

ROTARYGRAM

August 17, 2016 - Vol. 100, Issue 7



Executive Director Madrid Zimmerman, Katie Gaston, President 100 Jayne Lastusky, and Cheri Bazley celebrate with Signal Hill President Fredy Dominguez (with shovel) after Signal Hill Rotary won first place in the Community Organization class in Sunday's 84th Annual Great Sand Sculpture Contest. Jayne was one of the event judges. Gaston was our speaker last week and a founder of the Young Professional RotarAct Club.

All August 2016 meetings aboard the Queen Mary.

[This Week's Meeting - August 17, 2016 - Jeff Fullerton - LB Civic Center Built-out Update](#)



In light of our club's Centennial Legacy project, LB Civic Center developer Jeff Fullerton will be joining us to bring us up-to-date on the built-out. Fullerton also led Edgemoor's efforts on the Governor George Deukmejian Courthouse in Long Beach, the first performance-based social infrastructure project in the US.

[Next Week's Meeting - August 24, 2016 - Jeffrey Prang - LA County Assessor](#)

On December 1, 2014, Jeffrey Prang was sworn in as the 27th Assessor for the County of Los Angeles. He leads the largest local public property assessment agency in the nation. Last year the office established values for 2.6 million properties valued at more than \$1.2 trillion.



[Last Week's Meeting Highlights - August 10, 2016](#)



After 9 months of globetrotting around 6 continents, Katie Gaston returned to Long Beach to re-establish her connections with LB Rotary and the Community RotarAct club. Katie was one of the founding members of the Community RotarAct club and the values developed in Long Beach were re-inforced in her world travels. Using

five experiences, Katie spoke of the lessons she encountered worldwide: appreciation, humility, peace, dedication, service above self.

Terry Geiling, Dale Whitney, and Steve Hockett shared their birthdays. Graduates of the Rotary 101 course received their certificates: Stacy Baltes, Brandi Collato, Bob Cook, Steve Finch, Ron Grimm, Jim Kinmartin, Brett Lewis, John Lindberg, Bonnie Lowenthal, Cindy Swan, Nelinia Varenas, Mu Zhang.

[Message from the President - Jayne Lastusky](#)

Calendar

Bring a Guest

August 17: Jeff Fullerton - Long Beach Civic Center Built-out Update

August 24: Jeffrey Prang - LA County Assessor

August 31: Jerry Schubel - Aquarium of the Pacific



Birthdays of the Week

August 16 - **Tony Davies** (Windes & McClaughry, Accountants-Certified Public-Taxation)

August 17 - **Mike Binning** (Law Offices of Michael W. Binning)

August 20 - **Steve Hockett** (Palos Verdes Golf Club, Consultant-Private Club Management)

August 20 - **Walter Larkins** (CDR Financial Services, LLC, Financial Services-Medical Collections)

August 21 - **Liz Lucas** (Elizabeth Lucas Designs, Manufacturing-Gift Products)



Gail Schwandner presents at the District Membership Training

Board of Directors 2016-17

Exciting news!! Our centennial project will be presented this week. Don't miss it.



This weekend I was reminded of the extensive presence and impact the Rotary Club of Long Beach continues to have on our city. Service Above Self in action every day. Saturday morning I participated in our monthly clean up of Rotary Centennial Park, a point of pride for our club. It is a beautiful place for children and families to play and enjoy being together. The planet walk designed by Philip Smith is a real stand out. The generosity of time and treasure that went into this project, led by Mark Bixby, is impressive. I found a brick on the donor walk in memory of my brother Bill Alnes. It made me smile. If you haven't seen the park I encourage you to stop by for a visit. Next month join us for the monthly park clean up. There will be coffee and donuts!

Sunday was a fun day at the beach judging the sand sculpture contest run by RotarActor Katie Gaston. The Rotary Club of Signal Hill was a participant as seen in the Rotarygram banner. Unbiased judging resulted in an award for their entry. Celebrating the 84th year in Long Beach, this is the longest running sand sculpture contest in the country.

August is Membership month. Dennis Smith and his team are doing an excellent job recruiting new members, the life blood of our club. If every member recruited one new member we would double the size of our club.

Remember to join us this week to hear about our centennial project.

[CHRONICLER Report - Virginia Hotel](#)

Our Rotary Club's first meeting site in 1917 was right across the street from the proposed LB Civic Center we will hear about Wednesday from speaker Jeff Fullerton. The Hotel Virginia was in the same league as the Hotel Del Coronado and the Fairmont in San Francisco and was called one of the five great hotels of the west when it opened in 1908 on the bluff side of Ocean Blvd. just east of Magnolia. The hotel cost \$1.25 million to build and the cost to stay in one of the 250 rooms was \$8.50 per night. The cost of a Rotary lunch remains a mystery. After the stock market crashed in 1929 the hotel fell onto hard times but Rotary continued to meet there until 1932. In 1933 just



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Food Prep at Ronald McDonald House

weeks before the big earthquake, the hotel was demolished. What is interesting is that in 1909 the owners of the hotel felt they needed a place for the hotel guests to play golf so in 1910 they formed a country club named after the hotel in a 120-acre eucalyptus grove near what is now the Recreation Park Golf Course. This answers a question you often hear--'*Why is the country club in Long Beach named the Virginia Country Club?*' In 1920 the Virginia Country Club was moved to a 135-acre tract next to Rancho Los Cerritos. One of the leaders of this move was Llewellyn Bixby Sr., a member of Rotary and grandfather of Fabulous Four member Jean Bixby Smith, and great grandfather of Past President Mark Bixby (2003-2004). The Virginia Hotel had 15 guest memberships in the original VCC and today the VCC has an odd-numbered cap on memberships of 415 in recognition of those 15 memberships. The Hotel Virginia was one of six Rotary meeting sites since 1917 -- can you name them all? More on Hotel Virginia and our other meeting sites in future reports.

Rotary Club of Long Beach usually meets every Wednesday
at 12:00 noon on the Queen Mary.

Rotary Club of Long Beach:

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Visit: [Long Beach Rotary](#), [District 5320](#), [Rotary International](#), [E-Club of the West](#)

