

The Award Winning
Malibu Rotary Club Surfwriter

October 3, 2012

Official Newsletter of the Rotary Club of Malibu

Malibu Rotary Club President William Wishard

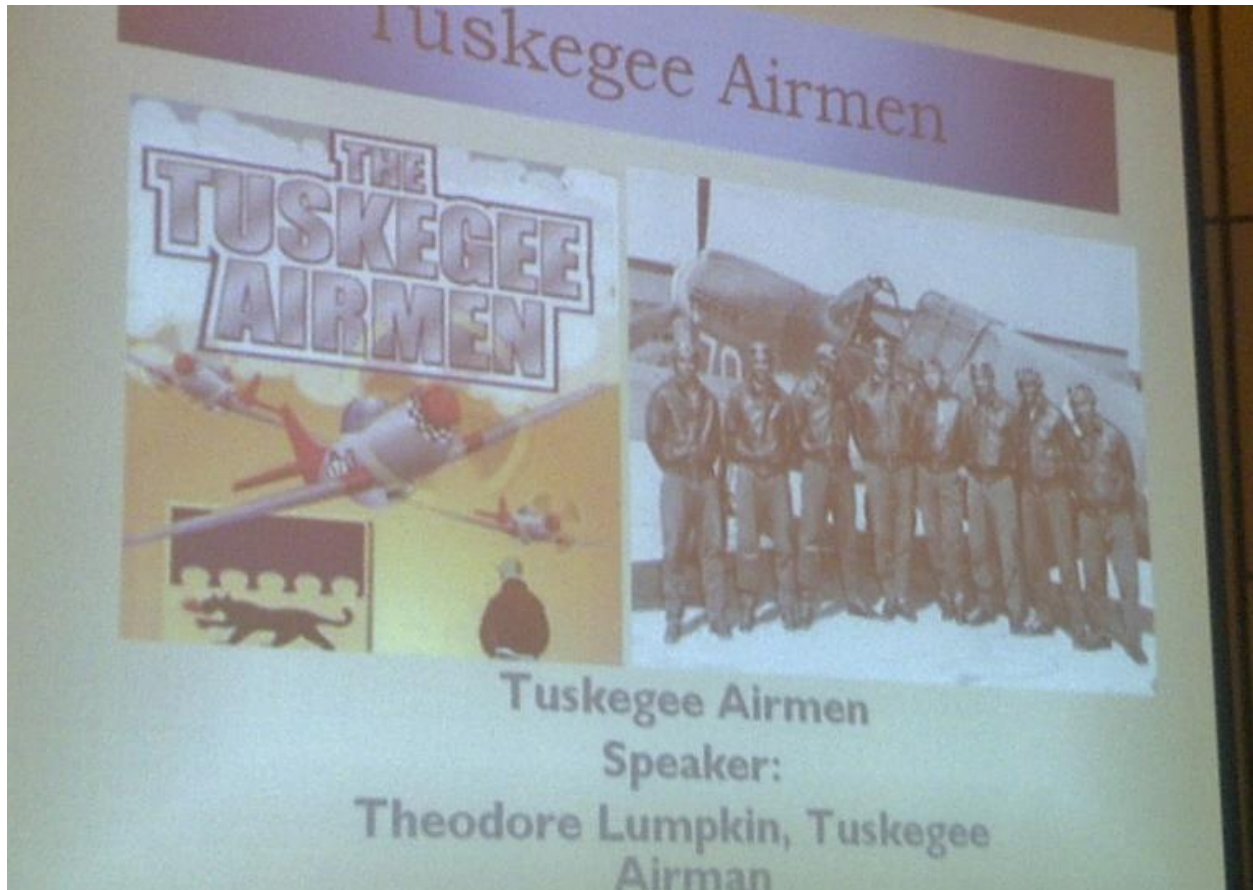
Edited by Dr. John W. Elman
Pictures by Dr. John W. Elman

