



## This Week's Program

**Wednesday, May 7**

*"Don Drysdale: Up and In"  
Dodgers Hall of Fame*

**Mark Whicker**

**Hall of Fame Sports Columnist, Playwright & Author**

**The Queen Mary**

**12:00 Noon - LUNCH**

**12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. - PROGRAM**



**Mark Whicker** was the sports columnist at the Orange County Register for 35 years, until his retirement in 2022. He had a 49-year career in newspapers, working professionally in his hometown of Winston-Salem, N.C. as well as Philadelphia and Dallas. Twice, the Associated Press Sports Editors added him to their list of Top 10 sports columnists, and he is a member of the U.S. Basketball Writers Hall of Fame. In 2014 he won the Nat Fleischer Award from the Boxing Writers of America for distinguished commentary. He was also named Sportswriter of the Year in Pennsylvania (1979) and North Carolina (1975) by the National Sports Media Association.

Mark is the author of "Don Drysdale: Up And In," the biography of the Dodgers' Hall of Fame pitcher of the 1960s. He began writing plays in 2020, and in January of 2025 the Long Beach Playhouse produced his play, "Ted Turner And The Last Roundup." On six other occasions, his plays have been performed as stage readings.

Mark lives in Long Beach with his wife Robyn, who was a sportswriter at the Los Angeles Times, and their son Philip.

## It's MAY!

By Steve M. Hockett, RCLB President #108



The Rotary year is winding down with a big bang and just like The Big Bang on the Bay, we have several great events coming up!

This Wednesday, we'll meet on the Queen Mary for lunch and Mark Whicker, the author of Don Drysdale's biography, will be our speaker. Did you know that I am a big Dodger fan?

Then on Thursday, we will host "Rotary 101"-- an orientation session designed to help new members learn more about Rotary and the wonderful opportunities for service and fun our Club offers.

Next week, our activities kick off on Tuesday, May 13th with 5 O'Clock Somewhere at Joe Jost's – my 2nd favorite place on earth after Dodger Stadium! "ONE, ONE, and ONE please!" (If you don't already know, come find out what that means.)

On Wednesday, May 14th, our weekly meeting will be a dinner meeting on the Queen Mary. This special meeting will feature Long Beach Olympians with one seated at each table to honor them and generate some excitement for the games in '28!

Please mark your calendars and try to join us for all these events!

See you on Wednesday!

## ♪ Take Note! ♪

### Here's a Sneak Preview of Exciting Changes Coming in 2025-2026!

By Kelly Ruggirello, RCLB President-elect & President #109

#### ♪ New Meeting Locations, Times & Formats Starting in July!

- Centrally located, The Grand is our new home base for the next three years.
- Lunch costs are reduced from **\$44** to **\$35 per person!**
- Twilight on the Queen – Monthly early evening meetings featuring light appetizers, a beverage, and casual interviews with VIP's on timely topics.
- Quarterly lite Breakfast Meetings – Business-oriented topics hosted at The Grand.



