

# ROTARYGRAM

April 26, 2017 - Vol. 100, Issue 42



Is it a "Walking Stick" or a "Cane" or a "Garish Old Stick?" Whatever it is it has been handed down for decades to the immediate Past President and will again Wednesday night in a sacred and mystical ceremony at the Past Presidents Party when Greg Burnight (to the horror of his wife Shannon) takes possession for one year. At the party the PP's will also favor Steve Keesal with pearls of wisdom and advice for his upcoming year as President 101. Above, PP Brian Russell receives the coveted item from PP Kay Cofield at last year's Past Presidents' Party at The Boathouse.

**April 26 meeting aboard the Queen Mary. OFFSITE meetings: May 3, 10, and 31 - RSVPs required.**

**AS A REMINDER.....**

\$10 is the minimum to pay when you attend a Rotary lunch program at the

## **This Week's Lunch Program - April 26 - A Bixby's Look Back at the Founding of Long Beach**



A native of Long Beach and a member of Rotary for 30 years, Jean Bixby Smith is a descendant of the owners of the 27,000-acre sheep ranch that evolved into the cities of Long Beach, Downey, Paramount and Lakewood. You'll find reminders of the influence of this founding family all over the community including Bixby Knolls, Bixby Hill and Bixby Park. Jean took the reins of the more than 100-year-old Bixby Land Company in 1979. She was named chairman of the company in 1994 and president of the sister company, Alamitos Land Company, in 1991. Her commitment to the community has resulted in her being the recipient of numerous honors including Rotary's "Cup of Kindness." She is a many-year member of the Long Beach Rotary Scholarship Foundation Board and the Rancho Los Cerritos Foundation, the former Bixby family home and oldest home in Long Beach located next to the Virginia Country Club. She grew up on the Alamitos Bay Peninsula, attended Wilson High School and Scripps College where she later served as Board Chair and was named Distinguished Alumna of the Year. Jean is one of Long Beach Rotary's "Fabulous Four." In October 1987 Jean and Jane Netherton became the first women to join Long Beach Rotary followed shortly thereafter by Jayne Lastusky and Cam Killingsworth. Her grandfather, Llewellyn Bixby Sr., was a member of Rotary and her nephew, Mark Bixby, served as our 87th president in 2003-2004.

## **Next Lunch Program - May 3 - CSULB President Jane Close Conoley - OFFSITE**



Next week -- the ultimate "home game." CSULB President Conoley will be our speaker and the meeting will be held at "The Miller House," the university president's residence in Park Estates. One of the highlights of the meeting will be Past President and Scholarship Foundation Chair Jane Netherton introducing the winner of the \$15,000 Rotary Centennial Scholarship, the largest scholarship in club history. This is a very special meeting and space is VERY limited so please RSVP to the Rotary office as soon as possible - [madrid@rotarylongbeach.org](mailto:madrid@rotarylongbeach.org) or call (562) 436-8181. **Reservations close Wednesday, April 26.** President Conoley has called "The Miller House" the university's living room. The house was built by and later donated to the University for use by the president by Earl and Loraine Miller. They also established the Earl B. and Loraine H. Miller

Queen Mary. Even if you do not partake of the cookies/coffee, this amount helps defray the costs associated with parking, room set-up/breakdown, service/labor.

So be sure to always stop by the meal ticket table (if not already on the Meal Plan) to pay your share.



