



**UNITE
FOR
GOOD**

Rotary

This Week's Program

Club Meeting

Long Beach
Meets at The Grand
4101 E. Willow St.
Long Beach, CA 90815
Time: Wednesday at
7:00 AM

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EVENTS

December 3rd
**[Rotary Weekly Club
Meeting - Sunrise
Breakfast at the
Grand](#)**
Speaker: Dan Butterly,
The Big West
Conference
Subject: "College
Athletics in the Age of
NIL"

December 4th
**[RoToastados - A
Rotary Toastmaster
Alliance Club Hybrid
@](#)**

December 4th
**[RoToastado - A
Rotary Toastmasters
Alliance Club -
Special](#)**
In-person meeting and
Open House
Hybrid at the YMCA
Corporate Offices

Wednesday, December 3

**"College Athletics in an Era of
Name, Image and Likeness (NIL)"**

**Speaker - Dan Butterly
Big West Conference Commissioner**

**The Grand
7:00am - Buffet Breakfast
7:30am - Program**

**Reservations Close Today
Monday, December 1st @ 10am**



Since 2020, **Dan Butterly** has served as commissioner of the Big West Conference, a National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division I Conference consisting of 11 institutions based in California and Hawaii. Rotarian Jane Close Conoley served as Chair of the Search Committee that hired Butterly to be the Fifth Commissioner of the Big West in its 56-year history. In her welcome announcement, Jane said the new commissioner was "...visionary, highly respected and experienced, and his strong commitment to academic and athletic success makes him a great match with our Conference's values."

Butterly currently serves on key national committees, including the NCAA Council subcommittee focused on Name, Image, and Likeness (NIL), and he is Vice-Chair of the NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Oversight Committee.

Prior to his time at the Big West Conference, he was Senior Associate Commissioner at the Mountain West Conference, where he worked for 21 years.

Commissioner Butterly's tenure began during the Covid-19 crisis, necessitating a remote operation that has since become successful as the first fully remote Division 1 Conference office in the country. He resides and is headquartered in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

A native of Washington, Ill., Butterly got his start in the field of athletics as the Head Basketball Manager at Illinois State University. He received his Bachelor's degree from Illinois State University and his Master's degree in Sports Administration at Ohio University.

Candlelight Christmas for Rotary!

By Jan Bess Hower, President: Board of Directors, Long Beach Camerata Singers

December 10th
Rotary Weekly Club Meeting

Speaker: President
#110 Wayne Slavitt
Board Reveal
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
RoToastados - A Rotary Toastmaster Alliance Club

December 24th
Rotary Weekly Club Meeting - DARK this week

December 31st
Rotary Weekly Club Meeting - DARK this week

Birthdays



Woody Sides
November 30th



Denae L. Oatey
December 1st



Lisa Finn
December 5th

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

Mark your calendars for **Tuesday, December 2**, and join us for a fundraiser with Long Beach Camerata's beautiful Catalyst Candlelight Christmas concert! Rotary members plus friends and family will receive 25% off tickets: Camerata will also donate another 25% of your ticket purchases back to our Rotary District Foundation.

What to Expect:

You will hear Catalyst's 14 professional singers perform some of your favorite Christmas music, including ***Carol of the Bells, Silent Night***, and their signature piece, ***Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas***. Enjoy the ambiance of a candlelit church and the insightful remarks of Catalyst's Grammy-winning Artistic Director, Dr. James K. Bass.

Where and When

The concert will take place on **Tuesday, December 2** at **7:30pm**. The venue is **St. Cornelius Catholic Church**, located at **5500 E. Wardlow Rd.**, Long Beach, 90808.

Tickets and Discount

Tickets are \$46 for Preferred Seating and \$60 for VIP seating. Use coupon Code **Rotary25** to receive 25% off your purchase price.

How to Purchase

Visit Camerata's website at https://lbcamerata.ludus.com/index.php?show_id=200489180 or call our box office at **562-900-2863**. Be sure to use your **Rotary25** coupon code!

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



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Vice President



Douglas P. Haubert
Vice President



David A. Lott
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John E. Romundstad
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Mollie Beck
Sergeant-at-Arms



Raymond Cervantez
Sergeant-at-Arms



Sarah Soriano
Sergeant-at-Arms



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CCO-Club Comm. Officer



Henry C. Fung
Career Service Director



Jeff Kellogg
Club Service Director



Tina Barry
Community Service Co-Director



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

Rotary at 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 2ND 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



[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

friends are all welcome!

4pm Pre-Parade Rotary Meet-Up at The Beck's house- 4427 E.1st Street

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.

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 4 Kids

By **Tina Barry**, **Community Service Co-Director**



3rd Annual "Bikes 4 Kids" Project



Hey, Rotary Club of Long Beach! We are preparing for our 3rd 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 3rd 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.



Evening Dinner Focus on 2028 Olympics

By John E. Romundstad, RCLB Secretary-Treasurer

Our annual **Evening Dinner Focus (EDF)** is scheduled for **Wednesday, January 7, 2026**.

Once each year, *in lieu* of our regular Wednesday luncheon meetings, we gather instead for dinner at several members' homes to discuss a specific topic of Club interest. Our topic this year will be how our Club can meaningfully participate in the upcoming 2028 Olympics, an event in which Long Beach is already deeply involved, as demonstrated by Mayor (and Rotarian) Rex Richardson's remarks at our Oct. 29 lunch meeting. As in the past, each year we reach out to Club members to ask that they volunteer their homes as a venue for our dinner discussion. This year, however, at the suggestion of **Freda Hinsche-Otto**, our **Rotary Olympics Committee Chair**, instead of a sit-down dinner in each host home, we will be operating under the theme **"Pizza, Projects and Possibilities—Rotary and the Olympics"**.

