



ROTARY MEANS FELLOWSHIP – ARTS - BUSINESS - SERVICE FABS

Birthdays



[Shel-lee Davis](#)
February 21st



[Jayne Lastusky](#)
February 23rd



[Aaron Anthony Blackburn](#)
February 25th



[Kristian Gragson](#)
February 26th



[Valerie J. Owen](#)
February 27th

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 Kahookole](#)
Vice President



[Sumer A. Temple](#)
Vice President



[John E. Romundstad](#)
Secretary
Treasurer



[Theresa Cornwell](#)
Sergeant-at-Arms

This Week's Program

Wednesday, February 21



"Demo Chicks" - Women in Engineering

Robin Thorne
CTI Environmental, Inc., Chief Executive Officer

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



In 2009, **Robin Thorne** established CTI Environmental, Inc., (CTI) an environmental construction and safety consulting firm and serves as CTI's Chief Executive Officer. Robin and her team have been awarded contracts by Southern California Edison, California State University, Walsh-Shea Constructors, Kiewit Pacific, Legal Aid Foundation, International City Bank. In 2018, CTI began to compete in the federal market having been awarded a project with the Bureau of Prisons where CTI provided lead and asbestos abatement services and demolished 100+ structures. CTI's federal experience has expanded to include work with the Department of Forestry, NAVFAC Southwest, General Services Administration, and Federal Aviation Administration. CTI was awarded a contract by the City of Los Angeles to provide debris removal services after a catastrophic event. Robin is responsible for the daily operations, including identifying potential opportunities and vendors to execute on projects, hiring talent, oversight on projects and ensuring CTI provides 1st in class services.

Robin has received numerous accolades over the years and is most proud of her induction into the Drexel University College of Engineering's Circle of Distinction. It is the highest honor the college bestows upon alumni who have made significant contributions to the field of engineering and who have shown exemplary support for the College of Engineering and the University. In addition to the advancements that Robin has made in her career, she has been actively involved in numerous community service projects. Robin enjoys giving back to her community. To this end, she has created a presentation highlighting the accomplishments of minorities in engineering, ideal for students at any level. Robin also has an interest in making a global impact and was afforded the opportunity to travel to S. Africa where she conducted a Vision Board Workshop for women in Durban and a Business Seminar for the Carletonville Miracle Center. Robin recently launched an initiative called "DemoChicks" introducing young girls to the fields of engineering and construction and empowering and uplifting those who are currently in the fields. Under Robin's leadership, DemoChicks provides hands on workshops to k-12 students, scholarships and mentoring to high school students.

Robin is the proud parent of her son, who currently resides in Philadelphia. She has established a scholarship in his name at her alma mater, Community College of Philadelphia for a graduating student majoring in technology and transferring to a four-year university.

Robin feels truly blessed that she has been able to accomplish so many things in her life and plans to continue looking for opportunities to grow, improve and serve others in her community.



Shel-lee Davis
Sergeant-at-Arms



Shelley Hanks
Sergeant-at-Arms



Debbie Thorpe
Sergeant-at-Arms



Denise Dahlhausen
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 International Foundation Chair

The Long Beach Rotary Charitable Foundation

By **Alfredo Velasco**, LBRCF Chair



Each year the Long Beach Rotary Charitable Foundation, through the noble altruism of Rotarians past and present, has the unique and humble responsibility of stewarding Foundation coffers and directing contributions towards local and global humanitarian efforts. The Foundation's assets, totaling \$1.6M, consist of earmarked "Camp Enterprise" contributions from the Henry Meyer and Steuber Family Funds, unrestricted contributions producing annual yields, and collected fines (birthdays and finable offenses). A portion of these funds are



selected fines (fines and fines fines). A portion of these fines are contributed to the Long Beach Community annually through grants for Rotary projects or a community grants process.

In the 2023-24 fiscal year, the Rotary Charitable Foundation prioritized support for Rotary Club projects, contributing \$76,200 for Bikes for Kids, Feeding the Future, Literacy, Mozambique, Navajo, and Youth Services. And of course, the designated "Camp Enterprise" funds ensured a fully subsidized program.

