

The Award Winning
Malibu Rotary Club Surfwriter

March 6, 2013

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 Jimmy Mehm Mon

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

- **Next Week No Meeting in Fireside Room on Wednesday March 13— Malibu Rotarians Go to Rotary District Breakfast at the Westin LAX Hotel March 12 to see speaker Amanda Wirtz, who was a Rotary Youth Exchange Student who became a Public Health Advocate**
- **Last Meeting: March 6 Malibu Rotary Club's Newest Member Jimmy Mehm Mon Presents His Pictorial Impressions of the Rotary Global Peace Forum Honolulu at Malibu Rotary Club**

- **Malibu Rotary Singing Competition Winner Hailey Hoffman Thanks Rotarians Before She Heads for Rotary District Competition Saturday March 9th**
- **Rotary Day of Service-April 6th**
- **In Memorium: District Governor Elect Jim Dyer**
- **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/**
- **Rotary District 5280 “Rotarians Doing Business With Rotarians” Website: <http://yp5280.org/>**
- **RI President (2012-2013) Sakuji Tanaka**
- **Rotary District 5280 Governor (2012-2012): Lewis Bertrand**
- **Assistant Governor for Malibu Rotary Club: Julie Jenkins (2012-13)**

Last Week March 6 Malibu Rotary Club’s Newest Member Jimmy Mehm Mon Presented His Pictorial Impressions of the Rotary Global Peace

Forum Honolulu at Malibu Rotary Club Meeting



(Pictured) Jimmy Mehm Mon with RI President Sakuji Tanaka at Global Peace Forum Honolulu. Jimmy was so inspired by President Tanaka and his theme of Peace Through Service he decided to join the Malibu Rotary Club.

Malibu Rotary Club's newest member, Mehm "Jimmy" Mon, showed slides of pictures taken not only at the Rotary Global Peace Forum he attended in Honolulu, but of his earlier life, and things that had affected his life, when he

was the featured program at the March 6 meeting of the Malibu Rotary Club in the Fireside Room of Pepperdine University in Malibu.

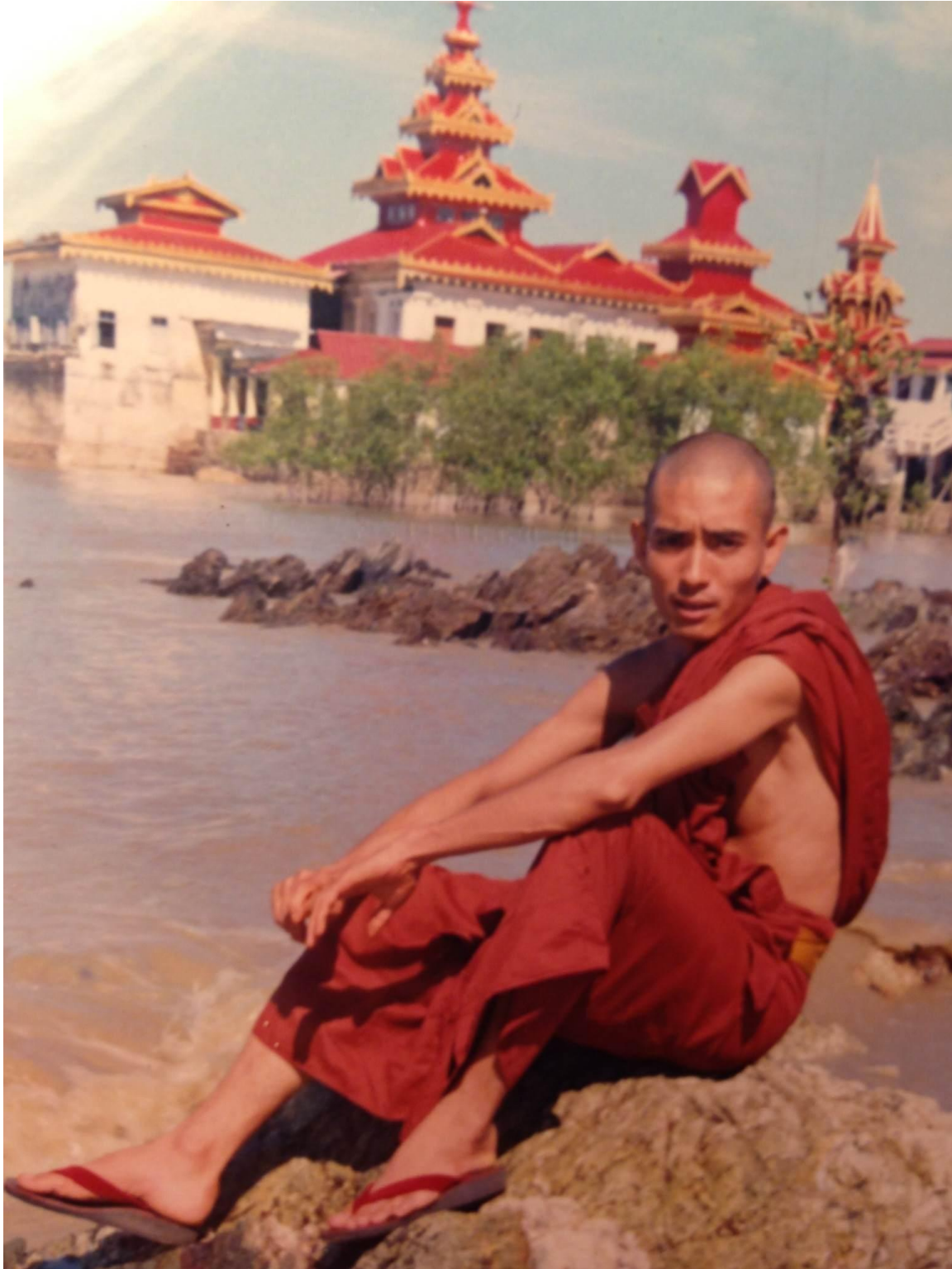
Mehm "Jimmy" Mon is member of the Mon race, who grew up was a Buddhist Monk in Burma from age 10 to 18. Many of his race were killed by the Myanmar military that took over Burma and closed its borders. Jimmy was imprisoned because of his race, part of the disdain the current regime has for the Mon people. Fortunately Mehm was later able to come to the United States with the help of Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. Malibu Rotary Club President Bill Wishard met Jimmy and sponsored him for US citizenship. The theme for this year set by Rotary International President Sakuji Tanaka is Peace Through Service. Tanaka, who grew up in Japan during World War II, invited young people from around the world to attend Global Peace Forums in Berlin, Honolulu and Hiroshima. He chose Burmese liberator Aung San Suu Kyi, who had been under house arrest in Myanmar, as keynote speaker for the Honolulu forum. The hard line Myanmar government is softening, partly because of humanitarian work Rotary has done in the country. It is expected that Aung San Suu Kyi, daughter of General Aung San, who liberated Burma from England, will have a role in the new government. Jimmy asked Bill if he could go to the Rotary Peace Forum so he could ask Suu Kyi and important question concerning his people: How would she treat the Mon people if she became the leader of the country?

