



Award Winning

Malibu Rotary Club Surfwriter

April 14, 2010

Official Newsletter of the Rotary Club of Malibu

Malibu Rotary Club President Elect and Acting President Christopher Bauman

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Pictures by Dr John W. Elman and Bill Wishard

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 - Check Calendar on Malibu Rotary website MalibuRotary.org
 - Malibu Rotary Club Website: www.MalibuRotary.org

Rotary International Website: www.Rotary.org

Rotary District 5280 Website: www.rotary5280la.org

Rotary District 5280 "Rotarians Doing Business With Rotarians" Website: <http://yp5280.org/>

RI President (2009-2010) John Kenny

Rotary District 5280 Governor (2009-2010): Susanne Sundberg



Malibu Rotary Club Celebrates Earth Day Week With Topanga Elementary School

(Left) Malibu Rotary Club President **Christopher Bauman** gathers together playground balls donated by the Malibu Rotary Club to the Topanga Elementary School to be used in their celebration of Earth Day Week.

Next Malibu Rotary Club Event: Annual High School Singing Competition Tuesday, April 20, 7:00 p.m. in Malibu High School Auditorium

The next Malibu Rotary event will be the Annual Malibu Rotary Club Middle and High School

Singing Competition held in the Malibu High School Auditorium 30215 Morning View Drive, in Malibu, this Tuesday evening, April 20th at 7:00 p.m .

The event is posted on both the Malibu Rotary and District 5280 website calendars. Members of the Malibu Rotary Club vote on the winners, and the votes will be tabulated by event chair Geoff Ortiz, immediately following the competition. Prize money is awarded to 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place in Middle School and High School vocal students and will be given to the students immediately following the competition. The public is invited. Laker fans: Remember to record game 2 of the first round playoff against the Thunder which will be about the same time that evening.

Malibu Rotary Club meeting of April 14 featuring Bill Wishard's Impressions of Ecuador

When Malibu Rotary Past President **William Wishard** signed up, along with 110 other District 5280 Rotarians, to go on the trip to Ecuador to visit the various humanitarian projects that clubs in the Los Angeles area had contributed to in that South American country, he knew it would be an unforgettable experience, but he did not know how great it would be.

Bill said that Rotarians often talk about their "Rotary Moment," when they realize what Rotary is all about. For Bill, he experienced that moment and more.

Bill was not only representing the Malibu Rotary Club as part of the District 5280 entourage, but found himself as the hub and connector to several other projects not connected with District 5280, but connected to Rotary, in some way, and he learned a lot about the family into which his daughter married.



There were so many things to see, learn and do, let alone show in one Rotary program, that some of Bill's presentation will spill over to other programs, including the Malibu Rotary meeting April 21.

Pictured to left is a picture of Bill Wishard and Pompeya Monteros, over looking the

Ecuadorian city of Quito, where Pompeya has one of her homes.



Prior to this trip Bill only knew Pompeya as leader of a strong family into which his daughter Alison married Pompeya's son Eduardo several years ago, and they shared one grandchild and another soon on the way. After this visit both Bill and Pompeya agreed that Rotary had brought them together in a way that would not have happened otherwise.

Bill had introduced Pompeya to Malibu Rotarians in December and she was inducted into the Malibu Rotary Club as a member at the holiday party. She almost immediately flew back to her home in Quito, Ecuador.

Before Bill met up with the group of Rotarians from District 5280 he was met by Pompeya in Quito and he had 3 days of

private touring getting an insiders view of the country and learning about his extended family. Bill expected when he arrived in Ecuador he would be introducing Pompeya to

the Rotary Ecuador delegation and Rotary projects. Instead, he would find out it was Pompeya that would be introducing Bill to all the dignitaries, the projects, and the country she grew up in.

Quito is located on the equator nearly 10,000 feet above sea level, and surrounded by the Andes Mountains which have peaks as high as 20,000 feet. From Quito Pompeya drove Bill in her Toyota sedan over miles of narrow mountain roads to show him Tena, the town in which she grew up. Before reaching Tena, which is located southeast of Quito, the road went as high as the 13,000 foot level before reaching Tena, which is near sea level, although many miles from the sea, located in the central Ecuador Amazon jungle. Along the way they saw all manner of vegetation good for viewing, manufacturing and eating,





including cinnamon and cocoa trees.

About 10 miles from Tena Pompeya pulled up to a lodge owned by Pompeya's nephew. Like most things in Ecuador it was built of local materials. There were 40 log cabin bungalows, each with a front porch hammock. When Bill entered the bungalow assigned to him he noticed white netting around the bed. He knew he was in the Amazon rainforest and thought it must be netting to keep the mosquitoes out. He hoped the shots that he had would protect him from disease. In the morning he found out it

wasn't mosquito netting at all—he had been given the bridal suite and the netting was bridal veil!

