



The Award Winning
Malibu Rotary Club Surfwriter

September 4, 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, Maggie Luckerath and the Julie Ellerton / TMT
In This Issue (click underlined topics for web link when connected to the Internet)

- **Next Malibu Rotary Club Meeting September 4th at noon (with Fellowship starting at 11:30 a.m.) in LC152 at Pepperdine Drescher Campus. Speaker will be Sherry Weinstein, who will talk and show video of Peace Education Program "Peace on the Inside" from Prem Rawat Foundation**
- **Last Week Major Kyle Smith of New Zealand, General Secretary of the Salvation Army, Talks About "Life Lessons on Literacy"**
- **Report on the Malibu Rotary Club booth at the Annual Labor Day Chili Cookoff**
- **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 Baird, Maggie Luckerath, Irene Bettler and Huber Luckerath serve up ice cold watermelon at the hot 2013 Annual Malibu Chili Cookoff (see story below: Report on the Malibu Rotary Club booth at the Annual Labor Day Chili Cookoff) photo Julie Ellerton / TMT

Major Kyle Smith of New Zealand, General Secretary of the Salvation Army, Talks About “Life Lessons on Literacy”

By John W Elman

We all know something about the Salvation Army. We have seen people ringing bells and asking for money to be put into a kettle for the needy at Christmas time. We know they accept

our unwanted household items to sell at their thrift stores. But our knowledge of what the Salvation Army is and does often doesn't go much beyond that. And before I introduce you to Kyle Smith, an officer of the Salvation Army, I researched the organization on the Internet. There are several websites, including www.salvationarmyusa.org which has its Motto of "Doing the most good" and its Mission Statement on each page: "The Salvation Army, an international movement, is an evangelical part of the universal Christian church. Its message is based on the Bible. Its ministry is motivated by the love of God. Its mission is to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ and to meet human needs in His name without discrimination." While Rotary has no religious affiliation both the Salvation Army and Rotary provide service to people throughout the world regardless of their religion, race, or origin.

Wikipedia describes how the Salvation Army started:

The Salvation Army was founded in London's [East End](#) in 1865 by one-time [Methodist Reform Church](#) minister [William Booth](#) and his wife [Catherine](#). Originally, Booth named the organization the East London Christian Mission. The name *The Salvation Army* developed from an incident on 19–20 May. William Booth was dictating a letter to his secretary [George Scott Railton](#) and said, "We are a volunteer army." [Bramwell Booth](#) heard his father and said, "Volunteer! I'm no volunteer, I'm a regular!" Railton was instructed to cross out the word "volunteer" and substitute the word "salvation". The Salvation Army was modeled after the military, with its own flag (or colours) and its own hymns, often with words set to popular and folkloric tunes sung in the pubs. Booth and the other soldiers in "God's Army" would wear the Army's own [uniform](#), for meetings and ministry work. He became the "[General](#)" and his other ministers were given appropriate ranks as "[officers](#)". Other members became "[soldiers](#)".

When William Booth became known as the General, Catherine was known as the "Mother of The Salvation Army". William preached to the poor, and Catherine spoke to the wealthy, gaining financial support for their work. She also acted as a religious minister, which was unusual at the time; the Foundation Deed of the Christian Mission states that women had the same rights to preach as men. William Booth described the organization's approach: "The three 'S's' best expressed the way in which the Army administered to the 'down and outs': first, soup; second, soap; and finally, salvation."

In 1880, the Salvation Army started its work in three other countries: [Australia](#), [Ireland](#), and the [United States](#). It was not always an official [Officer of The Salvation Army](#) who started the Salvation Army in a new country; sometimes Salvationists emigrated to countries and started operating as "the Salvation Army" on their own authority. When the first official officers arrived in Australia and the United States, they found groups of Salvationists already waiting for them.

The Salvation Army's main converts were at first alcoholics, morphine addicts, prostitutes and other "undesirables" unwelcome in polite Christian society, which helped prompt the Booths to start their own church. The Booths did not include the use of [sacraments](#) (mainly [baptism](#) and [Holy Communion](#)) in the Army's form of worship, believing that many Christians had come to rely on the outward signs of spiritual grace rather than on grace itself. Other beliefs are that its members should completely refrain from drinking alcohol (Holy Communion is not practiced), smoking, taking illegal drugs and gambling. Its soldiers wear a uniform tailored to the country in which they work; the uniform can be white, grey, navy, fawn and are even styled like a [sari](#) in some areas. Any member of the public is welcome to attend their meetings.

