

The Award Winning

Malibu Rotary Club Surfwriter

October 15, 2014

Official Newsletter of the Rotary Club of Malibu
Malibu Rotary Club President Margo Neal

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

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

- **Next Week: Next Malibu Rotary Club Meeting is Wednesday October 22 in room LC 152 at Pepperdine University Drescher Graduate campus with fellowship starting at 11:30 a.m. and meeting starting at noon sharp. Speaker will be Joanne Gary, talking about Common Core Standards in the schools.**
- **Also Next Week: On Friday, October 24 at 6:00 p.m. at Malibu West Beach Club: Malibu Rotary Club Hollywood Halloween (prepaid entry only)**
- **Last week: Malibu Rotary Club to Host Santa Monica-Malibu School Board Candidates Forum October 15 at Pepperdine**
- **Malibu Rotary Club Supports RainCatcher.**
- Check [Calendar](#) on Malibu Rotary website www.maliburotary.org
 - **Rotary International Website: www.Rotary.org**

- Rotary District 5280 Website: www.rotary5280.org/
- RI President (2014-2015) Gary CK Huang
- Rotary District 5280 Governor (2014-2015): Elsa Gilham
 - Assistant Governor for Malibu Rotary Club: Neil Godsey (2014-15)

Malibu Rotary Club Hosted Santa Monica-Malibu School Board Candidates Forum October 15 at Pepperdine



The Malibu Rotary Club hosted a public forum on October 15th at Pepperdine University featuring the candidates running for the 2014 Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District Board. The forum was moderated by Parents Advocate League (parentsadvocateleague.org) Founder and CEO Julie Collier (L), who, along with an audience of 38 from the community, posed questions to the 7 candidates.

SMMUSD Candidates (L to R in picture below) Laurie Lieberman, Richard Tahvildaran-Jesswein, Ralph Mechur, Craig Foster, Oscar de la Torre, Patty Finer, and Dhun May



There are four new positions opened in 2014 for the 7 members comprising the board. Three current board members are running for reelection, Laurie Lieberman, Ralph Mechur (current board vice president), and Oscar de la Torre. All of them, along with candidate Richard Tahvildaran-Jesswein, have been endorsed by Santa Monicans for Renters Rights. No candidate for school board, Santa Monica City Council, Santa Monica Rent Control Board, or Santa Monica College Trustee, has won an election in Santa Monica without endorsement of SMRR. Although the SMMUSD board governs the schools in Malibu, only 20% of the voters are in Malibu, which has made it difficult for a Malibu candidate to become elected. In 2012 three Malibu candidates ran, including current candidate Craig Foster, but none were elected.

The discussion at the October 15th forum often became heated, especially when the subject was PCBs (polychlorinated biphenyls) found in Malibu schools (and which probably exists in Santa Monica schools), and what the best course of action should be to test for and eliminate them. There is a good chance that any building built between 1950 and 1980 has used the carcinogenic PCBs in caulking buildings during their construction. Some in the audience did not feel the current board has not done proper testing, that the teachers and children should not go back into the buildings, and should instead be relocated to temporary trailers, until all tests show there is no hazard. Among those in the audience was actress/model Cindy Crawford, who, along with her husband Rande Gerber, are not convinced that testing done by SMMUSD is adequate, and have volunteered to pay for the testing themselves to make sure the classrooms are safe.

Although the Q & A after the moderator's questions were dominated by the PCB problem, there were other issues as well.

All candidates agreed there should be better representation of Malibu at the SMMUSD Board meetings, and advocated that even if Malibu's lone candidate (Craig Foster) is not elected as one of the 4 new board members there should be a liaison position created to make sure Malibu is represented at each board meeting. Each candidate also said that there should be more board meetings held in Malibu (this year there was only one in 6 months). There are 5 SMMUSD board meetings scheduled in Malibu in the next 8 months. School board meetings are scheduled

at Malibu City Hall on November 6 and December 11, 2014, as well as February 5, March 19, and May 2015.

Some of the other questions asked of the candidates had to do with who the candidates supported as California State Superintendent of Education between incumbent Tom Torlakson and newcomer challenger Marshall Tuck and how each candidate stands on teacher tenure.

