

Rotary



Club of Long Beach



SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES

### Club Meeting

Long Beach

**NO CLUB IN-PERSON MEETING THIS WEEK!**

RSVP as soon as you can for ALL DECEMBER RCLB Meetings, please, we must order ahead for seating/room set up for December 1, 8 and 15 thank you!

### In This Issue

[President 105's Post #21](#)

[Feeding The Future 2021 - Thank You!](#)

[Thank you, Rotarians, for my Scholarship](#)



### President 105's Post #21

By Dennis C. Smith



Giving thanks, expressing gratitude, a communal meal with family and/or friends, the traditions and foods, adding in that fall is my favorite season, a four-day weekend, and it all adds up to Thanksgiving being my favorite holiday.

Not just on Thursday, but every day I am thankful for ♦.

**Madrid**, who is the backbone, brains, and true leader of our Club ♦

**Dana Buchanan** and **Brian Russell**, who sponsored me as a member ♦

**Steve Shaw** who is always thinking how we can do something better, or a new event for our members ♦

**Tim Aldrete**, **John Graham**, and **Rich Gibson** who work very hard each Wednesday to set up and breakdown the equipment for our meetings and run our A/V ♦

**Robyn Gordon-Peterson**, **Dan Lipton**, **Dorian Bolick**, and **Nelinia Varenas**, our Vice-Presidents who have brought, and will continue to bring, great speakers to our meetings ♦

**Cam Killingsworth** who puts together the RotaryGram every week ♦

**Henry Fung** who proofreads my RotariGrahm nezlettres evary weak ♦

**Matt Kinley**, **Mollie Beck**, **Alfredo Velasco**, and **Michele Dobson**, the ♦Jedi♦ who have provided tremendous support, hand slaps, ideas, and direction ♦

**Leslie Wiberg** who continues to quietly provide leadership for Feeding the Future ♦

**Craig Cross** for his leadership of the Scholarship Foundation the past several years ♦

**Larry Jackson** for his current leadership of the Scholarship Foundation ♦

**John Romundstad**, **Greg Haeseler**, and others who are our weekly greeters ♦

**Brett Lewis**, **Gaia Valentino**, **Greg Burnight**, and **Aaron Blackburn** who line up birthday and other recognitions as Sergeants-at-Arms ♦

**Frank Newell** for his ability to annually raise tens of thousands of dollars for Reading by Nine ♦

**Everyone who donates** to Reading by Nine, as well as our Charitable and Scholarship Foundations ♦

**Dee Wood** who is establishing procedures and process for other Rotary clubs to follow to facilitate Global Grant Scholarships ♦

**Janey Roeder** who has worked hard to establish Rotaract on the CSULB campus ♦

**Tony Gales** as our Treasurer and keeps an eye on our bottom line ♦

**Lisa Hain** guiding our Membership ♦

**Freda Hinsche Otto** for her tremendous work and organization for International Service ♦

**Tina Barry** for saying **yes** and diving in as Community Service Director despite being in the Club a little over a year

**Meredith Shaw**, and **Gail Schwandner** who sit behind the tables before our meetings and organize other volunteers

Our regular meeting volunteers **Nancy Zwiers**, **Sarah Soriano** and the ever present **Henry Fung**

**Judy Ross** and **Wayne Slavitt** who chair our Rotary Foundation and keep track of Paul Harris Fellows

**Jennifer Sarantos** who has quickly assumed the responsibilities of Administrative Assistant, pleasantly reminding the President, and others, what their duties and responsibilities are that they need to complete

Insert (*Your Name*) here, as I am grateful for every member of our Club for your support and commitment to this great organization.

We are Long Beach Rotary,

Dennis

## Feeding The Future 2021 - Thank You!

By **Leslie Wiberg**

Saturday, October 30, 2021

A BIG THANK YOU to all who participated in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Feeding the Future Food Drive at Long Beach City College and Cal State Long Beach. The blessing of knowing we are changing lives by helping to ensure no student will have to make the choice between their education or putting food on the tables should make you all proud. The food pantry at LBCC was completely empty when we arrived Saturday morning, so each and every one of you helped to make a difference!

With much appreciation to:

- **Desmond D Sa**, who together with his daughter **Tedi**, donated 500 pounds of food and hygiene items.
- **Farmers & Merchants employees**, who collectively donated approximately 300 pounds of food.
- **Christine Limon** at CSULB and **Justin Mendez** at LBCC for their assistance and coordination between Rotary and their school's food pantries.
- **Olivia Maiser** for reaching out to her media contacts with a press release that created increased coverage.
- The **45 volunteers** who came out Saturday morning to assist directing cars, unloading, weighing and sorting the donations at each school.

