

## LGB Business Partner Spotlight: Long Beach Flying Club

This month we'd like to introduce Candy Robinson, owner of Long Beach Flying Club. She recently celebrated her 40-year anniversary as owner of the club, which she purchased in 1980 for \$1,800. Needless to say, she has a true love of flying and previously flew for Part 135 and Part 121 operators like Alpha Air, American Eagle and UPS. Her grandfather was an accomplished aviator who started flying in 1926 and retired as Chief Pilot from United Airlines in 1967.



Q: Can you tell us about Long Beach Flying Club?

A: We have trained thousands of pilots. Many have gone on to successful careers with commuter and major airlines. We are dedicated to giving the pilot who flies for personal, business, or purely for pleasure, the same quality instruction as to those who are career-oriented. Come check us out at 2631 East Spring Street!

Q: How has COVID-19 affected your business?

A: Our international student business has dropped off considerably but we're still very busy. Fortunately, flight schools are considered essential services by the State of California, so we can stay open. We did, however, close for six weeks from March 17 through May 1, 2020. During that time, we were able to pay our employees using the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) and design the procedures so that we could reopen safely. Additionally, we needed to procure enough cleaning and paper supplies to service the building.

Q: What do you like best about being part of the LGB community?

A: Having a business on a city-owned airport like LGB has given me the opportunity to grow the business. We have a 40-year lease on the land and own the building, an opportunity I believe would not have been available on any other airport in the Los Angeles basin. There aren't as many service businesses at the airport as in the "olden days," but we have enough connections to get almost anything we need to fix whatever comes up.

Q: Anything else you'd like to share with your fellow LGB business partners?

A: Being part of the Parcel J development has been quite interesting, from the groundbreaking in 1998 through the present, with the tenants forming the Daugherty Sky Harbor Office Association to manage the common area for all the businesses on the southeastern corner of the airport.