



**UNITE  
FOR  
GOOD**



# THIS WEEK Scholarship Day at Rotary

## Wednesday, November 19

### "A Look Into the Future"

**Celebrating**  
**Rotary Scholarship Foundation Students**  
**Scholarship Donors**  
**Rotarian Scholarship Volunteers**

**The Grand**  
**4101 E. Willow Street, Long Beach**  
**The Grand Ballroom**

### Lunch - 12:00 Noon

**Early Program Start - 12:20pm**  
**"In-person Voting for Club Bylaws**  
**2025 Revision"**

**RSVP - Reservations Close TODAY, November 14**

### CLUB MEETING

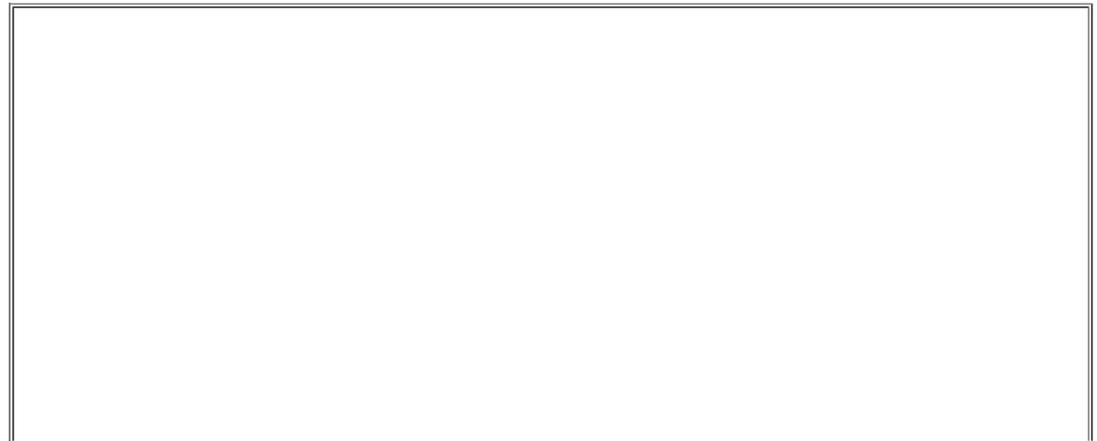
Long Beach  
Meets at The Grand  
4101 E. Willow St.  
Long Beach, CA 90815  
Time: Wednesday at 12:00 PM

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### EVENTS

- November 18th  
**[Holiday Wine Tasting at the Wine Country](#)**  
Hosted by Randy Kemner  
Special 5 O'Clock Somewhere - Holiday Wine Tasting
- November 19th  
**[Rotary Weekly Club Meeting](#)**  
Annual LB Rotary Scholarship Foundation Program
- November 20th  
**[Business Breakfast Roundtable](#)**  
**Speakers:**  
Mollie Beck and Dennis Smith  
**Subject:** "Doing Business in Rotary"
- November 20th  
**[RoToastados - A Rotary Toastmaster Alliance Club](#)**
- December 3rd  
**[Rotary Weekly Club Meeting - Sunrise Breakfast at the Grand](#)**  
**Speaker:** Dan Butterly  
**Subject:** Big West Collegiate Athletes
- December 4th  
**[RoToastados - A Rotary Toastmaster Alliance Club Hybrid @](#)**
- December 4th  
**[RoToastado - A Rotary](#)**





**Toastmasters Alliance Club - Special**  
 In-person meeting and Open House  
**Subject:** Hybrid at the YMCA Corporate Offices

December 10th  
**Rotary Weekly Club Meeting**  
**Speaker:** President #110 Wayne Slavitt  
 Board Reveal  
**Subject:** Announce New Board AND  
 President #112 Announcement

December 12th  
**Bikes for Kids - Assembling**  
 Assembling the Bikes

December 13th  
**Centennial Park Clean-up**

December 15th  
**RCLB Board of Directors Meeting for  
 FY 2025-2026**

December 16th  
**Bikes for Kids - Give-away and  
 Safety Check**  
 Give-away and Safety Check

