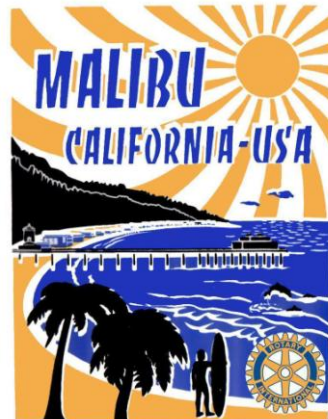




**ROTARY:
MAKING A
DIFFERENCE**



The Award Winning

Malibu Rotary Club Surfwriter

October 18 2017

Official Newsletter of the Rotary Club of Malibu

Malibu Rotary Club President Bianca Torrence

Pictures by John Elman and Greater Van Nuys Rotary Club

Edited by Dr. John W. Elman and Ani Dermenjian

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

- **Last week: Bob Donovan and Stacey Danlyan talk about OPERATION GRATITUDE, a major US Veteran family support gift program, Wings over Wendys, an armed forces pilots group that meets weekly at a SF Valley Wendys and Ani Dermenjian talks about the 2017 November 11 Malibu Veterans Day Program**
- **Next Week Oct 25th Malibu Rotary Club Meeting in room EC 110 (Executive Center Board Room) on the Pepperdine Drescher Upper Graduate campus. Fellowship will begin at 7:30 a.m. with meeting starting at 8:00 a.m. This will be a Malibu Rotary Club Assembly firming plans and assignments for the Malibu Rotary Club Halloween Party Fund Raiser 7:00 p.m. October 27 at Calamigos Beach Club.**
- **The latest on the planned Halloween Fund Raiser**
- **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**

Bob Donovan and Stacey Danlyan talk about OPERATION GRATITUDE, a major US Veteran family support gift program and Ani Dermenjian talks about the Malibu Veterans Day Program

The October 18 meeting Malibu Rotary Club meeting not only featured Vietnam veteran Bob Donovan as speaker but representatives of three inter related groups, all connected to military families and veterans. Bob was at the meeting to tell us about Operation Gratitude, but he is a prominent leader of the 15 yr old Airforce Veterans association "Wings Over Wendys," recipients 3 weeks ago at the Chargers NFL football game 1/2 Time show "Military Heroes of the Week" Award.



He was a speaker at the Rotary Club of Greater Van Nuys, where Malibu Rotarian Bill Wishard heard him speak, and invited him to speak at the Malibu Rotary Club. He will also be a speaker at the 18th annual Veterans Day ceremony on November 11th at Malibu City Hall. Bob expresses vivid insights into US military operations, and history,

After some tech difficulties Bob was able to show a YouTube video presentation "Rescue of Roger Locher" featuring Brigadier General Steve Richie's aircraft rescue mission over North Vietnam 1968, an inspiring film shown at several Rotary Clubs. It can be seen at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QvRcP4go-eg>

The Locher's plane had gone down further north than any other plane during the war and the story tells of the all out effort all his pilot friends took to bring the pilot out alive.

Most of Donovan's presentation had to do with Operation Gratitude.

Operation Gratitude started by Carolyn Blashek, a San Fernando Valley mom.

After Sept. 11, 2001, then-46-year-old Blashek, a retired attorney with a family at home, started calling every possible branch of the military offering her services – literally.

“I just felt so strongly that I needed to be a part of war on terror,” she said.

“I actually tried to enlist myself but was very firmly and politely told ‘Lady, you’re too old,’ ” Blashek said.

Down but not out, she started volunteering at United Service Organizations, and something she heard a soldier say set her course.

“He said, ‘I don’t think I’ll make it back this time, but it won’t really matter. No one will even notice,’ ” she recalled.

At that moment Blashek decided she had to make sure the troops overseas knew that people care about all of them and want them to come home.

From there a care package effort that began in her living room grew to something she never imagined; and what was at first 650 care packages sent out by her personally became thousands upon thousands put together with contributions from ordinary citizens wanting to show their support.

Blashek had the connections to get the supplies to Iraq because of her affiliation with the California National Guard 746th QM BN with whom Staff Sgt. Elizabeth Cowie, a Valley resident, has been a key contact.

“Without her vision and courage to invite Operation Gratitude into the armory and to encourage her unit to support us, we could never have grown in the way we did,” Blashek said.

With the help of Blashek’s organization, books, magazines, baby wipes, shampoo, neck buddies, miniature prayer quilts, playing cards and so much more will soon be en route to Iraq.

“They’ll turn over to us all of the items they have collected and we’ll take care of it,” Blashek said.

Besides these items there will be letters written by children, thanking the soldiers for their service.

Operation Gratitude annually sends 200,000+ care packages filled with food, entertainment, hygiene, and handmade items, plus personal letters of appreciation to Veterans, First Responders, New Recruits, Wounded Heroes, their Care Givers, and to individually named U.S. service members deployed overseas and their families waiting at home.

