



*The Award Winning*  
**Malibu Rotary Club Surfwriter**

July 2, 2014

Official Newsletter of the Rotary Club of Malibu  
Malibu Rotary Club President Margo Neal

Edited by Dr. John W. Elman  
Pictures by Dr. John W. Elman

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

- Next Malibu Rotary Club Meeting Wednesday July 9 at noon at Pepperdine University Drescher Graduate campus in LC 152 (with fellowship starting at 11:30 a.m.). Speaker is Brian Turner on “How to Kill a Lawsuit”
  - Last Week: Malibu Rotary Club President Margo Neal Begins Rotary Year With New Rotary District Governor Elsa Gilham inducting Carlye Rudkin and Beth Mohiuddin as Malibu Rotary Club’s Newest Members
- Check [Calendar](#) on Malibu Rotary website [www.maliburotary.org](http://www.maliburotary.org)
- Rotary International Website: [www.Rotary.org](http://www.Rotary.org)
- Rotary District 5280 Website: [www.rotary5280.org/](http://www.rotary5280.org/)

- **RI President (2014-2015) Gary CK Huang**
- **Rotary District 5280 Governor (2014-2015): Elsa Gilham**
- **Assistant Governor for Malibu Rotary Club: Neil Godsey (2014-15)**

**Malibu Rotary Club President Margo Neal Begins Rotary Year  
With New Rotary District Governor Elsa Gilham inducting Carlye  
Rudkin and Beth Mohiuddin as Malibu Rotary Club's Newest  
Members**



**Malibu Rotary Club President (2014-15) Margo Neal (L) sponsored Carlye Rudkin (2<sup>nd</sup> from L) into Malibu Rotary Club as Maggie Luckerath (2<sup>nd</sup> from R) sponsored Beth Mohiuddin (R). The two new members were inducted into Rotary by Rotary District Governor (2014-15) Elsa Gilham (center). The ceremony on July 2, 2014 at the Malibu Rotary Club meeting at Pepperdine University marked only the 2<sup>nd</sup> day on the job for Margo and Elsa as the new Rotary year started July 1.**

Most Rotary Clubs in Los Angeles area's District 5280 are lucky enough to have the District Governor make one visit to their club during the year—the official “Governor’s Visit”—which is arranged on the district calendar at least a year in advance.

With 62 Rotary clubs in the district it is hard for the District Governor to get to every one, and he or she often sends a representative. Not so with current District Governor Elsa Gilham. She took time out of her busy schedule last October 23 when she was Governor-Elect to get to the Malibu Rotary Club meeting on the Pepperdine campus and induct 5 new members into the club.

On July 2, on only her second day in office as District Governor, Elsa, along with her husband Larry, again made a command appearance at the Malibu Rotary Club meeting, and inducted 2

more members into the Malibu Rotary Club, Beth Mohiuddin and Carlye Rudkin, making it 7 new members she has inducted into the Malibu Rotary in the last 9 months—and she hasn't even had her official governor's visit yet!

Elsa talks about the new Rotary year which is led by Rotary International President CK Huang, and all the new club presidents, like Malibu Rotary Club President Margo Neal, on the District website:

Inspired by the teachings of Chinese philosopher Confucius, who said “It is better to light a candle than to sit and curse the darkness”, President Gary CK Huang directs each of us to “Light Up Rotary” in 2014-15. What better way to do so than for “Each Club to be a VIBRANT Club” which is my one District Goal for this year. Imagine how our District with 62 VIBRANT Clubs and over 2400 members will “Light Up Rotary” by doing good, having fun and sharing Rotary. I am excited and honored to be your District Governor this coming year and along with my extraordinary team of experienced and dedicated district leaders, we are here to help you make your club a VIBRANT club. Together District 5280 clubs will “Light Up Rotary”!

The induction ceremony led by Elsa had the same familiar language we'd heard in previous inductions of new members, about joining 1.2 million Rotarians in 34,000 clubs around the world in doing Service Above Self. There was a line added to this induction of new members to the Malibu Rotary Club, requested by Malibu Rotary Club Treasurer Hubert Luckertath “...and pay all club dues when due.” Hubert is intent on starting and ending the year with a balanced budget!

The District Governor talked about the various district events that are planned for the upcoming year that she hoped members of the Malibu Rotary Club could attend, and all of which she hoped would be fun for all.