December 18th  
**RoToasted - A Rotary  
 Toastmaster Alliance Club**

December 24th  
**Rotary Weekly Club Meeting - DARK  
 this week**  
**DARK for Christmas Holiday**

**BIRTHDAYS**



**Roger Civaleri**  
 November 15th



**Cheri L. Bazley**  
 November 15th



**William V. Ridgeway Jr.**  
 November 16th



**Monique McCrimmon**  
 November 18th



**Anna M. King**  
 November 20th

**CLUB LEADERS**



**Kelly Ruggirello**  
 President

**Welcome New Rotarian, Kris Gragson**

By Deborah Williams, Sponsor



Our Rotary family is thrilled to welcome back one of our own —**Kris Gragson**, who is rejoining our Club after some time away! Kris owns 6K Media, a digital marketing firm which helps local businesses grow through smart web design, SEO and event promotion. He has been married to Maria for 17 years and they have one daughter, Violet.

Kris has long exemplified Rotary's spirit of "Service Above Self," contributing his time, energy, and expertise to projects that make a real difference. A long time member of the Long Beach Chamber, he is currently the President of the Small Business Council, championing local entrepreneurship and connection. He is on the Board of Directors for the Long Beach Community College Foundation and serves on the Long Beach Gives Steering Committee. Kris's passion for bringing people together shines through signature events such as Moonlight Movies on the Beach and Long Beach Zombie Walk.

Now returning with fresh perspective and renewed enthusiasm, Kris is excited to reconnect with fellow members and help drive new community efforts forward. Please join us in giving Kris a warm Rotary welcome home — we can't wait to see the great things he helps us accomplish!

**Holiday Wine Tasting at Randy's**

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

5 O'CLOCK SOMEWHERE

Rotary  Club of Long Beach

# HOLIDAY WINE TASTING

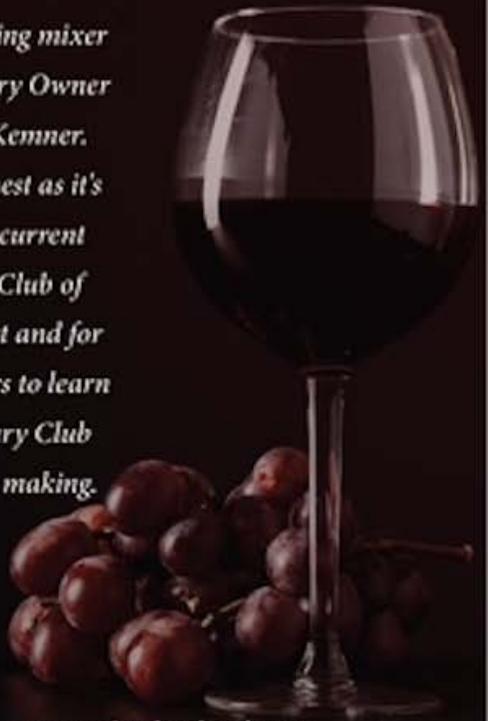
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18  
5PM-7PM

THE WINE COUNTRY  
2301 Redondo Ave., Signal Hill, CA

*Join us for a wine tasting mixer hosted by Wine Country Owner & Rotarian Randy Kemner. Feel free to bring a guest as it's a perfect chance for current members of Rotary Club of Long Beach to connect and for potential new members to learn more about our Rotary Club and the impact we're making.*

*Appetizers will be provided.  
Please RSVP via Evite*

[www.rotarylongbeach.org](http://www.rotarylongbeach.org)



rev. 10.11.25



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



[Olivia Maiser](#)  
Assistant to the President



[Jane Close Conoley](#)  
Vice President



[John M. 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

## Doing Business in Rotary (BBR)

By Mary Zerafa Loos, Publisher: Neighborhood Magazines

Please RSVP via the Evite invitation. For more information, please contact [Ali Vaghefi](mailto:Ali Vaghefi) (310.683.8002 or [behdod@gmail.com](mailto:behdod@gmail.com))



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CATALYST CHAMBER ENSEMBLE | LONG BEACH CAMERATA SINGERS

Rotary Club of Long Beach

GRAMMY AWARD WINNING  
DR. JAMES K. BASS, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

