

The Award Winning

Malibu Rotary Club Surfwriter

January 6, 2016

Official Newsletter of the Rotary Club of Malibu
Malibu Rotary Club President David Zielski

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

- **Last week: Mary Leonard and Page Jones Explain How the Story of Page's life in the documentary movie "Godspeed" Can Inspire Others with Traumatic Brain Injury**
- **Next Regular Malibu Rotary Club Meeting January 13 in Pepperdine University Malibu Upper Drescher Graduate Campus LC 152 with fellowship at 11:30 a.m and meeting starting at 12:00 noon. Speaker will be Wynne Ritch talking about his experience in Vietnam.**
- **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 (2015-2016) K.R. Ravindran**

- **Rotary District 5280 Governor (2015-2016): D.J. Sung**

Mary Leonard and Page Jones Explain How the Story of Page's life in the documentary movie "Godspeed" Can Inspire Others with Traumatic Brain Injury



Iggy Estrada, Bill Wishard, Mary Leonard, and Page Jones at the Malibu Rotary Club January 6

Malibu Rotary Club Past President Bill Wishard was in a coma when he was brought to Daniel Freeman Hospital in 1994, suffering from a traumatic brain injury when he was hit by a drunk teenage driver while he was on a motorcycle on Mulholland Highway near Malibu. Bill had a remarkable recovery, so much so that his daughter and people at Daniel Freeman thought he might help, be an inspiration for, a young man who was also brought into the hospital in a coma suffering traumatic brain injury.

The young man, Bill was to learn, was the son of one of Bill's idols, Indy 500 race car winner Parnelli Jones. Bill had grown up in Indianapolis and his family went to the Indy 500 race every year. Parnelli's 22 year old son Page Jones, was also a race car driver, and that year he had won

18 of 42 races, on his way to becoming as famous as father, when his whole world changed at the Eldora Speedway in Ohio. He was leading in the race when his car hit the wall. While rolling he is hit in the head by a passing racecar. This could have killed him—and maybe it did—for a while. He stopped breathing for 4 minutes. Years later he said he met up with a race car driver he knew, and who had died earlier and she told him, “It’s not your time yet—go back!”

When Page came out of his coma he could not move or talk. He could only feel anger and frustration. He chewed up 250 t-shirts.

Bill talked to Page daily. Page saw 6 therapists a day. He was in the hospital for 2 years.

During all this time and beyond, Page had the complete support of his family.

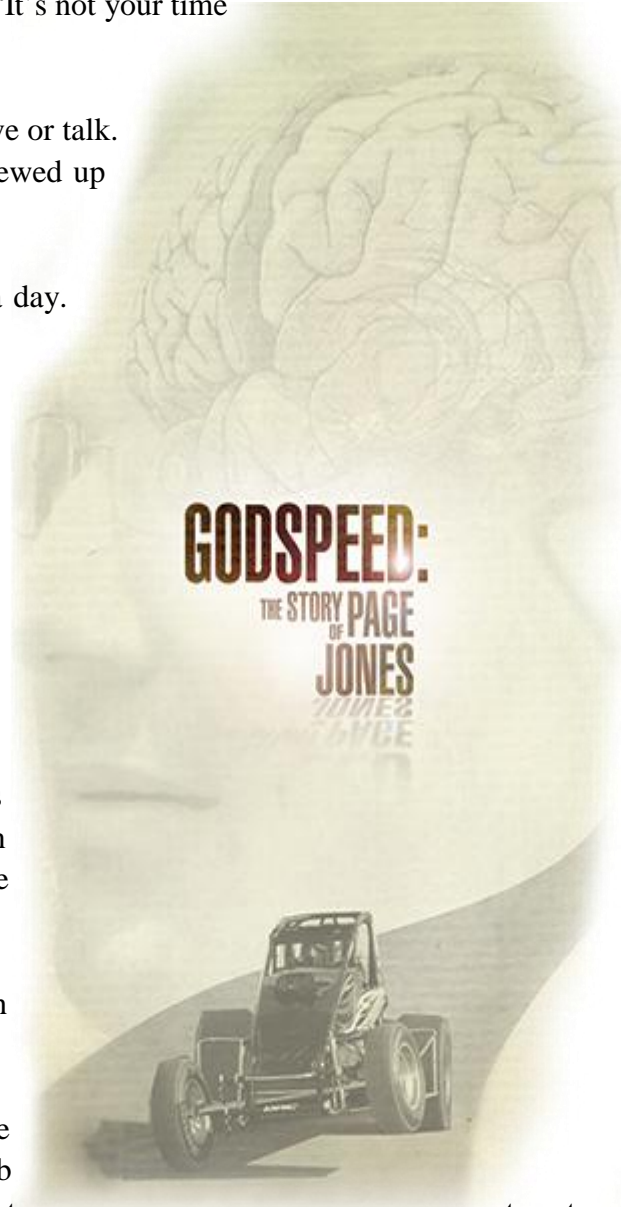
They recorded home videos of Page to show progress in his rehabilitation. After 2 years in the hospital he learned how to talk again. And later to walk.

For the past 18 years he has had an assistant Iggy Estrada, to get Page where he needs to be. His short memory is still not good, but he can remember the past, goes to college, has a wife Jamie and kids.

Bill and Page remained friends, and whenever both are in town they try to go to a movie each week.

In 2008 when Bill was asked by Margo Neal if he knew any speakers for a Malibu Rotary Club program he said he knew somebody with a great story to tell but he would have trouble telling it—he has trouble speaking. It was suggested that Bill ask this potential speaker, Page Jones, questions, similar to a Larry King Live interview.