Rotary television celebrities PP Cam Killingsworth and President 100 Jayne Lastusky appear on "Straight Talk with Art Levine." Watch it at [StraightTalkTV.com](http://StraightTalkTV.com) or on Facebook at <https://tinyurl.com/centennial-straight-talk>

## **Calendar**

*"Share Rotary with a Guest"*

- April 26: A Bixby Look at the Founding of Long Beach - Jean Bixby Smith
- April 26: American Red Cross Bloodmobile Drive at the Queen Mary 10am-3pm
- April 28: Monthly Golf Outing - Recreation Golf Course 11:30am (contact Jim Kinmartin)
- May 3: LBRSF Scholarship Program at President Jane Close Conoley's home - RSVP OFFSITE

Foundation as well as building Miller Children's Hospital on the campus of Memorial Medical Center. It is fitting that our Rotary Centennial Scholarship be awarded at "The Miller House" because the Albert Reingardt Foundation, named for the contractor who built the 5,500 sq.ft. house and other commercial, government and custom residential buildings throughout Southern California, is the largest benefactor of our Long Beach Scholarship Foundation having donated cash and real estate currently valued in excess of \$4 Million. The gold entrance to the Pyramid is named in Albert Reingardt's honor.



**President's Message - Jayne Mastusky 100**

On April 26, 2017, this Wednesday, we will celebrate Long Beach Rotary's Past President's Day and honor our legendary Past Presidents. Without their vision and leadership we would not be the thriving club we are today. For the past 100 years, this prominent group included some of our town's most influential and persuasive leaders. They helped write the history of our great city and their incredible impact is visible everywhere. Thank you, esteemed Past Presidents, for making a difference every day.

Have you ever wondered "what?, why?" Talk to a Past President for the real behind the scenes tour of our club's history. They all have countless entertaining and inspirational stories to tell and maybe even a secret or two.

Along with being a club that enjoys fun and fellowship, comes the quirky traditions that have evolved over time. You will hear about one of them this week, so don't miss it.

HAPPY PAST PRESIDENT'S DAY!

**Last Week's Meeting - April 19 - Jess Romo - Long Beach Airport Update**



Jesus "Jess" Romo, an airport executive of nearly two decades in the aviation industry, became the new director of the Long Beach Airport in September 2016. He oversees an airport which is a major economic

May 10: Annual Inter Service Club Luncheon - Grand Event Center - RSVP *OFFSITE*

May 11: LBCC Rotaract Chapter Reception (RSVP through Michelle Dobson) *New LB Rotary Rotaract Club !*

May 13: Centennial Park Clean Up 8am

May 17: Development Plans for the Queen Mary and Its Surroundings - Urban Commons

May 19 & 20: District Conference (May 20 LB Rotary Hospitality Booth)

May 22: (Golf) Tournament for World Peace - Ol Ranch Country Club

May 24: TBA

May 31: What's Happening in North Long Beach (Michelle Obama Library) - RSVP *OFFSITE*

June 7: TBA

June 14: DARK - NO LUNCH MEETING

June 21: Last meeting - Celebration of the Presidents

June 28: NO LUNCH but PRESIDENTS' PARTY (5:30pm at KYL) RSVP



**Birthdays of the Week**

April 22 - **Bill Ridgeway** (Retired, Dentistry-Orthodontics)

April 22 - **Mark Schneider** (Mark Schneider Fine Jewelry & Diamonds, Jewelry-Fine

development resource for the city providing 43,000 jobs and generating more than \$11 billion into the regional economy, without receiving any funding from the city. Jess is focusing on protecting and managing the city's very strict noise ordinance, and increasing its diverse service with its carriers. Since its 2012 renovation, LB Airport has been recognized by Fodor's Travel Guide and BBC as one of the top 10 terminals in the world.

**Also Last Week .....** Sponsor Dana Buchanan introduced newest member Mark Guillen (Molina Healthcare), accompanied by co-sponsor Marcelle Epley with an original song written for her "bandmate" Mark. SGA Nancy Kindelan celebrated the birthdays of Wayne Slavitt, Mollie Beck, and Blake Christian.

### Save- the-Dates



**May 11, 2017 - 46th Annual Inter Service Club Luncheon - Grand Event Center - 11:30am.** Every spring major community service clubs in Long Beach meet to recognize some of their major projects/activities for the year. As a member of this illustrious group, LB Rotary "goes dark" that day so that Rotarians can attend this special luncheon. CSULB President Jane Close Conoley will be the guest speaker. **Reservations and payment must be made in advance** so please RSVP to the Rotary office as soon as possible (and no later than April 26).

