



# ROTARY MEANS FELLOWSHIP – ARTS - BUSINESS - SERVICE FABS

## This Week's Program

**Wednesday, January 10**  
**The 21st-Century Leader**

**Lynne Wainfan, Ph.D.**  
**Owner, Compass Alliance LLC**

**12:00 Noon - LUNCH**  
**12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. - PROGRAM**



**Lynne Wainfan** received her Ph.D. from the Pardee-RAND Graduate School, where she created multi-perspective strategy theory, otherwise known as, “how to help groups who don’t agree on anything commit to a strategy.” Her methodologies were developed from her research on decision-making by Presidents, DoD, State Department, corporate - and education policy makers. A former rocket scientist, she served as a C-level executive at Boeing; a faculty member of LMU and CSULB where she taught research design and leadership; and the license-holder for TEDxSoCal. Dr. Wainfan is the author of books on collaboration and trust and is a member of the Rotary Club of Long Beach. She is the founder of Compass Alliance LLC, whose mission is to help groups meet *their* missions. Her latest project, [Connect.me](#), helps people connect on a deeper level. Towards the vision of a connected world, she has become a social-media influencer, app creator, and award-winning screenwriter.

## Birthdays



**Craig Rockwell Dougherty**  
 January 10th



**Kenneth H. Trossen**  
 January 13th

## Club Leaders



**Michele A. Dobson**  
 President



**Gail B. Schwandner**  
 Assistant to the President



**Jean Bixby Smith**  
 Assistant to the President



**Marcelle H. Epley**  
 Vice President



**Joseph Wayne Hower**  
 PE, DEE  
 Vice President



**Debra Kahookele**  
 Vice President



**Sumer A. Temple**  
 Vice President



**John E. Romundstad**  
 Secretary  
 Treasurer



**Theresa Cornwell**  
 Sergeant-at-Arms



**Shel-lee Davis**  
 Sergeant-at-Arms

## Year Preview from President #107

By Michele A. Dobson



Welcome back my fellow Rotarians and it is my hope that you are refreshed and ready to get to work in the community. We will start with a bit of fun with our January 10<sup>th</sup> Welcome Back

Shelley Hanks



to work in the community. We will start with a Luau on January 10. Welcome back Luau Meeting where our Avenues of Service and Committees will be on display for you to get our Spring events on your calendars and join their Committees if you would like to help lead the Club. Please keep in mind that we will need some extra help this Spring because the District is coming to Long Beach in May for the Rotary District 5320 Conference. Our Club will host a hospitality suite during the District Conference and we are helping our District Governor Roy Jefferson so Long Beach can put its best foot forward. If you have ideas or want to volunteer to help, please let us know. It is all hands on deck for the District Conference.

It occurred to me that I never told you the story from our Rotary International President Gordon R. McNally regarding why part of his focus this year is mental health and awareness. I heard the story during last year's International Convention in Melbourne, Australia. It was serendipitous because as I prepared for this year when I was President-elect, I had already chosen to focus on mental health and awareness through multiple pathways: Rotary means "Fellowship," Rotary means "Arts," Rotary means "Business" and Rotary means "Service." If you have not already heard the story, in a very personal and moving moment President McNally shares about how he lost his brother Ian to suicide while his brother was in his prime, leaving behind a wife, two kids, and a successful career envied by many. Our Rotary International President turned that tragedy into motivation and mission to demystify mental health.

When I was a Rotary Member, and not a Rotarian, I went to the meetings at the Queen Mary if I was interested in the speaker and quite frankly, went to the meetings if I wanted to take a two hour respite from work. I would grab two cookies for my young children and the highlight of my Wednesday was when the kids would run up to me after school and ask "Mom, did you go to Rotary?" then they would bolt to the car for the "Rotary Cookies." Once I evolved into a Rotarian, I would break my neck to get to the Queen Mary each Wednesday to see my friends, catch my committee meeting, volunteer for a service project, be a greeter, help at the ticket table or when I was on the Board, help during the meetings themselves. It became a highlight of my week and enhanced my mental health and well-being. It was not only my mid-week break to take the edge off, I was proud when people in the community would talk about Rotary, our Scholarships, our Projects or our Grants. I was pleased to be a tiny part of it.