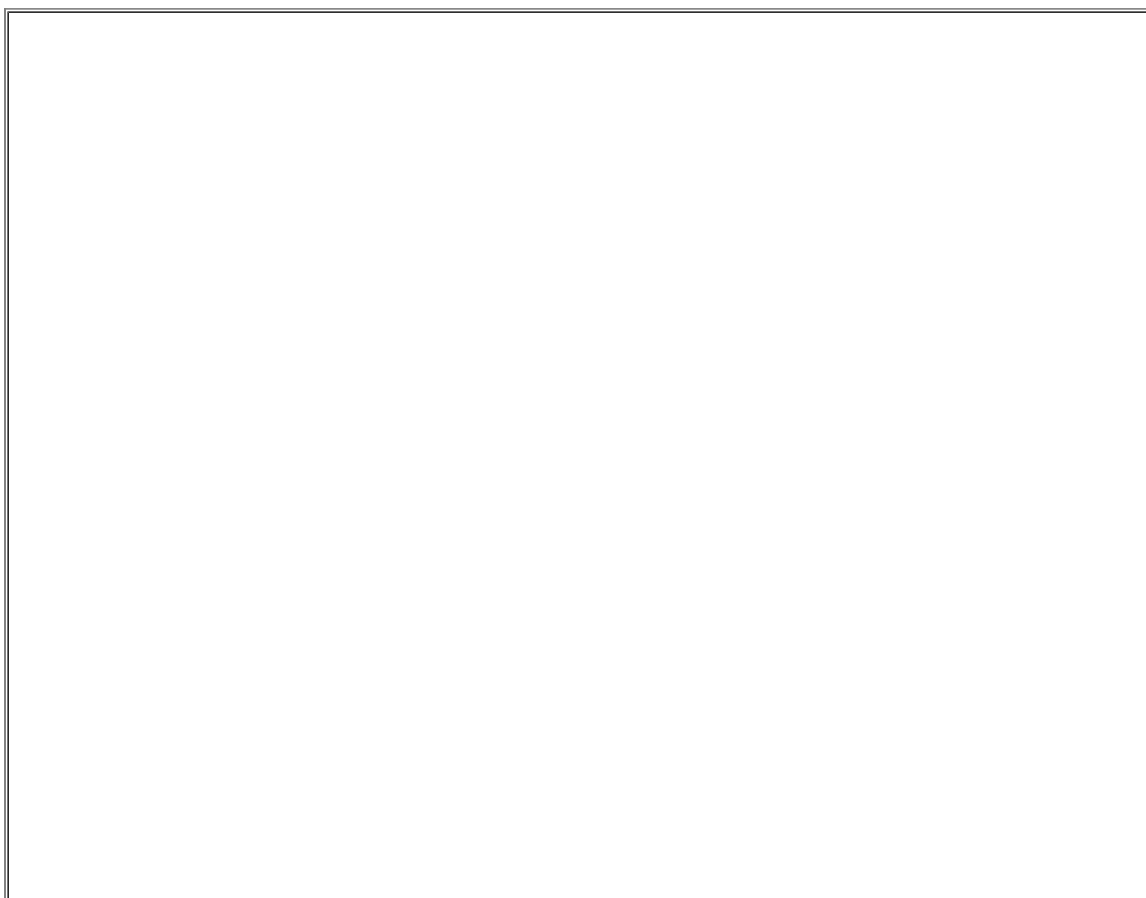
### ANNUAL INTERSERVICE CLUB LUNCHEON

By Madrid Zimmerman, RCLB Executive Director

The **Kiwanis Club of Long Beach** is excited to host this year's May 21 Wednesday event (*in lieu of our RCLB meeting*), which is just over a month away! It is being held @ The Grand, with **Fire Chief Buchanan as the Keynote Speaker**.

**RSVP deadline is Wednesday, May 7** - email Madrid to RSVP - [madrid@rotarylongbeach.org](mailto:madrid@rotarylongbeach.org)

Let's work on a great turnout from the Rotary Club of Long Beach!!!



# 55th ANNUAL SERVICE CLUB LUNCHEON

Hosted by the Long Beach Kiwanis Club

Contact Beth Roach: [beth4kiwanis@gmail.com](mailto:beth4kiwanis@gmail.com)

Wednesday, May 21, 2025, 11:30 am to 1:30 pm

The Grand, 4101 E. Willow, Long Beach

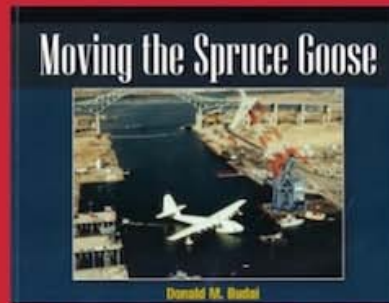
Lunch \$45 / Free Parking

RSVP to your club by May 7, 2025



Kiwanian and Author, Don Budai will share an important part of Long Beach History with his new book, "Moving the Spruce Goose".

