



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

June 4, 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 International Dark Association

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

- **Next Regular Malibu Rotary Club Meeting Wednesday June 11 at noon at Pepperdine University Drescher Graduate campus in LC 152 (with fellowship starting at 11:30 a.m.). Speaker will be John Elman who will talk about the new (2 week old) Malibu Rotary Club website—maliburotary.org is now on ClubRunner Version 3 platform—all new format. John will show the differences in the new website (which is enabled for mobile devices) and recommends you bring your web enabled mobile device; PLUS while President Bill is back east at his Williams College Reunion we will discuss Bill's Demotion Party.**
- **Last Week's meeting Cami Winikoff Shows why with less light we can "Reach for the Stars."**

- **Demotion Party is tentatively Scheduled for Sunday June 22 at 4:00 PM at Pepperdine's Villa Graziadio Main Dining Room**
- **Other News and Guests at the Last Malibu Rotary Club meeting**
- 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 (2013-2014) Ron D Burton**
- **Rotary District 5280 Governor (2013-2014): Doug Baker**
- **Assistant Governor for Malibu Rotary Club: Alice Muntean (2013-14)**

**Cami Winikoff Shows why with less light we can “Reach for the Stars.”**



**Cami Winikoff is a Film Producer by day, but when she spoke at the Malibu Rotlary Club June 4 she wanted to talk about the night, specifically the night sky that has been polluted by too much man made light. In that regard she was representing the International Dark Association**

<http://darksky.org/malibu>).

We asked Cami to send us the text of her talk about the International Dark Sky Association and what it is. This is what she sent:

“The International Dark Sky Association (IDA) is an educational organization that seeks to preserve the natural night skies worldwide. They are only non--profit organization fighting to protect the night.

“The IDA has spent close to a decade and hundreds of thousands of dollars in resources working with the Illuminating Engineering Society (IES) to create a Model Lighting Ordinance (MLO). This Ordinance encompasses lighting technology currently available to achieve appropriate lighting (where needed) while minimizing light pollution, trespass, and wasted energy.

“Who hear has heard the term light pollution before?

“For those of you who don’t know, light pollution is the urban glow that obscures all but the moon and a few bright stars and planets.

“Unfortunately it’s a problem that threatens all wildlife, ecologically sensitive habitats, astronomical facilities, our energy use as well as our human heritage. On the plus side, light pollution is fundamentally a much simpler problem to tackle than most other kinds of pollution. It doesn't require the sort of life-pattern-altering shifts necessary like weaning ourselves from oil or coal or factory-farmed meat.

“Now you may be thinking, ‘Sure, it is disappointing that I can’t see all the stars, but how big of an issue could this really be?’ It’s actually pretty big.

“Light has always historically been associated as good, but you can get too much of a good thing. What we’re seeing since the advent of the electric light, is that we want more. So, over a period of a century we’ve just added much, much more light to the environment to the point where now it’s a real problem. Think of everything we light: highways, driveways, porches, parking lots, storefronts, public spaces, strip malls—the list goes on. Almost all of these spaces are lit by poorly designed fixtures that are putting more light in the sky than on the ground. (see picture below).



“How low is our standard for lighting design? Let me give you some figures. The United States spends 11 billion dollars annually on wasted light. To put that in perspective, it cost 11 billion dollars to put the Apollo Lunar Module on the moon. These poorly designed lighting fixtures don’t only hurt our wallets, they produce 750 million *tons* of CO<sub>2</sub>, annually.

“And since the days of Edison and the invention of the electric light, light pollution has been growing. It spiked in the 1950’s, became impossible to ignore by the 1980’s, and is still growing about three to five percent every year. (show poster)

“Now the night sky is becoming an endangered species.

“The negative impacts are significant to mammals, birds, reptiles, plants—all forms of life. Past studies have shown bird egg shells exhibit calcium deficiencies rendering chicks non-viable; plants exhibit poor yield; fish and nocturnal insects are subjected to overt predation and markedly reduced reproduction. Some forms of lighting cannot be used in coastal Florida due to massive disruption of sea turtle reproduction.

“Most of us don’t realize that all living beings feel the biological impact, including human beings and the impact is pretty dramatic. If we don’t get enough dark, we don’t produce something called “melatonin”, and melatonin can be an inhibitor of all kinds of disease. It’s part of the immune system. We need to try to sleep in the dark. Lengthy exposure to bright, artificial lights at night (computer screen, television, street lamps) causes circadian disruption in humans,

resulting in the body producing lower amounts of melatonin, a hormone that fights cancer and suppresses tumor growth. Night-shift workers are nearly twice as likely to develop breast cancer as day-shift workers. Discuss SIDS research.

“The American Medical Association released a report in June of 2012 stating that high intensity lighting is a carcinogen. It noted, "Biological adaptation to the sun has evolved over billions of years. The power to artificially override the natural cycle of light and dark is a recent event and represents a man-made self-experiment," adding that "even low-intensity nighttime light has the capability of suppressing melatonin. The AMA report states that circadian disruption could also exacerbate other health problems, including obesity, diabetes, depression, mood disorders, reproductive issues, and even breast cancer and calls for minimizing light pollution and further study of its potential effects.

“So clearly we are meant to have certain periods of darkness. It kind of makes you rethink the way we see light. We're taught to see light as good and darkness as representing things we should fear. But as we educate ourselves, we need to move past those old beliefs. There's increasing evidence that there's no correlation between night lighting and crimes. As a matter of fact many more crimes occur in populated urban settings than in rural dark areas.

