



*Award Winning*

## ***Malibu Rotary Club Surfwriter***

**March 18, 2009**

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

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**Edited by Dr. John W. Elman**

**Pictures by Dr John W. Elman**

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Malibu Rotary Club Website: [www.MalibuRotary.org](http://www.MalibuRotary.org)

Rotary International Website: [www.Rotary.org](http://www.Rotary.org)

Rotary District 5280 Website: [www.rotary5280la.org](http://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**

## **Ron Wildermuth—“Update From the West Basin Municipal Water District—Water Reliability 2020”**



**Ron Wildermuth** is the Public and Governmental Affairs Manager of the West Basin Municipal Water District. The West Basin Municipal Water District is water wholesaler in the Los Angeles area which covers an area from Malibu to Carson. Their office is in Carson. What he had to tell the Malibu Rotary Club when he spoke on March 18 was both very informative and scary.

In Southern California we take our water for granted. We turn on the tap and water comes out. What we don't realize is that we would be living in a desert with no water if it weren't for the great engineering feat of bringing northern California water to Southern California, a project proposed by Mulholland “who stole” northern California water so us southern Californians could, we would not be able to live here. Wildermuth likened the California water project that created the 1,250 dams and aqueducts in

northern California like building the pyramids in Egypt. He said it's as if we live in a giant theme park. He said 2 to 4 million people die each year in the world for lack of clean water, yet we have able to live here with hardly any natural water.

The scary part is the California water system that brings water to Southern California was designed to support 18 million people. Now there are 37 million people and growing. But wait, there is even more to worry about. The snow pack that supplies the water is disappearing. Whether it is global warming or something it is slowly disappearing. And the delta system in northern California is like the New Orleans swamp land, and with an earthquake the delta could break and we could have our own Katrina! If this happens it could stop the flow of water to Southern for 2, 3, or 4 years. Even now the pumps must be shut several times a years to protect certain fish that are endangered species. In 2004 the Delta broke and it took 4 years to fix. What about other sources of water like the Colorado River? Lake Mead on the Colorado 45 to 50% lower than it was.

The whole state is in a drought and the governor has declared a state of emergency. All the experts are saying the same thing: *External sources of water are unreliable!*

So what do we do? Move? Ron says there are things we can, will, and must do. People in northern California are already making major efforts to conserve water and we must too (the two guests at our meeting from Pleasanton in Northern California concurred how the Northern Californians are conserving water and were amazed how the Southern Californians by and large are not).

The 2020 Water Reliability initiative challenges Southern California to recycle its water so that by the year 2020 66% of Sothern California will be locally controlled. Currently only 20% of the water comes from southern California water recycling. City of Malibu can take pride that it is at the forefront in recycling water. We have heard how the designs of Legacy Park and the storm water filtering facility on Civic Center Way and Cross Creek do that.

Besides recycling ocean water desalination is being done. It is expensive to do, but as the price of water increases desalination becomes more of a viable alternative. In Orange County there is a facility that converts sewer water into drinking water. Ron said he drank water going through this process. It tasted good and he didn't get sick!



## Malibu Rotary Singing Winner 2nd in District

**Kaitlyn Connors**, who was awarded first prize in the high school division of The Annual Malibu Rotary Middle and High School singing competition, placed second in the Rotary District 5280 event held in March this year.

Kaitlyn competed against entrants sponsored by other Rotary Clubs in Los Angeles Rotary District 5280. 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.

The Malibu Rotary singing competition was held in January at Malibu High School

Winner of the Malibu Rotary middle school division was Jade Bates.

Three winners were chosen in each division in the Malibu Rotary competition. Second and third places in the high school division were won by Ren Martinez and Troy Dailey, respectively. Second and third places in the middle school division were won by Hailey Hoffman and Olivia Thorne, respectively. Malibu Rotarians voted 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 were awarded.

## **Other News and Guests from Last Malibu Rotary Club meeting**

**Malibu Rotary Club President-Elect Holmes Osborne** has submitted the first application from the Malibu Rotary Club for Rotary District Simplified Grant for the new Legacy Park Bench. **Bow Bowman** gave his High Five to the club for the members getting to the meeting on time, most arriving before 7:30 a.m. Bow announced that the Phase 2 of the City of Malibu Las Flores Creek Park has been approved and the Malibu Legacy Park Environmental Impact Report was approved and the park is almost ready for bidding.

