



**UNITE
FOR
GOOD**

This Week's Program



Club Meeting

Long Beach
Meets at The Grand
4101 E. Willow St.
Long Beach, CA 90815
Time: Wednesday at
12:00 PM

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EVENTS

January 21st
[Rotary Weekly Club Meeting](#)
Speakers: Ryan Antes and James McLanahan
Subject: Unsung Heroes: the World of Special Forces

January 22nd
[RoToastados - A Rotary Toastmaster Alliance Club](#)

January 26th
[RCLB Board of Directors Meeting for FY 2025-2026](#)

January 28th
[Rotary Weekly Club Meeting](#)
Speaker: Peter Samuelson
Subject: "Finding Happy"

January 29th
[Rotary Connections](#)
Combined with 5 O'Clock Somewhere
Bring a prospect

January 30th
[Rotary Club Monthly Golf Outing](#)
January at LB Sky Links Golf Course

February 4th
[Rotary Weekly Club Meeting](#)
Speaker: Daniel Swain
Subject: Climatology

Wednesday, January 21

Queen Mary Twilight Evening Dinner Meeting

"Unsung Heroes: the World of Special Forces"

5:00 - 6:00 PM - Bar and Buffet Open

6:00 - 7:00 PM - Meeting Program

An Interview with Ryan Antes and James McLanahan



Ryan Antes was born and raised here in Long Beach. He was part of the 1997 and 1998 California State Champion Cross Country Team and graduated from Long Beach Poly in 1999.

He enlisted in the airborne infantry and served in the 75th Ranger Regiment. He saw combat in Afghanistan and Iraq before being honorably discharged and returning home. He graduated Magna Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science in Marine Biology and Minor in Chemistry from CSULB before obtaining his Juris Doctorate from Loyola Law School. Ryan spent 15 years as a civil trial lawyer and now runs a solo practice out of his home in the Wrigley District.

Ryan served eight years on the Long Beach Veterans Commission, is the Vice Chair of the Board of Trustees for American Gold Star Manor and President of the Long Beach Area Veterans Collaborative.



James McLanahan is a seasoned leader, educator, and operations specialist with over 20 years of experience in elite military and security roles.

He has participated in over 300 direct action missions and developed systems that enhance efficiency and accountability under high-stakes conditions.

James combines tactical expertise with strategic vision, having trained foreign forces, managed multimillion-dollar logistics, and learned Mandarin Chinese for cross-cultural operations.

He uses adventure as a teaching tool to empower families, teams, and communities.

In addition to his operational career, James has performed stunts over several seasons on the hit television series SEAL Team, blending action with storytelling.

and the Palisades & Hughes Fires

February 5th
[RoToastados - A Rotary Toastmaster Alliance Club](#)

February 8th
[Super Bowl Party](#)
Hosted by Deborah Williams
Subject: \$35/person
Buffet/snacks, beer/wine

February 11th
[Rotary Weekly Club Meeting - Twilight on the Queen Mary](#)
Speaker: Space Beach Panel

February 14th
[Centennial Park Clean-up](#)

February 18th
[Rotary Weekly Club Meeting](#)
Speaker: Bonnie Nixon
Subject: Sustainability - PoLB

February 19th
[RoToastados - A Rotary Toastmaster Alliance Club](#)

February 23rd
[RCLB Board of Directors Meeting for FY 2025-2026](#)

February 25th
[Rotary Weekly Club Meeting](#)
Speaker: Guitarist Pepe Romero

February 27th
[Rotary Club Monthly Golf Outing](#)
Speaker: February - El Dorado

Birthdays



[Genevieve Brill Murphy](#)
January 18th



[Frank R. Newell](#)
January 20th

Club Leaders



[Kelly Ruggirello](#)
President



[Joseph Wayne Hower PE, DEE](#)
Assistant to the President



[Olivia Maiser](#)
Assistant to the President



[Jane Close Conoley](#)
Vice President

[John M.](#)

Long Beach Rotary Scholarship Foundation Presentation Elizabeth Lucas Scholarships to Two Students!

Reservations are Closed

RoToastados

By Natalie Hale, Fellowship Service Co-Director



Rotary



The Alliance: Rotary 5320
and Toastmasters-ROTOASTADOS

At Rotoastados Toastmasters we meet every other Thursday 4pm via Zoom and once a quarter in person. We are growing confident communicators and leaders in a supportive, fun, and encouraging space. Visit us and see how Toastmasters can elevate your leadership voice, while having fun with Rotarians!

