



e-Revolutions

Berkeley Rotary Club

AT THE INTERSECTION OF COMMUNITY AND SERVICE SINCE 1916



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

Speakers

May 22, 2024

[Alison Simon, Former Director of Amtrak](#)

"The Future of Rail in a Climate-Changing World"

May 29, 2024

[Adam Janik, MD, and Maddison Eshoo, NP](#)

"Preparing for End-of-Life Care"

June 05, 2024

[Joel Roster, Executive and Managing Director, Contra Costa Civic Theater](#)

"The Next Chapter"

June 12, 2024

[President Libby Tyler, Berkeley Rotary 2023-24](#)

"That Was the Year That Was"

June 19, 2024

[John Caner, CEO DBA + Elizabeth Redman Cleveland, Berkeley Office of Econ. Dev.](#)

"The Future of Berkeley Downtown"

Events

May 29th

[Civil Discourse Meeting via Zoom](#)

June 4th

[Membership Committee Meeting via Zoom](#)

June 9th

[Taste of Downtown Berkeley](#)

June 13th

[Thirsty Thursday](#)

Birthdays

Anne Pardee

May 24th

Rebecca Phuong

May 26th

Christopher K. Ahoy

May 29th

Jack H. McPhail

May 31st

Khawaja Mohammad Ashraf

June 10th

Pamela V. Emerson

June 19th

Jason Aupperle Russell

June 20th

Club Announcements

Next Meeting. Wednesday, May 22, 2024, 12:30 PM PT (at First Pres and on Zoom): Alison Simon, former director of Amtrak who loves to talk about trains, will present "**The Future of Rail in a Climate-Changing World.**" She'll take a holistic look at transportation in the United States, given that it is the leading cause of greenhouse gasses (GHGs). While everyone is EV-crazed, the reality is it cannot be the long-term solution in light of mining needs and end-of-life issues. Rail has to play a role. Alison's talk will examine why the U.S. rail is what it is (rather sad), and what we need to do to move it forward. The speaker is provided by Team #7, the Yosemite Team; Jack McPhail and David Pock, Captains.



Volunteers Needed for TASTE of Downtown Berkeley. Sign up for a 2-hour shift between 1:30 and 5:30 pm on Sunday, June 9, to greet people at downtown restaurants and earn admission to the post-event party at the Study Hall, Marriott Residence Inn. This is a fun and easy way to help our club raise funds for our scholarships and grant projects. Bring your enthusiasm and represent Rotary! (And consider bringing a friend, spouse, or adult relative to volunteer with you.) Sign up with Arlene Marcus (arlenebmarcus@comcast.net) or David Pock (pockdavid@gmail.com).



Board Notes--May

By Grier Graff

Club Board

This was the last business meeting of the board this year. The June meeting will be an appreciation event by President Libby. Two important decisions were confirmed.



1. Club meetings will continue as hybrid. This was the consensus after questions were raised.

There are many good reasons to continue hybrid meetings:

- a. Several members, due to where they live, cannot attend in person regularly. Sallie Weissinger, Jim Masters, Nicky Lindquist, for example.
- b. It is key to attracting 15-25 attendees a week, on most weeks. Many of these attendees are active in club service activities.
- c. At a recent meeting (early May 2024), ten of those attending that day donated approximately \$4,000 total to the Rotary Foundation (per foundation chair) for the 2023 year.
- d. Some, especially younger members, who have work commitments can't get away from their jobs to attend in-person meetings, Dan Montgomery, for example.
- e. In contacting senior members who had yet to pay their dues for 2023-24, the ability to experience the club via Zoom was a key factor in their decision to continue their membership.
- f. When members can't attend due to physical limitations (both short-term and long-term situations), hybrid meetings offer them the opportunity to attend.
- g. Hybrid meetings help in our successful recruitment of new members this year and the prior year. Almost all potential members first came by Zoom, and only then decided to join as members.
- h. Our club in 2022-23 was one of the most successful clubs in the district in achieving membership growth.
- i. Our ability to hear from a variety of excellent speakers, many who don't live in the area, has expanded.

2. Honorary memberships were reviewed: As of July 1, Honorary members will be Jesse Arreguin, Mayor of Berkeley; Steve Oliver, past president & founder of the Endowment; and Richard Lyons, incoming Chancellor of UC Berkeley.

Endowment Board

A Taste of Downtown Berkeley is scheduled for June 9, and all are urged to volunteer and attend. It is hoped we will raise between \$15,000 and \$20,000 for next year's grants.

The grants budget was confirmed to remain at \$65,000 next year and to fund any shortfall from reserves. The grants budget has been \$65,000 or more since 2010.

Downtown Restaurant Appreciation Month

By Joan Collignon



Here's a fun and easy way for you to help our TASTE of Downtown Berkeley fundraiser succeed. Please go to at least one of the downtown restaurants listed below in the next three weeks, buy something to eat or drink—taking it to go or enjoying the restaurant's ambiance—and thank them for being a part of this fundraiser which will raise the money needed for our community projects.

The restaurants are donating all the food that will be consumed by our ticket holders that day as well as the staff time devoted to preparing and serving it. We hope they get a lot of publicity out of this as well as new customers, but that's not guaranteed for them. What is guaranteed is that our ticket holders will have a nice afternoon, getting a new perspective on the downtown while supporting our scholarship program and community grants.

So please drop in to Elaichi for some chai and a cardamom bun, or have a drink at the bar at ZINO at the Shattuck Hotel, or celebrate a birthday at Revival. Just tell them Berkeley Rotary sent you!

Here is the list of restaurants for the June 9 TASTE of Downtown Berkeley. A quick Google search will net you their address and menu. Enjoy!

1. Almare Gelato Italiano
2. Angeline's Louisiana Kitchen
3. Elaichi co. Chai Café
4. Fish & Bird
5. Gather
6. Heroic Italian
7. Lexie's Frozen Custard
8. Noodles Fresh
9. North Beach Pizza
10. Pizzeria Da Laura
11. Revival Bar & Kitchen
12. Signal Coffee Roasters
13. ZINO at the Hotel Shattuck Plaza

A Laboratory for Exploration and Creativity

By James Ivan Masters



Steve Tornallavay, Founder and Director of 9th Street Lab in Berkeley, spoke to the club on May 15. What is the 9th Street Lab? The Lab is based on the idea that children have a natural and innate sense of imagination and curiosity of the world. It provides an environment and opportunity that enables children's creativity and imagination to grow and develop while they learn practical and lifelong skills. All of

this takes place through hands-on workshops and activities where students work as individuals and as a group. The children are typically 8 to 12 years old, and come to the Lab after school. During the summer there are week-long workshops from 9:00 AM to 12:30 PM at 1531 9th Street.

[Read More](#)

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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.