And to the energetic Feeding the Future Committee who met weekly prior and during the event to ensure its success: **Tina Barry**, **Mollie Beck**, **Joy Banerji**, **Marnee Brooks**, **Shel-lee Davis**, **Diane Donaldson**, **Robyn Gordon-Peterson**, **Kris Gragson**, **John Graham**, **Phyllis Hayes-Reams** and **Judy Ross**. Their enthusiasm has sparked great ideas and we are looking forward to our 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Food Drive next year!



## Thank you, Rotarians

By **Angelica Luquin**, **TEMPLE FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT**

Hello and thank you!

I am weeks away from finishing university and as I look back, the city of Long Beach has sculpted me into the person I am today in ways I am still learning. One word I would use to describe it is limitless.

I have always been passionate about mathematics. When I was accepted to a prestigious high school, I was shocked when the school's head math teacher planned to have me repeat a year. His exact words were, "We already had a student that tried and failed, so we won't let you try." Without hearing my story, he had decided what my potential was.

I instead found support at Cabrillo High School. Between my Freshman and Sophomore year, I took my first math course at Long Beach City College. Cabrillo heard my story, and never once doubted my potential.

When it came time to choose a University, I chose Long Beach State. On my SOAR Day I met the prolific math professor Dr. Merryfield. He heard my story and asked if I wanted to double major. I said yes. He replied, "Great I will give you permission to take math major courses." I knew I had made the right decision coming here.

At The Beach, I have built 200 pound rockets that fly thousands of feet, made lifelong friends, interned at NASA, Space Force, and even shook hands with an astronaut.

My dream is to attend graduate school, but for now I am happy to move to Texas to start my first job as a test operations engineer for SpaceX.

The journey has been challenging. There were times I worried I would not pass my classes. I have been offered internships by five companies over the years but have been rejected by 100. With SpaceX alone, I was rejected thirty times prior to having my first interview.

I want to highlight: the times I failed. It was scholarships that kept me going, like the one I received from Rotary. It allowed me the time I needed to build my engineering skills every time I got it wrong. I didn't have to get a minimum wage job rather than working on building rockets. Or pick up another shift to pay for textbooks instead of attending workshops. I would have worked long hours to simply pay for tuition and feel too tired at the end of the day than apply for a job and get rejected and never receive the necessary feedback from my interviewer on what I needed to improve to get the job. The scholarships gave me the luxury of solely focusing on my ambitions in STEM.

I want to thank the Temple family. They were kind enough to renew my scholarship for more than the original length of aid. Ironically, I had not met them until today. But I have always felt their presence in the countless nights I studied until 4 am (*my eyebags are permanent*), the frustration I would feel being stuck on a math problem for the fifth day, and the serene walks leaving the engineering study rooms after they kindly told me to leave because they are closed. The Temple family has not so much had a cup of coffee with me, but they believed enough in me from reading about my passion from an application. And for many long nights that kept me going.

I am an aspiring propulsion engineer. I dream of analyzing and designing rockets that will take people to space. I dream of one day helping other women accomplish their STEM dreams as others have helped mine. Thank you, Long Beach, for never limiting me.



The Scholarship Foundation annually hosts a RCLB Meeting which includes scholarship recipients, school officials and Rotarians. Angelica delivered her message on



77 Rotary Scholarship Recipients attended the Rotary Meeting in their honor with Guest Speaker, CSULB President Jane Close Conoley!  
Photographs - [Caught in the Moment Photography](#)

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

November 24th  
**Long Beach Weekly Club Meeting**  
DARK for Thanksgiving Holiday  
No Lunch Meeting

November 28th  
**Ronald McDonald House - Sunday Meal Preparation**  
Ronald McDonald House  
Prepare Sunday meal onsite kitchen  
**Contact** Dorian Bolick

December 1st  
**Long Beach Weekly Club Meeting**  
**Speaker:** LB Rotarian Joe Hower  
**Subject:** Southern California Air Quality in COVID  
Times: Where is it Going and When?

December 8th  
**Long Beach Weekly Club Meeting**  
**Speaker:** President-elect Alfredo Velasco  
**Subject:** The Board Reveal of President-elect Velasco and the announcement of President #108

December 9th  
**5 O'Clock Somewhere Mixer**

December 11th  
**Centennial Park Monthly Clean-up**

December 14th  
**RCLB Board Meeting**

December 15th  
**Long Beach Weekly Club Meeting - Holiday Lunch**  
**Entertainment:** Musical Theatre West presents "A Little Holiday Cheer"  
**Subject:** Annual Holiday Lunch

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



[Stephen B. Shaw](#)  
November 25th



[Nelinia 'Nel' Varenas](#)  
November 25th



[Juan Huizar](#)  
November 26th

<p><b>Rotary Club of Long Beach</b> meets every Wednesday</p> <p><i>LB Skyline Photo Credit Long Beach Convention &amp; Visitors Bureau</i></p> <p>November 24, 2021 Vol. 105, Issue 21</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><a href="#">E-Club of the West</a></p>	<p><b>Visit our Social Media Pages</b></p> <p> </p>
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