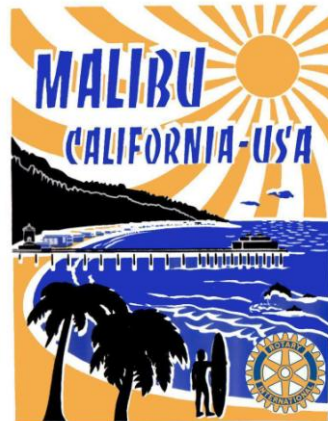




**ROTARY:  
MAKING A  
DIFFERENCE**



*The Award Winning*

## ***Malibu Rotary Club Surfwriter***

**January 10 2018**

**Official Newsletter of the Rotary Club of Malibu**

**Malibu Rotary Club President Bianca Torrence**

**Pictures by John Elman**

**Edited by Dr. John W. Elman**

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

- **Last week Malibu Rotary Club makes donation to local youth groups Malibu Boys and Girls Club, Malibu Sharks Surf Team, Pepperdine Rotaract Club: Kasey Ernest, Executive Director of the Malibu Boys and Girls Club Talks about the Malibu B&G Club, Goals for Graduation, The Teen Center; John Cross, Coach of the Malibu Sharks Surf Team Talks About how the dedication of the team builds leadership and team skills, and Pepperdine senior student Simone Raeth of Pepperdine Rotaract Club tells of future plans for this Malibu Rotary Club sponsored organization.**
- **Next regular Malibu Rotary Club meeting January 17 2018 Room LC 152 on the Pepperdine Drescher Upper Graduate campus Speakers will be Monica Lurey and Malibu Rotary Club President Bianca Torrence talking about Malibu C.A.R.T. Fellowship will begin at 7:30 a.m. with meeting starting at 8:00 a.m.**

- Check [Calendar](#) on Malibu Rotary website [www.maliburotary.org](http://www.maliburotary.org)
- Rotary International Website: [www.Rotary.org](http://www.Rotary.org)
- Rotary District 5280 Website: [www.rotary5280.org/](http://www.rotary5280.org/)
- RI President (2017-2018) Ian H.S. Riseley
- Rotary District 5280 Governor (2017-2018) Cozette Vergari

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**Kasey Ernest, Executive Director of the Malibu Boys and Girls Club Talks about the Malibu Boys & Girl Club, Goals for Graduation, The Teen Center**



**Malibu Rotary Club Youth Chair Teresa LeGrove, Malibu Rotary Club President Bianca Torrence and Malibu Rotary Club President Elect Carlye Rudkin present Malibu Boys And Girls Club Director Kasey Ernest donations for programs of the Boys and Girls Club.**

The successful Malibu Rotary Club Halloween Party Fund Raiser in October provided funds earmarked for several organizations serving youth in the Malibu Community. Key leaders of

these organization were invited to the Malibu Rotary Club on January 10 to accept their checks to talk about their organizations and how the impact the youth that they serve.

Kasey Ernest, Executive Director of the Malibu Boys and Girls Club, explained some of the varied programs of the Boys and Girls Club in Malibu. She was joined at the meeting by Monica Lurey, who is a member of the Malibu Boys and Girls Club Board of Directors.

The Malibu Boys and Girls Club is one of 4,000 such clubs in the world.

The Boys and Girls Club serves in three areas. They have programs for kids K-12 in Malibu they have four separate facilities.

The first facility was the Teen Center, located in its own building on the Malibu High School campus at 30215 Morning View Drive in Malibu.

In 1999 the BGCM was created in reaction to the tragedy at Columbine by a small group of concerned community members who recognized Malibu's shortcomings when it came to productive activities for teens combined with isolationism. The Gibson family met the community's need with a one million dollar gift, which allowed the BGCM to open its doors and focus on vital programs for over a decade.

Over the last 16 years, the BGCM has thrived and has been dedicated to mentoring middle and high school students during their most critical decision-making years, providing them with programs that create confidence and helping to build positive relationships that will support them through high school. In 2014 BGCM opened its first elementary based Club houses on the campuses of Juan Cabrillo Elementary School and Point Dume Marine Science and in the Fall of 2017 its 4th Club house at Webster Elementary opened its doors.

