



The Award Winning

Malibu Rotary Club Surfwriter

November 18 2018

Official Newsletter of the Rotary Club of Malibu

Malibu Rotary Club President Bianca Torrence

Malibu Rotary Club Vice President for October Margo Neal

Pictures by John Elman, David McNew

Edited by Dr. John W. Elman

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

- FIRE DEVASTATES MALIBU
- Since Malibu is closed and the Pepperdine campus has already announced it will not reopen until after Thanksgiving **THERE WILL BE NO MEETING OF THE MALIBU ROTARY CLUB ON NOVEMBER 21**
- There will a Malibu Rotary Club Assembly Business Meeting November 28
- Next regular Meeting of the Malibu Rotary Club will be December 5 8:00 a.m. at the Pepperdine Malibu Drescher Graduate Campus Room LC 152 Speaker will be Emmet Finch--The Malibu Poet
- Malibu Rotary website www.maliburotary.org
 - Rotary International Website: www.Rotary.org
 - Rotary District 5280 Website: www.rotary5280.org/
 - RI President (2018-2019) Barry Rassin
 - Rotary District 5280 Governor (2018-2019) [Joe Vasquez](#)

Malibu Repopulates and Begins Relief Efforts as it Recovers From Devastating Fire



Despite the fact that authorities knew the conditions were ripe for the for a terrible firestorm, not only in Southern California, but in all of California, human efforts could not prevent Mother Nature's rage. Dry brush, Santa Ana winds, they watched and then worst case scenario happened

The Southern California fire that started Thursday November 8 in Ventura County near Simi Valley quickly raced southeast into Los Angeles County and destroyed everything in its path until it reached the ocean along the Malibu coast. As I write this on Sunday evening November 18, 10 days after it started, the fire called "the Woolsey fire" has destroyed about 1,452 structures and damaged 337 others. According to Cal Fire it is 91 percent contained after burning nearly 100,000 acres, and killing three people—2 in Malibu and one near Agoura Hills. Dense smoke from the fires has been smothering parts of the state with what has been described as "the dirtiest air in the world."



When Cal Fire announced an evacuation order for all of Malibu and nearby cities and unincorporated areas on Friday morning November 9, it meant 250,000 people, along with their animals small and large had to get out. The main escape route out of Malibu became PCH going east toward Santa Monica. Because the fire was coming from the west PCH westbound was closed. We escaped taking Malibu Canyon Road to the 101 east before

Malibu Canyon became closed.



On Tuesday November 13 there was an information meeting for Malibu Evacuees at Barnum Hall at Santa Monica High School. This theater holds over 1200 people and it was standing room only as when as evacuees came to find out what authorities had to say about what was happening in the burning city they had to leave.

Malibu City Manager Reva Feldman presided over the meeting, and she was joined on stage by Malibu City Council members Laura Rosenthal, Lou LaMonte, Skylar Peak and representing her father, Ava Wagner, Zuma Jay Jefferson Wagner's daughter. Zuma Jay had tried to save his home but despite his efforts lost his home and nearly lost his life as he became overcome by smoke inhalation, injuries to his face and eyes and had to be taken to ER ICU. He had recovered enough to be at a city repopulation event on Saturday. Mayor Pro Tem Rick Mullen, was not at the meeting because he was on duty fighting the first as a fire captain. His son, whom Rick had trained to fight fires, had save the Mullen house.

Reva Feldman said that the meeting was facilitated by the city managers and staff of the City of Santa Monica and West Hollywood, and since the Malibu city officials had evacuate Malibu Santa Monica had allowed Malibu to use its facilities including Barnum Hall

The other people on the stage were heads of various state, county, and federal agencies that are charged with safety and emergency services.



On the stage at the Malibu Evacuee Updates at Barnum Hall at Santa Monica High School November 13 were Dr Jan King, Lay County Department of Public Health Area Health officer who had been charged with maintain health conditions at the shelter set up to serve Malibu evacuees; Jeff Toney, California Office of Emergency Services Southern Region Adminstrator, L A County Sheriff Chief John Benedict; Tom Porter CalFire Southern Region Chief; Chief Deputy Chief David Richardson of LA County Fire, and L A county Department of Public Works Area Engineer David Rydman of water works and L A County Department of Public Works Julian Garcia, who is acting Dstrict Engineer for Road Mainteance; Phil Harrinton of Souther California Edison Also at the meeting was SMMUSD Superintendent Dr Ben Drati.

