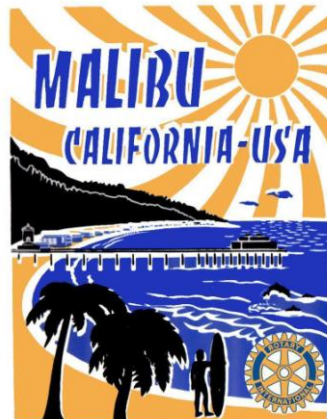




**ROTARY:  
MAKING A  
DIFFERENCE**



*The Award Winning*

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

September 20 2017

Official Newsletter of the Rotary Club of Malibu  
Malibu Rotary Club President Bianca Torrence  
Pictures by John Elman

Edited by Dr. John W. Elman

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- **Next Week September 27th Malibu Rotary Club Meeting will be 8:00 a.m. 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. Speaker will be Bengt Halen, a Rotary visitor from Perstorp, the Netherlands. He will be talking about "Rotary Perstorp perspective."**
- **The latest on the planned Halloween Fund Raiser**

- 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

**Malibu Rotary Club Welcomes Rotary District Governor Cozette Vergari  
who Inducts New Malibu Rotary Club Member Alex Ayzin**



**Malibu Rotary Club President-Elect Carlye Rudkin presents Rotary Welcome kit to Alex Ayzin after he is inducted into the Malibu Rotary Club by Rotary District Governor Cozette Vergari**



**Part of the group on hand at the Rotary Club meeting January 20 for the official visit of Rotary District Governor Cozette Vergari were (L to R) Alex Ayzin, John Elman, Teresa LeGrove, Assistant Governor Lulu Kamatoy, Mike Gose, DG Cozette Vergari, Joy Arcenas, Rodolfo Lopez, Malibu Rotary Club President Elect Carlye Rudkin, Bengt Halen, Bill Wishard, Margo Neal and Dennis Mathew. Also at the meeting, but not shown, were David Baird, Pepperdine Rotaract officers Nina Sprenger and Simone Raeth and Sarah Mirembe.**

Prior to the start of the meeting Malibu Rotary Club President Elect Carlye Rudkin read aloud a letter that Malibu Rotary Club President Bianca Torrence had written to the members of the Malibu Rotary club that morning. Because of the recent tragedy in Bianca's life she was not able to be at the meeting, but her message reiterated her commitment to Rotary and its ideals and she said she would return as soon as she was able to. Carlye called for a moment of silent prayer for Bianca.

Carlye continued with the agenda she had prepared the previous week. She introduced chair people of various committees and events, most of whom were past club presidents

**David Zielski** talked about his inexperience with Rotary when he had become President Elect after being a Rotarian for 8 months. His experience with another non-profit, Raincatcher, working on water projects in third world countries and the fund raisers he was familiar with the as organization's executive director has helped him prepare for chairing the upcoming Malibu Rotary Halloween Fund Raiser.

**David Baird** reported on Malibu Rotary's support of the Rotary Foundation, RYLA , the Malibu Rotary Trust Fund and the club's Paul Harris Fellows. DG Cozette was happy to hear that each year Malibu Rotary Club is well represented at the Rotary Foundation dinner, usually about 10 people go, and as is the case this year at the Million Dollar Dinner on October 28 at the JW Marriott at LA Live.

**Margo Neal** talked about various aspects of Vocational Service, including the Fire Academy Grant Scholarship and the Presentation of the Award.

**Teresa LeGrove** talked about various aspects of Youth Service, in particular the annual Malibu Rotary Club Middle and High School Singing Competition, and the new Pepperdine Rotaract Club and start up of Interact Club at Malibu High School, with the inspired high school student that Malibu Rotary Club had sponsored to go to RYLA camp. Teresa introduced the two Pepperdine Rotaract officers **Nina Sprenger and Simone Raeth** who were sitting next to her and Pepperdine Rotaract Club faculty advisor **Mike Gose**, who talked about his unique concept of the Pepperdine Rotaract Club as being International in nature, with students from various countries. Nina and Simone said at a recent Pepperdine University club fair 90 students showed interest in the Pepperdine International Rotaract Club.