### **Musical Malibu Rotary Club Fund Raiser**

**Margo Neal** and **Geoff Ortiz** are working on a possible fund raiser at Malibu Stage featuring the singing talents of Malibu Dolphin winner and popular Ralph's employee **Debra Caraway**. The event would also feature an auction and the first auction item offered was a flight along the coast in the plane piloted by club president Bow.

There were two guests at the Malibu Rotary Club meeting of Mar 18, **Don and Julie Lewis** from the Rotary Club of Pleasanton CA. We were told that that is one of 3 clubs in Pleasanton and the club has 100 members. We also learned that Pleasanton is the home of John Madden. Madden's son has a steak house in Pleasanton which is where the Pleasanton Rotary Club meets, at least some of its activities.

### **Why We Have Had Problem Opening Presentation Media Cabinet**

Since the projector has been installed in the Fireside Room we have had a hard time getting into the cabinet that turns on all the electronic gear. We were unaware that the key we had been given to open the Rotary club storage cabinet in the Fireside Room had a different lock than the media cabinet and the media cabinet lock broke, resulting in replacement of the lock last week. One of the reasons we were never able to get Braden's Power Point presentation up and running is because we were never told of the new lock on the presentation media cabinet.

The key will stay in the possession of the Malibu Rotary Club for the year with David Baird being the ultimate responsible person for the key for campus Presentation Media Services, although John Elman will generally maintain physical possession of it and give it to someone if he cannot attend meeting. If there still is a problem call Presentation Media at 310-506-6953.

### **Reports from Malibu Rotary's Ambassador to District Bill Wishard**

**Bill Wishard** assembled the various sections of the District Club Awards book with sections of booklet written by **President Bow Bowman, Geoff Ortiz, Margo Neal and John Elman** and delivered it to Rotary District Office at 8939 S. Sepulveda, Suite 312 prior to the deadline of 4:00 p.m. Friday March 20. The awards are given at the annual district conference (this year to be held May1-3 at South Coast Plaza Westin in Costa Mesa).

**Get to Malibu Rotary Meetings on time!**

One of the last items on President Bow Bowman's agenda was the meeting time. He asked if we should hold the meetings later since most people are not ready in their seats when the meeting begins. We agreed that if we started the meeting later and ended later it would be more difficult for people to get to work and we would have worse attendance. We all made a vow to get to the meetings at 7:15 a.m., get our food and be in our seats closer to 7:30 a.m. Meetings will be called to order no later than 7:45 a.m.

### **Global Alternative Energy Alliance (Rotary Club project)**

Editor's Note: Lisa Mueller has been to our club a couple times to talk about the Global Energy Alliance. She sent us the following e-mail looking for our sponsorship of a event for the Global Alternative Energy Alliance. There isn't much time but we should discuss it at next meeting.

*Hello Guys!*

*.. it has been a while since I came out to visit your club!*

*I will indeed be in Los Angeles again, in a few days (until April 8).*

*My schedule is extremely booked up, but I do want to try to join you for your club's weekly meeting. Even if I cannot make it to your meeting, I could really use you help on something!*

*I'd like to speak with you about hosting a fellowship event in the next couple of weeks, especially since your club was among the first to pledge your support for our endeavor.*

*As you know, my team and I are feverishly working to launch the Global Alternative Energy Alliance (Rotary Club project) and the TV show and DVD to support and promote the use of alternative energy, worldwide.*

*One of our goals is to have several events take place in the next 3 weeks, in support of this project, because it is extremely timely!*

*I am not talking about a big fancy fundraiser event. Just something really simple, like a pot-luck or barbeque or old-fashioned fireside chat, hosted at someone's home. We would ask each participant to donate \$20 or \$30 toward the project. And then let the fun and fellowship commence!*

*Does this sound like something that you would be able (and willing) to help me set up?*

*Dates that I would like to consider: the weekends of March 28 and April 4, 2009.*

*Please give me a call, so we can discuss the possibilities, OK?*

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Lisa Mueller  
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*Editors Note: Most of you know how strongly I feel about the Project TRIUMPH program conceived by Ilan Magdali of the Newbury Park Rotary Club. The program 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 Mid East, but at least this program is trying to do something, In the last issue of The Malibu Rotary Club Surfwriter I had written about e-mail communications I had had with Frances Fuji of the Project TRIUMPH organizing committee. She had written*

“In light of the current economic climate and more challenging environment for securing grant monies, instead of hosting students this year, we are taking the opportunity to strengthen infrastructure in Israel and to establish collaborative relationships with aligned organizations.

