

The Award Winning

Malibu Rotary Club Surfwriter

February 10-11, 2016

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 and Bill Wishard

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

- **Rotary International Website: www.Rotary.org**

- Rotary District 5280 Website: www.rotary5280.org/
- RI President (2015-2016) K.R. Ravindran
 - Rotary District 5280 Governor (2015-2016): D.J. Sung

Deanell Reece Tacha, Dean Pepperdine School of Law on the latest news from the Pepperdine Law School



Deanell Reece Tacha is the Duane and Kelly Roberts Dean of the School of Law and professor of law at the Pepperdine Law School. She was appointed by President Reagan to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit where she served as a circuit judge from 1986-2011. She served as Chief Judge from January 2001 through 2007. Dean Tacha earned her bachelor of arts degree from the University of Kansas in 1968 and her juris doctorate from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor in 1971. She was a White House Fellow (1971-1972).

She returned to the University of Kansas where she served as associate professor at its School of Law from 1974-1977 and as professor of law from 1977-1985. She served as associate dean from 1977-1979, as associate vice chancellor for Academic Affairs from 1979-1981, and as vice chancellor for Academic Affairs between 1981-1985. In 1992, Dean Tacha received the KU Alumni Association's Fred Ellsworth Medallion for extraordinary service to the university and received its most prestigious award, the Distinguished Service Citation, in 1996. In January of 2010, she was named "Kansan of the Year" by the Native Sons and Daughters of Kansas.

Prior to joining the University of Kansas, she practiced law in Washington, D.C. and Kansas, and was for three years Director of the Douglas County Legal Aid Clinic (1974-1977). During her distinguished career, Dean Tacha served as a member of the Judicial Conference of the United States and was named in 2006 by U.S. Supreme Court Chief Justice John Roberts to the Conference's Executive Committee. Previously, Chief Justice Rehnquist appointed her to serve two terms as Chair of the Conference's Committee on the Judicial Branch which oversees the federal judiciary's relationship with Congress and the executive branch. Dean Tacha also was a member of the United States Sentencing Commission which is responsible for studying and making recommendations to Congress about federal sentencing policy.

She has represented the judiciary of the United States internationally on several occasions, including participating in the American College of Trial Lawyers Anglo-American Legal Exchange among members of the bench and bar in the United States and in the United Kingdom. In 1992, the American Bar Association selected Dean Tacha as a member of a delegation of lawyers and judges who traveled to Albania to assist that nation in developing a new constitution and government, and in 2007, Dean Tacha represented American judges in the Canadian-American Legal Exchange.

As a spokesperson for enhanced ethics, professionalism, and civility in the legal profession, Dean Tacha has been active in the American Inns of Court movement. She helped found the Judge Hugh Means American Inn of Court in Lawrence, served on the national Board of Trustees of the American Inns of Court, and was its national president from 2004-2008. Her contributions to the legal profession were recognized when she was named recipient of the Devitt

Award in 2007, the highest honor given to a federal judge for distinguished lifetime service. In 2008, she was recipient of the John Marshall Award, which the American Bar Association bestows for positively impacting the justice system. In 2012 she received the Christensen Award for distinguished service from the American Inns of Court.

Dean Tacha holds professional memberships in the American Bar Association, American Bar Foundation (Life Member), American Law Institute (Life Member), Kansas Bar Association, Phi Beta Kappa, and Order of Coif. She is admitted to the Bar in Kansas, Missouri, and the District of Columbia. Additionally, she is a past chair of the Appellate Judges Conference and a former member of the ABA's Commission on Women in the Profession.

Dean Tacha currently serves on the California Bar Task Force on Admission to the Bar and the California Supreme Court Power of Democracy Steering Committee. She also serves on the National Board of Trustees of Equal Justice Works and the ABA's Rule of Law Initiative.

Dean Tacha has held leadership positions in numerous civic and charitable organizations including chairing the Kansas Territorial Sesquicentennial Commission, the Lawrence/Douglas County Heritage Area Commission, and the Freedom's Frontier National Heritage Area Board of Trustees. She is on the Board of Trustees of the Kansas University Endowment Association. She has served as a member of the board of directors or as a trustee at Kansas State Historical Society, Kansas Health Foundation, Baker University, Saint Paul School of Theology, Lawrence Arts Center, and First United Methodist Church, Lawrence, to name a few.