Everyone invited to attend-
Welcome our new member
DG Craig Livingston

ZOOM MEETING
JAN 22, 4PM
Contact Natalie Hale
nhale@mediapartnersww.com
for the zoom link



Super Bowl with Rotary

By Natalie Hale and Linda Rahn, Fellowship Service Co-Directors



Rotary Club of Long Beach



BIG GAME DAY PARTY

ENJOY GREAT FOOD, WATCH THE GAME AND SPEND TIME WITH ROTARY FRIENDS!
3 COMFORTABLE VIEWING OPTIONS AND LARGE SCREEN TVS

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8TH
FESTIVITIES START AT 2:30 PM - KICK OFF AT 3:30 PM

Buffet and snacks, Beer and Wine \$35 pp
or bring a potential member - 2 for \$65

- At the home of Deborah and David Williams
12701 Silver Fox Rd., Rossmoor, CA 90720
- **RSVP to Madrid by 2/5 - family and friends welcome**



Graham III
Vice President



Douglas P. Haubert
Vice President



David A. Lott
Vice President



John E. Romundstad
Secretary Treasurer



James A. Ahumada
Sergeant-at-Arms



Mollie Beck
Sergeant-at-Arms



Raymond Cervantez
Sergeant-at-Arms



Sarah Soriano
Sergeant-at-Arms



Whitney Leathers
CCO-Club Comm. Offcr



Henry C. Fung
Career Service Director



Jeff Kellogg
Club Service Director



Tina Barry
Community Service Co-Director

Appeal to Readers

By Sarah Soriano, Sergeant at Arms

Volunteers Needed: Share the Joy of Reading!

For over 15 years, the Rotary Club of Long Beach Literacy Committee has proudly partnered with the Long Beach Early Childhood Education Committee to bring the gift of books to young learners. This year, we continue that tradition at the Early Learning and Kindergarten Festivals on:

- **Saturday, January 24, 2026**, Burcham Elementary
Time: **9:00 AM – 12:00 PM (Volunteers needed at 8:30 AM Set-up)**
- **Saturday, March 7, 2026**, Dooley Elementary
Time: **9:00 AM – 12:00 PM (Volunteers needed at 8:30 AM Set-up)**
- **Saturday, April 25, 2026** This festival will be combined with the Celebration of the Young Child at Billie Jean King Library & Lincoln Park
Time: **10:00 AM - 2:00 PM**

We need volunteers to help hand out books to children—a simple act that creates a lasting impact. Each child will have the joy of selecting a book of their very own, sparking curiosity and inspiring a lifelong love of reading.

You can volunteer for:

- One hour
- Two hours
- Or the full event



Shelley Hanks
Community Service
Co-Director



Natalie Hale
Fellowship Service
Co-Director



Linda Josephine Rahn
Fellowship Service
Co-Director



Theresa Cornwell
International Service
Director



Tanya Adolph
Membership Service
Co-Director



Leslie Wiberg
Membership Service
Co-Director



Jon L. Mesko
Youth Service
Director



Judy Ross
Strategic Planning



Steve M. Hockett
iPast
President



Wayne C. Slavitt
President-elect



Freda Hinsche
Otto
President-Nominee



Madrid Zimmerman
Club Director
Club Executive Secretary

Years of Service



Mark A. Kachigan
12-11-2002
24 Years



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

Your time and smile will make a difference!

Sign up today and help us share the magic of books with the next generation.

Contact **Sarah Soriano**, ssoriano@younghorizons.org.



Golf in the New Year!

By **Michael J. Wilson** and **Don Serafano**

Hello Rotarians, Happy New Year!

Our next golf outing is scheduled for **FRIDAY, JANUARY 30**, at **Sky Links Golf Course in Long Beach**, with the **first tee time at 11:30 am**.

Golfers of all skill levels are welcome, and as always, friends and family are invited to join us.

If you would like to play, please let **Don Serafano** (dserafano@gmail.com) and me (wilsomik@gmail.com) know as soon as possible.

Additionally, please mark your calendars on **Friday, 2/27**, for our **February golf outing at El Dorado**. More details to follow.

We look forward to seeing you on the links!

Kind regards,
Mike Wilson
Don Serafano

"I know I am getting better at golf because I am hitting fewer spectators."
President Gerald R. Ford



Evening Dinner Focus

By **John E. Romundstad**, Chair, Evening Dinner Focus Committee

Our annual Evening Dinner Focus (EDF) took place on Wednesday, January 7, 2026.

Once each year, *in lieu* of our regular Wednesday luncheon meetings, we gather instead for dinner at members' homes to discuss a specific topic of Club interest. This year, the focus of discussion was what role our Club should play in the upcoming 2028 LA Olympics, numerous events of which will be held here in Long Beach.

Significantly, over 90 Club members attended EDF this year. Special thanks to the following Club members who graciously opened their homes to host this once-a-year occasion: **Laura Doud, Stacy Mungo Flanigan, Natalie Hale, Shelley Hanks, Steve Hockett, Mary Zerafa Loos, Greg and Val Owen, Judy Ross, Brian Russell, Karen Widerynski, Deborah Williams, and Nancy Zwiers**. Your hospitality is greatly appreciated!