Although the BGCM was created as a prevention tool to tragedy, by providing Malibu teens with engaging activities, it's become so much more. The BGCM represents and provides services to the most diverse populations in the community, an underrepresented infrastructure of low-income domestic laborers and their children who commute to Malibu for work and to attend the Malibu public schools. Kids come to the Club for a variety of reasons, whether it be to escape an abusive home situation or bullying, children struggling with their sexuality, healthy life choices, or simply for any child or teen to have a place with local-interest-based extracurricular activities or to do their homework – with or without help!

Founding Board of Directors: Mark Benjamin in memoriam, Laure Stern, Daniel Stern, Robyn Moore, Douglas Simpson in memoriam.

While the programs in the elementary schools serve more in the capacity of day care centers the programs for teens have some serious goals to help help this often troubled group develop good character, wellness, academic success and in the arts.

Among the programs are

**Power Hour/Homework Club**-- Providing homework help and tutoring and encouraging members to become self-directed learners.

An incentive based homework program providing Club members from grades K-12th with homework help and tutoring on school subjects, have access to the use of computers for homework as needed, and encouraged to complete their daily assignments. Power Hour encourages members to become self-directed learners.

### **Goals for Graduation**

This program introduces Club members to academic goal setting by helping youth make connections between their aspirations for the future and concrete actions they can take today.

Designed to support all college-bound youth in 9-12th grade. Each member receives one-on-one case management from Club staff on preparation and knowledge of all areas related to graduating high school and transitioning to a four-year university.

Guest speakers, college field trips, and college-related workshops are just some of the opportunities for teens that are often the first in their families to attend college

### **Career Launch**

Assists in career exploration, college and job search information, providing appropriate supportive, interactive activities including training and the tools needed to succeed in the workplace, college & future careers.

Participants learn how to write a resume, cover and thank you letters, as well as interviewing and public speaking skills.

Summer internships are available for 8-12th graders, through our partners with local Malibu businesses.

*Editor's note: This program would work well with Rotary's commitment to vocational service.*

In the area of wellness some of the notable programs are:

### **Brent's Club**

Brent's Club is a sober club that is offered to young adults who are in middle school and high school. The club provides incentives for participants to abstain from the use of drugs and alcohol.

Members of the club voluntarily participate in a saliva drug test once a week. Participants who test positive receive private, discreet counseling. Those who stay sober are rewarded with incentives which include educational technological devices (i.e. iPads, laptop computers, etc.), tutoring, and special events.

### **S.M.A.R.T Girls**

A program for 6-12th grade girls designed to develop healthy attitudes & lifestyles, as well as provide positive mentor relationships. Topics include friendship, bullying, cliques, body image, media manipulation, & goal setting.

### **ManUp**

A program for 6-8th grade boys designed to provide guidance & mentorship. Topics discussed include cultural pressures for young men, aggression, bullying & defining healthy relationships and other life choices.

The program is designed to give male teens a voice and to provide structure & accountability. Such guidance is provided through presentations, ice breakers and other activities.

### **Triple Play**

A program for members K-12th grades that promotes fitness through fun, engaging & competitive intramural sports & recreational activities that also emphasizes teamwork and sportsmanship. Organized team events often include challenges with BGCM staff.

### **Counseling Services & Targeted Support Group**

The Wellness Center This multi-facet program, overseen by our Masters of Counseling on-site Director of Social and Emotional Wellness, offers social and emotional curriculums and on-site Social Work interns, from programs like Pepperdine, USC and UCLA, to ensure the overall wellbeing of the youth and families of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Malibu.

This program also incorporates the Wellness Co-Operative consisting of a dedicated group of volunteers, all professionals in the backgrounds of counseling, psychiatry, and life coaching who are providing wellness services to Malibu youth which include one-on-one counseling and support groups.

Kasey told the Malibu Rotary Club that there are 6 interns from Pepperdine MFT program working with K-12 students needing psychological counseling. Therapy is also available for parents. There are about 50 students in the wellness program now but it is expanding.

Most of the students are referred by the school administration but some are self referred.

The Malibu Calabasas area has one of the highest rates of eating disorders in the state.

When the Malibu Boys and Girls first started 16 years ago, the Malibu Boys and Girls had a meeting there. Kasey invited the Malibu Rotary Club to again visit the BGCM campus.



