



Malibu Rotary Club Surfwriter

October 20, 2010

**Official Newsletter of the Rotary Club of Malibu
Malibu Rotary Club President Christopher Bauman**

Edited by Dr. John W. Elman

Pictures by Dr John W. Elman and Kathleen McAfee

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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 \(2010-2011\)](#) Ray Klinginsmith
- Rotary District 5280 Governor (2010-2011): Doug Baker

Two candidates for Masters in Pepperdine's School of Public Policy Kathleen McAfee & Edwin Afriyie Return to talk about their experience working with the People and Government of Rwanda



The April 7, 2010 issue of the *Malibu Rotary Surfwriter* featured the story and picture (shown left) of **Kathleen McAfee** and **Edwin Afriyie**, two candidates for masters degrees in Pepperdine’s School of Public Policy, who presented a program entitled “Rwanda-The Next Step.”

They both came to the Pepperdine School of Public Policy hoping to make a difference in the world, and wanted to continue on projects that were begun by three Pepperdine School of Public Policy students the previous year in Rwanda.

Kathleen pointed out at the time, “We are humanitarians in the making. This is why an internship within the Rwandan Government is such a wonderful opportunity for us. We are dedicated to the Pepperdine and Malibu Rotary Club’s missions to service. Service is calling us to Rwanda. This is an opportunity to assist in building a country, literally, from the ground up. The work that we will be doing in Rwanda will essentially be planting the roots of society that was lost during the civil war of the 1990s.”

After spending two months in the country, they came back to the Malibu Rotary Club on October 20 to report on the opportunity they were given, and from all indications, it exceeded their already high expectations. In fact, they both agreed that the experience changed their lives and they made friends whom they continue to correspond with. They each said that the hope to return to Rawanda—that it is truly a land of opportunity for everyone.

Each of the students were involved in different aspects of the country's government. Kathleen was involved in social services and community development. This involved things like old age pensions and social security. Edwin, who is from Ghana, had the opportunity to work directly with the prime minister of the country. The two highest executives in the Rwanda government are the president and the prime minister. They are from different tribes and have run against each other in the election. The president is the one with the highest votes and the prime minister is the one with the second highest votes, but the prime minister is very active in the policies of the government. A big emphasis of the prime minister is to have more decentralization of the government and leave more of government administration to the local districts.



Paul Kagame is the popular President of Rwanda. Edwin and Kathleen saw him at the large stadium (left) where thousands cheered.

He was trained by the U.S. military in 1990 and ultimately became the commander of the [Rwandan Patriotic Front \(RPF\)](#), whose victory over the incumbent government in July 1994 effectively ended the [Rwandan genocide](#). Under his leadership, Rwanda has

been called Africa's "biggest success story" and Kagame has become a public advocate of new models for foreign aid designed to help recipients become self-reliant. He became President of Rwanda in March 2000, after Bizimungu was deposed. Three and a half years later, on August 25, 2003, he won a landslide victory in the first [national elections](#) since his government took power in 1994, winning 95.5% of the votes. He won another landslide victory this year.

Edwin says there is unprecedented economic growth in Rwanda now. There is a social unity. Schools are being built—technology is being imported. There is ample opportunity for development.

While in the country Edwin was able to observe first with the the Prime Minister villagers benefiting from Ubudehe programs. One of these is "One Cow, One Family." In this program people from the government try to find the most needy family who had enough land for a cow. They could then use the cow for milk for the family and sell it for money. Edwin was also able to attend the government encourage town hall meetings, where villagers could express their needs to government officials.



Kathleen talked about some of the things she was able to do in Community Development. One of the most appealing, especially to those of us in Rotary, was *Umaganda*. Everyone in the neighborhood, including political figures, teams up on a community service project. This could be things like planting crops, as in the cornucopia in Malibu, or laying pipe to bring water to people that

need it (like the Rotary water projects in central America). Kathleen was on the committee that was giving a cash prize to the best *Umaganda* project and the water project was the winner. Families who live further away from running water would have their children go to streams with buckets to get water and while they were doing that they couldn't go to school—the project benefited in many ways.

Kathleen was also able to with a group to evaluate housing development. Rural people were encouraged to move in developments where they could get more services. Both Kathleen and Edwin were able to travel over the entire country of Rwanda, and see Lake Kivu, which one of the African Great Lakes. It lies on the border between the [Democratic Republic of the Congo](#) and [Rwanda](#), and has several settlements and islands.

One of the big thrills for Edwin was being on the African continent during the FIFA 2010 World Cup Soccer matches being held in South Africa. During the matches Edwin went out at night to public places where everyone was watching the matches on TV. Even though Rwanda had no team they routed for the other African teams when they played teams from the rest of the world. It was difficult for Edwin when Ghana played the US. Although he was born in Ghana he is has been a US citizen for years. During the entire tournament the experience got Edwin even closer to the Rwanda people, and who showed an African unity and pride during these games.

Edwin and Kathleen under their presentation with “Moving Forward: Rwanda 2011”, the next chapter of the Pepperdine School of Public Policies students experience with Rwanda. Next year's students have already been chosen and are excited about what they have heard from Edwin and Kathleen.

