

THE LOS ANGELES BREAKFAST CLUB

EST. 1925

99 YEARS OF THE LABC

1925

- March 6: First meeting of the Los Angeles Breakfast Club held. Founded by Broadway merchant Maurice De Mond. Meetings are typically held on Friday mornings with a horse ride followed by breakfast with presentations and entertainment
- September 4: Presentations by Sam and Jack Warner and Rin Tin Tin and his trainer Lee Duncan
- December 4: 1st annual USC-themed meeting
- December 25: Christmas meeting with Jack Dempsey, Jackie Coogan, Mack Sennett, Ben Turpin, Santa Claus

1926

- April 2: Al G. Barnes Circus morning with Edgar Rice Burroughs as ringmaster
- July 2: William Randolph Hearst and Harry Chandler bury the hatchet and shake hands
- August 6: Sid Grauman initiated
- August 27: club memorial service for member Rudolph Valentino
- September 17: LABC meetings begin to air over KMTR radio station
- December 10: Tom Mix initiated
- December 25: 2nd annual Christmas meeting featuring Mary Pickford, Douglas Fairbanks, and Jackie Coogan

1927

- February 18: composer/Breakfast Clubber Byron Gay performs song "Four or Five Time" cowritten by fellow Breakfast Clubber Marco Hellman. "Four or Five Times" goes on to become a standard
- March 18: Carl Laemmle initiated
- March 25: Gloria Swanson initiated
- July 1: 1st annual Hollywood Bowl-themed meeting
- August 19: Al Jolson (in his second radio appearance) is initiated. LABC meetings now air on KFWB. Airtime is donated by the Warner Bros.

1928

- January 11: Weekly breakfast meetings moved to Wednesday mornings
- March 21: Irving Berlin attends
- July 4: New York Mayor Jimmy Walker is a no-show for his initiation (but attends the next week)
- July 13: aviator Roscoe Turner and actor Ben Lyon give an airplane demonstration and end up crash landing in the nearby LA River (they were both okay)
- September 12: Leo Carrillo initiated

1929

- February 20: club memorial service for Ned Doheny, his father Edward Doheny is a member
- April 3: Sophie Tucker initiated
- June 12: Billy Sunday initiated
- July 17: Goodyear blimp flies over club in tribute
- April 14: Amelia Earhart and other pilots participating in the National Women's Air Derby are honored

1930

- February 19: Calvin and Grace Coolidge initiated (didn't have to sit on Ham the sawhorse)
- February 26: Death Valley Scotty initiated

1931

- April 1: Knute Rockne was supposed to be initiated, but was killed in a plane crash the day before en route to Los Angeles
- July 17: Leon Bayard deVolo and Esther Macrery marry during a meeting
- June 24: shortly before the weekly meeting, club president Maurice De Mond dies. A will cannot be found which leads to financial complications for LABC
- August 24: Our Gang actors Chubby, Shirley Jean, and Mary Ann attend
- November 11: Vice President Charles Curtis initiated

1932

- March 9: Carl Laemmle installed as LABC president
- July 6: George Cohan initiated
- July 20: Jim Thorpe is guest of honor
- September 28: Walt Disney initiated

1933

- August 16: Clara Clemens (Mark Twain's daughter) initiated
- December 27: last meeting at the original clubhouse

1934

- January 3: LABC leaves the original clubhouse and is meeting at the Ambassador Hotel. Another branch of the Breakfast Club (going by Official Breakfast Club and later Riverside Drive Breakfast Club) continues to meet at the original clubhouse. Both Breakfast Clubs meet at the same time and both air radio programs. They often book similar programs and guests often don't know which Breakfast Club they are supposed to attend. It is confusing for all.
- June 13: Shirley Temple performs

1935

- April 3: Breakfast Clubber Louis B. Mayer gives a presentation, "Will the Movies Really Move?"
- November 20: Deanna Durbin performs

1936

- October 14: Adriana Caselotti (the future voice of Snow White) performs

1937:

- Joseph Strauss (designer of the Golden Gate Bridge) presents
- December 22: last meeting held at Ambassador Hotel
- December 29: first meeting at LABC's second clubhouse!

1939

- September 27: Dale Carnegie presents on "Winning Friends"
- November 1: Harold Lloyd initiated

1941

- September 3: Olvera Street's Christine Sterling gives LABC the Candle of Remembrance

1942

- March 11: Babe Ruth initiated

1943

- August 18: Joe DiMaggio initiated

1944

- August 30: 875th KFWB radio broadcast

1945

- October 31: Louis Zamperini (of Unbroken fame) receives LABC's gold Valor Medal

1953

- August 9: LABC meetings now air on KPOL radio station

1955

- November 30: Natalie Wood collects donations for Toys for Tots

1956

- April 25: Member Charles Von Der Ahe (Vons founder) honored with life membership

1959

- November 18: Vin Scully presents on "L.A. Dodgers"

1965

- November 3: first meeting in Friendship Auditorium, LABC's third clubhouse. Friendship Auditorium was built on the grounds of the original LABC clubhouse, now part of Griffith Park. LABC paid for the auditorium and donated it to Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks

1967

- January 4: Harold Link, club manager for 40 years, retires
- July 26: Governor Ronald Reagan initiated

1981

- Women can join the club as full members (previously they could only be honorary members)
- June 24: Lawrence Welk initiated

1986

- Nida Solana Brown, first woman president, elected

1994

- January 26: Frank Koyni, LABC's pianist since 1930, is honored

1995

- November 15: Huell Howser presents on "California's Gold"

1999

- November 10: Louis Zamperini (of Unbroken fame) returns to LABC fifty-four years after he was first honored at the club

2014

- The club is down to 33 members and is at risk of ending. Lily Holleman joins, is elected president, and revitalizes the club

2020

- The Pandemic. Meetings are moved to Zoom

2021

- July 21: in-person meetings resume
- October 6: Representative Adam Schiff initiated (spoke at the club twice in the 1990s)
- December 1: Leonard Maltin presents

2022

- September 21: a visit from the Wienermobile
- October 26: Gary Baseman presents

2023

- January 11: Lynne Thompson, Poet Laureate of Los Angeles
- June 7: Bob Gurr presents