



## ROTARY MEANS FELLOWSHIP – ARTS - BUSINESS - SERVICE FABS

### This Week's Program

**Wednesday, February 7**

**NO LUNCH MEETING**

**Evening Dinner Focus (EDF)  
Meet in Rotarian Homes  
RCLB Strategic Planning For Our Future**

**Discussions will be led by Strategic Planning Committee**

**5:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. DINNER/PROGRAM**



**Reservations are closed** - if you signed up, you have received your location via email. If you signed up and have NOT yet received your location for Wednesday evening, please call the Rotary Office (562) 436-8181 today!

EDF has been a signature Rotary event for many years - an evening Rotarians always enjoy. It promises to be a rewarding evening for all.

### An Invitation For All of Us

By Michele A. Dobson, RCLB President

I am sharing an opportunity and invitation to all of us from **District Governor Roy Jefferson**. The registration closes this afternoon.

Good evening from District 5320. The final **District Presidentsâ€™ Dinner** of the year will be held at the **Renaissance Hotel in Long Beach** on the evening of **February 13th**.

This District meeting is mandatory for the Club Presidents and Presidents-elect; however, the meeting is open to any Rotarian to attend. This meeting will be a preview of our May 10th - 12th District Conference which will be held in Long Beach. You'll have an opportunity to view the hotel, the hospitality suites, and guest rooms and hear about what's in store for you at the conference.

Members can go to the District calendar on DACdb to register. **Registration** for the final Presidentsâ€™ Dinner **will close today, Monday Feb 5th at noon**. Hope to see you there.

Rotary Club of Long Beach  
President No. 107  
2023-2024

### BIRTHDAYS



**John Mathews**  
February 9th



**Vali J. De Vries**  
February 10th



**Donna M. Reckseen**  
February 11th



**Brett Lewis**  
February 12th

### YEARS of SERVICE



**Mark Schneider**  
01-01-1987  
38 Years



**Stephanie James**  
01-02-1988  
37 Years



**William V. Ridgeway Jr.**  
01-22-1992  
33 Years



**Katherine (Kay) Cofield**  
01-27-1997  
28 Years



**Mollie Beck**  
01-09-2002  
23 Years



**Gregory J. Burnight**  
01-07-2004  
21 Years



**Steve M. Hockett**  
01-07-2009  
16 Years



**Andy C. McFarland**  
01-25-2012  
13 Years



**Mu Zhang**  
01-21-2015  
10 Years



**Jane Close Conoley**  
01-20-2016

### Welcome New Rotarian

By Brian Camp Russell





Please welcome our newest member **Cheryl Vargas**. She actively attends our Club's weekly luncheons and recent 5 O'Clock Somewhere at Vali's beautiful home.

For those who haven't met Cheryl yet, professionally, she is the Executive Director for the Ronald McDonald House in Long Beach. She will celebrate her first year anniversary at the House this May. She is a former Rotarian in the Cupertino Club. Consider signing up for our Club serving dinner at the House in the weeks and months ahead. Cheryl's husband, Mario Vargas, is a fellow Rotarian and President-elect of the Lakewood Club no less. They are a dynamic duo.

Cheryl is a warm, smart, funny, and empathetic woman who will be an active and participating Rotarian. Please help me, along with co-sponsor Alfredo Velasco, welcome Cheryl Vargas to our Club!

## Honoring Paul Harris Fellows

**Congratulations and Thank You to our New Paul Harris Fellows!**

Click on [Paul Harris Fellows](#) for more info!



**PHF** Linda Rahn  
**PHF+2** Ahmet Atahan and Lisa Hopkins  
**PHF+4** Wayne Slavitt  
**PHF+5** Greg Burnight, Henry Fung, Jane Lastusky and Phyllis Hayes-Reams  
**PHF+6** Willetta McCulloh  
**PHF+8** Judy Seal



## An Update from our President

By Michele A. Dobson, RCLB President



As our Past Presidents know, the highlight of the week is the meeting with the Club's Executive Director to plan the Rotary week. Sometimes the meeting is in person, post Covid, sometimes it is by zoom.

