



The Award Winning

Malibu Rotary Club Surfwriter

July 15, 2015

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

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

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- **Next Regular Malibu Rotary Club Meeting July 22 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 John Elman, MalibuRotary.org webmaster, who will show and tell how to maximize your experience on the club's and district's ClubRunner websites. He recommends those with mobile internet devices bring them.**
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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**

Bill Wishard tells us about differences and similarities on how "Los Angeles Prepares for Olympics: 1984 and 2015."



Malibu Rotarian Bill Wishard is Rotary District 5280 Special Olympics Chair for 2015. He also worked with Peter Ueberroth on the 1984 Olympics held in Los Angeles. At the July 15 meeting of the Malibu Rotary Club after sharing a video of Maria Shriver's remembrance of her mother Special Olympics Founder Eunice Shriver (who is pictured in the center of slide behind Bill taken at the first Special Olympics games in 1968) , Bill explained similarities and differences between these two world sports events which both had and will have opening ceremonies at the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum.

In both cases there is much planning that goes on years before the event can take place. Both events involve thousands of volunteers and many commercial and private sponsors. No government money was put into either event. President Reagan was at the opening ceremonies of the 1984 Olympics. Michelle Obama will be at the opening ceremonies of the 2015 Special Olympics (Barack may show up too). The 1984 Olympics had athletes from 144 countries (Russia and eastern bloc countries boycotted. 2015 Special Olympics will have participants from 170 countries, and many communities in the Los Angeles area 50 or 60 of them, are special "Host" cities, which have donated \$50,000 each to host athletes. Both events use various venues in the Los Angeles area, including both sports facilities and dorms at USC and UCLA. The Special Olympics will also use Griffith Park, Lake Balboa Park and other venues. Both events involve a long Torch Relay.

The 1984 Olympic Torch Relay began in New York City with one torch and ended in Los Angeles, traversing 33 states and the District of Columbia. Bill said that one of the ways money was raised for the successful 1984 Olympics was to have torch runners pay \$3000 each to participate. Unlike later torch relays, the torch was continuously carried by runners on foot. The route covered more than 9,320 mi (15,000 km) and involved 3,636 runners, including 200 from the sponsoring company [AT&T](#). Bill noted that the route went through 26,000 municipalities, so the local mayors and police of each city had to be told to clear a lane through each city for the torch runner. Noted athlete [O.J. Simpson](#) was among the runners, carrying the torch up the [California Incline](#) in [Santa Monica](#). Gina Hemphill, granddaughter of Jesse Owens, carried the torch into the Coliseum, completed a lap around the track, then handed it off to the final runner, [Rafer Johnson](#), winner of the [decathlon](#) at the [1960 Summer Olympics](#). Rafer will also be part of the 2015 Special Olympics opening ceremonies.

The Torch Relay for the 2015 Special Olympics started with three different runners in three different starting places, hitting every state in over 46 days, the relay will involve thousands carrying the Flame of Hope and lighting the way to a future of inclusion and respect for people with intellectual disabilities. ESPN and ABC will showcase the story of this historic relay leading up to the 2015 Special Olympics World Summer Games. When the three relays arrive in Los Angeles, the Law Enforcement Torch Run Final Leg Team, comprising law enforcement officers representing 36 countries along with 10 Special Olympics athletes, will accept the torches and continue the Flame of Hope's journey to communities throughout California.

The Olympic Games, which originated in ancient Greece as many as 3,000 years ago, were revived in the late 19th century and have become the world's preeminent sporting competition. From the 8th century B.C. to the 4th century A.D the ancient Olympics were held every four years between August 6 and September 19 during a religious festival honoring Zeus. The Games were named for their location at Olympia, a sacred site located near the western coast of the Peloponnese peninsula in southern Greece. Their influence was so great that ancient historians began to measure time by the four-year increments in between Olympic Games, which were known as Olympiads.

After the Roman Empire conquered Greece in the mid-2nd century B.C., the Games continued, but their standards and quality declined.

In A.D. 393, Emperor Theodosius I, a Christian, called for a ban on all "pagan" festivals, ending the ancient Olympic tradition after nearly 12 centuries.