# CANDLELIGHT CHRISTMAS

**DECEMBER 2 | 7:30PM**  
**ST. CORNELIUS CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
**5500 E WARDLOW RD, LONG BEACH, CA 90808**

*Step into the glow of the season with an intimate, all-candlelight concert featuring timeless carols and fresh new choral works. Surrounded by warmth and song, Catalyst Singers invite you to pause, reflect, and celebrate. the quiet beauty of Christmas.*

**TICKETS \$60 / \$46**

**25% DISCOUNT WITH COUPON CODE **ROTARY25****  
**25% DONATION TO THE ROTARY FOUNDATION**

**WWW.LONGBEACHCAMERATASINGERS.ORG | BOX OFFICE (562) 900-2863**

## Rotary @ The Belmont Shore Christmas Parade

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

Rotary



Club of  
Long Beach

# **Belmont Shore CHRISTMAS PARADE "JINGLE AND JAMMIES" PARTY**



**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6**

**4 PM HOLIDAY PARTY  
6 PM PARADE MARCH**



Pre-parade Holiday Party hosted  
at the home of Mollie & Larry Beck  
4427 E. 1ST STREET, LONG BEACH, CA 90803

**PLEASE BRING A FESTIVE DISH TO SHARE OR  
APPETIZERS, DESSERTS AND BYOB.**

## **PARADE DETAILS**

- We'll head to the starting point at 5:30 PM for the parade kickoff at 6 PM.
- Join the Rotary Club of Long Beach, as Rotary Prez Kelly Ruggirello leads our group and "Hammered Nails" (Lance Kenyon's band) rocks the night!
- Bring the family, dress warmly, wear your festive pajamas, and share the holiday spirit! For additional info, contact Linda or Natalie.



**HELP BELMONT SHORE 2<sup>ND</sup> STREET BUSINESS  
ASSOCIATION SET A WORLD RECORD FOR MOST  
PEOPLE IN PAJAMAS AT A HOLIDAY PARADE!**

**Don't Miss Rotary's Most Fun & Festive Night of the Year!**

**Belmont Shore Christmas Parade — Jingle & Jammies Party!**

**Saturday, December 6 • 2nd Street, Belmont Shore**

Break out your most festive pajamas and help the Belmont Shore 2nd Street Business Association set a **WORLD RECORD** for the most people in pajamas at an event!

**Rotarians in PJs get a special LB Rotary gift**—and yes, friends, family, kiddos, and well-behaved furry friends are all welcome!

**4p.m Pre-Parade Rotary Meet-Up at The Beck's house- 4427 E.1<sup>st</sup> Street, LB 90803**  
It's tradition! The Becks are opening their home again (even with a family wedding in November —thank you, Becks!).

- Rotary is providing **easy-to-eat sandwiches**, in lieu of chili. The Becks will have their hot apple cider for everyone.
- Please **bring** an appetizer, dessert, or your favorite beverage to share.

**Parade Lineup — 6:00 p.m. (head to line up 5:45p)**

March with us—or hop on the **back of the truck** if you prefer to ride.

We'll be led by **President Kelly**, with **Joe Hower** driving, **Lance Kenyon & “The Hammered Nails”** rocking holiday favorites, and our beloved **Tapia Grinch & family** spreading cheer (and a tiny bit of mischief)!

- **Parking:** Plan extra time. Consider rideshare or parking a few blocks off 2nd Street or near Mollie's house.

**Let's make Long Beach Rotary proud—and PAJAMA-LOUD!**

**Questions?** Contact **Natalie Hale** or **Linda Rahn**.

RSVP for party at Beck's via Evite please.

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**What to Wear / Bring for Parade -**

- **Pajamas** (festive, cozy, silly—go big!).
  - **Closed-toe shoes** for walking.
  - **Layers**—nights on 2nd Street can get chilly.
  - **Lights/glow sticks** or a small bell if you have one.
  - A **portable phone charger** (photos, selfies, and world-record proof!).
- 

## **Bikes for Kids**

By Tina Barry, Community Service Co-Director



### 3rd Annual "Bikes 4 Kids" Project



Heh, Rotary Club of Long Beach! We are preparing for our 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual "Bikes 4 Kids" project this December. Are you excited to be a part of our event this year?