In attempting to meet Aung San Suu Kyi, Mehm met many world leaders of Rotary, including the current RI President Sakuji Tanaka as well as Rotary International President Elect Ron Burton. Mehm was so impressed by his experience at the Rotary Peace Forum he decided to join the Malibu Rotary Club and was inducted into the club at a ceremony held at Tra di Noi restaurant on February 20th.

The Mons were believed to be one of the earliest people of continental Southeast Asia. As the eastern Mon were absorbed into the [Thai society](#) long ago, the western Mon of Burma have largely assimilated into Burmese society. In Burma, the Mon are fighting to preserve the [Mon language](#) and culture, and regain a greater degree of political autonomy. The Mon were responsible for the spread of [Theravada Buddhism](#) in Burma and Thailand, which is the earliest form of Buddhism.

Among the pictures that Mehm showed were shocking ones that showed the atrocities committed by the Myanmar government against his people. People of all ages were brutally killed, and those that were not exterminated were forced into slavery and otherwise treated very poorly. Mehm is thankful to be in America but does not want anyone to forget the conditions that still exist in his country.

Because of this his Rotary Classification is "Mon Youth Organizer."



Young Buddhist monk Mehm Mon in Burma.



On May 19, 2006, a group of MRC members from Fort Wayne (Indiana), Akron (Ohio) and North Carolina demonstrated in front of Burmese embassy in Washington D.C. to commemorate the 249th Anniversary of Mon Kingdom, Hongsawatoi (Pegu) Fallen Day and Holocaust Memorial Day of Mon People. See [Joint-Statements](#) and [news](#) on demonstration. Also see [objectives](#) of the Holocaust Memorial Day of Mon People. Mehm Jimmy Mon is wearing cap in left back row.



