



*The Award Winning*

## **Malibu Rotary Club Surfwriter**

September 9, 2015

Official Newsletter of the Rotary Club of Malibu  
Malibu Rotary Club President David Zielski

Edited by Dr. John W. Elman

Pictures by Dr. John W. Elman, LA 5 Rotary Club, Bianca Torrence, and RC Yangon

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

- **Last Week J. T Warring Talks about New Rotary Club and Other Current Developments in The Republic of the Union of Myanmar**
- **Next Regular Malibu Rotary Club Meeting September 16 in Pepperdine University Malibu Upper Drescher Graduate Campus LC 152 with fellowship at 11:30 a.m and meeting starting at 12:00 noon. This will be a Malibu Rotary Club Assembly led by David Zielski in preparation for Rotary District Governor Visit the next week**
- **Kudos for Bianca and Success of Rotary Booth @ ChiliCookoff**
- **Malibu Rotary Club Supports RainCatcher.**

Check [Calendar](#) on Malibu Rotary website [www.maliburotary.org](http://www.maliburotary.org)

- **Rotary International Website: [www.Rotary.org](http://www.Rotary.org)**
- **Rotary District 5280 Website: [www.rotary5280.org/](http://www.rotary5280.org/)**
- **RI President (2015-2016) K.R. Ravindran**

- **Rotary District 5280 Governor (2015-2016): D.J. Sung**

**J. T Warring Introduces Myanmar student to Pepperdine and Talks about Water Projects, New Rotary Club and Other Current Developments in The Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Where Rotary had been banned for 40 years**



**Pictured above Kyaw Turana, student from Myanmar (the former Burma) and J.T. Warring, who was instrumental in bringing clean water to orphanages in Myanmar and recently convincing the Myanmar government to allow Rotary to re-establish a club in that country.**

Kyaw is from Myanmar and hopes to enroll at Pepperdine University in Malibu. He was brought to the campus for a tour by J.T Warring who also was the guest speaker at the Malibu Rotary Club meeting on the campus of Pepperdine University on September 9.

J.T has been a Rotarian for over 40 years, is a Major Donor, Six-Diamond Bequest Society Member and 2010 Recipient of Rotary International's highest honor, **Service Above Self Award**. He was successively appointed by three RI Presidents as RI's Special Representative to Myanmar, Kalyan Banerjee, Sakuji Tanaka and Ron Burton, with getting Rotary government-approved and a first Rotary Club organized in Myanmar.

This objective was accomplished in 2014, RC of Yangon now has 62 members and gaining..

Since 2005, JT is a resident 3 to 6 months annually in Yangon, where he founded and directs the **Rotary Water Management Systems Project**, which has to date constructed 42 functioning safe-water systems for a mix of Orphanages, Monasteries, Schools and Villages. Resulting from this Project, he was befriended by Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.

JT continues on call to successive RI Presidents, and is currently conducting multiple special assignments to President Ravi Ravindran and his successors, John Germ and Ian Riseley.

JT had visited Myanmar after the horrific tsunami that devastated the country in 2004. He met a medical doctor there who told JT of a chronic problem that affected the country of 55 million people—the lack of clean water for children—many of them in orphanages. This led to chronic illnesses among the population. The problem affected 20,000 villages He decided to do what he could to help the situation. . He contacted a civil engineer to create a system that would be long lasting—wanting it to function at least 40 years--and use local materials. It is not easy to do anything in Myanmar. Before the tsunami the military government did not allow any foreigners into the country, even if they wanted to help. They had banned all Rotary Clubs and other service organization from the country. They softened, however to allow JT to put together a solution to bring clean drinking water to the kids in the orphanages. JT convinced his Rotary Club, LA 5 Rotary Club, to start the Myanmar water project and was able to get a Rotary Foundation grant—it was exactly the kind of thing Rotary does. So far there have been no failures on the systems installed starting 8 years ago.

Much of what JT had to say about the water project can be found on the water site website [Myanmarwater.org](http://Myanmarwater.org), which has been sponsored by the LA5.



