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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.

**CLUB OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS**  
Mailing address: 4712 East 2nd Street #434  
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Long Beach Downtown Lions Club  
4712 East 2nd Street #434  
Long Beach, California 90803





Dedicated Dec. 10, 2000

**LONG BEACH DOWNTOWN LIONS CLUB**

Chartered Aug. 27, 1901

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**ROCKWELL BUILDING 80  
BASE ISOLATION SEISMIC  
REHABILITATION  
DENNIS DRAG, PHD**

Rockwell Building 80 is located on Seal Beach Blvd just south of Westminster Avenue in Seal Beach. In 1967 Rockwell International purchased North American Aviation and all of its divisions and facilities. Building 80 was initially built along with assembly facilities located on the east side of Seal Beach Blvd. in the early 60's for the assembly of the Apollo Program Saturn V's second stage. During the 60's and early 70's all of Rockwell's Engineering Divisions had their own massive computer systems at their respective facilities. In the late 70's Rockwell decided to move all of their computer systems to Building 80 and have its respective divisions access the system remotely.



Building 80 would still be completely functional and its computer systems on line. With that in mind, the incorporation of the latest in seismic rehabilitation was employed. The presentation will discuss the complexities of the engineering, design, and construction of the seismic rehabilitation project. The power point presentation contains numerous project photos of this unique project. The most critical point in the entire project was that Building 80 and its Cray Super Computer Systems had to be operational throughout the entire project.

**THE PETROLEUM CLUB  
3636 Linden Ave.  
562-427-7966**  
Presiding: PDG DENNIS DRAG, PHD  
Invocation: RUDY HEDGREN  
Program Arranged by:  
DENNIS DRAG

**Guests welcome!**

**TO ENGINEER IS HUMAN**  
A few years ago we read a book by one Henry Petroski called *To Engineer is Human*. The title is a play on "To err is human" and in the book Petroski explores the case behind some of our more spectacular engineering/human errors, such as the Tacoma Narrows Bridge (Galloping Gerty), the Skywalk

collapse at the KC Hilton, the Space Shuttle and others. However, failure, he argues, is an essential part of advancement. Success leads inevitably to failure and failure is necessary to achieve ultimate success. Even the Egyptian pyramid builders built steeper and steeper sides until the outer layer of stone slid down the sides of the "Hump" pyramid, teaching them just how steep the sides could be. The Europeans built ever more massive cathedrals, with thinner and thinner walls and bigger and bigger windows until one fell down: the limit has been reached.

With lives, possibly many, at risk, trial and error is, however, unacceptable. Engineering is tasked with predicting failure and designing it out. Not only must the engineer predict failure but must also predict the kind of failure. The great de Vinci anticipated snapping due to load but failed to anticipate failure by twisting (torsion) in one of his designs. One way of approach is model building. Another, of course is mathematics. Still the engineer can be undone by, as in the case of the KC Hilton, unauthorized design changes. That incident cost over 100 people their lives. Faulty maintenance is another issue. The Chicago DC 10 crash cost almost 280 people their lives. All due to faulty maintenance procedures.

On the other hand, London's Crystal Palace was built in record time using a totally innovative procedure and stood for 80 years until destroyed by fire. The Brooklyn Bridge was built in record time, extended suspension bridge technology to new limits and is still standing over 100 years later. The Empire State Building was for many years the tallest building in the world, also built in record time. And withstood taking a B-27 in its midriff.

Finally, Petroski worries about the introduction of the computer in engineering. Designs are attempted that not long ago would have simply been too tedious for slide rule engineers to even consider. Using a slide rule, the engineer must add the decimal places. This gives her an innate sense of the masses at work. This is can be lost with the computer. He fears the age of the Computer Aided Catastrophe.

You can watch the hour long BBC documentary featuring Petroski on YouTube, *To Engineer is Human*.



