



The Award Winning
Malibu Rotary Club Surfwriter

August 8, 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

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

- **Last Week Livia Giordiano of Zurich Switzerland Talks about Her Experience as Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar**
- **Other News from Last Malibu Rotary Club Meeting**
- **The next regular Malibu Rotary Club meeting will be held Wednesday, August 15 at 7:30 a.m. in the Pepperdine University Fireside Room when Rotary Youth Exchange Student Zoe Dunne will address the**

Malibu Rotary Club (Malibu Rotary Board meeting immediately follows regular meeting)

- **5th Annual International Wine & Jazz Festival hosted by the Rotary Club of Santa Monica**
- **Malibu Rotary Club is [Official Sponsor of Smile Trek](#) [Sgt Fiore Surpasses FundRaising Goal](#)**
- **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 (2012-2013) Sakuji Tanaka Rotary District 5280 Governor (2012-2012): Lewis Bertrand**
- **Assistant Governor for Malibu Rotary Club: Julie Jenkins (2012-13)**

Livia Giordiano of Zurich Switzerland Talks about Her Experience as Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar and an Advocate of Conflict Resolution



Most of the members of the Malibu Rotary Club met Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar **Livia Giordiano** at the special Malibu Rotary Club meeting of July 25th at Tra di Noi Restaurant. The story of that interactive and productive encounter was recounted in the story **Rotary Networking at the Square Round Table-- Malibu Rotary Club Demonstrates The Art of Negotiation And Dispute Resolution for Rotary International Scholar** in the *Malibu Rotary Club Surfwriter* for July 25th available online at www.maliburotary.org.

Unlike most previous incoming or outgoing Rotary Ambassadorial Scholars who have spoken at Malibu Rotary Club meetings, Livia has interacted with members of the Rotary Club of Malibu both collectively and individually even before we met her. The first member was probably **David Baird**, who has been responsible for informing so many Pepperdine students of the availability of Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarships to study in other countries, and each year we have had great programs from these outgoing Rotary Ambassadorial Scholars. When he learned that a Rotary Ambassadorial scholar from

Switzerland was coming to Pepperdine he asked for someone to volunteer be her Host Counselor and **Margo Neal** took that position. Margo began e-mail communication with Livia while she was still in Zurich. In that communication Livia had asked if someone could help her find affordable housing in the Malibu area, and the natural Malibu Rotary club member to take care of that was **Donna Bohana**, a realtor, who found accommodations, not only for Livia, but for her two cats, who were also going to make the trip with her.

Then, of course was the acquisition of the car, which involved the negotiating skills of Malibu Rotary member **Maggie Luckerath** and the recommendations and auto dealer and service contacts of Malibu Rotary Club **President Bill Wishard**. Bill also had decided to offer the winnings of his LA 5 drawing to pay for Livia's appearance at Rotary District events for the year, which started the previous week at the Rotary District Breakfast, and will include the Rotary Foundation Dinner at the Westin Bonaventure Hotel on October 27, 2012.

So even before Livia told us about herself and began her classes in Dispute Resolution, she already had a lot of interaction with the members of the Malibu Rotary Club. At the Malibu Rotary Club meeting of August 8, we learned of her background and why she was here.

Livia was born October 12, 1981 in a suburb of Zurich, Switzerland, to a father with an Italian background, and mother with Swiss German background. She went to school in Zurich and received her LL.M (Master of Law Degree) in 2006. While Law often involves taking an adversarial position, and representing on side or the other in a court of law, Livia knew from the beginning she didn't want to do this. She doesn't like fighting and conflict. She would rather bring people together. From 2006 to 2012 worked for a non-profit organization in Switzerland providing conflict resolution in labor and employment law. In Switzerland there is training in mediation, but not in conflict resolution.

In May, 2011, Livia went to a workshop on LL.M Dispute Resolution in Cologne, Germany. There she learned that the highest ranked school for a degree in dispute resolution was the Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution, which is part of the Pepperdine University Law School, in Malibu, California, USA. At the Cologne, Germany workshop, she also learned about ways to finance her desired training in America and learned about the Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarship program. Until then, she was not aware of the Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarships nor was she aware of Rotary. Travelling to America though had always intrigued her, and she wanted to be a Rotary Exchange Student when she was in high school. So if she could somehow get the special education in dispute resolution, and get to see the United States, and Malibu, no less, this would be a dream come true.

To apply for a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarship, she was told she had to get the sponsorship for the Rotary Club in near her hometown. She applied for the scholarship grant with the Rotary Club of Winterthur, Switzerland, and, because the deadline for the application was coming up that week, an interview was set up with people the Rotary District in Switzerland. Her written application was in both German and English.

Livia acknowledged what an honor it was and how thankful she is to be accepted as a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar. She said without the scholarship she would not have been able to afford

this education. But it was not just the money—the people she has met—the hospitality and help of the Rotarians she has met. She knows that she is part of something very special—something she didn't even know existed until the past year. There is a Facebook for Rotary Ambassadorial Scholars and she has been able to meet other Rotary Ambassadorial Scholars. She is representing not only herself, but her country, in being a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar. Her short term commitment to Rotary is to give 8 speeches to Rotary clubs in Switzerland, and 10 speeches to clubs in the U.S. What she has learned about Rotary and the people she has met, would indicate her commitment to Rotary would go beyond that.

In addition to the Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarship Livia was also awarded a Weinstein International Fellowship. The Weinstein International Fellowship program, inaugurated in 2008, provides opportunities for qualified individuals from outside the United States to study dispute resolution processes and practices in the U.S. in order to advance the resolution of disputes in their home countries. Fellows are required to attend a gathering of Fellows in San Francisco and Livia will be doing that for a short time during her year in California.

