

The Award Winning
Malibu Rotary Club Surfwriter

Januray 8, 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 Griselda Espinoza

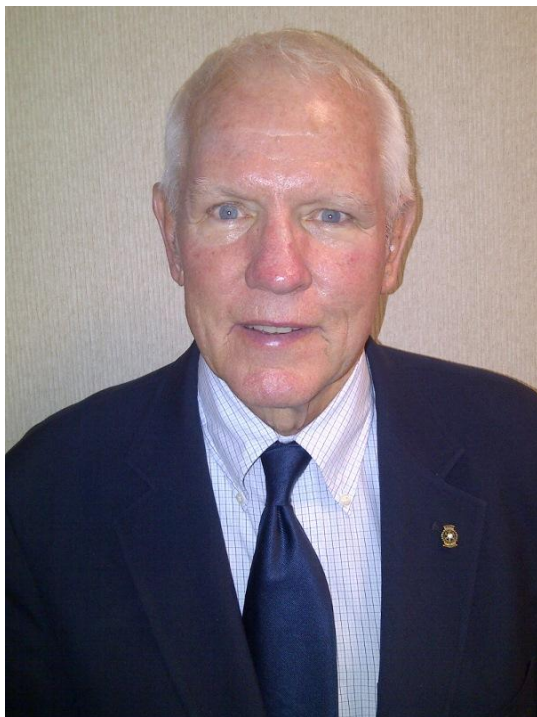
In This Issue (click underlined topics for web link when connected to the Internet)

- **17 people from Malibu Rotary Club to Rotary District Breakfast on January 14 (no Malibu Rotary Club meeting at Pepperdine on Jan 15**
- **Next Major Malibu Rotary Club Event is the Malibu Rotary Club Middle and High School Singing Competition at Pepperdine's Stauffer Chappel on Thursday January 16 at 6:30 p.m.**
- **Malibu Rotary Club President Bill Wishard Announces New President Elect**
- **Next Malibu Rotary Club Meeting January 22, 2014 at noon (with Fellowship starting at 11:30 a.m.) in LC152 at Pepperdine Drescher**

Campus. Speaker will be one of Malibu Rotary Club's newest members, Kelly Sagona, talking about "Recycling Peoples Lives."

- **Malibu Rotary Club Sponsors Rex and Friends Foundation**
- 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)**

Malibu Rotary Club President Bill Wishard Announces New President Elect



Wishard N Wishard III (Malibu Rotary Club President) and Margo Neal (Malibu Rotary Club President Elect)

As the New Year approached the Malibu Rotary Club had still not named a President-Elect--the person who would become Club President starting July 1, 2014. Various documents and

different people's names had been mentioned but no name had been sent to the Rotary District Office. Malibu Rotary Club President Bill Wishard told the members of the Malibu Rotary Club on January 8th how he had been asked by the District Governor Doug Baker who the Malibu Rotary Club was sending to PETS (President Elect Training Seminar). The name was supposed to have been sent by January 1. In fact, if a name was not sent by January 1, the current president, Bill, would again have to go to PETS. Bill had already been to PETS 3 or 4 times (we're not sure how many PETS Bill has attended, but nobody in the club had been to more, and Bill did it last time with a heart condition that caused him to miss the first couple months of his presidency while he recovered from of open heart surgery). Was someone going to step up and give Bill a break?

Bill explained that a nominating committee consisting of David Baird, Margo Neal and President Bill had convened over the holidays and had considered 6 potential candidates. Most of these candidates were new members, with limited experience in Rotary. While convening one of the nominating committee members decided that she would be a candidate herself. She had been President of the Malibu Rotary Club in 1998 when the Rotary International Convention was held in Indianapolis. She recalled that when she was club president before, she was busy with her work in the publishing business, but now she was retired, and she could devote more time to being club president. She would have to forego a planned trip to Whistler to ski at the time of PETS, but she would do it.

This news was welcomed by the club with surprise and delight. So by unanimous approval Margo Neal was elected President-Elect of the Malibu Rotary Club, starting her term as President July 1, 2014. Two other club officers were elected to repeat in the offices they currently serve, John Elman as Secretary and Hubert Luckerath as Treasurer.



