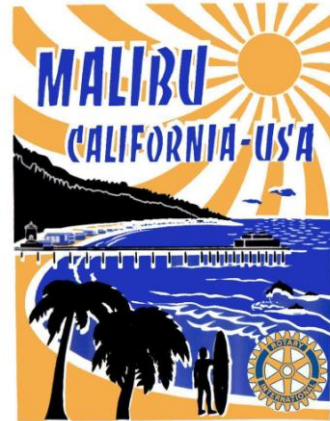




**ROTARY:
MAKING A
DIFFERENCE**



The Award Winning

Malibu Rotary Club Surfwriter

January 3 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 George Poulakos of the Ventura Rotary Club, Shows Video of a Humanitarian Need to Help the Girls in Kazungula, Zambia in Africa. The Malibu Rotary Club can be one of the partners in a Global grant project, which will include, among others, the Ventura Rotary Club and the Rotary Club of Livingston, Zamb, to help the Grace Centre – “A Place of Hope For Those Who Have None”**
- **Next regular Malibu Rotary Club meeting January 10 2018 Room LC 152 on the Pepperdine Drescher Upper Graduate campus Speaker is Kasey Ernest, Executive Director of the Malibu Boys and Girls Club who will tell us about the activities of the Malibu Boys and Girls Club. There will also be a presentation by representative from Malibu High School on Goals for Graduation. The meeting will also feature the presentation of donations from the Malibu Rotary Club to the Malibu**

**Boys and Girls Club as well as to the Pepperdine Rotaract Club.
Fellowship will begin at 7:30 a.m. with meeting starting at 8:00 a.m.**

- **Malibu Surfside News reports on events of Malibu Rotary Club**
- **Check [Calendar](#) on Malibu Rotary website www.maliburotary.org**

- **Rotary International Website: www.Rotary.org**
- **Rotary District 5280 Website:www.rotary5280.org/**
- **RI President (2017-2018) Ian H.S. Riseley**
- **Rotary District 5280 Governor (2017-2018) Cozette Vergari**

George Poulakos of the Ventura Rotary Club, Shows Video of a Humanitarian Need to Help the Girls in Kazungula, Zambia in Africa

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George Poulakos is Managing Partner, Tribeca Communications a healthcare advertising and marketing agency with offices in New York and Fort Lauderdale.

George has an MA degree in Philosophy from Villanova University and attended the Film Directing Program at Columbia University. While he was in Fort Lauderdale he became a member of the Rotary Club of Fort Lauderdale, and later became a member of the Rotary Club of Taos, New Mexico and currently he is the International Service Director of the Rotary Club of Ventura, California. His business has taken him around the world, and he has been to Rotary Clubs around the world. He said he has been especially impressed with some of the smaller clubs around the world. One in particular, the Rotary Club of Livingstone, Zambia, with only 13 members, has been especially active in Rotary International projects, working on 5 Rotary Foundation Grants per year. George has been visiting them for years. Zambia is a landlocked country southern Africa that is 98% catholic. The humanitarian projects that the Livingstone Rotary Club works on all try to serve a special need in this beautiful but impoverished country. An aim of these projects to make them self sustaining. Much of the attention is centered on the village of Kazungula near Livingstone.

Among the projects are an orphanage for girls, teaching and sewing African shirts that are sold at Rotary International Conventions and at PETS (George will be at a booth at our So Cal PETS). Many small children don't go to school and until recently there was no secondary school.

Another project is Danni's House —A sanctuary for abused girls. Only 7 % of the girls living in Kazungula get a high school diploma. Sex trafficking and prostitution have become the norm.

Kazungula is a small border town in the Southern Province of Zambia, lying on the north bank of the Zambezi River about 70 kilometres west of Livingstone. Materials get to it by trucks on pontoons. A bridge is currently under construction. Most of the girls who live there, having no education, turn to prostitution to survive. Livingstone itself has become a sex traffic destination, and has been advertised as such in Norway.

The Livingstone Rotary Club and its international Rotary Club partner's sponsors the Grace Center. It is a trade school for girls to help them get out of the cycle of abuse which they have been subjected. There are three main trades being taught at Grays center: 1) Tailoring and sewing—they sew the uniforms that are required of anyone going to the elementary and new high school, 2) Computer Science Training, and 3) Catering and Food Service.

Sewing machines have been provided by Rotary Clubs in other countries. One of the most sustainable programs will be the one in food service, and this is the one the Ventura Rotary Club is working on with the Livingstone Rotary Club to get a Rotary International Global Grant.

A link to the video that George produced showing and explaining the conditions in Kazungula

and the need for the global grant project is
https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=5&v=7y4osN3SD5s.

Other News and Guests at Last Malibu Rotary Club Meeting

It was especially good to welcome back to the club Malibu Rotary Club President **Bianca Torrence**, who had missed most of the club meetings since August while arranging and caring out programs in the both this country and Peru honoring her late son David. A wonderful tribute article to David appears in the January 4 Malibu Times, which can be seen on line (http://www.malibutimes.com/sports/article_0a896556-f0b3-11e7-92bd-7b9666098f5f.html?utm_medium=social&utm_source=facebook&utm_campaign=user-share).