The program was well received and word spread around the Rotary district which led to Page speaking at the Palos Verdes Rotary Club, other Rotary clubs in the adjoining Rotary district events, including district breakfast and convention.



GODSPEED:
THE STORY OF PAGE
OF PAGE
JONES
JONES
JONES

Film maker Mary Leonard heard about the story Page had to tell and thought it could be made into a documentary movie, which she started working on in 2008. She was able to enlist Jay Leno as Executive producer and use a combination of the racing footage taken during Page's earlier life as well as the videos the family had taken during Page's rehabilitation process, along with original interviews of Page and his family. The finished movie was released in October 2015, opening in limited AMC theaters in California and New York. Mary wants to make it available to a wider audience to serve as an inspiration for others suffering from Traumatic Brain Injuries and their families—showing how the rehabilitation process works.

We are hoping to have a screening of the 75 minute film in Malibu in the near future.

For more information go to the website www.godspeedpj.com or contact Mary Leonard at info@poppyfields.media.

Other News and Guests at Last Malibu Rotary Club meeting

Bill Wishard had gone to a special Rotary Dinner January 2 at which Rotary International President K.R. Ravindran was speaker. The RI president had appeared on the Rotary float at the Rose Parade in Pasadena the morning before. At the dinner the president said that it his mission this year to make sure polio is eradicated. In 2015 there were only 70 new cases reported and it is expected there may be 15 new cases in 2016, and then hopefully none in 2017. The only places where there are new polio cases are Pakistan and Afghanistan. Volunteers trying to immunize children in these places do so at great risk for their personal safety. In fact 100 have been killed trying to complete the polio eradication mission.



Malibu Rotary Club President Dave Zielski (center) presented John Elman (L) and Bob Syvertsen (R) with sapphire Paul Harris Fellow pins at the January 6 Malibu Rotary Club meeting. John's pin had one sapphire and Bob's pin had 2 sapphires. These signify levels of giving to the Rotary Foundation.

There was a meeting of the Fund Raising committee led by **Margo Neal**. Details of the fund raiser have yet to be finalized but

it would seem that members of the committee like the idea of a steak and lobster dinner to be held in the middle of May. The venue and more details will be forthcoming in the New Year.

The annual Malibu Rotary Club Middle and High School Singing Competition originally scheduled for the evening January 20th at Pepperdine's Raitt Recital Hall has been changed and confirmed for January 27 at 6:00 p.m. On the date of the Singing Competition there will be no noon meeting for the Malibu Rotary Club. The latest calendar is posted online at www.Maliburotary.org.

Guests

In addition to speaker **Page Jones**, his assistant **Iggy Estrada**, and movie maker **Mary Leonard**, *Malibu Surfside News* Editor **Chris Bashaw** was on hand to write a story about Page.

Malibu Rotary Club Supports RainCatcher

David Zielski, Executive Director of Raincatcher makes regular trips to Uganda and Kenya to Raincatcher installations and maintenance. In February The latest video showing what David and the Raincatcher people are doing in Africa 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-RLo&list=UUFetq8NgjhXhtkVf0idcQUg>

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

Filter records:

Speaker	Date	Topic
Wynne Ritch	Jan 13, 2016	My Experience in Vietnam Wynne Ritch is a member of the Greater Van Nuys District , club events". Wynne's unique experience in the program of the Jan 13 meeting of the Malibu Rotary Club meeting will give in an introduction of us future
Rotary Peace Conference	Jan 15, 2016	Rotary Peace Conference in Ontario, CA Jan 15-16

Speaker	<u>Date</u>	Topic
David Zielski	Jan 20, 2016	Club Assembly -- 6 month Rotary Year Review David Zielski and Malibu Rotary Club leadership review
Rotary District Hunanitarian Trip tp Panama	Jan 27, 2016	Rotary District Hunanitarian Trip tp Panama Jann 27-Feb
Malibu Middle and High School Singers	Jan 27, 2016	Annual Malibu Rotary Club Middle and High School Sing
Deanell Reece Tacha, Dean Pepperdine School of Law	Feb 10, 2016	<p>Latest News From the Pepperdine Law School</p> <p>Dean Tacha is the Duane and Kelly Roberts Dea Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit where she 2007. Dean Tacha earned her bachelor of arts de Ann Arbor in 1971. She was a White House Fellow</p> <p>She returned to the University of Kansas where s 1977-1985. She served as associate dean from 1 for Academic Affairs between 1981-1985. In 1992, to the university and received its most prestigious the Year" by the Native Sons and Daughters of Ka</p>
Rotary District Breakfast #3	Feb 11, 2016	Rotary District Breakfast #3 at Westin LAX Hotel, 5400
Bernard Otis	Feb 17, 2016	<p>How to Prepare for Old Age ---- Without Taking the Fun Bernard Otis is an 87 year old very active Rotarian, and informative best Selling Book "How to Prepa reviews,</p> <p>"How to Prepare for Old Age (Without Taking the Fun book. The message from this extraordinary man is abo first met Bernie Otis during a time when his beloved A home to care for Anna and through a referral from a difficult time. After Anna's passing, Bernie was not on assistance from our agency. While our relationship be living and watched as he turned his grief into a celebra</p>
Rotary District Breakfast #4	Apr 05,	Rotary District Breakfast #4 at Westin LAX Hotel, 5400

Speaker	<u>Date</u>	Topic
David Zielski	2016 Apr 13, 2016	Malibu Rotary Club Assembly--Open Discussion to Bring This wil be a club assembly to provide and opportunity completion.

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