**Our Guest Speaker:**  
**Long Beach**  
**Fire Chief**  
**Dennis Buchanan**



to order: <https://navmarc.com>

## SERVICE CLUBS

Altrusa \* Assistance League \* Century Club \* Kiwanis Club \* Lions Club  
Meals on Wheels \* Rotary Club \* Salvation Army \* Soroptimists \* Y Service Club

## Rotary Journey ... Now, Rotary 101

By Tina Barry, Rotary 101 Chair

Two things to announce -

**First**, we've made a change to clarify our Rotary orientation session - it's now called "**Rotary 101**" (This will help distinguish the new member information sessions from other RCLB meetings such as Rotary Connections).

**Second**, our next meeting is **Thursday, May 8 from 5:30-7 pm**.

It will be held at the State Farm Office of Steve and Lori Dwight at **4625 East Anaheim Blvd** in Long Beach.

As before, anyone is welcome to join us, but we particularly want to invite our new members. We'll discuss our Rotary Club activities and foundations and try to answer all of your questions.

## RCLB Visit to Beach - Head Start

By Jennifer Stout, Reading by 9 Committee

Greetings, Rotarians!

Did you see those amazing pictures featuring a group of us reading with some appreciative students at Mark Twain a month or so ago? Did you experience just a little bit of FOMO (*fear of missing out*) because you couldn't make it? Well, now's your chance to change that by jumping in and making a difference--we have another opportunity for reading coming up on Thursday, May 8, 9:30-11 am.

If you're interested, please reach out to me, Jenny Stout ([jen.stout@gmail.com](mailto:jen.stout@gmail.com)), I'm the one helping to coordinate this rewarding event, and we'd love to have you join us. You won't want to miss out on this one (*rumor has it the Rotary Bear will be there, too*). Details are below.

**What:** Volunteer reading with children for our Reading by 9 program

**When:** Thursday, May 8, 9:30-11 am

**Where:** Head Start at Beach, 3701 E. Willow Street, Long Beach, CA 90815

**Why:** Reading by 9 is vital \*and\* fun

**How/parking details:** The Head Start Program shares a parking lot with two other additional programs from LBUSD, a high school and an adult school. Even though the parking lot is big, it can get full, so please plan accordingly. Anywhere you see an available parking space is okay to park, there is no designated space for the different programs.

Hope to see you there!

Cheers,  
Jenny

### Long Beach Rotary Visit to Beach

Rotation Schedule/Agenda

Thursday, May 8, 2025

9:30A.M.-11:00A.M.



- **9:30-9:45AM:** Welcoming Rotary Members/Refreshments.
- **9:45-10:00AM:** First Read Aloud for Room 1, Room 2, Room 3, and Room 4, inside of each classroom with different rotary members.
- **10:00-10:15AM:** Music and Movement Break for Students in the Classroom.
- **10:15-10:30AM:** Second Read Aloud for Room 1 (in classroom), Room 2 (in classroom), and Room 3 only.
  - Please note: For Room 3: Reading will take place in the Outdoor Environment Playground.
- **10:00AM:** Rotary Bear Arrives to Beach Head Start
  - The Rotary Bear can visit Rooms 1 and 2 in their classrooms. Rooms 3 and 4 will be in the Outdoor Environment.
- **Classroom Age Groups:**
  - Room 1: Preschool Aged (3-5 years old)
  - Room 2: Early Head Start, 24-36-month old
  - Room 3: Early Head Start, 18-36-month-old
  - Room 4: Early Head Start, 12-24-month-old



Join us on **Tuesday, May 13<sup>th</sup>** for **5 O'Clock Somewhere**.  
Meet with the legend, **Steve Hockett** at the legendary, **Joe Jost's**!  
Wear your Hawaiian shirt, bring a guest and treat them to a Schooner and Joe's Special!