When Ron and Carol Cousineau of the Pontiac Michigan Rotary Club had spoken at Malibu Rotary Club meetings we learned the reason they started (and the Malibu Rotary Club supported) BioSand Filters in Santo Domingo De Los Colorados, Ecuador was because it was considered a place where “the poorest of the poor” lived. Not all of Ecuador is like that. Pompeya's home town of Tena certainly isn't. Tena is one of the top industrialized centers of Ecuador. It is the home to a major regional hospital and many tourist related businesses, including a small airport and a vital bus terminal.

Tena is a popular launching point for jungle, [kayaking](#) and [rafting](#) tours in Ecuador's Amazon rainforest region. The entry to the city is marked by a statue of the indigenous hero [Jumandy](#), who courageously led an uprising against the Spanish colonizers in 1578, and was subsequently executed. Ecuador is an oil exporter.

Bill said the Rotary projects he saw in Ecuador showed matching grants in action, how contributions from Rotary clubs in Los Angeles and elsewhere are matched with contributions from Rotary clubs in Ecuador, and matched again with Rotary Foundation money to do many projects around the country, and he only saw a few of them.

But it is obvious the most compelling part of the trip was seeing Pompeya in action. Pompeya's mother's maiden name is Gutierrez and her first cousin Lucio Gutierrez was the populist President of Ecuador from 2003 to 2005, when opposition delegates in the Ecuador congress voted to remove him from office and forced him into exile when the military would not support him. Prior to running for president Gutierrez was a former army colonel who chose to side with poor, indigenous Ecuadorians protesting against the policies of a government they believed was out of touch with the poor.

His decision involved him in a coup against the government and led to his imprisonment for six months and his expulsion from the army.

Mr Gutierrez then took to civilian politics and defeated banana billionaire Alvaro Noboa in the second round of voting for the presidency on 24 November 2002. He is still popular among most Ecuadorians and hopes to return to the presidency. During Bill's stay in Ecuador he noted that when people, whether they were Ecuadorian Rotary Governor or Governor-Elect, or the Ecuadorian Consul-General, learned who Pompeya's cousin was, they all wanted to meet her and



Bill felt he was being guided through the country by a celebrity.

Shown in Picture of Rotary Wheelchair Donations at Rotary supported Occupational Center are nurse with Eddie Bedon Orbe, Consul General del Ecuador en Los Angeles, and Pompeya Monteros with Wilson Benitez of the Del Amo-Torrance Rotary Club.

Among the projects that Rotary District 5280 clubs contributed to and the delegation saw in Ecuador were distribution of wheelchairs, donation of a fishing boat, donation of livestock and farming equipment to help a small community become self-sufficient, building of a water sanitation system, distribution of books and backpacks, distribution of materials for teens learning about HIV and AIDS, and donation of playground equipment and hearing aids for children. Bill said he toured a senior residential center in Ecuador that was conceived of and paid by Rotarians.



But Bill and Pompeya also arranged for a couple other projects not involved with the Rotary District 5280 projects. One of Bill's missions in the Ecuador trip was to locate Rotary contacts in Ecuador to assist the Biofilter Water Purification Project initiated by the Pontiac Michigan Rotary Club. The

Cousineau's and their church group in Pontiac had been doing the Biofilter Project without help of matching grants because they didn't have local contacts in Rotary District 4400 in Ecuador to assist them. Bill and Pompeya made contacts to hopefully expand and qualify the Santo Domingo De Los Colorados BioSand Filters Project into a Rotary Matching Grants project.



Additionally, Jack Corrodi who was doing volunteer work at UCLA Hospital with Eric Savitsky MD, who runs a program from UCLA that sends doctors to other countries to provide global medical training services, had asked Pompeya about making a contact in Ecuador to expand the UCLA program, and she talked to the physician

administrating the Hospital de "Tena" and made preliminary arrangements for the UCLA Global Healthcare program to be done in Ecuador.

This was indeed an unforgettable and productive trip for Bill and Pompeya.

Other News and Guests from April 14 Malibu Rotary Club Meeting

On April 7 the speakers, Pepperdine School of Public Policy graduate students **Kathleen McAfee & Edwin Afriyie**, made a good impression on those who saw their presentation on a project they were about to undertake in Rwanda. The main reason for their presentation was to raise money for their three month intern program in Rwanda. **Dr Frank Le Vac**, the veterinary member of Santa Monica Rotary Club (and President Elect of SM Rotary) was guest at Malibu Rotary Club April 7. He made a generous donation to the students' project as did Malibu Rotarian **Margo Neal**. At the April 14 meeting Malibu Rotary President **Chris Bauman** asked if the Malibu Rotary Club was going to make a contribution to the student's project as a club. The students showed much interest and knowledge of Rotary and showed how what they were attempting to do in Rwanda was aligned with several of Rotary's Avenues of service. After some discussion Chris suggested that we contribute \$500 to each student if they agreed to become Malibu Rotary Club's first Associate Members during their senior year. The members present voted (which constituted the Malibu Rotary Board) and passed a resolution to do this, and Chris was going to talk to the students before they left for Africa. The associate Rotary Members pay reduced Rotary dues, are to attend at least one Rotary meeting a month, and pay for meals at meetings.

