



## **Malibu Rotary Club Surfwriter**

**October 5th, 2011**

**Official Newsletter of the Rotary Club of Malibu**

**Malibu Rotary Club President (2011-2012) Kevin Boling**

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

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- **The next Malibu Rotary Club meeting will be Wednesday, October 12<sup>th</sup> at, 7:30 a.m. at Fireside Room at Pepperdine University. Program will be Bhavan Singh who will talk to the Malibu Rotary club about LegalShield, what it is and what it does**
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- **Check [Calendar](#) on Malibu Rotary website MalibuRotary.org**
- **Malibu Rotary Club Website: [www.MalibuRotary.org](http://www.MalibuRotary.org)**
- **Rotary International Website: [www.Rotary.org](http://www.Rotary.org)**
- **Rotary District 5280 Website: [www.rotary5280la.org](http://www.rotary5280la.org)**
- **Rotary District 5280 “Rotarians Doing Business With Rotarians” Website: <http://yp5280.org/>**
- **[RI President \(2011-2012\)](#) Kalyan Banerjee**
- **Rotary District 5280 Governor (2011-2012): Brad Robinson**
- **Assistant Governor for Malibu Rotary Club: Kevin Smith**
- **Rotary District Newsletter—see it on Rotary District 5280 site or click [here](#)**

### **Rhoda Robinson and David Robinson Hicks Talk about Malibu Ballet and Performing Arts Society and Arts Programs for Underserved Kids**

There was no scheduled speaker for the rainy day Malibu Rotary Club meeting on October 5. Two guests that were introduced by **Geoff Ortiz** quickly took care of the void. **Rhoda Robinson** and her 15 year old son **David Robinson-Hicks** have been involved with dance and performing arts since each of them were children. And they each feel it important that children experience the arts.

Rhoda began her dancing and singing in Chicago. She and her young son David were street performers and found themselves living in a campground in Malibu in 2001. They met people at Vineyard Church, before it became the Malibu Performing Arts Center. David was given a scholarship to the local dance studio. They lived in Florida for a while and now are back in Southern California where David was already persuing a career in the entertainment industry. In 2002 he appeared in an episode of *Scrubs*.



**(Above) David Robinson-Hicks and his mom Rhoda Hicks**

The Malibu Ballet and Performing Arts Society was originally started about 30 years ago at a ballet studio (Ballet Studio by the Sea) that was located in the Malibu Country Mart 2 story building. The most advanced students at the studio made up a performing group, Malibu Civic Ballet. The original artistic director of the studio JoAnna Jarvis, choreographed ballets that incorporated the older (teenage) dancers in major roles and the smaller children in supporting roles. Each December the studio presented a full length production of Nutcracker at Smothers Theater. Over the years the studio changed hands, name, location, but the tradition of having the Nutcracker Ballet at Somthers theater featuring local children remained. Current artistic director of Malibu Civic Ballet is Diane Linder. Even though Malibu Ballet and Performing Arts Society is run by volunteers, and much of the production is done by volunteers doing stage direction, and costumes, etc., the cost of renting the theater and its technicians costs about \$50,000 according to Rhonda. Besides the tickets that are sold, the Malibu Ballet Society busses in 500 kids from the inner city to see the production. This year the principal of Foster Elementary School in Compton has arranged for the transportation of 300 children from Compton. The main reason for Rhoda's visit was to ask for help in providing for the bussing of about 200 other children, mostly coming

from Inglewood. We had suggested contacting the Inglewood Rotary Club for help in this endeavor.

This year's Malibu Civic Ballet's Annual Production of THE NUTCRACKER will be taking place December 3-5 at the Smothers Theatre in Malibu. Call 310.506 4522 for tickets.

**Website** <http://www.malibunutcracker.com>

Rhoda says arts is about diversity. Besides the December performances of the Nutcracker, which will include 5 performances in the 500 seat Smothers Theater Rhoda recommended two other events. On Thursday in City Hall there will be a meeting of the Malibu City Arts Task Force, which is comprised of Andy Stern, Deborah Cramer, Terence Davis and Graham Clifford. Also on November 9<sup>th</sup> there will a Fund Raiser for the Malibu Ballet and Performing Arts Society at the home of Liane Weintraub

A story and pictures of David are featured in the current (September-October) issue of Malibu Times Magazine in the section on talented young people (see

<http://www.malibutimesmag.com/malibu-times-magazine-digital/> . David has been home schooled by his mother and is an amazingly articulate young man. On his Facebook page he writes “I'm a 15 year old actor, singer, dancer, filmmaker, entrepreneur and writer. I have dedicated the last decade of my life learning the intricacies of the entertainment industry, so that I may admire the grande canvas that I plan to invest my life into refining with the aid of other talented individuals.”

He also has a couple of on line blog sites and a Twitter account. On the website <http://www.formspring.me/MoodyGenius> he

answers questions that people write to him—a question of the day. A couple examples:

**Can money buy happiness?**

*In the manner that I hope to utilize it, yes. Given a blank check paid to the order of dreams, I would enhance the work that my family has been doing on spare change and pocket lint, mostly lint.*

*I find great joy in seeing barriers fall, and to the few set for dismay in the sight of change, I suppose I'm paying their way as well.*

**Do words spill as easily from your fingertips as they do from your vocal cords, or do you find that the act of typing, of being able to edit actually inhibits your creativity, makes you feel compelled to edit and polish your words to perfection?**





*I find that my fingertips are more vocal than my natural voice in many cases; while I'm able to put on an eased persona at times, much of what I end up saying has either been brewing in my mind for a specific person/occasion, or simply a fluke.*

*If you are in my company regularly, I'm sure you can gather that I sit low on the totem of social priority, and I favor observing behavior and tossing a nugget of wit in when the day is done. I also have a nasty habit of drawing blanks, even with inviting and agreeable company; it is something I'm working through.*

*On the note of observation, I tend to attach to people who's words are easily dramatized, though by saying that does not mean that I converse any easier with them. Just like anyone else, I have my good and bad days socially, and as I grow more comfortable with who I am, the good are beginning to outweigh the bad; maybe one day my impromptu speech abilities will exceed my scripted rambles?*

At the Malibu Rotary meeting Rhoda did most of the talking. But it is obvious young David has a lot on his mind and his written words are definitely worth reading. Obviously he has respect for his Mom. We would love to have him back and hear what he has to say.

