



Monarch Beach

SUNRISE ROTARY

ON THE CALIFORNIA RIVIERA



MBSR Provides Shelter Boxes to Haiti Earthquake Victims

by Rod Eide and Mitch Jackson

MBSR has decided to support the Haiti disaster relief efforts in a typical Rotary way—that is, Rotarians to Rotarians, direct, hands on, support at the disaster site. We have elected to support the delivery of “Shelter Boxes” to Haiti. Shelter Boxes are configured to support disaster areas with the most needed supplies and are delivered within hours to the disaster location. It is important to note that Shelter Box Response Team members, Rotarians **David Eby** from Tennessee, **Wayne Robinson** from Georgia and **Mark Pearson** from the UK are already “on the ground” in Haiti with the first shipment of Shelter Boxes. The team there has described the situation in Port au Prince as desperate. Although the road to recovery in Haiti will be long, difficult and complicated, the Shelter Box program has allowed us to make an immediate impact “on the ground” to help those in need right now!

A typical 10ft by 10ft Shelter Box can be filled with tools and supplies to support ten persons for six months. Or be filled with other items, such as medical equipment and supplies, in support of damaged hospitals. For more information see the website www.shelterboxusa.org.



Each Shelter Box costs \$1,000, delivered to the disaster site. Our club has purchased three Shelter Boxes already and with continued donations we will purchase several more. A significant number of boxes have already been delivered to Haiti, but it is estimated that as many as 3,300 or more will be needed as the recovery effort continues.

It is also noted that CNN has listed Shelter Box a Global Rotary Club project, as one of the 20 Charities to help in the latest disaster. An excellent CNN “Heroes” video about Shelter Box and it’s founder **Tom Henderson** can be found on the Shelter Box web site.

If you or any of your friends would like to help with this effort, send a check to the address below made out to Shelter Boxes USA:

20 Pacific Crest
Laguna Niguel, Ca 92677

Please note that Shelter Box USA is a 501(c)(3), tax-exempt organization and contributions are tax-exempt.

On behalf of the International Committee, thank you for your “Service above Self”.

President's Message

by Russell Kerr

February is Rotary's World Understanding month. No place in the world deserves more of our compassion and understanding than the devastated people of Haiti. Our club has donated 3 Shelter Boxes and we are raising funds for more. Look at our response at Rotary.org and ShelterBox.org.

January saw us off to a great start for the new decade. During this month we inducted into membership **John Coffman** and thoroughly enjoyed his craft talk in which we gained interesting insights into his fascinating life.

We are sending 3 students this year to RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards) which will be held on April 23 – 25.

We are preparing for active participation in the local Festival of Whales in March (festivalofwhales.org). Plans are also beginning for our annual spring fundraiser, probably in May. Our District 5320 Conference will be held at Knott's Berry Farm April 29-May 1. We have joined forces with the Laguna Beach Rotary Club to host a booth at the famous Hospitality Night where the theme this year is "Western". Dust off your cowboy boots, don your hat and join us for a very fun evening!



World Understanding month, with all that is going on, gives us an exceptional opportunity to share Rotary - remember **THE FUTURE OF ROTARY IS IN YOUR HANDS!**

Our Rotarian - Citizen of the Year

by Russell Kerr

Alan Wickstrom was chosen as Dana Point's 2009 Citizen of the Year by the Chamber of Commerce. This prestigious award was presented at the chamber's installation dinner and annual meeting of 250 members and guests, on January 14 at the Laguna Cliffs Resort.

He was nominated by Chamber member, the Monarch Beach Sunrise Rotary Club.

Alan is the founder, chief executive and president of Dana Point-based BuildingOnline Inc. a web-site design and internet marketing agency specializing in building products and home improvement since 1995. He has volunteered for many area organizations, including the South Orange County School of the Arts Foundation, of which he was president from July 2007 to June 2009, coordinating more than 10,000 hours of volunteer time and raising more than \$450,000 to support arts education. As we know, Alan is our Rotary Club's program chair who works tirelessly to organize informative programs and stimulating speakers. Nominated by our members, he was also a finalist in the 2009 Rotary Business Leadership Awards for our District 5320.

