

The Award Winning
Malibu Rotary Club Surfwriter

May 14 -16, 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 Jeannie Ruse

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

- **Next Regular Malibu Rotary Club Meeting Wednesday May 14 at noon at Pepperdine University Drescher Graduate campus in LC 152 (with fellowship starting at 11:30 a.m.) Grizelda Expinoza will Give Her Craft Talk. Malibu Rotary Club President Bill Wishard and President Elect Margo Neal will Talk About Rotary District Convention Held the Past Weekend in the Heat of Indian Wells.**
- **Last Week's Meeting: Our Lady of Malibu Principal Michael A Smith Talks About Education the OLM School and Community Fund Raisers to Support It**
- **Malibu Rotary Club Presents Scholarship Checks to 2 Graduating Malibu High School Seniors**

- Other News and Guests at the Last Malibu Rotary Club meeting
- Check [Calendar](#) on Malibu Rotary 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)

Our Lady of Malibu Principal Michael A Smith Talks About Education the OLM School and Community Fund Raisers to Support It



Michael A Smith has been principal of Our Lady Of Malibu School for three years. Prior to being coaxed out of retirement by the church leaders at OLM he worked in public education for 37 years, mostly in administrative positions in the LA Unified School District. He also worked in the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District as assistant principal at both Lincoln Middle School and Santa Monica High School. He also took part in the Palisades High School Charter Review.

Our Lady of Malibu School is a K-8 elementary and middle school the he described as “The gem of Malibu.”

Our Lady of Malibu School opened in September, 1958 with a faculty of two Sisters of St. Louis and two lay teachers. The pupil enrollment totaled 89. The school consisted of four classrooms. Grades 1 and 2 and 5 and 6 were combined classes!

By 1962, four additional classrooms were added and the teaching staff swelled to eight sisters. In 1963, a convent was added to house these sisters. Prior to this, devoted parishioners opened their homes and drove the sisters to school each morning and brought them home at the end of the day.

In 1965 the enrollment was well over 365 students, close to 200 of whom came from parishes in the San Fernando Valley that had yet to establish their own schools.

The perception of a Catholic school where classes were all taught by nuns who kept strict classroom discipline with wooden rulers that were often used to keep the unwavering attention of the classroom pupils has given way to the new model where all the classes are taught by lay teachers and a lay principal. Whereas the original Catholic schools were only open to Catholic families, now the school is open to all—with 30% of the current students at OLM being non-Catholics.

In addition to the core academic curriculum, student learning is enhanced by a Junior Great Books program, advanced math classes, academic decathlon, public speaking, technology instruction, Spanish lessons (beginning in Kindergarten), Writer's Workshop, Meet the Masters Art program, student government and leadership training.

Students in grades 5 through 8 get a special learning experience, using Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) to students using competition robotics. This is a very interesting program. From the StemRotics.org website:

Driving the robots in Competitions is a small part of what we do. From the beginning we teach each roborer valuable life skills like communications, planning, getting a group consensus, cooperation and negotiations. We also bring to life STEM skills in areas of electronics, mechanics, pneumatics, programming by planning, designing, building (and sometimes rebuilding), testing and driving our robots.

STEM Robotics has worked so well for the upper division grades OLM is now bringing it in for grades 3 and 4 as well. Foreign languages at OLM include Spanish, French and Mandarin Chinese not available in public schools and in addition there is an attempt to build spirituality, which of course is not only not included in public education, it is generally forbidden.

Class size is always kept to a minimum. For grades K-5 the student teacher ratio is 17:1 and in grades 6-8 it is 22:1. Students are turned away if the class size minimum cannot be maintained.

Besides the academics there is an emphasis on athletics and the arts, with students receiving instruction in both art history and technique through weekly lessons, with a Met the Masters Program as part of the art curriculum. In addition there is music, drama and musical theater.

