



## This Week's Program

**Wednesday, March 5**

**"Pier Wind: Powering Long Beach's Economy  
with Green Energy"**

**Suzanne Plezia, P.E.**

*Senior Director/Chief Harbor Engineer  
Engineering Service Bureau - Port of Long Beach*

**The Queen Mary - Grand Salon**

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



The Port of Long Beach is powering the nation's resilient energy future with the proposed development of Pier Wind, the largest facility in the U.S. designed to accommodate the assembly of floating offshore wind turbines.

Pier Wind would involve creating 400 acres of new land for a terminal capable of handling heavy lift crane operations to stage, store and construct some of the world's largest offshore wind turbines, standing as tall as the Eiffel Tower.

The Port of Long Beach is a global leader in green port initiatives and top-notch customer service, moving cargo with reliability, speed and efficiency. As the premier U.S. gateway for trans-Pacific trade, the Port handles trade valued at \$200 billion annually and supports 2.6 million jobs across the United States, including 575,000 in Southern California. In 2024, industry leaders named it "The Best West Coast Seaport in North America" for the sixth consecutive year.

**Suzanne Plezia** is the Senior Director and Chief Harbor Engineer for the Port of Long Beach, with over 28 years of experience in port development. She began her career in 1996 at the Port of Long Beach and was promoted to her current role in 2017 where she oversees the Engineering Services Bureau's six divisions - Program Management, Construction Management, Project Controls, Survey, Engineering Design, and Maintenance. These six divisions are responsible for the Port of Long Beach's infrastructure asset management and 10-year, \$2.3 billion, capital development program.

Suzanne is also leading the Port of Long Beach's \$4.7 billion Pier Wind project - a proposed 400-acre purpose-built facility for floating offshore wind turbine staging, integration, and foundation assembly. Suzanne earned her B.S. in Civil Engineering from the University of California, Irvine, and is a California licensed Professional Civil Engineer and certified Maritime Port Executive.

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## Message from President #108

By **Steve M. Hockett, RCLB President**

We continue to get great reviews for our speakers every week. Our Vice Presidents have obtained an epic lineup to add to a great show.

One of the greatest factors in our Club is also the fellowship we enjoy each week. Please make the effort to join us on the Queen every Wednesday.

We'd love to see your face!!



And last week you missed a real testimony to our Rotary spirit. Our Mozambique water guru, David Lott, showed a short video of a completed water well with Justin Arana on the phone from Italy.

The truck in use has died and we need to find \$15,000 to buy a good used one. In true Rotary form, David graciously offered half as his donation. I did my worst Frank Newell imitation and through a show of hands, we received pledges totaling \$6100.

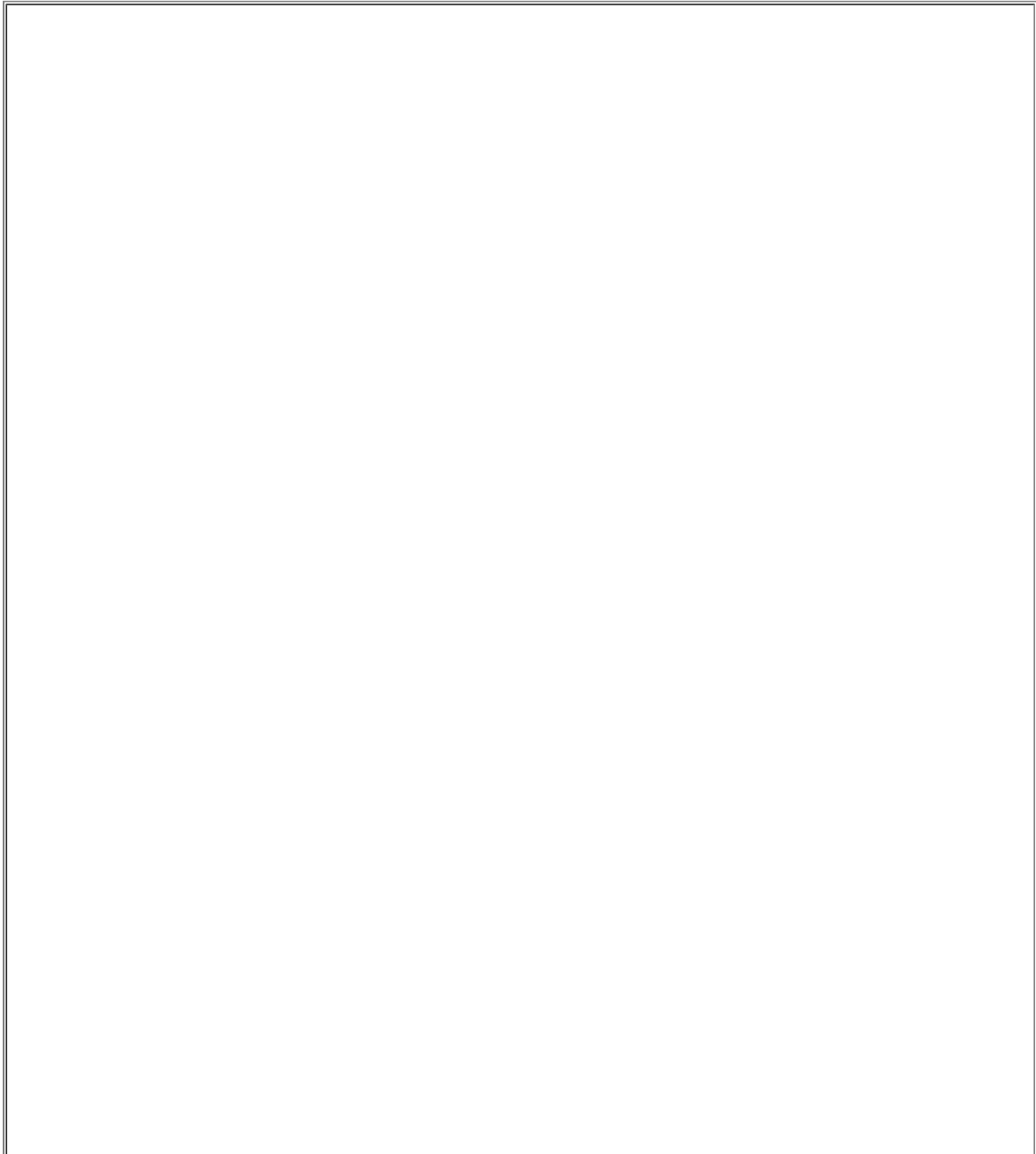
But we are not done! If you would like some tax deductible good karma, please contact the office with a pledge and join the stellar Rotarians in this support effort.