# 5 O'Clock Somewhere



**JOIN US AT ONE OF STEVE HOCKETT #108'S  
FAVORITE WATERING HOLES**

**May 13, 2025  
5PM - 7PM**

**SEE YOU IN THE BACKROOM, PLAY POOL, ENJOY PICKLED EGGS,  
SCHOONERS OF BEER, AND "JOE'S SPECIAL"!**



**2803 E. ANAHEIM ST, LONG BEACH, CA**

# Business Landscape (BBR)

By Mary Zerafa Loos, BBR Chair

RSVP to Evite invitation sent to your email  
NEW Location - Law Offices of Keesal, Young & Logan  
The Waterfront at Catalina Landing  
310 Golden Shore, Suite 400



## Business Breakfast Roundtable

### Opportunities in Uncertainty: Adapting to a Shifting Tax, Tariff, and New Business Landscape

To set the stage for a dynamic conversation, each participant who RSVPs will receive a thought-provoking article offering insights on navigating business in today's evolving landscape. During the roundtable, we'll invite everyone to share their own experiences, challenges, and strategies for adapting to change.

**Thursday, May 15, 2025 at 8am**

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](mailto:maryzerafa@gmail.com)

## LONG BEACH ROTARY CHARITABLE FOUNDATION COMMUNITY GRANTS

By Michele A. Dobson, RCLB President #107, LBR Charitable Foundation Chair

It is with tremendous pleasure that the Long Beach Rotary Charitable Foundation Board is announcing that Community Grant Applications are now being accepted through May 24, 2025. [Click Here for a link to the LB Rotary Charitable Foundation Grant Application](#)



Long Beach Rotary Charitable Foundation grants are designated to support philanthropy in Long Beach and it is our pleasure to support the good work of local community organizations.

**Applications close at midnight on May 24<sup>th</sup>.** Feel free to **share the flyer AND the link above** with community organizations.



LONG BEACH ROTARY CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

## COMMUNITY GRANT APPLICATIONS OPEN

Deadline to Apply: May 24, 2025 (Midnight)

[Application Link](#)

Rotary Charitable Foundation Community Grants  
Long Beach Rotary Charitable Foundation  
1126 Queens Hwy., Sylvania Room  
Long Beach, CA 90802  
562-499-1752

Rotary Charitable Foundation Community Grants are designed to support City of Long Beach Non-Profit Programs that enrich and improve the quality of life for youth in the City of Long Beach. For 2025, grants will range from \$2,500 to \$5,000 per project. If a Grant is awarded, the recipient must report back with photos (MINIMUM OF FIVE PHOTOGRAPHS) no later than 60 days from the completion of the funded Project. Project must occur before December 31, 2025. If a Grant is awarded, the Long Beach Rotary Charitable Foundation logo must be placed on any and all marketing and promotional materials for the project/event, on any and all signage for the event and on any and all clothing for the project/event. We welcome you to invite Rotarians to attend your event, just provide us with the date, time and location. Submission Deadline is May 24, 2025.

**THE MAGIC  
OF ROTARY**

Long Beach Rotary Charitable Foundation

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## Rotary Golfers - Mark Your Calendars - May 30!

By Donald N. Serafano, RCLB President #77 and Mike Wilson



Hello Rotarians,

Our next golf outing is **Friday, May 30<sup>th</sup>**, at **Meadowlark Golf Course** in Huntington Beach.  
We will be teeing off at **11:34 a.m.**

*(We moved it from May 23<sup>rd</sup> so it's not on Memorial Day weekend.)*

The cost is **\$65**, which **includes a cart and small bucket of range balls**.

Again, any skill level is welcome.

Rotary golf is about cultivating friendships, and most importantly, having fun.

If you are interested and/or wish to be added to the notification list,  
please contact Don Serafano ([dserafano@gmail.com](mailto:dserafano@gmail.com)) and Mike Wilson ([wilsomik@gmail.com](mailto:wilsomik@gmail.com)) via email.  
Looking forward to seeing everyone on **Friday, May 30<sup>th</sup>!**

Best,  
Don and Mike

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## Strategic Plan Update

By Judy Ross and Henry Fung, Strategic Plan Co-Chairs

What's going with our Club's Strategic Planning process???

Although you haven't heard from us for a while, we have been busy!! With the data we've collected from you as a backdrop, we thoughtfully and carefully proposed a Vision, Values and Mission for our Club. With approval of the Board of Directors, we are very excited to share our work with you now.

