

The Award Winning
Malibu Rotary Club **Surfwriter**

September 25, 2013

Official Newsletter of the Rotary Club of Malibu

Malibu Rotary Club President William Wishard

Edited by Dr. John W. Elman

Pictures by Dr. John W. Elman and Raincatcher.org

In This Issue (click underlined topics for web link when connected to the Internet)

- **Next Malibu Rotary Club Meeting October 2nd at noon (with Fellowship starting at 11:30 a.m.) in LC152 at Pepperdine Drescher Campus. Malibu Rotarian John W Elman and Sterling Long-Colbo, current Shelter Box Ambassador for the Greater Los Angeles area, will present the Jim Dyer Legacy video interview by Mel Powell of the e-Club of San Fernando Valley explaining and showing what is in a Shelter Box. Jim Dyer was to have been our Rotary District Governor this year and at the time was Shelter Box Ambassador for Greater Los Angeles.**
- **Last Week David Zielski Executive Director of RainCatcher : "Solving the Worlds Water Crisis--1 Raindrop at a time"**
- **October 24th is WORLD POLIO DAY**
- Check [Calendar](#) on Malibu Rotary website MalibuRotary.org
- Malibu Rotary Club Website: www.MalibuRotary.org
- Rotary International Website: www.Rotary.org

- Rotary District 5280 Website: www.rotary5280.org/
- Rotary District 5280 “Rotarians Doing Business With Rotarians” Website: <http://yp5280.org/>
- RI President (2013-2014) Ron D Burton
- Rotary District 5280 Governor (2013-2014): Doug Baker
- Assistant Governor for Malibu Rotary Club: Alice Mautean (2013-14)

David Zielski Executive Director of RainCatcher : "Solving the Worlds Water Crisis--1 Raindrop at a time"



At was with great anticipation we welcomed **David Zielski** to the Malibu Rotary Club meeting on September 25. He had already spoken at the Beverly Hills Rotary Club, and that club is ready to a project in Africa with a Rotary Club for a RainCatcher project. David was here to tell what RainCatcher is a what it does.

About David Zielsk

From the early age of 12, David Zielski worked with his father drafting for the family mechanical-engineering firm. His love of computers and building things led him to Boston in pursuit of a degree in electrical engineering. In the early 1990s, he used his knowledge of mechanical, electrical and computer

engineering to help launch the first commercially available Caller ID product.

Driven by the growing environmental push in the 2000s, David and his wife started a company that manufactured and marketed all-natural products. Besides achieving national

and international distribution, their products were used exclusively in a sustainable off-the-grid community in Taos, New Mexico where he gained first-hand expertise in sustainable energy and water systems. David's interest was piqued and he continued to study sustainable living systems.

While back in school part-time for his MBA in Marketing, he met RainCatcher's founder Mark Armfield, and was captivated by how simple, effective and sustainable rainwater harvesting can be and the significant impact that can be made in the lives of many. His appreciation for the RainCatcher mission and his love of energy and water systems led him to get involved. With the RainCatcher team, he helps combine the ancient art of rainwater harvesting with today's technology, providing sustainable, affordable sources of clean drinking water to people in need.

RainCatcher founder Mark Armfield, who is CEO of Armfield Design and Construction, has been involved with sustainable and green building since the 1980's. Mark's current projects include water management, bluff preservation, rainwater harvesting and catchment designs around the Malibu area.

Mark served three terms as president of the Malibu Association of Contractors and on behalf of this association he received the prestigious Malibu Dolphin award for outstanding achievement and goodwill for the community. As president, he and the Association built 18 charity projects, from new school parks and theaters to new classrooms. Mark is also the recipient of the Certificate of Congressional Recognition for outstanding and invaluable service to the community from the United States Congress, as well as numerous awards and recognition from the state of California.

Mark has also served as Director of the Malibu Chamber of Commerce, Chairman of Government Affairs at the City of Malibu, a Member of the Malibu City Business Round table and a Member of the City of Malibu Sustainable Building Committee.

Mark started RainCatcher in Malibu in 2009 as a charitable 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization to help solve a world crisis in providing clean drinking water. We take clean drinking water for granted, but in many parts of the world, even parts where there is plentiful rainfall, drinking water is not clean. Children are often asked to go a river or polluted well, often several kilometers away, to carry jugs of water home, instead of going to school. The water brought home is so polluted that the whole family is chronically sick.

