



e-Revolutions

Berkeley Rotary Club

AT THE INTERSECTION OF COMMUNITY AND SERVICE SINCE 1916



[Click here for a printable club calendar](#)

Speakers

March 19, 2025

[James Hodson, CEO, AI for Good Foundation](#)
"Rebuilding Europe's Resilience"

March 26, 2025

[Cindy Dickeson \(CEO\) and Davana Jackson \(Deaf Coach Coordinator\)](#)
"Maximizing the Potential of Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Children at CEID"

April 02, 2025

[J. K. Fowler, Executive Director, Bay Area Book Festival](#)
"Bay Area Book Festival: Changing the Narrative"

April 09, 2025

[Jamie Albrecht, Coordinator of Emergency Services, City of Berkeley](#)
TBA

April 16, 2025

[Monica Gandhi, M.D.](#)
"Update on Communicable Diseases"

Events

March 19th

[Meetings of the Boards \(Club and Endowment\) via Zoom](#)

March 26th

[Civil Discourse Meeting via Zoom](#)

March 27th

[BRC Lasagna Project](#)

March 28th

[Tour the California Maritime Academy with Berkeley Rotary!](#)

April 4th

[Ladies Who Lunch](#)

April 5th

Club Announcements

By Linda Cogozzo

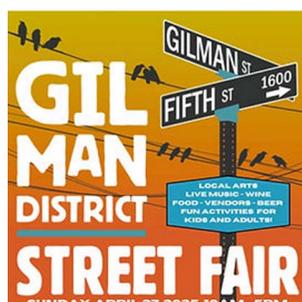
Next Meeting. Wednesday, March 19, 2025 (at First Pres and via Zoom), 12:30 PM PT: James Hodson, CEO of the [AI for Good Foundation](#), will present **"Rebuilding Europe's Resilience."** Since 2015, the AI for Good Foundation has worked with national and municipal governments—the UN, OECD, and many others—to design, develop, and deploy tech-enabled policies/solutions for social, economic, and institutional transformation. The speaker is provided by BRC Team Europe; Volodymyr Goshlyk, Captain.



South Spring Assembly and BETS.

Rotary District 5160 has gathered some of the brightest minds, most generous hearts, and highly entertaining individuals to bring you **Building Bridges to Change Lives**, on Saturday, March 22, 2025, from 8:30 AM-2PM, at Rodriguez High School in Fairfield, CA. There will be breakout sessions, time for fellowship and fun, snacks and lunch, and more! To register, check your inbox for an email you received on March 10 with "Spring Assembly" in the subject line and click on "Register Now" at the bottom of the email.

Sip, Savor, and Support RotaCare on Saturday, April 12, 2025, from 11 AM-3 PM. Hosted by the D5160 BARSHEEP clubs, Sip & Savor is a major fundraiser for RotaCare West Contra Costa County. Berkeley Rotarians have tickets to sell! They are \$70 each. Make out your check to Berkeley Rotary Endowment with Sip & Savor in the memo line. Please return checks with the ticket numbers to Pate Thomson at our club meetings as soon as sold. Any unsold tickets should be returned to Pate by April 9, the Wednesday before the event. For more information and to buy tickets online, visit sipandsavor.org.



Volunteers Wanted for Gilman District Street Fair. The fair is on April 27, 2025, from 10 AM to 5 PM. Volunteers are needed to serve in two-hour shifts and to help out in a variety of roles. Click [here](#) for more information and to sign up.

Calendars. Are you facilitating a Rotary committee meeting or an

[Native Plant Tour](#)

April 10th

[Supportive Housing Hygiene Kit Packing + Committee Meeting](#)

April 10th

[Thirsty Thursday](#)

April 12th

[Sip & Savor](#)

Birthdays

Dee Hubert

March 21st

Helmut Wolfgang Tutass

March 24th

Kris Libunao

March 24th

Jon Allen Vicars

March 29th

Lynne Henderson

April 4th

Yanick Louis Lindquist

April 10th

Fred Tabsharani

April 12th

Marcia K Dillon

April 13th

event? To get it listed in the Green Calendar and on the DACdb website calendar, email your info (date, time, title, brief description, contact person and their email address) to Anne Pardee (pardeevt@comcast.net) and Linda Cogozzo (lcogozzo@icloud.com).



Welcome, Traci Siegel!

