



Award Winning

Malibu Rotary Club Surfwriter

January 14, 2009

Official Newsletter of the Rotary Club of Malibu
Malibu Rotary Club President Bow Bowman

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Pictures by Dr John W. Elman and Stedman Graham and Associates

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Malibu Rotary Website: <http://groups.msn.com/maliburotary>

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 \(2008-2009\) D.K. Lee](#)

Rotary District 5280 Governor (2008-2009): **Chuck Anderson**

Stedman Graham at Pepperdine Jan 19th



We had received messages from both Pepperdine Professor Connie James and Malibu Chamber CEO Rebekah Evans telling us about a special Martin Luther King Day Event at Pepperdine University

Stedman Graham will be speaking on Monday January 19 at 9:00 am at the Pepperdine School of Law Auditorium. He is a CEO of a leadership and strategy company, Stedman Graham and Associates, as well as founding Athletes Against Drugs (Michael Jordan was the first to sign up to help him with this effort.) Mr. Graham will be signing his best selling books *You Can Make It Happen* and his other best seller *Who Are You* (which he dedicated to Oprah). Tickets are available at the at the door on Monday. They are free to the public.

Rick Johnson, “In the Pursuit of Happiness”



Geoff Ortiz, who besides being double past president of the Malibu Rotary Club, and chair of so many club projects over the years, is president of the Malibu Rotary Stage Company. He met **Richard Johnson** while Geoff was chairing the Malibu Rotary Club Golf Tournament some years ago. As an actor and acting teacher, Geoff asked Richard to join him on the board of Malibu Stage. The actor is now also the founder of the Malibu Stage Company's resident repertory company, and he was the featured speaker at the January 14, 2009 meeting of the Malibu Rotary Club. His short, funny, and emotional

presentation showed what an actor strives for "In the Pursuit of Happiness". At the time of his presentation Richard was growing a beard for his role in Shakespeare's *Mabeth*. Richard said he always wanted to be an actor, and was a theater major at Ohio State University. While he was there he did summer stock wherever he could at theaters in the Midwest. This included musicals in which he was called upon to sing and dance. He said he never was trained as a dancer and in one of these summer productions they put him in front, where he couldn't hide his dancing inability. Instead of trying to do the called for choreography he just made up his own thing and "acted like an idiot." He said the director loved it, and began a career of "acting like an idiot." He said he believes that everyone should strive for those things in life that make them happy. He said he has been fortunate as an actor, because he got the first professional role he tried out for , and he loves everything about acting. He said one of his favorite moments and important life messages from a play occurs in the screenplay *Dead Poets Society*.

Set in 1959 at a conservative and autocratic boys prep school, it tells the story of an English teacher who inspires his students to change their lives of conformity through his teaching of poetry and literature. The story is set at the fictional Welton Academy in Vermont The script was written based on the author's life at Montgomery Bell Academy, an all-boys preparatory school in Nashville, Tennessee. On the first day of class, the students are introduced to their overwhelming and extraordinary curriculum by sullen headmaster Gale Nolan (Norman Lloyd). However, their new English teacher John Keating (Robin Williams) first lesson is unorthodox by Welton standards, whistling the 1812 Overture and taking them out of the classroom to focus on the pictures of former Welton students in a trophy case. He tells them as they look at the pictures of those students, black and white photos taken in the early 1900s, they don't look very different from the students in his class who are looking at the photos. Their eyes are full of hope. He tells them to lean closer to the trophy case and the pictures. Can you hear what they are telling you? "*Carpe diem*" (Latin for 'seize the day', is what they are telling you. So seizing the opportunities of the day is a major part of the "Pursuit of Happiness."

Richard is very excited that for the first time there are enough Malibu Stage Repertory works to present a full season. The latest information about these can be found on the Malibu Stage website: <http://www.malibustagecompany.org>. We have printed the information below for this seasons productions:

February 6 - March 1, 2009: Malibu Stage Company Presents RABBIT HOLE

A play about an normal upscale family, the Corbetts, that have everything a regular family could want... until the day their world is turned upside down. Teeming with heartbreak, compassion, wit and honesty, *Rabbit Hole* is a nuanced and delicate piece of theater about family relationships, loss and hope. Having won or been nominated for almost every major playwriting award in the country, *Rabbit Hole* is widely regarded as one of the best new plays written in the last 25 years. Co-starring Malibu actress Katherine Ross. Directed by Graeme Clifford.

-Feb 6 opening Wine and Cheese reception to meet actors 8 PM - \$25.00
-Feb. 7 thru. Mar. 1 Fri. & Sat. 8 PM, Sun. 5 PM - \$20.00

Please see the "[Purchase Tickets](#)" page on our website for a link to Brown Paper Tickets, or call our box office at **310-589-1998**, or email us for tickets or details.

