

ROTARYGRAM

March 4, 2020 - Vol. 103, Issue 35

This Week's Lunch Program - March 4, 2020

The 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.

[Upcoming Events](#)

- 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 (February 19 - March 4)
- Thursday, Mar 12, 2020 - 5:00pm-7:00pm: 5 Way Test mixer (2nd Thursday/month)
Belmont Brewing Co. (Belmont Pier)

- 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
- Thursday, Mar 26, 2020 - 9:00am-10:00am: CDC Book Delivery
Burbank CDC (535 Junipero)
Contact Frank Newell by March 18
- Thursday, Mar 26, 2020 - 5:00pm-7:00pm: Rotary Revealed information meeting
Shenanigan's (423 Shoreline Village Drive)
Starts early at 5:00pm because Band begins at 7:00pm
Last chance to bring prospects for Membership March Madness
Contact: Nel Varenas
- Friday, Mar 27, 2020 - 11:30am-4:00pm: Monthly Golf Outing
Contact Rich Gibson
- Sunday, Mar 29, 2020 - 3:00pm-5:00pm: Ronald McDonald House Sunday Meal Prep (every other last Sunday of the month) 500 E. 27th St. (near Atlantic Ave.)
Contact Michele Dobson

**Next Rotary lunch meeting
- Wednesday - March 11 -
OFFSITE for Rotary Roots**

**REGISTER ONLINE ONLY
by March 4 - Spaces
limited.**



Paul Harris

In 1905 when Paul Harris started the Rotary Club in Chicago, members took turns meeting at each other's location of business. Our *Rotary Roots* is a return to a chance to eat lunch with a fellow Long Beach Rotarian. Eight Rotarians are hosting the Spring 2020 *Rotary Roots*: Marty Kurner (Aquarium of the Pacific), Janet McCarthy (Goodwill), James & Sarah Naccarato (Iconowrap), Chris Wacker (Laserfiche), Cathy Wieder (LB Medical Center), Ken McDonald (LB Transit), Stacy Mungo (LA County Fire Department Foundation and Museum), and Solimar Salas (Museum of Latin American Art). *Registration is online only - deadline is March 4*

This Week's Birthdays

Mar 3 - **Doug Haubert** (City of Long Beach, Government - Municipal - City Prosecutor)

Mar 7 - **John Gooding** (Coldwell Banker Beachside, Real Estate - Residential)

Mar 8 - **John Hancock** (Bancap Commercial Real Estate, Real Estate - Commercial & Investment)



President's Message

There is hope for the world. Michele Dobson is knocking back 'bad guys' and her presentation last week was very well received. I can usually tell when a speaker has hit a nerve...the secret is in the number of people that have questions for the speaker after we adjourn. And Michele had a line-up of folks waiting for her.

March Madness is really stirring up your competitive juices. It actually turns out that Marnee Brooks is "poaching" one of my in-laws and bringing him to an upcoming Rotary meeting as a prospective new member. Could it be I'm asleep at the switch or that Marnee is just that ambitious? Hmmmm. Either way the Club wins.

So how's this for an age-defining moment? We attended a concert last week at House of Blues where standing in the pit is the option. A lovely 20-something said to us "it's just

Mar 8 - **Alfredo Velasco** (YMCA of Greater Long Beach, Non-Profit Organizations - YMCA)

Volunteers Needed

Help LBUSD students be career-ready. 50 volunteers are needed for mock interviews on Saturday, March 28, 2020. Interviews take place at Browning High School (2180 Obispo, 90804) from 10:15am to 12:00pm noon. Long Beach CaLL is organizing this "Career and Internship Readiness Conference" and will provide training and interview questions the day of the event. Email Kehau Fujikami (kfujikami@lbschools.net) for questions.

New Member Proposal

The following is being proposed as a member of the Rotary Club of Long Beach. His 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 during this 10-day period.

Jesse Rivera - Mortgage Broker, The Mortgage Guys
3699 E. 28h St., #412, Signal Hill, 90755
Proposed classification: Real Estate - Mortgage Loans
Proposed by: Kay Cofield and Steve Keesal

so nice that you're here" implying we should be some place quiet with rocking chairs. I couldn't break it to her that we purchased the tickets not our 40-something kids who had never even heard of the band. That'll show 'em!

It seems like May is a long way off but this is already March. We have some new event opportunities in May that were announced last week. Come watch the Congressional Cup on May 2nd as I understand someone will be on hand to explain the action. On May 16th join us at the Dirtbags game (vs. UC Irvine Anteaters) where half of your \$10 ticket price will benefit our very own LB Rotary Charitable Foundation. Nothing says 'Spring' like a baseball game! And it's "kid-friendly" too!

Many of you will remember Jimmy Weldon, beloved friend of Rotary, Camp Enterprise veteran, patriot and voice of Webster Webfoot (a 1950/60's cartoon character). He's still kicking at 96 years young and I had a lovely conversation with him last week. He said to say "hi" to all of you. It's a true joy when he finishes the conversation in Webster's voice with a "I Wuv You".

See you on Wednesday for our first-hand account of living in East Germany during the Cold War. Eckart Preu is a fabulous speaker and trust me, you'll want to bring friends.

Mollie
#103

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| | <p><i>(That's a photo of Jimmy Weldon and me at Camp Enterprise in 2016.)</i></p> |
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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](#)