Our mission is to lift the spirits and meet the evolving needs of the Military and First Responder communities, and provide volunteer opportunities for civilians anywhere in America to express their appreciation to all who serve our nation.

Each package contains donated product valued from \$45-100, and costs the organization \$15 to assemble and ship.

Since its inception in 2003, Operation Gratitude volunteers have shipped more than 1,800,000 care packages.

At the Malibu Rotary Club meeting Bob Donovan introduced, Stacey Danlyan, who is the Operation Gratitude Director of Engagement. She showed those in attendance a box containing items in a typical Operation Gratitude Care Package.



A popular item in the care packages is the Paracord Survival Bracelet. The wound cord is about 7 feet long has a variety of uses including unjamming weapons. The care box also includes several items meant for children. Sometimes the troops give candy and toys to children in the hostile countries in which they are deployed to get valuable information about what is happening in the country.





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Navy Commander Rtd Dan Stark and Mrs Stark, Bob Donovan, Stacey Danlyan and Tom Bates

Wings over Wendy's to Malibu Veterans Day Program



Ani Dormenjian, who is a realtor at the Coldwell Banker Malibu office, was a speaker at Wings over Wendy's in West Hills, where a 100 retired military pilots meet every Monday morning at 9 a.m. — before the restaurant is open to the public — Ron Ross, who runs the Wendy's in West Hills, lets the guys come in early to grab a coffee and a bagel or Danish for a buck sixty-five, and have their meetings. Ani has been the chair of the Malibu City Veterans Day Celebration for most of its 18 years. There will be a limousine provided from Wendy's to the Malibu Veterans Day Celebration on November 11.

In previous years the Veteran's Day celebration has been at Legacy Park and the Malibu Rotary Club has participated giving out water and having a table with information about Rotary. This year the Veterans Day Celebration will be Saturday November 11 and 11:00 a.m. Malibu City Hall Civic Theater. Ani invited Malibu Rotary to have literature on a table there.

UNITED WE STAND



The Malibu Chamber of Commerce,
Pepperdine University,
HRL Laboratories
and the City of Malibu

Proudly Present

THE 18TH ANNUAL "VETERANS DAY" PUBLIC CEREMONY

11.11.17

Malibu City Hall

23825 Stuart Ranch Road

10:00 - 10:45 Veterans Welcome Early

11:00 AM - 1:00 PM



VETERANS WHO CONTINUE TO SERVE



Bringing local businesses, schools, and organizations together to commemorate Veterans Day
with a public ceremony in honor of those who have served and are serving this country.
For more details call the Malibu Chamber of Commerce (310) 456-9025 or Ani Dermenjian (310) 317-9382



PEPPERDINE
UNIVERSITY

The latest on the planned Halloween Party Fund Raiser

A Halloween-themed poster for a fund-raiser. At the top, white text reads 'CALAMIGOS BEACH CLUB & THE MALIBU ROTARY CLUB PRESENT' above 'FRIDAY OCT 27TH' in large blue letters. The background is dark blue with silhouettes of trees and flying bats. In the center are three glowing jack-o'-lanterns. Below them is a wooden sign with 'HALLOWEEN' in white and 'PARTY' in yellow. To the left of 'PARTY' is 'KBUU-FM MALIBU SURF TEAM' and to the right is 'MALIBU SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIPS'. A red banner below the sign says 'SURPRISE GIFT FOR BEST COSTUME'. Below that, white text lists 'SPECIAL MUSICAL GUESTS BRANDON JENNER | CLAIRE & CAMILLE ANNEET' and 'MASTER OF CEREMONIES - TED SILVERBERG'. Further down, it says '\$75 PER PERSON / \$125 FOR TWO | 7 - 11 PM | FOOD & DRINK & VALET' and 'CALAMIGOS BEACH CLUB - (FORMERLY BEAURIVAGE)'. At the bottom, a red banner says 'FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: JOY 714-875-4127 TICKETS: WWW.MALIBURROTARY.ORG'. A Rotary Club logo is in the bottom right corner.