**May 1 - 24, 2009: Malibu Stage Repertory
Theatre presents LOOKING FOR NORMAL**

by Jane Anderson. Friday and Saturday nights, and Sunday evenings.

**Our 1st Subscriber Season of Four Plays- begins September 11, 2009
and runs through May 23, 2010.**

**Sept. 11 - Oct. 4, 2009: Malibu Stage Repertory
Theatre presents PROOF**

A Pulitzer prize winning play by David Auburn

**Oct. 30 - Nov. 22, 2009: Malibu Stage Repertory
Theatre presents I LOVE YOU, YOUR PERFECT, NOW
CHANGE**

A Pulitzer prize winning musical by Joe DiPietro and Jimmy Roberts.

**Feb. 12 - March 7, 2010: Malibu Stage Repertory
Theatre presents THREE TALL WOMEN**

A Pulitzer prize winning play by Edward Albee.

**April 30 - May 23, 2010: Malibu Stage Repertory
Theatre presents HOW I LEARNED TO DRIVE**

A Pulitzer prize winning play by Paula Vogel.

You can call the theater at (310) 589-1998 for further information on the season schedule and for tickets.

Malibu Rotary Middle and High School Singing Competition—January 29th at Malibu High School

Geoff Ortiz has been in contact with the new choral director at Malibu High School—Amy Lock. He has confirmed we will be conducting our annual Malibu Rotary Middle and High School singing competition on Thursday, January 29, 2009 at 7:00PM at the Malibu High School Auditorium. Malibu Rotarians will vote on the winners. As in previous years awards of \$250, \$150, \$100, for the 1st, 2nd, 3rd voted finishers in the high school and middle school groups will be awarded.

What is unique about this year's event is that because we are having in January (as opposed to June in previous years) the winner of the Malibu Rotary High School music competition can advance to our Rotary District 5280 2009 Governors Music Award Competition. The entry must be submitted by FEBRUARY 1, 2009. The Malibu Rotary Club will pay a \$50 entry fee for the Malibu High School winner to advance to district. Auditions will be held on March 21, 2009, and the Awards ceremony will take place on May 2nd, 2009 at the Rotary District Conference at the Westin Hotel, South Coast Plaza. Winners at this level receive \$1,000 for first, \$500 for second, and \$250 for third place.

La Estanzuela, Honduras Water Project

The Malibu Rotary Club is one of the clubs joining with the Century City Rotary Club to bring clean water to the Village of La Estanzuela in Honduras. There wasn't enough time to complete

funding of this project during the past Rotary year. We are hoping to complete the project this year with a Rotary Foundation Matching Grant

Calendar .

- January 21, 7:30 a.m. : (to be announced)
- January 28th, 7:30 a.m.: Bob Brager, Head of Public Works Dept, City of Malibu at Malibu Rotary Club Meeting at Fireside Room, Pepperdine University.
- January 29th, 7:00 p.m.(Thursday): Malibu Rotary Middle and High School Singing Competition—January 29th at Malibu High School
- February 4th 7:30 a.m. Ron Wildermuth, West Basin Municipal Water District at Fireside Room, Pepperdine University
 - February 11th, 7:30 a.m. : “Alternative Fuels”
 - February 18th, 7:30 a.m. :Bob Syvertsen, Craft talk
 - February 25th, 7:30 a.m.: Jim Thorsen, City Manager, speaking on “Legacy Park”

Join Malibu Rotary's MSN Group Website

The Malibu Rotary website at <http://groups.msn.com/maliburotary> is updated weekly. You can go to it and see our calendar of events, pictures of our speakers and activities, and past issues of our weekly bulletin, the illustrious *Malibu Rotary Club Surfwriter*. Contact information for the club, e-mail addresses of the club officers and other club information is also there. If you go to the site and become a

member of the site (which you can do whether or not you are a member of the Malibu Rotary Club) then you can post items on the site, and have access to [documents](#). Directions for becoming an *on-line group member* are available on the website. To join the online Maliburotary group as an online member you must sign up for a free MSN passport, fill out an on line form with a name (which can be an alias), an

e-mail address, and agree to the rules of membership. You can view most of the site without signing on as a member, but as an online member you can post information on the site, including the calendar and bulletin board, view [documents](#), and participate in the on-line interactive chat room.

John W. Elman, Editor ***The Malibu Rotary Club Surfwriter is sent weekly to members of the Malibu Rotary Club and friends of the Malibu Rotary Club, those interested in the work of Malibu Rotary. This e-mail is sent to you at no charge. If you wish to opt out of our mailing list send an e-mail to maliburotary@hotmail.com with the subject: Take Me Off Your Mailing List***