution of the gift cards will be by Malibu Rotary Club President Bianca Torrence and members of the Malibu Rotary Club, using a major contribution given to the Malibu Rotary Club by the Playa Vista Venice Sunrise Rotary Club.

Malibu Rotary Club has Joint meeting on Dec 5 with Playa Venice Sunrise Rotary Club and accepts check for fire recovery relief



Picture above shows the presentation of the check from the Playa Venice Sunrise Rotary Club President Gwen Vuchsas to the Malibu Rotary Club at a joint meeting of the Malibu Rotary Club and Playa Venice Sunrise Rotary Club at Whiskey Red's restaurant in Marina del Rey on December 5. Bianca had presented major donor Howard Pollack with Malibu board game. In that picture L to R are W. David Baird, John Elman, Teresa LeGrove (Malibu Rotary Pres-Elect), Howard Pollack, Bianca Torrence, Gwen Vuchsas, Margo Neal and Marianne Bema.

Playa Venice Sunrise Rotary Club had raised over \$11,500 for Malibu Fire Relief using a matching grant from club member Howard Pollack, owner of Rainbow Naturals. The host club also treated the visitors from Malibu to breakfast at the restaurant overlooking the Marina bay. In addition to the money, members of the Venice Sunrise Rotary Club had been collecting clothes and other goods for the homeless fire victims, which was being stored at one of the member's home. Since there was not enough room for these items in the vehicles of the Malibu Rotarians

Bianca was to come back for them. With donations or Malibu fire victims from the Venice Sunrise Rotary Club, Greater Van Nuys Rotary Club, the Rotary District and other clubs in the district the Malibu Rotary Club was left with the task of deciding how to best distribute this cash and items to the people in the community who most need them. Following the meeting there was discussion among members via e-mail on how best to do this. This means that part of the Malibu Holiday Dinner scheduled for Wednesday Dec 12 at Tra di Noi will involve ideas on giving, and also a members only club assembly meeting tentatively scheduled for December 19 will continue this discussion and implementation of charitable giving to fire victims.

The entire meeting of the Playa Venice Rotary Club was assisted by a slide presentation similar to the Rotary District Breakfasts and then the main speakers were brought on, a very interesting program that will affect anyone who visits LAX and the area around it, called the Landside Access Modernization Program. This reporter felt compelled to tell his readers about that (see below).

So Cal Wildfire Relief Update from Rotary District Governor Joe Vasquez:

Dear Rotarians,

As evacuation orders are slowly lifted in the burn areas of the wildfires here in Southern California, District 5280 is poised to take action. In this time, when the fires have ravaged so much of our precious homes and land, we need to come together to make this better. That's what Rotary does.

WILDFIRE RELIEF EFFORTS ROTARY CONTACT:

Governor Joe Vasquez has appointed Woodland Hills Rotarian Sheri Polak as our official Rotary contact for wildfire relief efforts. Please contact Sheri for any offer of or request for help. Sheri can be reached at sheripolak@aol.com or 818-635-9139.

DONATION LINK:

We have set up a fund through the District Charitable Foundation that will be joined by other funds. Funds will be directed to where it is needed most. Many of you had trouble with the Donation button. The donation link can be accessed [here](#).

These are difficult times. It is when we Rotarians rise to the occasion and recall our motto, "Service Above Self". As we approach Thanksgiving, let us be thankful and embrace those in need.

-Joe Vasquez
2018-19 District 5280 Governor

We have recently added a Rotary Club Assembly meeting to December 19 to further discuss allocation of charitable giving. This meeting should be presided by our president of the month David Baird.

The next Malibu Rotary Club regular Meeting will be 8:00 a.m. January 9, 2018 in room LC 152 on the Pepperdine Drescher Upper Graduate campus. Speaker will be Reese Halter—"Bees, Trees, and Seas—Saving Planet Earth"

Rotary Project in Peru

On July 25 Malibu Rotary Club President Bianca Torrence spoke in detail about 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
CLUB EXECUTIVES & DIRECTORS

President of Record

Bianca Torrence

Vice-President

Margo Neal

Vice-President

W. David Baird

Vice-President

John W. Elman

President Elect

Teresa Le Grove

Immediate Past President

Bianca Torrence

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Community Service

Bianca Torrence

Mark Koller

Vocational Service

Margo Neal

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Allan Mannheim

Bianca Torrence

Youth Chair

Teresa LeGrove Cherkas

Rotary Foundation

David Baird

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Margo Neal

Bianca Torrence

Historian

David Baird

Bob Syverstein

Peace Chair

Carlye Rudkin

Peace-Co-Chair

Alex Ayzin

Fundraiser Co-Chair

Margo Neal and David Zielski

Malibu Rotary Club Rotating Presidents for 2018-2019

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

CALENDAR

December 18 Malibu Rotary Club Presentation of Gift Cards to Student Fire Victims

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December 19, 2018 Malibu Rotary Club Assembly presided by David Baird to discuss allocations of charitable giving and plans for 2019

December 26 2018 No Meeting—Happy Holidays

January 09, 2019 --Reese Halter Bees, Trees & Seas Saving the Earth

Reese Halter an award-winning broadcaster, distinguished conservation biologist and author of ten books. John Grace of Westlake Village Sunrise Rotary saw her presentation: Bees, Trees & Seas at The Westlaker's Club in October (2016). He invited her to speak at the Westlake Village Sunrise Rotary Club in December (2016). The president, Don Martin, awarded her an Outstanding Service Award for her community outreach work in conservation.

January 16, 2019 Peter Lattey - Global Grant WASH in Schools project

Peter Lattey is Past President of Rotary Club of Downtown Los Angeles and currently its International Service Chair and chair of the club's participation in LA 5's Global Grant WASH in Schools project in Kenya. He just returned from Kenya, where he has been working on the project.

Here is a link to a video that he made that gives an idea of what the project means to the children there.

www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ad54H49MsZU

Peter will be at the Malibu Rotary club January 16 for its morning meeting in LC 152 at the Pepperdine University Drescher Graduate campus in Malibu at 8:00 a.m. to show and tell us about this worthwhile project

January 23, 2019 Malibu Rotary Club meeting in Room LC in LC 152 at the Pepperdine University Drescher Graduate campus in Malibu at 8:00 a.m Emmett 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.

January 30 2018 Richard Gibbs Armory for Harmony

February 6 2018 Hans Laetz KBU

Malibu Radio station operator Hans Laetz will talk about the services of station and recieve donation from Malibu Rotary Club