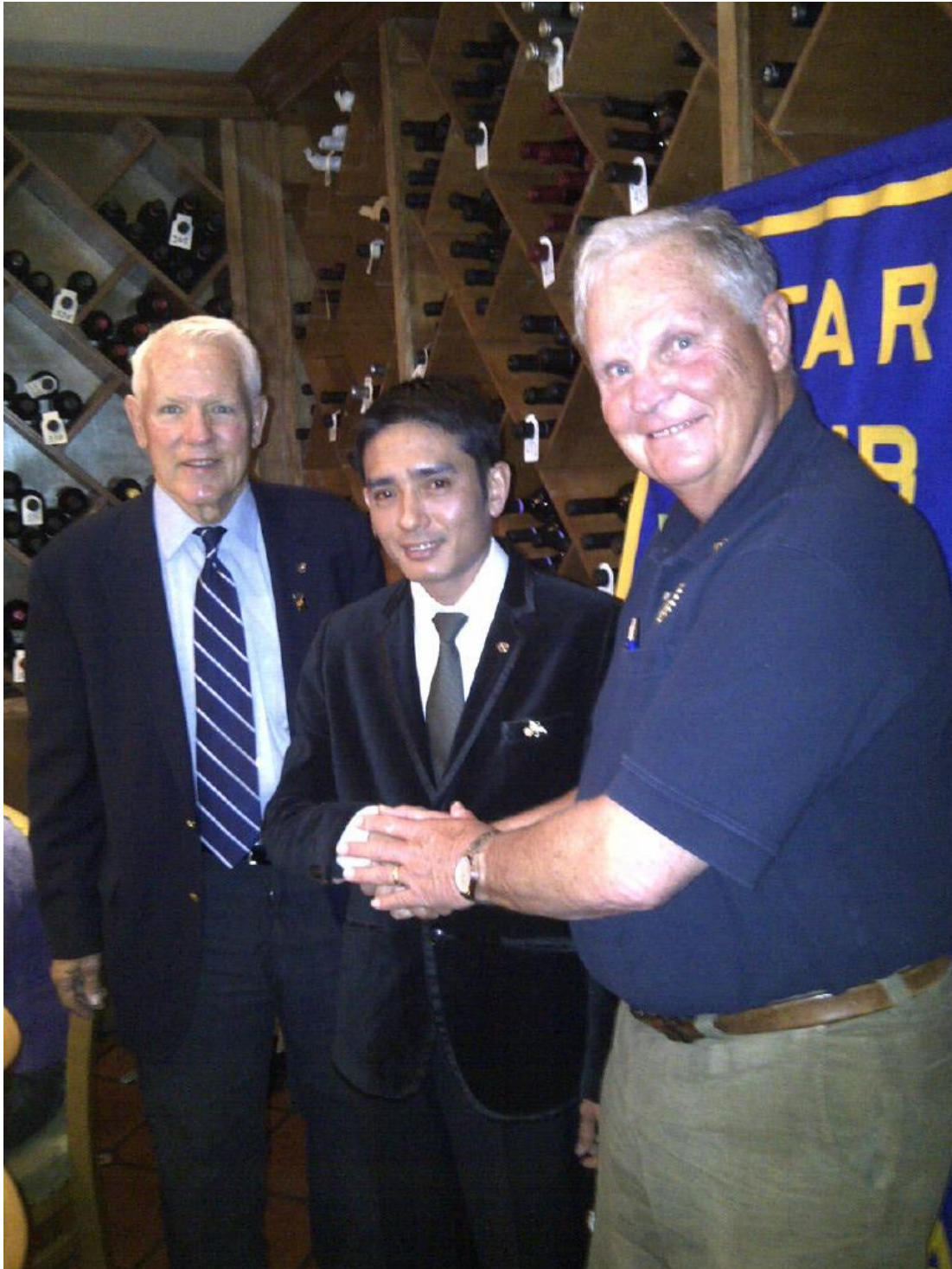
Rotary International
President Elect Ron Burton
with Mehm Mon at Rotary
Global Peace Conference in
Honolulu



**Mehm in
Captain's
Chair of USS
Missouri in
Honolulu**



Mehm visits American Buddhist Temple



Burmese refugee Mehm “Jimmy” Mon (center) is inducted into the Malibu Rotary Club by Rotary Past District Governor Tom Bos (right) at a meeting presided by Malibu Rotary Club President William Wishard (left) at Tra Di Noi Restaurant in Malibu on February 20.

- **Malibu Rotary Singing Competition Winner Hailey Hoffman Thanks Rotarians Before She Heads for Rotary District Competition Saturday March 9th**



Malibu Rotary Club High School Music Competition winner Hailey Hoffman sent personal hand written thank you letters to all the members of Malibu Rotary Club whose names she could find for having the Music Competition and allowing her to compete in the district event on March 9th. Several members of the Malibu Rotary Club were planning to attend the District event and we will report the results next week.