### Rotary Myanmar Orphanages Water Management Systems Project

In March 2005, LA5 Rotarian JT Warring founded a Rotary project which has, to date, erected safe “water-on-demand” systems at 22 private orphanages in Myanmar. At least 100 more are needed, and Rotary’s commitment is to build them all, if we can! Starting from a proven tube well yielding treatable water, Rotary installs piping, a compressor, generator (many orphanages do not have consistent public power), a 1500-gallon ground holding and de-sedimentation tank, a 22’ foot, virtually-indestructible derrick tower topped by two 500-gallon blue plastic tanks. The compressor draws water up from the well and transfers it laterally to the ground tank, where sedimentation is removed. The pump then lifts it atop the derrick, whence water is gravity-fed as needed to triple takeoff destination for, respectively, food preparation and drinking, bathing and laundering, and irrigating sustenance crops grown by most orphanages.

From the website of the new Rotary Club of Yangon ([www.RotaryClubYangon.org](http://www.RotaryClubYangon.org))

“Rotary Club previously had a distinguished presence in Myanmar. The first Rotary Club was opened in Myanmar in 1929 and other clubs opened throughout the country. In 1974, Rotary Club’s were closed down due to a change in government policy. In 2014, plans were set underway to bring Rotary back to Myanmar. The Rotary Club of Yangon was formed and was officially accepted into the Rotary family on the 16th May 2014. On the 2nd February 2015, the Rotary Club of Yangon will be officially presented with their Charter by the Rotary International President. “

#### Reconstitution

“JT Warring, from the Rotary Club Los Angeles (LA5), USA, started the Water for Life project which was sponsored initially by his club. In response to seeing the 2004 tsunami He has worked with 22 private orphanages to establish water systems in all these locations, and is dedicated to providing ten more systems.

“While working in Myanmar, he saw the need to have Rotary Club established again in the country and set about finding ways to do this. He identified U Moe Kyaw, one of Myanmar’s leading business men, as the best person to spearhead the effort. Having seen the benefits that Rotary brings to people, U Moe Kyaw readily accepted the challenge, gathered his closet friends

to become the founders, and held a dinner to raise awareness about Rotary and to gain members. Numerous members of the business community supported the concept of reconstitution, as Rotary was well known in their parents' generation.

### **International Rotary Sponsors**

“As part of the ongoing RCY effort, a visit was arranged to host John Hewko, Rotary International CEO and Kalyan Banarjee, Past President of Rotary International.

“Following Rotary International regulations, the revived Rotary Club of Yangon required a sponsor to help us through the Charter process. Sponsors and regional district chapters have changed considerably since 1974, and RCY is now included in District 3350. The Rotary Clubs of Bangkok and Bangkok South readily agreed, and have, along with JT Warring, given enthusiastic support to the reconstitution of RCY throughout many meetings, and planning sessions. In the run up to our Club being Chartered, we were also honoured with the visits from John Hewko, Rotary International CEO, and Kalyan Banarjee, Past President of Rotary International. Both met with Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, together with U Moe Kyaw, to brief her on the plans for Rotary to be reconstituted in Myanmar.”

**In picture below J.T. Warring is presenting Nobel Peace Laureate and leader of the opposition party in Myanmar Daw Aung San Suu Kyi with a special Rotary Medallion.**



## **Daw Aung San Suu Kyi**

(from Wikipedia) “**Aung San Suu Kyi** (born 19 June 1945) is a **Burmese opposition politician** and **chairperson of the National League for Democracy (NLD)** in **Burma**. In the **1990 general election**, the NLD won 59% of the national votes and 81% (392 of 485) of the seats in Parliament . She had, however, already been detained under **house arrest** before the elections. She remained under house arrest in Burma for almost 15 of the 21 years from 20 July 1989 until her most recent release on 13 November 2010, becoming one of the world's most prominent political prisoners.