Since the Malibu Rotary Club meeting on May 5 cannot be at the normal Pepperdine University Fireside Room, the location and time of a Malibu Rotary Club meeting that day was the subject of both e-mail chatter and live chatter at the April 14th meeting. **Jack Corrodi** was to investigate the possibility of a lunch meeting Giovanni's Restaurante Italiano 22235 Pacific Coast Highway in Malibu. Will verify time and place of this Cinco de Mayo meeting next week.

Besides **Kevin Bolling's** "Men Who Cook" fundraiser competition April 24th in Riverside, where Kevin is a perennial winner, and the suggestion that a similar competition be considered in Malibu, Chris suggested a Bar B Q fund raiser be considered as a Malibu Rotary fundraiser.



Project TRIUMPH (Today's Revolution Is Understanding; Make Peace Happen) is a grassroots



effort to bring Arab and Jewish teenagers together in the spirit of collaboration to build a shared vision for a peaceful future. The program was conceived by Ilan Magdali of the Newbury Park Rotary Club. It brought 10 teenage Arab and 10 teenage Jewish students from Israel to a leadership camp in Simi Valley where they all learned to work together, develop leaders skills before returning to Israel

to use what they learned back home. Most of us feel helpless in trying to find a solution to the constant war in the Middle East, but at least this program is trying to do something. Initially sponsorship of this program had been mostly from the Newbury Park Rotary Club and Rotary Clubs in District 5240 and private and corporate donors. Malibu Rotary Club was the first Rotary Club in Rotary District 5280 to support the project.

Pictured above are the students who were hosted in 2008 as they visited Malibu on their way to the leadership camp. Today the program no longer is bringing the students to the US. There is a partnership with the Rotary Club of Haifa and one in Italy to get Jewish and Arab students out of Israel to a place where they can learn to work together and apply this when they return to Israel. A new Pilot TRIUMPH project is being developed. It concentrates it's efforts on the students in the City of Acre in Israel as a year long program with Jewish and Arab students working together making a video documentary that strives for lifelong results. The new Pilot TRIUMPH project is a non-profit organization with Leon Berg, as its CEO.

If you would like to help with Project TRIUMPH you can contact Shoshana Brower at shobrower@gmail.com or Leon Berg at Leon.Berg@gmail.com.



Malibu Rotary Club to Support BioSand Filters in Ecuador

Malibu Rotary Club voted to send \$500 to the Rotary Club of Pontiac Michigan to help build and install BioSand Filters in Santo Domingo De Los Colorados, Ecuador. As was noted by Carol Cousineau, who, along with husband Ron brought the project to our attention, after installing the first BioSand filters in Ecuador (and pictured left), “That money would be matched by the next District Grant, which we have been assured we will get. So, for instance \$500.00 would become \$750.00. The filters and two 5 gallon safe water containers per unit, cost around \$60.00 each, so a donation of \$500.00 would provide 12 families of five or more with 20 gallons of water each day - enough for drinking, cooking, brushing teeth, bathing and washing clothes! The filters are expected to last at

least 50 years without the need to add any expense except chlorine - available and inexpensive. That means each family will have more money to provide more nutritious food for their families, since they don't have to pay for propane to boil their water. It will mean more time to spend with their children, rather than boiling or foraging for firewood. With great improvement in the health of all the family members, fewer cases of diarrhea and stomach flu from bad water and parasites, the parents will better be able to hold down a job and provide for their families, children will be able to attend school more days and have a better future.

We are excited about this project because we anticipate that this is just the beginning. All over Ecuador, there are families struggling to survive, with a high infant mortality rate, because of bad water. This successful project will be a shining example and model. Rotary is the perfect vehicle for getting the word out about BioSand and accomplishing the goal of providing safe drinking water for the world. **BioSand** is one of the four methods of purifying water recommended for Third World Countries by the World Health Organization. (We have researched the others. Since they provide only a small amount of water for drinking, are small and ceramic, so more susceptible to breakage or deterioration, or adding so much chlorine that the people won't drink it, the concrete BioSand is by far the best choice for all but mountainous areas, where a more expensive plastic version of BioSand is an alternative.)”

Please see Malibu Rotary Club Website www.maliburotary.org for latest Calendar and future speakers.