In general there seemed to be a consensus among the candidates that the current 2 years for a teacher to be working in the district to gain tenure is too short.

Rotary connections—Two of the candidates have past connections to Rotary. Richard Tahvildaran-Jesswein was a student at RYLA camp as a high school student, and candidate Oscar de la Torre, who was a member of the Santa Monica Rotary Club, quoted the Rotary 4 Way Test, when assessing the PCB issue:

Is it the TRUTH?

Is it FAIR to all concerned?

Does it promote GOOD WILL AND BETTER FRIENDSHIP?

Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

Indeed, it is the standard to be applied to all the things we do or say.

All the candidates promised to dedicate themselves to providing the best education for children in the safest environment. The voters will decide on November 4th which ones will succeed in their mission.

Link to Candidates Pictures, Statements, and Videos:

<http://smvote.org/candidates/#SchoolBoard>

Other Malibu Rotary News

David Baird is collecting checks for the Rotary Foundation Raffle tickets. \$100 donation purchases a dozen raffles and also goes towards each members donation toward the Rotary Foundation for the year. The money for all the Rotary International projects and scholarships comes from the Rotary Foundation.

Malibu Rotary Club Hollywood Halloween Fundraiser October 24

A list of 37 silent auction items has been uploaded to the Malibu Rotary Club website www.maliburotary.org. Click on [Hollywood Halloween Fund Raiser](#) and then on [Halloween Party Auction Items](#). There are 37 pages of pictures, descriptions, and values of the items.

Maggie Luckerath reported that all the reservations and the \$70.00 per person checks for payment for event were to be in her hands by October 17.

60% of the proceeds of the event will go to Rex and Friends (see <http://www.rexandfriends.org/>)

Beneficiaries of event, in addition to Rex and Friends (Rex will perform at event) are Malibu Youth Football and Malibu Surf Club. While Hubert is out of town Maggie will be accepting checks for Hollywood Halloween Fund Raiser

**Costume Party Fund Raiser by the Malibu Rotary Club
to support autism and Malibu youth sports.**

- **Dinner, Drinks, Entertainment.**
- **Prizes to the Best Costumes.**
- **Raffles**
- **Silent Auction**

\$70.00 per person includes food, wine/beer.

SPECIAL PERFORMANCE BY REX LEWIS-CLACK (who was featured on three separate 60 Minutes profiles on rare musical savant)



Rotary Club
of Malibu

Fundraiser to support Autism and local Malibu needs



Friday
Oct 24th
7-11pm
2014

- DINNER, DRINKS & ENTERTAINMENT
- PRIZES TO THE BEST COSTUMES
- RAFFLES
- SILENT AUCTION



MALIBU SURFSIDE NEWS



Halloween & Party

Sponsored
by



SPECIAL PERFORMANCE BY REX LEWIS-CLACK
as featured on three separate 60 Minutes profiles!

Malibu West Beach Club
30756 W Pacific Coast Hwy, Malibu, CA 90265

TO PURCHASE TICKETS OR INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:
Maggie Luckerath hubsden@aol.com 310-457-6822

Malibu Rotary Club Supports RainCatcher

Malibu Rotary—Home Club of RainCatcher Executive Director David Zielski

Every 21 seconds, a child dies from a water-related illness. Women and children spend 200 million hours a day collecting water.

There are over a billion people who do not have access to clean drinking water. RainCatcher is efficiently doing something to try to reduce that number. They get low cost, low maintenance and sustainable water systems to Uganda and Kenya so women and children have a safe and close water source.

Besides the obvious health benefits, providing a local and safe water source multiple other social, economical, and educational benefits also accrue. There can be an increased girls' school attendance, level of education and literacy rates, as they no longer need to miss school to secure water for their families and have adequate and separate sanitation facilities.

There can also be reduced physical injury from constant lifting and carrying heavy loads of water, reduced risk of rape, sexual assault, and increased safety as women and girls do not have to go to remote and dangerous places to defecate or to fetch water during the night.

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. The latest video showing what David and the Raincatcher people are doing 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-RLo&list=UUFetq8NgjhXhtkVf0idcQUg>

After viewing this RainCatcher video on YouTube look at some of the others. This is a project that all of the Rotary world should be participating in. Malibu Rotary Club is proud to take a lead in this endeavor.