Reva said that when she and city staff is able to get back to Malibu they are going to hire a firm to assist the city to expedite building permits for the lots that have had destroyed houses. She said the city building department could not handle the demand there will be for building permits. She said that for sand bags the city may allow plastics which had been banned

At the beginning of the meeting those on stage were getting standing ovations for working day and night during these emergencies, but then angry voices were heard from in the back of room. Most people had evacuees had come to the meeting because they were anxious to find out when they could return home. The fire and sheriff department people would not give them a definite time. They would be told that even when the fire is out there was a lot of infrastructure that had to be rebuild in Malibu. There were downed power lines, a bridge had fallen, the water was contaminated, there were exposed gas lines, and the air was polluted. People would not be allow

in until it was safe.

There was a lot of frustration felt by the people at the back of the room, not only because they could not get an answer on when they would be allowed back home, but because many people who refused to leave, who stayed with their home in Malibu when ordered to evacuate, actually saved their home using garden hoses and their own resources to fight the fire, were successful in saving their houses. In many Malibu neighborhoods like Point Dume, Malibu West, Coral Canyon, there were few fire engines and when fire engines were in the neighborhood, and people there pleaded with the firefighters in the trucks to help them put out the fire, the firefighters left. The chiefs from Cal Fire explained that their number one mission was to save lives. Saving structures is a secondary goal. The fact that only in the Woolsey fire there were only 3 deaths while 250,000 were evacuated would mean that the chief mission—saving lives—was accomplished..

Phil Harrington of So Cal Edison said there 9000 people without power. There were 600 transmission poles down. He recommended going to the website SCE.com to see the outage map. Another resource is wildfirerecovery.org.

In the meantime a representative from FEMA recommended that everyone should register with FEMA, even if you didn't lose a home to the fire. Fire victims may qualify for other losses sustained due to the disaster. FEMA representatives are continuing to work with the state to support firefighting needs for the California Wildfires. Start your recovery process by calling your insurance company to start the claim process. You may also visit DisasterAssistance.gov or call 800-621-3362.

Most of us evacuees depended on the less than accurate news on TV to get information about the fire. A good resource to get reports from various emergency agencies across the nation is a free service to residence called Nixle.

You can use this service on your cell phone and computer. On your cell phone you can get text messages from emergency agencies, including the Emergency center of the City of Malibu, the Sheriff, Cal Fire, local schools by putting in your zip code, and if you move to a different place you can get information from any of the 8,000 agencies that subscribe to the service. It is free for individuals. To access go to <http://www.nixle.com/> or create a text service by texting your zip code to 888777.

Rotary District Wants to Help Our Community

So Cal Wildfire Relief Update from Rotary District Governor Joe Vasquez:



Dear Rotarians,

As evacuation orders are slowly lifted in the burn areas of the wildfires here in Southern California, District 5280 is poised to take action. In this time, when the fires have ravaged so much of our precious homes and land, we need to come together to make this better. That's what Rotary does.

WILDFIRE RELIEF EFFORTS ROTARY CONTACT:

Governor Joe Vasquez has appointed Woodland Hills Rotarian Sheri Polak as our official Rotary contact for wildfire relief efforts. Please contact Sheri for any offer of or request for help. Sheri can be reached at sheripolak@aol.com or 818-635-9139.

DONATION LINK:

We have set up a fund through the District Charitable Foundation that will be joined by other funds. Funds will be directed to where it is needed most. Many of you had trouble with the Donation button. The donation link can be accessed [here](#).

These are difficult times. It is when we Rotarians rise to the occasion and recall our motto, "Service Above Self". As we approach Thanksgiving, let us be thankful and embrace those in need.

-Joe Vasquez
2018-19 District 5280 Governor

Rotary Club of Greater Van Nuys Donates to Malibu Fire Relief effort

Bill Wishard, who had recruited the President of Greater Van Nuys Rotary Club to volunteer in in Malibu library polling place during the election earlier in the month, announced that the Rotary Club of Malibu is donating \$1000 towards the Malibu Fire Relief effort.

Letter from Malibu Chamber President

Dear Malibu Community Friends, Friends of Malibu and Members,

Our hearts are all burdened by the tragic Woolsey, Hill and Camp Fires. The devastation is unprecedented. Our focus now is to provide resources to support your safety and address needs of the affected. We have created a page on our Malibu.org site for Emergency Relief Information Malibu Chamber Emergency Relief Information which we will be continually updating as needs change.