As of 30 November 2012 the Salvation Army operates in 126 countries and provides services in 175 different languages. For administrative purposes, the Salvation Army divides itself geographically into

territories, which are then sub-divided into divisions. Each of these territories is led by a territorial commander who receives orders from the Salvation Army's International Headquarters in London. A territory is normally led by an officer holding the rank of colonel (for small territories) or commissioner for larger territories.

Its stated membership (as quoted from 2010 Year Book) includes 16,938 active and 9,190 retired officers, 1,122,326 soldiers, 189,176 Adherents, 39,071 Corps Cadets, 378,009 [Junior Soldiers](#), around 104,977



other employees and more than 4.5 million volunteers. Members of The Salvation Army also include "adherents", these are people who do not make the commitment to be a soldier but who formally recognize The Salvation Army as their church.

Lyle Smith was born into a family in New Zealand who went to the local Salvation Army Church.

They were not officers in the Salvation Army and when he was growing up he did not think he was one day going to be an officer in the Salvation Army. He had wanderlust for adventure and wanted to see the world.

Before joining the Salvation Army Lyle had already toured the African continent from the North to South, visiting Egypt, South Africa, and the third world countries in

between. When he returned to New Zealand in 1993 when still in his early 20's, because of his familiarity with the African continent, Kyle was asked by officers of the Salvation Army if he would consider leading a group of Salvation Army people on a mission through Africa. It sounded like fun so he agreed to do it and asked his girl friend to come along.

He was given money and insurance and asked to drive a big truck, which carried all the gear and spare parts that would be needed to cross the Sahara desert. He thought he had everything he needed, and had the invincible confidence of a 21 year old. Despite this, certain things started breaking down and going wrong from the very beginning. He landed in Dover UK and then went to France. At one point, before he even got to Egypt, the truck broke down and he knew he could fix it with just a piece of rope. The rope he needed wasn't part of the gear he packed. He came upon a farmhouse with clothesline outside, but could not find anyone around. He took part of the clothesline for his repair. He expects that the person with the missing clothesline wonders to this day who took the line and why.

He entered Egypt through the Suez Canal and when he went to the port he could find no one who would stamp his passport. He spent several days filling out papers and asking various officials to get him into the country by stamping his passport. Finally he was told he had to give a "gift" for the official's family in order to get his passport stamped. He had just learned a lesson common in many parts of the world. To get some service done you must give your "tip" before the service is performed rather than after. By this time his girl friend had left and he was already starting to have regrets about his agreement to lead this expedition.

Already several days behind schedule he called the people he was supposed to meet, and they were sent to Dahab, a small town situated on the southeast coast of the [Sinai Peninsula](#), which has abundant comfortable international hotel chains other ancillary facilities which have made the town a popular destination with tourists. The group Kyle was to lead would be comfortable there while he would try to catch up with them by getting out of Cairo early in the morning.

The highway from Cairo to Dahab is a freeway, with three lanes in each direction. Kyle was on the road at day break, with a couple Salvation Army volunteers, including a nurse, and was pleased to find almost no traffic on the road. He thought the worst of his journey was behind him and was eager to catch up with his party in Dahab. When he got on the freeway he merged to the left and then noticed there was a tree branch in front of him. He swerved into the right lane to avoid the tree branch and hardly realized his large truck had struck a car until he saw parts of the vehicle go flying and saw the body of the driver slumped over the wheel.

This was not going well at all! He pulled to the side of the road and stopped. The nurse determined the driver of the other vehicle was alive and was going to be ok. Immediately he was surrounded with police and taken into custody. At first he was fortunate enough to have an interpreter who spoke English. He told his story of the accident to the police through the interpreter. They called for a paddy wagon and he was taken to the Cairo central court house and jail where there were prisoners in shackles. He was asked to tell his story several times to different officials. When he concluded reiterating the event of the accident for the umpteenth time he was asked, "Now tell us what really happened!" He told them "That's what really happened."

There were people in cells on either side of the interrogation room. He could hear people screaming in one of the cells. He was hoping they were not going to put him in that cell. Ultimately his interpreter left. He was shoved into one of the cells. The cell they put him in had many men it all speaking Arabic. He didn't know where he was and couldn't even communicate

to the people around him. He yelled, "Does anyone here speak English?" Someone did. He found that there was a certain respect, an honor among thieves, in the cell.