Other News From Last Malibu Rotary Club Meeting

Malibu Rotary Club President Bill Wishard reported that he went to a Rotary fund raising event, a Bocce Ball Tournament, sponsored by Del Mar and Solana Beach Rotary Clubs. Through shirt sponsorship and other means, the clubs raised \$85,000 at this event. Bill said it was arranged like a NCAA basketball Tournament with 150 players. Apparently 2 of the players were not able to be there and Bill and a friend of Pompeya were asked if they would like to replace these two players. Bill had never seen a Bocce Ball tournament before and knew nothing about it. Apparently he learned very quickly though and somehow advanced to the Final Four and came in at third place. Beginner's luck?

New Meeting Place and Time for Malibu Rotary Club

After the Malibu Rotary Club meeting of March 6, President Bill, along with Hubert Luckerath, Jimmy Mon, and John Elman all went to the upper Drescher campus Villa Graziadio Executive Center at Pepperdine University to find out about having Malibu Rotary Club luncheon meetings there. We all like what we saw. Starting April 3rd the Malibu Rotary Club will be meeting at noon in LC 152 at the Pepperdine Drescher campus Villa Graziadio Executive Center. Individuals will buy food in the cafeteria, which is a short distance from the meeting room. The meeting room has built in projector, and the Rotary club will be given space to store the Malibu Rotary Club supplies.

Malibu Rotarians will be attending the Rotary District Breakfast on March 12th, with no meeting scheduled for March 13. The Malibu Rotary Club meetings of March 20th and March 27th will be breakfast meetings at the Pepperdine Fireside Room.

Rotary Day of Service-April 6th

Malibu Rotary Club Community Service Chair forwarded us the following e-mail from DJ Sun, Rotary District Community Service Director.

Dear Esteemed Presidents and Community Service Chairs,

On April 6th, Rotarians, families, friends and volunteers will get together at South Park for the renovation of its community center, playground, and baseball field. I hope each club will send Rotarians to participate in this wonderful reverse Matching Grant project, in partnership together with the City of Los Angeles and District 3700-Korea.

The total budget for this project is \$60,000 -- \$35,000 from the City of LA and \$25,000 from the Matching Grant fund. This project will contribute in developing and making the community a better and safe environment.

We need over 200 volunteers. Please do not miss this event! You may register with Melody St John, (323) 459-6148 / melodyrchollywood@gmail.com, or Marjorie Heller, (323) 463-0304 / 2marjorieheller@gmail.com. Here is the link to the website:

<http://www.clubrunner.ca/portal/Events/EVPEventDetails.aspx?accountid=50010&eid=124d4972-53e2-4976-bfa6-e91a5942828a&tid=2>

Sincerely,

DJ Sun

Koreatown Rotary Club - District 5280

Senior Assistant Governor Community Service 2012-13

District Governor 2015-16



Doug Baker has graciously accepted the appointment to serve as DG for the Rotary year 2013-2014. This appointment was made as a result of the untimely passing of DGE, Jim Dyer. The protocol and rules of Rotary International were adhered to in making this appointment. Doug served as Rotary District Governor from 2010-2011.

In Memorium: District Governor Elect Jim Dyer (1948-2013)



Jim was an official ShelterBox Ambassador for the greater Los Angeles area and was recognized by President Obama with a Presidential Volunteer Service Award in March 2012 for his volunteer efforts during 2011 to provide shelter, warmth, and dignity for survivors of natural and other disasters worldwide. Jim and his wife Sharen instantly fell in love with the concept of ShelterBox during their trip to the Rotary Convention in Copenhagen in 2006 and two years later he had become a ShelterBox Ambassador for the LA area. ShelterBox started as a project from one Rotary club in the U.K. and in Jim's words, "it was incubated out of Rotary but has become a separate stand alone effort". The dedication and enthusiasm that Jim has shown for ShelterBox can be seen in this January 9, 2012 video interview clip provided by Mel Powell, president of the E-Club of The

Greater San Fernando Valley. If you are not acquainted with this Rotary affiliated project, please do watch the video so you can see just why Jim was such a huge supporter of this project.

Watch the video at:
http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=UXKBBfbPIeE#!

A single shelter box costs \$1,000 to sponsor and as a sponsor you will receive a certificate with a serial number which allows you to follow that box on the website and see where your sponsored box ends up. I'm sure that donating a ShelterBox in memory of Jim Dyer would be a wonderful tribute to his memory and his dedication to "Service Above Self".

The family has asked that in lieu of flower/gifts that you instead make a donation to The Rotary Foundation in Jim's name. Donation information is provided below the Rotary logo at the bottom of this page.

You are already truly missed Jim and your memory will forever live in my/our hearts. Thank you for being a joy to work with and for being my/our friend.