**June 28, 2017 - Presidents' Party.** Enjoy breathtaking sunset views of the harbor and city from the 14th Floor of Keesal, Young and Logan offices in the Union Bank Building as we thank President 100 Jayne Mastusky for a great job; welcome the dashing Steve Keesal as President 101 and honor our Past Presidents for their service to our club. The committee is working very hard to make sure this will be a first-class and fun evening from beginning to end, so please mark your calendar now. RSVP and additional information will be provided in May. In response to the no. 1 Presidents' Party FAQ - Yes, both Jayne and Steve have been warned by the Past Presidents that they may never see their loved ones again if the program goes over 20 minutes. **There will be no regular noon meeting on June 28.**

Jewelry Retail & Custom Design)

April 22 - **Traci Glassock** (Long Beach City College, Education-LBCC-Scholarship Specialist)

April 22 - **Mu Zhang** (Encore Awards/Jense Rubber Stamps, Trophies and Promotional Products)

April 29 - **Mollie Beck** (The Beck Company of Coldwell Banker Beachside, Real Estate Residential)

April 29 - **John Pope** (Long Beach City College, Educationj-LBCC-Public Affairs & Govt. Relations)



Rotary's 5 O'Clock Somewhere was held at Raindance; Rotarians Gail Schwandner, Connie Rivera and Debra Fixen were a few of the many guests.

## [The Past President's Mystical Tradition - President 2017 Kay Cofield](#)



*Past President Kay Cofield seeks guidance at the Paul Harris Shrine on what to call our "Mysterious Walking Stick."*

## **The Case of The Mysterious Walking Stick**

Is it a walking stick or a cane? For that matter, what's the difference? I only know it is one hideous-looking relic of Long Beach Rotary's distant past.

It all began, so the legend goes, in 1919 -- two years after our club was started -- when some of our members attended the Rotary Convention in Phoenix. Each delegate was given a custom-made walking stick as a memento. At the conclusion of the convention, the Rotarians promenaded down the streets of Phoenix with their so-called fancy canes and "created quite a stir." I'm sure they did, as that cane is one ugly piece of memorabilia. It's so ugly, it even had a termite report written up.

This abomination has been given as a "perpetual trophy" (trophy!?! ) by past presidents to welcome a new "Junior Past President" into their allowed ranks. It is so ugly that neither Karen or Madrid would allow it to be stored in the LB Rotary office. Most recipients take it home and hide it until it is finally their turn to present it to the next "junior past president."

Come to the meeting on April 26th to see for yourself.

## [District Conference - May 19 & 20 \(Club Hospitality Booth\) - San Diego](#)



Long Beach Rotary will have a food booth during the District Conference's Hospitality Night on Saturday, May 20. You can spend the day at the Liberty Station Conference Center before attending Hospitality Night---find out what special food Willetta McCulloh has created for the event. Special hotel rates are still available at the Sheraton San Diego Hotel & Marina. For those wanting to start the festivities earlier, "Celebration on the Bay" takes place Friday evening at the Admiral Kidd Club.



Gabrielle Canale, host and Rotarian, with Matt Kinley at 5 O'Clock Somewhere

*GIVE BLOOD FOR OUR 100 PINTS*



For our centennial year LB Rotary has pledged 100 pints. Contact Debra Fixen ([dfixen@yahoo.com](mailto:dfixen@yahoo.com)) or [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org)

*You can give every 56 days.....*

*..SIGN UP for our special April 26 Blood Drive at the Queen Mary*

Go on-line to register for the District Conference. <https://www.directory-online.com/Rotary/Register4/index.cfm?EventID=77323184>

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

Rotary Club of Long Beach:  
1119 Queens Highway, Suite 103, Long Beach, CA 90802  
562-436-8181; [Rotary@RotaryLongBeach.org](mailto:Rotary@RotaryLongBeach.org)

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



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