Last Friday, 20 minutes before our weekly meeting, Madrid had the presence of mind to send a garbled email message that she felt faint and to please call 911. Madrid's symptoms were feeling faint, then cold, then clammy. After she arrived at St. Mary Medical Center's ER by LBFD ambulance, the Cardiologist cleared a 100% blockage and placed a stent - all in only 27 minutes. By the time we arrived, they were done and rolling Madrid to a room. We immediately contacted her family and brought her home to Bella the Cat Sunday night.

There are too many Rotarians to thank for the lifesaving care and treatment Madrid received. She is now home resting with Bella the Cat and our Rotarian caregivers are checking in on Madrid daily.

As you may know, Rotary has a currency called "coins of kindness" and coins were given, and mailed, to the following Rotarians: Olivia Maiser, Past President Mollie Beck, Past President Gail Schwandner, Past President Kay Cofield, Past President Matt Kinley, Cathy Wieder, Michael Neils and Carolyn Caldwell. The Club cannot adequately express its appreciation to each of you for taking care of our beloved Madrid. We have also sent word to Long Beach Fire Department Paramedics expressing the Club's gratitude.

A special thanks to Club Treasurer John Romundstad and Jennifer Sarantos for the seamless transition in taking over the Rotary Office.

Further, Vice President Marcelle Epley was kind enough to provide us with a heart health signs and symptoms flyer that we sent out by email and it is featured here in the RotaryGram.

As always, take a moment to hug one another and be thankful for every blessing including the incredible generous souls of this Club.

Remember, we have back to back night meetings with the February 7th evening panel at Rotarian homes and the February 14th evening fellowship meeting featuring our Not So Newlywed Game.

About the meeting Valentine's Night, like the holiday party, it is a night to socialize and get to know each

01-20-2020  
9 Years

[Ramer Spurr](#)  
01-10-2018  
7 Years

[Juan Huizar](#)  
01-24-2018  
7 Years

[Blake E. Christian](#)  
01-02-2019  
6 Years +++

[John Mathews](#)  
01-22-2020  
5 Years

[Veronica Garcia Davalos](#)  
01-22-2020  
5 Years

[Shelley Hanks](#)  
01-26-2022  
3 Years

[Linda Rahn](#)  
01-26-2022  
3 Years

[Jon Klein](#)  
01-11-2023  
2 Years

[Paul Kaminski](#)  
01-25-2023  
2 Years

[Robert Gunsalus](#)  
01-25-2023  
2 Years

[Kimberly Ann Hall](#)  
01-17-2024  
**New Member!**

[Michael J. Wilson](#)  
01-17-2024  
**New Member!**

[Cheryl L. Vargas](#)  
01-31-2024  
**New Member!**

## CALENDAR

[Click Event for More Info](#)

February 7th  
**[Long Beach Weekly Club Meeting](#)**  
**- Evening Dinner Focus**  
 Evening Dinner Focus  
 Dinner meeting at individual Rotarian homes

February 8th  
**[RoToastados - A Rotary Toastmaster Alliance Club](#)**

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

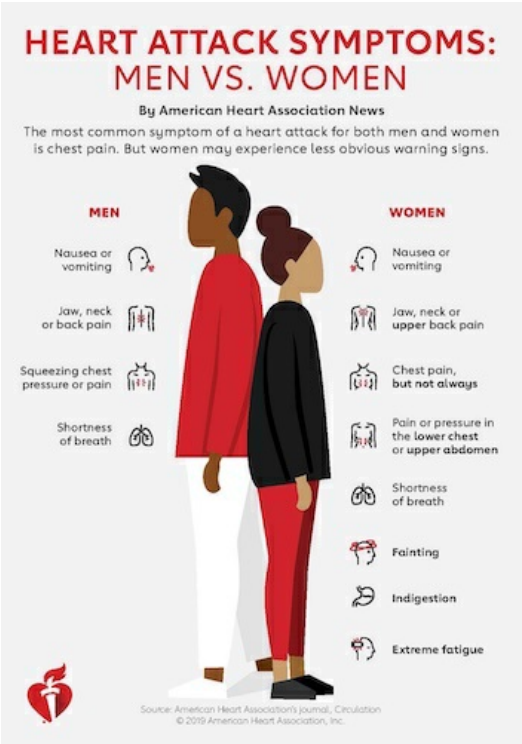
February 11th  
**[Super Bowl Party](#)**  
 Join fellow LB Rotarians to enjoy Super Bowl Sunday  
 \$40 for the Super Bowl Party at Belmont Brewing Co.

