

The Award Winning
Malibu Rotary Club Surfwriter

February 26, 2014

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 Tom Bos

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- **Next Malibu Rotary Club Meeting Malibu City Council Candidates Forum at noon in Graziadio Executive Center Room 116 (with fellowship starting at 11:30 a.m.)**
- **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/
- RI President (2013-2014) Ron D Burton
- Rotary District 5280 Governor (2013-2014): Doug Baker
- Assistant Governor for Malibu Rotary Club: Alice Muntean (2013-14)

Tom Bos, a Past District Governor from the Holland Michigan Rotary Club shared his experiences as Team Leader of Group Study Exchange, a group of business people from Rotary District 6290 in Michigan and parts of Canada, to the land of Tom's ancestors in The Netherlands



The Malibu Rotary Club has been fortunate that regular guests at many of its winter meetings are **Tom and Jane Bos**. Tom is a Past Rotary District 6290 Governor, who attends meetings at home Rotary Club in Holland, Michigan, in the summer, and visits his daughter and grandchildren in

Malibu in the winter. When in Malibu he has presented several memorable programs to the Malibu Rotary Club, showing slides of some of the many travels he has been on, including Rotary Plus trip to India, and boat trip around the eastern US from Holland Michigan on Lake Michigan, down the Mississippi River to the Gulf of Mexico to the Atlantic Ocean to the St Laurence Seaway back home, and then today's presentation about his trip, leading a Rotary Group Study Exchange from District 6290 to the Netherlands. Holland, Michigan gets its name from the origin of the people who settled in Michigan.

Tom said that the Rotary Group Study Exchanges will be done differently in the future than they have been done in the past. Four Rotary Foundation grant programs ended 30 June 2013:

- Matching Grants
- District Simplified Grants
- Ambassadorial Scholarships
- Group Study Exchange

Through last year Rotary International, through the Rotary Foundation, funded these programs, which were administered through the Rotary District, which selected participants. Rotary International will give districts money earned by the districts to fund programs that the district wants to fund, and allocate the way the district leaders choose to allocate. Certain programs, such as the Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarship program, is very costly. Many leaders think the money spent giving one person a \$30,000 1 year scholarship to study in another country could better be utilized in health and humanities to help more needy people. If these programs continue, it will be because the district has decided to fund them.

The concept of the Rotary Group Study Exchange is that a Rotarian in the District lead a group of 4 to 6 non-Rotarians who live in the geographical area of the district, to another country, to see how the people in the other country conduct business, and to learn about their culture and exchange ideas. Generally people will try to visit businesses in the foreign country that are similar to their own---bankers will visit the host country's banks, teachers would visit the host country's schools, police officers would visit the host country's police stations, etc. Those selected to go on GSE are screened to be good ambassadors from their districts and countries. The five people shown in the top picture are the ones selected by District 6290 to go to The



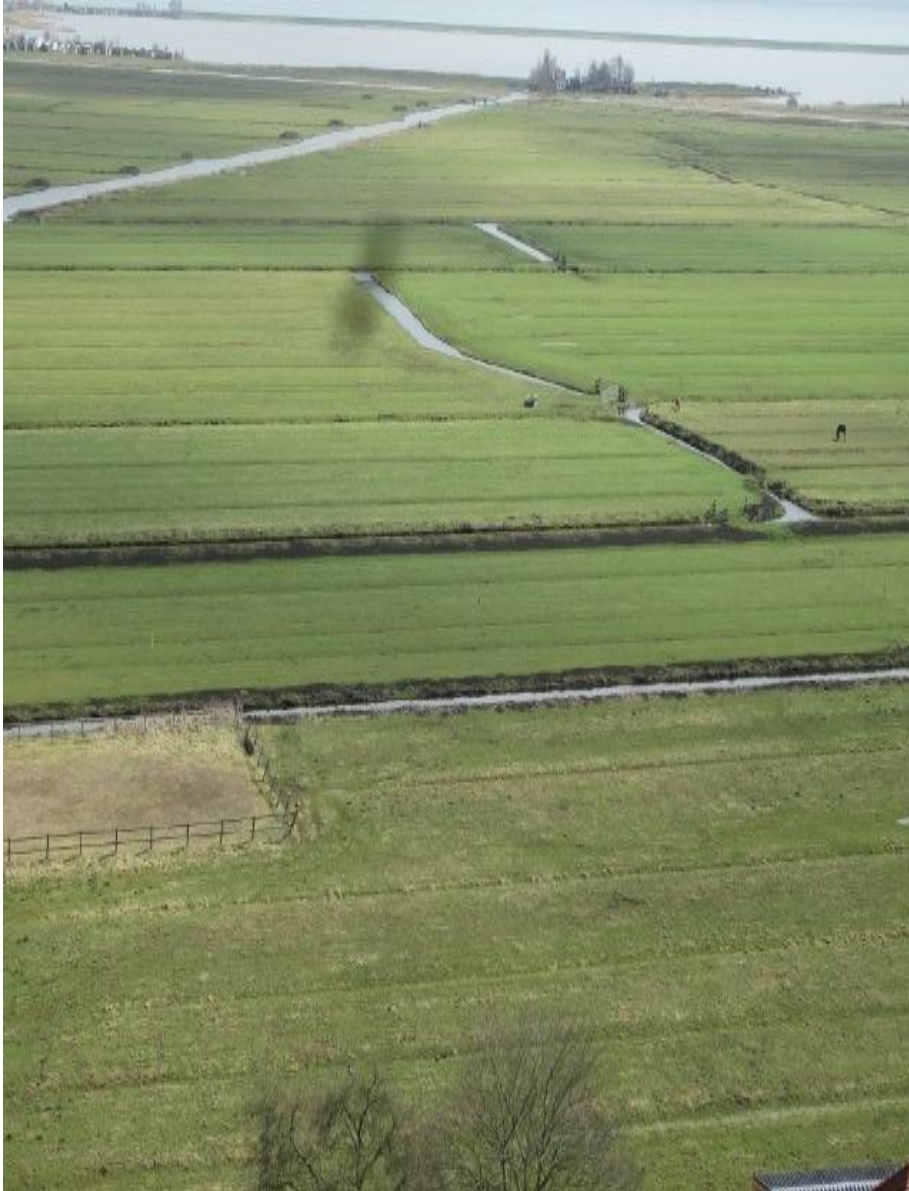
Netherlands last year. Each one is from a different city, and each is holding the banner of the Rotary Club of the city they are from (even though only Tom is a Rotarian). The sending district covers expenses for the GSE, which includes matching blazers, polo shirt, a brochure about them, pins to give out, plus gifts to give the hosts. Housing is provided by individual Rotarians in the host country.

