



Monarch Beach

HAPPY
THANKSGIVING!



18th Annual MBSR Golf Tournament

by Neil Burns

MBSR held its 18th annual Children's Charities Golf Tournament on Thursday, October 22, 2009 at the beautiful Aliso Viejo Golf Club. Nestled in the hills of the Saddleback Valley and surrounded by spectacular views of pristine mountain ranges and picturesque valleys, the Aliso Viejo Golf Club provided the perfect setting for MBSR's latest fund raising efforts. MBSR's golfers and their friends enjoyed a gloriously warm and cloud-free day as they competed for prizes and awards, all for the benefit of some of the finest child oriented organizations in our community.

Among the big winners on the afternoon were **Cyndi Elders** and husband "**Handsome Bob**" whose foursomes each won first place in their respective divisions. Joined by **Dean Baltzell**, **Ed Meenahan**, and **Gary Bridge**, Bob's team won a card-off over the foursome of **Larry and Chuck Thomas**, **Ed Conway** and **Mark Whalen** to win the first place trophy in the Open Division. Both teams shot a sizzling 21 under par 51. Cyndi, joined by **Sharon Baltzell**, **Patti Short** and **Michelle Williams**, won the Women's Division. **Rod** and **Nan Eide** along with their friends **Dick Silva** and **Judy Johnson** won the Mixed Division.

In individual contests, Dean Baltzell won the putting contest and was just edged out by **Joe Fitzgerald** for Men's Longest Drive (Dean's demand that Joe's driver be checked for steroids notwithstanding). **JoJo Harmon** won the Women's Long Drive, and Ed Meenahan and **Rob Engel** won prizes for Closest to the Pin on a pair of par three holes.

As co-chairs, **Neil Burns** and **Joe Fitzgerald**, offered many thanks to all the participants and to the Golf Committee, but in particular to **Penny DiCaro** and **Ellen Turnbull** who oversaw the many volunteers needed to make the day a success, and to **Kathy Flores** who performed yeoman duty in obtaining many fine gifts to be included in each golfer's "goodie" bag. **James Littlejohn**, **Rod Eide**, **Cyndi Elders**, and **Paul Lehrich** all contributed mightily to the success of the tournament.

continued on p. 4

SUNRISE ROTARY

ON THE CALIFORNIA RIVIERA



Men's Division Champions



Women's Division Champions



Mixed Division Champions



Volunteers Ellen Turnbull, Rod Eide & Penny DiCaro

President's Message

by Russell Kerr

October was another great month! Our annual Golf Tournament was a fun and successful event for those who participated, even though numbers were down from prior years. Thanks to Neil and his committee for all their hard work. During a recent program, we honored 8 year old Mai Griffith who raised funds for our Marines projects – an inspiring example to us all. The consequences of the atrocities in Rwanda were brought to our attention along with hope and healing from folks with Kids Across Africa Camps through friends of Bruce Brenon. Local Dana Point writer and businessman, Tom Blake, entertained us with his story. A round of Halloween Parties capped off another month in Rotary!

On October 8, we held a joint mixer with our neighboring clubs of Laguna Beach, Laguna Niguel, San Juan Capistrano and the two San Clemente Clubs to introduce new folks to Rotary and enjoy an evening of fellowship at the Salt Creek Grille. Over 100 people participated, many complimenting us for taking the initiative and hosting an enjoyable evening. There is a call to do it again some time. I urge you to continue to search for new members.

This month, on November 18, we will host our Career Day for high school students and will enjoy again former Miss California turned opera star and vocal artist, Jacquelynne Fontaine who will be our guest speaker.

continued in next column



Ramblings

by Neil Burns

It was good to see **Lilith Sanchez** again, back from helping the country out of its financial crisis. Lilith will be working with the FDIC in the immediate future, so we're glad to know the crisis is in good hands. Crisis over next week Lilith?

