



The Award Winning
Malibu Rotary Club Surfwriter

August 15, 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

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- **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 Faculty Dining Room**

(adjacent to Fireside Room) when Malibu Rotary Club will trade reports with Rotary District Governor Lew Bertrand

- 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)

Malibu High School Student Zoe Dunne Talks About Last Year’s Experience as a Rotary Youth Exchange Student in Germany



Rotary District Youth Exchange Director Warren Bobrow (L) introduced Rotary Youth Exchange student Zoe Dunne (R) to Malibu Rotary Club President Bill Wishard (center)

The Malibu Rotary Club sponsored Zoe Dunne as Rotary Youth Exchange Student to study in Germany.



Zoe made a presentation to the Malibu Rotary Club on July 27, 2011, the week before she left on her unforgettable year in Europe.

At the time she was wearing the traditional Youth Exchange Student blazer, which had only a couple of pins on it, indicating where she was from. She still again wore the blazer when she gave her 2012 presentation, but now it was covered with an array of pins on the front and back, given to her by the many friends she had met from around the world.

Zoe had put together a PowerPoint slide presentation written in German, and a version of it was presented to Rotary clubs in Germany before leaving. We're sure her German presentation would have featured her life in Malibu. This one showed the many things she did, the many places she visited, and the many people she met, while living in Europe.

Zoe said she stayed part of the year with one German Rotary family, and the rest of year, when she wasn't traveling, with another Rotary family. The first Rotary family to host her was the family of Axel and Christine Weyer. Their son Daniel was a Rotary Youth Exchange student in Mexico. She found out about her new family concern for her before she got to their home. Her flight was four or five hours late arriving in London for connection to Germany. When she was finally able to reach them by phone she could hear the concern when finally got through to them. "Where are you? We've been looking all over the airport for you."

The Weyers made her feel part of their family when she finally arrived at their home. Before she started school she went to a Language Camp in Wasserkuppe for all incoming Youth Exchange students in the German Rotary District where she was going to go to school. Incoming students from all over the world went to this camp to learn the German language before starting their high school classes. That is where Zoe started meeting many worldwide friends that she hopes to stay in touch with now that everyone is back home.

The high school she would be attending was Otto-Schott-Gymnasium Mainz-Gonsenheim. Zoe said that the high schools in Germany are divided into two groups. One type of school was to prepare students for trades---construction, plumbing, mechanics, etc. The other high schools were for future doctors and professionals who would go on to college. The high school she attended was for the students designated on the professional track.

Rüsselsheim is in the southeast central part of German. The Weyer house in Rüsselsheim is multistory and Zoe's bedroom was upstairs. Besides all the great travel pictures Zoe showed there were ones that featured close ups of a very swollen ankle. It was, in fact, Zoe's ankle, after she had fallen down the steps of the Weyer house and twisted the ankle during her fall. Despite

this accident Zoe healed rapidly and the mishap did not keep her from missing school or all the activities planned for the Youth Exchange students.

On a school break the Weyer family took Zoe to Lake Titisee and Schwarzwald, the Black Forest, in the southeastern part of Germany. She also had the opportunity to go to neighboring France, and sample the food *Flammkuchen* which means "Flame cake" or in [French](#) *tarte flambée*, which translates as "Pie baked in the flames", because it is made in a wood-fire oven and is composed of bread dough rolled out very thin in the shape of a rectangle (traditionally) or circle that is kind of like a pizza with cheese and other toppings.

Zoe said she would often get a chance to take the train to Frankfurt and meet with other students she had met in Germany, including other Americans. Some of the incoming Rotary Youth Exchange students had already been in Germany when Zoe arrived. She was to discover they were the ones who came from countries south of the equator, whose seasons and school year were opposite to the students from countries in the northern hemispheres. As a group they were referred to as the "Oldies." They went to different schools but met with the Rotary Youth Exchange students in Rotary district activities with the group Zoe was in, who were the new group that started school at the end of the calendar year. Zoe said she was able to make friends with many of the "Oldies," but there were always tears when she made all these friends and then she had to say good-bye to them just as they had become close.

Zoe said that the Weyer home was close to a forest and at Christmas time they all walked about a mile to find a suitable Christmas tree, which they cut down and hand carried to their home. It was a unique and tiring experience. Zoe had been told she would see a lot of snow while she was in Rüsselsheim, but in fact she saw only 3 or 4 days of snow. She said her host mom was a great cook, and she enjoyed celebrating Christmas with them. She said they exchanged gifts and most of the celebration was done on Christmas eve rather than Christmas day.

