



**IMAGINE
ROTARY**

Club Meeting

Long Beach
Meets at THE GRAND
4101 E Willow Street
Long Beach, CA 90815
Time: Wednesday at 12:00 PM

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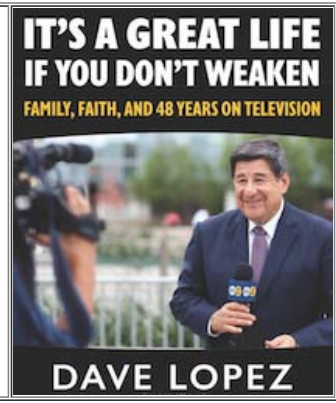
This Week's Program

Wednesday, February 22

It's A Great Life If You Don't Weaken

Dave Lopez
KCBS TV News Reporter, Retired

12:00 Noon - LUNCH
12:30 - 1:30 p.m. - Program



For nearly fifty years, **Dave Lopez** covered every major story in the Southland. The veteran news reporter was a nightly presence in LA living rooms on KCBS Channel 2 for a remarkable 48-year career on camera. General managers and news directors came and went in the unforgiving world of major market TV news, but Dave outlasted more than twenty regime changes. LA's man in the street kept his head down, nose to the grindstone, and relentlessly chased breaking news. He garnered 9 Emmys, accolades, the Joe Finn Award for Lifetime Achievement from the Los Angeles Press Club and tens of thousands of fans along the way.

One of the first Hispanic reporters on a major station, Dave's inaugural on-air report on Channel 2 in 1977 concerned an apartment fire that nearly ended in tragedy because none of the firefighters on the scene spoke Spanish. His report ended with the note that the Los Angeles Fire Department was beginning a program to actively recruit bilingual first responders; officials were also thinking of offering Spanish classes at LAFD. Dave was personally breaking barriers decades before Mexican lives officially "mattered"—success he credits entirely to his upbringing.

Professional success came early, but the true measure of a man is his family. In this nostalgic look back, Dave recalls the values instilled by his hardworking father—a man he worshiped and feared in equal measures. It is also a love story that began in high school . . . and how the fearless reporter who thought he could conquer or investigate his way out of anything was forced to accept that some foes cannot be beaten. When he lost both his beloved wife and mother in one year and his invincible father fell apart, Dave finally lost his unflinching optimism . . . and was forced to begin again just as the entire world of news was undergoing a sea change.

It's a Great Life If You Don't Weaken is an inspirational tale of faith, family, and the news from a true LA native. Set against the backdrop of every major story of the last half-century—from Vietnam War protests to the O.J. Simpson trial to countless politicians behaving badly—this story is a vivid remembrance of a life well lived, both on and off camera.

Building Global Leaders of the Future

By Joyoti Banerji, District Chair Global Grant Scholarship Program 2022-2023



The sun rose early on a bright, sunny day in February. It was just another day for most people as they went about their daily business. For three young adults though, it was a morning of eager anticipation, some excitement and a healthy dose of stress. Kim had experienced a tough number of years in high school. After her undergraduate studies, her dream was to earn her Master's degree at Cambridge University in the UK. This would give her a platform to work with global organizations in the area of Climate Change and Sustainability. Larry had a dream run in school with a very supportive family. Although he was fluent in Spanish, he had never quite thought of studying abroad. However, by the time he finished college, he was excited about Peace Building and Conflict Prevention, and found a fabulous course in Spain that would give him a head-start to work with the United Nations. For Mira, her Global Grant Scholarship interview was a once in a lifetime opportunity to obtain a PhD in the area of Maternal and Child Care in the UK and gain project experience in different countries across the world.

All three had applied for the Rotary Global Grant Scholarship Program that would offer one of them \$30,000 for a year to pursue their dreams - an opportunity that Rotary offers to one deserving candidate from our District every year. One that changes a young student's life forever!

While the names mentioned are fictitious, the stories are real. This program, which has been funded by Rotary International and our District, through all our individual contributions over the years, is a wonderful example of how Rotary transforms people's lives.

- What does the grant support?**
- Graduate-level coursework or research abroad, for one academic year
 - Field of study related to one of Rotary International's areas of focus:
 - Peacebuilding and conflict prevention
 - Disease prevention and treatment
 - Water, sanitation, and hygiene
 - Maternal and child health
 - Basic education and literacy
 - Community economic development
 - Environment

Our District recommends the candidate through a sponsor Rotary Club and the person is chosen by Rotary International through a rigorous assessment process. Our work continues after that, to ensure we provide mentorship and guidance throughout the year. We connect the recipient to a host Rotary Club in the country where they will be doing their course work. The recipient allocates time through the year to speak at Rotary events and to keep us abreast of their studies and progress.

As Chair of this District Committee for 2022-23, it has been a privilege to work with my fellow committee members Mollie Beck, Dee Wood and John Mathews II, along with many wonderful Rotarians to develop global ambassadors of goodwill.

Our Scholar for 2022, Taylor Plett is currently pursuing a Master of Science degree in Environmental Policy and Governance at Oxford University, UK. [Click here](#) to know about her experiences and adventures as she fulfills her dream.

Learn more about the program via [this link](#) and feel free to contact any of us on the Committee. We would love to hear from you.

Write a Caption!



WHAT - Submit a caption for this photo 'Randy Kemner'

WHEN - by EOD Thursday, February 23

Send caption to -
Wayne Slavitt - wayneslavitt@gmail.com

Top Winners will be announced at the March 1 lunch meeting

CALLING ALL ROTARY TALENT!

By Alfredo Velasco, RCLB President



Our next **Talent Show** is fast approaching, and we are still seeking Rotarians with hidden talents.