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- **Last Week: The District Breakfast at the Westin LAX Hotel in Los Angeles featuring Tuskegee Airman of World War II Theodore Lumpkin as guest speaker**
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- **Other News from Last Malibu Rotary Club Meeting (the District Breakfast)**

- **Next Week: There Will Be No Malibu Rotary Club Meeting at Pepperdine University. On Wednesday October 10th, The Malibu Rotary Club will meet for a Club Assembly at the Tra Di Noi Restaurnat in the Malibu Conntry Mart for Noon Lunch (Contact Maggie Luckerath for reservations).**
- **The next regular Malibu Rotary Club meeting will be held Wednesday, October 17 at 7:30 a.m. in the Pepperdine University Fireside Room. It will be Planning Session of the School Board Candidates Forum with Malibu Patch Editor Jessica Davis who will be moderator of the Event the Evening of October 24th.**
 - **PCH Safety Study**
 - **Malibu Rotary Club Sponsors SMMUSD School Board Candidates Forum October 24 7:30 p.m.**
- **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)**

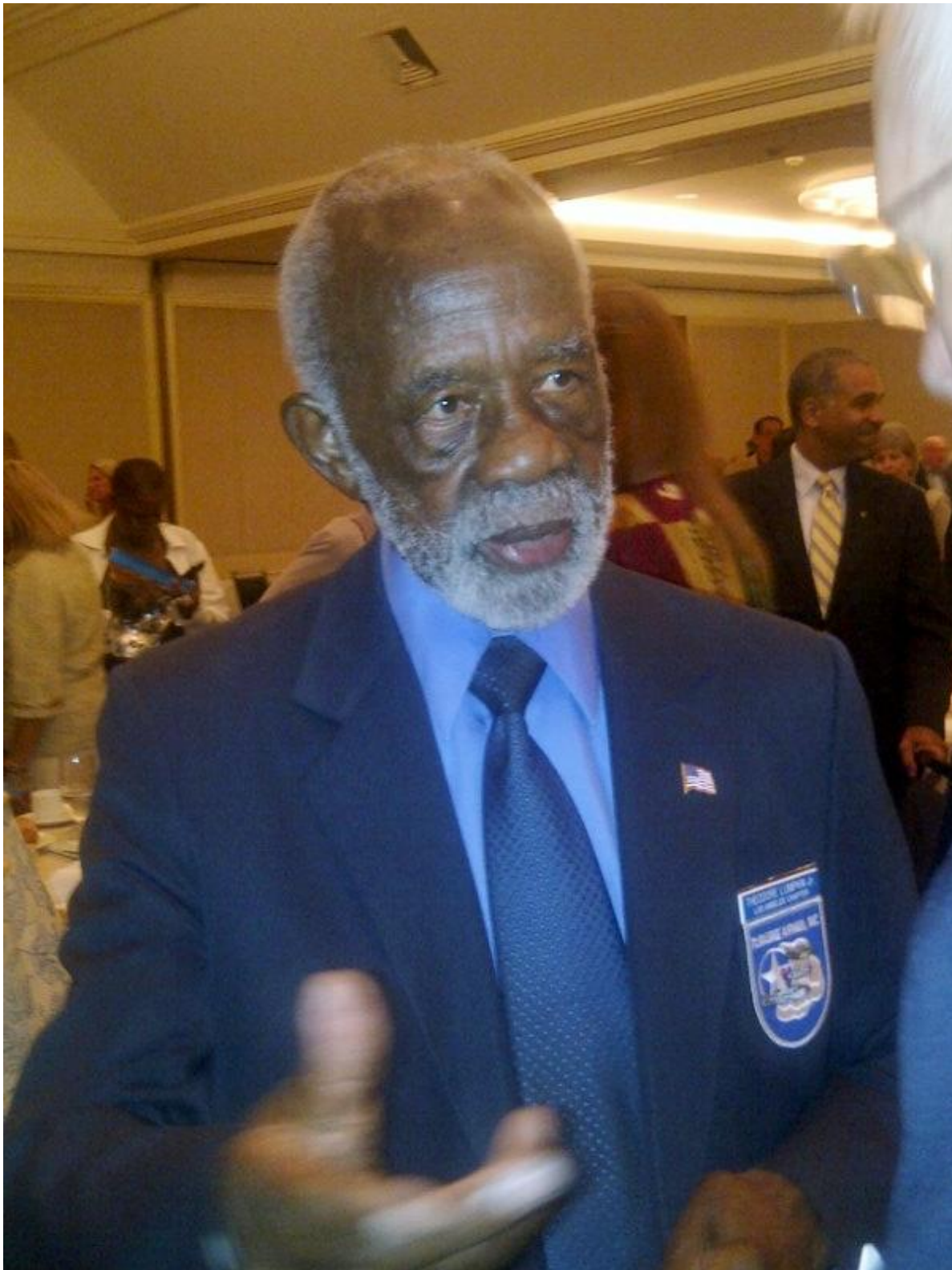
District Breakfast at the Westin LAX Hotel in Los Angeles featuring Tuskegee Airman of World War II Theodore Lumpkin as guest speaker