Traci Siegel was inducted as our newest club member on March 12. Her sponsor is Joan Collignon, who gave an enthusiastic introduction, noting that even before becoming a member, Traci had already organized a new hands-on service project—the Lasagna Project—providing a hot lunch once a week to the [Women's Daytime Drop-In Center](#).

Traci is a professional chef who offers cooking instruction as well as serving as a private chef. She has owned her own business, [Cook with Chef Traci](#), for over 15 years. She believes in the power of food to heal and to connect with others. Prior to launching her career as a chef, Traci worked in a variety of marketing positions for financial institutions.

Traci holds a Bachelor of Science in Economics from the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania. She has lived in Berkeley with husband Daniel since 1992 and has raised her family here. Her adult daughter and son both live in the Bay Area. Traci's interests include playing bridge and mahjong, movies, reading, and swimming.

In her remarks, Traci noted that she felt warmly welcomed by club members from her very first visit. Let's make it official: **Welcome to Berkeley Rotary, Traci!**



Above: President Ken, Traci, Joan, and Membership Chair Libby.

Bringing Clean Water to Guatemala

By Lewis Ames

At our March 12 meeting, Robert Marshall, former President of the [Novato Rotary Club](#) and President of [H2OpenDoors](#), narrated photos of 2024 Rotary-sponsored work installing water purification systems in Guatemala led by five different Rotary clubs in two districts. Similar projects have been carried out in Ecuador and the Philippines in recent years, all involving the local Rotary clubs at the project locations.

In the recent 2024 Guatemalan Rotary project, in addition to installing two water purification systems—including one at a local school that had no safe drinking water—three additional services were concurrently provided to the local community:

(1) 1,000 reading glasses were distributed, in partnership with [Restoring Vision](#), for people to be able to read and work.

(2) Two server/router systems (developed by [World Possible](#)) were installed in schools, providing free access to educational materials. State-of-the-art educational materials are available to adults' and children's nearby tablets, laptops, or smartphones with no internet required.

(3) 400 menstrual educational kits were distributed to young girls and their mothers, empowering them to have appropriate, safe hygiene information.

Safe, potable water filtration systems are life-changing by eliminating reliance on plastic bottled water or the need to carry water in jugs and buckets, often over long distances. A plus is H2OpenDoors' training of residents to manage and maintain the systems. To date, these systems have lasted over 10 years. In addition to on-site training, H2OpenDoors schedules check-ins with the communities to review ongoing maintenance and support.



Above: Team photo of 2024 Rotary Guatemalan Project participants who installed water purification systems, provided reading glasses, installed educational systems, and distributed hygiene kits.

The water systems can be powered by local power, solar power, or a combination of local and solar and cost between \$25,000 and \$40,000, depending on the water quality filtering required and the level of site preparation. Sites are selected by suggestions, input, and direction of local Rotarians, with the first step being laboratory tests to identify which harmful water contaminants are present. Funding for these projects comes from a combination of district grants and club-to-club grants.

Join Rotary and Save Democracy

By Anne Pardee

I encourage you to watch the documentary "Join or Die," now streaming on Netflix. It follows the story of America's civic unraveling through the journey of Harvard Professor Robert Putnam, whose groundbreaking book ***Bowling Alone*** documented his research into America's decades-long decline in community connections. His findings could hold the answer to our democracy's current crisis.



Citing groups, including Rotary, that build community in neighborhoods across the country, Putnam explores three urgent civic questions: ***What makes democracy work? Why is American democracy in crisis? And, most importantly, What can we do about it?***

Ray Sanford, of San Juan Capistrano Rotary, reminds us that, at its heart, Rotary exists

because we humans need to be part of something bigger than ourselves. We crave meaningful connections that cross boundaries. We believe that regular people working together can change communities and build a more peaceful world.

We believe that each of us has the power to make things better. We don't wait for governments or big organizations to solve problems—we roll up our sleeves and do it ourselves, combining our different talents, skills, and perspectives.
[Read More](#)

Where in the World is . . .

Linda Cogozzo?



The peripatetic Ms. Cogozzo was in Valley of Fire State Park, NV.

Publisher: Jason Draut

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Club Calendars: Linda Cogozzo (online); Anne Pardee (printed)

Copy Deadline: Send to hgrty@sbcglobal.net by Saturday noon for next week's e-Rev.