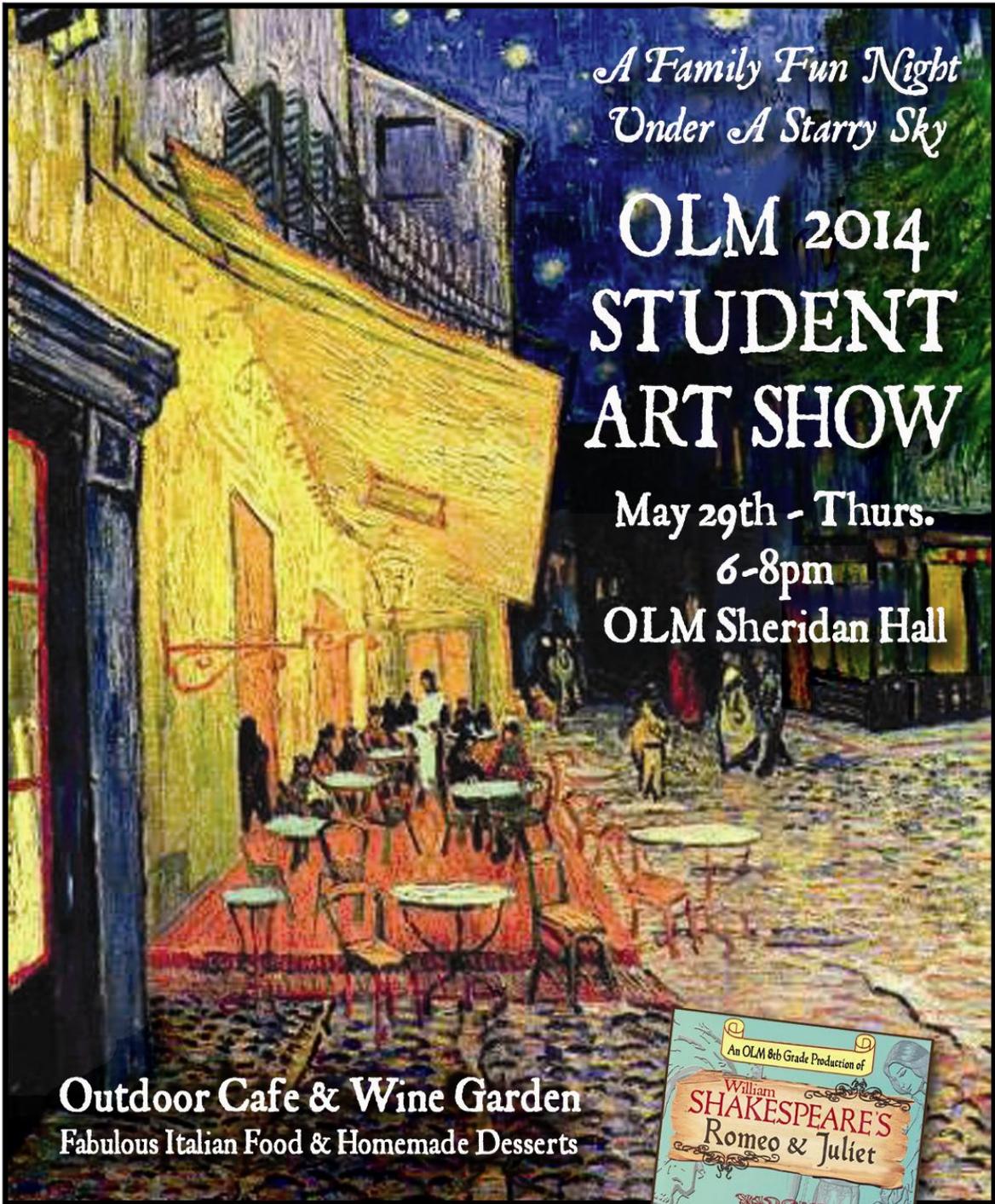
Another major difference between public education and private education, of course, is the way it is paid for. In public education the schools are allocated money from the state government based on Average Daily Attendance. The money is derived from property and other taxes. Catholic and other private schools pay for the education of students by a combination of tuition and financial aid.

Tuition at OLM School is about \$10,000 per year, plus other fees. The Financial Aid program is very important so that parents who would like to have their children be part of the program but can't afford it can have a chance at getting admitted.