“Suu Kyi received the **Rafto Prize** and the **Sakharov Prize for Freedom of Thought** in 1990 and the **Nobel Peace Prize** in 1991. In 1992 she was awarded the **Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International Understanding** by the government of India and the **International Simón Bolívar Prize** from the government of Venezuela. In 2012, the Government of Pakistan awarded her **Shaheed Benazir Bhutto Award For Democracy**. In 2007, the Government of Canada made her an honorary citizen of that country, the fourth person ever to receive the honour. In 2011, she was awarded the **Wallenberg Medal**. On 19 September 2012, Aung San Suu Kyi was also presented with the **Congressional Gold Medal**, which is, along with the **Presidential Medal of Freedom**, the highest civilian honour in the United States.

“On 1 April 2012, her party, the National League for Democracy, announced that she was elected to the **Pyithu Hluttaw**, the lower house of the **Burmese parliament**, representing the **constituency of Kawhmu**; her party also won 43 of the 45 vacant seats in the lower house.<sup>1</sup> The election results were confirmed by the official electoral commission the following day.

“On 6 June 2013, Suu Kyi announced on the **World Economic Forum**'s website that she wants to run for the **presidency in Myanmar's 2015 elections**. Suu Kyi is prohibited, however, from becoming president within the current constitution; this cannot be amended without the approval of at least one military legislator.”

Bill Wishard had invited JT to come to the Malibu Rotary Club to tell us not only about the water project, which JT hoped the Malibu Rotary Club would contribute to (each project costs \$9,000, but we all know how Rotary can stretch dollars with partner clubs and Rotary Foundation grants), but also Bill wanted to JT tell about re-establishing Rotary service clubs in Myanmar and also tell us about the current political climate in Myanmar.

JT says that no one truly knows what is going to happen with the Myanmar government. There will be an election on November 8. **Daw Aung San Suu Kyi** is the iconic hope of the country, yet she cannot run for President under the present law of the country. She has stood by her country even when it meant she could not be with her dying husband, and she is very

popular with the people. If Aung San Suu Kyi can take 2/3 of the vote she can hold the position of Speaker of the House.

The story is still developing and we will have to watch the news to see what happens next with the government. We know that Rotary is back in Myanmar and slowly more and more children are having clean drinking water.

And Malibu Rotary has a special interest in that. Malibu Rotary Club President Dave Zielski is Executive Director of Raincatcher, a non-profit organization that provides clean water to third world villages, primarily in Africa. Dave is an engineer who believes that water pumps are more likely to fail than the system that Raincatcher uses in harvesting and filtering rain water in places that have adequate rainfall. So stay tuned not only for the next news on the Myanmar government, but whether Dave convinces the people engineering the Myanmar installations that Raincatcher might be a better idea.

## **Other News and Guests at Malibu Rotary Club**

### **The Rotary Picnic - September 20 in Redondo Beach**

Bill Wishard will be representing the Malibu Rotary Club at the Rotary District picnic September 20.

### **Governor Visit and Taste Of Malibu Basket**

The Rotary Foundation Dinner will be held November 14 at the Loewe's Hotel in Santa Monica. It is sold out, but several club members have tickets and it may be possible to get tickets from those that have them. Everyone should buy Rotary Foundation Raffle tickets, which are \$100 per book. Selling these books the money goes directly into the Rotary Foundation and counts towards Rotarians' Paul Harris total of \$1000. Items are being solicited for the silent auction at the event. At our August 19 meeting we decided to create a "Taste of Malibu" basket which will contain wine from local Malibu Vineyards and certificates for Malibu Restaurants. We recently found out that the September 23<sup>rd</sup> Malibu Rotary Club meeting will not only host Assistant Governor Dwight Heikkila but District Governor DJ Sung in person. When Rotary District Governor DJ Sung and Assistant Governor Dwight Heikkila visit on September 23 he will be presented with the Malibu Rotary Club auction item (or items)—"the Taste of Malibu Basket"—as well as a \$333.00 donation to the Rotary Foundation, derived from our club's Happy Dollars account. With Bill Gates matching 2 for 1 dollars the \$333.00 will become \$1000.00. Are we donating \$333.00 or \$333.33 1/3? Maybe it should be \$333.34 to reach that magic \$1000.00 plateau with Gates' help.