Instead of having a regular Malibu Rotary Club meeting on October 3rd **Malibu Rotary Club President Bill Wishard** had the members of the Malibu Rotary Club attend the Rotary District 5280 Breakfast on October 2nd at the LAX Westin Hotel. THERE WILL ALSO BE NO MALIBU ROTARY CLUB MEETING AT PEPPERDINE UNIVERSITY OCTOBER 10TH. INSTEAD IT WILL BE THE DAY OF TRA DI NOI NOON LUNCH. Seven Malibu Club Rotarians

managed to drag themselves to the District Breakfast: David, Margo, Fred, Maggie, Hubert, John and Bill.

The featured speaker, Theodore “Ted” Lumpkin, Jr, the 92 year old original member of the



Tuskegee Airmen did not disappoint. His humorous short presentation about his experience with

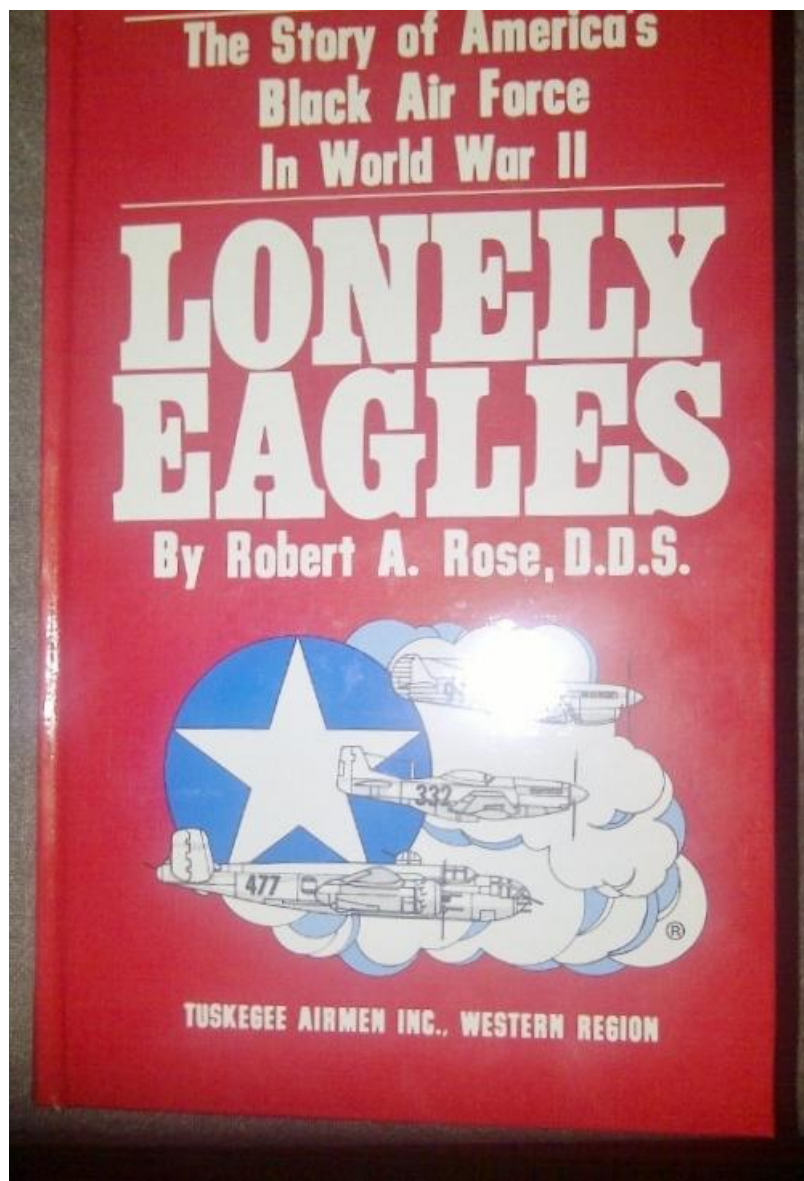
the Tuskegee Airmen and the alumni group that exists nationally, was enlightening as well as entertaining. He was introduced at the Rotary Breakfast by Leroy Jones of the Crenshaw-Watts Rotary Club.