### OUR VISION

Together, we take action to create meaningful impact globally, locally and in ourselves.

### OUR MISSION

To create a positive impact by supporting youth, developing leadership, and addressing emerging community needs in a spirit of fellowship and service.

### OUR CORE VALUES

Ö **Service:** We focus on service activities and programs that promote global understanding and peace.

Ö **Fellowship:** We build strong relationships and foster a sense of community believing that combined efforts serve humanity better than individual efforts.

Ö **Leadership:** We use our skills and expertise to address social issues and make a positive impact in our communities and the world.

Ö **Integrity:** We expect accountability from leaders and members, emphasizing honesty, ethical behavior, and adherence to the highest standards in both personal and professional relationships.

Ö **Diversity:** We value and celebrate the contributions of people from all backgrounds and perspectives.

These are the guiding principles based on the 4-Way Test



representing all organizational decisions and actions.

So what's next??

Next we'll be working on goals and action steps, including who is responsible and by when. We anticipate this being a plan for the next 3-5 years. Our five goal areas are Communications, Membership, Programs, Governance, and Finance.

Please reach out to any member of the Strategic Planning Committee for more information or with any questions.

### Your Strategic Planning Committee

Tina Barry, Michele Dobson, Henry Fung, Steve Hockett, Cam Killingsworth, Freda Otto, Kelly Ruggirello, Judy Ross, Wayne Slavitt, Dennis Smith, and Leslie Wiberg.

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



[Jane Roeder](#)  
May 7th



[William H. Marmion Ph.D.](#)  
May 8th



[Sumer A. Temple](#)  
May 11th



[Gregory L. Owen](#)  
May 12th



[Gregory White](#)  
May 13th

## 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 - Mark Your Calendar

May 7th, 12:00-1:30 PM  
[Rotary Weekly Club Meeting](#)  
**Speaker:** Mark Whicker  
**Subject:** Author of Don Drysdale biography "Up and In"

May 8th, 2:00-3:00 PM  
[RoToastados - A Rotary Toastmaster Alliance Club](#)

May 8th, 5:30-7:30 PM  
[Rotary 101 \(formerly Rotary Journey\)](#)  
For newer members  
**Subject:** Getting to Know Rotary Better

May 10th, 8:00-9:00 AM  
[Centennial Park Clean-up](#)

May 13th, 5:00-7:00 PM  
[5 O'Clock Somewhere](#)  
**Speaker:** Monthly mixer

May 14th, 5:30-8:00 PM  
[Rotary Weekly Club Meeting](#)  
Evening Dinner Focus - NO Lunch meeting  
**Subject:** 2028 Olympics in Long Beach - facilitated by an Olympian medalist

May 15th, 8:00-9:30 AM  
[Business Breakfast Roundtable](#)

May 15th, 8:00-9:30 AM  
[Business Breakfast Roundtable](#)

May 15th, 4:00-5:00 PM  
[RCLB Board of Directors Meeting](#)

May 21st, 11:30-1:30 PM  
[Rotary Weekly Club Meeting - Annual InterService Club Luncheon](#)  
Hosted by LB Kiwanis Club  
**Speaker:** Speaker: LB Fire Chief Dennis Buchanan

May 22nd, 2:00-3:00 PM  
[RoToastados - A Rotary Toastmaster Alliance Club](#)

May 27th, 6:00-7:30 PM  
[Special Reception for those attending May 28 lunch in Avalon](#)  
John Mulvey and Geraldine Knatz hosting wine and cheese reception  
For those attending the May 28 Avalon Rotary Club lunch

May 28th, 9:00-5:00 PM  
[Rotary Weekly Club Meeting in Avalon, Catalina Is.](#)  
OFFSITE - Avalon Rotary Club  
Catalina Canyon Inn

May 29th, 5:00-7:00 PM  
[Rotary Connections](#)  
**Speaker:** Special meeting for member prospects

May 30th, 11:30-4:30 PM  
[Rotary Club Monthly Golf Outing](#)  
Meadowlark, Huntington Beach  
\$65 includes cart/bucket of range balls



**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)

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

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