David was a natural to join Mark and his team at RainCatcher in 2009. He was originally brought in to help with their website www.RainCatcher.org, which of course he did. With a background not only in computer technology, but with sustainable energy and water systems, David became the Executive Director RainCatcher.

The picture below shows a boy holding 2 glasses of water. You might think the glass on the right is holding chocolate milk. It is not. It is a glass of dirty water that the boy would typically be drinking if it wasn't for RainCatcher, which provided the filtered water the boy is holding on the left side of the picture—the new “clear” water.

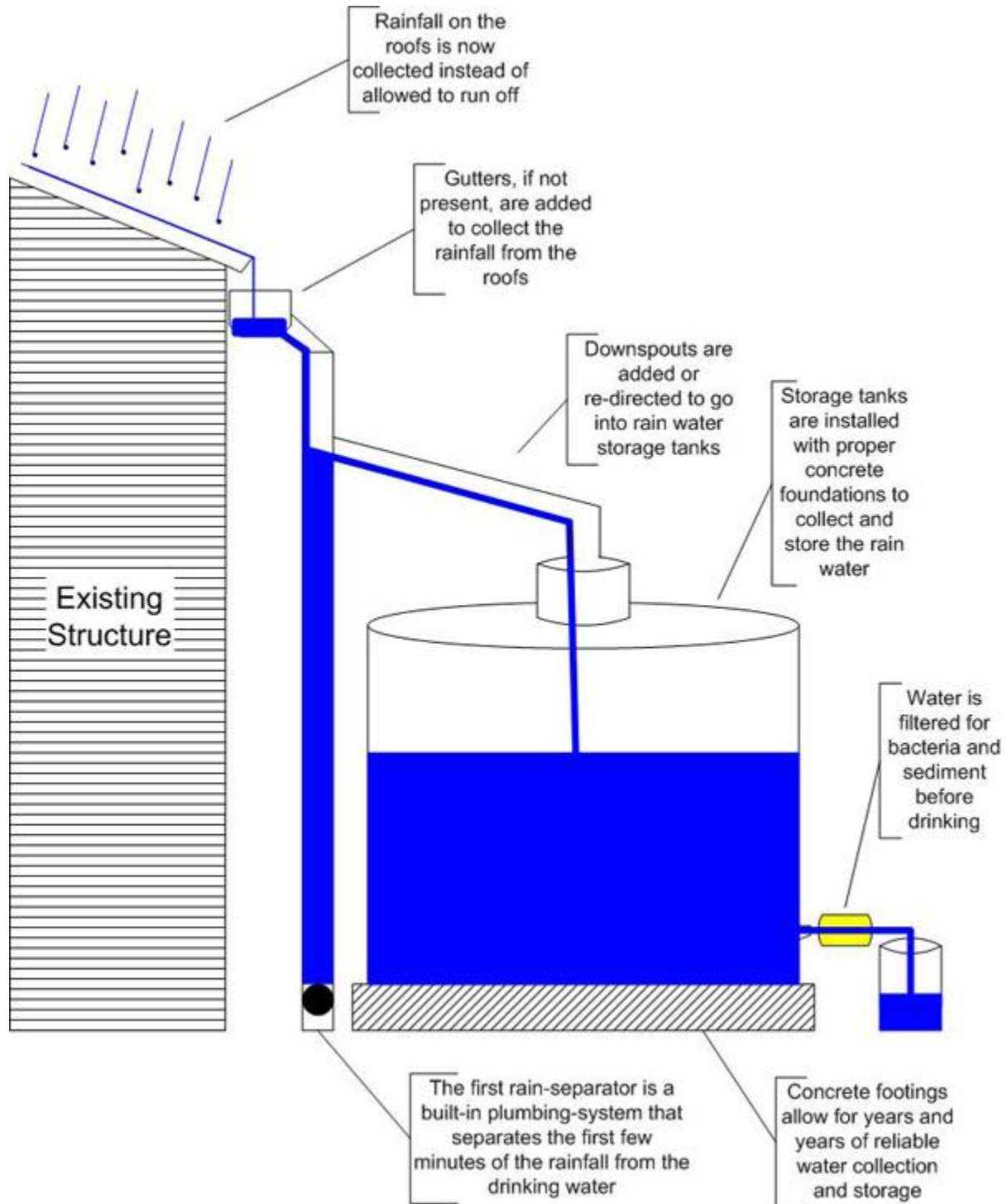


Rainwater-Harvesting: a Sustainable Solution

Harvesting rainwater makes good sense. It doesn't contain the dissolved minerals and salts typically found in the well water you might be using to supplement your outdoor water needs. Rain is a good source of water that would otherwise become polluted runoff picking up chemicals and other dangerous waste as it caroms down streets and gutters on its way to a network of storm drains or the nearest low-lying body of water.