## Retrospective October 2, 2015

The Petroleum Club, Presiding: PDG DENNIS DRAG. Invocation: RUDY HEDGREN. Piano: A. Capella. Song/spirit: PP MARILYN RUSSELL BITTLE. Announcements: DENNIS reminded us of the cell phone policy, White Cane canisters, and to keep donating cell phones, hearing aids, and eyeglasses. He intro'd guest Uduak Ntuk (City of Long Beach Oil Islands, PE JERRY CALIGIURI). PP GARTH PHILLIPS needs one more volunteer for the Toshiba GOLF Classic, Oct 30, either 9:30 to 3pm or noon to closing (about 6pm). PDG DENNIS DRAG intro'd his head table of PP GEORGE MILLER, JR., PCC ROGER and PDG JUDY POWELL, PP LINDA WEINGARTNER and PP YOURS TRULY. PP JIM HARDEN recognized the Sep. anniversaries and thanked them for their service. GEORGE indicated the Belmont Shore visitation will be on Oct. 19, location TBD. JUDY and MARILYN are planning a Holiday sing along meeting for December. If you would like to help out, let one of them know. Tail Twister RICH STANLEY raised Happy Bucks from himself (USC won); YOURS TRULY (UCLA won); PE JERRY CALIGIURI (Dodgers in

playoffs); JUDY (bought 50 (?) pairs of new jeans); JIM HARDEN (sorry, note is undecipherable); LINDA WEINGARTNER (Cubs in playoffs); and GARTH (granddaughter earned Masters). The 50/50, run GEOFF GATLEY, was won by CHARLIE QUAIFFE. GEOFF's poser: What movie had the highest return on investment in history? Ans: *Halloween*. COD DENNIS, in lieu of questions, fined everyone present \$2 and paid it himself. He intro'd PP BRADE PHILLIPS including the little known fact that BRADE was a member of the Academy's Varsity Football Lightweights. We presume one must weight less than a certain amount in order to participate. BRADE explored in detail the nature of contact between law enforcement and the general public ranging from consensual (you can walk away at any time) to "command presence" (you are going to jail even if it takes pain to induce compliance). Some members were taken aback by the realization that if an officer draws his weapon, it is not for effect, he intends to defend him/herself even if it takes deadly force.



## Oct. 23—TBA

Program Chair—PDG DENNIS DRAG  
Greeter—PP ED BARWICK  
Oct. 30—Dark! Toshiba Golf Classic

### YOU CAN HELP: THE TOSHIBA CLASSIC

We are manning a booth at the Toshiba Classic Golf Tournament, Oct. 30 at the Newport Beach Country Club. There are two shifts: 9:30am to 3pm and noon to close. We earn money for our charities. Your help is appreciated. Sign up at a Friday meeting or contact PP ED BARWICK.

### LIONS OFFICE ADDRESS CHANGE

We continue to receive mail forwarded from the previous office address. Please note that the current office address is:  
4712 East 2nd Street #434  
Long Beach, California 90803.

The forwarding order will not continue forever.

## CALENDAR

### October

13—Board meeting  
19—Visitation, Belmont Shore, Location TBD  
20—Zone A meeting  
30—Dark! Toshiba Classic  
31—District meeting

### November

3—Membership Committee  
3—Charities Committee  
5—CSAC  
10—Pasadena Host visitation  
17—Board meeting  
17—Zone A meeting  
18—B&G Club Thanksgiving dinner  
19—B&G Club Thanksgiving dinner  
26—Thanksgiving  
27—Dark!

### December

1—Membership Committee  
1—Charities Committee  
3—CSAC  
5—Belmont Shore parade  
8—Board meeting  
13—Holiday Party  
25—Dark! Christmas

### January

1—Dark! New Years Day  
5—Membership Committee  
5—Charities Committee  
7—CSAC  
12—Board meeting  
19—Zone A meeting  
23—District meeting

### February

2—Membership Committee  
2—Charities Committee  
4—CSAC  
5—7—MD4 Convention, Modesto  
9—Board meeting  
14—Valentines Day  
15—President's Day  
16—Zone A Meeting

### March

1—Membership Committee  
1—Charities Committee  
3—SCAC