Upcoming Speakers (yet to be confirmed)

Bella Communities Director Khoi Pham (who was on the last helicopter out of Saigon)

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

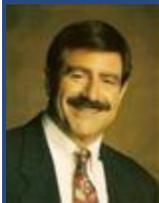
Calendar (for details on these programs see maliburotary.org)

Joanne Gary Oct 22, 2014

Common Core Curriculum

Floyd "Shad" Meshad, LCSW, CTS, TFTdx Oct 29, 2014

National Veterans Foundation--Vietnam Veterans Re-Socialization



This is the first of a 4 part series the Malibu Rotary Club will present about the aftermath that still exists as the result of American involvement in the Vietnamese war.

For more than 40 years, NVF Founder and President Shad Meshad has worked as a therapist for veterans and an advocate for veterans' rights. After receiving his master's degree in psychiatric social work from Florida State University, he enlisted in the army in 1970, and served as a counselor for U.S. soldiers in Vietnam.

Upon his return to the U.S., Meshad founded and directed the Vietnam Veterans Re-Socialization Unit at the VA Hospital in Los Angeles, California. It was the first program of its kind, focusing on the readjustment problems of Vietnam veterans. During this time, Meshad was among the first to study the disorder now known as Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, or PTSD.

In 1978, he worked to develop and lobby for the National Vietnam Veterans Readjustment Bill. In 1979, he founded the Vet Center Outreach Program, which now serves veterans in more than 200 locations across the country.

Professor Darlene Rivas Nov 05, 2014

Overview of American involvement in Viet Nam.

Darlene Rivas is a professor of history with a specialty in international relations. She is widely known for her expertise in the diplomatic history of the United States, having published widely in matters relating to South America and Nelson Rockefeller.

Shannon Latson Nov 12, 2014

Managing Conflict at Home and at Work

Description: Few of us like conflict, but it will always be a part of our lives. Dealing with conflict in healthy ways can deepen your relationships, permit personal growth, and improve the outcome of challenges that you face. Join us to get some tools on how to approach your next difficult conversation.

About the Presenter: Shannon Latson works as a Marriage and Family Therapist for Stillpoint Family Resources in West Hills, and she also works as an Office Manager in the International Studies and Languages Division of Pepperdine. She obtained her undergraduate degree in Business from Michigan State University, her master's degree in Psychology from Pepperdine University, and her Certificate in Dispute Resolution from the Straus Institute at Pepperdine's School of Law. Shannon volunteers as a club convocation leader for Pepperdine students, serves as the faculty/staff advisor for the Pepperdine Swing Dance Club, and she has presented at many community organizations, including a psychiatric facility, a gang prevention unit of the Van Nuys police department, a domestic violence shelter, Many Mansions, and the National Alliance on Mental Illness.

Sean Mccaffery Nov 19, 2014

Camps and tutoring program for homeless and low-income children

I will be speaking about my non-profit for homeless and at-risk youth and also inviting everyone to volunteer Thanksgiving Day at the House of Blues on Sunset.

www.childrenslifesaving.org

sean@childrenslifesaving.org

Rick Mendoza Dec 03, 2014

Rick's Underwater Images -- A slide show you won't want to miss

Richard "Rick" Mendoza, PDG

Rick joined Rotary in 1986 - was club president in 1993-1994. And he served as **District Governor in 2002-2003** –

In 2009 he was recognized with Rotary International's highest award the **"Service Above Self"** award.

In 2012 he was recognized with The Rotary Foundation's highest award, the **"Distinguished Service Award"**.

He served a three year term as the District Rotary Foundation Chair for D-5280. And, he is currently serving Zone 26 as the Assistant Regional Rotary Foundation Coordinator in 2013-2015.

In 1973, as a hobby, he became a Los Angeles County Certified Under Water SCUBA instructor - and was cross certified with NAUI and PADI. He taught SCUBA for 4 years certifying 200+ students.

His passion for photography is recognized throughout the District, Zone and Rotary International. At this meeting Rick will show some of the images he has captured with underwater camera.

Evening Dinner Holiday Party at Malibu West Dec 10, 2014

Instead of noon meeting Malibu Rotary Club Holiday Party (Malibu West Swim Club