



Monarch Beach



SUNRISE ROTARY
ON THE CALIFORNIA RIVIERA

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Thanksgiving Senior Luncheon

by Sharon Baltzell

The Thanksgiving Senior Luncheon was a grand success. This year, the crew strived for an organized, stress free and fun experience. Thanks to all who were not able to work the event, but donated all food items. and delivered them to the center by 9:00am Saturday morning.

Our Lead chefs, **George Rendon** and **Russell Kerr**, along with **Mark Cruz**, **Linda Hess** and **Mark Fox** stepped up and kept all the courses well planned. Our potato peeling crew peeled 60 pounds of potatoes in no time!! All of the other side dishes such as the peas and carrots, salad and cranberry sauce came together with ease.

Applause to **Nancy Baumann**, with her assistant **Ali Salamat**, who out-did themselves. All the seniors were raving about the beautiful table decorations which were raffled off.

This year we had several high school volunteers (Matt Fortier's daughter among them) along with our own Mitch and Lisa's kids, to help serve all 100 seniors in attendance. **Gary Spencer**, **Chris Weber**, **Susan Marshall**, **Zohreh Behbehani**, **Lisa Bartlett**, **Lisa and Mitch Jackson**, **Cyndi Elders...**, thank you all for getting all the meals on the table while everything was still hot!

In the true spirit of giving, another goal this year was to reach as many shut-ins as possible. **Mark Montgomery**, along with his usual photography skills, was in charge of organizing the shut in list. We worked with two churches and the Senior center to deliver 30 meals to Seniors who have no means to get a "Real Thanksgiving Dinner". Thanks to our drivers, **John Hayden**, **Ron Lackey**, **Alan Wickstrom**, **Al Soley's wife and son**.

Also thank you to all who helped clean up: **John Baumann**, **Matt Fortier**, and **Alan Wickstrom**!

This was a wonderful event and helped kick off the holiday season in the true spirit of giving!



Our wonderful chefs and their assistants.



Salad and Side Dish crew.



Councilwoman Lisa serving the seniors.



What an honor to serve our loving seniors!

President's Message "Family"

by Gary Spencer

The Rotary Theme for December is "Family."

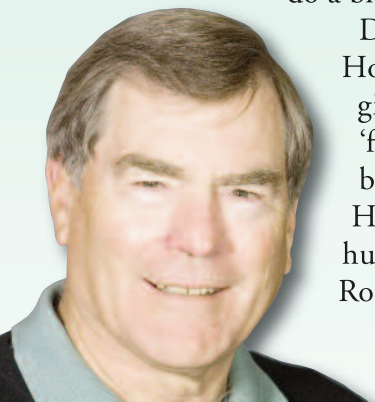
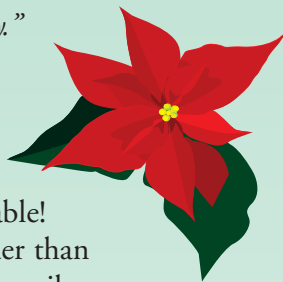
We all know what that means: a lot of extra guests around the Christmas dinner table! But, family is broader than blood relatives; it is a tribe, a clan, or even a race. It requires a common source or progenitor (not my word; thank you, Webster).

The Rotary Family derives from a number of common sources: Paul Harris in 1905 (a lawyer, naturally), the Four Way Test, Rotary International and its projects, Rotary District 5320, Monarch Beach Sunrise Rotary Club, and all Rotary Clubs around the world.

Rotary and family are really synonymous terms. We eat and socialize together, we serve the community together, we help the District and support International projects together. We even pay taxes (thank you for the dues bill, Rod).

Whom do you call when you have a problem? A family member. And I wager that you call a Rotarian as often as you do a blood relative.

During this Holiday Season, give thanks for 'family' in its broadest sense. Hug your family, hug your fellow Rotarians.



Farewell to the Troops

by Terry Rifkin

On Monday evening November 26th, Jack Loconsolo of Dana Point's "Jack's" restaurant hosted a spectacular evening for 30 men and women from the 5th Marines Regiment who were being deployed to Iraq before Christmas.

Jack pulled out all the stops providing a phenomenal dinner. Who were asked to be hostesses for this fine occasion? You guessed it, none other than the Monarch Beach Sunrise Rotary Gold Dust Twins. **Patty and Terry** were welcoming the 100 patriotic patrons of the city to join in the farewell to arms.

