



Award Winning

Malibu Rotary Club Surfwriter

June 2, 2010

Official Newsletter of the Rotary Club of Malibu

Malibu Rotary Club President Elect and Acting President Christopher Bauman

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Edited by Dr. John W. Elman

Pictures by Dr John W. Elman and StepOnSecond.org

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Next Malibu Rotary Club June 9 Wednesday, 7:30 a.m. in Pepperdine Fireside Room: Kent Campbell will be featured speaker. His topic is "Protecting Your Online Reputation."

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- **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

Tod Lipka talking about Santa Monica's Step-Up on Second (see StepUpOnSecond.org)



Tod Lipka is the Chief Executive Officer of the non-profit mental health organization Step Up On Second, which is located at 1328 Second St in downtown Santa Monica. Tod is also Rotaract Chair of the Santa Monica Rotary Club.

We highly recommend the Step Up On Second’s website www.stepuponsecond.org. It has alternating quotes and pictures of people who live at or have been helped by the facility. One that kind of sums it up is “We all need a home that will give structure to our lives.” That quote dispels a myth that most of those that are homeless in the City of Santa Monica have chosen and prefer that lifestyle.

Depending on which source you look at from one third to one half of the homeless population suffers from serious mental illness.

Step Up on Second, a 501(c)3 organization, began providing psychosocial rehabilitation and support to people affected by severe and persistent mental illness in 1984, when a woman’s deep love for her son caused her to take action and create Step Up on Second. Searching for services and finding very few, founder Susan Dempsay had no choice but to start a center that offered the services she could not find anywhere else. According to Tod, the son was a high achiever in

high school and developed mental illness in college. He dropped out, lost friends, and didn't know what to do.



Susan's vision included a supportive environment with productive activities, including art therapies, supported employment training, coping skills, and case management. Family members accessed help through support groups that met every month. Initially, Step Up served approximately 10 individuals a day and offered a limited number of services.

What started humbly in a warehouse shell in Santa Monica is now a thriving community agency serving over 1,800 individuals affected by serious mental illness annually and provides 85 permanent supportive housing units at Step Up on Second, Step Up on Fifth, and Daniel's Village. Today, over 100 individuals are seen daily and offer over 22 different programs address the issues of the entire individual and provide a continuum of care, all free of charge. In short, Step Up on Second offers *Help, Hope and a Home*.

Step Up on Second calls those they serve "members," not "clients." The facility on 2nd St provides homes for long term homeless, while the new Daniel's Village provides a home for younger adults. Among the services provided, in addition to professional psychiatric help, include computer training labs, art gallery, laundry, food, and job training. They operate the Fresh Start Café on 2nd St as well as a catering service. Their members have the opportunity to experience the embrace of community, the healing power of art and productivity, and progress towards their self-determined goals. They also involve their members in [creative writing, performance and visual arts](#).

Tod points out that most of the homeless want a home. But the skills they have learned for survival on the street are not the same skills needed when in a home. There needs to be structure, and the individuals need to take responsibility. All those who are interviewed and qualified to live in one of the facilities must have taken the initiative to come in and proved that they are not at risk for violence. Tod emphasized that the people who have been accepted to live in their facilities are not violent. Tod said that the homeless are more likely to be the victims of violence than be the perpetrators of it. When Step Up On Second wanted to have a facility near Santa Monica College, people in the neighborhood were scared and didn't allow the facility to go in. Later they found other properties. There now a facility started in Hollywood.

For more information see www.steponsecond.org, call (310)394-6999, or go to 1338 Second St. You can have lunch at the Fresh Start Café.

Other News and Guests from June 2 Malibu Rotary Club Meeting

There were several guests at the Malibu Rotary Club meeting June 2. Our speaker brought someone to record is presentation. We believe her first name is **Dyana**, but she left before verification or last name was obtained. In addition there was a familiar visitor, **Julie Lewis**, a member of the Pleasanton, CA Rotary Club. There was also new visitor, **Jaime Coons**, a local singer-songwriter, who may become a member of the Malibu Rotary Club. Although spelled like the Spanish *Jaime* which is pronounced *Hai-Mai*, her name is pronounced *Ja-me*, with the English *J* as in John. She plans to also visit next week so say "Hello Jaime" when you see her. We hope she will sing at a future meeting.

President Chris asked about thoughts of having a dinner meeting on months with 5 Wednesdays. June is one of those months, and we will have such a meeting on June 30th, but a decision where to have dinner meeting was not made.

Chris also had us think about other future events that the Malibu Rotary Club will or could be participating in during the year:

- Chili Cook Off
- School on Wheels with Agnes Stevens
- Camp David Gonzalez
- Soldier Care Packages
- Expansion of SOS programs with Holly Packman (in addition to Thanksgiving Dinner for Homeless)
- Joining with Captain Rex to take kids on the high seas
- Joint Club musical even with Hollywood Club and Benedikt
- Sponsor some project in Dominican Republic like Melody St. John's "Buy Bikes of Dominican Kids"
- Coordinate events with Pepperdine Rotaract

Malibu Rotary Club Shelf at the Malibu Library

Ann Payne of the Optimist Club was a guest at the Malibu Rotary meeting on May 12th and announced that on Sunday, May 16, there was going to be a special meeting about the renovation of the Malibu Library at the library given by the Malibu City Council from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. and recommended that members of service clubs attend. She said the library has not been refurbished since 1978. She said Malibu City Councilwoman Pam Conley Ulich started the ball rolling on this when she visited other branches of the Los Angeles County Library system with her daughter and noticed that they had more to offer than the Malibu branch. She found out that although Malibu tax money was supposed to go into the system the county gave \$5 million less to the Malibu branch than the others, and she decided to do something about it. Among other amenities the new library will have a wall that will create a room in the library that could be used for such

things as Rotary meetings. The reason Ann was speaking to the Rotary club at this time was because in addition to the County contributions to the club, private and service club donations were being sought, and contributions of \$1000 made before June 1 would have contributors name placed on permanent shelf named at library. There is an opportunity, through matching funds, to have this \$1000 contribution done with a cost of only \$500.00 The Malibu Rotary Club board consisting of the members present at the Malibu Rotary Club meeting of May 12th unanimously voted to make the \$500 contribution to the library.



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 Supports 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.)”

For a while it looked like the matching grant process was not going to happen. When Malibu Rotarian Bill Wishard visited Ecuador in March, 2010, he was able to meet with Ecuador Past District 4400 Governor, Juan Prinz, to get project back on track.

Upcoming Programs

June 2. Tod Lipka, President and CEO of Step-up on Second (a social service agency in Santa Monica)

June 9. Kent Campbell, "Protecting Your Online Reputation"

June 16. Brian Crance, "Independent Filmmaking"

June 23. Remy O'Neill, "Cornucopia Foundation".

June 30. Club Assembly Dinner Meeting-- Dinner meeting at as yet undisclosed location (check for update). WE ARE NOT HAVING A MORNING MEETING AT PEPPERDINE TODAY!

July 7. Lester Wood, "Will Rogers"

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

