



Reach Within to Embrace Humanity

Malibu Rotary Club Surfwriter

July, 2011

Official Newsletter of the Rotary Club of Malibu

Malibu Rotary Club President (2011-2012) Kevin Boling

Edited by Dr. John W. Elman

Pictures by Dr John W. Elman and ICSF.org

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- **“Like” Rotary Club of Malibu Facebook Page**
- **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**

Marine Sgt Winston Fiore Starts 5,000 mile Cross Country Motorcycle Trip



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Winston Fiore grew up in a middle class family in Bloomington, Indiana. His parents were from Europe, and have a French Restaurant in Bloomington. After graduating from Indiana University he joined the Marines and after training was deployed to Linguere, Senegal, the most western point in Africa. Besides African dialects French is the main language, and Winston is fluent in French. He worked as an interpreter working with the local commandos. The experience in Senegal was a real culture shock for the Winston. The locals drank tea all day, and there was a sipping sound you were supposed to make when you drank it. Heterosexual males held hands walking down the street as a sign of friendship. When people dined they all ate out of a collective dish rather than having individual plates. He also saw many things that existed simply because of poverty. Although Senegal is more developed than much of Africa, the examples of poverty he saw there were numerous-- women carrying buckets of water many miles on their head, children rummaging through trash for food.

In his tours of duty in Africa and later Afghanistan Winston developed a wanderlust. He decided to dedicate a year to traveling, and he wanted to do most of this on foot to experience this adventure up close and personal and to connect with people. But if he was going to do this grand walk, he wanted to walk for something that would contribute to the betterment of the developing world.

He returned to New York City where he had lived after active duty in 2006. He began researching worthwhile causes, and his dad sent a clipping of the work being done by Dr. W. Geoff Williams, who was Assistant Professor of Plastic Surgery at the University of Texas Medical Branch Medical Center in Galveston, who had subspecialty training in the treatment of pediatric facial deformities.



There are an estimated 10 million children in developing countries living with correctable physical deformities. Dr. Williams had been donating his surgical expertise in poor countries, at times using his vacation time and paying his own way. Feeling that his efforts were not quite enough in fighting a problem that was too large, he left all practice in the United States at the age of 47 and began volunteering full-time, financing his work largely out of his own savings. Since that time, Dr. Williams has served an average of sixteen surgical missions per year in eight countries.

Dr. Williams, obviously needed a lot of help to carry out these and future missions and in 2005 created the International Children's Surgical Foundation (<http://icsfoundation.org/>) to support and sustain the work of changing the lives of third world children---children that would otherwise be confined to lives of seclusion and shame. He furthermore has recruited a wide array of specialists trained in treating childhood deformities including orthopedics, ear-nose-throat, maxillofacial, burns and neurosurgery.



ICSF provides free surgery to third world children suffering from treatable disfigurements. While other organizations perform similar services, ICSF is unique in its philosophies and methods of operation. ICSF believes that large scale

missions, in which large numbers of children are treated in a short period of time, are not the answer to the problem at hand – the problem of children suffering with correctable deformities in the developing world. In some of these large missions, up to 180 children are operated upon for cleft deformities in as little as a five day period, which may require surgeons to operate on as many as six children in one day, and then leave a day or two after the last surgery. Some of America’s most renowned cleft surgeons take several hours to perform these delicate operations, a must in their minds for achieving beautiful and long-lasting results. ICSF believes that third world children are no less deserving of similar treatment. ICSF believes so much in delivering quality to these children that they have, on more than one occasion, traveled to a remote region of the world to treat one child in need.

ICSF schedules its missions for much longer periods of time, so each child may receive a full



allotment of time and individualized care, as well as post-surgical follow-up. Furthermore, realizing that the best answer is to have well trained local doctors, ICSF identifies and invites dedicated local surgeons to be trained in an intensified, one-

on-one basis over a period of years, enabling them to treat and care for their own patients. These trained surgeons will then not only be able to serve each child individually at a normal pace, but will be available for their patients year-round as is the standard in America. In other words, ICSF follows the ancient China proverb: “give a man a fish and feed him for a day – teach a man to fish and feed him for a lifetime.”