There is evidence that collecting rainwater in cisterns was a common practice in the Middle East more than 4,000 years ago, and its origins probably go back much farther than that. In arid climates, or on islands like Gibraltar that lack river systems, trapping and storing large volumes of rainwater is a practical necessity.

Below the schematic for the RainCatcher system which is being deployed at schools in communities in Africa that have no clean water.



Below is installed RainCatcher System at Itendero School in Mbarara, Uganda



THE POISONED WATERHOLE

In June 2012, RainCatcher had the opportunity to provide clean water to a community of 7,000 people near Mbarara, Uganda who had undergone a frightening experience.

Five years prior to RainCatcher's visit, there was an incident involving children fetching water from a local watering hole. It was located on a private plot of land where the children would cross a field to collect water for themselves and their families. The closest alternative for these children was an inconsistent source, and when available the water could be contaminated. Otherwise the children had to make a three-kilometer trip to a well that was sometimes shared with animals, and then carry large containers of water back to their village.

The landowner was unhappy with what was going on. She did not want children running across her field, so she put up a barbed wire fence around the watering hole. This did not stop the children from coming; they easily slipped under the barbed wire and continued to collect water for their families, avoiding the trek to other unpredictable water sources. One night the landowner turned to desperate measures and poisoned her own watering hole. She would rather not be able to use the water herself than have these children trespass on her land. The next day, eleven children went to collect water as usual, and drank some from the poisoned source. Upon returning to their village, they suddenly became very ill. Thankfully the school headmaster saw the children and, deducing what had happened, acted quickly enough that there were no deaths resulting from the poisoned water. Having narrowly escaped tragedy, the people of this village recognized that they needed a source of clean water, especially for the sake of their children.



The Poisoned Water Hole

With their new RainCatcher rainwater-harvesting system, the 320 children attending Itendero Senior Secondary School have a sustainable source of clean, safe drinking water in their own village. They no longer have to take risks traveling or trespassing to access a potentially hazardous water source. Instead, they can collect water from the system built onto their school building, knowing that it will cause no harm to them or their families. They are free to attend school as they should, instead of missing class to fetch water or recover from water-related illnesses.



© 2013 RainCatcher.org

Applauding the newly installed rainwater harvesting system at the Itendero School

RainCatcher has been able to provide clean water to Itendero School, and many others like it, using the ancient technique of rainwater harvesting coupled with advanced filtration. This method has the lowest cost per person when compared to other types of water projects, and is more sustainable. Just one inch of rainfall on a 1,000 square-foot roof provides 625 gallons of safe drinking water. Mbarara, Uganda receives 34.3 inches of rain and 166 days of rainfall each year, making it the perfect environment for rainwater harvesting. RainCatcher regularly travels throughout Uganda and Kenya, searching for places like Mbarara to receive rainwater-harvesting systems.

“Thanks to our generous donors and supporters, we are able to give water, life, and love to the people in Africa who need it. As we continue to grow, we hope to greatly diminish the number of people in the world without access to clean water.”

David said there are 4 phases to the projects RainCatcher does:

1. Assess the problem—what will it take to fix the problem and how much will it cost?
2. Raise money for the specific project
3. Do the project, which not only is the physical construction and placement of the RainCatcher reservoir filtration system but education of the people on why and how to use it.
4. Maintenance—besides one paid person in each community who is responsible for keeping the filtered water system working David or someone from the local Raincatcher

staff travels to each site each 6 months or 12 months. David points out that many wells that are put in by organizations (Rotary and others) fail after they are installed because there is not maintenance plan put in place. With RainCatcher there is regular follow up care for each project.

David said that sometimes there are families that live so far away from the school where a RainCatcher system is installed that they cannot take advantage of the community school facility. In such cases the family is given filters to use before using their existing water. Typically each system costs about \$10,000 and everything is supplied locally except the filters which are specially manufactured. (We wonder if these might be places where Biosand filters might work [similar to the ones Malibu Rotary Club helped install in Ecuador in conjunction with the Pontiac Michigan Rotary Club and the Rotary Club Tsachilas of Santo Domingo de los Colorados see <http://www.clubrunner.ca/Portal/story/StoryDetail.aspx?accountid=2529&sid=116486&stid=>]).

