

The Award Winning
Malibu Rotary Club Surfwriter

February 20, 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, and Jimmy Mehm Mon

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

- Next Week Wednesday February 27 Peter Formosa Gives Craft Talk in Fireside Room 7:30 a.m.
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- 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 (2012-2013) Sakuji Tanaka
- Rotary District 5280 Governor (2012-2012): Lewis Bertrand
- Assistant Governor for Malibu Rotary Club: Julie Jenkins (2012-13)

Reflections on the Rotary Global Peace Forum at Malibu Rotary Club Lunch Meeting at Tra di Noi Restaurant Jimmy Mehm Mon Inducted



Into Club and Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar Livia Giordano Talks About Her Experience at Rotary Global Peace Forum in Honolulu

(Pictured) Malibu Rotarian to-be Jimmy Mehm Mon with RI President Sakuji Tanaka at Glob Peace Forum Honolulu

At the Malibu Rotary Club meeting held February 20th at Tra di Noi Restaurant there were 3 people present who had attended the

Rotary Global Peace Forum, held January 25th-27th in Honolulu: Malibu Rotary Club President **Bill Wishard**, Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar **Livia Giordano**, as well as Bill's friend, **Mehm "Jimmy" Mon**, a monk and refugee from Burma, who had been imprisoned by the Myanmar regime, who went to the Peace Forum in hopes he might meet Aung San Suu Kyi, who is the hero of the Burmese people for her stand against the oppressive Myanmar regime who killed her father and imprisoned her for 16 years. In attempting to meet Aung San Suu Kyi, Mehm met many world leaders of Rotary, including the current Rotary International President Sakuji Tanaka, who conceived the idea of the Rotary Global Peace Forum. Mehm was so impressed by



his experience at the Rotary Peace Forum he decided to join the Malibu Rotary Club and this meeting **Tom Bos**, a past District Governor of Rotary from Holland, Michigan, was called on to officially induct Mehm into the Malibu Rotary Club.

Burmese refugee Mehm "Jimmy" Mon (center) is inducted into the Malibu Rotary Club by Rotary Past District Governor Tom Bos (right) at a meeting presided by Malibu Rotary Club President William Wishard (left) at Tra Di Noi Restaurant in Malibu on February 20.

Although security was so tight at the Peace Fourm that Mehm did not get a chance to meet

Aung San Suu Kyi, Mehm had taken many pictures at the Forum and also had videotaped Aung San Suu Kyi's speech with his i-phone and had uploaded an unedited version of it to You Tube in 3 sections with first one at:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gzB3bK4gZo>

We are hoping to show his pictures at the Malibu Rotary meeting March 6th in the Fireside Room. Aung San Suu Kyi, leader of Myanmar's democracy movement and recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize, delivered the keynote address at the Rotary Global Peace Forum. Her father, [Aung San](#), founded the [modern Burmese army](#) and negotiated Burma's independence from the [British Empire](#) in 1947; he was [assassinated by his rivals](#) in the same year. Suu Kyi has a B.A. degree in [Philosophy, Politics and Economics](#) from Oxford, and was working toward an M.Phil in Burmese literature as a research student at the School of Oriental and African Studies in London. In 1988 Suu Kyi returned to Burma, at first to tend for her ailing mother but later to lead the pro-democracy movement. She was put under house arrest in 1989 but managed to get her message out and hope for her people.

She was honored with the Hawaii Peace Award for her longstanding pursuit of democracy through peaceful, nonviolent means. After 16 years of house arrest, Suu Kyi was released in November 2010, and last year was elected to Myanmar's parliament as a member of the pro-democracy opposition party.

More than 1,800 Rotarians, Rotary alumni, and supporters of Rotary's peace program took part in the Rotary Peace Forum in Honolulu, the second of three peace forums planned by RI President Sakuji Tanaka. The first was held in [Berlin](#) in November, and a third is planned for [Hiroshima, Japan](#), 17-18 May.



