

# ROTARYGRAM

February 26, 2020 - Vol. 103, Issue 34

## *This Week's Lunch Program - February 26, 2020*

### *ADA: How Do I Protect My Business?*

**Michele Dobson**



For small business owners, the day to day grind to earn enough to meet payroll and your overhead is stressful enough without being hit with "drive by" and "surf by" lawsuits for alleged ADA violations filed solely for quick settlements. Recently, the City of Long Beach has been hit with dozens of these suits, first in Naples and the day before Thanksgiving, more than 30 were served against businesses in Belmont Shore.

Rotarian Michele Dobson has an update on the rash of Long Beach and Naples cases and tips on how small business owners can protect themselves from what is tantamount to extortion of small business owners.

### *Upcoming Events*

- Wednesday, Feb 26, 2020 - 12noon-1:30pm: Weekly Lunch Program  
Michele Dobson - ADA: How Do I Protect My Business?  
Queen Mary, Grand Salon (1126 Queens Hwy., 90802)
- Friday, Feb 28, 2020 - 11:15am first tee: Monthly Golf League Outing  
Lakewood Country Club. Contact Rich Gibson
- Wednesday, Mar 4, 2020 - 12noon-1:30pm: Weekly Lunch Program  
Eckart Preu - The Journey from East Germany  
Queen Mary, Grand Salon (1126 Queens Hwy., 90802)
- Saturday/Sunday, Mar 7/8, 2020: Calico Ghost Town Visit  
Contact Steve Shaw
- Wednesday, Mar 11, 2020 - 12noon-1:30pm: Weekly Lunch Program  
*Rotary Roots* - OFFSITE venues at members' businesses  
Register online - [www.longbeachrotary.org](http://www.longbeachrotary.org) (February 19 - March 4)
- Thursday, Mar 12, 2020 - 5:00pm-7:00pm: 5 Way Test mixer (2nd Thursday/month)  
TBA
- Saturday, Mar 14, 2020 - 8:00am-9:00am: Centennial Park Clean-up (2nd Saturday/month)  
Entrance on E. Pacific Coast Hwy., near Junipero  
Contact: Robyn Gordon-Peterson
- Thursday, Mar 19, 2020 - 7:30am-9:00am: Business Breakfast Roundtable (3rd Thursday/every other month)  
Nathan Whittacre - "Data Security for Businesses"

Reservations required - space is limited.  
Polly's Pies (Los Coyotes Diagonal). \$10 cash for pre-fixed menu  
Contact: Rayne Sherman

**Next Rotary lunch meeting**  
**- Wednesday - March 4 -**  
**Journey from East**  
**Germany - Eckart Preu**



Eckart Preu's journey started as a child during the Cold War in East Germany. Going through the political expected motions and affiliations he was a member of the Young Pioneers, the Free Germany Youth, and the Society for German-Soviet Friendship. As a soloist of a world renowned boys' choir in East Germany, he was one of the few privileged East Germans to be occasionally allowed to travel to Western countries. Indoctrination penetrated the entire educational system, and learning to play that system was crucial. During his mandatory service in the National People's Army (in the sauna) he experienced the fall of the Berlin Wall. From that time forward his personal and musical path led him further and further away from home.--by design or destiny--to Weimar, Paris, New York, Richmond, Spokane and now to Long Beach.

**This Week's Birthdays**

Feb 24 - **Bob Patton** (Retired, Education - LAUSD - Teacher)

Feb 25 - **Aaron Blackburn** (CDR Benefits, Financial Services - Benefits)

Feb 27 - **Val Owen** (Honorary Member, Past District Governor/Past President First Lady)

Feb 28 - **Marty Kurner** (Hawden Group USA, Inc., Furniture - Office)



**President's Message**

*Past District Governor (Canada) Doug Vincent was one of the people we met in Caborca, Mexico. A UNITED NATIONS AMBASSADOR! Who would-a thought I've ever meet a UN Ambassador? It's the magic of Rotary. Nice guy...sat down at dinner with us and introduced himself to the table. Then he explained that 49 Rotarians participated in 1945 at the San Francisco UN Charter meetings where the organization was officially formed. In addition, it was a Rotarian from South Africa who wrote the first draft of the UN Charter. The more you know.....*

*We start our Rotary journey wearing a Red Badge signifying that we are newer\* members to the Club. We then complete tasks that are designed to give us a deeper connection to the Club and more information about what Rotary is all about to ultimately earn a Blue Badge. In the meantime, it is incumbent upon each of us to seek out Red Badgers, answer their questions, welcome them and make them comfortable. They deserve your attention. But don't forget that we have newer members that have already earned their Blue Badges so let's just be nice and friendly and welcoming to everyone. Part of the magic of Rotary.*

*This week's program is so important. It is clear that several of us find the current state of frivolous litigation to be frustrating, at best. But when it gets turned on hard working people just trying to do their best, it gets downright maddening. Michele Dobson is a Rotarian and lawyer on a mission.*

*Mollie  
#103*

*B.*

*\*not ALL Red Badgers are "new" members. Some take longer to earn their Blue Badges for whatever reason. When I joined, a long standing Rotarian told me to keep my Red Badge as long as possible because then people would talk to me. 😊*

Rotary Club of Long Beach usually meets every Wednesday  
at 12:00 noon on the Queen Mary (1126 Queens Hwy., Long Beach, CA 90802)  
Club Office: 400 Oceangate, Suite 470, Long Beach, CA 90802  
562-436-8181; Rotary@RotaryLongBeach.org

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

