



Malibu Rotary Club Surfwriter

September 22, 2010

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

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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 Klingensmith**
- **Rotary District 5280 Governor (2010-2011): Doug Baker**

Riverboat Gamblers, AA and Other Amazing Facts About K. Boling Legacy



Kevin Boling was prepared to show his autobiographical PowerPoint Presentation “Kevin Boling-The Man and the Myth,” as well as the DVD about his company, Universal Waste Systems (UWS), but again, the Pepperdine Presentation Media Department, which does not open its doors until 11:30 a.m. on Wednesday mornings, was not able to deliver us a key to open the audio-visual cabinet to turn on the projector. Malibu Rotary’s own A-V cabinet key had been locked in the Malibu Rotary cabinet and it has been missing the last two weeks. But nothing fazes Kevin. When the program is Kevin Boling, and if he is there in person, you can expect an entertaining program, with or without media and/or props, and today was no exception.

He decided to tell us about some of his colorful ancestors, specifically his grandfather and his great grandfather.

His great grandfather was born on an Oklahoma Indian reservation. Today Indian reservations are kind synonymous with gambling casinos and gaming, but Kevin’s great grandfather, James Huston Boling, didn’t confine is gambling to the reservation. He was, in fact, a professional riverboat gambler on the Mississippi River in the 1800’s. He gambled everywhere, and wore a special truss to help him avoid the gunshots that had been fired at him under the table when he had been accused, on more than one occasion, of cheating. He was a rough and tough

dude. In addition to being a gambler, James Boling had a detective agency, and people hired him to protect their property. In although he died so many years ago that Kevin never had a chance to meet him, he is still helping his great grandson protect his property. How can great grandpa James do this, you may ask? Well, it turns out that James had signs made for his clients in the detective agency PROPERTY PROTECTED BY JAMES H. BOLING DETECTIVE AGENCY. Kevin has these signs in front of his house, so that would be robbers will have to think twice, if they don't want to mess with the great James H. Boling and his group of detectives.

Kevin did get to know James' son, and Kevin's grandfather Leonard Stephan Boling. Both James and Leonard were, among other things, alcoholics and gamblers. Grandfather would often leave home broke, and miraculously return home days later with pockets full of cash. Leonard's wife was always trying to keep him from drinking, and she did not allow him to drink at home. She didn't want him to drink anywhere else either. They had moved to San Pedro, and Leonard's wife, found out that Leonard was drinking at a bar in town. Though a small woman, she was quite forceful. When she stomped into the bar everyone knew it. As she pulled Leonard out of the bar she told the bar tender, in no uncertain terms, "I don't want you to ever serve him again!"

It didn't take too long before Leonard again found himself drawn to that bar, sneaking out of the house when he hoped his wife wouldn't notice. Of course she did notice and this time, before she headed for the bar, she wrapped a lead stick in leather. The doors to the bar flew open as she approached the bar tender, with her husband bewildered in the corner. "I told you not to serve him!" she yelled with fire in her eyes. She took her leather covered lead stick and busted the bar up pretty good before anyone could stop her.

In the 1933 Long Beach Earthquake Kevin's grandmother and grandfather were separated for a week. Neither knew where the other was, nor if they had survived the quake. Since that time, Kevin said, a rule of the Boling household is to always let the family know where you are. It is a steadfast rule that Kevin employs with his four children.

Kevin remembers the day of his grandfather's funeral. AT the time Kevin's parents felt he was too young to attend the funeral. He stayed home, but found the house soon filled with 200 people that he didn't know. They were friends of his grandfather, who were members of the Alcoholics Anonymous branch that grandfather Leonard had met during his 30 year membership. They brought enough food to the Boling home, Kevin says, that they didn't have to go to the market for a couple months. Grandfather loved his AA brethren and they loved him. On his headstone was printed the AA prayer which Kevin believes indicates we are all powerless unless we accept a higher source:

God, grant me the serenity

To accept the things I cannot change;

Courage to change the things I can;

And wisdom to know the difference.