The "Surfin' for Success" gala event took us on a tantalizing song and dance journey through the Polynesian Islands – a fitting and relaxing tribute to Alan and other colleagues who were recognized, including the 2010 Chamber's Board chairman-elect, **Russell Kerr**.

Above: Alan Wickstrom, center, with other award recipients for Dana Point



And the Winner is...

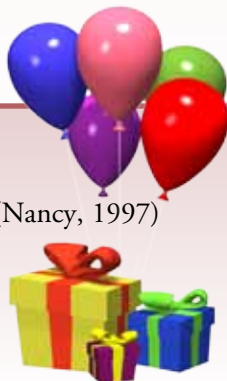
Our own **Ellen Turnbull** was a big winner in a Dana Point 5th Marine Regiment Support Group raffle that was held to support the 234th Marine Corps Birthday Ball. Ellen's winning ticket put \$1,300 in her pocket and an officer at her door to personally deliver the check and thank her for her support of our brave warriors.



March, 2010

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Mar 1	Don Gonneville	Anniversary (Nancy, 1997)	Mar 22	Jill McGovern	Birthday
Mar 5	Tim McMahon	Birthday	Mar 24	Bruce Brenon	Anniversary (Sarah, 2007)
Mar 7	Joe Fitzgerald	Birthday	Mar 26	Nan Eide	Birthday
Mar 13	Kelley White	Birthday	Mar 27	Russell Kerr	Anniversary (Pamela, 1971)
Mar 18	Susan Marshall	Birthday	Mar 30	James Littlejohn	Anniversary (Christine, 1991)
Mar 18	Mike Soliman	Birthday			



Ramblings

by Neil Burns

Ramblings is usually an upbeat summary of happy bucks, and we'll get there yet this month, but January was a month of near tragedies for MBSR, and we need recognize them as well, both to offer our support to injured friends in the club and to give thanks for our many blessings, in particular the qualifier in "near tragedies."

John Hayden may find it difficult to lead the club's singing in the near future having suffered a serious fall that left him with multiple facial injuries requiring surgery. On the positive side, John was entertaining the hospital staff with his good humor and sick jokes, and we expect to see him back soon with a strained smile on his face!

Chris Hawn also suffered a serious fall while bike riding. As of this writing, he has no prognosis but he has a fracture and ligament damage in a knee. We'll keep everyone posted with developments, but I'm sure he could use a few calls to buck up his spirits. Finally, on the same weekend as John and Chris's injuries, **Dr. Cherie** was hit by a semi-truck and lives to tell, if not joke, about it.

We certainly hope all three will be back among us soon with no long-term adverse effects, and MBSR is certainly glad to be moving on to the new month of February. Hang in there guys and we'll see you soon.

Fine master **Joe** is having great difficulty with one table in particular each week. We won't mention any names, but **Lisa, Martha** and **Margarita** could be considered Chatty Cathys. Who's the leader of that ring, Lisa? But Joe did honor Lisa's advancing age, suggesting that after her recent birthday she might want to stop by the funeral home and discuss her future.

Congratulations to **Laval** for stepping up to the Spring Fundraiser plate. We certainly appreciate it, Laval, and I know everyone will offer their assistance.

January travelers included **Ellen and Ed** in Egypt, **Cyndi and Bob** to the Caribbean, **Neil and Martha** to Florida. Now that everyone is back, it's time to party! See you all at the Super Bowl party where **Rod** has signed **Nan** up to make chili for the "first time in her life," according to Nan. Yumm, can't wait for that. Rod gets the first bowl! Have fun all.

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Afghan Officers Pay Tribute to American Supporters

by Terry Rifkin

On Monday January 18th at Jack's Restaurant, nine Afghan officers joined the 5th Marine

Regiment Command, the Friends of the Fifth Marines and the Dana Point 5th Marine Support Group to learn about Southern California hospitality.