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

The Malibu Rotary Club was one of the sponsors of Rex and Friends Foundation concert on Sunday, December 15 at the Masonic Lodge at Hollywood Forever Cemetery. Thanks to Maggie Luckerath 10 people represent the Malibu Rotary Club attended this fundraiser concert for the Rex & Friends Charitable Foundation.

Rex Lewis-Clack, world renowned Venezuela-born classical pianist Gabriela Montera and London-born world Class opera singer SamMcElroy emceed, told an amazing biographical story on how he met Rex and

became his singing tutored and performed with Rex at this unforgettable concert. They were 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 performed a varied program of classical, jazz, pop and improvised music, and explained the crucial role of music in the lives of those with blindness and autism.

Below is picture of the group from the Rotary Club of Malibu attending preconcert event taken by Griselda's son at the Rex and Friends Concert



Other News And Guests From the Last Malibu Rotary Club Meeting

Maggie Luckerath shared a letter she had received from Paul Joseph, Fundraising Chair and Hardball Commissioner of Malibu Little League. Paul had received the Malibu Rotary Club sponsorship check of \$850.00 to support Malibu Little League baseball and Girls softball. As a supporter, the Malibu Rotary Club will receive the Malibu Rotary Club logo on all the uniforms of MRC's assigned team, a 6 x 4 banner which will be placed on the Homerun fence for all to view from February-July playoffs and championship games as well as the Malibu Rotary Club logo on the Malibu Little League website. There is also an opportunity to be part of the opening day celebration with a team introduction during ceremonies. **John Elman** recommended and sent Paul an image of the Rotary wheel logo, and recommended it be used with the words "Malibu Rotary Club", believing any more graphics or text than that would clutter the look of the uniforms.

Bill Frenz talked about several possible Fund Raisers that the Malibu Rotary Club could have, in partnership with other groups. Bill said that as long as the Malibu Rotary Club could use the Rotary district's 501(c) 3 non-profit tax status it opened up a lot of opportunities to raise money. These included a Car Show, various type of concerts, and deals he had arranged with wineries. All of these sounded intriguing and will be considered in Fund Raising Committee with Bill F and Bill W, who are both professional event planners.

Malibu Rotary Club President Bill Wishard again asked for donations and stories for people contributing to "Happy Dollars." President Bill contributed Happy Dollars on the success of our club election, and all the people of our club that were planning to go the Rotary District Breakfast on Tuesday Jan 14 (by the end of the meeting it appeared that 17 people from Malibu Rotary Club were going). **Bill Frenz** also contributed happy dollars, because he had such a great start to the new year---He had a party for about 700 people at a venue called Graffiti House in the Silverlake are of Los Angeles. **Tom Bos** and wife **Jane** contributed because they were in So Cal enjoying the weather rather than in their home Holland, MI, where the weather was miserable. **Maggie Luckerath** contributed telling us how the Kim and Michael and their 8 hoping to be adopted kids looked so great when they went to court but the judge continued the court date until January 29th when neither their attorney nor the estranged father showed up. **Jane** was going shopping to get them something too.

Guests at the meeting included Bill Frenz' uncle from Switzerland as well as regulars **Tom** and **Jane Bos** and **Jeanne Custis**.

**MALIBU ROTARY CLUB MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL SINGING
COMPETITION ON THURSDAY JAN 16TH AT 6:30 PM**



(Above) picture of winners from the 2012 Malibu Rotary Club Singing Competition at Stauffer Chapel

The 2014 Malibu Rotary Club Middle and High School Annual Singing Competition will held 6:30 p.m. January 16th at Stauffer Chapel at the Pepperdine University campus in Malibu.

There will be three winners in the Middle School division and three winners in the High School division with cash prizes of \$250, \$150, and \$100 awarded the night of the event to the first, second, and third place finishers in each division. Winner of the High School Division is sponsored by the Malibu Rotary Club to compete for \$1000 prize in the Rotary District 5280 Music Competition held at Loyola Marymont University in March.

