

# ROTARYGRAM

June 28, 2017 - Vol. 100, Issue 51



What a great night for all the members of the Long Beach Rotary as we received the "Best Club" Award at the June 19 District 5320 Awards Dinner. This is the highest honor a club can receive in our District. Celebrating at the dinner are l to r, PP Brian Russell (mercifully wearing long pants unlike last week's meeting), Honorary Member Val Owen, Exectutive Director Madrid Zimmerman (without blond wig), PDG and PP Greg Owen, President 100 Jayne Lastusky, Dashing President 101 Steve Keester, correction, Keesal, District 5320 "First Lady" and International Service Director Adriana Lanting, and outgoing District Governor Ray Sanford. Congratulations to President 100 and the 2016-2017 leadership team for a great year and for winning this prestigious award.

**No LUNCH meeting on June 28  
(Presidents' Party, instead, at KYL 5:30pm)**

## **NO LUNCH MEETING - JUNE 28**

### **Presidents' Party - June 28 - RSVPs Required in Advance**



The party of the century is this Wednesday night June 28 and it's a sell-out (reservations closed June 21st). The **Annual Presidents' Party** will be held high atop the beautiful Union Bank Building in the 14th floor offices of Keesal, Young and Logan. The building is located at Golden Shore and Ocean Blvd. Parking is in the structure behind the building off West Seaside Way. The fun starts at 5:30pm. Thanks to KYL Special Events Manager Richard Brown and our own award-winning Dinner Chairman Dana Buchanan this promises to be a memorable evening of wonderful fellowship, fabulous cuisine and Attention Table 13, **hosted** libations. Outgoing President 100 Jayne Lastusky and Incoming President 101 Steve Keesal will recognize their leadership teams and honor our esteemed Past Presidents. Just added to the agenda is the long-overdue opportunity to raise our glasses high and toast Long Beach Rotary winning the District 5320 "Best Club" Award.

### **President's Message - Jayne Lastusky #100**



I am writing my last President's Report with an enormous smile on my face. What could be better than working with the best people on earth to improve lives around the globe? The generosity, talent, integrity and accomplishments of our principled club is truly astonishing. The District 5320 **BEST CLUB AWARD 2016-17** is a testimony to the amazing work of each and every one of you. It represents over 8,000 volunteer hours contributing nearly \$1 million in service to our community. Thank you!!! This top award is for YOU, the hearts and souls of our great club.

District Governor Ray Sanford summed it up by saying, "Your Club deserves the *Best Club Award*...you represent the best of what Rotary has to offer." Additionally, our club received the *Club Leadership Award*, the *Award of Merit for Community Leadership* and the *Award of Merit for Education and Literacy*.

It has truly been an honor to serve as your 100th President as we launched our celebratory Centennial year. A new branded backdrop, a new member centric Rotarygram, and a new Centennial logo set the stage.

The year began with a proclamation from LA County Supervisor Don Knabe recognizing our club's 100 years of service and concluded with the CSULB President's Distinguished Service Award and the CCEJ



*President 100 basking in the glow of "Best Club" banner at District 5320 Awards dinner.*

## **Calendar**

*"Share Rotary with a Guest"*

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

July 6: 5 O'Clock Somewhere - Belmont Brewing Co., 5:30-7:30pm

July 8: Centennial Park Cleanup 8:00am

July 11: RCLB Board of Directors meeting - 10:00am

July 12: First meeting for President #101 - Mayor Robert Garcia

July 13: Rotary 101 - Reception with the Past Presidents 5:30-6:30pm

July 27: Rotary Revealed (formerly known as Information Meeting) 6:00-7:30pm

Building Bridges Award.

We celebrated 30 years of Women in Rotary, 25 years of Camp Enterprise and 100 years of the Rotary International Foundation.

Out of 35,000 clubs, we are number one in the world with 100 Rotary Direct participants. Our club leads the District in total giving. Thank you Greg Haeseler.

Centennial activities included raising over \$300,000, our largest fundraising campaign ever, for our Centennial Legacy Project to fund the Early Childhood Literacy Area and the Storytime Theater in the new Main Long Beach Public Library.

Our special \$15,000 Centennial Scholarship was awarded and an additional \$362,805 was awarded to Long Beach students attending LBCC and CSULB.

Literacy remains our signature program. Rotary Reads and Reading by 9 continued to flourish under the direction of Paul Kennard and Frank Newell. Our Centennial Youth Participation Team developed *Teaching Ethics to Kids*, a 3 year curriculum for middle schoolers focusing on the 4 Way Test reaching 2,000 students.

The Rotary Club of Long Beach 100 Year Anniversary Issue insert recorded our first century and was proudly published in the June 6-19, 2017 *Long Beach Business Journal*.