Each host, of which we typically need 8-10, will order pizza, salad, and a simple dessert – think: ice cream bars, and a more informal "food-on-your-lap" approach will be the order of the evening. Each guest will bring a beverage of his or her choice for the event. Hosts will be reimbursed by the Club for all food expenses

incurred.

You will be hearing a good deal more about EDF in the weeks ahead, but we want to put out the call to Club members early on to facilitate our planning.

So, if you can accommodate perhaps 8-10 people for an informal “pizza party” in your home on Jan. 7, at which we will discuss the role of our Club in the 2028 Olympics, please contact either Madrid or me as soon as possible.

Thank you.
John E. Romundstad

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

By Jon L. Mesko, Youth Service Director

Camp Enterprise

Dream about owning your own business one day?

Idea!

If you are in 10th - 12th 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	Step 2: Fill Out The Application	Step 3: Watch your email!
 Scan this QR code to access the camper applications.	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.	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.

 leadernu_  admin@leadernu.com  leadernulc

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 or Rotary5320.org. Don't miss this chance to make a real impact.

Rotary
District 5320
Rotary5320.org

RYLA
Rotary Youth Leadership Awards
Ryla5320.org



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 Night at The POPS

The **largest group photo in Rotary District 5320 history!**

The **Long Beach Symphony Pops** on **Saturday, November 15,**
was an evening of fellowship, music and service!

Tickets included a discount and a 25% donation to **The Rotary Foundation**.
In partnership with the Long Beach Symphony,
the concert also supported a holiday food drive for **Food Finders in Long Beach**.

Thank you, Rotary Club of Long Beach President Kelly, (also Long Beach Symphony President)
and Rotary District 5320 Governor, Craig Livingston!



Grant Impact at McKinley Elementary

THANK YOU TO ALL ROTARIANS for your generous donations to Reading by 9!! Since our fundraising in September our pledges have continued to grow to over \$150,000 which is an all time record. The Literacy Committee is hard at work to make the most impactful use of the funds. Attached is a letter from one of our Teacher Literacy Grant recipients last year, Minerva Juarez at McKinley Elementary School, which is an example of how your donations are utilized to positively impact young kids interest in reading.

~ **Frank Newell on behalf of the Literacy Committee**

Grant Impact at McKinley Elementary by Minerva Juarez, Teacher-Librarian

Thanks to our grant, our library has been buzzing with excitement! The new additions to our "scary stories" and graphic novel sections have sparked a noticeable increase in reading across all Grade levels, not just in Grades 1-3. Students are eagerly checking out these titles the moment they hit the shelves.

Their enthusiasm has become contagious, and even our more hesitant readers are joining in. Even though the grant is for grades 1-3, I had a 5th grade student come, a reluctant reader that did not want to check out a book. I showed her the title of one book, ***The Doll in the Hall and other scary stories***, and she checked it out and started reading it right there in the library. The following week, she asked me for another book like that, but I was all out. I told her I was going to save a copy just for her, and she thanked me.

The kids are so excited about the books that they also come in the morning to read an extra scary story book. It is a joy to see the students come in and want to read.

Thank you so much, this grant has helped us bring in books that resonate with our students' interests, and the impact on their motivation and joy for reading has been great. McKinley Elementary is grateful for this support in nurturing a community of young readers.

We appreciate the partnership and look forward to applying for another grant soon to help with our Holiday book collection next.

In the picture provided is a girl that wanted to dress up as one of the characters from a scary story I read to them called ***The Green Ribbon***. I was overjoyed to see her dressed as that because that meant that she loved the story. In the picture is also a paper with the covers of two stories that I can't ever keep on the shelf. She was also checking out a book bought by Rotary Club.



We have a special bin for the book of the story of The Green Ribbon, but it is always empty because the book is always checked-out.



Minerva Juarez
Teacher-Librarian
Long Beach Unified School District
msjuarez@lbschools.net



MCKINLEY ELEMENTARY
Monday - Friday
7:45am - 3:15pm
(562) 630-6200 ext. 2110
It's a great day to be a Cougar!



LONG BEACH SCHOOL FOR ADULTS
Mondays & Wednesdays
6:00pm - 9:00pm
(562) 595-8893
Soar like an EAGLE!

To help build strong readers, teacher-librarians choose engaging texts that develop vocabulary, background knowledge, comprehension, and cultural awareness.

New Member Proposals

The following are being proposed as members of the Rotary Club of Long Beach. They are hereby submitted to the membership for a 10-day period as required by the Bylaws. Any comments can be addressed to the President or the Executive Director of the Club during this 10-day period.

Valerie Condon - Real Estate Agent, Keller Williams Coastal Properties

Proposed Classification: Real Estate - Residential

Proposed by: Jim Better and Steve Shaw

Hank Feldman - President, Performance Plus Tires

Proposed Classification: Automotive - Tires & Wheels

Proposed by: Wayne Slavitt and Judy Ross

Mary Ellen Mitchell - Executive Director, Queen Mary Heritage Foundation

Proposed Classification: Foundations - Queen Mary Heritage Foundation

Proposed by: Freda Hinsche Otto and Kelly Ruggirello

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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Club Office

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