With gratitude to those who generously rose to the occasion at last week's meeting:  
*Tina Barry, George Bell, Theresa Cornwell, Lori Dwight, Lisa Finn, Rich Gibson, Natalie Hale, Freda Hinsche Otto, Joe Hower, Randy Kemner, Bob Luskin, Jesse Pazdernik, Braden Phillips, Linda Rahn, Goran Reil, Mike Rivard, Janey Roeder, John Romundstad, Brian Russell, Steve Shaw, Jean Smith, Dan Tapia, Craig Van Sickle, Leslie Wiberg, Karen Widerynski, Mu Zhang and Nancy Zwiers!*

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## Rotary Journey - Join Us!

By Tina Barry, Rotary Journey Committee Chair



**Announcing:  
Rotary Journey  
March 13, 2025**

- Are you new to Rotary and have questions?
- Do you wonder about Rotary's various service areas and projects?
- Have you been with Rotary but unsure how to participate in the club?

**Join us for Rotary Journey**

- Thursday, March 13 from 5:30-7 pm
- Location: 4625 East Anaheim, Long Beach (Lori Dwight's office )

- Topics to include:
- Leadership Structure
- Avenues of Service
- Rotary Foundations
- ...and so much more

- RSVP to Tina Barry  
[tinabarry@barryconsultinggroup.com](mailto:tinabarry@barryconsultinggroup.com)
- Max 20 participants



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## **AI Demystified - Putting AI to Work for YOU is Easier Than You Think (BBR)**

By Mary Zerafa Loos, BBR Chair

**RSVP to Evite invitation sent to your email  
NEW Location - The Waterfront at Catalina Landing, 310 Golden Shore, Suite 400**





# Business Breakfast Roundtable

## AI Demystified Putting AI to Work for You is Easier Than You Think

To prepare for an engaging session of sharing, each participant RSVPing will receive simple directions to access AI through free ChatGPT to perform a task of their choice. We will take turns sharing our experience with harnessing AI, so we can all learn about possibilities from each other.  
Every journey begins with a single step!

**Thursday, March 20, 2025**

The Waterfront at Catalina Landing  
310 Golden Shore, Suite 400  
Long Beach, CA 90802

**Cost:** \$10/person for breakfast (Cash preferred.)

**Parking:** \$1.25 every 15 minutes

To foster discussion, the maximum number of participants is 18.

RSVP: Evite invitation sent to your email

Info: Mary Zerafa Loos | maryzerafa@gmail.com

## Recent Event with Rotary International President-elect

The **Bellflower Rotary Club** is celebrating **100 years!**

Three members of our RCLB attended their celebration: **Kelly Ruggirello**, RCLB President-elect, **Michele Dobson**, Immediate Past President and **Don Cochran**, International Foundation Chair.

It was an honor to hear and meet the **Rotary International President-elect, Mario Cesar Martins de Camargo**, (*from Brazil*).







## Rotary Centennial Park Reaches 20 Year Milestone

By Katherine (Kay) Cofield, RCLB President #97

From a weed-choked former Pacific Electric Red Car right-of-way in a greenspace-deprived neighborhood, in 2004-2005 the Rotary Club of Long Beach partnered with L.B. Parks, Recreation. and Marine to develop what is now our beautiful **Rotary Centennial Park**.

Under the leadership and vision of then-president **Mark Bixby, RCLB President #87**, we responded to Rotary International's challenge to all clubs throughout the world to create a permanent physical community benefit to commemorate the 1905 founding of Rotary.