It would be another 1,500 years before the Games would rise again, largely thanks to the efforts of Baron Pierre de Coubertin (1863-1937) of France. Dedicated to the promotion of physical education, the young baron became inspired by the idea of creating a modern Olympic Games after visiting the ancient Olympic site. In November 1892, at a meeting of the Union des Sports Athlétiques in Paris, Coubertin proposed the idea of reviving the Olympics as an international athletic competition held every four years. Two years later, he got the approval he needed to found the International Olympic Committee (IOC), which would become the governing body of the modern Olympic Games.

The first modern Olympics were held in Athens, Greece, in 1896. In the opening ceremony, King Georgios I and a crowd of 60,000 spectators welcomed 280 participants from 13 nations (all male), who would compete in 43 events, including track and field, gymnastics, swimming, wrestling, cycling, tennis, weightlifting, shooting and fencing. All subsequent Olympiads have been numbered even when no Games take place (as in 1916, during [World War I](#), and in 1940 and 1944, during [World War II](#)). The official symbol of the modern Games is five interlocking colored rings, representing the continents of North and South America, Asia, Africa, Europe and Australia. The Olympic flag, featuring this symbol on a white background, flew for the first time at the Antwerp Games in 1920.

The Olympics truly took off as an international sporting event after 1924, when the VIII Games were held in Paris. Some 3,000 athletes (with more than 100 women among them) from 44 nations competed that year, and for the first time the Games featured a closing ceremony.

The Olympic games are supposed to be held as a way of promoting good relations and tolerance among different races, cultures, nationalities and religions across the globe. It is supposed to be promoting peace.

The fact is that the regular Olympic games are very much involved with politics. There are organizing committees in each country that wants to host an Olympics, and each sport in the regular Olympics has an international federation which both the local organizing committee (such as the 1984 Organizing committee) and the IOC have to deal with. In response to the American-led boycott of the 1980 Summer Olympics in Moscow, 14 Eastern Bloc countries, including the Soviet Union, Cuba and East Germany, boycotted the Games; only Romania elected to attend. For differing reasons, Iran and Libya also boycotted. The USSR announced its intention not to participate on May 8, 1984, citing security concerns and "chauvinistic sentiments and an anti-Soviet hysteria being whipped up in the United States."

In addition, the IOC Olympics always stress the medals count of the participating countries—which country has the most medals, the most gold, etc. Instead of always striving to be “a way of promoting good relations and tolerance among different races, cultures, nationalities and religions across the globe” they seem to be a way of pointing out differences and promoting political agendas.

The Special Olympics, on the other hand, was the idea of one woman, Eunice Kennedy Shriver, sister of President John Kennedy, who was trying to find a way to give rights, acceptance and self-worth to people with intellectual disabilities. It is apolitical, and not so much about winning or losing, or about which country or ideology you represent. It is about participating.

Eunice Kennedy Shriver believed in justice. But, in the late 1950s and early 1960s, she saw little justice in the way people with [intellectual disabilities](#) were treated.

She saw they were excluded and routinely placed in custodial institutions. They were often ignored and neglected, yet she knew they had many talents and gifts to offer.

Eunice Kennedy Shriver had a sister, Rosemary, who had an intellectual disability. She and Rosemary grew up playing sports together and with their family. The sisters swam, they sailed, they skied, they played football together. But in those days, there were limited programs and options for someone like Rosemary.

Eunice Kennedy Shriver went on to become an athlete in college. She began to see that sports could be a common ground to unite people from all walks of life.

Eunice Kennedy Shriver believed that if people with intellectual disabilities were given the same opportunities and experiences as everyone else, they could accomplish far more than anyone ever thought possible.

She put that vision into action in 1962 by inviting young people with intellectual disabilities to a summer day camp she hosted in her backyard. She called it "Camp Shriver." The goal was to explore the children's skills in a variety of sports and physical activities. The idea behind that first Camp Shriver began to grow. In July 1968, the first International Special Olympics Games were held in Chicago, Illinois, USA.

In her remarks at the Opening Ceremony, she said the inaugural Chicago Special Olympics prove "a very fundamental fact" -- that children with intellectual disabilities can be exceptional athletes and that "through sports they can realize their potential for growth." She pledged that this new organization, Special Olympics, would offer people with intellectual disabilities everywhere "the chance to play, the chance to compete and the chance to grow."

What began as one woman's vision evolved into Special Olympics International -- a global movement that today serves more than 4 million people with intellectual disabilities in more than 170 countries.

Now we in Los Angeles get a chance to participate in the Special Olympics mission and see it first hand.

