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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  
Long Beach, California 90803. Telephone: (562)  
477-3286 and fax: (562) 439-7174  
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Zone A Chair, Bay Region . . . . . George Miller Jr

Long Beach Downtown Lions Club  
4712 East 2nd Street #434  
Long Beach, California 90803



Vol. 93 Friday, December 2, 2016, noon No. 16

**DEBBIE ACEVEDO**  
**ST. MARY'S LOW VISION CENTER**

DEBBIE was born, raised, and educated in Australia. In 1979, she arrived in the U.S. and in 1980, applied for residency in the U.S. She married in 1981 and in 1982, became a proud citizen of the United States and all it stands for. DEBBIE has one daughter, Vanessa, and one son, Andre. She is also the very proud grandmother of a little girl named Denise with another bundle of joy making his appearance in April 2017.



With an interest in the legal field, DEBBIE attended Cerritos College in 1986 and began her illustrious career as a Court Reporter specializing in medical depositions. In January 2001, she began her career with the Passages Gerosych Department at St. Mary Medical Center. In 2002, DEBBIE accepted the position of Optical Aids Counselor within the Low Vision Center. Besides attending to patients, she was given charge of the school vision screenings at the various parochial schools within the greater Long Beach area. This position gave her the opportunity to work and gain hands-on experience with Mrs. Florence Traub who served the Center for a period of 40 years and was originally the assistant to the founder of the Center, Orville W. Cole, M.D. In 2004, DEBBIE was promoted to the position of Supervisor/Manager of the Low Vision Center. Since that time, she has made many changes and created new programs designed to generate a brighter future for the residents of the LB community.

DEBBIE was promoted to Director of the Low Vision Center in 2015. In October 2016, she celebrated 15 years of service with St. Mary Medical Center and in her own words, looks forward to serving the hospital and the Long Beach community for another 100 years!

DEBBIE credits much of her success to her mentor and husband, Alex Acevedo, who has served as the Low Vision Center Volunteer Business Advisor for the past 10 years. Together, they have become the voice of the children in the Long Beach and Compton USD.

**PETROLEUM CLUB**  
**3636 LINDEN AVE.**  
**562-427-7966**

Presiding: JERRY CALIGIURI  
Invocation: RUDY HEDGREN  
Program Arranged by:  
PP LINCOLN ODELL

**PP GENE JOHNSON**  
**COD**

SOME FLASHES FROM GENE JOHNSON'S PAST:  
May 22, 1948 took the gold medal at State of Washington Track meet setting state record. Graduated high school June 1948.  
June 21, 1948 6:00 pm to midnight climbed Mt. Roberts near Juneau, Alaska to experience the sun never setting on the longest day of the year.  
Enlisted in Navy August 1948 and graduated Electronic School January 1950 as ET3.  
Fall of 1950 started college at University of Puget Sound and worked for Weyerhaeuser.  
April 1951 passed the entrance exam in Coastwise Navigation and the Pilot Rules of the United States and was admitted to the U.S. Power Squadron. Taught subject and small boat handling to Sea Scouts.  
May of 1952 completed Boy Scouts of America 3 year training program and received the Scouters Award.  
June 1954 married LEANN.



From October 1957 an article in the Weyerhaeuser Timber Co. National Magazine: "Everett-Persistence paid off with a BA degree in Business Administration for GENE, Pulp Tabulating supervisor".  
In the fall of 1950 Johnson enrolled at College of Puget Sound, and started working part time in the accounting and statistical department, sales company, Tacoma office. He carried a full academic load. He had to stay out of school two semesters and when he was transferred here in 1955 he found himself seven semester hours short of a degree. He was able to complete his Hours at the University of Washington Evening Division and received his diploma this summer. Johnson's wife is the former LEANN NOEL who also had worked in the sales company's Tacoma office. They have three children, Don, Lori and Jerry. Sheri joined us later.  
April 1958 helped found the Active 20/30 Club of Everett, WA.  
Moved to CA. August 1964 as Manager of the F & M Building at First & Pine.  
Joined Lion's October 1983, 100% President 1991-1992. Was club Treasurer for 27 years. Now LSHF Treasurer and on the District 4L2 Audit Committee.  
Awarded the International Presidents Award 1991-1992.  
June 1991 climbed Ayres Rock in central Australia and met my first Coral Snake in Fiji.  
MELVIN JONES fellow with 7 diamonds.  
Golden Lion 2000, 20003 & 2005.  
Married 62 years, 4 children, 10 grandchildren and 4 great-grandsons.