**Bill Wishard** and **Joy Arcenas** talked about recent Malibu booth at the Malibu Chili Cook off and made everyone laugh when Bill described how Joy's accounting background made it seem that each day it was like applying for a loan, accounting for each dollar that came in. Bill said that ideas from the people that he met at other Rotary clubs accounted for how our selling of water and watermelon next to the hot chili escalated to also including fresh watermelon juice. Bill met **Rodolfo Lopez**, who was also introduced at the meeting, and told how his invention of Mexican fruit ice cream became a hit the Malibu Rotary Club booth. Rodolfo brought samples at this meeting which he passed out to all the guests.

**Allen Mannheim** talked about the Malibu Rotary Club sponsorship of the Malibu City Council Forum.

**John Elman** talked about how he uses ClubRunner to help manage the duties of club secretary, keeping attendance, utilizing the ClubRunner for e-mail communication, writing and distributing the weekly newsletter, being co-chair of programs utilizing the ClubRunner Calendar and being Webmaster of the club website and facebook pages, enabling Public Relations and publicity. He said he usually is able to get stories and pictures into the local newspapers such as The Malibu Times and the Malibu Surfside News, utilizing the stories and pictures already created in the newsletters.

**Carlye Rudkin** presented a report on the club operating and charity budgets, and how raising the dues from \$100 to \$125 per quarter has helped balance the operating budget, and how we able to give more to charity by using the interest earned from the club's charity trust.

**Bob Syvertsen** will talked about Happy Dollars, money that people put in the bag that is passed around for good things that happen in their life and how the money is contributed to Rotary Foundation.

As an illustration of where the Happy Dollars go **Bill Wishard** presented Rotary Foundation Checks to the governor on behalf of the Malibu Rotary club—one for \$333.34 which when matched by Bill Gates will amount to \$1,000.00, and the other was the extra \$20.00 per member, matched by David Baird, for the Polio Plus contribution (part of the district goal of \$250,000 to end polio).

By the time the Malibu Rotary Club committee chairs finished their presentations, the district governor gave out certificates to 3 members (David Baird, Teresa and David Zielski), and inducted new member **Alex Ayzin** as a new Malibu Rotary Club member, there was hardly time for DG Cozette to speak on her theme for the year of “ Make a Dream Come True.”

She had about 10 minutes to tell us how the various available Rotary grants can make dreams come true, and if anyone has an idea about a project that a single club might not be able to handle alone, these grants can make them possible. Cozette said her passion, and the reason she became a lawyer, is to fight sex trafficking, which she said after drugs, is the number two criminal activity.

One of the certificates Cozette was going to give out at the club was for Bianca, and Cozette said she would like to come back to the Malibu Rotary Club, give her full speech and give Bianca her certificate in person.

## Running World and Rotary Mourn Passing of David Torrence

GoFundMe Campaign Continues After Reaching Goal



We were shocked and saddened to learn of the passing of David Torrence, the 31 year old son of Malibu Rotary Club President Bianca Torrence, on Monday August 28th. David was an elite athlete, and as a Peruvian-American middle distance runner competed at the 2016 Olympic Games. He competed in Europe last month, and was training in Scottsdale Arizona before

competing in a race in Long Island New York next week. He was found lifeless at the bottom of a pool at the condominium complex in Scottsdale where he was training.

The cause of death is pending autopsy results. When David was 6 years old his father Scott Allen Torrence died of a ruptured brain aneurysm at age 31. Although the cause of David's passing is still under investigation this could be one explanation. According to the Brain Aneurysm Foundation family history of brain aneurysm is one of the risk factors and although they are more likely in older age brain aneurysms and their rupture can occur at any age, even children.

David trained and competed around the world but considered Malibu his home. He ran collegiately at UC Berkeley. David set the Cal freshman record in the 1500 meters in 2004 with a time of 3:43.62 – a record that continues to stand more than 13 years later. He ran a personal-best 3:40.80 in the 1500 as a junior, which ranked No. 2 in school history at the time.

In addition, David established the Cal record in the mile in 2007, with his time of 3:58.62 breaking Don Bowden's 50-year-old mark of 3:58.7 from 1957. He was sponsored by HOKA ONE ONE. Originally he trained for the U.S. Olympic team before switching to Peru, where his mother holds citizenship.