From www.RainCatcher.org:

“According to the World Health Organization, 1.1 billion people lack access to clean water. More than 4,500 people a day or 1.6 million people die every year from diseases attributed to contaminated drinking water, 90% of these people are under the age of 5.

This does not have to happen.

RainCatcher can help 1 percent or 10 million people gain access to clean drinking water. Currently, our clean water systems have been setup in Kenya, Uganda and Haiti. We are expanding our programs to India. Our target is to diversify and spread our clean water systems across the globe to other impoverished regions that need clean drinking water as well.

This donation will provide roof catchment facilities for schools, water storage tanks and foundations, water filters, buckets and portable rain catching equipment.

You can donate by simply clicking on the Donate button on the right or send a check directly to: RainCatcher, Inc.

28990 Pacific Coast Highway – Suite 109B
Malibu, CA 90265

RainCatcher is a charitable 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Contributions made to RainCatcher are tax-deductible. Federal Tax ID # 26-4310008.”

The website has several videos including this one that David showed at the Malibu Rotary Club meeting:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=JuNOn3TsJo0

News and Guests at Last Malibu Rotary Club Meeting

Malibu Rotary Club President Bill Wishard, besides welcoming the 5 guests below to the Malibu Rotary Club September 25th, Bill welcomed Malibu Rotary Club member **Peter Formosa** whose new job has kept him out of Malibu during our meeting time. Peter is trying to arrange his schedule to attend more meetings. Bill reminded everyone to get Rotary Foundation Raffle tickets in to **David Baird** before October 1 to be eligible for the early drawing. **Maggie Luckerath** again had a sign up sheet for food to be prepared and brought for the Malibu Rotary Club sponsorship of the SOS Thanksgiving program for the homeless

at Webster School Thursday, November 21 6:00 pm. In addition she had a plea from SOS Founder Hollie Packman for people to write to the SMMUSD board people to keep SOS at the Webster School on Thursday evenings. Apparently there have been complaints from Malibu Residents who don't want SOS to use Webster School.

Maggie also later forwarded a message from **Sherry Weinstein**, who was the speaker at the Malibu Rotary Club on September 11. Sherry is the one responsible for the Prem Rawat Foundation Peace Education Program. She wanted everyone to know that Peace Education Program is being presented at the Malibu Library on Wednesdays starting October 2 and 6:30 p.m.

Guests

Guests at the September 25th Malibu Rotary Club meeting included **Jeanne Custic**, **Kelly Sagona**,; and *Malibu Chronicle* publisher **Veera Mahajan**, who announced she has put the link to the video shown at the last meeting "This is Rotary" on www.malibuchronicle.com (it is also on www.MalibuRotary.org) ; **Cindra Ranieri** who is now working with Veera at the *Malibu Chronicle*. All of these were returning guests to a Malibu Rotary meeting. There was one new guest, **Michael Omary**, of Clean Water Technologies, who came to the meeting specifically to hear speaker **David Zielski** talk about RainCatcher. Michael uses rain catching technologies in Malibu also.

October 24th is WORLD POLIO DAY

Julie Jenkins, of the Rotary Club of Burbank Sunrise, visited the Malibu Rotary Club last year as Rotary Assistant District 5280 Governor. This year Julie, who is a victim of polio, has been named Rotary District Polio Plus Chairperson.

She has written the following:

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation has generously provided a new challenge to help meet the U.S. \$1.5B funding gap in the strategic campaign to eradicate polio by 2018. Through June 2018, the first \$35 million donated via Rotary to the Polio Plus Fund each year will generate a \$2 matching contribution from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. This is a fantastic opportunity for every participant to see his or her donations quickly expand to inoculate three times as many children.

\$1 donated through Rotary + \$2 contributed by Gates Foundation = \$3 total funding = 5 children inoculated

\$35 million donated through Rotary + \$70 million contributed by Gates Foundation = \$105 million total funding = 175 million children inoculated

Please share your fundraising and/or public awareness ideas with your fellow Rotarians throughout the District by sending them to us Jjenkins845@charter.net for inclusion on [the Rotary District website] and other District communications. Inspire us, challenge us, ask for

support and share your results, so that together we can watch the number of children that will be inoculated as a result of your good efforts and generosity grow each week.

