



e-Revolutions

Berkeley Rotary Club

AT THE INTERSECTION OF COMMUNITY AND SERVICE SINCE 1916



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

Speakers

January 22, 2025

[Kira Brunner Don, Editor-in-Chief, Stranger's Guide](#)
"Colonialism and International Journalism"

January 29, 2025

[Adena Ishii, Berkeley Mayor](#)
"You, Me, and 23: Meeting Berkeley's Newest Mayor"

February 05, 2025

[Julie Silber](#)
"Quilts from 1790 to Today"

February 12, 2025

[Beth Roessner, CEO, Berkeley Chamber of Commerce](#)
"The Berkeley Chamber of Commerce and Its Relationship with Rotary"

February 19, 2025

[Magician Dennis Kyriakos](#)
TBA

Events

January 22nd

[Social Committee Meeting via Zoom](#)

January 24th

[Rotary World Peace Conference](#)

February 5th

[Presentation by Rotary International President Stephanie Urchick](#)

February 7th

[Ladies Who Lunch Potluck](#)

February 12th

[Communications Committee Meeting via Zoom](#)

February 13th

[Thirsty Thursday](#)

Birthdays

Club Announcements

By Linda Cogozzo

Next Meeting. Wednesday, January 22, 2025 (at First Pres and via Zoom), 12:30 PM PT: Kira Brunner Don, Editor-in-Chief of [Stranger's Guide](#), works with storytellers worldwide who write about everything from post-Soviet public spaces to Chinese prisons, and British hospitals to Indian campaign rallies. In "**Colonialism and International Journalism**," she will explore how colonial legacies manifest in our approach to international journalism, and the need to publish and read local voices.

While colonialism can feel like a buzzword, Kira will describe how this broad concept plays out, not only on the geopolitical stage but also in our daily lives—in our food, our families, our wars, and our language choices. The speaker is provided by the BRC Mexico Team; Valerie Bach and Colette Ford, Captains.



Dessert Auction. The silent dessert auction to benefit RotaCare West Contra Costa has been rescheduled to Wednesday, February 12, 2025, just in time for Valentine's Day! To bring a homemade item to auction—a pie, torte, cake, or any other confection, sign up with Louise O'Dea during a club meeting or let her know by email (lfodea@gmail.com).

Sip & Savor. Hosted by the District 5160 BARSHEEP clubs, this year's primary fundraiser to benefit RotaCare West Contra Costa is on Saturday, April 12, 2025, and any and all donations are requested. Contact Tina Etcheverry (etcheverrytina@yahoo.com) regarding donations and Marty Kaliski (martymech@aol.com) for information about vendors.



What's Up? Rotary International is now on WhatsApp. Stay inspired with updates on impactful projects, practical tips, and some fun along the way. If WhatsApp is your go-to, it's now easier than ever to keep up with all things Rotary. See you there? [Subscribe here!](#)

Austin Henderson
January 25th
Jeffrey L. Hunt
February 2nd
Peter D. Campbell
February 9th
Katy Marie Young
February 14th
Sallie Weissinger
February 15th
Marion Hunt
February 15th
Grace Manning Orenstein
February 19th



A New Year for Palestine/Israel? Between Reality and Hope

By Anne Pardee

Our speaker last week was Professor Jim Brenneman, club member and President of the Berkeley School of Theology. He spoke of what he has learned from his long relationship with the Middle East, Israel, and Palestine.

The Reality:

In a condensed but intense talk covering over 4000 years of history, Jim shared with us the stories that led to the present conflict between Israel and Palestine over a tiny sliver of land that has been the crossroads of many different occupiers from Asia, Africa, and Europe. He began with the story of Abraham's two sons, Ishmael and Isaac, who are considered the ancestors of the Arab and Jewish people, respectively.



Quoting author Joan Didion, "We tell ourselves stories in order to live" and the danger of adhering to a single story, he said it is important to recognize that the validity of each one's story depends on where you start. He encouraged us to view *Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie's* YouTube video, *The Danger of a Single Story*, where she points out the "damage" of a single story which is often untrue or incomplete and where that one story becomes the only story and, thus, becomes reality at best and murderous at worst.

[Read More](#)

What to Do When You Need to Evacuate

The attached [checklist](#) was sent in by David Wilson. It is a good overview of what to do if you need to evacuate in an emergency.

Berkeley Responds to Devastating Wildfires

In the face of the largest wildland/urban fire in US history, Berkeley Rotary Endowment

is collecting funds to support those in need. The Board has approved a 1:1 match of your donations, using our reserves up to \$10,000. The money will be distributed:

- 40% to Jose Andres World Central Kitchen
- 60% to Rotary Los Angeles District 5280 Charitable Fund and District 5300 (that includes Altadena where the need is greatest).

We are contacting the Rotary districts to see how they plan to use the funds. They usually respond with photos and stories from the recipients, and we will keep you informed as to what we learn. Example: In the Paradise Fire, a portion of the Rotary support went to immediate needs through gift cards and a portion was reserved for long-term community rebuilding.

Make your donation:

- By check: Payable to Berkeley Rotary Endowment with memo line "LA Fire Relief."
- Deliver to Tina Etcheverry in person, or mail to 1471 Greenwood Terrace, Berkeley CA 94708.
- Click on DONATE on berkeleyrotary.org. Please include LA Fire Relief as a description.

Paul Harris+ Pins Awarded



President Ken awarded Paul Harris+ pins last week to Don Melandry and Luisa Buada. Every Rotarian becomes a Paul Harris Fellow when their donations to the Rotary Foundation cumulatively reach \$1000. As these contributions accrue over the years, they are recognized with a new pin for every additional \$1000. This recognition is important, because these contributions fund the major service projects around the world—including our own Berkeley Rotary projects in Mexico and New Orleans—that are

Rotary's focus. Rotarians love ceremonies because we need to be reminded of the importance to all of us of these donations. Thank you, Don and Luisa!

Marty Kaliski Trains for Rotary Leadership

By Frederick C. Collignon

At our most recent club meeting, Marty Kalinsky, our current PEN (President-Elect Nominee), expressed his gratitude to the club for sending him to the District Leadership Academy, where he found the training highly useful. To be selected among the many nominees for the Academy, a member must have served as a club president. Marty was fully qualified because he had already served three full or partial terms as president of El Cerrito Rotary, prior to transferring to our club. The training at the Assembly is to prepare people for serving at higher than club levels in Rotary: area leadership (like BARSHEEP), District level, and sometimes Zone level. Marty assured club members that based on what he heard and saw from the trainers and the trainees, District 5160 leadership is in good hands. *(Marty is pictured third from the right in the top row of this photo of all 13 graduates plus the District instructors.)*



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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.