



## IMAGINE ROTARY

### Club Meeting

Long Beach  
Meets at THE GRAND  
4101 E Willow Street  
Long Beach, CA 90815  
Time: Wednesday at 12:00 PM

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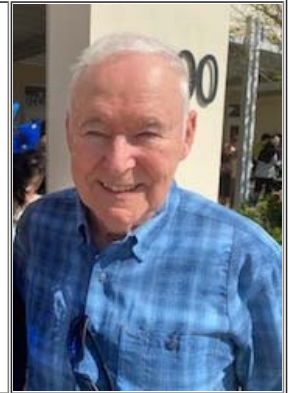
## This Week's Program

Wednesday, September 7

The Roots of the Russia-Ukraine War

Don Schwartz, Ph.D.  
The History Don

12:00 Noon - LUNCH  
Early Start 12:20 - 1:30 p.m. - Program



**Dr. Don Schwartz** received a Ph.D. in European Diplomatic History from New York University. He taught at Pace University and The New School for Social Research in New York City before joining the History faculty at California State University Long Beach in 1987. In addition to his teaching responsibilities, he served as the Social Science Credentials Coordinator, training students for careers as history teachers.

At Cal State Long Beach Dr. Schwartz taught courses on World Wars I and II, the Holocaust, the Cold War, and has published numerous articles on those subjects. He has been named by The Organization of American Historians as an Outstanding Lecturer in History.

After his retirement in 2010 he taught in Shanghai and Phnom Penh as part of the Fulbright Specialist Program. He continues to offer lectures on historical topics to the general community in Long Beach and Orange County at CSULB OLLI and *via* Zoom. For further information, go to [www.thehistorydon.com](http://www.thehistorydon.com), or *via* email at [don.schwartz@csulb.edu](mailto:don.schwartz@csulb.edu)

## Message from Rotary Roots

By Solimar Salas, Rotary Roots Committee Co-chair



Thanks to Alfredo Velasco for bringing a great idea from his former club to our Club, the Rotary Roots program was implemented within the Rotary Club of Long Beach in 2015. Through Rotary Roots, we pay tribute to the "roots" of Rotary's early years, when meeting locations rotated among members' businesses. These sessions provide an opportunity for a small group of Rotarians to get to know one another, build relationships, and learn about their host's organization.

The pandemic didn't stop the program from happening and Rotarians continued to host virtual sessions of Rotary Roots, including **Don Serafano** from Eye Physicians of Long Beach; **Jim Morris** from JCL Traffic Services; **Bill Ridgeway** from Long Beach Animal Hospital; **Marcelle Epley** from Long Beach Community Foundation; **Debra Fixen** from Shoreline Village; **Steve Keesal** from Oppenheimer & Company; and **Alfredo Velasco** from YMCA Camp Oakes.

As life settled down, Rotarians started to visit sites once again. During Spring 2021, our Rotary Roots site hosts were **Dan Lipton** from Beach Cities Media; **Kay Cofield** from California Media Productions; the City of Long Beach with 9<sup>th</sup> District Councilmember **Rex Richardson** hosting; **Mark Guillen** from Crown Castle; **Ahmet Atahan** from CS America, Inc.; **Julie Meenan** from Josephine S. Gumbiner Foundation; and **Joe Hower** from Ramboll US Consulting.

Our most recent group last fall included **Rich Dempsey** from American Antiquities; **Phil Sblendorio** from Farmers & Merchants Bank; **Mary Sophiea** from Baja Sonora; **Mike O'Toole** from Gondola Getaway; **Pam Young Lee** from Rancho Los Alamitos; **Kelly Ruggirello Lucera** from Long Beach Symphony; and **Glen Patrick** from American Gold Star Manor.

In the spirit of Rotary International's mission of bridging cultures to create peace through "Service Above Self," the communion among all those present during Rotary Roots works to strengthen our bond as a community and as a Rotary family. On behalf of the Rotary Roots Committee, we invite you to participate in the program and also to consider hosting a group in the future. We want to know more about you and what you do when you are not at Rotary.