"Rotary builds peace and international understanding through education, humanitarian service, and connecting with youth," Tanaka said. "To ensure a lasting legacy in this arena, we must engage young people and the new generations to come in a meaningful way, and empower them to carry Rotary's peace-building efforts into the future."

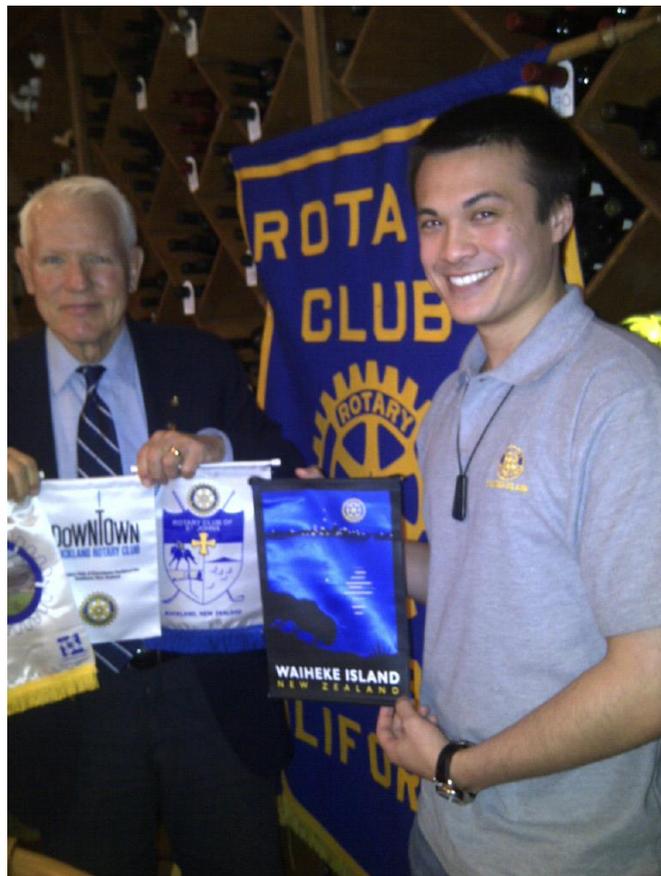
Livia (seen above) and Mehmon were both at the Global Peace Forum as volunteers, and both represented the New Generations, the young people who were invited to the conference to forward the peace process. High school students from Hawaii, and students from around the world who could get sponsorship, participated in this special forum. Livia said the students came from everywhere—Africa, India, Asia. Aung San Suu Kyi was invited to the Peace Forum by the US State Department and was guarded by the US Secret Service. She answered students questions at another assembly at the University of Hawaii and this was shown on large screens by those attending the Rotary Peace Forum.

Livia, Mehm, and Malibu President Bill all shared their impressions of this unique weekend. Mehm Mon, is not named Mon, but is of the Mon ethnic group. The Mons were believed to be one of the earliest people of continental Southeast Asia. As the eastern Mon were absorbed into the [Thai society](#) long ago, the western Mon of Burma have largely assimilated into Burmese

society. In Burma, the Mon are fighting to preserve the [Mon language](#) and culture, and regain a greater degree of political autonomy. The Mon were responsible for the spread of [Theravada Buddhism](#) in Burma and Thailand, which is the earliest form of Buddhism. Mehm became a monk at an early age and was arrested by the military government of Myanmar. He was later able to leave the country and come to the United States.

One of the guests at the Malibu Rotary Club meeting February 20th with Zac Delap. Zac was a Rotary Ambassadorial scholar who was sponsored by Rotary Club of Pacific Grove, CA to study at the University at Auckland, New Zealand, where he was hosted by the Rotary Club of Waiheke Island. When he spoke to the Malibu Rotary Club on February 6, he said he would return to the Malibu Club with flags from Waiheke Island Rotary Club, as well as other Rotary Clubs he visited while he was in New Zealand. He this opportunity to present 4 Rotary Club banners to Malibu Rotary Club President Bill Wishard.

**Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar
Pepperdine Grad Zac Delap Presents
his collection of flags from New
Zealand Rotary Clubs to Malibu
Rotary Club President Bill Wishard**





Doug Baker has graciously accepted the appointment to serve as DG for the Rotary year 2013-2014. This appointment was made as a result of the untimely passing of DGE, Jim Dyer. The protocol and rules of Rotary International were adhered to in making this appointment. Doug served as Rotary District Governor from 2010-2011.

In Memorium: District Governor Elect Jim Dyer (1948-2013)



Jim was an official ShelterBox Ambassador for the greater Los Angeles area and was recognized by President Obama with a Presidential Volunteer Service Award in March 2012 for his volunteer efforts during 2011 to provide shelter, warmth, and dignity for survivors of natural and other disasters worldwide. Jim and his wife Sharen instantly fell in love with the concept of ShelterBox during their trip to the Rotary Convention in Copenhagen in 2006 and two years later he had become a ShelterBox Ambassador for the LA area. ShelterBox started as a project from one Rotary club in the U.K. and in Jim's words, "it was incubated out of Rotary but has become a separate stand alone effort". The dedication and enthusiasm that Jim has shown for ShelterBox can be seen in this January 9, 2012 video interview clip provided by Mel Powell, president of the E-Club of The Greater San Fernando Valley. If you are not acquainted with this Rotary affiliated project, please do watch the video so you can see just why Jim was such a

huge supporter of this project.

Watch the video at:
http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=UXKBBfbPIeE#!

A single shelter box costs \$1,000 to sponsor and as a sponsor you will receive a certificate with a serial number which allows you to follow that box on the website and see where your sponsored box ends up. I'm sure that donating a ShelterBox in memory of Jim Dyer would be a wonderful tribute to his memory and his dedication to "Service Above Self".

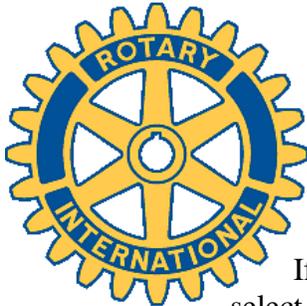
The family has asked that in lieu of flower/gifts that you instead make a donation to The Rotary Foundation in Jim's name. Donation information is provided below the Rotary logo at the bottom of this page.

You are already truly missed Jim and your memory will forever live in my/our hearts. Thank you for being a joy to work with and for being my/our friend.

Sincerely,

Emily "EM" Blair Charnelle

District Office Administrator



Memorial Donation Information:

To make a [memorial donation to The Rotary Foundation](#) please utilize the online [Memorial Tribute Gift Service \(HERE\)](#) or mail in a completed [Memorial Tribute Gift Form \(HERE\)](#) to Rotary International.

If using the [online Memorial Tribute Gift Service](#), you will be asked to select a Fund and then complete 5 steps. In the 3rd step "Billing" there is a "Gift Option" in blue print, just click that to specify your memorial donation dedication to Jim.

If you are using the snail [mail Memorial Tribute Gift Form](#) then completely fill out the form, make your check payable to "The Rotary Foundation", and then mail it to The Rotary Foundation at 14280 Collections Center Dr. Chicago, IL 60693

Jim's information needed to complete these forms is as follows-

- In Memory of James E. Dyer
- Address: 3546 Shoreheights Dr. Malibu, CA 90265
- Donor ID: 1143997
- Rotary Club of Santa Monica, District 5280
- Notification of this contribution can be sent to Jim's home address above to his beloved wife Sharen.

Rotary District News

New Generations

The Rotary District 5280 high school Speech, Music, Art and Dance Competition will be held March 9 at Loyola Maramount University and prizes of \$1,000, \$500, and \$250 will be awarded in each category. Winner of Malibu Rotary Club Singing Contest February 12th has been entered as contestant at the Rotary District event. Members of Rotaract can win \$1500 at and Ethics Forum to be held at Loyola Maramount University March 29. RYLA camp will be held April 26-28 and the cost is \$190.00 per student. The Rotary Club of Malibu is again sponsoring 2 students.