As in past years, this project provides bikes for 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students in an underserved school within LBUSD.

We have three objectives for this wonderful event:

1. Reach underserved youth in our community
2. Increase bike awareness and a healthy lifestyle option
3. Introduce a service mindset to young people

Here are the details for our event:

- The school this year is Oropeza Elementary School
- Dates for the 3 events are:
  - *Build the Bikes*: Friday Dec 12 from 6-8:30 pm
  - *Student Assembly to announce the winners*: Monday, Dec 15 at 8:00 am
  - *Bike Fitting*: Tuesday, Dec 16 from 2:30-5 pm

Of course, volunteers are needed for the *Bike Build* and the *Bike Fitting* events! Please contact Nicki Mollet (@605/659-4885) to sign up or ask any questions.

***This is a hands-on opportunity to directly impact children in our community. You'll see their faces light up and know you've made the holidays special for them.***



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## Do You Know a Student We Can Send to Camp Enterprise or RYLA?

By Jon Mesko, Youth Service Director

**Camp Enterprise**

Dream about owning your own business one day?

If you are in 10<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grade, apply today to be a part of this spectacular opportunity!

**Rotary Club of Long Beach**

**April 9-11, 2026**  
**at Camp Oakes**

**Step 1: Scan The QR Code**

Scan this QR code to access the camper applications.

**Step 2: Fill Out The Application**

Once you scan the QR Code, the application will pop up. Please fill out the application with your guardian/parent and submit it. Your application will be sent to Rotary Club of Long Beach for review.

**Step 3: Watch your email!**

Keep an eye on your email! Selected participants will be sent an offer letter via email, usually late Fall/early Spring semester. You can also stay updated through our social media.

Instagram: [leadernu\\_](#) | Email: [admin@leadernu.com](mailto:admin@leadernu.com) | Facebook: [leadernullc](#)

**Camp Enterprise** is Rotary of Long Beach's signature camp where students develop valuable entrepreneurial skills, leadership, and resilience. A little bit of Shark Tank in the mountains! It will be held at Camp Oakes near Big Bear on April 9-11, 2026.

If you are interested in volunteering for Camp Enterprise, please complete the [adult volunteer application](#)

We would love everyone's help recruiting students - **64 minimum for Camp Enterprise** with a stretch goal of 110.

**WHY RYLA?**  
LEARN, DEVELOP, EXPERIENCE

- Develop Relevant Leadership Skills – that translate to the Real World
- Develop confidence in yourself and the ability of others
- Explore Team building and problem solving skills
- Grow your curiosity through innovative and interactive process
- Transform your life through action
- Have fun and form lasting friendships



**ROTARY**

Rotary is a global network committed to service and leadership, enriched by diverse perspectives.

RYLA, led by Rotary District 5320, offers 10th and 11th graders a six-day leadership camp. Split between virtual and in-person sessions in Idyllwild, CA, the camp hones teamwork and leadership through engaging activities.

Local Rotary clubs collaborate with schools and youth programs to identify RYLA participants. The camp is fully funded by Rotary, so it's free for students.

Learn more at [RYLA5320.org](http://RYLA5320.org) or [Rotary5320.org](http://Rotary5320.org). Don't miss this chance to make a real impact.



Train to become a dynamic leader and change yourself and the world

**RYLA** focuses on leadership and includes ethics, self-confidence, problem-solving, and conflict-management. It will be held at Camp Idyllwild near Palm Springs on April 17-19, 2026. Newcomers in the 10-11th grade are welcome. Here's a quick video on RYLA ([here](#)).

We also have our biggest **RYLA goal ever – 30 students.**

Both student registration links are included above for easy forwarding.

Thank you...

**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**

November 19, 2025 - Vol. 109, Issue 21

**Club Office**  
Rotary Club of Long Beach  
The Queen Mary  
1126 Queens Hwy.  
Sylvania Room  
Long Beach, CA 90802  
562-499-1752  
[Rotary@RotaryLongBeach.org](mailto:Rotary@RotaryLongBeach.org)

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