



This Week's Program

<p>Wednesday, September 4</p> <p>"The Spirits Rise"</p> <p>Dylan Matteson Director of Experiences, The Queen Mary</p> <p>The Queen Mary 12:00 Noon - LUNCH 12:25 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. - PROGRAM</p> <p>Newell Family Scholarship Presentations</p>	
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Dylan Matteson serves the Queen Mary as their Director of Experiences - overseeing Tours & Attractions, Special Events, Retail, and Marketing. Dylan takes pride in creating unique, memorable experiences for the guests of the Queen Mary. On the personal front, Dylan met his wife, Stephanie, while they attended UCLA and they love raising their two kids in beautiful Southern California. He looks forward to greeting you aboard the Queen Mary sometime soon!

The Program...

After being shuttered during the pandemic, the Queen Mary's Dark Harbor returns to Long Beach after 5 years. This Halloween haunt attracted 130,000 visitors annually and became one of the premier fall experiences of Southern California. The City of Long Beach and the Queen Mary have partnered with 13th Floor Entertainment Group for the production of this year's event - Dark Harbor: The Spirits Rise. Learn about the event itself, what type of impact it has to the ship and to the City, and how Dark Harbor fits into the ship's strategy moving forward.

Message from President #108

By **Steve M. Hockett, RCLB President**



Humbled is a great way to describe the beginning of my journey as the 108th President of the Rotary Club of Long Beach. There have been so many great Presidents and Boards that preceded this year. One way I describe it is that over 107 years, we learned how to do things right. We could say all the mistakes were made before, and we learned from them.

Any way you look at it, I feel blessed.

I learned long ago that leadership is not about doing everything or sticking your nose in everyone's business but being a good orchestra leader. You get the right people in the correct positions, keep the beat going, let them thrive, and support them.

We have over 20 outstanding Rotarians who have accepted their roles as Board members and are on their way to success this year. Please support them by joining their committee, recruiting new members, attending the fellowship events, or doing whatever you can to help our Club.

Working with these great volunteers is indeed humbling!

Fall 2024 Rotary Roots is coming up!

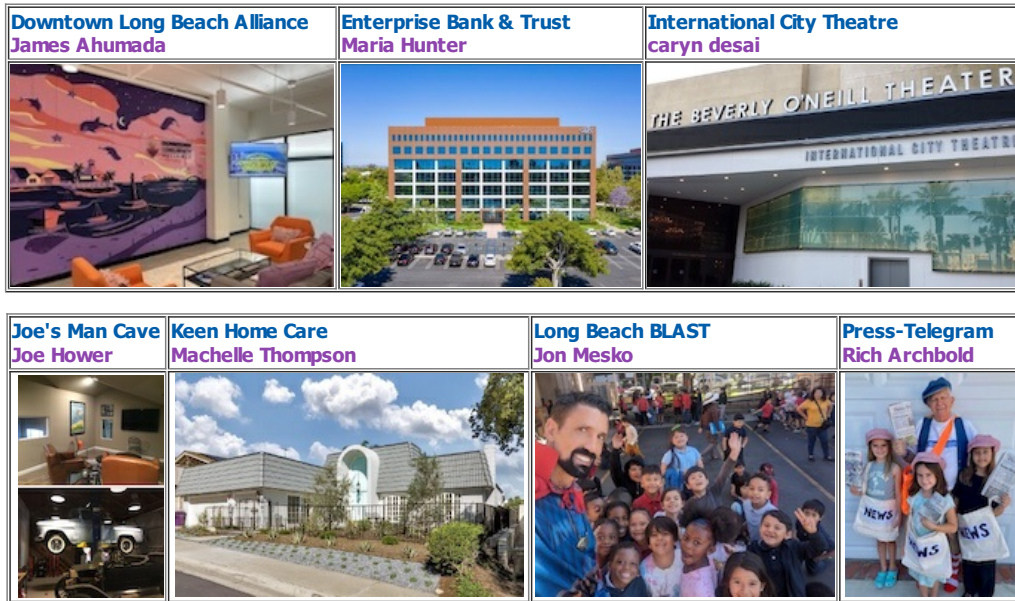
By **Solimar Salas and Jane Roeder, Rotary Roots Co-Chairs**

Online Registration opens September 4th - be sure to check your email to sign up.

