

*The Award Winning*  
**Malibu Rotary Club Surfwriter**

December 5-12, 2012

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

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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.rotary5280.org/](http://www.rotary5280.org/)
- Rotary District 5280 “Rotarians Doing Business With Rotarians” Website: <http://yp5280.org/>
- RI President (2012-2013) Sakuji Tanaka Rotary District 5280 Governor (2012-2012): Lewis Bertrand
- Assistant Governor for Malibu Rotary Club: Julie Jenkins (2012-13)

**Pictures and Guests From the Malibu Rotary Club Holiday Party Dec. 12<sup>th</sup> at Kristy’s Restaurant in Malibu**



Traditionally the Malibu Rotary Club Holiday Party has included a gift exchange, usually with wrapped gag gifts. At the party in December of 2011, the gift exchange was a secret baby shower at the last dinner to held at Beau Rivage Restaurant. On that occasion Malibu Rotary Club Past President and wife Christopher and Leslie Bauman were told that the holiday dinner was going to be the traditional gift exchange. They were surprised when it became apparent that all the holiday wrapped packages were baby gifts for their yet to be born daughter. **At the 2012 Malibu Rotary Club Holiday Party everyone was able to see the recipient of the previous year’s surprise shower gifts as Leslie and Chris brought the ever cute Mazzlynn to Kristy’s Restaurant just before bedtime.**

This year it was decided not to have a gift exchange. Malibu Rotary Club Charter member **Jack Corrodi** had been in the hospital for the past three weeks. No one expected him to be



able to attend this year's party, but he and wife Kay were there, which was a pleasant surprise for everyone. Jack had been told when and where the party was, but hadn't gotten the message that there would be no gift exchange this year. He brought a wrapped gift to be exchanged. He suggested that everyone present give the club a \$1 donation for a drawing for the gift.

**The winner was Hubert Luckerath who was surprised to get the infamous skull, that had been exchanged annually (in typically disguised wrapping) at the annual Malibu Rotary Club Holiday party for about 30 years—it was the annual booby prize that everyone tried to avoid.**

I think we will have to go back our normal gift exchange for Hubert to get rid of his prize. When Hubert looked at it he exclaimed “Look—He has more

teeth than I do!”

### **Guests and other news from the Malibu Rotary Club Holiday Dinner**



**The menu at Kristy's Restaurant featured several German specialties, and this was enjoyed by Livia Giordano, who is from Switzerland, and Hubert Luckart, who from Germany.**

Malibu Rotary Club President **Bill Wishard** tried to make the holiday dinner a meeting, and had the Malibu Rotary Club banner, bell, and everything ready to go, sitting at the head of a long table at Kristy's Restaurant. The Rotary Club had to share the room with another large party, a teacher's group also having a holiday party. For the sake of attendance this *was* an official Rotary meeting, so if you were there it counted towards Rotary attendance and if you weren't there it was another meeting missed. Those present included **Chris, Leslie and Mazzlynn Bauman, David Baird, Geoff and Michelle Ortiz, Hubert and Maggie Luckerath, Margo Neal and husband LeVern Schenkelberg, Bob and Jeanne Syvertsen, John and Lee Ann Elman, Mike Hebert**, Malibu Patch Editor **Jessica Davis and husband Peter, Yvonne Gelbman, Peter and Sally Formosa** and **Livia Giordano** (who be the Malibu Rotary Club speaker at the next meeting).

### **Highlights Malibu Rotary meeting December 5th**

The Malibu Rotary Club meeting of December 5<sup>th</sup> was a club planning session led by club President Bill Wishard. At it the Holiday Party the following week was discussed. Maggie Luckerath also talked about volunteers needed by SOS for Christmas Dinner the group is having the homeless on December 20<sup>th</sup>. Bill said he talked to Malibu Rotary Club **Donna Bohana**, who had been listed as Malibu Rotary Club President-Elect, but had rarely attended meetings. It seems that between caring for her three year old daughter and running her real estate office, Donna does not have the time to devote to being club president next year. A vote was taken by the club and Bill was nominated to serve another term as Malibu Rotary Club President for 2013-14.

Bill also recommended that the club keep its tradition this year of having the Malibu Rotary Club members attend the quarterly Rotary District breakfasts. On the weeks of Rotary District Breakfast the Malibu Rotary Club will not hold a meeting in Malibu, and instead, the members of the club are encouraged to attend the district breakfast, part of the cost of which will be paid by the club. Members will pay only the normal cost of the Malibu Rotary Club breakfast (\$10.00) and the rest of the cost will be absorbed by the club. The next Rotary District Breakfast will be held January 8 at Westin LAX. The featured speaker will be LMU President **DAVID BURCHAM**. Another topic for discussion at the meeting was membership and the commitment of new members. It was agreed that the club should present a plan for the year—and have people make a one year commitment.