In 2015, David, running for the United States, won a silver medal in the 5000 meters at the Pan American games in Toronto, while in 2014, he set an American record in the indoor 1000 meters (2:16.76).

He made the 1500-meter final at the 2016 Olympics and recently set Peruvian national records in the 1500 Meter and mile. He was ranked among the top 10 milers in the world this year.

When asked why he decided to represent Peru rather than the U.S. prior to the 2016 Olympic trials David said, "A big part of it is inspiring other people and athletes, non-athletes and kids. I kind of realized that whether or not I make the U.S. team, the [American public](#) as a whole is going to have heroes to look up to. The U.S. can send a full team in the 1500, a full team in the 5k, a full team in every sport across the Olympic Games, right? It's expected of Americans to be there.

"Whereas in Peru, they only have a handful of athletes. I think there's 12 track athletes now, maybe under 20 in total across all sports. So me running for Peru and being someone who can make a final in events that [Peruvians](#) typically have not been good at, I really hope to have a much greater impact on that population, on those people, on those kids and I can hopefully change the running culture out there a little bit and also kind of introduce the idea of professional track because it's really not well-known, the sport."

He was also one of track and field's most active advocates of clean sport. In 2014 Torrence briefly trained with Jama Aden, a Somalian who coaches some of the fastest runners in the world, including Genzebe Dibaba, the 26-year-old Ethiopian world-record holder in the 1500 meters. Torrence became uncomfortable with what he experienced at a training camp in Spain. He quietly left the coach and went to authorities with his concerns. Eventually, partly because of Torrence's help, Aden was arrested by police in a doping raid.

"Just this month when he was in doping control at the world championships, an IAAF official he worked with on the Aden case approached David about becoming a clean sport ambassador in South America," Soos said. "He was excited about that opportunity. His legacy in terms of clean sport is clear to see."

Torrence was well-liked among fellow runners and fans of the sport. Many took to Twitter to tell stories and share their grief of his passing.

Fellow HOKA athlete Kyle Merber, and director of the HOKA Long Island Mile announced the 2017 men's elite mile in Long Island, New York, has been renamed the David Torrence Mile to continue his legacy. He was the two-time champion of that event and a good friend of Merber's. He set the event record at 3:53.91 in 2015, and was training to defend his title at the time he passed away. 10 Olympians participated in this year's David Torrence Mile on September 6 and each of the 12 runners in the mile event had the letters "DT" on their runner's bibs as they raced around the track in rain.

These were his friends -- the world-class milers who'd gathered on this humble track in a high school in Suffolk County to celebrate his life -- said Merber, who grew up nearby in Dix Hills and organized the event for the third straight year. This was the way Merber believed David would have wanted it.

"He would have liked this," said Tony Viviano, who'd roomed with Torrence at the University of California at Berkeley and wore Torrence's Peru national team training jersey after travelling from Washington, D.C.

"Everything that people have said about him is true. But the thing that (sticks out) is his energy and enthusiasm. This event really bottles that up."

Chris O'Hare of Scotland won the race in pelting rain. As O'Hare (3:56.22) rocketed toward the finish, he raised his arm upwards and pointed it at the sky. With a picture of that finish he tweeted afterward "This one is for you D.T."

David's mom Bianca and sister Sylvie were at David Torrence Mile dedication, flown there by HOKA. Bianca said, "We're very emotional."

"We're just glad and honored to be here to represent my son. I felt his spirit here tonight."

On September 10 Bianca and Sylvie were flying to Cal Berkeley for another Memorial for David.



Will Leer, a competitor and close friend of Torrence's, remembers how David always made time for fans. "The passion with which he competed and trained was the same passion with which he approached being an ambassador for the sport. I hope that is something we can all learn—this is a bit of a cult sport and it's a little bit of a strange sport. And the people who follow it are a little bit strange. But he returned the love to them. He was so good at it. We could all do better."

Chanelle Price, an 800-meter specialist who was an Altis teammate, called Torrence the glue that held their group together. The two began training at Altis during the fall last year, but it wasn't until January, when Price was hospitalized with a [pulmonary embolism](#), that she grew closer to him as a friend.