Jack donated 50% of his earnings towards the fundraising efforts for the 5th Marines. That evening \$1,500 was donated from the evening's diners along with \$2,500 from Jack, totaling \$4,000 towards the worthy upcoming projects for our troops at Pendleton who are deployed and stateside.

Stay tuned for information on upcoming Rotary involvement for our Marines. Our club will be involved in volunteering to make the goodies boxes for our troops and also to help in an upcoming concert in the park and *Taste of Dana Point* next summer.



Patty Vogan and Terry Rifkin hosted farewell send-off to Marines leaving for Iraq.

The District Rotary Foundation Dinner by Nan Eide



President Gary and his wife Mary Earl with Nan and Rod Eide at Foundation dinner.

On Saturday evening, November 17, groups of Rotarians and friends rode an elevator in the lovely Renaissance Hotel in Long Beach back to the 1930s. Music from the era also was played over the speakers.

It was a 'black tie optional' event, so a number of the men were in tuxedos, and some of the ladies had done some research, and wore dresses of the period. Why are men so good looking in tuxes?

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January, 2008 Birthdays & Anniversaries

- January 11
- January 12
- January 13
- January 14
- January 17
- January 22
- January 22

- Carol O'Connell
- Sylvia Szabo-Larson
- Lisa Wilson
- Barbara Merriman
- Rhett Bray
- Nan Eide
- Rod Eide

- Anniversary (Tony, 1998)
- Birthday
- Birthday
- Birthday
- Birthday
- Anniversary (Rod, 1966)
- Anniversary (Nan, 1966)



Vocational Day

by Gary Spencer



The month of November showed another sterling performance for Monarch Beach Sunrise Rotary Vocational Service. It was such a success that our Vocational Service Director **Anita Houston** has fled for a well earned vacation in Mexico!

The highlights of the month included the annual Career Day extravaganza. MBSR members hosted over 100 high school students as well as local dignitaries for breakfast and an inspiring talk by our own **Mitch Jackson** on how to be successful in your life. The students were then taken by various members to the “real world” to learn what it takes to make a living in this community. The real life experiences included the court house and interviews with judges, prosecutors and defense counsel, city government, fire and police services and even a computer forensic expert. In addition to Career Day, we hosted several “Students of the Month,” the specific details of which reside in Anita’s notebook in Mexico.

We all thank and congratulate Anita Houston for her service above and beyond the call of duty. We look forward to her return and a more detailed report in next month’s newsletter.



Above left: Students getting assigned to start a great career day.

Above: Our future business and community leaders.

Far left: Anita Houston, Vocational Service Director, discusses the program.

Left: Mitch Jackson delivers an inspiring speech.

Ramblings

by Lisa Wilson

Fundraisers, parties, holidays, poster contests, lions, tigers and bears — oh my! Well, MBSR is in the thick of the holiday season and boy is time flying. **Susan Marshall’s** head is swimming with the coordination of all the holiday soirees. Our esteemed **Prez Gary**, decided to return in time for the “big events” with an awesome Career Day headed up by the always amazing **Anita Houston**. Kudos to Anita and **Mitch Jackson** (good looking and he speaks well too — lucky for me!) for putting on one of our best career days ever! Thanks to the **Gantes** family for another great On the Border luncheon. **Penny Di Caro** has us all ready to shop, shop & spend for our holiday families with **Terry Rifkin** kicking in a few marines to boot (pun intended). **Mark Cruz**, the king of faux pas — misses his own anniversary; makes fun of Terry’s pants; and will someone please tell him that if you touch a bagel — you own it! **Neil Burns** announces the arrival of the most beautiful new Californian: **Adam Joseph Burns**. Congrats! Speaking of Neil, he says it is great living with a grandma but no word from **Martha Hoffmann** of how “great” it is living with a grandpa — awww. **David Lopez** has returned from his self-imposed exile, nice to have you back! **Cyndi Elders** has become a two fistted hugger. **Zohreh Behbehani** says ‘don’t touch me’ — clearly she’s not familiar with our handshake greeting. Thanks to Martha & Neil for hosting a rockin’ holiday party. **Rod Eide** gave the L.A. Convention pitch; now everyone’s planning to head north for the party! Happy Holidays to all with wishes for love, health and much happiness to you and yours!