The Commanding General of the 2nd Marine Expeditionary Brigade, BGen **Larry Nicholson**, sent his most senior Staff NCO (Non Commissioned Officer) SgtMaj **Ernest Hoopii**, and a delegation of his Afghan allies to America to help facilitate and educate selected 1st Marine Division Units. This will occur at the Marine base that will be part of the increased Marine presence in Southern Afghanistan. With time to spare in their busy schedule, it was an honor to break bread with our Afghan guests at Jack's. An interpreter made increased communication and fellowship possible in this rare cultural exchange.

Recognition was made by General Nicholson in proxy by SgtMajor Hoopii to the Monarch Beach Sunrise Rotary for their service to the 2nd Marine Expeditionary Brigade. Care packages from the Club and cards from our kids' organizations were acknowledged with great appreciation. An American flag flown over Camp Leatherneck was presented to **Terry** for her service not only in Rotary but also in the Dana Point 5th Marine Regiment Support Group.

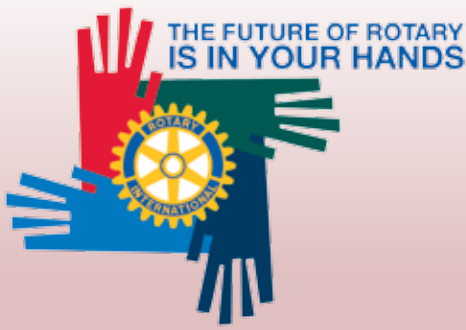


Sun 2/7: Super Bowl Party, Boys & Girls Club
Wed 2/24: Club meeting (not at Ritz Carlton), TBA
Sat 3/6: Festival of Wales, Parade
Sat 3/13: Festival of Whales, Diamond Dig Fundraiser
4/23 - 4/25: RYLA



4/29 - 5/1: District Conference, Knott's Berry Farm Hotel
Wed 5/12: Student of the Month Banquet
Wed 5/19: Club meeting (not at Ritz Carlton), TBA
6/19 - 6/23: International Convention, Montreal, Quebec

Save these dates!



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?

MARCH IS LITERACY MONTH



Monarch Beach Sunrise Rotary Officers & Directors 09/10

President.....Russell Kerr
 Vice PresidentAl Soley
 Secretary Nan Eide
 Treasurer/Foundation Rod Eide
 President Elect/
 Club Service James Littlejohn
 Imm. Past President..... Linda Hess
 Community ServiceSusan Marshall
 International ServiceMitch 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
 ProgramsAlan Wickstrom
 Info/Orientation Rod Eide
 Song Leader..... John Hayden
 FellowshipPenny DiCaro
 SocialMary Jeffries
 Happy Bucks/
 Fine Master Joe Fitzgerald
 Sergeant at ArmsPaul Lehrich
 AttendanceJohn Rose

Fundraisers:

Golf Tournament.....Neil Burns
 Children's Charity..... TBA
 RI PresidentJohn 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

L-R: President Russell with Dana Hills High School principal Rob Nye, student of the month Saam Alikhani, Zohreh Bebbhani, and student of the month Addie Dorsey



President Russell Kerr (r) and President Elect, James Littlejohn (l), at the Boys and Girls Clubs of Capistrano Valley 2009 Youth of the Year award ceremony; MBSR is an underwriter of this program and the ceremony. Tallie McIntyre (c) was selected as the 2009 Youth of the Year for the Boys and Girls Club.



MBSR Rotary participated in last year's Festival of Whales parade

Festival of Whales: 3/6 - 3/14

MBSR has been invited once again to participate in the huge Festival of Whales parade on Saturday, March 6, and to host a booth at the Street Faire afterwards. You are also invited to join us in hosting the **Diamond Dig** on Saturday, March 13, 12 noon to 1pm at Baby Beach, in the Dana Point Harbor. Please come and help support our local community! For more information call Russell Kerr at 487-0833.