## Retrospective Nov. 11, 2016

The Petroleum Club, JERRY CALIGIURI presiding. Invocation: RUDY HEDGREN. Song/spirit: PP MARILYN RUSSELL BITTLE. Piano: ROB NICHOLS. Announcements: JERRY intro'd ED MACIAS' daughter Pat Garrabrandt. PP MERLIN THIMLAR recognized the November birthdays. JERRY welcomed back BONNIE BARWICK (following neck syfery). He also reported that LESLIE DRAG's surgery is today (she says she is pain free). PP YOURS TRULY asked if all had voted for their favorite Peace Poster and encouraged all to order polo shirts. PP LIONCOLN ODELL tallied the Peace Poster votes. MERLIN noted that the Charities committee had voted \$1,500 for the Salvation Army/Villages at Cabrillo Mothers Christmas Project. PDG JUDITH OLMSTED POWELL encouraged

sign ups for the Holiday Party. We will be entertained by the Poly Hi Jazz Singers. Please bring an unwrapped toy. MARILYN encouraged all to ride our trolley in the Belmont Shore parade. Bring some youngsters! Have a ball! Tail Twister JUDITH OLMSTED POWELL asked all vets present to stand. Everyone sitting paid a buck. Many gave a buck for their father's service to our country. MERLIN won the 50-50, run by DONNA KELLY. RUDY asked for volunteers for ringing the bell. COD STEVE HUHTA raised money/had fun with questions about vets and intro'd Brenda Threatt, Army captain. Brenda gave an inspiring talk about country and service. YOURS TRULY announced the Peace Poster winner (Davyon Lasoya.)



## Dec. 9—Dark! Adult Holiday Party

Program Chair—PP LINCOLN ODELL

Dec. 16—Antiques Road Show

### COMING SOON!

The Belmont Shore parade is Dec. 3.  
The Montebello visitation is Dec. 6.  
The Adult Holiday party is Dec 11.  
The Pasadena Host breakfast is Dec. 31 as is the IP reception.

### NEW MEMBER—RICK PINSON

**Rick L. Pinson**

**Club Name:** Rick

**Birthday:** Apr 10

**\*Home Address:** 3210 Fanwood Ave.,  
Long Beach, CA 90808

**Res. Phone:** 310-503-8487

**Res. Fax:** 562-420-7769

**Occupation:** Retired Software Development

**Email:** RICKPINSON@YAHOO.COM

**Cell:** 310-503-8487

**Date Joined:** 9/19/2016

**Sponsor:** Jerry Caligiuri

### NEW MEMBER—BASSEL ZAAZAA

**Bassel Zaazaa**

**Club Name:** Bassel

**Birthday:** February 18

**\*Home Address:** 3171 Claremore Ave.,  
Long Beach, CA 90808

**Email:** BASSEL.ZAAZAA@LAU.EDU

**Cell:** 562-454-7590

**Date Joined:** 9/16/2016

**Sponsor:** Al Weingartner

## CALENDAR

### November

12—District Meeting, 11:30AM  
15—Zone A Meeting  
16—T'giving Dinner McKinley  
17—T'giving dinner Hart  
24—Thanksgiving  
25—Dark!

### December

3—Belmont Shore Parade  
6—Membership Committee  
6—Charities Committee  
10—Salvation Army bell ringing  
11—Adult Holiday party  
13—Board meeting  
20—Zone A Meeting  
23—Dark! Christmas  
25—Christmas  
30—Dark! New Years  
31—Reception, IP

### January

1—New Years  
3—Membership Committee  
3—Charities Committee  
10—Board meeting  
14—MD4 Leadership Forum  
17—Zone A Meeting  
21—District Meeting, 8AM  
25—CSAC

### February

7—Membership Committee  
10—MD4 Convention  
14—Board meeting  
21—Zone A meeting

### March

4—MD4 Leadership Institute  
6—Night at the Theater  
14—Board meeting  
16—Chinese Dinner and Auction  
21—Zone A meeting

### April

8—District Meeting 8AM  
11—Board meeting  
18—Zone A meeting

### May

9—Board meeting  
19—4L2 Convention  
27—Dark! Memorial Day