Bill Wishard, Rotary District Special Olympics Chair



Special Olympics
**WORLD
GAMES**
LOS ANGELES 2015

Bill Wishard is coordinating Rotary District efforts for the Special Olympics games being staged in Los Angeles July 25 - August 2, 2015. People in Los Angeles, and especially Rotarians, can get involved. The

Special Olympics will have 7,000 athletes from 177 countries.

Rotary District 5280 is getting a block of 1020 tickets for the opening ceremonies of the Special Olympics which will start at the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum 5:00 pm July 25th. Price for ticket and special Rotary T-shirt that will be worn at the event is \$40.00. Members can register on line at the Rotary District website www.rotary5280.org/ or by clicking [here](#) if you are viewing this newsletter on line. The log on is the same on the district site as MalibuRotary.org and if you register on line at the district site they have all your information except T-Shirt size and how many tickets you want. Bill was able to get bus transportation to the Coliseum from Malibu for Rotary members and guests. We already have enough people to fill a 24 passenger bus, but it would cost less person if we could fill a 50 passenger bus. We have one of each reserved and will confirm when we have a head count. To fill the 50 passenger bus the Malibu Rotary Club is soliciting passengers from adjacent Rotary clubs, specifically Santa Monica, Palisades, Calabasas and Woodland Hills. Margo Neal contacted Santa Monica and Palisades and John Elman has contacted Calabasas and Woodland Hills. We should have a head count for buses, and the exact price to be paid at the July 22 Malibu Rotary Club meeting.

Rotarians can also participate as volunteers "Fans in the Stands," or by sponsoring an athlete. It free to go to the games, and individual Rotary Clubs should each of a captain to have club members go to the sporting events together for a fun group experience. Sponsoring an athlete financially costs \$2500. Some large clubs in District 5280, LA 5 and Wilshire Rotary Clubs have done this. For smaller clubs, like the Malibu Rotary Club, they can join with other clubs to raise the \$2500. The Malibu Rotary Club is contributing \$500, and will join with another club to support an athlete.

Stevie Wonder will be part of the opening ceremonies entertainment and dignitaries will include Michelle Obama and past regular Olympics gold medal winners. Highlights of the Special Olympics Opening Ceremonies flyer are printed below::

Rotary District 5280 is supporting thousands of international athletes at the 2015 Special Olympics World Games Opening Ceremonies. Be a part of this amazing experience!

About The Event: All Rotarians, Rotaractors, Interactors, friends and family are welcome to attend. 1,000 seats have been reserved for Rotary District 5280 at Opening Ceremonies at the LA Coliseum on July 25, 2015

How To Sign Up: *Tickets are available from June 22 only on a first come, first served basis.* Sign up at www.rotary5280.org or mail back the registration form available on line at the same website.

Ticket Prices: All tickets include admission to Opening Ceremonies and a T-shirt. \$40 for Small, Medium, Large, XL T-shirts. \$42 for XXL and XXXL T-shirts.

Procedure For Picking Up Tickets & T-shirts: All tickets and T-shirts must be picked up at the District Office between July 20-25, 2015 only. Rotary District 5280 Address: 8939 S. Sepulveda Blvd., Suite 210, Los Angeles, CA 90045. *No tickets or t-shirts will be mailed to attendees.*

Contact Information

Ticket info: office@rotary5280.org or 310-670-9792

Event info: Bill Wishard, Special Olympics Chair, wnwishard@aol.com or 310-625-5339

You can still buy opening ceremony tickets on line at Rotary District website (www.rotary5280.org) and navigating to the Special Olympics link or by copying the following url into your browser address bar:

<http://www.crsadmin.com/EventPortal/Registrations/PublicFill/EventPublicFill.aspx?evtid=1b676f97-dce0-48c9-81d8-84e626048800>

Other News and Guests at Malibu Rotary Club

The only guest at the July 15 meeting of the Malibu Rotary Club was **Jay Powell**, a dentist who is the past president of the Rotary Club of Sherwood, Arkansas. Dr Powell said his club supports a Smiles Project, which of course he is deeply involved with. He is vacationing in Malibu for the summer, and except for his visit to the Malibu Rotary Club his perfect attendance in Rotary has been accomplished by make-ups only in his home state of Arkansas.