There will be a citywide power outage on Monday Nov 19th from 8am to 8pm, i.e. no traffic lights, so not a great day for travel.

Fiscal Relief is on the way. If you need fiscal help due to the fire, email The Boys and Girls Club Malibu at info@BGCMalibu.org as it is serving as the official fund donation center along with the City of Malibu and Senator Henry Stern. There are many other ways to donate and I will be posting those soon. If you, your businesses, or your colleagues have the means to donate, we encourage you to do so through the Boys & Girls Club Malibu by clicking [here](#).

Our neighbors, the Beverly Hills Chamber of Commerce, City of Beverly Hills, and Rodeo Drive Committee held a fundraiser for Malibu and presented a check to the Red Cross on November for @\$130,000. More is pledged.

Pepperdine is hosting a Thanksgiving dinner for the displaced and those in need. It will be in the Pepperdine cafeteria on Thursday November 22 from 11am to 2pm. Many organizations are coming together to co-sponsor and donate for this and I will be sending a flyer out about it.

Businesses that have financially suffered from loss of business might be able to get reimbursed depending on your insurance contract, especially since the roads were closed in a Disaster area. It won't hurt to apply or at least ask your agent. More to follow.

Please be careful upon returning to an area with ashes, and follow the directions at Malibu.org's Emergency Relief Information on "Returning to Your Property." Anawalt Lumber is open for your emergency supply needs.

At Malibu.org you will find details on registering at a local Disaster Area Centers as well as where to go locally to apply for an SBA loan.

We will be updating the site regularly, and if you have any needs please don't hesitate to call and we will connect you with the proper resources. We are here for you.

Sincerely,

Barbara Bruderlin
310-456-9025
Chief Executive Officer & President
MALIBU CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Because of the events of the past week and the fact that the Pepperdine Malibu campus will be closed until after Thanksgiving there will be no meeting of the Malibu Rotary Club until November 28, which will be a Malibu Rotary Club Assembly Business Meeting with no outside speaker

2018 Malibu Rotary Halloween Fund Raiser is another Success!

**CALAMIGOS BEACH CLUB &
THE MALIBU ROTARY CLUB PRESENT
FRIDAY OCT 26TH**



HALLOWEEN PARTY

KBUU-FM **MALIBU SCHOOL**
MALIBU SURF TEAM **SCHOLARSHIPS**

MASTER OF CEREMONIES - TED SILVERBERG

MUSIC PROVIDED BY DJ "RAINBOW"

AUCTION ITEMS - LAKERS, KINGS, DODGERS, CLIPPERS AND INDY 500 TICKETS

\$85 PER PERSON | 7 - 11 PM | FOOD & DRINK & VALET

CALAMIGOS BEACH CLUB - (FORMERLY BEAURIVAGE)

26025 PACIFIC COAST HWY ~ MALIBU

CAN'T ATTEND? MAIL DONATIONS TO PO BOX 716, MALIBU 90265



FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: JOY 714-875-4127 TICKETS: WWW.MALIBUROTARY.ORG

The 2018 edition of the Malibu Rotary Club Halloween Fund Raising event was another success. 99 tickets were sold online at the EventBrite site and another 100 tickets were sold by walking for a total of 109 tickets sold. Exact amount of money has not been determined. Not all the silent auction items were sold and not all the money has been collected from those items that were bid on. The net and gross profit of the event will be announced in the future, but it seems a good time was had by all.

Malibu Treasurer Joy Arcenas is still collecting funds from the silent auction. The exact profit that the club was able to make on the event was still being tabulated, but it was definitely profitable

This editor created a photo album *2018 Malibu Rotary Club Halloween Fund Raiser* on the Rotary Club of Malibu facebook page, which contains more pictures of the event, and party attendees are invited to upload their own images on that album. Go to the Malibu Rotary club facebook page at

<https://www.facebook.com/Rotary-Club-of-Malibu-188099427908203/>
and click on Photos to find the album.

We owe Margo Neal a debt of gratitude for her work pulling this together. We will hear more about the event at our next the next Malibu Rotary Club meeting on October 31.

Rotary Project in Peru

On July 25 Malibu Rotary Club President Bianca Torrence spoke in detail about the Rotary District 5280 Humanitarian Trip to Lima Peru April 3-8. Via e-mail prior to the August 8 meeting Bianca made a formal proposal to the Malibu Rotary Club Board of Directors: Her proposal was that the Malibu Rotary Club commit to be the Lead club for the grant #10 on the Peruvian Rotary Humanitarian District trip **BARRANCA-Smile Project**.