Upon our request, Shaul, from the Rotary Club of Haifa, provided us with a budget and proposal to hire a part-time facilitator to be responsible for year-round support of both new Project TRIUMPH students and alumni. We are sending money to contribute to the facilitator’s salary, and she has already begun meeting with the kids there.

We are excited about prospects for 2010 and beyond (the plan is to resume bringing kids over in 2010, assuming that we can raise enough funds in 2009) and believe we will emerge from this fallow year with an even stronger, more well-rounded and promising program than ever before.”



In a subsequent e-mail she had written about what some of the student alumni of the Project TRIUMPH program (many of whom we had met when they were here) were currently doing after participating in the Project TRIUMPH program:

“Our greater vision is to inspire leaders of tomorrow by imparting wisdom and broadening the perspective of high school students. Our first year students, who were here in 2006, are now in the army or beginning to build careers. We have stayed in contact with some of them through Facebook. Very soon, their generation will be making pivotal choices that will impact not only their region, but the world.

We're proud of all the young people we've worked with, and we thank you for your belief in them.

## **Rotary District Convention**

On April 30 - May 3, 2009 The Rotary District Conference will be The Westin South Coast Plaza Hotel, 686 Anton Boulevard. Costa Mesa, CA 92626 (see flyer at <http://www.clubrunner.ca/Data/5280/html/45459/Conference%2009%20Flyer%201200%20dpi.pdf>).

Online registration by credit card for the upcoming District Conference is now available. Scheduled for April 30 - May 3, 2009 at the [Westin Hotel, South Coast Plaza](#). The conference promises four days of fellowship, education, social events, a golf tournament, plenary sessions and more. In addition to the Rotary activities there will an opportunity to see a production of the musical *Grease* at the Sergerstrom Performing Art Center located next to the hotel. Click [HERE](#) to see a specially created video or copy <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=73xOp6MGhg> into your browser.

Click on the image immediately below to the left to register online, or the image to the right if you wish to print a copy of the registration form and mail or fax it to the District Office.

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|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>* Credit card registration form: </p> | <p>* PDF registration form: </p> |
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To view the specially created video about the conference, click [HERE](#). It is 3:47 long. (Video created by Gidas Peteris of the Beverly Hills Rotary Club; narration by Brad Robinson, conference chair and member Beverly Hills Rotary Club.)

### **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

## Speakers

Mar 25 2009

**Don Schmitz**

""The Coalition for Fire Safe Communities""

Malibuite Don Schmitz tells about "The Coalition for Fire Safe Communities"

Apr 1 2009

**Pepperdine Provost Dr Darryly Tippin**

"Ferment and Change in the Modern University: What Lies Ahead"

Dr. Darryly Tippin, Pepperdine Provost, "Ferment and Change in the Modern University: What Lies Ahead"

Apr 8 2009

**Dr John W Elman**

"Navigating the New Malibu Rotary Club Website"

Longtime Editor of the Malibu Rotary Club Surfwriter and creator of Malibu Rotary Club's first website in 2002, John Elman, will show how the new ClubRunner website MalibuRotary.org will not only inform guests what the club is about, but how it will act as a hub for club activity, and enable member participation.

Apr 15 2009

**Dr. Allison Richards and Dr. Larry Stock**

"Helping Victims of trauma/landmine in Burma "

Remember when Dr. Allison Richards came and spoke to us about the work GHAP is doing in Burma and we wanted her to come back with more information? Well, she will come on April 15 and bring Dr. Larry Stock to be speaker that day. He lives in Malibu and has been the head of the trauma/landmine program since GHAP started. She asks, "When we come back, do you know what people would like to hear about in more detail? Larry is the head of the trauma management program that mainly deals with treatment of landmine injuries as well as other traumatic injuries. But we can talk in more detail on any aspect."

Apr 22 2009

**Holmes Osborne**

"Malibu Rotary Hosts Community Business Breakfast"

Holmes Osborne is organizing this "Business Breakfast" to introduce local business people to Rotary

**April 30 - May 3, 2009 Rotary District Conference The Westin South Coast Plaza Hotel**, 686 Anton Boulevard. Costa Mesa, CA 92626 (see flyer at

<http://www.clubrunner.ca/Data/5280/html/45459/Conference%2009%20Flyer%201200%20d pi.pdf>

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