THE DOWNTOWN LIONS CLUB wishes to thank the following advertisers for their support

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The Downtown Lions club meets every Friday at noon at the Petroleum Club, 3636 Linden Ave., LB. Those occasions when we do not meet or meet elsewhere are noted either on the web site or this weekly bulletin.

Long Beach Downtown Lions Club
5150 E. Pacific Coast Hwy.
Suite 605
Long Beach, CA 90804

Vol. 91 | Friday, April 3, 2015, Noon | No. 37

LONG BEACH PETROLEUM CLUB
3636 LINDEN AVE
562-427-7966
Presiding: LINDA WEINGARTNER
Invocation: RUDY HEDGREN
Program Arranged by:
PP MERLIN THIMLAR

Guests welcome!

MARIO GONZALEZ
PORT OF LONG BEACH

Mario is the Manager of Community Relations in the Communications and Community Relations Division at the Port of Long Beach. He joined the Division in 2009, serving as Senior Community Relations Specialist until being promoted to Manager in 2015.

He is the Port's primary community liaison and manages a team of community outreach professionals, interns and contractors who share the Port's messages about international trade and commerce, education and career opportunities, Port development and environmental initiatives with many audiences throughout the city. Mr. Gonzalez also coordinates special events at the Port, including news conferences, receptions, tours and cruises.

Before coming to the Port, he worked for 11 years with the City Department of Health and Human Services in the Preventive Heath Bureau.

He attended CSULB, where he earned a BS degree in Health Science: Community Health; a Master of Science degree in Public Policy and Administration: Urban Affairs, and a Graduate Certificate in Urban Executive Management. He also holds a Public Relations Certificate from the UCLA.

He is a member of the Public Relations Society of America, Los Angeles and Orange County Chapters, and the Los Angeles Chapter of the American Society of Public Administration. A Long Beach resident, he contributes to his community as a member of the Board of Directors of the Gay and Lesbian Center and as a member of the Workforce Investment Board Youth Council.

PP MERLIN THIMLAR
COD

MERLIN was born in a farm house in DeKalb County, IN and grew up on farms near Butler, IN. He and his wife, Delores, met in high school and have been married for over 53 years. They have two children, Robin and Michael, two grandchildren, Lindsay and Jeffrey, and two great grandchildren, Harper and Hadley.

MERLIN attended Purdue University where he received a BS degree in Engineering Sciences in 1962. The Thimlar's moved to California and MERLIN went to work for Hughes Aircraft Company in Culver City. He continued his education at UCLA where he received an MS degree in Engineering in 1966. MERLIN then joined the Aerospace Corporation, where he worked until his retirement. He still consults at Aerospace.

MERLIN is chair of the Finance Committee at the Los Altos United Methodist Church in Long Beach. MERLIN's hobbies are fishing, camping, reading, photography, and do-it yourself projects. He leads a very active life as a retiree with volunteer work plus doing lots of camping and travel.