"He surprised me at the hospital—I wasn't expecting that because I had only known him for two months," Price said. "He came with magazines and chocolate and his upbeat spirit. He sat with me for hours, keeping me company. That meant a lot to me and our friendship grew from there."

At practice, usually all the athletes are on the track at the same time—sprinters, jumpers, throwers, hurdlers, and runners. But Torrence usually was the outlier, the one who ran farthest and had the most grueling workouts.

"Everybody cheered when David was on the track," Price said. "He was on his own because nobody could stick with him. I remember thinking, 'He's crazy.' He'd even come on my workout days to cheer our group on. He'd hop in on the track and start pacing my intervals if he saw me struggling. He was so giving and just truly loved to run."

Leer said that the only thing Torrence was more competitive at than running was trying to be a good friend.

"Nobody really knows what it is to be the perfect friend, but damn it, David wanted to find out," Leer said. "If that meant somebody inviting him over for a game night and playing board games for five hours straight, he was in. Also, he just really loved board games."

Lea Wallace, who was among those closest to Torrence, concurred.

"If there is one thing I learned from David Torrence, he taught me how to love with all my heart," she said, in a text message.

After that failed attempt at the Spartan Race two years ago, Torrence called up Leer and wife Aisha (Praught) Leer, an Olympic steeplechaser for Jamaica, who were then living in Oregon. With a training break in full swing, he decided to come for a weeklong visit.

The trio piled in the car one day in search of hot springs. Torrence sat in the middle seat in the back so he could talk more easily with the Leers. Suddenly he put a hand on each of their shoulders and leaned forward.

"He said, 'You know what? I really love you guys,'" Leer said, choking up. "It was the sweetest thing. That's just who he was.

"He was just such a lover."

David's spirit lives on with friends and running advocates around the world. One of David's friends and fellow runner at Cal Berkeley was Alysia Montaña (née Johnson). Alysia started a GoFundMe campaign when she heard of David's passing.

“David always gave all he had to his family, friends, and fans. Now it is our chance to give back and honor him.

“David was a man with big ideas and many of us have the desire to honor David's mission and memory with ideas of our own, but for now, you can help with this fund that has been created to eliminate all costs the Torrence family will incur related to David's Passing.”

Within 2 weeks over \$20,000 was raised. To contribute to the GoFundMe campaign for David go to:

<https://www.gofundme.com/jjgzb-davids-memorial-fund>

A private memorial service is planned for David on Saturday October 7 at the Malibu Jewish Center in Malibu. David had friends throughout the world, wherever there were running tracks and places to train for them, and the other runners in the track world considered David a friend even though he was a competitor. This service is for them to honor David.

Those attending this service should have responded to a link to RSVP.

The latest on the planned Halloween Party Fund Raiser

CALAMIGOS BEACH CLUB &  
THE MALIBU ROTARY CLUB PRESENT  
**FRIDAY OCT 27<sup>TH</sup>**



**HALLOWEEN**

KBUU-FM  
MALIBU SURF TEAM

**PARTY**

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.MALIBUROTARY.ORG](http://WWW.MALIBUROTARY.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. The October 4<sup>th</sup> Rotary Club meeting will be entirely devoted to plans for the October 27<sup>th</sup> event, the listing of auction items and needs to met

Tickets are available on line at the Malibu Rotary Club Web site [Maliburotary.org](http://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. It is important that everyone encourages their friends and family to buy tickets.

David Zielski made arrangements with EventBrite.com to have attendees register and pay online--a link for the event registration and payment can be done though the club website [www.maliburotary.org](http://www.maliburotary.org). EventBrite will adds 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). In addition to the Calamigos Beach Club another sponsor of the event is 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 Beurivage).

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**

These are the tentative Silent Auction Items as of September 17, 2017 a more accurate list will be presented October 4

Items Mostly Promised—when confirmed items will be posted on Maliburotary.org.