Typically they would stay 5 days in one home, and each Rotarian was in a different home. Each day they would get together and get briefed on the activities of the day. Besides visiting the businesses and cultures of the host country the GSE people visited multiple Rotary clubs in the host country. In the Netherlands most of the Rotary Clubs met in the evening in bars, where alcoholic beverages were available. Of course when Tom got to the host country he went to the business of his family--vending machines. He is seen hugging a Dutch vending machine.



Probably the most amazing thing about the Netherlands is water management. Two thirds of the country is below sea level.

If a means was not developed to pump water up and out the country would constantly be flooded. The pictures on this page show the large pumps used these days to pump the water out. Initially wind mills were used to do the job, but now it is mostly done by steam and electrical power,



although some windmills are still in use. The water is pumped to rivers that are higher than much of the land in the country.

The soil of the Netherlands is rich in Calcium and for years cabbage grown in this soil was sold to all the countries of Europe. Some plots of land are actually floating on water.



The Lloyd shipping line has a hotel seen below. After World War II the hotel became a prison for Nazi prisoners of war.



We are all aware of the Dutch wooden shoes. Have we seen the Dutch wooden bikes? (see right)



In Malibu we are well aware of the dangers that arise when pedestrians, bikes, and automobiles all are using the same highway. In Amsterdam there is a distinct separation between the bike path, the pedestrian path and motor vehicle path.



On the walkway there were blocks called “stumbling blocks” on which were inscribed the names of Jewish people who were murdered during the Holocaust. The **Anne Frank House**, located on the Prinsengracht canal in Amsterdam, the Netherlands, is a

museum dedicated to Jewish wartime diarist Anne Frank, who hid from Nazi persecution with her family and four other people in hidden rooms at the rear of the building. When Tom went

there the line was long, but other members of his team were able to go inside.

The city of Amsterdam is on pilings. Tom said that the city is digging a tunnel for a subway starting under the current railway station using a huge round burrowing machine that only goes in one direction. Using GPS the route of the tunnel is being designed. Tom said people are living and working behind this machine and his GSE team was able to go down and observe this. The same machine is to be used to burrow a subway tunnel in Seattle.

The timing of Tom's GSE to the Netherlands was special in several ways--perhaps the last GSE from his district, a chance for him to visit the home of his ancestors and also the last week of his trip, on April 30, 2013, Queen Beatrix abdicated the throne of the Netherlands after 33 years, to her son King Willem-Alexander, who was the Prince of Orange. In a tribute to him Orange was the color of the day in the Netherlands, and Tom said it was a spectacular day as his GSE got to be part of huge crowd at the celebration



What wasn't part of Tom's slide presentation was a picture of a Dutch Windmill. I guess he takes Dutch windmills pretty for granted. The only authentic, working Dutch windmill in the United States is in Holland, Michigan.

Called De Zwann, it was first was erected in Krommenie, Netherlands in 1761. In 1889, it was moved to Vinkel, Netherlands and reconstructed there.