## **John Cross Tells How the Malibu Sharks Surf Team Builds Leadership and Team Skills**



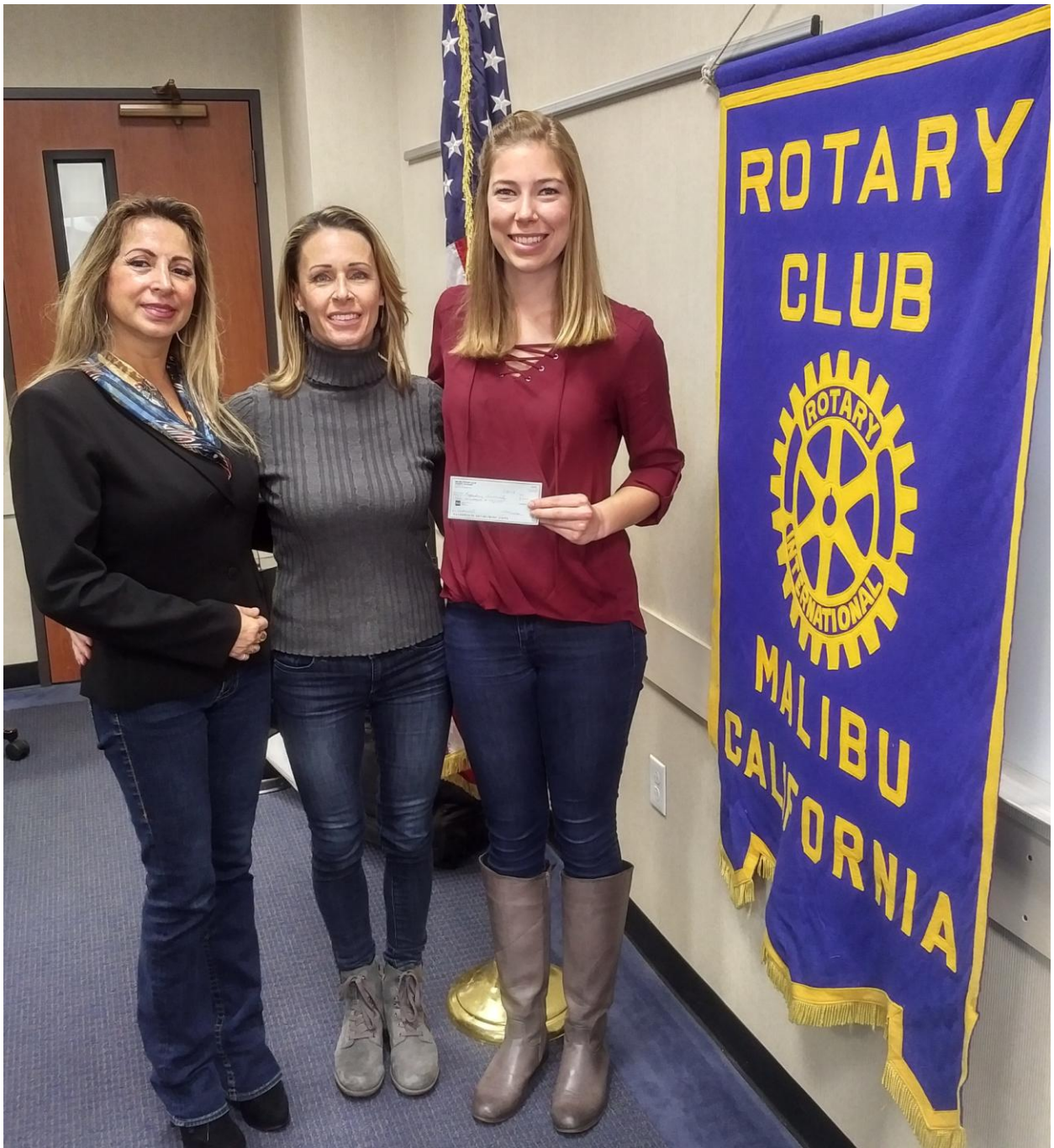
**Malibu Rotary Club Past President David Zielski (L) was chair of the Malibu Halloween Party Fund Raiser that helped raise funds to allow the Malibu Rotary Club to donate to Malibu Surf Team, whose coach is John Cross and manager is Cerin Plank. Donation was presented to John by Malibu Rotary Club President Bianca Torrence (R).**

The Malibu Middle School does not have any team sports. Malibu is known for its surf and it seems logical that youth in the city have a surf team. Youth wanting to participate on the Malibu Sharks Surf team practice before school, between 6:30 and 7:30 a.m. During the winter when it is still too dark in the morning they meet in the afternoons at county line.

