



Monarch Beach

SUNRISE ROTARY
ON THE CALIFORNIA RIVIERA



“Matching Grant”: From California to Colombia

by Margarita Martin

In a joint effort to help the children of other countries the Rotary clubs of Monarch Beach Sunrise, Laguna Niguel, San Juan Capistrano, and Neiva – Colombia, South America have received approval for a matching grant from Rotary International totaling \$20,747!

The project will provide aid for education and include purchasing equipment and furnishings for implementation of an after school educational program tailored after the “Boys and Girls Club” in the U.S. The “Club de Niños y Ninas” will be part of a public school in Neiva, Colombia and will benefit children between the ages of 6 and 12 years. The goal is to develop educational programs and after school activities for children that do not have supervision and for students of low economic means. The objective is to help up to 1000 needy children by increasing their educational levels and GPA averages.

The after school program will be implemented by school teachers and other available personnel. Rotarians from the Neiva Rotary Club will also participate in the maintenance of the project together with the school administrators. The equipment for the project will be purchased in the country of Colombia to expedite completion and help contribute to the local economy. The estimated time frame from project approval to completion is three months.

Through their relationship with **Margarita Martin**, The Rotary Club of Neiva identified the need for the project, and Margarita along with the International Service committee spearheaded getting other local Rotary clubs involved and succeeded in receiving the matching grant for this amazing project. The Neiva Rotary Club will be involved with submitting the project, administer the financials, supervise expenditures, and provide written reports to ensure the continued success and operation. Margarita will participate as a member of our International Committee to communicate the progress and will travel to the project quarterly to meet with members of the Neiva Rotary. She will also continue to monitor the project after completion and will make reports of all activities and successes.

Another great project made possible by the power of Rotary International – Matching Grants with support from three local Southern California Rotary Clubs and a Rotary Club in Colombia.



Rotarios Neiva, Medellín, Colombia



School building and courtyard



Students in the classroom



MBSR's 'adopted' family, the Faamaligis: Staff Sergeant Terry, oldest son Christian, girlfriend Victoria, and youngest son Tristan with Terry and Patty. After seeing all the holiday gifts Tristan declared "I do believe in Santa Claus!"

President's Message

by Linda Knox Hess

Happy New Year 2009! Can you believe we are already halfway through the 2008 to 2009 Rotary year?

We will now be focusing on our largest fundraiser, which will be Saturday, May 9. Remember, the success of this event will have direct impact on the amount of funds available in June to distribute to our favorite charities as well as our programs for next year. Please start thinking about whom you want to invite. I will be chairing this event and am counting on your full support to help make it fun and successful!

January is Rotary Awareness Month. When we promote Rotary, we need to do it within our club, our community, and our District. Promoting what a club is doing in the community can be done in a variety of ways. When our club supports a major cause, is both short-term and long-term recognition part of the plan? Do we wear our Rotary pins, shirts, and hats often beyond the confines of our weekly meetings? Do we share our award-winning web site and newsletters with our friends, clients, and business associates? Introduce someone to Rotary. It only takes a simple comment such as,

"Here is how I spend my charitable time, including a weekly breakfast at the Ritz-Carlton with terrific people. Why don't you join us?"

Too often, we think of Rotary Awareness as only

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MBSR Club Officers 2009-2010

by Russell Kerr

Congratulations to the newly elected officers of our Club for 2009/2010:

Linda Knox Hess Immediate Past President
James Littlejohn President-Elect
Al Soley Vice President
Nan Eide Secretary
Rod Eide Treasurer

Russell Kerr, who will be President, is delighted to serve with these talented and seasoned members. We can look forward to yet another exciting and dynamic year of fellowship and service. Members who would like to serve in the other leadership positions should call Russell soon as he is finalizing committee leaders for the next Rotary year.



Newly elected officers (l to r) Russell Kerr, Al Soley, Nan Eide, James Littlejohn, Rod Eide and Linda Knox Hess.