She and her husband were members of Rotary in Kansas.

With Dean Tacha's vast background in law and law schools, she was able to tell those who attended the February 10th Malibu Rotary Club meeting not only about the Pepperdine Law School, but about Law Schools across the country, and how legal education has changed over the years.

Dean Tacha tells us that in previous years there were thousands of applicants for the nation's law schools, but in the last 5 years applications for Pepperdine and other schools is down 40%.

There are several reasons for this trend. When students graduate from the Pepperdine Law School they not only have an average debt of \$150,000, they are faced with dismal prospects for an entry level job as an attorney. The practice of law has changed. The nation's large law firms charge so much to their clients that only large institutions and very wealthy individuals can afford them. When Dean Tacha graduated from law school there were plenty of entry level jobs in the legal profession. One of the main things that beginning attorneys did was research for the

law firm's cases. Just as with many other professions, technology has changed the entry level positions. The research that had to be done at law libraries is now done on the internet. Because of the cost of being represented by a top law firm the middle class cannot afford. The wealthy pay for it and the poor are covered by public government agencies.

The state bar associations have changed the requirements of what is required in law school education. In order to take a bar exam the law school students must be provided with experience in the field. In New York law students must provide 50 pro bono hours/year in the field in addition to classroom.

Just as in other parts of education technology has changed the way law students are taught. Although law students still have to go to class preparation for classroom work is given online, and online discussions are part required after the live classes.

Nearly all the students at Pepperdine Law School have Federal Student Loans, but those loans have changed a lot lately. Previously the rates for Federal Student Loans were very low—as low as 2%. The rate is now 6.7%. Banks generally don't have student loans so after minimal scholarships these federal student loans are generally the only source of tuition money for most students.

Of course to enter the law profession as lawyer the law student graduate has to pass the state bar exam. In all states except California the Bar Exam is two days. In California the Bar Exam has been 3 days, but this is about to change to 2 days.

In most states about 80% of the those taking the Bar Exam pass. In California the pass rate is about 50%. Of course the pass rate depends on the law school the law students have graduated from. Pepperdine graduates pass about 85% of the time. This is similar to top tier law schools such as UCLA and USC. Traditionally each state has had its own bar exam, so if, after graduation, students wanted to practice in another state, they would have to pass bar exam in that state. Except in Louisiana there has been a trend to uniformity in bar exams and 19 states now accept a Universal Bar Exam.

Some of the recent changes Dean Tacha has noted in law school education is the addition to more practical experience to the curricula, specialties that didn't exist when she started, like intellectual property (IP law) and at Pepperdine there is even an expert in "Drone Law." Although there has always been bankruptcy law, this has become a very big legal specialty.

Because there are fewer law students, the Pepperdine Law School has branched out into other areas to attract students, and their tuition. We know that the Pepperdine's Strauss School

Dispute Resolution is the number one school of dispute resolution in the world. That's how it attracted our Rotary International Ambassadorial Scholar Livia Giordano from Switzerland. But the Strauss School of Dispute Resolution provides graduate degrees not only for lawyers (LL.M—Master of Laws degree) but certification for people other fields who want to be part of dispute resolution process. According to Strauss' website "In the over twenty-nine years since its founding, the Straus Institute has established itself as a standard of excellence in preparing effective negotiators, peacemakers and problem solvers and a driving force for improving the culture of conflict in America."

Another step that Pepperdine Law School has taken under Dean Tacha is the website <http://legalcounselor.com/>.

From its website we learn "LegalCounselor is a project of Pepperdine University School of Law overseen by members of faculty and staff who believe that a lawyer's education starts in law school, but does not end there. Litigators face challenges and suffer pressures that are personally and professionally unique. LegalCounselor provides practical knowledge, tools, and exercises to improve job performance and quality of life.

"LegalCounselor gathers the wisdom of judges and successful litigators in every area of the law, at every stage of their career. They feel that sharing their personal experience, professional know-how, and hard-won tricks of the trade will improve the practice of law in general, raise professional standards, and help not just lawyers but society as a whole. Lawyers who know what they're doing make things better for clients in every walk of life.