This was a larger contributed amount than in most years, made possible by unsolicited individual contributions and NOT due to the lack of "fining" prowess of 'yours truly' #106. Current Madame President #107 has been fining like a parking attendant at a sold-out, overflowing Taylor Swift concert. Cough, sneeze, look at your phone "she will slap you with a fine, faster than an attorney can bill.

The fines collected will benefit #107 directly since the Immediate Past President chairs the Foundation. She will continue the tradition of choreographing a delicate dance to manage foundation assets, expend gifts, and ensure sustainability while responding to evolving priorities. By leveraging the Rotary member's passion, energy, and contributed gifts the Rotary will continue to support transformational grants.

So, the next time you feel a bit stung and dazed because a President promptly rewards you with a donation opportunity (*or a fine*), take solace in knowing that.

Career Day With A Rotarian



Special thanks to **Scott Apel - Bob Bond - Dana Buchanan - Suny Lay Chang - Craig Cross - Vali DeVries - Lori Dwight - Marcelle Epley - Yvonne Gutierrez - Doug Haubert - Dr. Lisa Hopkins - Lance Kenyon - Greg Owen - Kelly Ruggirello - Brian Russell - Mark Schneider - Sumer Temple - Ali Vaghefi - Alfredo Velasco - Jeff Wimbish** - who will be 'making a difference' in the lives of our Long Beach Rotary Scholarship Recipients in March and April.

It's not too late to join us - Rotarians providing an opportunity to share their business expertise and environment with students who not only have earned their Rotary Scholarship and are eager to learn more about Rotarians, but value an opportunity to share a variety of experiences and hear your stories about why you do what you do and how you do it!

If you can provide some **date/time options** to spend a **1/2 day** with one of our amazing students **between March 25 and April 12**, Letty Totah, Executive Director of our LB Rotary Scholarship Foundation, will match you with a student!

We hope you will join us this year. Please download this form [Career Day With A Rotarian](#), fill out and email to Letty - scholarships@lbrsf.org or email Letty to send you a form.

We have varied interests, careers, business experiences - all of which is a wealth of information for our next generation of potential Rotarians... hope to hear from you!

Calendar Events

February 20th, 4:00-5:15 PM
[RCLB Board of Directors Meeting](#)

February 21st, 12:00-1:30 PM
[Long Beach Weekly Club Meeting](#)
Speaker: Robin Thorne
Subject: "Demo Chicks" Women in Engineering

February 22nd, 2:00-3:00 PM
[RoToastados - A Rotary Toastmaster Alliance Club](#)

February 28th, 12:00-1:30 PM
[Long Beach Weekly Club Meeting](#)
Speaker: Dr. Chip West - LBCC
Subject: LBCC Aquatic Center
Space is limited

March 9th, 8:00-9:00 AM
[Centennial Park Clean-up](#)

March 12th, 5:00-7:00 PM
[5 O'Clock Somewhere](#)




March 14th, 2:00-3:00 PM
[RoToastados - A Rotary Toastmaster Alliance Club](#)

March 19th, 4:00-5:15 PM
[RCLB Board of Directors Meeting](#)

March 22nd, 6:00-9:00 PM
[LBR Scholarship Foundation "Night with the Dirtbags"](#)
Long Beach Rotary Scholarship Foundation
"Night with the Dirtbags"
Details to follow

March 23rd, 10:00-12:00 PM
[Rotary Park Easter Egg Hunt/Book Fair](#)
Mark Bixby Easter Egg Hunt and Paul Kennard Book Fair

March 28th, 2:00-3:00 PM
[RoToastados - A Rotary Toastmaster Alliance Club](#)

 CREATE HOPE in the WORLD	Rotary Club of Long Beach meets every Wednesday @ 12 Noon THE GRAND 4101 E. Willow Street Long Beach, CA 90815 <i>LB Skyline Photo Credit</i> <i>Long Beach Convention & Visitors Bureau</i> February 21, 2024 - Vol. 107, Issue 28	Club Office 400 Oceangate, Suite 470 Long Beach, CA 90802 562-436-8181 Rotary@RotaryLongBeach.org Visit Long Beach Rotary District 5320 Rotary International	Visit our Social Media Pages  
--	--	--	--