When Holland, Michigan residents Willard Wichers and Carter Brown were looking for a way to pay homage to the city's Dutch heritage, they began a project to bring a Dutch windmill to the

United States. However, many of these monumental structures had suffered serious damage in World War II. As a result, the Dutch government had placed a ban on the sale of windmills outside the Netherlands. Wichers and his group were able to gain an exemption by selecting a heavily damaged mill known as De Zwaan. De Zwaan was at the center of a controversy, with three local agencies unable to determine the future of the damaged windmill. The Dutch government decided to sell it to Wichers for \$2800, making De Zwaan the last windmill to leave the Netherlands.



In October, 1964, De Zwaan arrived aboard the *Prins Willem van Oranje*. It was unloaded at the Muskegon harbor and transported by truck to Windmill Island in Holland. It took approximately 6 months to reconstruct the mill.

Other News and Guests at the last Malibu Rotary Club meeting

Happy Dollars: Malibu Rotary Club President **Bill Wishard** made “Happy Dollars” contributions for several reasons which again included getting a hand written note from Rotary District Governor Doug Baker for the new energy shown in the Malibu Rotary Club (same Happy Dollar reason as last week). President Elect **Margo Neal** had a happy dollar for the enthusiasm instilled in her by the great motivational speakers she heard at PETS.

Bill was hoping members from the Malibu Rotary Club could attend the District Youth Arts and Music Awards that was being held the following Saturday and Loyola Marymount University. He was also hoping members could attend the rare opportunity to see the Rotary International President Elect in Woodland Hills in 2 weeks. Tuesday, March 11, 2014 Rotary International President-Elect Gary Huang will address the Rotary Club of Woodland Hills and members across District 5280 at the club's weekly lunch meeting. A Rotarian since 1976, Gary is a member of the Rotary Club of Taipei, Taiwan. He has served RI as District Governor, Director and Vice President, Trustee of The Rotary Foundation, and as chairman and member of numerous international committees and task forces.- See more at: <http://portal.clubrunner.ca/50010#sthash.igeTtJJ2.dpuf>
He was featured the last issue of *The Rotarian* magazine.

Bill was reminding Malibu Rotarians to attend the Rotary District Assembly May 10 at the Carson Community Center, 3 Carson Dr in the City of Carson 7:00 a.m. until noon, as well as the District Conference May 15-18 at the Hyatt Regency in Indian Wells.

Guests at the Malibu Rotary Club meeting February 26 included Tom Bos' wife **Jane Bos**; **Carlye Rudkin**, who was Malibu Rotary Club secretary about a dozen years ago; and **Beth Mohiuddin**, of Beth Travel Advisors who came to see Tom Bos' presentation on the Netherlands, and who also is board member of the Malibu Chamber of Commerce which is having a fundraiser presentation on April 1 at the Malibu Public Library describing Portugal.

Malibu City Council Candidates Forum Set for March 5

David Zielski and Griselda Espinosa have contacted the 5 candidates running for the Malibu City Council to take part in a candidates Forum to be held by and hosted by the Malibu Rotary Club March 5 at the noon Malibu Rotary Club meeting which will be in Graziadio Executive Center Room 116 (to the left of the front entrance of the Executive Center Hotel. Election will be in April.

Malibu Rotary Club Fundraiser at Chipotle Restaurant Friday, March 28



Maggie Luckerath has arranged to have a Malibu Rotary Club fund raiser at the Chipotle Restaurant at the Malibu Center on Cross Creek Road. Those presenting special paper at restaurant that day will have 50% of their bill donated by restaurant to Malibu Rotary Club charity. There will be no meeting at Pepperdine University March 26. There will be an attempt to have a meeting at the restaurant at 11:30 a.m. on March 28th, although it has only 12 immovable bar stools inside. Or the meeting could be outside where there are 3 tiny tables and a total of 10 chairs.



Upcoming Speakers (yet to be confirmed)

- Randy Klingensberg, Performing Arts Studio West (who trains disabled artists to perform--school attended by blind autistic musical savant Rex Lewis)
- Malibu High School Principal Jerry Block
- Founder of the National Veterans Foundation, Floyd 'Shad' Meshad
- 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

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

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Calendar

Mar 05, 2014

[Malibu City Council Candidates](#)

"Malibu City Council Candidates Forum"

Mar 12, 2014

[Pat Healy](#)

"Monarch Butterflies and Milk Weed "

Mar 26, 2014

[No meeting](#)

"No meeting--Go to Chipotle Restaurant on March 28"

Mar 28, 2014

[Fundraiser at Chipotle](#)

"Malibu Rotary Club Fundraiser 11:30 a.m. at Chipotle Restaurant in Malibu"

**In lieu of having normal Malibu Rotary Club meeting at Pepperdine on Mar 26
Malibu Rotary Club Fundraiser at 11:30 a.m. at Chipotle Restaurant in Malibu.
Those have provide flyer of event at Chipotle this day will have 50% of the bill
graciously donated by Chipotle Restaurant to Malibu Rotary Club Charity.**