Because of budget cuts public schools have dropped summer school. There are many summer athletic camps sponsored by various groups at local community centers and parks and schools. There are few academic summer schools available, and OLM has two 2 week summer school sessions open to the public starting the last week in July and running through August. It will include Language Immersion Program and grade appropriate academic enrichment programs at a cost of \$500 per session for Sessions running Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m to 1:00 p.m students entering grades 1-6.

The school has huge support from parents, church members and others in the community.

Mr Smith said that instead of doing a PowerPoint presentation he gave out several multiple printed hand outs for everyone at the Malibu Rotary Club to take home. Most of these had to do with fundraisers to which the Malibu community and everyone else is invited.



*A Family Fun Night
Under A Starry Sky*

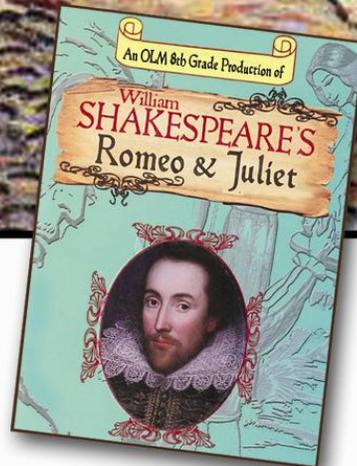
OLM 2014 STUDENT ART SHOW

May 29th - Thurs.

6-8pm

OLM Sheridan Hall

Outdoor Cafe & Wine Garden
Fabulous Italian Food & Homemade Desserts



~ Plus ~

A Special Theatrical Performance of

Romeo & Juliet

by OLM 7th and 8th Grade Students

Coming up May 29th is the Annual OLM Student Art Show. It features not only the student art, but Café & Wine Garden plus theatrical performance of Sheakspeare's *Romeo & Juliet* by OLM 7th and 8th grade students. Mr. Smith notes that alcoholic beverages can be and are a part of OLM fund raisers—another difference between public and private schools!

The same week May 30 and May 31 OLM Musical Theatre Company presents a tribute to Mary Poppins at Malibu Civic Center Theatre (For information go to www.tinyurl.com/AmericanMusicals or call 310-709-4004.)

There is also the Annual OLM Fall Family Festival on Saturday October 19th, from 11 a.m to 6 pm at OLM. It features free admission and festivities for the whole family including food, haunted house, rock wall, bounce house, mechanical bull, laser tag, bungee jump, face painting and performances by Dance Star!

A revived Golf Classic is tentatively scheduled for September 27. Mr. Smith said that there had been golf classic fund raiser at the Malibu Country Club annually until Monsignor John V. Sheridan and Sr. Mary Campbell, had tragically died in an automobile accident. Monsignor Sheridan was an avid golfer, and they didn't have the golf classic since his passing. But it will be renewed this year.

There is also a Monte Carlo night auction dinner fund raiser for the school in April. The last one was April 5th, 2014.

In addition to the special events, there are several ongoing fund raisers for the OLM School. Several of the members of the church have chickens and there is an egg sale every other Friday for hand-gathered so free cage free organic non-GMO eggs (\$0.00/dozen). All proceeds go directly to the OLM Art Program.

Another ongoing fundraiser is OLM Discount Card. For \$20 the card, which expires Dec 31 2014, gives 10% discount at many Malibu Restaurants and business, such as Howdy's, John's Garden, Marmalade, Spruzzo's, Godmother Café, Malibu Yogurt, Kristy's Restaurant, Sunset Restaurant, Zooma Sushi Coral Beach Cantina, La Costa Mission and more.

Malibu Rotary Club Presents Scholarship Checks to 2 Graduating Malibu High School Seniors



The Malibu Rotary Club presented \$500 scholarship to two graduating seniors of Malibu High School at the Malibu Rotary Club meeting on May 14. L to R Malibu High School College and Career Counselor Ah Young Chi, Class of 2014 Graduating Seniors Linus Gordon and Sage Smith, and Malibu Rotary Club Youth Services Director Griselda Espinoza.