The first of these is Rotary District Breakfast on July 15<sup>th</sup>. It is the first Rotary District Breakfast of the new Rotary year, and also the first District Breakfast at the City Club.

It will be 7:00 a.m. Tuesday, July 15<sup>th</sup> at the City Club Downtown on the 51<sup>st</sup> Floor, on top of the Citibank Building at 555 Flower St, LA. Speaker will be Los Angeles Laker Basketball Hall of Famer and author Kareem Abdul Jabbar. Eight Malibu Rotarians reserved seats for the event at our meeting. Cost is \$35 each for tickets. (It was decided at Malibu Rotary budget meeting following our regular meeting that the club will partially subsidize members wishing to attend District Breakfasts—members will pay \$20—club will pay \$15—for the \$35.00 District event. If you say you are going and don't go—then you pay full cost of \$35 that the district bills the club). There will no tickets sold at door. It will be a sit down breakfast. There will be complimentary valet parking—no self park.

DG Elsa also talked about several other upcoming district events:

- Literacy breakfast August 13 at Lawry (this is one of the few free events)
- District Picnic September 14<sup>th</sup> at Seaside Lagoon where clubs compete with small sailboat races
- Rotary Foundation Celebration November 8<sup>th</sup> (aka Paul Harris Dinner) at the Biltmore Hotel and which will feature a 1920's “Flapper” theme. Elsa said that the district goal for contributions to the Rotary Foundation is \$250 per member. If a member buys a book of

raffle tickets for prizes at the Foundation Dinner it counts \$100.00 toward Rotary Foundation. The event itself is sold out, but 4 tickets have been reserved for each club.

- Humanitarian Trip of District members to Guatemala from February 5 to February 9, 2015—members will stay at the Casa Santa Domingo Hotel
- Rotary Day to End Polio on March 21, 2015 at Griffith Park which will feature a Race to End Polio as well as another district picnic. In talking about this event, which to raise money specifically for the Rotary International world eradication of the polio virus she said that the latest report was there were only 97 new cases of polio last year—in Afghanistan and Pakistan. There were no new cases in Nigeria. The cost to eradicate in these two war torn countries is especially great, but we're that close to certified world eradication.
- Rotary District Conference May 14<sup>th</sup> to May 17<sup>th</sup> will be on Coronado Island in San Diego Bay and will feature a Harbor Cruise. Elsa said her original plan was to have the whole district conference be a cruise to Mexico, but that plan did not materialize.

Elsa also talked about District Community Grant--\$2000 that a club can get to fill a local community need.

Before introducing Elsa, Margo Neal, in presiding over her first meeting of the year, talked about and handed out to the new and old members her printed goals for the 2014-2015 Rotary Year.

Her goals, in keeping with Elsa's, were:

“Make our club VIBRANT, effective, interesting, alive and growing.”

To do this Margo laid out several points of emphasis:

- Involving each member in a committee and/or project
- Attending each District breakfast
- Increasing our profile in the Malibu community
- Contributing to at least one district or international grant
- Sending two students to RYLA
- Participating in the District trip to Guatemala (Margo is going)
- Raising funds to fund needs in the community
- Sending at least one student to the districtwide arts contest (we usually send winner of our High School Sing Competition)
- Attending the Rotary Foundation celebration on November 8

Certain members of the Malibu Rotary Club have specific special duties to perform during the new Rotary year. Many were previous club directors who have already been involved in these areas:

#### Community, Membership & PR (Maggie Luckerath)

- Participate/contribute/organize at least two community activities
- Hold at least one fundraising event (and we already have Griselda Espinoza & David Zielski working on October 25 Hollywood Halloween event)
- Induct at least five new members (already 40% there in just 2 days!)
- Provide information on club activities to local papers (it helps that Chris Bashaw of the *Malibu Surfside News* personally comes to most of our meetings and was at the meeting of July 2)

#### Vocational Service (Irene Bettler)

- Explore developing a youth program at either the Salvation Army camp in Malibu Canyon or in the City of Malibu
- Continue Annual Malibu Rotary Middle and High School Music Competition – might add to already participating Malibu Middle and High School

#### Rotary Foundation (W. David Baird)

- Participate in one global grant
- Participate in on district grant
- 80% of members contribute to the District fundraiser (Paul Harris, raffle, \$1200)
- 50% of members attend the Rotary Foundation Dinner
- Provide two club programs on the work of the Foundation