There were several announcements made of coming events in January. The next Rotary District Breakfast will be January 9 7:00 a.m. at the Crowne Plaza LAX 5985 Century Blvd in Los Angeles. Rotary District 5280 and the Carnegie Observatories present "The Astronomy Century in California" at the District Breakfast. The keynote speaker is John Mulchaey, Director of the Carnegie Observatories. From the Malibu Rotary Club Joy Arcenas, Margo Neal, and Bill Wishard were expected to attend this Rotary District event.

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. Teresa has been sending e-mails with ideas she has about this year's event

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.

Following the Malibu Rotary Club meeting on January 10, 2017 key club executives Carlye Rudkin, Joy Aracenas, Margo Neal and John Elman are to meet 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.

Guests

Familiar guest **Pete Allman** attended the January 2 meeting of the Malibu Rotary Club. Pete and Malibu Rotarian Alex

Malibu Surfside News reports on events of Malibu Rotary Club

The December 28 2017 issue of the *Malibu Surfside News* had an article entitled “Rotary Club gathers for its final event of the year” which was written by Surfside news freelance reporter Babara Burke who attended the Malibu Rotary Club Holiday Party at Tra di Noi on December 13, where she interviewed many in the room to write a story about 2017 and 2018 events of the Malibu Rotary Club. The following week the January 4 issue of *Malibu Surfside News* featured another annual report about the Malibu Rotary Club, this one was asked for asked for in November by *Malibu Surfside News* editor Lauren Coughlin and written and sent to her by *Malibu Rotary Club Surfwriter* editor John Elman December 12 and was titled by Lauren “Rotary caps year chock-full of sponsorships.” The digital version of that article included a picture that was taken of David Torrence by former Malibu Surfside News reporter and photographer Chris Bashaw when David was the featured speaker at the Malibu Rotary Club meeting on June 10, 2015. The image did not appear in the printed version of the article—only in the digital version—which can only be seen by paid subscribers. This year in honoring the memory of David and welcoming our beloved Bianca back we want to share this image of our hometown hero.



Picture of David Torrence taken by Chris Bashaw of the Malibu Surfside News on June 10 2015.

Malibu Rotary Club Year in Review

Although the Rotary year goes from July 1 to June 30 every year the Malibu Surfside News has asked service club organizations to write about the activities of the organizations for the 2017 Calendar year. This has been the 2017 calendar year of the Malibu Rotary Club:



The Malibu Rotary club started 2017 by again sponsoring its annual Malibu Rotary Club Middle and High School Singing Competition at Raitt Recital Hall at Pepperdine University. 24 Students from Krysta Sorensen's vocal classes at Malibu Middle School and High School competed for prize money, with scholarship awards given to the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners in the middle school and high school division. Celebrity judges voted on the winners. The Malibu Rotary Club has been sponsoring this event for 20 years. As this year ends Malibu Rotary Club youth chair Teresa Le Grove was busy planning the 2018 Malibu Rotary Club Malibu Middle and High School Competition which will be held January 24 at Raitt Recital Hall.

Also in January Malibu Rotary Club Past President Margo Neal represented the Malibu Rotary Club as she joined other members of Rotary District 5280 in a humanitarian trip to Mexico, where she participated in various service projects



Each year Malibu Rotary Club sponsors 2 students to attend RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Assembly) Camp at the Alpine Conference Center in Blue Jay, CA in the Big Bear Lake area of San Bernadino Mountains. The 2 students the Malibu Rotary Club sponsored this year were Adam Mohiuddin a junior at Calabasas High School and Morgan Perlmutter, who is in 10th

grade at Malibu High School, Inspired by the leadership skills she learned at the camp Morgan helped start an Interact Club a Malibu High School. Interact is a high school age organization sponsored by Rotary. The RYLA camp was held April 21-April 23.and the Malibu Rotary Club is sponsoring 2 more students in 2018. College age student organization sponsored by Rotary is called Rotaract. This year the Malibu Rotary Club sponsored the Reorganization of the Pepperdine Rotaract Club.



The Malibu Rotary Club was able to get a grant from the local Rotary District to present a \$3300.00 vocational scholarship to Anthony Marron, an ENT who used the award to enroll in El Camino College Fire Academy. The award was presented to Anthony at a

special ceremony on May 17 with the El Camino College Dean and the Academy Fire Chief looking on.



On October 27 the Malibu Rotary Club held its most successful fundraiser of the year--a Halloween Party at the Calamigos Beach Club Restaurant. Plans are under way to have another Malibu Rotary Club Halloween Party Fundraiser in 2018.

Malibu Rotary Club President Bianca Torrence needed take a leave of absence at the end of the year when the news that her son, David Torrence, had died suddenly. David was a world class mid distance runner who had represented the University of California, and the US in world games and represented Bianca's native country, Peru, at the 2016 Olympic games in Peru. Memorials for David were given both in the US and Peru, where David was a hero. Malibu Rotary Club President Elect Carlye Rudkin led the club in Bianca's absence.

In January Bianca is back and intends to lead the club until Carlye becomes president in July.

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

**January 9 2017 Rotary District Breakfast 7:00 a.m. Crowne Plaza LAX
5985 Century Blvd.**

January 10 2017 Kasey Earnest

Kasey Earnest, Executive Director of the Malibu Boys and Girls Club will be presenting highlights of several programs of the B&G Club. There will also be a presentation by representative from Malibu High School on Goals for Graduation.

The Malibu Rotary Club will be presenting donations to each of these organizations and to the Pepperdine Rotaract Club

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

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 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 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) 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.