So Winston, after learning of the prevalence of facial deformities and their devastating affect on the children that have them, and learning about Dr Williams and the ICSF, found a cause that he could publicize and help raise money for—a reason to do his great journey. His plan was to do two 5,000 mile treks to raise awareness and funds for children’s facial reconstructive surgeries in the developing world. The first one started at the Malibu Rotary Club meeting on July 6, and involves riding his motorcycle across the country to Miami, and then finishing near his hometown near Indianapolis, Indiana, speaking at Rotary Club meetings across the country, and tallying their contributions to the International Childhood Surgery Foundation on the website smiletrek.org/us-tour. When he completes that trek he plans to fly to southeast Asia and do a 5,000 mile walking trek raising more money for the ICSF. He will be speaking at Rotary Clubs in Asia.

Winston saved enough money while in the service that he can afford to do his long treks on his savings. He is not collecting money during his journey. He is asking individuals and organizations, such as Rotary Clubs, to donate to the International Childhood Surgery Foundation. If one goes to Winston’s Smiletrek.org website there is a link to donate, that goes to the ICS Foundation(icsfoundation.org), and that is how money that he raises on his trip will be tallied.

Message From Malibu Rotary Club President Kevin Boling



Throughout history, change has been met with cautious reserve and this issue of the *Surfrider* marks a change for the Malibu Rotary Club. A new President with a new style. But we are a Rotary Club in transition and transition we must. My focus this year is membership. I ask each member to reach out to business and community leaders of Malibu in an effort grow our membership. In addition I ask that we work to retain our current members. We are all in this “New Malibu Rotary” together. Together we will succeed, together we may fail. For me, failure is not an option. How about you? It will be a great year. I look forward to serving has your President

FIDENS

Kevin



Above Rotarians and guests at Malibu Rotary Club meeting July 6, 2011. L to R Fred Cornet, David Baird, McKade Marshall, John Elman, Kevin Boling, Chris Bauman, Maggie Luckerath, William Wishard, Winston Fiore, Bob Syvertsen, Nichola Lenehan, Hubert Luckerath, Margo Neal and Shannon Gilman

Other News and Guests from Last Malibu Rotary Club Meeting

Malibu Rotary Club Past President **Chris Bauman** kicked off the July 6 meeting when President **Kevin Boling** was caught in traffic. When he arrived he was wearing a shirt with the word *FIDEN* written on the front. Kevin explained that *fiden* means “No Fear,” in Latin, and that is the way we are going to approach the new Rotary year with Kevin at the helm

When our speaker Winston Fiore told fellow Hoosier **Bill Wishard** that he planned to end his 5000 mile cross country motorcycle tour at the Indianapolis Rotary Club and hopefully also speak to that about his SmileTrek adventure and fund raiser there, he added that he had not been able to get in touch with anyone at the Indianapolis Rotary Club. One of the many reasons to be associated with Rotary is the many networking opportunities available to members, and there is no better champion of this than Bill Wishard. Bill called the Executive Director of the Rotary

Club of Indianapolis, whom he knew, to introduce Winston to that club, and John Elman e-mailed her Winston's info and picture. We don't know whether Winston will get to speak to the 500 member club or not, they book their speakers a year in advance. But we tried.

There were two visiting guests at the July 6th Malibu Rotary Club meeting, regular **Nichola Lenehan**, as well as a new visitor guest of **Maggie Luckerath, Shannon Gilman**, from Ojai, with the Solstice Real Estate firm, whom we dubbed "Rapunzel" because of her flowing hair.

"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 July 6th 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 13, 2011 Malibu Rotary Club President Kevin Boling Will Preside Over Club Assembly Where Plans of the 2011-2012 Malibu Rotary Year Will Be Discussed.**
- **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**