Save these dates!

Family Month (Club Service)

Sunday, June 1

Dana Point Grand Prix

Sunday-Wednesday, June 15-18

Rotary International Convention

Los Angeles

Saturday, December 8

Holiday Party

Wednesday, December 19

White Elephant” Gift Exchange

Sunday, Feb 3

Super Bowl Party

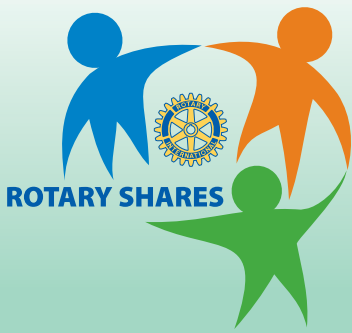
Thursday, Feb 7

MBSR 20 yr. Birthday Party

Evening at the Ritz-Carlton,
Laguna Niguel

Friday-Sunday, Feb 22-24

Dist. Conf., Hyatt Regency, NB



The 4-way test of things we think, say or do...

Is it the truth?

Is it fair to all concerned?

Will it build goodwill and friendships?

Will it be beneficial to all concerned?



October Student of the Month Jessica Benes, a senior at Dana Hills High School, with Anita Houston.



October Student of the Month Thomas Carney, also a senior at Dana Hills High School, and Anita Houston.



November Students of the Month, Ryan Hill and Sarah Leech, with Dr. Rob Nye, DHHS principal, and Anita Houston.



Vocational Day: All ears to get the secrets of success!

Monarch Beach Sunrise Rotary Officers & Directors 07-08

PresidentGary Spencer
 Vice President.....Linda Knox-Hess
 SecretaryMark Fox
 Treasurer.....Rod Eide
 President Elect.....Chris Weber
 Imm. Past President.....Patty Vogan
 Community Service.....Russell Kerr
 International ServiceVictor Manchik
 Vocational ServiceAnita Houston
 Club ServiceChris Weber
 Club Bulletin.....Al Soley
 Foundation SupportNan Eide
 MembershipMatt Fortier
 Attendance/Sgt at Arms.....John Rose
 FellowshipSharon Baltzell
 SocialSusan Marshall
 Information/Orientation.....Rod Eide
 Programs.....Mitch Jackson
 Fine MasterLinda Knox-Hess
 Song Leader.....John Hayden
 Club PhotographerMark Montgomery
 Club PublicityLisa Bartlett
 Club WebsiteMitch Jackson
 Golf TournamentDon Gonnevill
 RI PresidentWilfred J. Wilkinson
 District Governor.....John Brainerd
 Asst. Dist. Governor.....Jim Everett

Monarch Beach Sunrise Rotary Make-Up Locations

Tue 7:10am, Mission Viejo
 Casta Del Sol Golf Club House

7:15am, San Clemente Sunrise
 Talega Country Club Heritage Grill

7:30am, Newport Sunrise
 Five Crowns, PCH

12 noon, Laguna Niguel
 St. Regis Hotel & Spa

7:00pm, Coto De Caza/RSM
 Coto De Caza Golf & Racquet Club

Wed 6:15pm, Newport-Balboa
 Bahia Corinthian Yacht Club

12:00noon, Saddleback Valley
 Bakers Square, Lake Forest

6:15pm, San Juan Capistrano
 Sarducci's Capistrano Depot

Thu 12 noon, Newport-Irvine
 Radisson Hotel, Newport Beach

12 noon, San Clemente
 Pacific Golf Club

Fri 12 noon, Laguna Beach
 Hotel Laguna

See website for more details

The District Rotary Foundation Dinner, *continued from page 2*

PDG Rod Eide was the "radio" speaker/master of ceremonies. We were gathered that evening to honor Major Donors, new Paul Harris Fellows, and, especially, all of the new 100% Paul Harris Fellows Clubs. Kudos to the Long Beach Club; they are the largest club to be a 100% Paul Harris Fellows Club.

As Rod announced their names, the honorees came up to the stage to be recognized and photographed. **Bob Salinger**, one of the honorees, also spoke to us about his work in Africa. He was both moving and informative. Our contributions are doing good in the world.

MBSR was represented by President Gary Spencer and his wife Mary Earl, Bonnie Myers and Paul Myers, and PDG Rod and Nan Eide.