“We have a once in a century opportunity right now to rethink how we plan outdoor lighting. New York City has announced that they are going to replace 250 thousand streetlights in the city. Paris, The city of light has just gotten darker. Parisian shops and public buildings are being asked to turn off their lights from 1am to 7am. They have banned overnight illumination of museums, churches and even the Eiffel tower. The energy saved each night will equal the output of a 1,300 megawatt nuclear reactor during an equivalent period! Discuss the blackout in NY on 8/14/03. New Yorkers were so unfamiliar with seeing the milky way they thought it was smoke from a fire.

“This is the time to stop and rethink how we do lighting. We could reverse this trend in a decade if we do it right, but it requires government and city officials to think seriously about the wasted energy that we are spending. We could power 8 million homes with the amount of energy being wasted every year.

“Our organizations immediate goal is to assist the IDA and the city of Malibu in developing a dark-sky, environmentally friendly lighting ordinance. We'd like the California coastal commission to then adopt the MLO and roll it out to protect the entire coast of California. Our success here could set precedent for the rest of the country.

“The MCA organized the effort to convince the planning commission to unanimously recommend a dark-sky ordinance to Malibu city council. We brought Jim Benya to Malibu and organized the presentation to the commission.



“And in November of last year the city council increased its allocation of resources to design a lighting ordinance to preserve the city’s dark skies. MCA recommended Alan Lebow to help design the Trancas lighting plan. Malibu west retained our lighting expert, Jim Benya to provide valuable information to the planning commission to enable them to make knowledgeable decisions and approve what is now a dark-sky compliant lighting plan for the Trancas center.

“We all need to be stewards of this natural resource...and most importantly, instill those values in our children. There's also a spiritual component that excites me and sparks my passion. The night sky is a gateway to the stars and galaxies and universe that feeds our soul. Discuss the experience of being in dark sky setting at the lake. Its important we don't lose that connection. The fact that we might be the only living beings in the universe bearing witness to this canopy of light is maybe overwhelming and intimidating, pointless and random, but, it also makes us incredibly special. Most people will say looking up at the Milky Way makes them feel so insignificant-so small and tiny. Well, there's that. But there's also: Look at what you're connected to! I mean, we're part of something really grand...we can sense our place in the universe... our connection to the natural world. What we're able to see in the night sky reminds us that we're all part of something much bigger than ourselves. Its a glimpse at transcendence. We must be able to SEE the stars to be inspired to reach for them!!

“On Saturday June 21<sup>st</sup>, MCA along with the IDA, Malibu Magazine, and Mangia at Trancas, will be hosting A Summer Soulstice Celebration to benefit the IDA and the preservation of the night. The food will be great, the drinks plentiful and Louis Price, the former lead singer of the Temptations will be performing—and who doesn’t love the Temptations? Jill Tartar the exiting director of SETI will be speaking (inspirational mentor to Jodie Foster in "Contact" written by Carl Sagan) and Celestron will have a high powered telescope for stargazing and we will also be raffling off a telescope. I really hope you can come and have some fun and show your support!”

## Other News and Guests at the Last Malibu Rotary Club meeting

At least two people from the Malibu Rotary Club must be certified online by the Rotary Foundation in order for the Malibu Rotary to be eligible for Rotary Foundation grant money. **Bill Wishard, David Zielski, and Hubert Luckerath** are all working toward that certification.

### Happy Dollars

- **Maggie Luckerath**—Maggie announced the fundraiser on Friday June 6 at Chipotle Restaurant.
- **Cami Winikoff**—contributed because of her opportunity to be the day's speaker
- **Irene Bettler**—was excited to be given the opportunity to attend the 3 day Tim Galwey's "Inner Game" event on Golf and Tennis courts. Tim is Malibu Rotary President Bill Wishard's brother-in-law who has written "Inner Game of ..." books, was recognized by football coach Pete Carroll as being an influence on him in winning NCAA football championships at USC and Super Bowl this year as head coach of Seattle Supersonics. Tim lives in Malibu West and was on his way to keep doing his thing on a tour of Europe.
- **Bill Wishard** had \$5 happy dollars:
  1. Getting to go to the old car show sponsored by Rotary Club in Perris, CA
  2. Being in charge of the polling center in Tuesday's election, which was understaffed, but it turned out ok because only 7.8% of the registered voters showed up to vote.
  3. Going to his 50<sup>th</sup> College Reunion at Williams College next week
  4. Passing his California Driver's License test
  5. Going to Galpin Ford, where he was able to trade in 2 older cars for a 1 year old loaded Ford Fusion and now lowered his insurance without increase his payments.

### Guests

Guests at the June 4 meeting of the Malibu Rotary Club included **Beth Mohiuddin** of Beth Travel Advisor, **Alain Daisy de Villargennes** and his wife from Paris, France, now living in Malibu, and **Mary Carbonniere** manager of Community Relations for the new Vitage

Grocers in the new Trancas center.

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

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**Calendar of This Month's Speakers**

**Demotion Party is tentatively Scheduled for Sunday June 22 at 4:00 PM at Villa Grazadio**



Speaker	<u>Date</u>	Topic
<b>John Elman</b>	<i>Jun 11, 2014</i>	Malibu Rotary Website is now ClubRunner 3.0--What's the Difference?  Malibu Rotary Club web master John Elman will show the many changes on the Malibu Rotary Club website maliburotary.org



Speaker	<u>Date</u>	Topic
<b>Club Assembly</b>	<i>Jun 18, 2014</i>	<p>since converting to ClubRunner version 3.0 on May 28.</p> <p>Club Assembly</p>
<b>Doug Kmiec</b>	<i>Jun 25, 2014</i>	<p>Why Aristotle and Jimmy Stewart were both right – AMB</p> <p>Former U.S. Ambassador to Malta Douglas W. Kmiec explains Why Aristotle and Jimmy Stewart were both right – AMB.</p>

**See Full List of Future Speakers and Events on [www.maliburotary.org](http://www.maliburotary.org)**