It takes \$5k to be the lead club on the Global Grant project. Bianca pointed out the Malibu Rotary Club already had committed \$2k for the project and she will work on getting the rest so the Malibu Rotary Club will be recognized as lead club in this project.

Malibu Rotary Board approved the funding of the Peruvian **SMILE BARRANCA** project at the August 8 meeting. The **SMILE BARRANCA** was the project that was in most need of funding of the eleven humanitarian projects of the Rotary District 5280 Humanitarin trip in Peru. We are sure Bianca will bring a big smile to the people of Barranca.

Bianca spoke at the Pacific Palisades Rotary Club September 20 and was persuasive enough to have the Palisades Club join the Malibu Rotary Club in sponsoring the Peruvian **SMILE BARRANCA** project.

That project specifically is hosted by Rotary Club of Barranca, District 4465 Serving the marginal urban and rural sectors, and in educational institutions where there are deficiencies in oral health care in Supe Pueblo, Puerto Supe, Pativilca, Paramonga and Barranca. Needs

Assessment Oral Health in Peru is a public health problem, so a comprehensive approach is necessary, applying effective measures to promote oral health and prevent the consequences of poor oral health . Poor population, as well as non-poor, presents needs for the treatment of oral diseases. One of the human groups sensitive to such public health problems are minors, including children between the ages of 3 and 6, where the habits of hygiene and oral care are generated and reinforced, which will be sustained during their future development. This need was assessed by visiting the schools and population evaluation by dentists in Barranca. Project Description • Preventive care and education to children who belong to the Non-school Initial Education Program. • Oral health care for beneficiaries of urban and rural sectors. • School and population training in Barranca Area of Focus: Disease Prevention and Treatment Goals The objective of this project is the promotion of oral health and oral hygiene in marginal urban and rural sectors without health coverage and children from Not Standardized Initial Education Programs.

Bianca said her family has had a charity project in Peru for years she has decided to have her family charity project to contribute an additional \$1000 to that project in behalf of the Malibu Rotary Club, doubling the Malibu Rotary Club contribution from \$1000 to \$2000.

MALIBU ROTARY CLUB 2018-2019

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Malibu Rotary Club Rotating Presidents for 2018-2019

July 2018

August 2018

September 2018

October 2018

November 2018

December 2018

January 2019

February 2019

March 2019

April 2019

May 2019

June 2019

W. David Baird

Margo Neal

Margo Neal

Margo Neal

W. David Baird

W. David Baird

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John W Elman

John W Elman

John W Elman

Teresa LeGrove Cherkas

Bianca Torrence

Bianca Torrence

CALENDAR

November 21 2018 No Meeting—Enjoy Thanksgiving

November 28 2018 Malibu Rotary Club Assembly Business Meeting 8:00 a.m. at Pepperdine Dresscher Campus LC 152 (unless notified about different venue)

December 5 2018 Emmet Finch Malibu Poet

December 12 Malibu Rotary Club Holiday Dinner at Tra di Noi

December 12, 2018 Malibu Rotary and Malibu Chamber

Malibu Rotary Club meets with Malibu Chamber (Paradise Cove Cafe)

December 26 2018 No Meeting—Happy Holidays

January 09, 2019 --Reese Halter Bees, Trees & Seas Saving the Earth

Reese Halter an award-winning broadcaster, distinguished conservation biologist and author of ten books. John Grace of Westlake Village Sunrise Rotary saw her presentation: Bees, Trees & Seas at The Westlaker's Club in October (2016). He invited her to speak at the Westlake Village Sunrise Rotary Club in December (2016). The president, Don Martin, awarded her an Outstanding Service Award for her community outreach work in conservation.

January 16, 2019 Peter Lattey - Global Grant WASH in Schools project

Peter Lattey is Past President of Rotary Club of Downtown Los Angeles and currently its International Service Chair and chair of the club's participation in LA 5's Global Grant WASH in Schools project in Kenya. He just returned from Kenya, where he has been working on the project.

Here is a link to a video that he made that gives an idea of what the project means to the children there.

www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ad54H49MsZU

Peter will be at the Malibu Rotary club January 16 for its morning meeting in LC 152 at the Pepperdine University Drescher Graduate campus in Malibu at 8:00 a.m. to show and tell us about this worthwhile project