Mike Newcomb, Editor
Date: October 29, 2026

EXCHANGE
THE EXCHANGE CLUB OF NEWPORT HARBOR, CA

Ph: 714 815-9146
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MEETING HIGHLIGHTS President Fracalosy opened the meeting and **Mike Newcomb** offered the following prayer, "Our Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name, Thy will be done on earth, As it is in heaven, Give us this day our daily bread, and give our leaders wisdom, as our Club strives to serve our Community, We pray for our members struggling with illness, Be with us as we honor You, Bless this food and all here, Lord this day, Amen. **Claudette Mekalian** spoke to **Jan**, **Michael Gerne**r's wife, and **Jan** shared that he was doing much better and that they will be at the Christmas party, promise! **Leo** led us in the Flag Salute. Our meeting had 23 in attendance, and we were blessed with a nice Buffet Lunch.

ANNOUCEMENTS – Michael Call reminded everyone that we will have a booth at the **OC Fair & Event Center - Heroes Hall/Plaza Pacifica** for the **Veterans Day** community celebration.The event is free to all who attend. The annual event honors those who served and includes exhibits, activities and veteran resource organizations. The program starts at noon to 3:00pm. Join us November 14th at 88 Fair Drive, Costa Mesa.

BIRTHDAYS FOR THE MONTH - We recognized the following October members: **Seymour Beek, Leo Fracalosy, Claudette Mekalian, Marcel Palmer,** and **Sara Weber. Gina Lesley** presented to two brave members who were willing to share their Birthday with us.



In picture (L/R): **Claudette Mekalian, Gina Lesley** and **Leo Fracalosy**



FOOTBALL POOL - Garrett TeWinkle introduced the winners and losers for Week 7. **Shirley Lashmett** was the big winner.

GUEST SPEAKER - President Fracalosy introduced **Dr. Andy Gerken**, 1st as his own physician. **Dr. Gerken** is running for Newport Beach City Council District 6. He has lived in Newport Beach for 50 years, growing up in Spyglass Hill, the Port Streets, and now lives in Shore Cliffs with his wife. He graduated from Corona del Mar High School, as class president, went on to Harvard University, where he was captain of the cross country team, and earned his degree in medicine from UCI Medical School. He came home to practice at Hoag Hospital, serving two terms as Chair of Orthopedics, and currently sits on the board of the Newport Beach Public Library Foundation.

Andy comes from a family dedicated to serving Newport Beach. His father, **Walter Gerken**, brought Pacific Life to the city, the city's second largest employer. **Andy** raised 3 daughters here and spent 20 years as the volunteeer doctor for Corona del Mar's football team. He is running for City Council to save Civic Center Park, protect public safety, and put residents first.

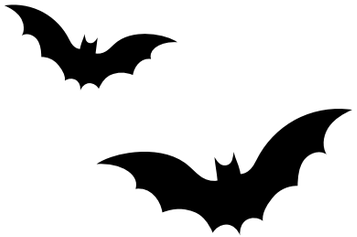
Dr. Andy Gerken shared his 6 priorities to our group:

- Oppose building a police station and jail at Civic Center Park, and save $50 million by putting it somewhere else.
- Maintain the highest level of police and fire protection for Newport Beach by investing in personnel, technology, and equipment.
- Support greater financial accountability and transparency at City Hall by restoring citizen input and oversight of city spending. No new taxes.
- Preserve open space by enhancing our city parks, trails, and coastline, and by protecting the bay, the harbor, and Civic Center Park.
- Protect taxpayers by proritizing responsible budgeting before asking residents to pay more. Spending is up 36% ($139 million), in 4 years. Put concerns of residents ahead of special interests & protect your right to vote on term limits, district elections, and housing. No high rise on city land.

Dr. Gerken addressed his concerns about decisions being made by a small group without including others in the process. Large sums of money are spent without proper opportunty to evaluate projects impacting the community. As mentioned in #6 the push for high rises in the community are being consider without open community involvement. High rises would directly impact the landscape of Newport Beach.



President Leo Fracalosy and Dr. Andy Gerken





Dr. Andy Gerken



THE EXCHANGE CLUB OF NEWPORT HARBOR
UPCOMING EVENTS

DATE	SPEAKER/SUBJECT
Oct 29	Patricia Wenskunas from Crime Survivors
Nov 5	Robyn Grant, City of NPB City Council Member
Nov 12	One Nation Under God | America250 Celebration | Keynote Speaker, Cory Vigil



President
Leo Fracalosy

Lunch will be served at next Thursday's meeting at 12:20 p.m. You will be emailed an invitation before the meeting. Please notify Lisa Jelke by Sunday evening if you are planning on attending.