## **Kudos for Bianca and Malibu Rotary Club Successful Participation in Malibu Kiwanis Club Chili Cookoff**



**Pictured above Bianca Torrence, Margo Neal, Tiffany Venable, and Bill Wishard at the Malibu Rotary Club Booth at the 2015 Kiwanis Chili Cook Off.**

Bianca Torrence chaired Malibu Rotary Club participation in the Annual Malibu Kiwanis Club Chili Cookoff held Labor Day weekend September 4, 5, and 6<sup>th</sup>. The Malibu Rotary club was again selling water and watermelon. Usually Kiwanis supplies tent for booth, but not this year. Bianca's sister Carmen was lending us her tent to use. Kiwanis had Malibu Rotary Club buy \$100 raffle ticket for car in order to participate in event. Bianca had gotten contributions of water melon from Vintage Grocers, water from CVS and a cash gift from Ralphs market. She arranged for tables and chairs from the Corrodi family. We had problems with transportation with ice this year and had to buy it from the carnival people for about \$10.00 per bag, using

about 2 bags per day. Bianca donated the left over water melons to the Corrodi family when returning tables and chairs. Bianca came to the September 9<sup>th</sup> Malibu Rotary Club meeting with cash profits of the event in hand for Malibu Rotary Club treasurer Carlye to deposit—after expenses this was \$625.00. For her work on this project Malibu Rotary Rotarians gave Bianca big Kudos and flower.

### Guests

Guests included familiar visitors **Qadir Mohiuddin**, Beth’s significant other who is back from Shanghai hoping to find a position closer to home, **Veera Majahan**, who just received an honor in London for being one of the only Indian women who is a magazine publisher and she distributed the latest edition of *The Malibu Chronicle* to illustrate her work, and of course **Kyaw Turana** was the guest of speaker **J.T. Waring**. A very local guest was added to this international list, **Michael Mitzzy**, a Pepperdine undergraduate and member of Pepperdine Ambassadorial Council who said he grew up on campus, and attended Webster school as a boy. He plans to attend our future meetings—could he another potential link to reestablishing the elusive Pepperdine Rotaract Club?

### Next Week Club Assembly Next Week—Getting Ready for the Governor!

#### Malibu Rotary Club Supports RainCatcher

David Zielski, Executive Director of Raincatche makes regular trips to Uganda and Kenya to Raincatcher installations and maintenance. In February The latest video showing what David and the Raincatcher people are doing in Africa 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-RL0&list=UUFetq8NgjhXhtkVf0idcQUg>

## Calendar (for details on these programs see [maliburotary.org](http://maliburotary.org))

Filter records:

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Speaker

Date

Topic

Speaker	Date	Topic
David Zielski	Sep 16, 2015	Club Assembly in Preparation for R
Rotary District Beach Party	Sep 20, 2015	Rotary District Picnic at Seaside Lag <a href="#">Don't miss one of the most fun eve</a> <a href="#">boat races, and Rotary fellowship!</a>
Rotary District Govenor DJ Sung & Assistant Governor Dwight Heikkila Mahatma Das	Sep 23, 2015 Sep 30 More On How to Eat Your Ay To Good Health	Rotary District Report from The Rot
Rotary District Breakfast #2	Oct 20, 2015	Rotary District Breakfast #2 at West
Rotary Foundation Celebration	Nov 14, 2015	Rotary Foundation Celebration "Sea
David Zielski	Jan 13, 2016	Club Assembly -- 6 month Rotary Ye David Zielski and Malibu Rotary Clu
Rotary Peace Conference	Jan 15, 2016	Rotary Peace Conference in Ontario
Rotary District Hunanitarian Trip tp Panama	Jan 27, 2016	Rotary District Hunanitarian Trip tp
Rotary District Breakfast #3	Feb 11, 2016	Rotary District Breakfast #3 at West

- See more at: <http://portal.clubrunner.ca/2529/Speakers#sthash.ImTqdWhe.dpul>