The thing that stands out the most for me this year was our ability to chronicle and tell our remarkable story...and what an amazing story. Rotarians have appeared in the press, on TV, on social media, in the community and shared the passion of our incredible club.

Keep telling our wonderful story. You are the story that keeps getting better and better. It will continue with President 101, Steve Keesal, an innovative and energetic leader. Fasten your seatbelts as we begin the second half of our Centennial year.

Thank you for your support, encouragement and friendship. I will always cherish and appreciate the time I spent with you and the many opportunities I have had to get to know you better. You are AWESOME!

Yours in Rotary Service,  
Jayne Lastusky, #100

**[Steve Shaw Wins President's Award](#)**



*Our founder honors President 100's Norwegian heritage.*



## Birthdays of the Week

June 27 - **Drew Gagner** (St. Mary Medical Center Foundtion, Foundations - Hospitals)

June 27 - **John Romundstad** (The Romundstad Law Corp., Attorney-at-law - Business & Taxation)

June 27 - **Trent Bryson** (Bryson Financial Group, Financial - Executive Benefits)

June 28 - **Suman Naresh** (International Strategy Group, LLC, Consultant - International Intellectual Property)

June 30 - **Jack Hinsche** (Windes & McClaughry, Accountants - Certified Public - Taxation)

July 3 - **Bob Bond** (Bond Consulting Services, Computer - Software Consulting)





Last Wednesday President 100 presented the 2017 President's Award to *"The Hardest Workin' Man in Rotary"* Steve Shaw. Steve has been a member of our Rotary Club for 29 years and was specifically recognized for his thankless (until now) work each week in setting up our meeting room including putting together our beautiful new blue Rotary backdrop. When presenting the Award President 100 said *"he works quietly behind the scenes making sure that everything is in place for an enjoyable and smooth running program. When you walk into the room it's ready to go. The logistics of the job often goes unrecognized and requires several hours of time every single week. Steve Shaw has led this effort for several years and I want you to know Steve how much I appreciate what you do."* He has also served on the Scholarship Foundation and the club Board of Director (seven times). President 100 finally came clean and revealed that Steve was the one who outted her at the May 18 CCEJ dinner for wearing two different shoes to the event. Before he retired his classification was Real Estate - Mortgage Loans--experience, no doubt, that came in handy when upon his retirement, he and wife Meredith did the nautical "Loop" on the eastern seaboard. Congratulations Steve on this very well-deserved recognition.

**[Next Lunch Meeting - July 12 - Mayor Robert Garcia](#)**



Start the "new" year with President 101 Steve Keesal. We still have the rest of 2017 to celebrate our centennial year. As a Long Beach Rotarian, Mayor Robert Garcia joins us as the guest speaker for 101's first meeting. In 2014 Garcia became the youngest and 28th Mayor of Long Beach. His focus is to make Long Beach a leader in economic development, sustainability, education, and technology.

**[Last Week's Meeting - June 21 - Celebration of Past Presidents](#)**



For President 100 Jayne Lastusky her last meeting was transformed into a "Rotary Home Companion" radio show. With so much time now on their hands, numerous past presidents displayed the many talents they've developed since their presidencies: Cam Killingsworth #82 and Brian Russell #93 recognizing the healing power of ketchup, Terry

July 3 - **Jeff Wimbish** (Kensington Investment Counsel, Financial - Investment Counseling)

July 5 - **Dennis Smith** (Stratis Financial, Financial Services)

July 7 - **Paul Scholz** (Onisko & Scholtz, LLP, Accountants-Certified Public-Accounting Services)



*The "Commish" goes Hamilton. Andy McFarland steals the show at last week's program.*

Geiling #90 reduced to providing background sounds, Carl Calkins #66 trying his hand at detective work, Jane Netherton #91 promising to "never tell", Whit Latimer #85 trading rustling cows to stomping grapes, Jim Worsham #86 never overblowing a harmonica cowboy classic, Jack Hinsche #79 waking up from his slumber to calm overly-concerned mom Kay Cofield #97, Don #84 and Carl Ann Wylie #94 riding off into the sunset. The cast also included emcee Dennis Smith, production manager/commercial songstress Kelly Lucera, wine connoisseur Randy Kemner, Fab Four Jean Bixby Smith and her purty little ankles, presidential assistant Alfredo Velasco, president-elect Steve Keesal, vice president Matt Kinley, AV technicians Connie Rivera and Virginia Zart, and a mysterious blonde in the witness protection program. The party was crashed by presidential wannabe Alexander Hamilton, aided by the irrepressible rapster Commish McFarland who (co-wrote the lyrics with Laura Velasco) slammed one club president after another. His performance was only topped by the nondiscriminate distribution of \$10 bills to the audience.

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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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562-436-8181; Rotary@RotaryLongBeach.org

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