If you missed the club meeting on the 28th, you missed the heartwarming story of 8-year-old **Mai Griffin** who taught us all that one is never too young (or too old!) to serve her community. Inspired by MBSR's **Terry Rifkin** and the Dana Point Fifth Marine Corps Support Group, Mai decided that she too could help. Opening a lemonade stand, Mai learned about operating a business and community service as she delivered \$76 to the Support Group's carwash. Congratulations Mai! The Marines appreciate your efforts, and MBSR is in awe of your character. Keep up the good work and know that you have friends here if you ever need help or support!

Everyone had a great time at the MBSR golf tournament, but the prize for fun probably goes to the foursome of **Mitch Jackson, Paul Lehrich, Al Soley, and Laval Brewer** who finished in a tidy 5-1/4 hours. Well, finished may be a little strong. They quit after 15 holes! Then there was the caviling from **James Littlejohn, Darrell Cavanaugh, John Melotti and Chris Lungo** who were certain that a foursome consisting of an African American, an Irish American, an Italian American, and a kid was MIXED enough to qualify for the Mixed Foursome title. Next year we're going to have to write the rules more clearly!

Cyndi and Bob, Martha and Neil are off to Kauai, so have a great next week and we'll all see you for Thanksgiving!



Mai Griffith (center front), her Dad, Alex (left), Terry Rifkin and Russell Kerr

President's Message, *continued from previous column*

You are welcome to participate in the following events at which we will represent our Club:

Turkey Trot "Run with the Stars" launch 11/17; Career Day 11/18; McCool Flowers holiday celebration 11/19; Thanksgiving Feast for seniors 11/21; Club Christmas Party 12/5.

We still need a Fundraiser Chair. I urge you to share your ideas and volunteer to support additional fundraising efforts for this current Rotary year. We need to make more planning decisions soon.

Let's make November another great month because **THE FUTURE OF ROTARY IS IN YOUR HANDS.**

December, 2009

Birthdays & Anniversaries

December 12	John Rose	Birthday
December 28	Neil Burns	Birthday
December 29	Barbara Moore-Meglen	Anniversary (Joe, 1983)
December 30	Patty Vogan	Birthday



Rotary Mixer, October 8th

by Russell Kerr

On the balmy evening of Thursday October 8, under a sky turned crimson by the setting sun, 70 Rotarians from 6 neighboring clubs gathered on the Salt Creek Grille patio to extend friendship and share fellowship with 25 invited guests. Many Rotarians grasped the opportunity to meet members from neighboring clubs. The restaurant staff graciously waited on us with an abundance of fine wines, beers and food. Background music blended in with the constant hum of talk and frequent bursts of laughter as folks mingled in every corner and cabana. A welcome by each Club President, an invitation to the Rotary Foundation Dinner in November and a charity presentation provided a brief interlude to the buzz of meeting and greeting. This event was indeed a “happening place” with everyone enjoying each other’s company; meeting old friends and making new ones.



John Caldwell of the San Juan Rotary Club and Russell Kerr address the guests

Every one of my 11 guests expressed appreciation for the privilege of meeting so many wonderful, quality people. I am hoping for at least a couple of new members! Many wish to be considered “friends of MBSR” and want to be kept informed of future events. As the mixer wound down around 8pm, several folks migrated inside and continued to enjoy each other’s company for another couple of hours. There’s nothing that endures quite like Rotary fellowship!

Thanks so much to the 24 MBSR members who participated. We had 17 of our invited guests attend which brought our club’s total to 41. San Juan Capistrano had 17, Laguna Beach 10, San Clemente noon 9, San Clemente Sunrise 6 & Laguna Niguel 4. 8 guests did not register the name of the club that invited them. This was a good turnout as there were several other events on the same evening.

We are very grateful to the owners and general manager of the Salt Creek Grille for hosting this event. I encourage you to check out the patio and its cabanas before they close it down for winter.

My sincere appreciation to **James, Kelley, Susan, Elizabeth** and **Paul** for helping organize and run this wonderful event; and to **Terry** for being our photographer.

Until next time... yours in Rotary fellowship.

