



**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**

<p><b>Wednesday, August 31</b></p> <p><b>RCLB Talent Revue</b></p>		 <p><b>12:00 Noon - LUNCH</b> <b>12:30 - 1:30 p.m. - Program</b> <b>The Grand - Catalina Room</b></p>
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This week at the regular Rotary lunch, members and guests will be treated to the first **Rotary Club of Long Beach Talent Show** since the Pandemic. Highly anticipated since the first vaccines were administered, the Talent Show is sure to launch (or possibly end) the theatrical careers of a select few Rotarians. With a wide variety of acts scheduled for August 31<sup>st</sup>, the Talent Show is guaranteed to entertain most attendees and make them grateful they are not on stage. Club President Alfredo Velasco commented, "What a line-up we have planned for the 31<sup>st</sup>. Who knew we had this much talent!" Hopefully you emailed your RSVP by now, so that you can tell your grandkids one day, "Yep, I was there!"

**Message from our Sergeant-at-Arms**

By Andy C. McFarland



One of my favorite things about Rotary meetings is when something unexpected happens. I'm sure we are all used to the pattern of a typical Rotary lunch meeting: Welcome, Inspiration, Pledge, Song, Introductions, Birthdays, Announcements, Special Presentations, Speaker, Adjourn. I have nothing against routines – in fact, I am about as regimented as they come with my personal schedule. There is something comforting and familiar about the Rotary meeting routine, and it always leaves me feeling glad that I took the time to come, and ready to tackle the second half of the week. But when something breaks that routine and makes me perk up in my chair a little bit, like a witty comment from the audience or an off-color joke from the podium (*Thank you, Mark Kachigan*) it makes the experience that much more memorable and rewarding.

This year, there are a couple of new opportunities to create those unexpected moments, and to get more Rotarians involved in our meetings each week. In addition to our usual Birthday celebrations (*which EVERY Rotarian should celebrate... Come on, we promise we won't mention how old you are!*) we are showing off any travel photos with the "Rotary Bear", and presenting our weekly Photo Caption Contest. These are fun, one might even say goofy segments, and they are quickly becoming a highlight of the meetings each week. As one of your Sergeant-at-Arms this year (*along with Ginny Baxter, Sathya Chey and Nancy Zwiers*) I am loving the opportunity to have some fun with these new features. But we need your help! Are you taking a trip soon? Bring the Rotary Bear and snap a compromising photo! Take a few minutes each week to send a photo caption to Wayne Slavitt. The more Rotarians participate, the better (*and more unexpected*) they will be!

Where will the Rotary Bear go next after his/her cameo at the Rolling Stones concert in Stockholm? Will Dave Woody be able to incorporate potty humor once again into this week's caption contest? Come to the Rotary meeting this week to find out!

**Write a Caption !**



**WHAT** - Submit a caption for this photo

**WHEN** - by EOD Thursday, September 1



Send caption to -  
Wayne Slavitt - [wayneslavitt@gmail.com](mailto:wayneslavitt@gmail.com)

Top Winners will be announced at the September 7 meeting

## Welcome...

By Michele A. Dobson



Born and raised in Mexico City, when **Jenny Cuevas** was 18, she was lucky enough to be an exchange student from a Rotary club in Mexico to the Rotary Club of Boulder Colorado. Her experience was being hosted by 3 amazing Rotarian families who called her their daughter at all times. Through the Rotary exchange program, Jenny learned English and American culture. Jenny still exchanges holiday greetings with her host families and visits with them when she is in the Boulder area.

She went back to Mexico to earn a BA in Service Administration (*hotel, restaurants, bar, etc.*). She graduated in 1998, moved to the US at 26 to work as a hostess, then in management, now owner of Taco Shore Restaurant in Long Beach's Belmont Shore.

Jenny has been married for 20 years with two amazing sons, Sebastian and Esteban. Jenny said: My family taught me to believe that anything is possible if I work hard, so I bought the business with help and support from family and friends. Today as the owner of Taco Shore, my goal is to teach my children, as well as my employees, that if you work hard and treat people with respect, you can accomplish your dreams!

My fellow Rotarians, we welcome Jenny Cuevas as our newest Rotarian!

## Congratulations... Cochran Family Scholarship

By Lisa Ramelow



### ROTARY SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION AWARDS COCHRAN SCHOLARSHIP

It is always fascinating to speak with a young person and learn how they achieved so much grace and humility, at such a tender age.

**Jennifer Castillon**, the recipient of the **Cochran Family Scholarship**, has this grace and awareness.

She grew up in North Long Beach, and originally went to Lakewood High. She struggled at that school in many ways, and switched to Reid. There she found a smaller community with whom she could more easily connect, and she received tremendous support from the staff.

But even with that support and guidance, Jennifer found herself spiraling into depression after back-to-back losses of her grandmother, and then her cousin, who she thought of as a brother.

She sought help at a treatment facility, and it was there that she was able to put her problems into perspective. She met many young people who told her their stories of having parents who wanted to get rid of them, or of being in the foster care system and never ever having felt loved.

A week later, she returned home and embraced her parents, thanking them for the love she had always known from them. She had not before realized the support system she had right in front of her, and she now daily embraces her parents and tells them she loves them.

Jennifer made a promise to her passed loved ones that she would now take school more seriously. She decided on a path to dermatology, citing a relative with skin cancer, and noting that she sees many young people not properly taking care of their skin. She also wants to help teenagers with acne, who she has seen have low self-esteem, and face bullying.