Membership Matters

by Gary Spencer

What happened to 2008? Who cares? Goodbye and good riddance. We have a new year, a new administration (not you, **Linda**; you are just getting warmed up), and a new outlook on life.

Right, I believe I will have another drink as I sit by the beach in Oxnard on New Years day and contemplate Rotary Membership issues. Big Mistake. MBSR has made great efforts this past 6 months toward membership; however, the world and economy continues to hammer at us and beat us down. It is like the whole world is selling short. Every time we get a new member, we lose an old one. We are treading water and we need to grow.

Put your thinking caps on, go through your Holiday card list, search your Blackberry, and look in the yellow pages (if they still exist); there are good Rotarian prospects out there and we need to dig them out. We are going to have a great spring and it will be even better with new members!

February, 2009

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Feb 1	Penny DiCaro	Birthday	Feb 17	Rod Eide	Birthday
Feb 2	Dennis Gabrick	Birthday	Feb 23	Carol O'Connell	Birthday
Feb 2	Tim McMahan	Anniversary (Carol, 1974)	Feb 24	Zohreh Behbehani	Birthday
Feb 14	John Baumann	Anniversary (Nancy, 1966)	Feb 24	MBSR	Anniversary (1988)
Feb 14	Nancy Baumann	Anniversary (John, 1966)	Feb 26	Alan Wickstrom	Birthday



Holiday Blessings!

by Lisa Wilson

Ho, Ho, Ho, Merry Christmas; Ha, Ha, Ha, Happy Hanukkah; He, He, He, Happy Holidays to all Monarch Beach Sunrise Rotarian's. A lovely time filled with fellowship, laughter and gastronomic delights was had by all at the club holiday party. **Dean & Sharon Baltzell** opened up their beautiful home to us to host the festivities and it couldn't have been more perfect. Sharon & Dean saved **Martha & Lisa** by arranging the perfect holiday setting, filled with gorgeous decorations, without either of them having to lift a finger. Everyone brought food, with some like **Gary Spencer & Nancy Baumann** providing their own special and more exotic culinary delights and, of course, our veteran foodie, **Mary Jeffries** bringing along her Yule Log and **Lisa Bartlett's** special cheesecake amongst the fabulous desserts—delicious all. Naturally there was singing with our usual MBSR gusto compensating for our otherwise limited singing talents and the always optimistic **John Hayden** with his trusty accordion leading us through the holiday classics. We greeted old friends and new alike for a relaxing and wonderful goodbye to 2008. Wishing you all many more bright and beautiful days in the New Year. Good Tidings and Peace to all in 2009!



Cheers! Paul, Jaleh, Sharon and James



John & Neil - Quite the Entertainers!



Rotarians and Family Members

Shoes for Boys & Girls Club of SJC

by Margarita Martin



Margarita Martin (left) with Penny DiCaro

The Christmas holiday spirit was shared by **Bud Eckhart** and his wife, Rotary club members in Tubac, Arizona and Monarch Beach Club member **Margarita Martin** by teaming up and providing 120 pairs of shoes donated to the Boys & Girls Club of San Juan Capistrano. The shoes were one of the many items the children shop for at the Holiday Christmas shopping spree during the holiday season. **Penny DiCaro** and Margarita Martin shared the organization of the project. We were told the shoes were a hit among the little shoppers!

MBSR's White Elephant Gift Exchange

by Cyndi Elders

It has become tradition that Monarch Beach Sunrise Rotary Club's last meeting of the year is a "white elephant" gift exchange. On December 17, there was much fun and laughter at the club meeting as Rotarians opened surprise gifts and exchanged or tried to keep the ones they really wanted. The idea is to wrap something from your home or garage that you no longer want or need (or save one of those impossible gifts you received that you will never use), wrap the gift and bring it to the club meeting. Santa, **Dennis**, and his elf **Alan** distributed numbers and the gift opening began. **Patty** "framed" **Rod** with a fuzzy picture frame while he held onto a spiral multiple picture frame set (that ended up being **Mike Solomon's** fave of the day). **Neil Burns** "stole" the holiday underwear and hopefully did not wear them to the office that day. Lots of fun to end the year on a festive note!



