



Malibu Rotary Club Surfwriter

June 29, 2011

**Official Newsletter of the Rotary Club of Malibu
Malibu Rotary Club President (2010-2011) Christopher Bauman
Malibu Rotary Club President (2011-2012) Kevin Boling**

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Pictures by Dr John W. Elman**

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- **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.rotary5280la.org**
- **Rotary District 5280 “Rotarians Doing Business With Rotarians” Website: <http://yp5280.org/>**
- **[RI President \(2011-2012\)](#) Kalyan Banerjee**
- **Rotary District 5280 Governor (2011-2012): Brad Robinson**

Hubert Luckerath’s “Craft Talk”—

His Life’s Route to Malibu



Often what you do in your life, or even if you survive to adulthood, is a function of luck and where and when you happen to be born. For those of us born in the United States or Canada war has always been something that happened “over there”—on the other side of the Atlantic or Pacific Ocean on another continent. Hubert Luckerath happened to be born in the late 1930’s in Hanover, Germany, in north central area of the Nazi Germany controlled by Hitler. His mother was a speech therapist, his father a geophysicist whose job was oil exploration in Europe. Because Germany lacked oil reserves the senior Luckerath was perhaps

allowed more freedom than the average German citizen. It has been said that one of the reasons Germany lost the war was because of their lack of oil, and recently there have been scientists investing German attempts at synthesizing oil from coal. Hanover had some of the few oil refineries in Germany. The reliance of Germany on oil and oil products for its war machine was identified before the war and the strategic bombing started with RAF attacks on Germany in

1940. When the U.S. entered the war one of its main missions was this strategic bombing of oil related targets. Targets included the [AFA \(Stöcken\)](#), the [Deurag-Nerag](#) refinery the [Continental](#) plant, the United light metal works (VLW), and in [Linden](#), the [Hanover/Limmer rubber reclamation plant](#), the [Hanomag](#) factory . The residential areas were also targeted and more than 6,000 people were killed in the Allied bombing raids of Hanover. More than 90% of the city centre was destroyed in 88 bombing raids. After the war, the [Aegidienkirche](#) was not rebuilt and its ruins were kept as a war memorial.

As a 6 or 7 year old boy Hubert remembers the nightly bombing waking him up. He and his 2 older sisters went to the basement out of harm's way until it was ok to go back to their rooms upstairs. Because of the danger of staying in the city by 1943 the family left Hanover and moved to the countryside about 60 to 70 km from the Russian frontier. There was much more freedom and peaceful nights living on a country farm. A child could be a child. There was no money, but they had food from what was grown there and were able to barter for food items they didn't have with other crops from the land.

In 1949, after the war the family moved back to Hanover to rebuild. They rented a place in a bombed building. One of Hubert's sisters was in high school and the other was in college. Even though Hubert's practical experience in economics was trading farm commodities he was able to get a position as an apprentice in the Deutsch Bank of Hanover, where he learned about currencies besides apples and eggs. In 1960, after three years of apprenticeship and a year working there as an employee of the bank he and a fellow employee decided to leave Hanover and travel to Zurich Switzerland to work at a bank there. He found the German dialect and the Zwiss Germans hard to get to know, and since he wanted to learn French, he decided to go to Paris, where he was able to get a part-time job at a bank in Paris which had a foreign exchange booth at the Paris airport. What the 20 year old young man did not account for was the cost of living in Paris. There was not enough money to pay for a place to live on his bank salary and he went back home where he could live more economically while he went to the Berlitz school to study French and return to banking in the part of Switzerland he really liked, Geneva. He became fluent in French talking to colleagues, and enjoyed the culture of Geneva, the skiing in the Alps, and the people.

Many international corporations are based or have major office in Geneva. And from the bank he was working in he was able to meet people from these companies. He decided to interview for a position in the finance department at Chrysler International, which was headquartered in Geneva. Fortunately for him, Hubert was interviewed by the corporate treasurer, a Mr. Lindhorst, an American who, like Hubert, had been born in Hanover Germany. He got the job and a salary that was twice as much as he had made at the bank. 90% of the employees working at the Geneva Chrysler International were Americans and Hubert started to learn English. He worked for Chrysler International in Geneva for 7 years, until May, 1968.

One of the American employees at Chrysler International's Geneva office was Maggie. Maggie and Hubert became more than just friends and when Maggie decided to return home to America, Hubert came too. He had a green card and was able to get a job on Wall Street in New York. He

and Maggie were married in her hometown in Pennsylvania. They lived in Denville, New Jersey and Hubert commuted to New York to work. The Wall Street job turned out to be a tedious one, with hours from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m. Hubert was able to land a position in a family run Bank in New York with international connections and “banker’s hours”. It allowed him to travel to Germany on business and paid for 4 weeks of vacation and a pension fund. The bank was later bought by Japanese bank, which closed the department he was in. Meanwhile Hubert and Maggie had 2 children—a son and daughter—who eventually left New Jersey and settled in Southern California. For 10 years they visited their children each winter, but now are here year round when they bought a house in Malibu West and moved to Malibu.

We will get to hear Maggie’s version of these events when she gives her Craft Talk.

Chris Ends Term With Belated Birthday Celebration



At the previous Malibu Rotary Club meeting President Christopher Bauman mentioned at the end of the meeting it was his birthday. The club members did not really do anything about it at the time—no song, no cake. At the June 29th Malibu Rotary Club meeting, Chris’ last as President of the Malibu Rotary Club, his previous week’s birthday finally was celebrated. The song was sung, and we all partook of the delicious birthday cake that Maggie Luckerath baked for the occasion. The celebration ended Chris’ third term at the helm.