Recently she had a dream where her loved ones visited her, and acknowledged her renewed efforts at school and in life. This was very meaningful to her.

She noted that it wasn't easy to go through her depressive experience, but she is now so grateful she did.

Both her mother and father were at the Rotary meeting to see their special daughter receive her scholarship; I'm sure her late grandmother and brother were there in spirit as well.

Jennifer Castillon's story is a poignant one of loss at a young age, but also of the early realization that life is not to be given up on, and that it is meaningful to push forward and do more, to become more.

And I know she will.

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## Make Your Reservation Now for September 22 !



The **Rotary Club of Long Beach** and **Long Beach Rotary Scholarship Foundation** have been nominated for and will be the 1st recipient of the

**Long Beach City College Distinguished Service Award** for Community Friend, Organization.

The celebration will take place at the annual **Hall of Fame Recognition event** on **Thursday, September 22**, at The Grand in Long Beach.

[Here is the reservation link](#) - we hope Rotarians will attend and join in the acceptance of this prestigious honor!

Please email **Madrid** - [madrid@rotarylongbeach.org](mailto:madrid@rotarylongbeach.org) or **Letty** - [scholarships@lbrsf.org](mailto:scholarships@lbrsf.org) after you make your reservation so we know who is attending and we can plan for Rotarians to sit together and celebrate together!

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## CALL TO ACTION for the LBRCF

By **Dennis C. Smith**

This is a call to action for **nominations to the Board of Directors** for the **Long Beach Rotary Charitable Foundation**. Historically, our membership has been modest in putting themselves forward for positions in the Rotary Club. Please note, self-nominations are not only okay but encouraged! See below for criteria for nominations and the process for selection of the new members.

Over the last few years your Rotary Club leadership has been making changes to policies, procedures, and by-laws to expand the opportunities of participation for all our members. In this spirit, in our last Rotary year, the Board of Directors of the Long Beach Rotary Charitable Foundation (LBRCF), under the leadership of Matt Kinley, adopted amendments to the Organization's Bylaws to increase the number of members of the Board of Directors and how new members for the new seats on the Board are chosen.

For newer members, the LBRCF is a separate organization from the Rotary Club of Long Beach. It is a 501(c)(3) non-profit whose purpose is to receive and distribute funds in a manner that furthers the mission, projects and goals of the Rotary Club of Long Beach. Camp Enterprise, Reading by 9, Feeding the Future, community grants, are all part of the funding through the LBRCF.

[Read More](#)

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## End Polio Now

By **Gregory L. Owen**

[This is a link to one of the more important newsletters](#) that Bob Rogers and I put out each week on Polio. You will quickly have a better understanding of the recent issues involving Polio outbreaks throughout the world. There are links to valuable information on everything POLIO.

Hopefully, everyone will quickly realize the fight to eradicate polio is more important than ever. More importantly, our donations to [EndPolionow.org/donate](http://EndPolionow.org/donate) are urgent. Consider joining the PolioPlus Society by agreeing to donate \$100.00 or more annually this year and every year until Polio is declared eradicated by the World Health Organization (WHO). Join the entire Owen family, including Mollie, to help support our PolioPlus Program Rotary World annual donations of \$50 Million which is matched \$2 for every \$1 by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Your \$100.00 donation gives you \$300. toward your Foundation credit.



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## New Member Proposal

The following is being proposed as a member of the Rotary Club of Long Beach. Her name is hereby submitted to the membership for a 10-day period as required by the By-laws. Any comments can be addressed to the President or the Executive Director of the Club during this 10-day period.

**Dawn McIntosh - Assistant City Attorney, City of Long Beach**

Proposed Classification: Government - Municipal - City Attorney-elect

Proposed by: Charles Parkin and Olivia Maiser

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

August 31st  
[Long Beach Weekly Club Meeting](#)  
Performers: LB Rotarians  
Talent Revue

September 7th  
[Long Beach Weekly Club Meeting](#)  
Speaker: Don Schwartz  
Subject: The Roots of the Russia-Ukraine War

September 10th  
[Centennial Park Clean-up](#)

September 13th  
[5 O'Clock Somewhere](#)  
Speaker: Monthly mixer  
Subject: Usually 2nd Tuesday/month  
Invitation by EVITE

**Birthdays This Week - Click Name to Send a Greeting**



[Donald J. Trojan](#)  
August 31st



[Debra Kahokele](#)  
August 31st



[R. Whitney Latimer II](#)  
September 2nd



[Fox M. Boswell](#)  
September 4th



[Gregory Haeseler](#)  
September 5th

**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](#)  
Communications Director



[Rayne Sherman, FIIDA, CID, CSI](#)  
Career Service Director



[Richard Gibson](#)  
Club Service Director



[Tina Barry](#)  
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><b>Rotary Club of Long Beach</b> meets every Wednesday</p> <p><i>LB Skyline Photo Credit Long Beach Convention &amp; Visitors Bureau</i></p> <p>August 31, 2022 Vol. 106, Issue 9</p>	<p><b>Club Office</b></p> <p>400 Oceangate, Suite 470 Long Beach, CA 90802</p> <p>562-436-8181</p> <p><a href="mailto:Rotary@RotaryLongBeach.org">Rotary@RotaryLongBeach.org</a></p>	<p><b>Visit</b></p> <p><a href="#">Long Beach Rotary</a></p> <p><a href="#">District 5320</a></p> <p><a href="#">Rotary International</a></p>	<p><b>Visit our Social Media Pages</b></p> <p> </p>
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