If you are like me, myriad solicitations come in the mail. As they hit my desk, I prioritize them for my staff to add them to my calendar, make my donation or I take a pass on them, and they immediately go in the round file. I was surprised this year when I looked at DACdb and realized that 14 times, Rotary has hit my desk and 14 times, I have renewed my Rotary membership. This July will be my 15<sup>th</sup> year as a Rotarian. It is the single longest tenure of any organization I have been involved with. I spent the holiday break reflecting on how we can enhance the Rotary experience so when your renewal comes in the mail from Rotary, it is an easy Yes. The Wednesday meeting is perfect to rejuvenate me mid-week because whomever I am sitting with at lunch is game for a laugh, somehow the Vice Presidents find speakers that pique my interest and of course, I get to hear about opportunities to make this community better through our Club tackling literacy, food insecurity or helping students achieve their educational dreams.

When you return on January 10<sup>th</sup>, look around the room, if you find someone is missing, give them a call and check in. Know that we are here for you and are only a phone call, text or email away. If we miss seeing you, don't get annoyed if we call to check in. And please take it seriously when I ask, look at the Rotarian to the right of you, and find out how they are doing; then, look to the Rotarian on your left, and find out how they are REALLY doing. Now let's roll up our sleeves and get to work. Cheers!



Denise Dahlihausen  
Sergeant-at-Arms



Debbie Thorpe  
Sergeant-at-Arms



Denise Dahlihausen  
CCO-Club Comm. Offcr



Rayne Sherman  
Career Service Director



Robyn Gordon-Peterson  
Community Service Director



Stephen B. Shaw  
Club Service Director



Lisa Finn  
Fellowship Service Director



Matthew L. Kinley  
International Service Director



Sarah Soriano  
Membership Service Director



Conor Kenneth Weir  
Youth Service Director



Alfredo Velasco  
iPast President



Steve M. Hockett  
President-elect



Kelly Ruggirello  
President-nominee



Wayne C. Slavitt  
President-designate



Donald E. Cochran  
Rotary Foundation Chair

#### Years of Service



Tony T. Chi  
12-01-1995  
29 Years



Mark A. Kachigan  
12-11-2002  
22 Years



John M. Graham III  
12-03-2003  
21 Years

## Business Breakfast Roundtable - Come Join Us! RSVP Now!

By Mary Zerafa Loos, Chair


We would like to invite members to our upcoming **Business Breakfast Roundtable (BBR)**.  
**Steve Richards**, Business Advisor,  
will share with us what the Small Business Development Center (SBDC) can do for your business.

Thursday, January 18  
8:00am-9:30am  
The Grand, 4101 E. Willow  
\$13 (cash preferred) for coffee and pastries

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We've designed the Roundtable to foster discussion and exchange ideas in an environment where everyone can participate. To that end, we keep the group small, with a cap of 18 people. We meet on the third Thursdays of the odd months at the Grand. We start with coffee, pastries, and informal networking and then delve into the selected topic. Participants select topics for the upcoming sessions and we reach out to Rotarians in that industry or area of expertise and ask them to join us and contribute to the conversation.


















For more information, please contact **Mary Zerafa Loos** **562.754.2500** or [maryzerafa@gmail.com](mailto:maryzerafa@gmail.com).



**What the Small Business Development Center (SBDC) Can Do for Your Business**

Steve Richardson | SBDC Business Advisor

**Thursday, January 18, 2024**  
8:00am-9:30am  
The Grand, 4101 E. Willow  
\$13 (cash preferred) for coffee and pastries  
RSVP: Mary Zerafa Loos | [maryzerafa@gmail.com](mailto:maryzerafa@gmail.com)  
To foster discussion, the maximum number of participants is 18