Livia has sometimes been questioned by others if her decision to pursue dispute resolution as a career was the right one. She could make more money becoming a traditional attorney. She feels her recent experiences have confirmed and rewarded her for her decision of career path.

News and Guests from Last Malibu Rotary Club



Before our next Rotary Club meeting Malibu Rotary Club President **Bill Wishard** would be going to at least to Rotary events. He went to the Rotary Literacy Breakfast on August 10th at Lawry's Restaurant, and the next day he would be attending a special meeting Rotary Club Presidents in Santa Monica.

The Paul Harris Foundation Celebration Dinner Oct 27, 2012 6:00 PM at the Bonaventure Hotel has 3 auction possibilities for both buyers and those wanting to donate items to for the auctions. There is live auction, silent auction, and a new online auction. Rotary District Governor **Lew Bertrand** reminds everyone that the deadline for Rotary Grants is August 15. Forms for these grants are available on line.

One of the people who made an announcement at the District Breakfast was **J.T. Waring** of the LA 5 Rotary Club. J.T. has been working on water projects in Myanmar. There are now 26 of these projects, and the LA 5 Rotary Club is one of the sponsors. DG Lew Bertrand would like other clubs in the district to also get involved in these projects, which have a lot implications, not only for providing clean drinking water for the children in these orphanages, but because the oppressive government this country has allowed these projects to continue even as they have banned Rotary clubs from meeting in that country, it has possibly opened to the door for Rotary to again return to the country, and to charter their first club since the Myanmar takeover of Burma. We are hoping to have J.T. Waring come to the Malibu Rotary Club as a speaker.

Another topic at the Rotary Breakfast was the Ignite Program. This is an effort to increase Rotary Club membership in the world. Rotary as had 1.2 million members for some time, and they would like to get that number up to 1.3 million. The Ignite Program feature 7 different strategies to increase Rotary Club membership, and since each club is different the strategy can be tailored to each club. The District chair of this is Jerry Brown and he will speak to clubs about it.

Rotary District Picnic will be at Seaside Lagoon
Sep 09, 2012 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM

The next Rotary District Breakfast will feature the Tuskegee Airmen of World War II.

5th Annual International Wine & Jazz Festival hosted by the Rotary Club of Santa Monica

Sunday October 7, 2012 | 2 pm - 6 pm

The 5th Annual International Wine & Jazz Festival hosted by the Rotary Club of Santa Monica will take place on October 7, 2012 from 2 pm - 6 pm at the Annenberg Community Beach House.

Toast Life with an afternoon of delicious food, wine and live jazz music wafting through ocean breezes on beautiful Santa Monica Beach!

Dozens of Wines from Around the World

Fabulous Menu

Music

Live & Silent Auction

Where: Annenberg Community Beach House

415 Pacific Coast Highway Santa Monica, CA 90402

SPONSORED BY

Rotary Club of Santa Monica benefitting local, national and international charities.

Made possible by the generous support of:

The Fairmont

\$100 advance tickets

Contact Suzan Allbritton SusanAllbritton@gmail.com or 310-392-3654

\$125 at the door

Watch last year's event here

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=upHO1ZWDMoY>

Malibu Rotary Club is Official Sponsor of Smile Trek

Marine Sargent Winston Fiore Started his 5,000 mile Cross Country Motorcycle Trip in Malibu. His purpose is to bring awareness of children's cleft palate and raise money for the International Children's Surgical Foundation. The organization provides surgery, training for 3rd world surgeons, plus follow-up care for surgical correction of children's cleft palate disease. The US trip was in preparation for a 5,000 mile walking trip across Southeast Asia which he began in September. Before he left he explained " My route will take me through eight different countries, beginning and ending in Singapore, and the yearlong trek will be an ongoing effort to



raise funds for the ICSF and awareness for children living with clefts in the developing world. I chose to base this trip in Southeast Asia because of the region's high prevalence of cleft births.”

Malibu Rotary Club is one of his sponsors. One surgery costs \$240.

See Winston's blog at <http://www.smiletrek.org> (which includes multiple videos) as he travels across the world. He had e-mailed us after July 4th from the

Phillippines.

“Smile Trek has officially surpassed its \$50,000 fundraising goal. That's 200 children who will be able to receive life-changing surgery, so a big thank you to all of you who helped make this possible!

Enjoy [my blog entry on China!](#)”

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

facebook

Calendar

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

Aug 15 2012

Zoe Dunne

"Rotary High School Student Exchange"

After finishing Malibu High School in 2011 Zoe Dunne went to new high school in Rüsselsheim Germany as part of the Rotary Youth Exchange program, sponsored by the Malibu Rotary Club. She will talk about her experience at the August 15, 2012 Malibu Rotary Club meeting.

Aug 22 2012

Rotary District Governor Lew Bertrand (in Faculty Dining Room)

"State of the New Expanded Rotary District 5280"

Aug 29 2012

Club Assembly at Tra di Noi

"Club Assembly at Tra di Noi for Noon Lunch"

Noon Lunch meeting a Tra di Noi Restaurant in Malibu Country Mart, call Maggie for reservation.

Sep 12 2012

Jonathan Hippensteel

"ELEV8-X Teen Inspiration Program"

Nov 28 2012

Joan Benedict Steiger

"The Love's of My Life--(Noon meeting at Tra di Noi Restaurant)"

Veteran actress of stage, screen, and television, writer, and inspiring romances with three devoted men--special reservation only lunch meeting at Tra di Noi restaurant with Joan Benedict Steiger will make this Malibu Rotary Club meeting one not to miss!