Also on the headstone was the date *January 27, 1947*. Kevin said the significance of the date is that it was day grandfather Leonard joined AA. Later when Kevin's grandmother,

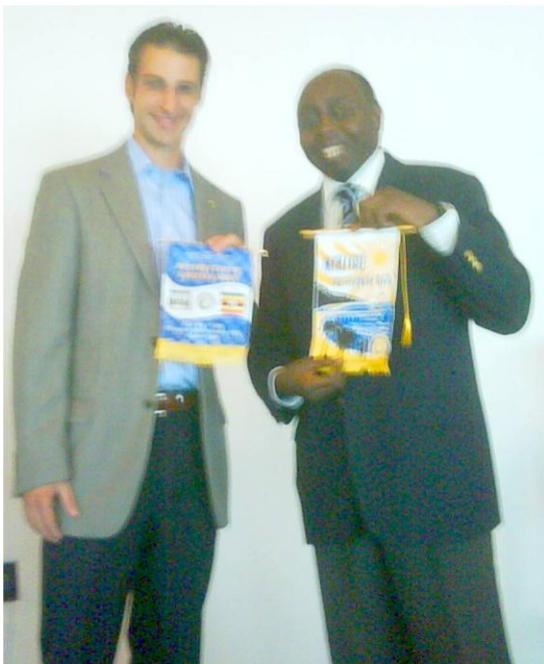
Leonard's wife, died, Leonard's headstone was replaced by a joint headstone for the two grandparents. Kevin has his grandfather's original headstone at his home.

Kevin said that as his great grandfather and grandfather were run out of all different towns for their gambling and drinking, and grandmother's breaking up the bar in San Pedro, they finally ended up in Riverside. Kevin's father, Kevin, his wife, and three of their four children all went to the same high school—Riverside Polytechnic High School.

Kevin's father played French horn in the Riverside Poly band in 1939, and for this achievement, was given a badge, similar to a letterman's badge. All of Kevin's children excelled in athletics and lettered in sports. When his older children received their lettermen's jackets Kevin had replicas of papa's 1939 band badge sewed onto them.

Kevin's youngest daughter Kelli, is the only member of the family who will have not graduated from Riverside Poly. Instead she is going to Foothill High School in Orange County, which is the CIF Division 1 Girls Water Polo defending champion. Kelli is looking at collegiate women's Water Polo programs at University of Michigan, Arizona State and Maryland, because of her talents showcased on that team. It also may be one of the reasons the Boling family just moved to Tustin.

Other News and Guests from Last Malibu Club Meeting



There were more guests at the September 22 meeting of the Malibu Rotary Club than Malibu Rotarians. The one that had come the longest distance was the **Hon. Justice Goeffry W.M Kiryabwire**, of the Commercial Division High Court of Uganda. He is member of the Rotary Club of Kampala West, which has about 40 members and was chartered on February 26th, 1970, a few months before the Malibu Rotary Club. He is shown in the picture trading Rotary club flags with Malibu Rotary Club President **Chris Bauman**. He is at the Pepperdine Law School this month, and was brought to the Malibu Rotary Club meeting by Lorne, who is from the Law School. Other guests at the meeting included **Kathleen McAfee** and **Edwin Afriyee**, the Pepperdine Master of Public

Policy students who had just returned from Rwanda after working with the government there on social programs. We had heard Kathleen and Edwin talk about their trip before they left and they will be giving us a program about what they did in a future meeting.

Other guests at the meeting included **Warren Bobrow**, of the Westchester Rotary club, who stayed after the meeting to talk to Chris about the Rotary District high school student exchange. Another returning visitor to the meeting was **Cliff Mortensen**, the recent Pepperdine MBA graduate, working at Northwestern Mutual.

Chris announced that next week, September 29th, the 5th Wednesday of September, he and Leslie will again be hosting a pot luck dinner for the members of the Malibu Rotary Club and their significant others. It will be similar to the one they hosted on June 30th, and it was recommended that everyone bring again whatever dishes they brought to that one. An e-mail will be going out with more details. There will be no morning meeting that day.



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 its 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

September 29, no morning meeting, but 5th Wednesday Potluck Dinner Meeting at home of Malibu Rotary Club President Chris Bauman and Wife Leslie

Oct 13—Lyn Morris, Director of Emergency Services, Didi Hirsch Mental Health Center in Culver City

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