There are 38 kids on the Malibu Sharks Surf team, 20% of the them are not from Malibu. Seven are girls. Most of the kids are from middle school and a few are from elementary school. This year none of the kids are from the high school but next year is expected that several of the current middle school kids will stay on the team when they graduate to high school. Despite not having any high school kids this years Malibu Sharks Surf team has 2 teams that participate in state surf competition. The cost per member is \$600 per year and is the least expensive tuition for as surf team in the state. The donation from the Malibu Rotary will help students whose families cannot afford to participate to have a scholarship to allow their participation. Coach Cross says he has seen how the commitment that these young surfers have for their sport, the older members of the team mentoring the younger ones, and develop leadership skills, time management skills, team skills, and work habits that they should find useful in life.



## **Malibu Rotary Club Supports Pepperdine Rotarct Club**



**Malibu Rotary Club President Bianca Torrence and Malibu Rotary Club Youth Chair Teresa LeGrove present check to Pepperdine Rotaract Club Secretary Simone Raeth**

After being dormant for several years the Pepperdine Rotaract Club has now been reestablished, sponsored by the Malibu Rotary Club. Several of the club officers were

studying abroad this year. Simone Raeth is a Pepperdine University senior, who hopes to pass on what she has learned during her year on executive board of the Pepperdine Rotaract Club, to those Rotaract students who will be returning next fall. Simone has been around Rotary her entire life, having been born in Germany when her father, a Rotarian from the San Francisco Bay area, was leading a Rotary Group Study Exchange in Heidelberg. She will have more than just her present year experience in Rotaract to tell returning Rotaractors and the incoming class.

## Other News and Guests at Last Malibu Rotary Club Meeting

Malibu Rotary Club President Bianca Torrence started the new calendar year with renewed commitment as she finishes the Rotary year which ends in June. She created a color brochure detailing events and accomplishments of the Malibu Rotary Club for the year. As we all know Bianca had been derailed from continuing with the ambitious start of her Rotary year by the tragic sudden loss of her son in August. She has been attending tribute events for David in America and Peru and has tried to continue ideas that David believed in. Bianca starts the new year with an ambitious agenda. Bianca called on Bill Wishard to talk about highlights of the Rotary District Breakfast held the previous day (January 9<sup>th</sup>). Bill reported that the Malibu Rotary Club had received 2 awards at the breakfast. One of the awards was for club having members contributing over \$100.00 per member for the Rotary Foundation and the other award also had something to do the Rotary Foundation giving. Bianca also gave dates of Rotary events in January: The deadline for Rotary Global grants is January 12, the President's brunch is January 20 at the Annenberg Community Beach Hours in Santa Monica and she called for members to attend the Membership Workshop on January 27<sup>th</sup> at the Salvation Army, 300 E Angeleno Ave, Burbank. Pre event cost is \$20.00. Bianca, Bill, Carlye and Teresa all are planning to attend. Another Rotary District event is the Rotary Community Peace Conference April 14. The Rotary Club of Little Tokyo will be hosting the first Rotary Community Peace Conference from 10 am until 2 pm at the Japanese American Cultural & Community Center on Saturday, April 14. This is part of the year-long Global Grant Project: Peace Educational Project in Southern California. It is free and open to all in the community. It is expected that from the Malibu Rotary Club Alex Ayzin and Pete Allman, who are promoting the Winds of Freedom video, will attend.

In addition to her leadership in Rotary Bianca has been active in many community and international humanitarian programs. Among these is her work with Malibu Community Assistance Resource Team (Malibu CART), for which she has been a tireless volunteer since it was founded by Carol Moss in 2015. One of the activities of the Malibu CART is to do a Homeless count every year. Volunteers behind Malibu's fourth annual Homeless Count are looking for 60 local volunteers to help count the number of homeless people in Malibu. This year's count, which is done in coordination with the LA County Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA), will take place Thursday, Jan. 25 from 6-8 a.m. Volunteers will meet up at Our Lady of Malibu Church (3625 Winter Canyon Road). Bianca and Monica Lurie will be talking and showing a video about Malibu CART at the January 17 meeting of the Malibu Rotary Club.