"The LegalCounselor website is run by professionals with years of experience in print and video content and web design. They record a wealth of diverse opinions and views on what it means to live, work, and succeed as an attorney. They make sure that all that valuable advice is clear, accessible, and enjoyable to the website users."

Although the Pepperdine Law School was founded in 1969, making it relatively new among the nations law schools, it has slowly been gaining in stature and reputation, being ranked by US News and World Report 100th a few years ago it was ranked #52 in the 2016 edition. Top law schools at Yale and Harvard have been around hundreds of years.

Dean Tacha says that the fact that Pepperdine Law School is located on the Pepperdine campus is a plus in many ways, and not just because of its beautiful location in Malibu. She points out that the moral values instilled in Pepperdine have a real place in law. Professional formation, these values, hold that the lawyers should know that their duty is more to the court than to their client.

Malibu Rotary Club Inducts Its Newest Member



Jack Sherrer was inducted as Malibu Rotary Club's newest member on February 10th. Jack is a recent graduate of Pepperdine University, past president of the Psi Upsilon fraternity, is the son of Rotarian in Columbus, GA, and is about to attend graduate school. He has already contributed to the club with his ideas in fundraising and hopes to help Malibu Rotary recruit young professionals into its ranks.

Malibu Rotarians at Feb 11 Rotary District Breakfast



Bill Wishard again make the Psi Upsilon fraternity connections. Speaker at the February 11 Rotary District 5280 was Austin Beutner, Founder of Vision To Learn and recent publisher of the *Los Angeles Times*, and also like Bill, a Psi Upsilon fraternity alum. Bill a member of Psi U at Williams College and Austin at Dartmouth. Malibu Rotary members and guest with Austin Beutner: Jack Sherrer Malibu Rotary's newest member and past president of Pepperdine Psi Upsilon, Austin Beutner, Stuart Slayton Pepperdine undergraduate current President Lambda Sigma Service Chapter of Psi Upsilon Fraternity, Bill Wishard Past Club President. Stuart chaired the "So you want to Dance" fund raiser for the Sam Schmidt Paralysis Foundation at Pepperdine, an event that brought in \$20,000 for the this cause—the most ever raised by an any campus fraternity for any cause.