### **The Passing of Ray Briem**

*Editor's Note: Thomas E. Fakehany, a Past President of the Malibu Rotary Club, sent us the following news about one of the Charter members of the Malibu Rotary, Ray Briem, who past away December 12<sup>th</sup>.*

Charter Malibu Rotary Club member, Ham Radio Call N6FFT, Malibu/Lost Hills Disaster Communications member and Paul Harris Fellow Ray Briem has passed. I had the privilege of being on his radios show several times discussing HAM Radio and he had been a stock client of mine.

Ray Briem, the longtime KABC-AM talk show host who ruled all-night radio for nearly three decades with his phone calls to the famous and the quirky and his opinionated banter slamming liberals, championing conservative causes and extolling the big-band music he loved, died Wednesday at his Malibu home. He was 82.

The cause was cancer, said his son Bryan.

Briem spent most of his life on the radio, reaching his largest audience as the host of a popular midnight-to-5 a.m. talk show on KABC from 1967 to 1994. During those 27 years he helped set the mold for what has become a major radio genre.

WALK OF FAME: Visit Ray Briem's star

"We consider him one of the most important radio talk-show hosts of all time," said Michael Harrison, publisher of Talkers magazine, the main trade publication for the talk radio industry. "There were only a handful of stations in the entire country doing talk then. It hadn't been formulated, researched, standardized and consulted. It was all based on these creative characters ... and Ray Briem was one of the originals."

One of the first conservatives to establish a beachhead in radio, Briem dominated the post-midnight hours, consistently attracting the largest ratings of any overnight talk show. The year he left KABC he was drawing 15.7% of the available audience, a remarkable share in any era. He was also one of the station's most effective pitchmen, whose show "brought in more than a million dollars a year in revenue," said former KABC General Manager George Green.

His political crusades also turned tides.

Briem gave Proposition 13 author Howard Jarvis a regular platform during the 1970s and was credited by Jarvis for helping build the public groundswell that led to the anti-tax measure's resounding victory in 1978. Its passage proved that conservative radio did not play "only to the fringe," Briem said, but had mainstream appeal. "We spoke to the people, and the people responded," he told The Times in 1996.

The veteran broadcaster later bolstered the campaign for Proposition 187 led by Harold Ezell, who credited Briem with helping to get the controversial initiative cutting state services for illegal immigrants on the 1994 state ballot.

Briem also defended President Nixon during the Watergate scandal, which so endeared him to one loyal listener that when she died at 100 she left Briem her house.

An avid pilot, Briem sold the house to buy an airplane.

"He was of a different era," said Michael Jackson, another talk-radio icon who was a daily presence on KABC but attracted a more liberal base than Briem. "Politically we disagreed on almost everything, but I liked him — you couldn't help it. He had no affectation. He cared about the caller. He was always fair.... And his audience trusted him."

Briem was born Jan. 19, 1930, in Ogden, Utah, where his mother was a teacher and his father was a railroad engineer. He briefly attended the University of Utah, where he studied chemistry but abandoned his plans for a science career after "he blew up his chemistry set in the house," his son said.

By then Briem already had the radio bug. When he was 15, he and his buddies conceived a 15-minute radio drama called "The Adventures of Vivacious Vicky" that Ogden's tiny radio station agreed to air. When a staffer at the station went on a drunken binge on V-E Day in 1945, Briem was asked to fill in. Later that year, he was hired full time.

He worked with Armed Forces Radio during the Korean War, hosting live shows with big-name bands, including those led by Harry James, Guy Lombardo, Count Basie and Duke Ellington.

In 1953, after completing his military service, Briem moved to Los Angeles to spin records at KGIL-AM. He remained a deejay through the early 1960s, including a stint in Seattle where he worked for King Broadcasting on both its radio and TV outlets. He hosted a popular teen dance show that led fans to call him "the Dick Clark of Seattle."

In 1958, he married Elsie Child. The marriage ended in divorce in 1964. He is survived by their two children, Bryan, of Malibu, and Kevin, of San Diego; and five grandchildren.

In 1960 Briem came to Los Angeles to deejay at KLAC-AM. He was mentored there by Joe Pyne, the abrasive forerunner of confrontational talk show hosts such as Wally George, Rush Limbaugh and Glenn Beck. When the station asked Briem to switch to nighttime talk, "I went into it kicking and screaming," and endured a steep learning curve, he told *The Times*. "I realized what a dumb head I was. I knew very little about politics or the workings of government, and the first year I was an embarrassment."