Ted Lumpkin Jr grew up in the Los Angeles area and attended USC. He was drafted into the US Army in 1942, and was sent to train in Tuskegee, Alabama. As he explained it, “World War II brought the country together like no other war.” The Army, like much of the country was segregated by color, and the government didn’t really want blacks to fly.

The white fliers were sent to various Universities across the country to train. Encouraged by President Franklin Roosevelt and his wife Eleanor a flying program was set up at the Tuskegee Institute in Alabama.

Ted is the President of the Los Angeles Chapter of the Tuskegee Airmen (www.LACTAI.org), and introduced several from the group.

He asked one of the original Tuskegee Armen was sitting at the front table at the Distrit Breakfast to stand and when he did he said “I just wanted you to show everyone that you could still stand.”



Lumpkin was holding a red covered book in his hand called *Lonely Eagles* by Dr Robert Rose. He said, “This book tells about the Tuskesgee Airmen. I understand they are selling the book in the hall out there. If you go out and buy one then you don’t have to listen to me.”

He received many chuckles from the crowd.

The [Tuskegee](http://www.LACTAI.org) Airmen were the first African-American military aviators in the United States armed forces during World War II. Just before World War II white pilots were trained at several colleges in the United States. A movie about them called *Red Tails*, starring Cuba Gooding Jr., was released earlier this year.

Although a rigid pattern of racial segregation prevailed in the United States during World War II, nearly 1,000 Black military aviators were trained at an isolated complex near the town of Tuskegee, Alabama, and at Tuskegee Institute. As a result of this “Tuskegee Experiment” 450 Black fighter pilots under the command of Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr. Fought in the aerial war over North Africa, Sicily, and Europe, flying, in succession, P-40, P-39, P-47, and P-51 type aircraft. These gallant men flew 15,553 sorties completing 1,578 missions with the 12th Tactical, and the 15th Strategic, U.S. Army Air Force. Col. Davis later became the first Black general in the U.S. Air Force and rose to the rank of Lt. General.

Known as the *Schwartzze Vogelmenshen* (Black Birdmen) by the Germans who both feared and respected them. They were also known as the ‘Red Tail Angels’ by white bomber crews because of their red paint on their tail assemblies and their reputation for not losing bombers to enemy fighters as they provided fighter escort over strategic targets in Europe.

Lumpkin noted, “The red tail made it easy for US bomber pilots to see us. It also made it easy for the enemy.”

