



# e-Revolutions

Berkeley Rotary Club  
AT THE INTERSECTION OF COMMUNITY AND SERVICE SINCE 1916



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

## Speakers

**February 19, 2025**

[Magician Dennis Kyriakos](#)

"Creating Moments of Wonder"

**February 26, 2025**

[Seena Hawley, Executive Director, The Berkeley Baby Book Project](#)

"Dolly Parton's Imagination Library"

**March 12, 2025**

[Robert Marshall, President, H2OpenDoors](#)

TBA

## Events

February 20th

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

February 26th

[Civil Discourse Meeting via Zoom](#)

February 27th

[Membership Committee Meeting](#)

February 28th

[BARSHEEP TGIF](#)

## Birthdays

Grace Manning Orenstein

February 19th

Grier Graff

February 27th

Richard M. Betts

March 1st

email BRC

March 3rd

Oscar H. Luna

March 3rd

Tina Etcheverry

March 6th

Melissa Eisenberg

## Club Announcements

By Linda Cogozzo

**Next Meeting.** Wednesday, February 19, 2025, at 12:30 PM PT: Professional magician and entertainer [Dennis Kyriakos](#) will share his insights on "**Creating Moments of Wonder**" in your life and for those around you. The speaker is provided by Ken Renworth, BRC President 2024-25. **This is an in-person meeting only; there will be no Zoom.**



**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, from 11 AM-3 PM. [Buy tickets here.](#) Contact Marty Kaliski ([martymech@aol.com](mailto:martymech@aol.com)) about making a donation.

**Calendars.** Are you facilitating a Rotary committee meeting or an event? To get it listed in the Green Calendar and on the website calendar, email your info (date, time, title, brief description, contact person and their email address) to Anne Pardee ([pardeevt@comcast.net](mailto:pardeevt@comcast.net)) and Linda Cogozzo ([lcogozzo@icloud.com](mailto:lcogozzo@icloud.com)).



## The BRC Lasagna Project Is Launched!

By Joan Collignon

You may have read last week that we have been working on a new project that will support the [Women's Daytime Drop-in Center](#) by providing hot lunches every Wednesday. This is a hands-on project for Berkeley Rotary members. On the last Thursday of every month, 4 BRC men and women will gather in [Chef Traci Siegel's](#) kitchen to prepare 8 lasagnas for the following month. All cooking skills are welcome—and this hands-on project will involve no weeding or painting or carpentry skills! If you don't want to join the lasagna prep group, that's fine: We will also need

March 10th  
Terrence M. Regan  
March 11th

4 more volunteers to cook and deliver the lasagnas on Wednesday mornings.

On Tuesday (February 18), every club member will receive an email with all the details about the project and a link to a very easy form for signing up to prepare or deliver the meals for March. (The first lasagna prep will take place Thursday, February 27, from 9:30 to noon.) If the slot has been filled, you'll be able to sign up for the wait list. So please, look for that email on Tuesday with all the information you'll need to sign up for the Berkeley Rotary Lasagna Project.

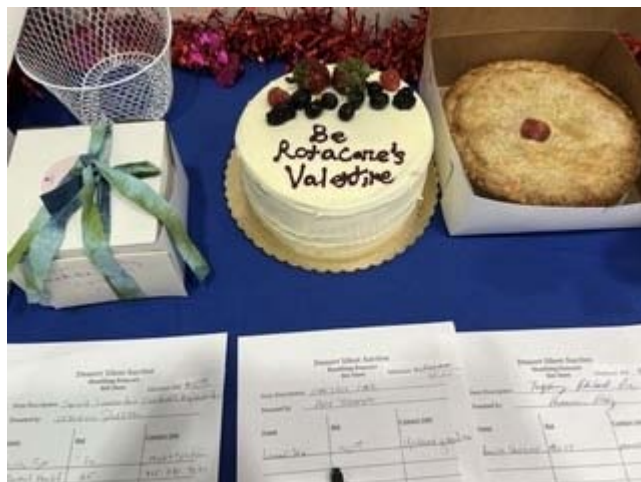


Above: Traci and Joan did a practice run of the lasagna prep in Traci's kitchen last week. (Note the attractive hair net!) After this photo was snapped, Joan picked up the freshly assembled lasagna—and dropped it. So don't worry about a lack of kitchen skills. The worst has happened! Please contact Joan ([joancollignon@gmail.com](mailto:joancollignon@gmail.com)) with any questions.

## Dessert Auction Supports RotaCare

By Louise Franchot O'Dea

Last Wednesday, our club enjoyed a silent auction of 19 desserts, including a dessert wine, providing a wonderful display of sweetness and libation in time for Valentine's Day. Rotarians bid enthusiastically, and we made well over \$700 for [RotaCare West Contra Costa](#). Thank you, everyone, for your yummy donations and open hearts, which made this event a success!



## Berkeley Rotary and the Chamber of Commerce: An Enduring Partnership

By Frederick C. Collignon

At our February 11 meeting, our speaker was club member and Past President Beth Roessner, the CEO of the [Berkeley Chamber of Commerce](#). Beth's topic



was the historic relationship between Berkeley Rotary and the Berkeley Chamber, and the activities and work of the Chamber. She was a lively and witty speaker, as we have all come to expect.

Immediately preceding Beth's presentation was a memorial tribute and moment of silence for the late Polly Armstrong, a Chamber CEO who preceded Beth. Polly, a former long-time City Council staffer and then Councilmember for the southeast campus and neighborhoods, and Rotarian club member, died on Sunday, February 9. Beth added her own memories

of Polly early in the talk, and later praised Polly for persuading the local Chamber to become independent of the National Chamber so it would not have to be wed to the national Chamber's sometimes too right-wing views, which made the Berkeley Chamber less effective in fighting for business in our liberal community.

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## Celebrating Our Thriving Community of Rotary Fellowships: Highlights From 2024

*By Gianna Consalvo, Rotary Service and Engagement staff*

Posted on [February 13, 2025](#) by [rotaryservice](#)

Did you know there are Rotary Fellowships for Beards and Moustaches, Performing Arts, Hiking, Home Exchange, and Coffee Lovers? Rotary Fellowships are international affinity groups that unite Rotary members and friends around a shared hobby, identity, vocation, or culture. Rotary's 110+ Fellowships offer our members and their friends meaningful experiences by providing fun and diverse ways of participating in Rotary and offering them opportunities for connection with like-minded individuals through in-person and online experiences.

Rotary Fellowships exemplify Rotary's inclusivity by welcoming any interested individual regardless of their Rotary affiliation and showcasing the many vocations, cultures, identities, and interests represented by the Rotary family. In 2024, 110 Rotary Fellowships engaged more than **54,000 people** across 150 countries in building communities around shared passions and identities. Of the 54,000 reported participants, 89% were Rotarians, 5% were Rotaractors, and 6% were non-Rotary members. Fellowships also offer leadership opportunities to our members and participants. Last year, Fellowships engaged 867 Rotarians, 19 Rotaractors, and 45 friends of Rotary in leadership roles. And women hold more than 30% of leadership roles across Rotary Fellowships.

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**Publisher:** Jason Draut

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

**Copy Deadline:** Send to [hgrty@sbcglobal.net](mailto:hgrty@sbcglobal.net) by Saturday noon for next week's e-Rev.