What Rotary Membership Means to Me *by Kelly White*

I was introduced to Rotary when Coastal Mountain Youth Academy (CMYA) first opened. My co-founder Mike Darnold asked me to come to San Juan Rotary and talk about CMYA. I can remember walking in my first meeting — greeted with open warm hugs — I thought WOW what a wonderful group of people. The first couple of years of CMYA I continued to think about joining a Rotary Club, but it was in April 2007 while CMYA was preparing for our first golf tournament that my committee chair for the fundraiser ran into **George Rendon**. Although George could not attend he nominated CMYA for Monarch Beach Rotary’s annual project support presentation. That evening I got to know many of the members of MBSR and I decided that I was going to visit one morning. The week of July 4th, Zohreh, Russ and George spoke about becoming a citizen of the United States. I was brought to tears and knew that I had found my Rotary Club. Since then Rotary has given me more than I ever expected. The people are what we need to make change in this world. One of the reasons I became membership chair this year is because I believe Rotary changes lives. It has definitely changed mine for the better. Don’t wait for 4 years like I did — find people that matter to you and bring them to a Monarch Beach Rotary Wednesday morning meeting.

Save these dates!

Sat 11/7: Rotary District 5320 Foundation Dinner, Hilton Irvine/OC Airport, 5:45pm

Wed 11/11: Marine Corp Birthday Ball

Mon 11/16: Board of Directors Meeting, 6-7pm
Boys & Girls Club

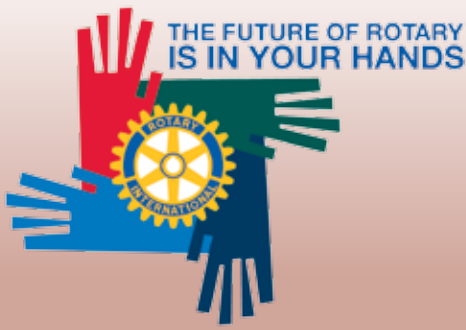
Tues 11/17: Turkey trot “Run with the Stars” Launch, 5:30pm,
Ocean Institute

Wed 11/18: Career Day

Sat 11/21: Thanksgiving Luncheon for Seniors

Sat 12/5: Holiday Party





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?

DECEMBER IS ROTARY FAMILY MONTH



Gary Spencer presents the flag to Russ from the Rotary club in Glenwood Springs, CO



Students of the month Michael Traver and Lauren Shapiro with DHHS principal Dr. Rob Nye and Zobrea



Alan Wickstrom with MBSR guest speaker Tom Blake

Monarch Beach Sunrise Rotary Officers & Directors 09/10

President.....Russell Kerr
 Vice President Al Soley
 Secretary Nan Eide
 Treasurer/Foundation Rod Eide
 President Elect/
 Club Service James Littlejohn
 Imm. Past President..... Linda Hess
 Community Service Susan Marshall
 International Service Mitch Jackson
 & Bruce Brenon
 Vocational Service Zohreh Behbehani
 Membership Kelly White

Club Service Committee Leaders:

Website.....Alan Wickstrom
 Club Bulletin..... Sharon Baltzell
 Public Relations Cyndi Elders
 Photography Terry Rifkin
 Programs Alan Wickstrom
 Info/Orientation Rod Eide
 Song Leader..... John Hayden
 Fellowship Penny DiCaro
 Social Mary Jeffries
 Happy Bucks/
 Fine Master Joe Fitzgerald
 Sergeant at Arms Paul Lehrich
 Attendance John Rose

Fundraisers:

Golf Tournament.....Neil Burns
 Children's Charity..... TBA
 RI President John Kenny
 District Governor..... Bret Gerdes

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

Golf Tournament, *continued from p. 1*

In a time of reduced expectations in the economy, all community organizations are experiencing difficulties in their organizing and fund raising efforts. Although the tournament clearly attracted fewer supporters than in the past, in light of the difficult economic environment, MBSR should be proud of its success in supporting our community organizations and raised \$8,500.

While we all look forward to a return to the growth we've come to expect from our economy, now is a time to give thanks for all of the blessings we continue to experience living in Dana Point and Laguna Niguel, and to all MBSR Rotarians for their hard work and support.