## Write a Caption!



**WHAT** - Submit a caption for this photo

**WHEN** - by EOD Thursday, September 8

Send caption to -  
Wayne Slavitt - [wayneslavitt@gmail.com](mailto:wayneslavitt@gmail.com)

**Top Winners will be announced at the September 21 lunch meeting**

## Welcome...

By Laura Knapp



Warmest of welcomes to our newest Rotary Club member, **Cassandra Geoghegan!**

Cassandra migrated to Long Beach in 2003 from not-too-distant Bellflower. Long Beach had long been a draw for Cassandra: she earned both her Bachelor's in Comparative Literature and Master's in English at CSULB. Not only did she build her educational foundation in Long Beach, other foundations were built as well - she met her life partner and husband, Ned, at Cal State some nearly 20 years ago.

Her passion for literature and learning is blended with an interest in legal studies, and she's currently serving as the Risk Manager at Long Beach-based Traffic Management, Inc., the largest privately-owned minority business based in the United States. She's also a certified Notary Public, and has worked with the Department of Justice, as well as at Molina Healthcare.

Cassandra has always found ways to give back meaningfully to the community: as a "Bookworm Buddy Reader" with the Dana Library, serving on committees at Cal Heights Methodist, and leading fundraising efforts at St. Barnabas School, where her phenomenal daughter, Allison, attended through middle school. Cassandra enjoys hanging out with family, cooking, entertaining, and travel (*especially to Ireland, where Ned is originally from*).

She's excited to dive right in and has already expressed interest in our Club's literacy efforts. Please join us in welcoming ... Cassandra Geoghegan!

## Make Your Reservation Now for September 22 !



The **Rotary Club of Long Beach** and **Long Beach Rotary Scholarship Foundation**

have been nominated for and will be the 1st recipient of the

**Long Beach City College Distinguished Service Award**  
for Community Friend, Organization.

The celebration will take place at the annual **Hall of Fame Recognition event** on **Thursday, September 22**, at The Grand in Long Beach.

[Here is the reservation link](#) - we hope Rotarians will attend and join in the acceptance of this prestigious honor!

Please email **Madrid** - [madrid@rotarylongbeach.org](mailto:madrid@rotarylongbeach.org) or **Letty** - [scholarships@lbrsf.org](mailto:scholarships@lbrsf.org) after you make your reservation so we know who is attending and we can plan for Rotarians to sit together and celebrate together!

## CALL TO ACTION for the LBRCF - September 16 Deadline!

By Dennis C. Smith

This is a call to action for **nominations to the Board of Directors** for the **Long Beach Rotary Charitable Foundation**.

Historically, our membership has been modest in putting themselves forward for positions in the Rotary Club. Please note, self-nominations are not only okay but encouraged! See below for criteria for nominations and the process for selection of the new members.

Over the last few years your Rotary Club leadership has been making changes to policies, procedures, and by-laws to expand the opportunities of participation for all our members. In this spirit, in our last Rotary year, the Board of Directors of the Long Beach Rotary Charitable Foundation (LBRCF), under the leadership of Matt Kinley, adopted amendments to the organization's Bylaws to increase the number of members of the Board of Directors and how new members for the new seats on the Board are chosen.

For newer members, the LBRCF is a separate organization from the Rotary Club of Long Beach. It is a 501(c)(3) non-profit whose purpose is to receive and distribute funds in a manner that furthers the mission, projects and goals of the Rotary Club of Long Beach. Camp Enterprise, Reading by 9, Feeding the Future, community grants, are all part of the funding through the LBRCF.

[Read More](#)

## New Member Proposal

The following is being proposed as a member of the Rotary Club of Long Beach. His name is hereby submitted to the membership for a 10-day period as required by the Bylaws. Any comments can be addressed to the President or the Executive Director of the Club during this 10-day period.