On **Wednesday, September 25, 2024** Rotarians are invited to participate in **Rotary Roots** - there will be no general meeting at The Queen Mary on this date. We are deeply grateful to this season's hosts:

Downtown Long Beach Alliance hosted by **James Ahumada**
Enterprise Bank & Trust hosted by **Maria Hunter**
International City Theatre hosted by **caryn desai**
Joe's Man Cave hosted by **Joe Hower**
Keen Home Care hosted by **Machelle Thompson**
Long Beach BLAST hosted by **Jon Mesko**
and **Press-Telegram** hosted by **Rich Archbold**

Register for any of these sites online! If you have any questions, do not hesitate to reach out.



Join us for an enriching and diverse experience at "**Rotary Roots**," an event spanning seven unique venues, each hosted by esteemed Rotarians in our community. This exceptional event promises to cultivate connections, foster collaboration, and celebrate the essence of Rotary's spirit.

On **Wednesday, September 25th**, from 12:00 PM to 1:30 PM, your options include: a visit to the **Downtown Long Beach Alliance**, hosted by **James Ahumada**, including highlights from the new "Opposite of Ordinary" destination campaign.

Join **Maria Hunter** for a delicious lunch and learn about the individuals who have been impacted by the work **Enterprise Bank & Trust** does in their communities.

Enjoy a behind-the-scenes look with **caryn desai** at Long Beach's own award-winning professional nonprofit theater company - **International City Theatre** at the Beverly O'Neill Theater. Rotarian guests will receive complimentary tickets to see *Murder on the Links*, a fun comic mystery based on Agatha Christie's intricate whodunit!

Gather in **Joe Hower's** workshop (aka **Joe's Man Cave**) where he reconditions, rebuilds and repairs classic cars. Joe also reconditions bicycles and gives them to organizations serving kids.

Join **Machelle Thompson** at **Keen Home Care's** 6-bed board and care facility where exceptional care meets a sense of community. Machelle and her team look forward to sharing their vibrant community and robust discussions with you!

For those seeking to make a difference in the lives of others, join Executive Director, **Jon Mesko**, at **Long Beach BLAST**, serving approximately 1,000 at-risk kids from the LBUSD every year.

Join **Rich Archbold** at his unique office - his home in El Dorado Park Estates. Hear his life story from paper boy to **Press-Telegram** editor/columnist and how he sees the impact of local news on Long Beach - a MASTER CLASS "off the record!"

We extend a warm invitation to all Rotarians to seize this opportunity for engagement and enrichment. Choose a venue that resonates with your interests and passions and embark on a journey of discovery and connection with fellow members of our Rotary family.

On behalf of the Rotary Roots Committee, let us come together to celebrate our shared values, leverage our diverse talents, and reaffirm our commitment to service above self. Reserve your spot today and be a part of "Rotary Roots," where we honor our heritage, cultivate our present, and sow the seeds of a brighter future for all.

Ronald McDonald House

By **Leslie Wiberg**, Community Service Director

Meals of Love Meal Program
Sunday, September 29, 2024

Have you ever heard of Ronald McDonald House?

Did you know there is one located adjacent to MemorialCare Long Beach Medical Center?



The families that stay here are often far away from family and other support systems that would help them through a difficult time. They return to the House after a long day at the hospital, and cooking a meal for themselves may be low on their list of priorities. The chance for these families to sit down to a home cooked meal is one way that makes the House a "home away from home" for families of critically ill children.

Members of the Rotary Club of Long Beach have been teaming together to provide a Sunday dinner every other month for many years as a traditional act of kindness to prepare meals for those caring for a sick family member.