Sincerely,

Emily "EM" Blair Charnelle
District Office Administrator



Memorial Donation Information:

To make a [memorial donation to The Rotary Foundation](#) please utilize the online [Memorial Tribute Gift Service \(HERE\)](#) or mail in a completed [Memorial Tribute Gift Form \(HERE\)](#) to Rotary International.

If using the [online Memorial Tribute Gift Service](#), you will be asked to select a Fund and then complete 5 steps. In the 3rd step "Billing" there is a "Gift Option" in blue print, just click that to specify your memorial donation dedication to Jim.

If you are using the snail [mail Memorial Tribute Gift Form](#) then completely fill out the form, make your check payable to "The Rotary Foundation", and then mail it to The Rotary Foundation at 14280 Collections Center Dr. Chicago, IL 60693

Jim's information needed to complete these forms is as follows-

- In Memory of James E. Dyer
- Address: 3546 Shoreheights Dr. Malibu, CA 90265
- Donor ID: 1143997
- Rotary Club of Santa Monica, District 5280
- Notification of this contribution can be sent to Jim's home address above to his beloved wife Sharen.

Rotary District News

New Generations

The Rotary District 5280 high school Speech, Music, Art and Dance Competition will be held March 9 at Loyla Maramount University and prizes of \$1,000, \$500, and \$250 will be awarded in each category. Winner of Malibu Rotary Club Singing Contest February 12th has been entered as contestant at the Rotary District event. Members of Rotaract can win \$1500 at and Ethics Forum to be held at Loyola Maramount University March 29. RYLA camp will be held April 26-28 and the cost is \$190.00 per student. The Rotary Club of Malibu is again sponsoring 2 students.



Other Rotary District Events:

April 6th will be a Rotary Day of Service. Melody St John, President of the Hollywood Rotary Club, is heading up this event. .

Rotary District 5280 is having a Group Study Exchange (GSE) this year with Rotary District 2620 in Japan. The Rotary Foundation's Group Study Exchange (GSE) program is a unique cultural and vocational exchange opportunity for businesspeople and professionals between the ages of 25 and 40 who are in the early stages of their [careers](#). The program provides travel grants for teams to exchange visits in paired areas of different countries. For four to six weeks, team members experience the host country's culture and institutions, observe how their vocations are practiced abroad, develop personal and professional relationships, and exchange ideas.

Rotary District Convention at The Fess Parker Resort in Santa Barbara the weekend of May 3-5. The wine tour will be on May 2. Information and reservations are on the [Rotary District 5280 website](#).

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 held at 7:30 a.m. Wednesdays in Fireside Room of Pepperdine University unless otherwise noted)

Mar 12, 2013

Amanda Wirtz @ District Breakfast Westin LAX Hotel

"Rotary Youth Exchange Student to accomplished Public Health Advocate"

Mar 13, 2013

no meeting

"Malibu Rotary meeting cancelled-Malibu Rotarians go to District Breakfast May 12 "

Mar 20, 2013

Holly Mosher

"Bonsai People - The Vision of Muhammad Yunus"

Holly Mosher will speak on her experience following the work of Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Muhammad Yunus for her film:

Bonsai People - The Vision of Muhammad Yunus

What if you could harness the power of the free market to solve the problems of poverty, hunger, and inequality? To some, it sounds impossible. But Nobel Peace Prize winner Muhammad Yunus is doing exactly that. Bonsai People celebrates Yunus' extraordinary humanitarian work, which started by lending \$27 to 42 people out of his own pocket and has now grown to helping 1 out of every 1,000 people on earth. But he didn't stop there - whenever he sees a problem he starts a business, creating a mix between business and social work, which he's coined "social business." By tackling some of the world's most vexing problems from healthcare, education to alternative energy, he is demonstrating to the world that complex problems sometimes do have simple answers. Microcredit is just the tip of the iceberg! <http://bonsaimovie.com>

Holly also was a Rotary Youth Exchange Student to Brazil in 1990 and was featured in the Jan 2012 edition of The Rotarian.

**Mar 27, 2013
Peter Haynes**

"Personal History of Malibu 1949-1958"

Peter Haynes has been writing a series of articles in the Malibu Surfside News about the history of Malibu he grew up with as the kid who grew up in this paradise. It begins i 1949 when he and his sister arrived in Malibu to live with his dad, resident California Highway Patrolman, Jimmy Haynes. He will bring pictures and stories of what it was like to live back in those days.

**Apr 03, 2013
Bill Wishard**

"Club Assembly at Villa Graziadio Executive Center LC 152 Noon Lunch"