



*Award Winning*

## *Malibu Rotary Club Surfwriter*

**June 23, 2010**

**Official Newsletter of the Rotary Club of Malibu  
Malibu Rotary Club President Elect and Acting President Christopher  
Bauman**

Edited by Dr. John W. Elman

Pictures by Dr John W. Elman and [malibucopia.com](http://malibucopia.com)

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- **Next Regular Malibu Rotary Club Wednesday July 7, 7:30 a.m. in Pepperdine Fireside Room: Kevin Boling will be delivering his much anticipated crap talk--i.e, craft talk . Don't miss Kevin "talking trash."**
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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 (2009-2010) John Kenny**
- **Rotary District 5280 Governor (2009-2010): Susanne Sundberg**

### Remy O'Neill and the "Cornucopia Foundation"



**Remy O'Neill** was the featured speaker at the Malibu Rotary Club meeting on June 23<sup>rd</sup>. In 1998 she and Debra Bianco co-founded The Cornucopia Foundation, an environmental education and implementation 501 c 3. Her prior background is in medicine. She was the former Head Nurse of the Emergency Room of Maimonides Medical Center in New York City.

Both Remy and Debra grew up and worked in New York before moving to Malibu and experiencing the natural beauty of the area. In the mid 1990's they both had read the book *Ishmael*, by Daniel Quinn, which was published in 1992. *Ishmael* is a gorilla that communicates telepathically with humans. The novel uses a style of **Socratic dialogue** to deconstruct the notion that humans are the end product, the pinnacle of biological evolution. It posits that

**human supremacy** is a cultural myth, and asserts that modern civilization is "enacting" that myth. *Ishmael* says, *"There's nothing fundamentally wrong with people. Given a story to enact that puts them in accord with the world, they will live in accord with the world."*

When not talking about Cornucopia Foundation and the many avenues of service and education that it provides Remy is the President and CEO of O'Neill Tube & Reel, a major textile manufacturer, with 13 years of experience in manufacturing fabric winding boards, spools and tubes. Mrs. O'Neill developed the THIN BOARD for the fabric winding board industry in the mid 90's. The Thin Board now represents about 85% of all the boards used in the United States. She also helped develop the prototype spool machine which is the only one that exists in the United States. She is a leader in environmentally sustainable practices. She speaks professionally on sustainability and specifically on the emerging science of BIOMIMICRY. This is the basis for the emerging green technologies of our future.

The Cornucopia Foundation mission statement is to develop programs for children and adults, teaching sustainability through an understanding of the Natural world. The problems of pollution, global warming, resource degradation and a broken sense of community can only be solved by a significant shift in our mindset and actions. Cornucopia seeks to affect this change in Nature inspired settings with fun, imaginative programs and workshops for all ages.

To partially fund this mission, Cornucopia established the Malibu Farmers market in 2000. In addition, Cornucopia intends to actively engage in land and marine conservation and restoration to contribute to the overriding goal of sustainability.

The Cornucopia Foundation website at [www.malibucopia.com](http://www.malibucopia.com) is a wealth of information, not only about the foundation, but with suggestions of how everyone can help the eco system by choices they make.

Of the many programs that the Cornucopia Foundation has established perhaps one of the most impressive and exiting is the Cornupia Environmental Learning Center. It is described on the foundation's website:

“Cornucopia’s Environmental Learning Center is located on an acre of land at the rear of Malibu High School next to the tennis courts. This degraded piece of land was overgrown with fennel and weeds. We hand-cleared this acre with workers and volunteers using no herbicides or pesticides. As you probably know, fennel is a very strong determined plant with a deep taproot. Clearing it by hand, and re-clearing and re-clearing took months and months of back-breaking work.

“It was all worth it once we planted the native and drought tolerant gardens which are now home to all manner of birds, lizards, pollinators, little critters and a very brazen, inquisitive bunny.

We’ve completed the shaded natural teaching amphitheater, planted wind screens, and the worm farm (the red wigglers are in residence and eating away producing their wonderful rich castings for the gardens) We’ll next work on the yurt, secret garden, more picnic tables for eating and working, the pond, greenhouse and tool shed.