October 24th is WORLD POLIO DAY

How will you and your Club recognize this important day?

Prompt your City Council to officially recognize October 24 as World Polio Day, then promote that recognition.

Editor's note: I have told Julie I will help get the word out that October 24th is World Polio Day by publishing it here in the *Malibu Rotary Club Surfwriter* and on the club website Maliburotary.org. If anyone can get a City Proclamation of that day please let Julie know.

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

Like Rotary Club of Malibu on 

Calendar

(All Malibu Rotary Club meetings are at 12:00 Noon in LC 152 at the Pepperdine Drescher campus Villa Graziadio Executive Center unless otherwise noted).

Oct 02, 2013

John Elman and Sterling Long-Colbo presents Jim Dyer Legacy Video

"What is a ShelterBox? "

Santa Monica Rotarian Jim Dyer was to have been the Rotary District Governor for 2013-2014 when he died suddenly on the eve of the Rotary District Governors Training seminar last year. He was Shelter Box Ambassador for the Greater Los Angeles Area. In this video interview by Mel Powell of the e-Club of San Fernando Valley you see Jim Dyer explain and show what is in a Shelter Box and why it was one of his passions. After Jim's passing many Rotary Clubs gave donations to Shelter Box in Jim's memory. Sterling Long-Colbo is the current Shelter Box Ambassador for the Greater Los Angeles Area

Oct 09, 2013

Christopher Chauncey

"Preparedness Counts"

Christopher Chauncey of Preparedness Counts (www.Prepcounts.com) will speak on how to be prepared for natural disasters.

Oct 16, 2013

Bill Wishard

"Club Assembly Where Malibu Rotary Club Plans will be discussed"

Oct 23, 2013

Rotary District Governor Elect Elsa Gillham

"Rotary District Governor State of the District Report"

Annually the Rotary District Governor visits all the clubs in the Rotary District to report on the state of the District, and also receives reports from the leaders of each Rotary Club on projects, plans and events of the clubs. This year, because of the increased number of clubs in the district DG Doug Baker is going to only half the clubs and Rotary District Governor Elect Elsa Gillham is going to the other half. The Malibu Rotary Club will host DGE Elsa at noon on October 23rd in Room LC 153 of the Pepperdine University Malibu Drescher Graduate campus.

Oct 30, 2013

Kate Rosloff

"Working on the Rotary Rose Parade Float "

Nov 06, 2013

Kimberly Rusell

"And Then There Were Eight"

Kim and Michael Rusell have 3 children of their own. The number of their children grew suddenly to 8 when they agreed to take care of the 5 children of a single mom who died shortly after being diagnosed with lung cancer. Kim's moving story will be told at the October 2 Malibu Rotary Club meeting at noon in LC 153 of the Pepperdine Malibu Graziadio Graduate campus.

Nov 20, 2013

Susanna Brisk "Malibu Mom"

Author, actor and blogger Susanna Brisk, will stop by to discuss her book "I'll Be The Death of Me." A funny, raw and searingly honest memoir, Susanna will address topics including parenting with a mental illness, surviving your family of origin and finding your creative self, even while there are small people in your midst who require lunch.

For more information about Susanna and her book visit www.malibumom.com and <http://amzn.to/13y1tjq>.

November 21, 2013

Malibu Rotary Club Sponsors Thanksgiving Dinner for Homeless with SOS at Webster Elementary School 6:00 p.m.

Malibu Rotarians prepare and serve dinner for homeless in conjunction with SOS at John L Webster Elementary School, 3602 Winter Canyon Road, Malibu, CA 90265.

Dec 11, 2013

Malibu Rotary Club Holiday Party (no meeting at noon)

"Eveining Holiday Party at location to be determined (no meeting at noon)"

Dec 25, 2013

Christmas Holiday (no meeting)

"Christmas Holiday (no meeting)"

Jan 01, 2014

Happy New Year (no Rotary meeting)

"Watch the Rotary Float in the Rose Parade"

Jan 14, 2014

To Be Announced

"Rotary District Breakfast"

District 5280 Breakfasts are held at the Westin LAX Hotel, 5400 W. Century Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90045. Registration opens at 7:00 a.m. Free self-parking is available in the hotel parking structure. Valet parking at Westin Hotel rates.