Other News and Guests from Last Malibu Rotary Club Meeting

Malibu Rotary Club President **Chris Bauman** had several announcements to make presiding over his last meeting. He talked about the thank you card he received from Ah Young Chi, the Malibu High School College Counselor and Scholarship Coordinator, for the two \$500 scholarships that were presented to graduating Malibu High School seniors, which were donated by the Malibu Rotary Club. The checks, given to two students



who best exemplified the 4 Way Test in citizenship, had been presented by school principal, Dr Kelly, at a ceremony June 7th. Chris also talked about the new Rotary International President Kalyan Banerjee and the article about him in this month’s *Rotarian* magazine. Banerjee is the Rotary’s 101st president and the third from India. The Rotary theme for the next Rotary year is “Reach Within to Embrace Humanity.” One of the other articles in the *Rotarian*

magazine, which is translated into most languages and sent to Rotarians around the world, is about the Rotary Club of Westchester, in our own Rotary District 5280. The Westchester Rotary Club has a community program of making over a home for a needy recipient, and the article talks about their latest accomplishment in doing that for a cancer victim. Chris reflected back on his term, how he feels about Rotary as a great service organization that can positively affect other people's lives.

Bill Wishard talked about his recent trip to Washington DC to attend a national meeting of Psi Upsilon fraternity, of which he is a board member. He said each chapter of the fraternity has local charities that they raise money for, but there was discussion this year on having a national charity that all chapters would raise money for. Bill said he was advocating the Sam Schmidt Paralysis Foundation, which has taken over the Christopher Reeves Foundation. Sam Schmidt attended Pepperdine University receiving a BS in Business Administration and an MBA in International Finance. Sam counts as one of his finest accomplishments in college being a founding member of the Lambda Omega Sigma fraternity, which has since merged with national Psi Upsilon. The organization is unique in several ways including no drinking at fraternity events and a completely distinctive pledging process. Sam became a quadriplegic in a racecar accident, but still manages to run two organizations he formed: Sam Schmidt Motorsports and the Sam Schmidt Paralysis Foundation. You can see why Bill would be such an advocate for Sam with both having connections to Pepperdine, the fraternity, auto racing, and having rehabbed from major traumatic injuries.

There was one visitor at Chris Bauman's last meeting as president, President-Elect **Kevin Boling's** wife **Laura Boling**, who confirmed that she and Kevin were born in the same hospital room and have been together nearly ever since. These and other amazing Boling stories will resume when Kevin officially begins his term as president starting with next meeting.

In Our Midst—The Cover Guy—One Malibu's Most Eligible Bachelors



The July issue of *Malibu Times* Magazine has the cover story "Meet Malibu's Most Eligible Bachelors." Page 56 features the face and body of perhaps the best of the best, Malibu Rotary's own **McKade Marshall**. Makes one think about possible Malibu Rotary Club fund raisers taking advantage of the potential we have here: Kissing Booth, Auction featuring date with, etc. Congratulations, McKade in making this elite list of male hunks!

Malibu Rotary Club to Support Camp for Children of Family Suggested by SOS' Hollie Packman

When Hollie Packman came to the Malibu Rotary Club on June 8th she had asked for support for three specific families that she felt especially could benefit from help this summer sending the total of eight kids from these families to summer camp. "All three of these families were living on the streets when we met them. We were able to help them all make a complete transition off of the streets. They have all been able to sustain housing and work for over a year.

"That said, these families barely make ends meet and even struggle to put food on the table at times. Life is hard and as you can imagine it wears on the children. We've committed to partner with these parents to help provide a stable, joyful childhood for their children as they grow.

"In order to place all eight kids in camps this summer it will cost \$5700.00. All donations are tax deductible to SOS Community Outreach a 501c3."Hollie said she was able to raise part of the money, but is asking for community support.

Those who want to help can send Tax Deductable donations to:

SOS Community Outreach
501-I South Reino Rd #286
Newbury Park, CA 91320

At the Demotion Party Dinner on June 13th, President-Elect Kevin Boling asked the club to make a decision on any support sending the children of one of these families to summer camp. There was discussion on whether this is where our charity budget should go—that only this one family will benefit. There was also discussion on the amount of the donation. David Baird made a motion to donate \$1500 for to send the kids to camp. It was seconded, put to a vote and passed.

"Like" Rotary Club of Malibu Facebook Page

We need 25 "likes" to become a registered facebook page! Log into your Facebook account and "Like" the Rotary Club of Malibu Facebook page.

By June 29th number of "likes" on Rotary Club of Malibu Facebook = 17 (same as last week).

Of the 17 "likes" only 8 are members of the Malibu Rotary Club and the others are friends and relatives.

Therefore of the 15 regular members of the Malibu Rotary Club 7 have not "liked" the Rotary Club of Malibu Facebook Page yet!

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

Calendar

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

- **July 6, 2011 Sgt Winston Fiore a U.S. Marine recently home from Afghanistan, who will be talking about Children's Cleft Palette Program.** The next day on July 7th, he will be riding his motorcycle across the country starting in Malibu (smiletrek.org/us-tour) in an effort to raise funds/awareness for children living with clefts in the developing world.
- **August 3, 2011 Fireside Room Not Available—meeting place to be announced**
- **August 19, 2011 Rotary District Governor Brad Robinson to Hear Reports from Malibu Rotary Committee Heads and to Report on the State of the District**