Bring Children's Books to Next Malibu Rotary Club meeting for Rotary District Breakfast #1 at Westin LAX Hotel on July 28

The first Rotary District Breakfast of this Rotary year will be held at 7:00 a.m. July 28th at the Westin LAX Hotel on Century Blvd in Los Angeles, just west of the 405 Freeway. The keynote speaker is William P Magee, Jr., DDS, MD and co-founder of Operation Smile. Operation Smile is a worldwide children's medical charity whose network of global volunteers are dedicated to helping improve the health and lives of children and young adults. At least 4 Malibu Rotarians are planning to attend. Early Bird price for District Rotarians is \$38.00, but the Malibu Rotary Club will subsidize \$15.00. Money (\$23.00)

should be given to our treasurer at the next meeting. Dave Zielski tells us that at the President's dinner this week a request was made that those attending bring children's books.

Rotarian Angie Ma Wong Passes Away

Angi Ma Wong, a long-time Rotarian with the Rotary Club of Palos Verdes Sunset, passed away on July 12, 2015 after a long battle. Angi, who was inducted into the Rotary District 5280 Hall of Fame at the District Conference this past May, leaves a long legacy of service in Rotary and the community. She has been involved with several Rotary District projects and had spoken to the Malibu Rotary Club about them in recent years. Angi is survived by her husband, Norman and their four children.

Malibu Rotary Club Supports RainCatcher

Clean drinking water is a problem affecting millions of people around the world. A Malibu company, RainCatcher, is trying to solve the problem in an efficient manner. Much of their work has been in Africa. The Malibu Rotary Club along with the Rotary Clubs of Beverly Hills, CA USA and the Rotary

Club of Entebbe, Uganda has applied for a Rotary Foundation Grant to assist Raincatcher. There are several videos available on You Tube that show the amazing things Raincatcher is doing bringing clean drinking water to places in Uganda and Kenya where there was previously no clean drinking water.

David Zielski, Executive Director of Raincatcher makes regular trips to Uganda and Kenya to do 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-RL0&list=UUFetq8NgjhXhtkVf0idcQUg>

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

July 22, 2015—

Speaker will be John Elman, “Rotary members online tools--How ClubRunner makes communication easier”

John Elman has worked with various versions of ClubRunner for the past 5 years. He has come to appreciate useful online tools that are available to all Rotary club members, but are used by only a few.

He will explain how members can make these tools work for them at the July 22, 2015 meeting of the Malibu Rotary Club.

July 25, 2015 Special Olympics Opening Ceremonies at the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum

Future Rotary Club and Rotary District Events

Filter records:

Speaker	Date	Topic
William P. Magee, Jr., D.D.S., M.D.	Jul 28, 2015	Rotary District Breakfast #1 at Westin LAX Hotel Join District Governor DJ Sun for the first District Breakfast of the year. Operation Smile is a worldwide children's medical charity whose need is great. Join us on July 21 for the early bird price of \$38/person. Reservations: b0c48f6bae5b#sthash.8pnjefiI.dpuf
Speaker To be Announced	Aug 12, 2015	Literacy Breakfast at Lawry's Restaurant in Beverly Hills At Lawry's Restaurant, 100 N. La Cienga Beverly Hills. The annual Rotary District Literacy Breakfast is a morning dedicated to raising funds for literacy. The breakfast includes a variety of vocational chairs, youth service chairs and any Rotarian wishing to support the cause. Reservations: 39dd71caacc7#sthash.1gl3rs11.dpuf
David Zielski	Sep 09, 2015	Club Assembly in Preparation for Rotary District Assistant Governor
Rotary District Beach Party	Sep 20, 2015	Rotary District Picnic at Seaside Lagoon in Redondo Beach Don't miss one of the most fun events every year- the District Picnic! - See more at: http://portal.clubrunner.ca/50010/Event/14de5674-91f
Rotary District Assistant Governor Dwight Heikkila	Sep 23, 2015	Rotary District Report from The Rotary Assistant District Governor
Rotary District Breakfast #2	Oct 20, 2015	Rotary District Breakfast #2 at Westin LAX Hotel, 5400 Century Blvd.
Rotary Foundation Celebration	Nov 14, 2015	Rotary Foundation Celebration "Seaside Serenade" at Lowes Santa Monica

- See more at: <http://portal.clubrunner.ca/2529/Speakers#sthash.Qb0txYKW.dpuf>