Ultimately he was taken from the cell and a document was put in front of him. It was in Arabic, a language he could neither read, write or understand. He was told that if he signed the document the Egyptian government would let him go. He didn't know if the document was really a statement that would allow his freedom, or a fabricated confession of a crime that would sentence him to the gallows. When it came to Arabic he was illiterate.

He signed the document and was given his freedom. He didn't know where he was, where his truck was or who or how to ask for help. He somehow found someone who spoke English who not only told him where he was but drove him to his truck. It turned out the location of his truck accident was next to the Afghanistan Embassy. The Egyptian government thought the truck accident was a staged as part of a terrorist bomb attack on the Afghanistan Embassy.

Kyle didn't care what the reason was he had been treated like a criminal he just wanted to get out of Egypt and never wanted to come back. This tour was over and he asked the people who sent him here to immediately get him a plane ticket back to London. He was able to contact them and they agreed to send plane ticket back to the sane world he knew. He was ready to go back home but...they wired him back that they needed him to take the truck back to Suez. They felt he was the only one qualified to do it. The plane ticket was cancelled and Kyle went on with this journey and many more for the Salvation Army, meeting his wife future wife while on a mission in central Africa for the Salvation Army. But that is a story for another day (We have invited Kyle and his wife back to the Malibu Rotary Club to tell it).

Kyle likens his inability to communicate in Arabic to general illiteracy of people who cannot read or write their own language. Illiterate people may be smart, but because they cannot communicate they cannot find jobs, and ultimately they become homeless, and become criminals.

Prior to his recent assignment by the Salvation Army to the U.S. West Coast headquarters in Long Beach, Kyle was assigned to the Salvation Army in Spokane Washington. He said that there is a large population of immigrants from the northern Pacific Marshall Islands in Spokane, many of whom only speak their native language of Marshallese. Being illiterate in English has caused the Marshallese students to have behavioral problems at school and become involved with crime. An after school ESL program in the Spokane area has increased literacy among the Marshallese, with a resulting reduction of behavioral problems and crime. This same pattern of illiteracy leading to homelessness and crime has been shown all over the world, including Los Angeles.

In the various cities where Lyle has been assigned as an officer of the Salvation Army he has also been a member of the local Rotary Club, with both organizations having similar goals and opportunities of providing both community and international service. Kyle was a member of the Rotary Club of Spokane as well as a club in Hawaii when he was there. He will probably be joining the Rotary Club of Los Angeles (LA5). He hope to have him back. He is a wonderful speaker.

News and Guests at Last Malibu Rotary Club Meeting

On Saturday September 7th, **Malibu Rotary Club President Bill Wishard** was planning on attending BLESS THE BEASTS & THE CHILDREN, A Fund Raiser at a private home in Malibu sponsored by the Rotary Club of Woodland Hills.

Maggie Luckerath gave a short report on Malibu Rotary Club booth at the annual Malibu Chili Cookoff held Labor Day weekend. (Story below).

Guests

Guests at the Malibu Rotary Club meeting of September 4th included **Jeanne Custis**, who had recommended our speaker **Kyle Smith** after seeing him speak at the Rotary District Literacy Breakfast. Other guests at the meeting included **Irene Bettler** who is from Switzerland and now lives in Malibu West, frequent visit **Kelly Sedona**, and **Leanne Curtis**. Another visitor was **Griselda Espinoza**, a real estate agent of Sotheby's International Realty, who is currently a member of the Culver City Rotary Club whom we are hoping to transfer membership to the Malibu Rotary Club.

Report on the Malibu Rotary Club booth at the Annual Labor Day Chili Cookoff



Mario on the tall ladder and William from the Labor Exchange assist us in hanging the Malibu Rotary Banner at the 2013 Chili Cook Off booth.

Photo - from LtoR: Mario (on the tall ladder) Bill Wishard, Maggie Luckerath, William (from Labor Exchange) and Fred Cornett - our sitting supervisor!

Kiwanis Club producers John and Sal gave the Malibu Rotary booth a great location on one side of the food court area - on "Chili Row". We were the only booth on the entire row which was not selling home made Chili. After the spicy chili they all came to us for their cold water and watermelon.

With Malibu experiencing a heat wave we certainly had the right items for sale - ice cold watermelon and ice cold water.