	<a href="#">John E. Romundstad</a> 12-07-2005 19 Years
	<a href="#">James M. Morris</a> 12-08-2010 14 Years
	<a href="#">Lisa Ramelow</a> 12-18-2013 11 Years
	<a href="#">Freda Hinsche Otto</a> 12-03-2014 10 Years
	<a href="#">Rhannon Evans Acree</a> 12-10-2014 10 Years
	<a href="#">Richard Gibson</a> 12-07-2016 8 Years
	<a href="#">Carolyn Caldwell</a> 12-06-2017 7 Years
	<a href="#">Susan Collida</a> 12-13-2017 7 Years
	<a href="#">Diane L. Donaldson</a> 12-19-2018 6 Years
	<a href="#">Jim Better</a> 12-11-2019 5 Years
	<a href="#">Lee Shoaq</a> 12-11-2019 5 Years
	<a href="#">Michael Rivard</a> 12-09-2020 4 Years
	<a href="#">Gilbert Maldonado Wenseslao</a> 12-07-2022 2 Years
	<a href="#">Raymond Cervantez</a> 12-07-2022 2 Years
	<a href="#">Stuart Ledsam</a> 12-06-2023 <b>New Member</b>
	<a href="#">Donna Wajid</a> 12-06-2023 <b>New Member</b>
	<a href="#">Jon L. Mesko</a> 12-06-2023 <b>New Member</b>

## Bikes for Kids Project

By Tina Barry



This year our Rotary Club worked with the YMCA to provide bikes for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade kids from Cesar Chavez Elementary School here in Long Beach.

We announced an Essay Contest to the three classes, saying that one child in each class would win a new bike with their best essay.

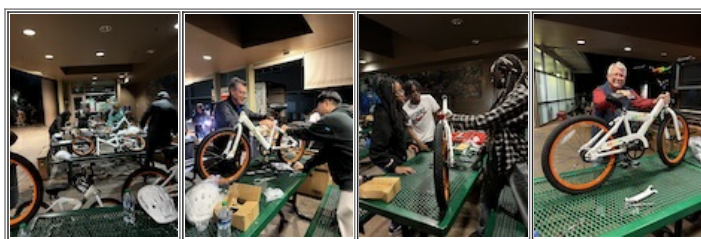
Rotarians then gathered on the evening of Friday, Dec 8 to build the bikes. With the help of pizza (and several bike experts to help us with quality control) over 25 people came out to build the 60 bikes needed for the students.

On the day of the School Assembly, each 3<sup>rd</sup> grade teacher and their principal announced the winners for each class. After pictures were taken of the proud winners, we announced the surprise – *EVERY* student would receive a new bike!

Enjoy the photos of our wonderful event below. And thank you to Rotarians and friends for their contributions and help



with the bike build as well as the bike fitting for the students at Cesar Chavez Elementary. We hope it made for a wonderful holiday season for these children.



## Literacy Committee Update

By Leslie Wiberg and Frank Newell



Enjoy a few pictures from our visit to Edison Elementary. The school librarian, Krystal Ortiz, was able to purchase books with funds from our Rb9 Fundraiser for use as holiday gifts to each TK-3<sup>rd</sup> grader. Each student was able to pick out two books to keep! They really took their time deciding which books and were most appreciative. An added bonus was receiving a Rotary string book bag!

As a result of your generosity we raised over \$130,000 this year and one of our many grants was providing over 6,000 Holiday Books to all TK-3<sup>rd</sup> grade students at Edison and 16 other Title 1 schools in Long Beach.



Our next Literacy Committee Meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, January 10th at 1:35**. We will be providing an update on the Rotary Reads (in a classroom) program. And there will be an overview of additional opportunities to personally give a gift of a book. Looking forward to seeing you.

Many thanks to the Literacy Committee - Tina Barry, Don Cochran, Kay Cofield, Theresa Cornwell, Shel-Hee Davis, Diane Donaldson, Veronica Garcia Davalos, Dan Garrett, John Graham, Stephanie James, Mike Jensen, Laura Knapp, Brett Lewis, Frank Newell, Braden Phillips, Judy Ross, Brian Russell, Solimar Salas, Dennis Smith, Sarah Soriano, Jennifer Stout,

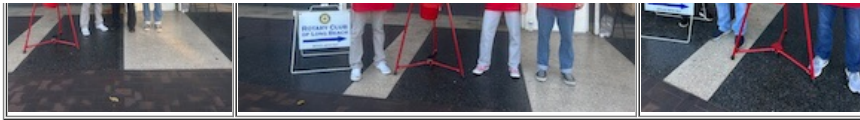


Thank You Long Beach Rotarians!