Meet Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar and Pepperdine Senior Luci Prosapio



Luci Prosapio, Pepperdine Seaver College Senior from Little Falls, MN, has been accepted as a Rotary International Ambassadorial Scholar for 2011, and will have a postgraduate year studying in Port Elizabeth, South Africa. She is a double major in History and International Studies, and is on the board of the Pepperdine University Seaver College Student Programming Board, a group of students which plans, organizes, and produces events for the Pepperdine Community. She spent her sophomore year in Florence, Italy.

Pepperdine University has had one or more of its senior students become a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar every year since 2005 (see [Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar Brian Mogler](#) on [MalibuRotary.org](#)). Because there is such a limited number that are accepted from each Rotary district Malibu Rotarian and Seaver College

Dean Emeritus David Baird encourages qualified students to seek sponsorship from their hometown Rotary clubs and districts. Seaver College Alum Brian Mogler had done that in 2008 and was sponsored by the Rotary district of his hometown Rotary Club in Mankato, MN. It is fortunate then that Little Falls, MN is located in Rotary District 5950, a different Rotary district than Mankato. It is in the southern part of the state, south of the Twin Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul. Luci's hometown of Little Falls is in the middle of the state, just north of the Twin Cities, geographically in Rotary District 5580. There is no Rotary Club in the small town, so Luci applied to the Rotary Club of Duluth, MN (one of 4 clubs in the that beautiful city on the shore of Lake Superior). It is also where Luci went on August 28th for her successful interview, just at classes were about to start at Pepperdine in Malibu.

Some interesting things about Duluth and Rotary District 5580: The main Duluth Rotary Club is Duluth #25, the 25th Rotary Club, chartered in 1911. The club website has biographies of its 16 charter members. Those 16 new Rotarians hosted the 1912 Rotary International Convention. Rotary District 5580, in which Duluth is located, claims to be the largest geographical club in North America. It is an International District consisting of Northwestern Ontario in Canada between longitudes 85o and 90o (3 Thunder Bay clubs and 1 Nipigon club); the northwestern tip of Wisconsin (2 Superior clubs and 1 Ashland club); the northern half of Minnesota and all of North Dakota. If you were driving at the average speed of 70 MPH (116 KPH), it would take 17.5 hrs to drive across the district. This vast area that encompasses 240,000 square miles (614,400 square kilometers) in three time zones (Eastern, Central and Mountain) is home to more than 3,000 Rotarians in 65 clubs plus a number of Interact and Rotaract clubs.

Other News and Guests from Last Malibu Club Meeting

Knowing about the topic of the guest speakers **Edwin Afriyie** and **Kathleen McAfee** David Baird invited Rotary Ambassadorial scholar **Luci Prosapio** to the meeting. After the meeting the three were able to get together and talk about Luci's upcoming experience in South Africa.

Malibu Club President **Chris Bauman** talked said that he and **Kevin Boling** were taking the morning off from their work on Friday to attend the special Rotary District Symposium for Small Clubs in Los Angeles. Kevin reminded everyone to get reservations in for the Rotary Foundation Celebration "House of Rotary" at the House of Blues Sunday November 7 at 2:00 p.m., as well as turning in the \$100 raffle tickets for the event. Family is invited to the House of Blues affair and cost is \$75 per person. Chris said that Fred has sent check from Malibu Rotary Club to the District for participation in the bicycles for students in the Dominican Republic. Also he talked about several Rotary Foundation projects in Rwanda, such as the "Bridge to Rwanda" support of a unique orphanage school. A special school has been build that has an orphanage for children whose parents and died in the genocide. The school itself gives a good education and raises money from tuition of families who can afford to pay it.

Jack Corrodi noted that the new Malibu Legacy Park has no rest rooms. He wondered if the Malibu Rotary Club might consider a project like the first Rotary Club in Chicago a hundred years ago and build a restroom in the park. When Jack found out that such a project would cost \$100,000 to build he amended his suggestion to perhaps having a couple of Porta Pottys placed there with Rotary emblems on the side. He said that **Kevin Boling's** Universal Waste Systems could empty them periodically. Does UWS handle that kind of waste?



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.

Calendar

**Nov 7, 2:00 p.m. Rotary Foundation Celebration and Fund-raiser
“House of Rotary” Mardi Gras Event held November 7, at 2:00 pm at the
House of Blues, 8430 Sunset Blvd in Hollywood. \$75.00 per person**

**Nov. 17 , (Thursday 6:00 p.m.) Malibu Rotarians in conjunctions with SOS
Sponsor, prepare, serve Thanksgiving Dinner for homeless at Webster School.**

**January 11th (Tuesday, evening) The Malibu Rotary Middle and High School
Singing Competition will be held the evening of Tuesday, as a yet to be
determined location.**

More Calendar Next Page

Future Speakers at Malibu Rotary Club Meetings:

- Oct 27 2010
- **Bob Brager**
"City of Malibu Public Works Dept."
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- Nov 3 2010
- **Jason VanaderPal**
"Improving Your Public Speaking"
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- Nov 10 2010
- **Gary Darakjian**
"SOS"
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- Nov 17 2010
- **Jean-Marie Bontous**
"The Social Media"
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- Dec 8 2010
- **Otis Bradley**
"Building "Green""

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