The 99th Fighter Squadron merged with three other Black squadrons: the 100th; the 301st, and; the 302nd to form the 332nd Fighter Group, comprising the largest fighter unit in the 15th Air Force. From Italian bases they also destroyed enemy rail traffic, coastal surveillance stations, and hundreds of [vehicles](#) on air-to-ground strafing missions.

Sixty-six of these pilots were killed in aerial combat while another thirty-two were either forced down or shot down and captured as prisoners of war. The Airmen returned home with over 150 decorations including the Distinguished Flying Cross, Legion of Merit, and the Red Star of Yugoslavia.

Another group, trained for medium bombardment duty was joined by the 332nd combat returnees to form the 447th Composite Fighter-Bomber Group. Although they never entered combat because of the surrender of Germany and Japan in 1945, the 477th's demands for parity and recognition as competent military professionals combined with the superb wartime record of the 99th and the 332nd led to review of the U.S. War Department's racial policies.

For every Black pilot there were ten other civilian or military Black men and women on ground support duty. Many of them remained in the military during the post-World War II era and spearheaded the integration of the armed services with the integration into the U.S. Air Force in 1949. Thus the “Tuskegee Experiment” achieved success rather than the expected failure. An Executive Order from President Truman forced the integration of the Armed Forces between 1948 and 1954. Three Tuskegee pioneers rose to flag rank: the late General Daniel “Chappie” James, our nation's first Black Four-star General; Lt. General Benjamin O. Davis, Jr. USAF Ret., and; Major General Lucius Theus, USAF, Ret.

There was not a lot of public interest or knowledge of the Tuskegee Airmen before 1972. In 1972 the Tuskegee veterans met in Detroit and the Tuskegee Airman, Inc. was founded as a non-military, non-profit entity. Their primary motivation is to inspire young Americans to participate in our nation's society and democratic process. Thirty-seven chapters are located in major cities throughout the United States. Membership is made up, principally, of veterans of the armed forces and active duty personnel from all branches of the military. It also includes a growing number of civilians who demonstrate sincere interest in helping the organization achieve its goals and objectives.

The group gives 42 scholarships to high school seniors each year.

Interest in the Tuskegee Airmen occurred following a 1995 HBO movie *Tuskegee Airmen* (check it out on Your Tube: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zRka1ZiN-Zo>) which, like the 2012 *Red Tails* movie, features Cuba Gooding, Jr.

The surviving Tuskegee Airmen were presented with Congressional Medals of Honor by President George W Bush in 2007 and they were invited to President Obama's Inauguration in 2009.

News and Guests from Last Malibu Rotary Club Meeting (and District Breakfast)

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 6th 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 Luckerath 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 25th through 27th 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.

Paul Harris Dinner--October 27th Black Tie Optional Masquerade Ball

David Baird has given a book of raffle tickets to Malibu Rotarians at previous meetings. Buying a book of 12 tickets is worth \$100.00 toward a member's contribution to the Rotary Foundation. The tickets are \$10.00 each, if sold individually. Make checks out to Rotary Foundation. The

raffle will be part of the October 27th Black Tie Optional Masquerade Ball at the Westin Bonaventure Hotel, 404 S. Figueroa St in Los Angeles. Grand Prize is \$3000 cash. There will also be silent and live auctions. Tickets for the event itself are \$125.00.

PCH Safety Study

The PCH Safety Study will examine current conditions along the corridor and identify safety concerns based on roadway conditions, adjacent land-uses and other factors that may be unique to Malibu and PCH. The study will conclude with recommendations for prioritized improvements along each of the three defined study areas, recognizing there may be differences within each study area requiring separate analysis. The study area boundaries include: Study Area 1: Topanga Canyon Rd. to Cross Creek Rd.; Study Area 2: Cross Creek Rd. to Busch Dr.; and, Study Area 3: Busch Dr. to Western City Limits. There will be public meetings to discuss existing conditions at the Malibu City Hall, 23825 Stuart Ranch Road, in Malibu at 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm on 4 successive Thursdays starting with September 13. Each meeting will discuss a different area of PCH. September 13 with study Area 1, September 20th Area 2, September 27th Area 3, and the final meeting on October 4th will discuss all 3 Study Areas. In addition to the live meetings there is an interactive website sponsored by The City of Malibu in collaboration with Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) at <http://malibu.metroquest.com/>. At the website you can post your observations, concerns and suggestions about PCH as it runs through Malibu. You can also contact Elizabeth Shavelson, Public Works Analyst at eshavelson@malibucity.org or (310)456-2489 ext 254.