#### Club Secretary (John Elman)

- Maintain membership list & reports per RI requirements
- Produce the weekly club newsletter

#### Club Treasurer (Hubert Luckerath)

- Prepare timely financial reports
- Develop the annual budget with Club Administration Committee Chair & Secretary

#### Club Administration (Bill Wishard)

- Plan club meetings & assemblies

- Develop annual budget with Treasurer & Secretary
- Prepare for Governor's (official) visit
- Promote club service projects & members participation

## **Other News and Guests at the Last Meeting**

**Griselda Espinoza** reported that the Malibu Rotary Club chief fundraiser of the year-Hollywood Halloween is moving right along. She spoke with the building owner, who ok'd it, and filed an application with the City of Malibu for the event. There is a requirement for more parking spaces, which she hopes to obtain from adjoining buildings.

### **Happy Dollars**

**Kelly Sagona** reported that she has finally finished with her court cases in Nevada and was helped by last week's speaker Doug Kmiec. She said she is writing a book about her experiences and hopes to have it published very soon.

**Margo Neal** contributed \$20.00 into the "Happy Dollars" basket for being out of casts and other things that had caused her such pain and hobbling after her recent foot surgery. She was off again on some more trips, now that she can walk and fly—to Omaha where LaVern's family is and to Nova Scotia, the land of her birth. Past President Bill will be presiding over the next meeting.

**Bill Wishard**, who started the club's "Happy Dollar's" had some more. It had something to do with Shad Meshad, Founder of the National Veterans Foundation, one of the pioneers in the study of the disorder known as Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, or PTSD, and who has been working with veterans of war since he returned from Viet Nam in 1969 as a Social Work/Psychology Officer. Bill has been working at trying to get Shad and his friend Page Jones together and the movie about Page Jones and Page's handling brain injuries. Page's movie, and his positive attitude about life, may be of benefit to veterans suffering from war induced brain injuries.

### **Guests**

Guests at the meeting included **Beth Mohiuddin's**, husband **Qadir Mohiuddin Ph.D** who teaches International Business and Management at a university in Nanjing, China, as well **Larry Gillham**, DG Elsa's husband, who is also Treasurer of the Wilshire Rotary Club.

**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)
- 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](http://www.maliburotary.org) for latest Calendar and future speakers and facebook pages for other news.

Like Rotary Club of Malibu on 

## Calendar

### July 9 (at Pepperdine LC 152)

#### Brian Turner—“How to Kill a Lawsuit”

Brian recently published a book - How to Kill a Lawsuit - through Tate Publishing Company (“America’s Top Publisher”), which is one of America’s largest Christian-based publishing companies. Each year, Tate Publishing Company receives over 10,000 author submissions, but chooses to publish only 3% of the books it receives. When Tate Publishing Company received Brian's book, they decided to publish it immediately! In Brian's presentation at the Malibu Rotary Club he explains ways to protect against lawsuits, a critically important topic in our extremely litigious society where close to 20 million lawsuits are filed annually. It’s a disturbing fact that most Americans will invariably be sued sometime during their lifetimes, whereas most foreigners living outside the United States will never be sued at all! He will also discuss asset protection planning and tax-saving strategies where you can easily save money.

### July 15 (Rotary District Breakfast-51<sup>st</sup> Floor of City Club, 555 Flower St, LA)

#### Keynote Speaker—Kareem Abdul Jabbar

### July 16 (at Pepperdine LC 152)

#### Nora MacLellan “Vision to Learn”

**July 23 (at Pepperdine LC 152)**

**Jo Anne Books “Life After Polio**

**July 30 (at Pepperdine LC 152)**

**Qadir Mohiuddin Ph.D “Personal Observations on GeoPolitics & Economics”**

**Aug 6 (at Pepperdine LC 152)**

**Laura Cazares “Master your Mind, Master your Cash”**

**Aug 13 (at Pepperdine LC 152)**

**David Sagona and Quinn Carter “ Youth Commission, Helping Malibu**

**Aug 20 (at Pepperdine LC 152)**

**Carl Christman “Carl Reads Minds”**

**September 10 (at Pepperdine LC 152)**

**Dr Alison Wishard Guerra “Early Childhood Development”**

**October 25 Hollywood Halloween Costume Party Fund Raiser**