The students were chosen by teachers at Malibu High School for their outstanding citizenship

and service. Linus will be attending Tufts University in the fall. Sage will be attending a new university in New York.

Other News and Guests at the Last Malibu Rotary Club meeting

Several Malibu Rotary Club members attended the Rotary District Assembly held May 10th at the Carson Community center—Club President **Bill Wishard**, Club President-Elect **Margo Neal**, Club Treasurer **Hubert Luckerath** as well as **Irene Bettler**. Attendees had an opportunity to attend three specialized breakout sessions, in addition to the main assembly. Irene reported that she attended the student Arts session in which the Music, Dance and Speech awards was discussed, as well as attending the session on the Rotary Foundaton, and one on Public Speaking. She said the latter one was led by the President-Elect of the Woodland Hills Rotary Club, who was a Dale Carnegie instructor and she enjoyed it very much. Hubert went to meetings associated with the financial aspects of running a club, as one on Club Service led by our former Assistant Governor Keven Smith and a session on membership.

Malibu Rotary Club President Bill Wishard welcomed Malibu Rotary Club member “**Jimmy**” **Mehmon Mon** to the meeting after his extended visit to his birthplace in Burma where he helped build a house for his mom. He had taken pictures of his visit to Cambodia and Burma which were on an iPad. The picture of the new modest house which had an ocean view and only cost \$5,000, was shown to all present by passing around the iPad. We are hoping Jimmy will be able to organize the many pictures he has and be able to show them at future meeting using the projector. In addition Jimmy had brought back little gifts for everyone which were small refrigerator magnets with embossed metal scenes of temples and elephants in Cambodia.



John’s wife **Lee Ann Elman** represented the Malibu Rotary Club at the graduation of Malibu Rotary Club hosted Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar **Livia Giordano** at May 16th Pepperdine Law School graduation ceremony when Livia received her Masters of Laws in Dispute Resolution.

Pictured Left: Livia Giordano is congratulated by Pepperdine President Andy Benton after receiving her diploma at commencement May 16 2014.

Guests

Besides speaker **Michael Smith** and Malibu High School senior **Linus Gordon** and **Sage Smith** guests at the May 14th meeting of the Malibu Rotary Club included Malibu Surfside

News Assistant Editor and photographer **Chris Bashaw** and Linus' mom **Judy Gordon**, Malibu High School College and Career Counselor **Ah Young Chi**, and an adult former student at OLM who came late and left early so we didn't get his name.

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 for latest Calendar and future speakers and facebook pages for other news.

Like Rotary Club of Malibu on 

May 21, 2014

Griselda Espinoza
"Craft Talk"

One of Malibu Rotary's newest members Griselda Espinoza who has immediaty made her presence known taking leadership roles in youth and fundraising events. We will learn more about she does in her business in realty and mortgage broker, as wellll being a Malibu mom.

May 28, 2014

Carl Christman
"Carl Reads Minds"

Carl Christman is a mentalist at the Magic Castle in Hollywood. His Rotary presentations are educational and entertaining. Rotarians and guests at this special meeting will learn about the power of their own mind and have a once in a lifetime experience. You can find out more

about Carl and see a demo video at www.CarlReadsMinds.com. This should be a fun Rotary meeting. Come and bring a friend.

Jun 04, 2014

Cami Winikoff

"Reaching for the stars"

Jun 25, 2014

Doug Kmiec

"Why Aristotle and Jimmy Stewart were both right – AMB"

Former U.S. Ambassador to Malta Douglas W. Kmiec explains Why Aristotle and Jimmy Stewart were both right – AMB.

Jul 23, 2014

Jo Anne Books

"Life After Polio"

Jo Anne Books, from Laredo, Texas, and now living in Northern California, contracted polio at age 4 and became paralyzed in both arms. She did not let that stop her, becoming a probation officer and the mother of 2 children. She has spoken at many Rotary clubs about polio and will be in Malibu this week attending the Malibu Arts Festival, taking time out to share her experiences with the Malibu Rotary Club.

Sep 10, 2014

Dr Allison Gallwey Wishard Guerra

"Early Childhood Education"