One of the Malibu Rotary Club's biggest events of the year is the Annual Malibu Rotary Club Malibu Middle and High School Singing. Chair of this year's event **Teresa LeGrove** announced that the 2018 singing competition is set for the evening January 24 the Pepperdine Raitt Recital Hall on the main campus. Ted Silverberg has agreed to again serve as emcee. Several music industry professionals have agreed to be judges. To speed the judging process the judging criteria will be somewhat changed this year.

### **Joy Arcenas is new Malibu Rotary Club Treasurer**

Malibu Rotary Club President Elect Carlye Rudkin announced that Joy Arcenas has agreed to be the Malibu Rotary Club Treasurer as of Dec 6. Joy has been serving as assistant treasurer and brings with her years of accounting experience. One of Joy's first duties as treasurer was collect the first quarter dues for members of the Malibu Rotary Club. Any member who has not paid their January 2018 dues to Joy should do so at the next meeting or mail check to Malibu Rotary Club, P.O. Box 716, Malibu, CA 90265.

Following the Malibu Rotary Club meeting on January 10, 2017 key club executives Carlye Rudkin, Joy Aracenas, Margo Neal and John Elman are to met at Wells Fargo Bank to have their names put on the Malibu Rotary Club checking account and former member Irene Bettler's name will be taken off.

### **Margo now double sapphire Paul Harris Fellow**

Margo Neal was presented with her double sapphire Paul Harris Fellow pin at the January 10<sup>th</sup> meeting.

### **Guests**

The 11 Malibu Rotary Club members who attended the January 10<sup>th</sup> meeting of the club were surrounded by at least 6 guests. The guests included **Pete Allman**, and speakers and Malibu Rotary Club donation recipients **John Cross** and **Cerin Plank** of the Malibu Sharks Surf Team, **Simone Raeth** of the Pepperdine Rotaract Club, and **Kasey Ernest** and **Monica Lurey** from the Malibu Boys and Girls Club.

**CALENDAR (see up to date calendar on [maliburotary.org](http://maliburotary.org))**

**January 17 2017 Monica Lurey and Bianca Torrence talk about Malibu C.A.R.T.**



Next regular Malibu Rotary Club Meeting will be 8:00 a.m. January 17, 2018 in room LC 152 on the Pepperdine Drescher Upper

Graduate campus. Fellowship will begin at 7:30 a.m. with meeting starting at 8:00 a.m.

Speakers will be Monica Lurey and Malibu Rotary Club President Bianca Torrence talking about Malibu C.A.R.T..

Malibu C.A.R.T., now a 501 (c)3, was founded by long time Malibu resident and activist, Carol Moss in 2015 in response to the growing homeless epidemic and has become a community-based team of volunteers helping the homeless and those in need. CART continues honing and expanding its relationships with community activists, faith-based organizations, educational institutions, non-profits, and concerned individuals. Over the last two years, CART has continued to strengthen its relationship and collaboration with the City of Malibu and with Los Angeles County working with both entities to expand assistance to and support for those in need within our community.

Monica Lurey and Malibu Rotary Club President Bianca Torrence have been working with Malibu CART since the beginning and will be talking and showing a video of the groups efforts at the January 17 8:00 a.m. meeting of the Malibu Rotary Club at the Pepperdine Graziadio Executive Center room LC 152. The public is invited.

**January 24 2017 Malibu Rotary Club Malibu Middle and High School Singing Competition 7:00 p.m.at Rait Recital Hall (no noon meeting)**

