



The Award Winning Malibu Rotary Club Surfwriter

January 17 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 Monica Lurey and Malibu Rotary Club President Bianca Torrence explains Malibu COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE RESOURCE TEAM (Malibu C.A.R.T.) as Malibu Rotary Club makes donation to this local organization which aids the homeless
- January 24 2017 Malibu Rotary Club Malibu Middle and High School Singing Competition 7:00 p.m. at Rait Recital Hall (no morning meeting on Wednesday)
- Next Malibu Rotary Club meeting January 31 2018 Room LC 152 on the Pepperdine Drescher Upper Graduate campus will be Malibu Rotary Club Assembly. Fellowship will begin at 7:30 a.m. with meeting starting at 8:00 a.m.

- Next regular Malibu Rotary Club meeting February 7 2018 Room LC 152 on the Pepperdine Drescher Upper Graduate campus Speaker will be Dennis Torres talking about new true life book "The Amazon of Ray Goldberg Rivera". Fellowship will begin at 7:30 a.m. with meeting starting at 8:00 a.m. Special post meeting coffee Q & A with community guests interested in Rotary.
- Check <u>Calendar</u> on Malibu Rotary website <u>www.maliburotary.org</u>
- Rotary International Website: <u>www.Rotary.org</u>
- Rotary District 5280 Website:<u>www.rotary5280.org/</u>
- RI President (2017-2018) Ian H.S. Riseley
- Rotary District 5280 Governor (2017-2018) Cozette Vergari

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At the Malibu Rotary Club meeting January 17 Monica Lurie accepted a donation from Malibu Rotary Club President Bianca Torrence to Malibu C.A.R.T. Both women have been active in this volunteer.

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 shared a video made at one of the dinners sponsored by the organization and saluting its founder Carol Moss. The video can be seen on the organization's website: http://www.malibucart.org/

The website explains what Malibu CART is about:

"Supporting the dignity of a homeless person is a very important element of the organization. Reducing the shame associated with homelessness, or the road to becoming homeless, by providing what we often take for granted – clean bodies, clean clothes, food, shelter, and eye to eye contact with a helping hand and an open heart. We come from a place of love, without judgment. CART consistently conveys the message that people *do* care and are there to help. CART takes care to provide assistance respectfully, in a way that allows help to be received and appreciated; it is this important humanitarian piece that CART brings to the table."

MISSION STATEMENT

With compassion, caring and common sense we are Malibu citizens working to empower and protect our community by providing assistance and resources to those who are homeless, and always with dignity and respect.

CART is continually working to forge strong partnerships within the community and with representatives of the City, County, State and Federal governments, along with aiming to improve the community response to individuals and families experiencing homelessness.

The following are some examples of CART activities:

- Homeless Connect Days: Two times per year, collaborating with Supervisor Sheila Kuehl's office CART has hosted immensely successful Connect Days that bring together various city and county agencies to help establish homeless individuals and families with the basics needed to identify the and their needs. Such agencies include the Department of Social Services (which can connect people with Medi-Cal), DMV which can help people get an ID even if they are not planning to drive, Venice Family Clinic, Homeless Court, Social Security, free mobile phones and service that at least allow 911 calls, The People Concern and even Veterinary services etc. In addition, local beauty schools have donated hair cuts and grooming servicesTo date, several hundred individuals have benefited from these days.
- Mobil Eye Clinics: Partnering with UCLA to provide eye clinics. At these clinics, clients eyes' are examined, their needs/eye-glass prescriptions determined and their glasses provided.
- Food, Lunches, Dinners: CART supports weekly dinners and ongoing lunch programs through both donations and volunteer power. Until recently dinners were served a Malibu Methodist Church. Neighbors complained and a new location is being sought.
- Winter Shelters: Malibu CART works closely with local cities to provide transportation to winter shelters.
- Laundry programs
- Immediate Needs: "We help provide food, clothing, toiletries, bus fare, transportation, books for courses, assistance with finding jobs, housing, medical attention, sleeping bags and much more."
- Participation in the annual Homeless Count (volunteers needed 2018 Homeless Count Thursday January 25 6:00 a.m. 8:00 a.m. at Our Lady of Malibu Church)
- Assistance for those newly housed: CART helps to provide the basic supplies needed when someone goes into their new home.

Regular meetings are held locally and all are welcome. To find out how you can participate and volunteer or to donate goods, services or a monetary donation, you can email them at malibucart@gmail.com.

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).

Other News and Guests at Last Malibu Rotary Club Meeting

Bianca gave dates of Rotary events in January: She would attend the President's brunch January 20 at the Annenberg Community Beach Hours in Santa Monica (see below). She called for members to attend the Membership Workshop on January 27th at the Salvation Army, 300 E Angeleno Ave, Burbank. Pre event cost is \$20.00. 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.

Guests

The guests at the January 17 Malibu Rotary Club included **Pete Allman, Khalil Mohammed** who is one of the Pepperdine Students from Psi U fraternity who helped at the Malibu Rotary Halloween fund raiser and speaker **Monica Lurey** who attended our meeting the previous week representing the Malibu Boys and Girls Club (where she a board member) and this week representing Malibu CART.