February 14th  
**[Long Beach Weekly Club Meeting](#)**  
**- Sweetheart Dance**  
 Evening Sweetheart Dance  
 Includes the Not-So-Newlywed Game

other but what’s more exciting is that we will get to meet your spouses, partners, significant others, children or you can come solo; just be prepared to mix and mingle. More than anything, it is a time for us to connect as a Club. Please RSVP to Jennifer at the Rotary Office.

Past President Greg Burnight is our MC and our \$60 prefixed meal is way cheaper than if you go out to a restaurant Valentine’s Night. The Vice Presidents are working hard to make it a special night for the Club so please plan to attend. I promise to keep the program short and absolutely no fines that evening. Finally, it will give each of you a chance to buy me a drink when my San Francisco 49ers win the Super Bowl. Go 49er Faithful.

All is well, all is well, all is well. #107



**Thank You!**

By Madrid Zimmerman, RCLB Executive Director



"I am so deeply moved by the cards and text messages you've sent me. Your best wishes are exactly what I need for a speedy recovery. Working with Type A, AA, and AAA personalities keeps my battery charged. I am so grateful you are truly my Rotary FAMILY."



**RCLB Super Bowl Party!**

By Lisa Finn, Fellowship Service Director

Join your fellow Rotarians for fun and fellowship at our first annual **Rotary Club of Long Beach Super Bowl Party**

Our inaugural year will kick off at **Belmont Brewing Company**

Whether you are a football fan or not, there will be chances to get some "œpigskin in the game by selecting a box on the opportunity grid.



February 20th  
**RCLB Board of Directors Meeting**

February 21st  
**Long Beach Weekly Club Meeting**  
Speaker: Robin Thorne  
Subject: "Demo Chicks" Women in Engineering

February 22nd  
**RoToastados - A Rotary Toastmaster Alliance Club**

February 28th  
**Long Beach Weekly Club Meeting**  
Speaker: Dr. Chip West - LBCC  
Subject: LBCC Aquatic Center - Space is limited



Proceeds will be split between the winners  
and the Club's unfunded Avenues of Service.



When: **February 11, 2024**

Starting time: **2:00 pm**

Cost: \$40 per person *(includes a wide variety of delicious food)*

*(Prior to February 11<sup>th</sup>, please see a Vice President to make payment for entrance to the party  
and to purchase grid box(es))*

**Full, No-Host Bar**

**Belmont Brewing Company, 25 39th Place, Long Beach**

*(Parking in the Belmont Pier Parking Lot adjacent to the Restaurant)*

Family and Friends are welcome!

## RSVP Now for February 14 Sweetheart Dinner Dance

Rotary Club of Long Beach

# Sweetheart

## DINNER DANCE

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14**  
**6:00 PM - 8:30 PM**




**THE GRAND EVENT CENTER | CATALINA ROOM**  
4101 E WILLOW ST, LONG BEACH, CA 90815

**SPECIAL NOT-SO-NEWLYWED GAME**  
FEATURING RUSS AND AVALON HILL, GAIL SCHWANDNER AND  
LIBBY TIGNER AND FRANK AND MARGIE NEWELL

EMCEE: PAST PRESIDENT GREG BURNIGHT  
6:00PM CASH BAR IN THE GARDEN ROOM WITH FELLOW ROTARIANS  
AND MARDI GRAS "2ND LINE" INTO THE CATALINA ROOM FOR THE DINNER/DANCE

**\$60**  
PER PERSON  
PREFIXED  
PLATED DINNER  
VEGETARIAN, VEGAN  
OPTIONS AVAILABLE  
UPON REQUEST TO THE  
ROTARY OFFICE

DINNER/DANCE  
INCLUDES:  
ZELLA AND THE JAM  
DADDIES PERFORMING  
DJ ROTARIAN PAUL  
KAMINSKI  
DINNER TABLE WINE  
SPONSORED BY WILLMORE

 <b>CREATE HOPE in the WORLD</b>	<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>February 7, 2024 - Vol. 107, Issue 27</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> <p> </p>
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