We are looking for a **team leader** to organize a group to plan, shop and prepare a meal. Our next dinner is scheduled for **Sunday, September 29**, followed by **November 24**. (*Funds are available for reimbursement from our Club's Charitable Foundation.*)

If you have any interest, either being a team leader or a volunteer, please contact **Leslie Wiberg** at **562.252.5391**. This is a wonderful opportunity to work closely with your fellow Rotarians for a couple of hours to provide a home cooked meal and help to lighten the burden for families of a sick child whose best medical treatment is far from home.

RCLB Strategic Planning Survey - #1

By **Judy Ross and Henry Fung**, RCLB Strategic Planning Co-Chairs

Big thanks to all our fellow Rotarians who completed our Strategic Planning Survey. Over a two week period, more than 100 Rotarians responded (45.6%) this Survey. These responses will assist us in charting our course for the future.

Special thanks to Matt Kinley for helping us in the administration of the Survey Monkey platform. Please take a first look at the responses - [RCLBStrategicPlanSurveyResults.pptx](#) - and let us know what you think.

In the coming weeks, look for additional findings and analysis that will be shared from this data set. We will continue in our quest for data from various sources, both within our Club and in the community.

Respectfully, Your Stellar Strategic Planning Committee (*Michele Dobson, Steve Hockett, Dennis Smith, Kelly Ruggirello, Tina Barry, Leslie Wiberg, Cam Killingsworth Wayne Slavitt, Henry Fung and Judy Ross*). Stay tuned!

The Rotary Family: An Invitation to Grow Together

By **Sarah Soriano and Debbie Thorpe**, Membership Service Co-Directors

Dear Rotarians and Friends,

We recently came across an inspiring article from the Portland Rotary Club titled "20 Reasons to Join Rotary" which beautifully highlights the essence of what makes Rotary such a special place. You can read the article [\[here\]](#). It speaks of the camaraderie, personal development, and cultural enrichment that come with being a part of Rotary. These are not just abstract concepts but real experiences that we have had the privilege to witness and benefit from since joining Rotary.

Rotary is a unique place where friendship blossoms, personal and professional growth is encouraged, and continuous learning is a given. It's a community where "every religion, nationality, culture, and belief" is represented and celebrated. This diversity and inclusivity are what make Rotary truly exceptional. Personally, we have always felt welcomed and appreciated by our fellow Rotarians which is a testament to the supportive



We have always felt welcomed and appreciated by our fellow Rotarians, which is a testament to the supportive and accepting nature of our community.

As your Membership Co-Directors, we're reaching out with an invitation. Think about someone in your life who would thrive in our vibrant and inclusive environment—a friend, colleague, neighbor, or business partner. This is an opportunity for them to join a network where they can grow, connect, and make a positive impact alongside us.

We encourage you to extend an invitation to them, whether it's to join us for a lunch meeting or attend a Rotary Connections event. Remember, we are all part of the membership committee, and every one of us plays a key role in growing our Rotary family.

If you have any questions or need assistance with the invitation process, please don't hesitate to reach out. We're here to support you in any way we can.

Let's continue to build and enrich our Rotary community together!

LBDP Hosts Event at Rotary Centennial Park

By Henry C. Fung, RCLB Centennial Park Committee

On **Saturday August 17**, the **Long Beach Police Department** hosted an **Ice Cream Event** at Rotary's Centennial Park from 10 am-2 pm. as part of their Community Engagement Program. It was to welcome the students and their families back to school. The Commander for the East Division and officers provided ice cream, face painting, and bounce houses. Some of the Rotary Centennial Park Committee members met with the officers and expressed appreciation for including Centennial Park in their Program.



Photo Montage Courtesy of Kay Cofield, RCLB President #97

BIRTHDAYS - Click on Name to Send a Greeting!