Malibu Rotary Club Middle and High School Singing Competition January 24 7:00 p.m. at Raitt Recital Hall at Pepperdine University (doors open 6:30 p.m.) – no morning Rotary Club meeting at Pepperdine.





Above left is picture of judges at the 2017 Malibu Rotary Club Middle and High School Singing Competition. Above Right is picture of all the participating singers of the 2017 competition in the front 3 rows and Malibu Rotarians in the back row.

One of the Malibu Rotary Club's biggest events of the year is the Annual Malibu Rotary Club Malibu Middle and High School Singing. **Teresa LeGrove** has been working diligently to make sure everything is in order to make the 2018 singing competition another successful event. This year the event will the evening of January 24 at the Pepperdine Raitt Recital Hall on the Pepperdine main campus Ted Silverberg will again serve as emcee. Raitt recital has been reserved from 5:00 to 10:00 p.m. The only microphone will be reserved for the emcee. Teresa has been working with Malibu High School Choral Director Krysta Sorensen who has been having singing competitions at the school the past week to narrow the contestants at the Rotary Competition down to 18 (as opposed to 24 last year—which seemed too many). They will again be accompanied by pianist Joellen "Cha Cha" McNaughton. Engraved trophies and cash awards of \$200, \$100, and \$50 will be given to the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place finishers in both the middle school division and the high school division.

There will be as many as 8 judges. These include Tris Imboden (the current drummer with the band Chicago) who was one of the judges last year; Bryan Garofalo, studio bass guitarist who has played on many rock, pop, jazz and blue recordings; Lenny Goldsmith, former singer with

the soul group Tower of Power, Doug Deluca, co-executive producer of the Jimmy Kimmel Live Show and one of the founders of the Malibu Guitar Festival along with movie and TV producer John Watkins, who founded Malibu based multi-Emmy winning Planet Grande production company which specializes in documentaries, who will also be a judge. Other judges will be Ryan Dorn and comedian and writer Craig Shoemaker. To speed the judging process the judging criteria will be somewhat changed this year.

Winner of the high school division will be sponsored by the Malibu Rotary Club to compete in the Music section of the Rotary 5280 Pageant of the Arts March 10 2018 at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles. Even though the Malibu vocalist will have to compete against instrumentalists from all over the Los Angeles area they have done well in the past. 2016 Malibu entrant Maggie Renee Valdman took second place at the district competition was accepted to and is now attending Julliard School of Music, pursuing her career in music. 2015 Isobel Anthony placed third in the District Competition and is currently in the Opera Theater at Yale University. 2009 Malibu Entrant Kaitlyn Conners placed 2nd.

Malibu Rotarians at the Rotary District President's Brunch Held at the Annenberg Community Beach Marion Davis Guest House at Santa Monica State Beach



John Elman, Bill Wishard, Malibu Rotary Club President Bianca Torrence and Teresa LeGrove attended the January 20th Rotary District President's Brunch at the Annenberg Community Beach Marion Davis Guest House at Santa Monica State Beach.

While there Teresa was able to announce the Malibu Rotary Middle and High School Music

Competion to all the club presidents. Future district Rotary events were announced including special events that other Rotary Clubs were having and district sponsored events. Special emphasis seemed to be on 2 events that include the whole family: the St. Patrick's Day 5K Color Run to End Polio and the Rotary District Convention May 17-20. The Color Run on St Patrick's Day, March 17 at Griffith Park from 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 pm. will be a 5K Fun Run (with an optional one-mile turn-around). Participants will have non-toxic powder dyed in an array of colors tossed on them at various points during the run. You will end up with a tie-dyed looking shirt and a smile on your face!

All proceeds from this event will go to Rotary's End Polio Now and will be matched 2-to-1 by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

The Rotary District Conference will be held Mary 17-May 20 at the Hyatt Regency Indian Wells and is themed "Better Together." At the Governor's Ball on Saturday people are invited to come in costumes that portray "better together." Some things are just better together and they give as examples chips and salsa, wine and cheese, Lucy and Ricky, Fred and Ginger.

Following the brunch and announcements at the Marian Davis Guest House all the Rotarians were able to take a tour of the house and some of the 5 acre grounds. The 5-acre oceanfront site upon which the Annenberg Community Beach House now sits was originally developed during the Gold Coast era of the 1920s by William Randolph Hearst for actress Marion Davies. The Davies estate featured a mansion of 100-plus rooms and an ornate marble swimming pool. The mansion was torn down and is now a public beach house. What we all learned is that the mansion and the guest house used to sit right on the beach with a wall in front of it. There was no sand. There are pictures showing this. But Santa Monica city built a break water to create a yacht club. The break water and the yacht club disappeared from the strong waves by the Santa Monica pier. Somehow the longterm effect was a natural accumulation of sand in front of the beach front houses. It is just the opposite of the condition of beach in front of the houses on Malibu's Broadbeach Road, where all the sand has eroded away. Just bringing in sand does not work. They need to build a breakwater to get the sandy beach back.

CALENDAR (see up to date calendar on maliburotary.org)

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

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

Februay 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 that 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 tells 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.

There will be a special post meeting coffee Q & A with community guests interested in Rotary.

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) 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.