### **Other News and Guests from Last Malibu Rotary Club Meeting**

I omitted to mention last week that in addition those members who spoke about various projects and avenues of service during the Malibu Rotary Club open house that was hosted by **Margo Neal** that **Bill Wishard** talked about the past district trips to Ecuador and he talked about this year's trip to Puerto Rico, and also the RI Convention in Thailand.

**Bill** and President **Kevin Boling** attended this week's President's Dinner at the home of the Counsel General of Thailand. Bill said the Counsel was a former history professor and when he heard about Bill's friendship with the Mon people who spoke at our club, he wanted to talk to Bill further.

**Kevin** went to the Rotary District Picnic on Sunday. Apparently there was a "Dunk the Governor" tank at the event. No one had any success dunking the governor till Kevin's water polo playing daughter Kelly took the ball. She was responsible for the governor's first 2 dunks.

### **Guests**

Other than Rhoda and David Robinson who ended up being our speakers, there were no other guests at the October 5 meeting.

## District Events

In the past several weeks Kevin has talked about several upcoming Rotary District 5280 events, and the fact that he had raffle tickets (12 tickets for \$100) for the Paul Harris event below. Reminded us that the next Rotary District breakfast is Tuesday,

**The Paul Harris Foundation Event** this year will be a special Rotary performance of **Circus Vargas** in Del Amo on November 6. The whole family is invited to this event which will involve having fun watching a circus while raising money for the Rotary Foundation. Malibu Rotary Club has bought a block of adult tickets for the event. Members can buy some of these tickets at our meeting. Details of the Paul Harris Foundation Event are as follows:

Circus Vargas for Rotary on November 6

Doors open at 11:00 am 🕒 Pre-Show begins at 12:10 pm

Tickets: \$65 adult □ \$35 children under 16

Includes: **Children and adults get one hot dog or nachos, one cotton candy or popcorn, and two beverages.**

**Plus, each Adult ticket also gets one deli sandwich.**

Del Amo Fashion Center Torrance

3 Del Amo Fashion Square, 3525 Carson Street, Torrance 90503



If you click on the following link you can print out a flyer for the event in pdf format:

[http://www.clubrunner.ca/Data/5280/HTML/133016/CircusVargasFlyer\[1\].pdf](http://www.clubrunner.ca/Data/5280/HTML/133016/CircusVargasFlyer[1].pdf)

## **Rotary Club Vice Presidents of the Month**

October: **McKade Marshall**

November: **David Baird**

December: **Bob Syvertsen**

## **Week 14 Message From Malibu Rotary Club President Kevin Boling**



October has started off with a bang. The District Breakfast, followed by the President's Dinner, followed by the weekly meeting of the Malibu Rotary at Pepperdine. So much to do. I know you are all wondering, How Does He Do It? The answer is commitment. I'm committed so please, you stay committed. We have all done a great job recruiting new members, now we need to ensure that they become Rotarians.

Mentors please contact your new member and get them involved in what you are doing for Rotary. We all have something to contribute.

Our program situation is at a critical crossroads. We will be addressing how to handle our programs at the beginning of our meeting next week. Please be prepared to contribute to the discussion by applying the Four Way

Test to this important matter.

Bill Wishard has agreed to chair the Holiday Party committee, don't be surprised if he taps you to help.

FIDENS

Kevin

## Malibu Rotary Club is [Official Sponsor of Smile Trek](#)



Marine Sargent Winston Fiore Started his 5,000 mile Cross Country Motorcycle Trip in Malibu. His purpose is to bring awareness of children's cleft palette and raise money for the International Children's Surgical Foundation. The organization provides surgery, training for 3<sup>rd</sup> world surgeons, plus follow-up care for surgical correction of children's cleft palette disease. Malibu Rotary Club is one of his sponsors. One surgery costs \$240. See Winston's blog at

<http://www.smiletrek.org>

(which includes multiple videos) as he travels across the country. As of September 28th he has raised almost \$30,000 for ICSF, over half his goal of \$50,000.

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.

Like Rotary Club of Malibu on 

## Calendar

(all Malibu Rotary Club meetings are held at Wednesdays 7:30 a.m. in Fireside Room of Pepperdine University unless otherwise noted)

**October 12 2011**

**Fireside Room in the Cafeteria Building of Pepperdine University in Malibu. Program will be Bhavan Singh who will talk to the Malibu Rotary club about LegalShield, what it is and what it does.**



**Oct 26 2011**

**Colin Macfarlane**

**"Bangladesh Clubfoot Program"**

**Colin Macfarlane, a member of Rotary e-Club One in district 5450 and an honorary member of RC Dhaka Buriganga in Bangladesh. his home bases are Melbourne Australia and Dhaka Bangladesh. He will talk about the Bangladesh Clubfoot Project: These children have a future because Rotarians care.**

**5000 children ( maybe 7000 feet) a year are born with clubfeet in Bangladesh : before the program started most went untreated. In just two years we are now approaching 4000 feet under correction by the Ponseti Method. This method involves no invasive surgery and has a 95% success rate in children under 12 months old.**