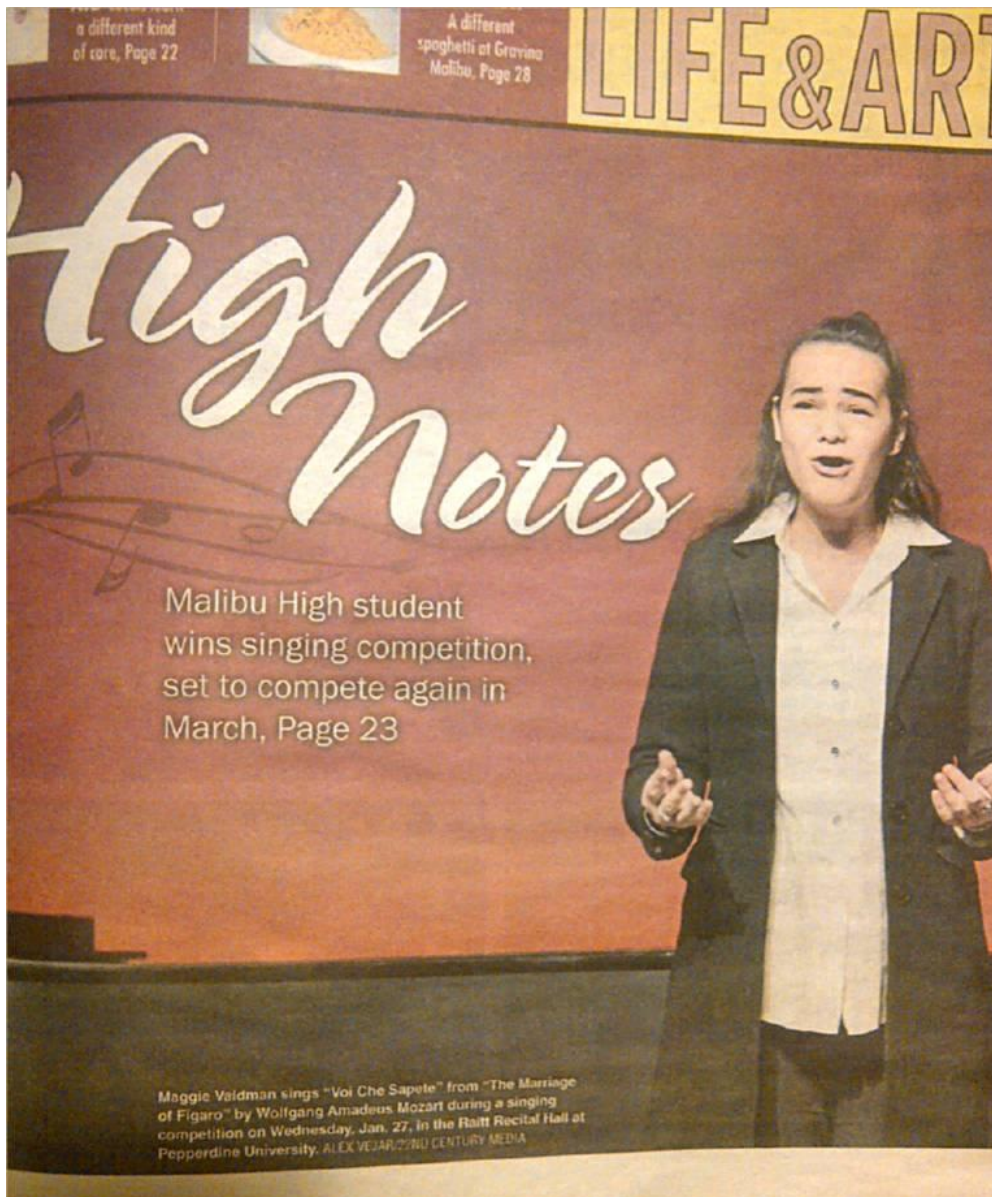
5280 Leadership with Austin Beutner at the Feb 11 Rotary District Breakfast. L to R:
David Moyers Foundation Chair, Nora Maclellan Vision To Learn, Governor DJ Sun,
Learn, Gov D J Sun, Dean Reuter Membership Committee, Austin Beutner founder Vision
To Learn recent Publisher LA Times, PDG Elsa Gillham, Cozette Vergari District
Governor Nominee 2017-18. Greg O'Brien. District Governor Elect, Joe Vasquez Sr. Asst.
Gov. + District Governor Nominee Designate Joe Vasquez

Other News and Guests at Last Malibu Rotary Club meeting

Malibu Rotary Club President-Elect Delvin Glymph will be going to the PETS (President-Elect Training Seminar) during the next week-end and will be telling us about some of the new ideas for next year after he returns from his training. Malibu Rotary Club was to have 9 people at Rotary District Breakfast, held Thursday, February at the LAX Westin Hotel and featuring as guest speaker Austin Beutner, founder and CEO of Vision To Learn, which provides free eye exams and glasses to children in low income communities in California

Following the Malibu Rotary Club meeting there was a board meeting at which was discussed the idea of having meeting times at breakfast 7:30 a.m. some or all the time. To this end it was decided to have the March 23 meeting at 7:30 a.m. Also discussed at the board meeting was if and how the Malibu Rotary Club would pay for the guest speakers lunch at meetings. Jack Sherrer was going to find out if it was possible to have Rotary Debit Card which the club would put \$350 cover the meals for the year which probably are less than \$10/00 at the cafeteria. Pepperdine students use a card at the cafeteria—can the Rotary get a similar kind of card?

Rotary District Pageant of the Arts at LMU March 5



Alex Vejar's picture in *Malibu Surfside News* of Malibu Rotary Middle and High School Singing Competition winner first place winner Maggie Valdman. She will be competing March 5 at Rotary District Pageant of The Arts at Loyola Marymount University representing the Malibu Rotary Club entry. Several Malibu Rotarians will be there to root Maggie on!