**January 31 2017 – Malibu Rotary Club Assembly led by Bianca Torrence**

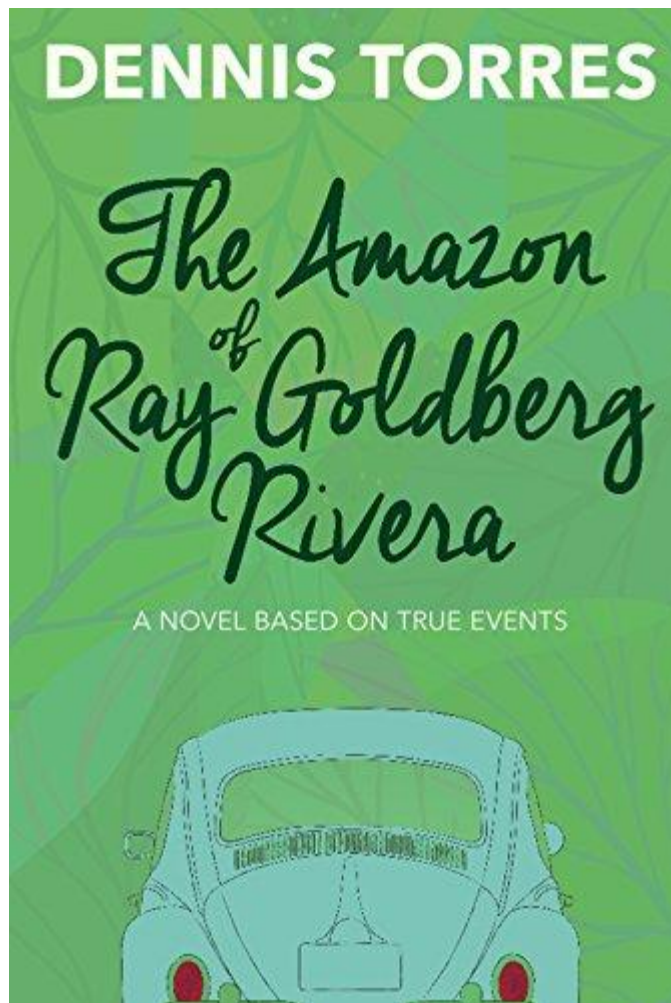
**February 7 2017 Dennis Torres and the “The Amazon of Ray Goldberg Rivera”**



Before Dennis Torres was the head of real estate operations a Pepperdine University, and before he became Mediator; Arbitrator;



Litigation Consultant; Real Estate Professional; Businessman; Adjunct Professor of Negotiation and Dispute Resolution, Pepperdine University before he started Angel Flight, in which private pilots fly sick people to get needed medical help, and before he became President of the Malibu Rotary Club, at a time when it had more members than it had any time before or after his tenure, Dennis lived an adventure that few could imagine. He talked about that adventure as a guest speaker at two successive Malibu Rotary Club meetings. After hearing Dennis tell his story, Rotarian John Elman told Dennis, "This is an amazing story--you've got to write a book about it." Years went by, with John always asking Dennis about the book, which Dennis was still thinking about writing. Finally in November 2017, Dennis announced the book, in the form of a novel called *The Amazon of Ray Goldberg Rivera* has been published.



This thrilling novel is based on a true story. After coming home from the war in Vietnam, Ray Goldberg Rivera needs a job, but the only ones he finds are in sales and require him to put on a suit and tie—two things he just can't bring himself to do. He then chances upon an ad reading, "Want to Explore the Amazon," and he soon finds himself driving his beloved 1962 Volkswagen beetle from his parents' home in Pasadena, California, to the country of Panama along with two strangers: a sexy bible-thumping southern belle and a California surfer who has never been away from home.

As the three strangers wind their way through Mexico, Central and South America, their secret motivations are revealed while experiencing amazing adventures, meeting unforgettable characters, experimenting with drugs, engaging in wild sex, and surviving near death encounters. In the end they each discover meaning in their lives.

This entertaining novel based on author Dennis Torres's experiences will captivate

armchair travelers and history buffs as well as readers who enjoy a good adventure yarn.

Dennis will be talking about it at the February 7 2018 Malibu Rotary Club meeting 8:00 a.m. in Room LC 152 at the Pepperdine Graziadillo Graduate campus in Malibu.

## **February 14 2018 Alex Ayzin Speaks on “Successfully Selling Your Business.”**



Malibu Rotarian Alex Ayzin is known in our club as the creator of Winds of Freedom Music Video celebrating man's quest for Peace and Freedom. Alex is also the Executive Director of Frontier Brokers ([www.frontierbrokers.com](http://www.frontierbrokers.com)) which specializes in successfully selling businesses. At the February 14th meeting of the Malibu Rotary Club Alex will tell us the essentials to consider when selling a business.