Dedicated on February 23, 2005, the park features what are now beautiful mature shade trees, two children's play areas, and a winding path through educational art installations representing the planets in our solar system (*including Pluto*) and a large, accurate stainless steel sundial - created and donated by Mark's friend, renowned sculptural artist Patrick Vogel.





## New Member Proposal

The following is being proposed as a member of the Rotary Club of Long Beach. She is 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.

### **Betty Martin - Retired, LBCC, Professor of Communications Studies**

Proposed classification: Education - LBCC - Communications (Retired)

Proposed by: Lori Dwight and Dennis Smith

## Birthdays - Click on a Name and Send a Greeting



[Douglas Stephen Coleman](#)  
March 8th



[Alfredo Velasco](#)  
March 8th



[John W. Hancock III](#)  
March 8th



[James F. Bunnell](#)  
March 8th



[Shelley Hanks](#)  
March 8th



[Jennifer Stout](#)  
March 11th

## Club Leaders - Click on a Name and Send a Message or Question



[Steve M. Hockett](#)  
President



[Katherine \(Kay\) Cofield](#)  
Assistant to the President



[Braden James Phillips](#)  
Assistant to the President



[Richard Gibson](#)  
Vice President



[Lance R. Kenyon](#)  
Vice President



[Linda Josephine Rahn](#)  
Vice President



[Michael Rivard](#)  
Vice President



[John E. Romundstad](#)  
Secretary  
Treasurer



[Roger Civalieri](#)  
Sergeant-at-Arms



[Lisa Finn](#)  
Sergeant-at-Arms



[Randall S. Kemner](#)  
Sergeant-at-Arms



[Daniel Eufrazio Tapia](#)  
Sergeant-at-Arms



[Whitney Leathers](#)  
CCO-Club Comm. Offcr



[Lisa Ramelow](#)  
CCO-Club Comm. Offcr



[Nancy Zwiers](#)  
Career Service Director



[Timothy Aldrete](#)  
Club Service Director



[Leslie Wiberg](#)  
Community Service Director



[Natalie Hale](#)  
Fellowship Service Director



[Matthew L. Kinley](#)  
International Service Director



[Sarah Soriano](#)  
Membership Service Co-Director



[Debbie Thorpe](#)  
Membership Service Co-Director



[Conor Kenneth Weir](#)  
Youth Service Director



[Michele A. Dobson](#)  
iPast President



[Kelly Ruggirello](#)  
President-elect



[Wayne C. Slavitt](#)  
President-nominee



[Madrid Zimmerman](#)  
Club Director  
Club Executive Secretary



[Donald E. Cochran](#)  
Rotary International  
Foundation Chair

## EVENTS

March 5th, 12:00-1:30 PM  
[Rotary Weekly Club Meeting](#)  
**Speaker:** Port of Long Beach - Suzanne Plesia  
**Subject:** "Pier Wind - Powering Long Beach's Economy with Green Energy"

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

March 12th, 12:00-1:30 PM  
[Rotary Weekly Club Meeting](#)  
**Speaker:** Tyler Caros  
**Subject:** Commercial Drones

March 13th, 2:00-3:00 PM  
[RoToastados - A Rotary Toastmaster Alliance Club](#)

March 13th, 5:30-7:00 PM  
[Rotary Journey](#)  
Bi-monthly 2nd Thurs/mo  
Getting to Know Rotary Better

March 18th, 4:00-5:00 PM  
[RCLB Board of Directors Meeting](#)

March 19th, 12:00-1:30 PM  
[Rotary Weekly Club Meeting](#)  
**Speaker:** Eric Lopez  
**Subject:** Public Works Projects in Long Beach

March 20th, 8:00-9:30 AM  
[Business Breakfast Roundtable](#)  
**Topic:** AI Demystified: Putting AI to Work for You is Easier Than You Think  
\$10 Continental Breakfast (cash preferred)  
+ Parking

March 26th, 12:00-1:30 PM  
[Rotary Weekly Club Meeting](#)  
**Speaker:** Austin Metoyer - DLBA

March 27th, 2:00-3:00 PM  
[RoToastados - A Rotary Toastmaster Alliance Club](#)

March 27th, 5:00-7:00 PM  
[Rotary Connections](#)  
Bring a prospective member

March 28th, 11:30-4:00 PM  
[Rotary Club Monthly Golf Outing](#)  
Dad Miller Golf Course

March 30th, 3:30-5:45 PM  
[Ronald McDonald House Sunday Meal Prep](#)  
Volunteer to make a Sunday meal for the families at RMDH



**Rotary Club of Long Beach**  
meets every Wednesday @ 12 Noon

**THE QUEEN MARY**  
1126 Queens Hwy  
Long Beach, CA 90802

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

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### Club Office

Rotary Club of Long Beach  
The Queen Mary  
1126 Queens Hwy.  
Silvania Room  
Long Beach, CA 90802  
562-499-1752

[Rotary@RotaryLongBeach.org](mailto:Rotary@RotaryLongBeach.org)

### Visit

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

Visit our  
Social Media Pages