Many thanks to Chris Bauman our "young man with a truck" who delivered all the tables, chairs, purchased all the cases water and watermelons, and who kept coming back with more ice periodically during the entire weekend. We certainly could not have had the booth without all the assistance from Chris!

Other volunteers who I would like to personally thank are Bill Wishard, Cindra Ranieri, Bill Krenz, Peter Formosa, Sally Formosa, Margo Neal and LaVern, Pompea Monteros, David Baird, Kelly Sagone and son David, John Elman, Irene Betley, and last but not least Hubert my husband of 45 years who helped set up Friday as well as worked most shifts on Saturday and Sunday. Long days and almost midnight all three nights until we arrived home exhausted and only ready to return the next day!

Turned out to be a great networking source and we had numerous people we connected with who will be future speakers at our luncheon meetings.

Yours truly made sure no food at the end of the night was thrown into the garbage cans from the food vendors as she took next door to the Labor Exchange where numerous homeless were hanging out and were so very happy to get food late at night. The first night when Hubert and I took over the food I asked them where Mr. M was and they said probably sleeping in the bushes - I asked them to go wake him as I wanted to make sure he got some food so in a few minutes Mr. M. appeared as did about 6 others from all corners! It was such a great scene to see them all digging into the box of food.

On Sunday night (our last night) the food vendor Dave Davies of "Beach City Refreshments" not only gave us his leftovers to give to the homeless but then prepared about 6 big steak sandwiches extra for us to take over to the homeless.

Dave said to me the second night, "Maggie, you just don't like to see food go to waste do you?" I said "no, indeed not, why should a garbage can be filled up when there are so many hungry people in this world". He totally agreed with me and was so generous with his food to help feed the hungry.....

Would also like to mention that the lovely lady from the booth "Stick Fingers Donuts" was so very generous and gave us a large box of leftover donuts which we gave over to feed the hungry! Check out her web site at www.stickyfingersdonuts.com Actually she would like to help us when the Rotary Club sponsors the SOS Homeless dinner for Thanksgiving and I promised to connect her to SOS for their weekly meals and to Martha at the Artific Tree who also feeds the homeless on daily basis.



Taking a break from selling water and watermelon at the Malibu Rotary booth are Maggie Luckerath and Bill Krenz from SoCal Events who represented the Malibu Rotary Club as judges in the 32nd annual Chili Cook Off contest.

Both Maggie and Bill picked the winners as their favorites. James Soubasis' "Jersey Jimmy's Killer Chili" took home top honors in the chili cooking contest. Second place featured a tie between two contestants, Peter Tulaney's "Pete's Pulled Pork Chili" and Alex Reliance and the Malibu Rugby Club's "Hickory Wild Chili."

Aside from making a little money for the Rotary Club, the weekend at the 2013 Chili

Cook Off showed the "Malibu Rotary Club is alive and well"! And that we like to be the "middleman in feeding the hungry"!

--Maggie Luckerath

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).

Sep 11, 2013

Sherry Weinstein

Peace Education Program "Peace on the Inside" from Prem Rawat Foundation

Sherry Weinstein has worked with the Prem Rawat Foundation for 47 years and helped develop the successful Peace Education program that has been very successful in a Texas prison which lowered the recidivism in the prison population. On a date associated with hostility, September 11, Sherry will bring the message of peace.

Sep 18, 2013

David Baird and Malibu Rotary Club Leaders

"Rotary Information Meeting for New and Prospective Members--What is Rotary?"

This is a meeting especially meant for new and prospective members to find out about the Malibu Rotary Club and Rotary International.

Sep 25, 2013

David Zielski

"Solving the Worlds Water Crisis--1 Raindrop at a time"

David Zielski is Executive Director of RainCatcher, an organization that is dedicated to healing communities by providing clean water for children in the developing world using affordable and sustainable solutions. Currently, RainCatcher systems have been setup in Kenya, Uganda and Haiti. Their hope is to diversify and spread across the globe to other third world countries that need clean drinking water as well. One of its main mission's focuses will be on education. "We will plan on teaching individuals not only how to use our RainCatcher system, but also enlighten them about the diseases that can arise through drinking adulterated water."

Oct 02, 2013

John Elman 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.

Oct 09, 2013

Christopher Chauncey

"Preparedness Counts"

Christopher Chauncey of Preparednes Counts (www.Prepcounts.com) will speak on 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 Distrist 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.