All the students are in Amy Loch's choral classes at Malibu Middle School and Malibu High School. Entrants are judged on Vocals, Presentation, and Style by a panel made up of members of the Rotary Club of Malibu. The public is invited. Admission is free.

We need all Malibu Rotarians to support this event, which is probably the biggest community event of the year. You are the judges and it is truly entertaining.

John Elman has arranged for some special entertaining surprises for the evening.

Rotary District Breakfast on January 14

The District Breakfast marks the half-way point of our Rotary year, but we're just getting started!! We are going to be getting **LOUD** in the second half as the work of YOUR club will be showcased, publicized and envied by all! Come and find out how all this is going to happen. We'll kick off the most productive, entertaining, rewarding and fun six months this District has ever had. The District Breakfast is also your first shot at reservations for the District Conference, which is sure to be a sell-out. There will be some "torch-y jazz numbers" to kick off the morning, along with a kangaroo!

KEYNOTE SPEAKER AT DISTRICT BREAKFAST: MARK GERAGOS

Geragos has been named "Lawyer of the Year" in both Criminal and Civil arenas and was named by California Law Business Magazine as "one of the 100 most influential attorneys in California" 3 years in a row.

As the principal with the internationally known trial law firm of Geragos & Geragos, Mark Geragos gained a national reputation as a trial lawyer due to a number of high-profile cases he has won over the years. In Geragos' recently published book, *Mistrial*, he draws the curtain on the courtroom's ugly realities from stealth jurors who secretly swing for a conviction, to cops who regularly lie on the witness stand, to defense attorneys terrified of going to trial. Ultimately,

he questions whether a justice system model drawn up two centuries ago before blogs and television is still viable today. Geragos is a legal expert and prominent criminal defense attorney who has worked on everything from celebrity media-circuses to equally compelling cases defending individuals desperate to avoid the spotlight. Shining unprecedented light on what really goes on in the courtroom, Mark will take an enjoyable, fun look at a system that rarely lets you see behind the scenes.

Malibu Rotarians and friends who said they will go are **Griselda Espinoza, Bill Wishard, Hubert and Maggie Luckerath, John Elman, David Baird, Margo Neal, Irene Bettler, David Zielski, Jimmy Mehmon Mon, Jeanne Cusis, Kelly Sagona** her sister, **Peter Formosa, Bill Frenz** and his uncle and **Tom and Jane Bos.**

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 at 12:00 Noon in LC 152 at the Pepperdine Drescher campus Villa Graziadio Executive Center unless otherwise noted)

Jan 14, 2014

[Malibu Rotarians go to District Breakfast](#)

"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 Malibu Rotary meeting today](#)

"no meeting-go to District Breakfast Jan 14 & Music Competition Jan 16"

Jan 16, 2014

[Malibu Middle and High School Singers](#)

["Malibu Rotary Middle and Hi School Singing Competition \(Stauffer Chappel\) Jan 16 6:30 p.m."](#)

(see story in newsletter)

The 2014 Annual Malibu Rotary Club Middle and High School Singing Competition at Stauffer Chappel in Pepperdine University. Students from Amy Lock's choral classes at Malibu Middle School and Malibu High School will compete for 6 cash prizes awarded by the Malibu Rotary Club at this performance. The public is invited to this always entertaining event.

Winnner of the High School Division will be sponsored by the Malibu Rotary Club to compete for \$1000 prize at Rotary District Music Competition in Los Angeles.

Jan 29, 2014

[Susanna Brisk](#)

"More Malibu Mom Finding Humor in Life"

She is an author, actor, blogger, and stand up comic who will read more from her book "I'll Be The Death of Me." A funny, raw and searingly honest memoir, Susanna will address topics including parenting with a mental illness, surviving your family of

origin and finding your creative self, even while there are small people in your midst who require lunch.

For more information about Susanna and her book visit www.malibumom.com and <http://amzn.to/13y1tjq>.

Feb 05, 2014

[Irene Bettler](#)

"My Life and Learning "