Zoe had a wonderful experience with her initial host family but then it was time to pack her bags and move in with her second host family. The second family, the Fritz', had more than just host parents Thomas and Annette Fritz, Zoe also gained 2 sisters, Laura and Sarah. The sister had been youth exchange students in Wisconsin and Illinois. She had an especially great experience with them. Zoe showed pictures of a costume party they went to in RosenMontag. It was kind of Mardi-Gras with everyone in costume, and a certain amount of drinking going on (not for the kids of course). Zoe met up with her Youth Exchange Cohorts in Marburg.

Zoe said that college entrance exams are a special event that the whole family gives its exam takers special encouragement and support. One way they do this is by making large banners to post on the building where the tests are taken showing their support for their exam taking students, and Zoe had a lot of fun helping Sarah make a huge sign for her older host sister Laura.

Just as the Incoming Rotary Youth Exchange students coming to California get a chance to tour America for a month by going on the month long YES/SCANEX USA Train Tour which was founded by Malibu Rotary Club Past President Paul R. St. John, the incoming students to Germany get a chance to go on a 3 week Euro Tour as a bus tour of the major cities of Europe. They sleep in youth hostel at night and the amount of places they visit in 3 weeks is amazing. Zoe showed us

pictures of the places included in the students' tour: Trier, Germany; Luxembourg, Belgium (where Zoe had a breakfast of Belgium waffles); Paris, France (which Zoe said was one of the most beautiful cities she had seen and where they visited the Louvre and Zoe was surprised that the painting Mona Lisa was so small, the Moulin Rouge); Point du Gard; Avignon; Monaco; and in Italy Pisa (and the leaning tower); Rome (and [Colosseum](#), the Forum, the Pantheon), the Vatican where they got to see the Pope), Siena, Florence, Venice (where Zoe found it odd and uncomfortable that toilet and the shower were in the same place in the bathroom); Vienna; Budapest, Hungary; Bratislava; Prague (which Zoe listed as her favorite city); and the final city on the tour, Würzburg. Before Zoe left Germany she went to Thuringen and Berlin. She had many pictures of her German friends, and also her favorite German foods. These included *Klöße* or *Knödel*, large round poached or boiled [potato](#) or [bread dumplings](#), Doner, which is a Turkish dish made of roasted meat cooked on a vertical spit and served on a flatbread, bratwurst with sauerkraut, *KartoffelSuppe* (potato soup), *Wiener schnitzel* a traditional [Austrian breaded cutlet](#) dish made with boneless meat thinned with a hammer and *Schokolade* (chocolate).

Zoe had many memorable moments. She went hunting for the first time with Axel. She was so surprised when she walked into the kitchen one day and saw a deer head in a pot being boiled.

Most of the time when she was there it was really cold, especially for a girl who grew up in Malibu. One day it seemed it was going to be a warm day, and they decided to go to the park, but when they got there it suddenly became cold and they immediately returned home.

Her Host Sister and her friends got under the steps and tried to grab her legs as she was trying to walk up stairs. This is not what caused her twisted ankle injury.

Whenever she would see her Host Sister make brownies she would ask if they were for her (Zoe) but her Host sister said "No. They are for my friends." Zoe said she got sad about that because she loved her Host Sister's brownies.

It was obvious that Zoe had an experience and memories to last a lifetime, and world-wide friends that she would never have met were it not for Rotary.



News and Guests from Last Malibu Rotary Club Meeting and the Board Meeting that followed

Malibu Rotary Club President **Bill Wishard** went to the Rotary Literacy Breakfast on August 10th at Lawry's Restaurant. While there he met with Shari Pollack of the Woodland Hills Rotary Club who told him about a project that the Woodland Hills has been involved with for several years and looking for co-sponsors. It involves involving kids 8-12 years old with the Los Angeles Academy of Ballet. The project has shown to have a positive

impact on the kids involved and has already qualified for a Rotary District simplified grant. At the Board of Directors meeting that followed the regular meeting based on what we had heard about the project so far, and because Bill was told the grant applications had to be in on August 15th (it was later extended) the Malibu Rotary Club voted to allocate \$250.00 towards the Grant, which had already been filled out awaiting Bill's signature. We will hear more about this project from Dale Barnes of the Woodland Hills Rotary Club, who will present a future program about it to the Malibu Rotary Club.

In addition to **Rotary District Youth Exchange Director Warren Bobrow**, who introduced Rotary Youth Exchange Student **Zoe Dunne** at the Malibu Rotary Club meeting, was Zoe's mom **Pam**. Warren was named "Rotarian of the Year" at the Rotary District Convention in San Diego.

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. Deadline for Rotary Grants has been extended August 15 to August 31.

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 Phillipines.

"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 22 2012

Rotary District Governor Lew Bertrand

"State of the New Expanded Rotary District 5280 (in Faculty Dining Room)"

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"

Sep 26 2012

Susan Gregory

"Peace Education 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!