But he built up a following during his seven-year stint, engaging listeners with straightforward topics, "like cats, frogs and even submarines," he said in a 1966 Times interview, noting that the submarine show elicited a call from a Nazi U-boat commander who had settled in L.A.

Briem also made "Kooky Calls," the most celebrated of which featured a Hogansville, Ga., police chief who regaled L.A. night owls with stories about confiscating and testing Georgia moonshine. When Briem brought the chief to Hollywood for a week of V.I.P. treatment, he was met by a welcoming party of 300 KLAC listeners.

When Briem was hired at KABC in 1967, he continued to fill the hours with unusual phone calls. One of his most memorable long-term phone pals was Vladimir Pozner, the Radio Moscow commentator who went on to become a Western media celebrity.

After thousands of nights helping the lonely and insomniac pass the hours, Briem "pulled the plug" in 1994. KABC threw him a retirement party at the Century Plaza, which drew more than 1,000 Briem listeners who paid \$50 apiece to see their idol and listen to some of his favorite musical artists, including Frankie Laine and the Mills Brothers.

WALK OF FAME: Visit Ray Briem's star

"I'm 65 and my body says staying up all night ain't the right thing to do," he told The Times shortly before he retired. "You never get used to it. Your biological clock, your circadian rhythms are always upset. There will be times when I will miss it, but being able to sleep at night — oh, how wonderful! That will more than compensate for the pangs of not having a forum."

His retirement was brief. Less than a year later he was back on the air, anchoring an afternoon drive show for KIEV-AM. He retired for good in 1997.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Dec. 22 at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 575 Los Liones Drive, Pacific Palisades.

Thomas E. Fakehany, Mla

Malibu Office 310 457.4741

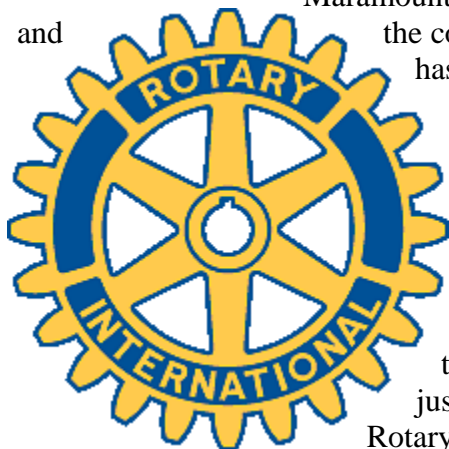
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## Rotary District News

### New Generations

The Rotary District 5280 high school Speech, Music, Art and Dance Competition will be held March 9 and prizes of \$1,000, \$500, and \$250 will be awarded in each category. Entries are due in by February. Members of Rotaract can win \$1500 at an Ethics Forum to be held at Loyola Marmount University March 29. RYLA camp will be held April 26-28 and the cost is \$190.00 per student. Typically the Rotary Club of Malibu has sponsored 2 students. The deadline for entrants is Dec 20.



### Other Rotary District Events:

April 6<sup>th</sup> will be a Rotary Day of Service. Melody St John, President of the Hollywood Rotary Club, is heading up this event. She and Paul are again hosting a Rotary High School Exchange student. The student is from Germany and was able to converse with Malibu Rotarian Hubert Luckcrath who had just returned from a month in Germany in time to attend the Rotary District Breakfast in Los Angeles.

The Rotary Global Peace Forum Conference will be held January 25<sup>th</sup> through 27<sup>th</sup> in Honolulu. Young adults are especially encouraged to attend, and Rotarians who can afford it are encouraged to sponsor young adults. Malibu Rotarian Barbara Riley is planning to attend.

Rotary District 5280 is having a Group Study Exchange (GSE) this year with Rotary District 2620 in Japan. The Rotary Foundation's Group Study Exchange (GSE) program is a unique cultural and vocational exchange opportunity for businesspeople and professionals between the ages of 25 and 40 who are in the early stages of their [careers](#). The program provides travel grants for teams to exchange visits in paired areas of different countries. For four to six weeks, team members experience the host country's culture and institutions, observe how their vocations are practiced abroad, develop personal and professional relationships, and exchange ideas.

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

Like Rotary Club of Malibu on

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## **Calendar**

**(all Malibu Rotary Club meetings are held at 7:30 a.m. Wednesdays in Fireside Room of Pepperdine University unless otherwise noted)**

**Dec 19, 2012**

**Livia Giordano**

**"Experiences as Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar Studying at Pepperdine in Malibu, CA USA"**

**We met Livia Giordano this past July when she first came to Malibu as Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar newly arrived from Zurich Switzerland just before she was about to start her classes at the Strauss Institute for Dispute Resolution. At the December 19th Malibu Rotary Club meeting she will report on how her first half year in the United States.**