### Gerald "Jerry" Bloeser - Managing Partner, DJG Bloeser Properties

Proposed Classification: Real Estate - Investor/Property Owner/Manager

Proposed by: Dave Woody and Alfredo Velasco

## Upcoming Events - Click Title for More Info and for Meeting RSVP

September 7th  
[Long Beach Weekly Club Meeting](#)  
**Speaker:** Don Schwartz  
**Subject:** The Roots of the Russia-Ukraine War

September 10th  
[Centennial Park Clean-up](#)

September 13th  
[5 O'Clock Somewhere](#)  
**Speaker:** Monthly mixer  
**Subject:** Usually 2nd Tuesday/month  
 Invitation by EVITE Phil Trani's this month

September 14th  
[ROTARY ROOTS Lunch Program - Fall 2022](#)  
 Rotary Roots - individual member hosts

September 15th  
[Business Breakfast Roundtable](#)  
**Speaker:** Juan Huiizar  
**Subject:** "YouTube Business Leads 101" For Long Beach Rotarians only

September 20th  
[RCLB Board of Directors Meeting](#)

September 21st  
[Long Beach Weekly Club Meeting](#)  
**Speaker:** Zoot Velasco  
**Subject:** 117 Years of Rotary, Unabridged

September 27th  
[Rotarians Appreciate Wine \(RAW\)](#)  
**Speaker:** Blind Taste Testing and Pot-luck Dinner  
**Subject:** Wine selection TBA

## Birthdays This Week - Click Name to Send a Greeting



[Marjorie Fleming](#)  
September 8th



[Beverly L. O'Neill](#)  
September 8th



[Philip L. Sblendorio](#)  
September 9th



[Olivia Maiser](#)  
September 10th



[Donald E. Cochran](#)  
September 11th



[Alejandrina Basquez](#)  
September 13th

## August Rotary-versaries - Click Name to Send Congrats!



[Jack E. Hinsche](#)  
39 Years



[Donald N. Serafano](#)  
35 Years



[R. Whitney Latimer II](#)  
34 Years



[John W. Hancock III](#)  
32 Years



[Brandon Hovard](#)  
19 Years



[Don Rodriguez](#)  
17 Years



[Sumer A. Temple](#)  
12 Years



[Michael M. O'Toole](#)  
11 Years



[Marcelle H. Epley](#)  
11 Years



[Randall S. Kemner](#)  
10 Years



[Randall C. Fudge](#)  
10 Years



[Alfredo Velasco](#)  
9 Years



[Jeremy Harris](#)  
8 Years



[Kenneth A. McDonald](#)  
7 Years



[Philip L. Sblendorio](#)  
6 Years



[William Albert Grella Jr.](#)  
5 Years



[Joseph Wayne Hower PE, DEE](#)  
5 Years



[Joyoti Banerji](#)  
3 Years



[Solimar Salas](#)  
3 Years



[Julie Ewart Meenan](#)  
3 Years

[Rini Ghosh](#)  
2 Years

[Phyllis Hayes-Reams](#)  
1 Year

[Alejandrina Basquez](#)  
New Member!

[Dan Garrett Jr.](#)  
New Member!



[Gloria Cordero](#)  
4 Years



[Deborah Williams](#)  
New Member!



[Jennifer Cuevas](#)  
New Member!



[Cassandra Geoghegan](#)  
New Member!



<p><b>Rotary Club of Long Beach</b> meets every Wednesday</p> <p><i><b>LB Skyline Photo Credit</b></i> <i><b>Long Beach Convention &amp; Visitors Bureau</b></i></p> <p>September 7, 2022 Vol. 106, Issue 10</p>	<p><b>Club Office</b></p> <p>400 Oceangate, Suite 470 Long Beach, CA 90802</p> <p>562-436-8181</p> <p><a href="mailto:Rotary@RotaryLongBeach.org">Rotary@RotaryLongBeach.org</a></p>	<p><b>Visit</b></p> <p><a href="#">Long Beach Rotary</a></p> <p><a href="#">District 5320</a></p> <p><a href="#">Rotary International</a></p>	<p><b>Visit our Social Media Pages</b></p> <p> </p>
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