We know Rotarians are extremely talented and whether you *play an instrument, are a vocalist, a juggler, a comedian, a magician, a dancer, a unicyclist*, etc. let us know.

E-mail Madrid (madrid@rotarylongbeach.org) to schedule your audition (*we've never actually had an audition since The Four-Way Test applies*) to be part of the

March 8th Club Meeting Talent Show facilitated by **Host, Wayne Slavitt**.

Responding to the Need in Turkey and Syria

By Tina Barry, Community Service Director and Ahmet Atahan

We've all been shocked and saddened to see the devastation in Turkey and Syria from the recent earthquake. Like so often when the world is rocked with a tragedy, we wonder what we could do to help.

A call from our nearby Rotary Club in Irvine gave us the answer with an urgent request for warm clothes and blankets. Madrid, as always, jumped in to send out a call to action by our members and our Club (*along with friends and neighbors*) quickly responded to the need. Within 2 days Tina's living room was overflowing with donations. And Ahmet has been working full-time to gather items from his contacts and using his Long Beach warehouse. In addition to gathering the merchandise, Ahmet organized the items to be sorted, repacked, and documented in accordance with international regulations. In just a few days, there have been enough donations for 500 plus pallets to be shipped through Turkish Airlines.

Following the initial shock, there will be a long restructuring period for this region. Two 7.6 and 7.7 shakes followed by almost 2000+ earthquakes literally destroyed entire towns. More than half of the residents are under 30 years old and about half a million are senior residents. So it is clear that there is much work to be done to help the people of this region. Currently, there are three Rotary Districts and several clubs who are extremely busy with the urgent response programs on the ground.

So please accept our gratitude for your help and expediency in getting needed items to the Turkish and Syrian families who are

struggling during this cold winter. Your jackets, sweaters, blankets and medical supplies will be headed to this region later this week.

You can take comfort in knowing that you helped. . . in this initial stage and hopefully we will be able to expand our effort as well for the long stretch as well. Look for more information on additional donation opportunities toward this worthy cause.

Thank You Long Beach Rotary!

Rotary International put up on the RI Website a way to give monetary donations directly to the Turkey-Syria Disaster Relief Fund. Go to this link: <https://my.rotary.org/en/donate>

Images Courtesy of Tina Barry, Lance Kenyon, Matt Kinley and District Governor Dan Ouweleen



Upcoming Events - Click Title for More Info and for Meeting RSVP

February 21st
[RCLB Board of Directors Meeting](#)

February 21st
[Rotarians Appreciate Wine \(RAW\)](#)
Hosted by Tammy Newland
Blind Wine Tasting & Pot-luck Dinner

February 23rd
[Roto5320 Toastmasters](#)

February 28th
[5 O'Clock Somewhere](#)
Monthly mixer on a different date
Legends (Belmont Shore)

March 1st
[Long Beach Weekly Club Meeting](#)
Speaker: Cynthia Guidry
Subject: Long Beach Airport (LGB)

March 2nd
[Roto5320 Toastmasters](#)

March 8th
[Long Beach Weekly Club Meeting](#)
Club Talent Show, Part 2

March 9th
[Roto5320 Toastmasters](#)

March 11th
[Centennial Park Clean-up](#)

March 14th
[5 O'Clock Somewhere](#)
Hosted by Aaron Blackburn
Invitation by EVITE

March 15th
[Long Beach Weekly Club Meeting](#)
Speaker: TBA

March 16th
[Roto5320 Toastmasters](#)

Birthdays This Week - Click Name to Send a Greeting



[Jayne Lastusky](#)
February 23rd



[Aaron Anthony Blackburn](#)
February 25th



[Kristian Gragson](#)
February 26th



[Valerie J. Owen](#)
February 27th



[Paul Kaminski](#)
February 28th



[caryn desai](#)
February 28th

Club Leadership - Click Name to Send a Message



[Alfredo Velasco](#)
President



[Mollie Beck](#)
Assistant to the President



[Mark Guillen](#)
Assistant to the President



[Olivia Maiser](#)
Vice President



[Don Rodriguez](#)
Vice President



[Kelly Ruggirello](#)
Vice President



[Jean Bixby Smith](#)
Vice President



[Anthony J. Gales](#)
Secretary
Treasurer



[Virginia Baxter](#)
Sergeant-at-Arms



[Sathya Chey](#)
Sergeant-at-Arms



[Andy C. McFarland](#)
Sergeant-at-Arms



[Nancy Zwiers](#)
Sergeant-at-Arms

[Dana A. Buchanan](#)

[Rayne Sherman, FIIDA, CID.](#)

[Richard Gibson](#)

[Tina Barry](#)



Communications Director



[CSI](#)
Career Service Director



Club Service Director



Community Service Director



[Brett Lewis](#)
Fellowship Service Director



[Freda Hinsche Otto](#)
International Service Director



[Judy Ross](#)
Membership Service Director



[Brian Camp Russell](#)
Youth Service Director



[Dennis C. Smith](#)
iPast President



[Michele A. Dobson](#)
President-elect



[Steve M. Hockett](#)
President-nominee



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



[Wayne C. Slavitt](#)
Rotary Foundation Chair

<p>Rotary Club of Long Beach meets every Wednesday</p> <p><i>LB Skyline Photo Credit</i> <i>Long Beach Convention & Visitors Bureau</i></p> <p>February 22, 2023 Vol. 106, Issue 32</p>	<p>Club Office</p> <p>400 Oceangate, Suite 470 Long Beach, CA 90802</p> <p>562-436-8181</p> <p>Rotary@RotaryLongBeach.org</p>	<p>Visit</p> <p>Long Beach Rotary</p> <p>District 5320</p> <p>Rotary International</p>	<p>Visit our Social Media Pages</p> <p> </p>
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