1. 98% angel—diaper bag
2. Hiptique—something
3. Vintage Grocers--\$100 gift certificate
4. A and B Hardware—Tool Box
5. Country Kitchen--\$25.00 Cash (can be placed in tool box)
6. Malibu Divers
7. Zuma Jay
8. Lenox Vase
9. Ogden Cleaners gift certificate \$50
10. Dr John W Elman Optometrist Exam \$114.00

Working

1. Laker Tickets
2. Kings Tickets
3. Kristy's Restaurant
4. Malibu Racquet Club Restaurant (Sparrow)
5. Room at Malibu Beach
6. Café Luxxe
7. Everything but Water
8. P C Greens

Ideas for Items. (Please return an email to me with items you want to try. Pls "reply all") Thx Carlye

1. Art Galleries—Flower & Hewes, Wall St. Gallery
2. Beauty---Beauty Collection, L'Occitane, Sephora, etc.
3. Men Clothing—Malibu Lifestyles, RRL & Co, Canvas Men, etc.
4. Women Clothing---Madison, Calypso St. Barth, Canvas Women, etc.
5. Men and Women Clothing—360 Cashmere, J Crew, James Pearce, Vince, etc.
6. Gifts---Malibu Colony Co., Design Public, Burro; etc.
7. Jeans and Such---7 for All Mankind, Levi's, True Religion
8. Jewelry—Alexis Bittar, Chrome Hearts, Vintage Malibu, Malibu Colony Co., etc.
9. Beauty---Nail Care, Nail Spa, Polished, Salon at Malibu Creek, etc.
10. Restaurants—Tra da Noi, Malibu Farm, Geoffrey's, Ollies Duck and Dive, John's Garden, Moonshadows, Marmalade, Mr. Chow, Kaishin, Ollo's, Traven 1, Tramonto, Gravina, Casa Escobar, Lily's Café, Paradise Cove, Neptune's Net
11. Wine Tasting Certificates, Wines; Cielo, Malibu Family Wines, Malibu Solstice, Rosenthal etc.
12. Hotels—Calamigos Ranch, Malibu Beach Inn, Malibu Country Inn, Malibu Motel, etc.
13. Other Sports Tickets

## **Other Malibu Rotary News and Guests**

**In celebration of International Peace Day Thursday September 21 there was to be special showing of Alex Ayzin's Winds of Freedom at the Hermosa Beach Community Theater.**

Peace One Day and the Rotary Clubs of South Bay present a screening of Alex Ayzin's Winds of Freedom Symphonic [Multimedia Presentation](#) at the Hermosa Beach Community Theater on September 21 at 6:30 pm. Peace One Day and Rotary Clubs of South Bay is a collaboration between two heart-centered organizations – one relatively new and one long-established. This collaboration brings to Los Angeles the only Peace Day event.

Open to the Public. Everyone is invited to attend. Peace Day LA, September 21, 2017 Hermosa Beach Community Theater, 710 Pier Ave., Hermosa Beach, CA 90254. .

### **Guests**

Guests at the September 20 meeting of the Malibu Rotary club included Rotary Assistant District Governor **Lulu Kamatoy**, Rotaract Faculty advisor and honorary Malibu Rotarian **Mike Gose**, **DG Cozette Vergari**, entrepreneur and inventor of the Mexican Artisan ice cream **Rodolfo Lopez**, **Bengt Halen** of the Perstorp Rotary Club in the Netherlands, **Alex Aysin's** friend peace activist **Dennis Mathew**, Pepperdine Rotaract officers **Nina Sprenger and Simone Raeth** and **Sarah Mirembe**, a student in the Pepperdine Graduate School of Public Policy.

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

**September 27 2017 Bengt Halen** Next Malibu Rotary Club Meeting will be 8:00 a.m. September 27, 2017 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. Speaker will be Bengt Halen, a Rotary visitor from Perstorp, the Netherlands. He will be talking about "Rotary Perstorp perspective."

**October 4 2017 Carlye Rudkin and Dave Zielski -- Club Assembly—Planning for October 27 Halloween Fund Raiser**

**October 7, 2017 David Torrence Memorial at Malibu Jewish Center (invited guests who have RSVP'd only)**

**October 18 2017- Bob Donovan- Operation Gratitude** Operation Gratitude seeks to lift the spirits and meet the evolving needs of the U.S. Military and First Responder communities and provide volunteer opportunities for Americans to express their appreciation to all who serve our nation.

**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>**

**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](http://www.frontierbrokers.com) and [www.gasstationsellers.com](http://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