Other Rotary District Events:

April 6th will be a Rotary Day of Service. Melody St John, President of the Hollywood Rotary Club, is heading up this event. .

Rotary District 5280 is having a Group Study Exchange (GSE) this year with Rotary District 2620 in Japan. The Rotary Foundation's Group Study Exchange (GSE) program is a unique cultural and vocational exchange opportunity for businesspeople and professionals between the ages of 25 and 40 who are in the early stages of their [careers](#). The program provides travel grants for teams to exchange visits in paired areas of different countries. For four to six weeks, team members experience the host country's culture and institutions, observe how their vocations are practiced abroad, develop personal and professional relationships, and exchange ideas.

On Saturday March 9th there will be a special Rotary tour of Camp Pendleton to honor the Marines. A free bus has been chartered which will hold 60 people and leave from the Hawthorne Recreation Center.

Rotary District Convention at The Fess Parker Resort in Santa Barbara the weekend of May 3-5. The wine tour will be on May 2. Information and reservations are on the [Rotary District 5280 website](#).

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 

Calendar

(all Malibu Rotary Club meetings are held at 7:30 a.m. Wednesdays in Fireside Room of Pepperdine University unless otherwise noted)

Feb 27, 2013

[Peter Formosa](#)

"Malibu Rotarian Peter Formosa Gives His Craft Talk"

Mar 06, 2013

[Mehm "Jimmy" Mon](#)

"Pictorial Impressions of the Rotary Global Peace Conference"

Mehm "Jimmy" Mon was one of the many people of the Mon race living in Burma when ruthless military dictators took over the country, changed the name to Miramar, and imprisoned him. He became a monk and was later able to come to the United States. When Rotary sponsored a Global Peace Conference in Honolulu in January 2013 with the beloved Burmese liberator Aung San Suu Kyi as keynote speaker, Jimmy jumped at the chance to attend with Malibu Rotary Club President Bill Wishard. He took many pictures at the conference, meeting Rotary leaders including Rotary International President Tanaka, whose theme has been global peace.

Mar 12, 2013

Rotary District Breakfast

7:00 a.m. Westin LAX Hotel, 5400 W. Century Blvd., Los Angeles, CA

This is the final District Breakfast of the Rotary year. It will be hosted by New Generations and will feature speaker, Amanda Wirtz who went from Rotary Youth Exchange Student to accomplished Public Health Advocate.

Mar 13, 2013

[Mike Kelly](#)

"Family Law (Noon Lunch meeting at Tra di Noi Restaurant Malibu)"

Mar 20, 2013



[Holly Mosher](#)

"Bonsai People - The Vision of Muhammad Yunus"

Holly Mosher will speak on her experience following the work of Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Muhammad Yunus for her film:

Bonsai People - The Vision of Muhammad Yunus

What if you could harness the power of the free market to solve the problems of poverty, hunger, and inequality? To some, it sounds impossible. But Nobel Peace Prize winner Muhammad Yunus is doing exactly that. *Bonsai People* celebrates Yunus' extraordinary humanitarian work, which started by lending \$27 to 42 people out of his own pocket and has now grown to helping 1 out of every 1,000 people on earth. But he didn't stop there - whenever he sees a problem he starts a business, creating a mix between business and social work, which he's coined "social business." By tackling some of the world's most vexing problems from healthcare, education to alternative energy, he is demonstrating to the world that complex problems sometimes do have simple answers. Microcredit is just the tip of the iceberg! <http://bonsaimovie.com>

Holly also was a Rotary Youth Exchange Student to Brazil in 1990 and was featured in the Jan 2012 edition of The Rotarian.

Mar 27, 2013

[Peter Haynes](#)

"Personal History of Malibu 1949-1958"

Peter Haynes has been writing a series of articles in the Malibu Surfside News about the history of Malibu he grew up with as the kid who grew up in this paradise. It begins i 1949 when he and his sister arrived in Malibu to live with his dad, resident California Highway Patrolman, Jimmy Haynes. He will bring pictures and stories of what it was like to live back in those days.