LONG BEACH DOWNTOWN LIONS CLUB

Retrospective—Mar 20, 2015

Petroleum Club, PCC ROGER POWELL presiding. Invocation: ROGER. Piano: A. Capella. Song/Spirit: PP MARILYN RUSSELL BITTLE. Announcements: Keep the White Cane cans in mind and keep bringing in those cell phones, hearing aids and eyeglasses. MARILYN announced we have approx. 53 reservations for the Chinese Dinner and Auction this Thursday. Work day at her house Wed. to prepare prizes. KIRK reminded all of the Lions Zone Theatre night Apr. 23 (see column right). ROGER reminded us of the next Student Speakers round, Mar. 25. Our winner, Noah La Barba will be competing. The Interservice Club will be May 14. Our club will reimburse members the difference between what we pay at the Petroleum Club and the $30 cost of the lunch. (See column right). ROGER read a thank you from Rancho Los Cerritos for our contribution. Ronald MacDonald House recognition program is the same night as our Chinese Dinner. PDG DENNIS DRAG is selling Lions 100 yr. anniversary pins. HAPPY BUCKS: MARILYN'S granddaughter's high school economics team placed first at UCLA with a business plan for the "Fondu-It" catering company. On to the finals Apr. 12. SANDY GJONOVICH'S granddaughter was awarded Cal State Fullerton Athlete/Scholar of the Year. ED MACIAS announced Greta is doing well. DENNIS is happy for the UCLA basketball win, a repeat of a win exactly 20 yrs. ago. BRADE was fined for publicity he received as board chair of the California Conference for Equality and Justice which recently gave out humanitarian awards. The 50-50, conducted by GEOFF GATLEY, was won by STEVE HUHTA. The answer to GEOFF'S trivia question: Phoenix is the state capital named for a bird (mythical). ROGER announced our nominees for club's 6 director positions: JERRY CALIGIURI, IPP KIRK DAVIS, EDDIE FLORES, HILDA GAYTAN, SANDY GJONOVICH, CLAUDIA HARDEN, PP GARTH PHILLIPS and ROGER POWELL. There will be an Orientation Meeting Mar. 30 at MARILYN'S. As this is Women's Recognition Month, COD MARILYN introduced her head table guest SANDY who told us about her most admired woman, a surgical nurse who had been imprisoned during the Holocaust and inspired SANDY to become a nurse. MARILYN had fun with questions based on her most admired woman, Eleanor Roosevelt.
Our speaker, Fanny Bixby Spencer (1879-1930), played by retired teacher Marian Harris, was the last daughter born to Jotham Bixby. She was an activist, suffragette, artist, poet, first female Long Beach police officer, founder of Costa Mesa, humanitarian, and friend of both MELVIN JONES and Helen Keller.

STUDENT SPEAKER CONTEST

We regret to report that our candidate, Noah La Barba, lost to a young man from Paramount High, Avery de la Cruz. All three speakers were excellent. The next contest (District) is Saturday, April 11th, 2:00pm, ATC School, 1200 West Mines Ave. Montebello.

LONG BEACH DOWNTOWN LIONS CLUB

Apr. 10—Annual Business Meeting
No guests Please!
Program Co-Chairs —
LESLIE DRAG, NANCY VOILS
Greeter—PP AL WEINGARTNER
Apr.17—Snyder: Shot Down!

NIGHT AT THE THEATER

Sign up now for the Zone Night at the Theater. The event is at 6PM (for snacks and beverages) at the LB Playhouse. The play is "Meet Vera Stark" and the cost is $25.

INTERSERVICE CLUB MEETING

This meeting is scheduled for the Grand Event Center at 11:30AM on Thursday, May 14. The cost will be $19. The presenter will be from the studio releasing *Peanuts the Movie.*

4L2 CONVENTION

The convention will be held from May 15 to the 17th at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, 2270 Hotel Circle, San Diego. Online reservation is available at LIONS4L2.ORG.

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

Next week is our Annual Business Meeting. We will get an in depth look at the health of the club and elect officers for the coming year. Don't forget: **No guests please!**

BOARD CANDIDATE SPEECHES

Any candidate who wishes may make a 1-2 minute speech at this meeting outlining why he/she wishes to be a board member.

CALENDAR

April
2—CSAC
3—Board nominee speeches
7—Membership Committee
7—Charities committee
10—Annual business meeting/Board election/No guests please!
14—Board meeting
18—District meeting
23—Theater night

May
2—Health Fair
5—Membership Committee
5—Charities Committee
7—CSAC
12—Board meeting
14—Interservice Club, The Grand, 11:30AM
15—Dark!
15-17—4L2 Convention, San Diego
22– Dark! Memorial Day
25—Memorial Day

June
2—Membership Committee
2—Charities Committee
4—CSAC
9—Board meeting

July
2—CSAC
3—Dark! Independence Day
7—Membership Committee
7—Charities Committee
14—Board meeting

August
4—Membership Committee
4—Charities Committee
6—CSAC
11—Board meeting
TBA—Picnic/BBQ

September
1—Membership Committee
3—CSAC
4—Dark! Labor Day
4—Charities Committee
8—Board meeting

October
1—CSAC