Malibu Rotary Club Sponsors SMMUSD School Board Candidates Forum

The Malibu Rotary Club, in conjunction with Malibu.Patch.com, is sponsoring a 1 hour SMMUSD School Board Candidates Forum at the Fireside Room at Pepperdine University on Wednesday evening October 24th 7:30 p.m to 8:30 p.m. . There has been much discussion in the Malibu community of dividing the present Santa Monica Malibu Unified School District into 2 separate districts, one in Santa Monica, and one in Malibu.

Six candidates are in the race. They include incumbents Jose Escarce, Maria Leon Vazquez and Ben Allen, as well as Malibu school activists Karen Farrer, Craig Foster and Seth Jacobson.

The forum will draw on questions from the Malibu and Santa Monica communities. Questions must be submitted by midnight on Oct. 22 in the comments section of the Malibu.Patch.com at

<http://malibu.patch.com/articles/smmusd-school-board-candidates-to-meet-in-malibu-for-forum>
or by email at malibu@patch.com.

In this year's election there are 6 candidates running for 3 seats. Three of the candidates are from Malibu and 3 from Santa Monica. Malibu Patch editor Jennifer Davis will be moderating the event and Dr John W Elman is Chair of this event for the Malibu Rotary Club.

This event will follow a short 7:00 p.m. Malibu Rotary Club meeting prior will be in lieu of the normal morning Malibu Rotary Club in the Fireside Room.

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)

Oct 10 2012

Bill Wishard

"Noon Club Assembly @ Tra di Noi Restaurant (no morning meeting at Pepperdine)"

Oct 17 2012

Jessica Davis and John Elman

"Planning Session for Oct 24 SMMUSD Candidate's Forum"

Oct 24 2012

SMMUSD School Board Candidates

"Malibu Rotary-Malibu Patch Sponsored SMMUSD School Board Candidates Forum at 7:30 p.m."

Malibu Rotary Club, in conjunction with Malibu Patch, is sponsoring a SMMUSD Candidates Forum on October 24th 7:30 p.m. in the Fireside Room of Pepperdine University in Malibu. 6 candidates are running for 3 seats on the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District Board of Education. They include incumbents Jose Escarce, Maria Leon Vazquez and Ben Allen, as well as Malibu school activists Karen Farrer, Craig Foster and Seth Jacobson.

The forum will draw on questions from the Malibu and Santa Monica communities. Questions must be submitted by midnight on Oct. 22 in the comments section below or by email at malibu@patch.com.

The forum is free and open to the public. A video recording of the event will be posted on Malibu Patch in the days following the event.

This is the last of 3 Candidate Forums for the school. The League of Women Voters of Santa Monicasponsored one October 3rd at Malibu City Hall. They will sponsor another one 7 p.m. Oct. 17 at the Board of Education Offices in Santa Monica.

Election Day is Nov. 6. The last day to [register to vote](#) is Oct. 22.

This is an important election because one of the issues is whether the SMMUSD should be split into 2 districts, a Santa Monica District and a Malibu district. Moderator for this event will be Malibu Patch Editor Jessica Davis.

Oct 24 2012

Bill Wishard

"Short Malibu Rotary Club meeting 7:00pm prior to candidates Forum (no morning Rotary Club meeting)"

Malibu Rotary Club President will preside over a short Malibu Rotary Club meeting 7:00pm-7:15 pm in Pepperdine Fireside Room prior to SMMUSD candidates Forum which will start at 7:30 p.m. in same room.

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!