Top: Elf Alan & Santa Dennis; left: Patty Vogan and Rod Eide; right: Neil Burns in holiday underwear

Save these dates!

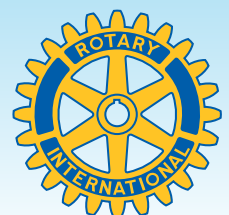
Mon, Jan 19: Board Meeting, 6pm

Wed, Feb 4: Speech Contest

Wed, Feb 25: Singing Contest

Mon, Feb 16: Board Meeting, 6pm

Fri-Sun, Feb 20-22: PETS @ LAX





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?

FEBRUARY IS WORLD UNDERSTANDING MONTH!



Above three photos: The Boys and Girls Club of San Juan Capistrano Holiday Shopping Spree.

The Boys and Girls Club sets up all room at the facility and the students are allowed to begin shopping at 8am on Saturday morning. They are allowed to take one gift for each family member and then take the gift to the back room for wrapping and labeling. The students are allowed to come into the facility that day based on a point system—they earn points by getting their homework done each day after school. The students with the highest points by December 1 get to shop at 8am. The next highest 8:30am and so on. It is a great incentive for the students and each year more and more earn higher points after seeing what great gifts they have to choose from by getting there early.

Rotarians volunteer all day on Saturday to escort the shoppers and to wrap the presents. And of course, Santa also participates!

Monarch Beach Sunrise Rotary Officers & Directors 08/09

- President..... Linda Knox Hess
- Vice President Open
- Secretary Martha Hoffmann
- Treasurer Rod Eide
- President Elect Russell Kerr
- Imm. Past President..... Gary Spencer
- Community Service Diana Crandall & Don Gonneville
- International Service Mitch Jackson & Mike Soliman
- Vocational Service..... Nan Eide
- Membership Gary Spencer
- Foundation Support Nan Eide
- Club Service Russell Kerr
- Club Bulletin Cyndi Elders
- Attendance..... John Rose
- Sergeant at Arms..... Paul Lehrich
- Fellowship & Social..... Lisa Wilson
- Information/Orientation Rod Eide
- Programs..... Alan Wickstrom
- Fine Master..... Neil Burns
- Song Leader John Hayden
- Chair, Photography..... Terry Rifkin
- Chair, Publicity..... Cyndi Elders
- Club Website..... Alan Wickstrom
- Golf Tournament Rod Eide, Mitch Jackson & Russell Kerr
- RI President D. K. Lee
- District Governor..... Roger McGonegal
- Asst. Dist. Governor Cliff Nelson

Monarch Beach Sunrise Rotary Make-Up Locations

- TUESDAY**
- 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 Savannah Chop House
 - 7:00pm, Coto De Caza/RSM Coto de Caza Golf & Racquet Club

- WEDNESDAY**
- 7:00am, Coto De Caza/RSM Del Sol RSM Bell Tower
 - 6:15pm, Newport-Balboa Bahia Corinthian Yacht Club
 - 6:15pm, San Juan Capistrano Sarducci's Capistrano Depot

- THURSDAY**
- 12 noon, Newport-Irvine University Club @ UCI
 - 12 noon, San Clemente Iron in the Fire Restaurant

- FRIDAY**
- 12 noon, Laguna Beach Hotel Laguna

See website for more details

President's Message, *continued from p. 2*

trying to sell the concept of Rotary to external sources. External sources are very important; however, internal sources are equally important. Retaining members is just as important as bringing in new ones. Rotarians, who know, understand, and support that which our organization is all about will more likely stay in Rotary for the long term and want to share that experience with others.

Get involved and enjoy all that Rotary has to offer... let's have fun and continue to do good things for others in 2009!