Thank you for your gift of time to 'Ring the Bell' for those less fortunate  
and to help create for them a blessed holiday season.

**Doug Coleman, Diane Donaldson, Lori Dwight, John Graham, Natalie Hale,  
Mike Rivard with Grandson Jack Sarantos and Neighbor Bobbie Cusato,  
The Shaw Family, Conor Weir and our Interactors, and our faithful Chairs, Steve Shaw and Dan Garrett**





## Rotary Rose Parade Float 2024



### Rotary International Rose Parade Float 2024

*Clean Water â€” The Music of Life*

(Phoenix Decorating Company)

A 44-year Rose Parade participant, this yearâ€™s Rotary float highlighted the organizationâ€™s efforts to bring clean water projects â€” which provide local solutions for clean water, sanitation and hygiene education â€” to communities around the globe. The whimsical entry featured four oversized ducks holding umbrellas and dancing on a piano keyboard. The baby ducklings had eyes of black seaweed and white powdered rice; beaks decorated with orange ground lentils/orange fine cut strawflower, and hot pink fine cut statice; bodies of white fuzzy cut everlasting; and feet of orange ground lentil. Rotary is a 13-time award winner, including the Princess Trophy last year.

Enjoy this video link to the [RI 2024 Rose Parade Float!](#)

## Calendar Events

January 10th, 12:00-1:30 PM  
**Long Beach Weekly Club Meeting**  
**Speaker:** Lynne Wainfan, Ph.D.  
"The 21st Century Leader"  
1st meeting of 2024

January 11th, 2:00-3:00 PM  
**RoToastados - A Rotary Toastmaster Alliance Club**

January 13th, 8:00-9:00 AM  
**Centennial Park Clean-up**

January 16th, 4:00-5:15 PM  
**RCLB Board of Directors Meeting**




January 17th, 12:00-1:30 PM  
**Long Beach Weekly Club Meeting**  
**Speaker:** Ron Gastelum  
**Subject:** So Will SoCal have Enough Water in the Future to Support our Population and Economy?

January 18th, 5:00-7:00 PM  
**5 O'Clock Somewhere and Rotary Connections**  
After-hours mixer with Rotary Connections  
Gathering/meeting for prospective members

January 24th, 12:00-1:30 PM  
**Long Beach Weekly Club Meeting**  
**Speaker:** Kim White  
**Subject:** "Breaking Glass with the Exalted Ruler"

January 25th, 2:00-3:00 PM  
**RoToastados - A Rotary Toastmaster Alliance Club**

January 31st, 12:00-1:30 PM  
**Long Beach Weekly Club Meeting**  
**Speaker:** Michael Lange  
**Subject:** "I Could Have Been a Doctor.....(A Dreamer's Journey in Show Biz)"

 <p><b>CREATE HOPE in the WORLD</b></p>	<p><b>Rotary Club of Long Beach</b> meets every Wednesday @ 12 Noon <b>THE GRAND</b> <b>4101 E. Willow Street</b> <b>Long Beach, CA 90815</b></p> <p><i>LB Skyline Photo Credit Long Beach Convention &amp; Visitors Bureau</i></p> <p>January 10, 2024 - Vol. 107, Issue 23</p>	<p><b>Club Office</b> 400 Oceangate, Suite 470 Long Beach, CA 90802 562-436-8181 <a href="mailto:Rotary@RotaryLongBeach.org">Rotary@RotaryLongBeach.org</a></p> <p><b>Visit</b> <a href="#">Long Beach Rotary</a> <a href="#">District 5320</a> <a href="#">Rotary International</a></p>	<p><b>Visit our Social Media Pages</b></p> <div>   </div>
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