Thank you.





John E. Romundstad
12-07-2005
21 Years



Sumer A. Temple
12-30-2010
16 Years



Lisa Ramelow
12-18-2013
13 Years



Freda Hinsche Otto
12-03-2014
12 Years



Rhiannon Evans Acree
12-10-2014
12 Years



Richard Gibson
12-07-2016
10 Years



Carolyn Caldwell
12-06-2017
9 Years



Susan Collida
12-13-2017
9 Years



Diane L. Donaldson
12-19-2018
8 Years



Jim Better
12-11-2019
7 Years



Lee Shoag
12-11-2019
7 Years



Michael Rivard
12-09-2020
6 Years



Raymond Cervantez
12-07-2022
4 Years



Stuart Ledsam
12-06-2023
3 Years



Jon L. Mesko
12-06-2023
3 Years



Jorge Enciso
12-03-2025
1 Year



Eduardo Paschoalin
12-03-2025
1 Year



Lonnie Henley
12-10-2025
1 Year



Kristian Gragson
12-22-2025
1 Year



Thank you, Port of Long Beach

By Madrid Zimmerman, Club Director and Executive Secretary

Awaiting 3rd TY Flyer for Feeding the Future.

Thank you Port of Long Beach Community Sponsorship Program!

The Long Beach Board of Harbor Commission provides sponsorship funds to nonprofit and governmental organizations for community projects and events. Through the Port of Long Beach Community Sponsorship Program, \$3 million dollars is available for Fiscal Year 2025.

The Long Beach Rotary Charitable Foundation has so far received four sponsorship grants from this current funding: **Bikes for Kids (\$2,000)**, **Feeding the Future (\$5,000)**, **Reading by 9 (\$5,000)**, and **RYLA Camp (\$4,000)**. We are very appreciative of the recognition and support of these Rotary Club of Long Beach service projects by the Port program.

Community Service Avenue Director Tina Barry and **Youth Service Avenue Director Jon Mesko** took the initiative to apply for these grants.

These photos represent some of the recent activities that have occurred under the Bikes for Kids assembling and safety instruction events (December 12 and 16), the Reading by 9 Holiday Book Giving to Lincoln and King Elementary Schools (December 16 and 19), and the Feeding the Future Grab'n'Go food packing (August 6 at LBCC and January 14 at CSULB).

The Port of Long Beach (PoLB) Community Sponsorship program supports events and projects centered on the environment, education, social justice, the arts and historic preservation, as well as port-related initiatives. Organizations can apply three times a year in January, May, and September. From the January 2025 grant period alone, \$1,138,300 was awarded to 320 local nonprofit organizations.



BIKES *For Kids*



EVERY THIRD GRADER AT OROPEZA ELEMENTARY RECEIVED A BIKE!

This is our third year partnering with the YMCA of Long Beach to create this wonderful project. The event brought together Long Beach Rotarians, Interact and Rotaract members as well as YMCA volunteers for bike assembly and fitting. An unexpected benefit was that these youth volunteers had the opportunity to work alongside experienced Rotarians, demonstrating the multi-generational strength of our service community.

We know these bikes help kids stay active and get to know their neighborhoods better, perhaps even exploring areas that are new to them. A lasting partnership is emerging that will help Long Beach families year after year. We don't know where these bikes will take these students, but we've given them the freedom to find out after this week's event.

Thank you to all volunteers who participated and worked so hard. Your commitment to our community's youth made this possible. We look forward to building on this success next year!

Rotary
Club of Long Beach

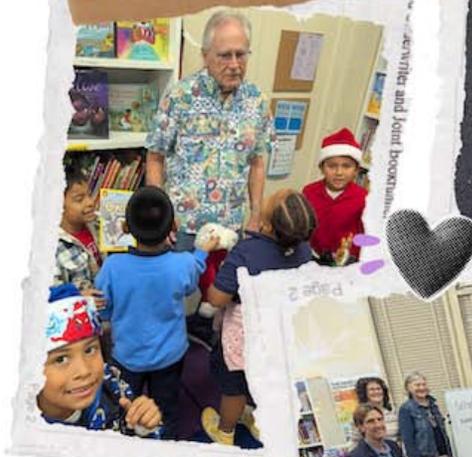


Port of
LONG BEACH
THE PORT OF CHOICE

INSERT Feeding the Future Flyer

★ READING BY NINE

LINCOLN ELEMENTARY



STARR KING ELEMENTARY



Rotary
Club of Long Beach



Port of LONG BEACH
THE PORT OF CHOICE

Rotary Club of Long Beach
meets every Wednesday @ 12 Noon

THE GRAND
4101 E. Willow Street
Long Beach, CA 90815

*LB Skyline Photo Credit
Long Beach Convention & Visitors Bureau*

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[District 5320](#)
[Rotary International](#)

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Social Media Pages**