[Fox M. Boswell](#)
September 4th



[Marjorie Fleming](#)
September 8th



[Beverly L. O'Neill](#)
September 8th



[Philip L. Splendorio](#)
September 9th



[Olivia Maiser](#)
September 10th

CLUB LEADERS - Click on Name to Send a Message



[Steve M. Hockett](#)
President



[Katherine \(Kay\) Cofield](#)
Assistant to the President



[Braden James Phillips](#)
Assistant to the President



[Richard Gibson](#)
Vice President



[Lance R. Kenyon](#)
Vice President



[Linda Josephine Rahn](#)
Vice President



[Michael Rivard](#)
Vice President



[John E. Romundstad](#)
Secretary
Treasurer



[Roger Civaleri](#)
Sergeant-at-Arms



[Lisa Finn](#)
Sergeant-at-Arms



[Randall S. Kemner](#)
Sergeant-at-Arms



[Daniel Eufrazio Tapia](#)
Sergeant-at-Arms



[Whitney Leathers](#)
CCO-Club Comm. Offcr



[Lisa Rameow](#)
CCO-Club Comm. Offcr



[Nancy Zwiers](#)
Career Service Director



[Timothy Aldrete](#)
Club Service Director



[Leslie Wiberg](#)
Community Service Director



[Natalie Hale](#)
Fellowship Service Director



[Matthew L. Kinley](#)
International Service
Director



[Sarah Soriano](#)
Membership Service Co-Director



[Debbie Thorpe](#)
Membership Service Co-Director



[Conor Kenneth Weir](#)
Youth Service Director



[Michele A. Dobson](#)
iPast President



[Kelly Ruggirello](#)
President-elect



[Wayne C. Slavitt](#)
President-nominee



[Madrid Zimmerman](#)
Club Director
Club Executive Secretary



[Donald E. Cochran](#)
Rotary International
Foundation Chair

EVENTS

September 4th, 12:00-1:30 PM
[Long Beach Weekly Club Meeting](#)
Speaker: Dylan Matteson
Subject: "The Spirits Rise" - Dark Harbor and the Queen Mary

September 10th, 5:00-7:00 PM
[5 O'Clock Somewhere](#)
Phil Trani's
After hours mixer

September 11th, 12:00-1:30 PM
[Long Beach Weekly Club Meeting](#)
Speaker: Jim McDonnell
Subject: Current Issues in American Policing

September 12th, 2:00-3:00 PM
[RoToastados - A Rotary Toastmaster Alliance Club](#)

September 14th, 8:00-9:00 AM
[Centennial Park Clean-up](#)

September 17th, 4:00-5:00 PM
[RCLB Board of Directors Meeting](#)




September 18th, 12:00-1:30 PM
[Long Beach Weekly Club Meeting](#)
Also annual Rby9 Fundraiser

September 19th, 8:00-9:00 AM
[Business Breakfast Roundtable : in person](#)

September 22nd, 3:00-5:30 PM
[Ronald McDonald House Sunday Meal](#)

September 25th, 12:00-1:30 PM
[Long Beach Weekly Club Meeting](#)
Rotary Roots
Sign up to visit individual member's place of business Email will be sent out on September 4 to register online directly

September 26th, 2:00-3:00 PM
[RoToastados - A Rotary Toastmaster Alliance Club](#)

	<p align="center">Rotary Club of Long Beach meets every Wednesday @ 12 Noon</p> <p align="center">THE QUEEN MARY 1126 Queens Hwy Long Beach, CA 90802</p> <p align="center"><i>LB Skyline Photo Credit Long Beach Convention & Visitors Bureau</i></p> <p align="center">September 4, 2024 - Vol. 108, Issue 9</p>	<p align="center">Club Office Rotary Club of Long Beach The Queen Mary 1126 Queens Hwy. Sylvania Room Long Beach, CA 90802 562-499-1752 Rotary@RotaryLongBeach.org</p> <p align="center">Visit Long Beach Rotary District 5320 Rotary International</p>	<p align="center">Visit our Social Media Pages</p> <p align="center"> </p>
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