Best of all, the teachers and children are in residence. It is presently being used by the Before and After School Enrichment Program, Summer Program and also a Science Teacher. Needless to say, the class mascot iguana is in total heaven to be out in Nature.

“In October, another Malibu school will participate in a riparian restoration project on the degraded stream that runs along the side of this property and down to the ocean. When we first found the stream, it wasn't even flowing in this area – it was hidden underneath big chunks of

asphalt and plywood that had been thrown into the creek. You can imagine what other kinds of junk were also thrown into this creek.

“We did an initial clearing of the stream area, but realized it would be such a teaching opportunity for students to be involved with the restoration of a watershed.

“We also envision wonderful music, plays, art, poetry, writing, history and math classes here (what better place to learn the Fibonacci sequence or fractals than Hands On/Minds On in this Nature classroom

“It is our firm belief that the future of our Planet is not by chance... It is by choice. We hope that sustainability will be your choice as well, and that you’ll consider supporting Cornucopia with donations (money or in-kind) or volunteering.”

The message given by Cornucopia Learning Center has been embraced by many in the community, and teachers in the Malibu Park schools. Ari Jacobs, and English teacher at Malibu High School has classes at the Learning Center.

Students learn not only about agriculture, but about marketing, and business. The Cornucopia Farmers Market held in the Civic Center area of Malibu every Sunday, year-round 10am-3pm, does more than just bring fresh produce to people. Remy points out that food in national food markets is often grown because it ships better—not because it tastes better. The produce at the local Farmers Markets has to be grown within 100 miles of Malibu.

Among community supporters of the Cornucopia Foundation are the Kiwanis Club and Optimist Club. Now that we know the good that they do we hope to add the Malibu Rotary Club to that list.

## **Other News and Guests from June 23 Malibu Rotary Club Meeting**

There were no visitors at the June 23<sup>rd</sup> Malibu Rotary Club meeting except for speaker Remy O’Neill.

**THERE WILL BE NO MALIBU ROTARY CLUB MEETING ON WEDNESDAY MORNING JUNE 30.** There will, however, be a potluck dinner meeting at 7:00 p.m. hosted at the home of Malibu Rotary Club President Christopher Bauman and his wife Leslie. Chris said he will supply the main course and a sign-up sheet was sent around at the meeting for side dishes and salads. Chris and Leslie recently moved to a new home near the Pepperdine University campus. Chris said he

will send directions to everyone in the club. Obviously if you did not RSVP at the meeting call Chris before Wednesday and let him know if you will be there.

The June 30<sup>th</sup> dinner meeting will be the last one of the current Rotary year and last one for “President-Elect Christopher Bauman.” On July 1 he will again officially be “President Christopher Bauman.”

#### District Breakfast - July 13, 2010

**Incoming Governor, Doug Baker's first District Breakfast will be held at the Westin Hotel LAX at 7 AM. Actress, Nikki Micheaux, will be the keynote speaker.**



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](mailto:shobrower@gmail.com) or Leon Berg at [Leon.Berg@gmail.com](mailto: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.

### **Upcoming Programs**

**June 30, 2010 Club Assembly Dinner Meeting at home of Chris and Leslie Bauman. WE ARE NOT HAVING A MORNING MEETING AT PEPPERDINE TODAY!**

**July 7, 2010 Lester Wood, “Will Rogers”**

**July 13, 2010 Rotary District 5280 Breakfast Incoming Governor, Doug Baker's first District Breakfast will be held at the Westin Hotel LAX at 7 AM. Actress, Nikki Micheaux, will be the keynote speaker.**

**July 21, 2010 Club Assembly**

**July 28, 2010 Joe Ditzel Clean Comedy: "Joe Ditzel Has Some Problems"**

**August 11, 2010 Scott Wagenseller Chairman of the Board of the Malibu Chamber of Commerce and head of Gates Security**

**September 8, 2010 Bob Brager "Update on Legacy Park"**

**Please see Malibu Rotary Club Website [www.maliburotary.org](http://www.maliburotary.org) for latest Calendar and future speakers**