Please visit our website:
www.exchangeclubofnewportharbor.org

Spindrift

EXCHANGE CLUB OF NEWPORT HARBOR
Box 1022, Newport Beach, CA 92659-0022
Newport's First Service Club,1926 * Re–Chartered January 18, 1959

National Club Achievement Award 2009 * National Service Award 2001, 2004, 2009, 2010, 2011
National Big E Award 17 Years * District Best Club Newsletter Award 2001—2006, 2009, 2010 2011
National Club Membership Achievement Award 2005, 2009 * National Excellence Award 2009

National Awards
FirstPlace
Best ClubBulletin Editor, 2001
Best Club Web Video 2011
Best Club Public Relations 2017

CA/NV District Awards
Outstanding Club Awards
Dare to Dream Award 2026

Meets at Bahia Corinthian Yacht Club
1601 Bayside Drive, Corona del Mar
Thursdays | 12 Noon

OFFICERS
President - Leo Fracalosy
President Elect.- Richard Swinney
Vice President, Programs- Mitch Mitchell
Secretary - Lisa Jelke
Treasurer - George Lesley
Immediate Past President - Ross Stewart

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

One Year Term	Two Year Term
Marianne Amerine	Barbara Kirkham
Michael Newcomb	Gina Lesley
Lauretta Stansfield	Claudette Mekalian

AMERICANISM - TBD
Field of Honor. - Richard Swinney
Freedom Shrine - Gale Demmer
Proudly We Hail- George Lesley

COMMUNITY SERVICE - Leo Fracalosy
John Crean Book of Golden Deeds - Garry TeWinkle
Crime Prevention - TBD
Fire Prevention - Jerry Strom
Service to Seniors - Ed Romeo
Adopt a Family - TBD
Child Abuse Prevention - Richard Swinney

FUNDRAISING - Ken Dufour & George Lesley
Movie Benefit - George Lesley
Budget Committee - George Lesley/ Ken DuFour
Sports Books - TBD
Football Pool - Mike Gertner

SOCIAL COMMITTEE - TBD
Birthday Recognition - Fran Murphy
Christmas - Cynthia Strasmann
Member Welfare - TBD
Social Events/Fellowship - TBD

MEMBERSHIP - TBD
Education - Mike Gertner
Club Roster - Cynthia Strasmann
Inductions - Past Presidents
Membership Badges - Ken Dufour
New Member Orientation - Sponsors
Recruitment - All Members

YOUTH PROGRAMS - Cynthia Strasmann
Youth of the Year - Lydia Ledesma-Reese
A.C.E. Program - Cynthia Strasmann
Young Citizenship Award - Cynthia Strasmann
Patriotic Art - Cynthia Strasmann
Buddy Bench - Cynthia Strasmann
Freedom's Legacy Student Program - Cynthia Strasmann

PROGRAMS - Mitch Mitchell & Diane Daruty
Meeting Setup …….K Dufour/R Shlemon/M Newcomb

PUBLIC RELATIONS
Media Coverage - Dave Schapiro
Spindrift Editors - D Schapiro/D Daruty/M Newcomb , Roy Shlemon

INVESTMENT - Richard Swinney

ACTIVE PAST PRESIDENTS

Mike Gertner | CDM Club 67-68
Mike Gertner | 9/78-8/79
Garry TeWinkle | 9/79-8/80
Mitch Mitchell | 9/83-8/84
W.C.Fox| 9/91-9/92
George Lesley| 9/93-8/94
W.C.Fox | 1/00-6/00

Duncan Forgey | 7/05-6/06
Jerry Nininger | 7/09-6/10
Leo Fracalosy | 7/12-6/13
Wally Ziglar | 7/13-6/14
Leo Fracalosy | 7/15-7/16
Richard Swinney | 7/18 - 6/19

Ken Dufour | 7/19-6/20
George Lesley | 7/20-6/21
Mike Gertner | 7/21-6/22
Ken Dufour | 7/22-6/23
Shirley Lashmett | 7/23-6/24
Roy Shlemon | 7/24-6/25
Ross Stewart| | 7/25-6/26

ANNUAL ACTIVITY CALENDAR

JULY
National Convention
Membership Drive

AUGUST
Membership Drive
Installation 29th

SEPTEMBER
Sports Books
Membership Drive

OCTOBER
Serving with Honor Awards

NOVEMBER
One Nation Under God
Proudly We Hail

DECEMBER
Christmas Party
Families Helping Families

JANUARY
ECNH Birthday

FEBRUARY
Community Service Month

MARCH
National Exchange Birthday
Club Nominations

APRIL
Child Abuse Prevention Month
Club Elections
A.C.E. Awards

MAY
Freedom Shrine Month
GIVEAKIDAFLAGTOWAVE
Citizenship Award
Field of Honor
Patriotic Art Initiative
Youth of the Year Awards

JUNE
Milestones of Freedom
Installation Banquet