Malibu Rotary Club Supports RainCatcher

David Zielski, Executive Director of Raincatcher makes regular trips to

Uganda and Kenya for new Raincatcher installations and maintenance of those previously installed.. More about Raincatcher can be seen on its website Raincatcher.org. A link to Raincatcher video is 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)

Bernard Otis Feb 17, 2016

How to Prepare for Old Age ---- Without Taking the Fun Out of Life

Bernard Otis is an 87 year old very active Rotarian, Past President and a respected Writer, Speaker and Author. He has written a very witty, humorous and informative best Selling Book "How to Prepare for Old Age---Without Taking the Fun Out of Life" His talks at Rotary Clubs are receiving rave reviews,

"How to Prepare for Old Age (Without Taking the Fun Out of Life)" is a love story. Perhaps the title is a bit misleading and some may think it is merely a "how to" book. The message from this extraordinary man is about living the best life you can for as long as you can with love in your heart and a passion for living at any age. I first met Bernie Otis during a time when his beloved Anna was being treated for cancer. She was stage 4 and shortly on hospice. Bernie needed assistance at their home to care for Anna and through a referral from a mutual acquaintance, Bernie hired our agency to provide skilled attendant care for Anna during this very difficult time. After Anna's passing, Bernie was not only in mourning, but he, too, was struggling with his own physical challenges and subsequently needed some assistance from our agency. While our relationship began as business, we shortly became friends. I learned of the depth and breadth of Bernie's commitment to living and watched as he turned his grief into a celebration of the life he shared with Anna.

Wynne Ritch Feb 24, 2016

Walking ThroughTime With Norman Rockwell

Wynne Ritch is a member and past president of the Greater Van Nuys Rotary Club. Last month he was featured at the Malibu Rotary Club sharing his unique experience in Vietnam. Wynne is an authority on the works of Norman Rockwell, and owns over 200 signed Rockwell prints and has a story and artifacts to go with each Rockwell piece--newspapers of the time and stories of people in Rockwell's paintings.

Wynne was an Eagle Scout as a teenager in 1960 and following his stint in the Marines was assistant executive director of the Verdugo Hills Council of the Boy Scouts of America for 32 years. Being associated with scouting that long, it is not surprising that Wynne became familiar with the art of Norman Rockwell. Rockwell is noted for his 64-year relationship with the Boy Scouts of America (BSA), during which he produced covers for their publication *Boys' Life*, calendars, and other illustrations. These works include popular images that reflect the *Scout Oath* and *Scout Law* such as *The Scoutmaster*, *A Scout is Reverent* and *A Guiding Hand*, among many others.

Sprott Woods Mar 02, 2016

Hidden Tears Project

The Hidden Tears Project is a media awareness initiative on the issue of child trafficking of American children. According to statistics, 70 percent of global child trafficking cases are American-born, not foreign. Hidden Tears Project has recently gained the rights to film 12 short films on the book *Slave Next Door*.

hiddentearsproject.org

Jennifer Linehan MD, Urologic Oncologist Mar 09, 2016

Advances in Urologic Oncology

Dr Jennifer Linehan is a urological oncologist at the John Wayne Cancer at Providence St. Johns Health Center in Santa Monica.

Dr. Linehan is an Associate Professor of Urology and Urologic Oncology. Her expertise and interests are minimally invasive approaches to urologic oncology and reconstructive urology, with a particular emphasis on robot assisted procedures. She also practices general urology, including both male and female voiding dysfunction and treatment for kidney stones.

Dr. Linehan completed her medical degree at the College of Medicine at the University of Arizona. She subsequently completed a general surgery internship and urology residency at the University of Arizona where she received the George M. Drach Award for the most compassionate urologic resident. She joined City of Hope in 2010, first as a fellow in urologic oncology and robotic surgery, followed by a staff appointment in the City of Hope Medical Group. She has received multiple research awards for her contributions in kidney cancer research and has published articles in a variety of medical journals.

She is an experienced robotic and laparoscopic surgeon who has also performed many endoscopic procedures.

Pete Peterson, Interim Dean Pep School Pub.Policy Mar 16, 2016

Running for Public Office (tentative)

Pete Peterson is Interim Dean Pep School of Public.Policy who ran for California Secretary of State in 2015. [7yF1GnV5.dpuf](https://www.facebook.com/7yF1GnV5.dpuf)