**CALAMIGOS BEACH CLUB &
THE MALIBU ROTARY CLUB PRESENT**

FRIDAY OCT 27TH

**HALLOWEEN
PARTY**

KBUU-FM
MALIBU SURF TEAM

MALIBU SCHOOL
SCHOLARSHIPS

SURPRISE GIFT FOR BEST COSTUME

SPECIAL MUSICAL GUESTS
BRANDON JENNER | CLAIRE & CAMILLE ANNEET
MASTER OF CEREMONIES - TED SILVERBERG

\$75 PER PERSON / \$125 FOR TWO | 7 - 11 PM | FOOD & DRINK & VALET
CALAMIGOS BEACH CLUB - (FORMERLY BEAURIVAGE)
26025 PACIFIC COAST HWY ~ MALIBOO

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: JOY 714-875-4127 TICKETS: WWW.MALIBURROTARY.ORG



The planning and details of the October 27 Malibu Rotary Club Halloween Party Fund Raiser were discussed at the past several meetings of the Malibu Rotary Club and at least part of the meetings leading up to the event

Tickets are available on line at the Malibu Rotary Club Web site Maliburotary.org for \$75.00 per person or \$125.00 per couple) at the Calamigos Beach Club. In order to make this a profitable non-profit event for the club we need to get at least 125 paid attendees, have great auction items (silent and live) and limit complimentary tickets. Because of the cost of the venue the club could lose money if enough tickets are not sold. As of October 7, 27 tickets had been sold. It is important that everyone encourages their friends and family to buy tickets.

A link for the event registration and payment can be done though the Malibu Rotary club website www.maliburotary.org. EventBrite will add a processing fee on each order, which is \$5.12 on \$75.00 tickets or \$8.86 on a couple (the \$125.00 per couple tickets). Other event sponsors are Calamigos Beach Club and Malibu's radio station KBUU 97.5 FM which streams live on the internet at <http://www.radiomalibu.net/>.

The Malibu Rotary Club Calamigos Beach Club Halloween Fund Raiser online registration link went live on Friday September 1. It currently shows details and map of the event and will soon start to show auction items.

Current details of the event posted are:

Our 2nd Halloween party to raise funds for local causes such as Malibu Sharks Surf Team, Malibu High and Middle school scholarships, KBUU-FM and other amazing Malibu causes.

- Spooky Halloween Party at the beach
- Special Musical Guests Brandon and Claire & Camille Anneet, winners of the 2017 Malibu Rotary Club Middle and High School Singing Competition
- Dancin' to the DJ's grooviest tunes
- Silent & Live auctions
- Huge taco bar
- Beer, wine, nonalcoholic drinks INCLUDED in ticket price
- Free parking
- The world's best MC--Ted Silverberg
- Special prizes for wearing costumes!

Come help support our local people!

Space and tickets are limited to 140 people to this special event held at Calamigos Beach Club (formerly Beaurivage). As of October 20 there were 37 tickets still available.

The link to the eventbrite site: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-malibu-rotary-club-halloween-event-2017-tickets-37440830532>.

Halloween Fund Raiser Auction Items

A partial list of auction items has now been posted on our web sites:

- Two VIP/Penthouse tickets to the Indy 500 '18
- Four tickets to the LA Lakers game Nov 3: seats are in row 8, Center Court (worth \$400 ea)
- Two tickets to LA Philharmonic Nov 3: seats are in 2nd row center, Front Orchestra
- Two tickets to any LA Kings game
- Two Prime tickets to LA Dodgers game
- Lennox vase
- Eye examination by Optometrist Dr. John Elman
- Antique chess set
- Six bottles of 2012 Pinot Noir wine from Mellville & LaFond wineries, Santa Ynez Valley
- Norman Rockwell print, framed
- Taste of Malibu basket of dinners from various restaurants

Besides the a Norman Rockwell unsigned print donated by Wynn Rich there will be a signed Normal Rockwell print for which there will be a minimum bid and several hand made beaded tapestries that Jimmy Mon recently bought and brought back from Burma. Example of one of them is seen below, held by Bill Wishard



Other Malibu Rotary News and Guests

The Malibu Rotary Club has reserved 10 seats at the Rotary Foundation Dinner.

Guests

Guests at the October 18 meeting of the Malibu Rotary Club included **Navy Commander Rtd Dan Stark and Mrs Stark, Bob Donovan, Stacey Danlyan, Ani Dormenjian and Tom Bates**

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

October 25 2017 Halloween Fund Raiser Final Planning meeting

October 27 2017 Halloween Fund Raiser at Calimigos Beach 7 to 11 p.m.

Buy tickets online

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-malibu-rotary-club-halloween-event-2017-tickets-37440830532>

October 28—Rotary Foundation “Million Dollar Dinner”



November 1 2017 Alex Ayzin “Selling a Business”

We already know that Malibu Rotary Club's newest member Russian born Alex Ayzin, has a passion for world peace in the creation of his Winds of Freedom video. He is also the Executive Director of Frontier Brokers, a brokerage company that specializes in selling businesses (www.frontierbrokers.com and www.gasstationsellers.com). At the Nov 1 meeting of the Malibu Rotary Club Alex will tell us about that aspect of his life--factors in buying and selling a business

**November 8 2017 Malibu Rotary Club Speaker
Scott Martin- “Mediators Beyond Borders”--**

Mediators Beyond Borders (mediatorsbeyondborders.org) is an international organization that does mediations around the world.