

[CLICK HERE](#) to see and print the **GREEN CALENDAR**

Speakers

February 22, 2023

[Nancy Ng, Executive Director, Luna Dance Institute](#)
"Dance for All Children"

March 01, 2023

[The Berkeley Rotary Auction Committee](#)
Bridging the Gap: A Not-So-Silent Auction

March 08, 2023

[Mary Lou Van Deventer, Administrative Manager, Urban Ore](#)
Topic: TBA

March 15, 2023

[TBA](#)
Topic: TBA

Events

February 21st
[Meditation/Mindfulness Class via Zoom](#)

February 22nd
[Bridging the Gap: A Not-So-Silent Online Auction](#)

February 22nd
[Civil Discourse Meeting via Zoom](#)

February 28th
[Meditation/Mindfulness Class via Zoom](#)

March 7th
[Meditation/Mindfulness Class via Zoom](#)
[CANCELED THIS WEEK]

March 14th
[Meditation/Mindfulness Class via Zoom](#)

March 16th
[Third Thursday + Raise-the-Bar](#)

March 21st
[Meditation/Mindfulness Class via Zoom](#)

Club Announcements

Next Meeting. Wednesday, Feb. 22, 2023, 12:30 PM PT, in person at First Presbyterian and via Zoom: Nancy Ng, Executive Director of the Luna Dance Institute, will present "Dance for All Children." The speaker is provided by Team #11, David Brower Center Team; Kathy Huff and Adrian Vancamper, Captains.

This Week. Check the left column for upcoming happenings: Meditation/Mindfulness Class (Feb. 21), Bridging the Gap: A Not-So-Silent Auction (Feb. 22, online), and Civil Discourse Meeting (Feb. 22).



What Do You Say? The next in a series of Civil Discourse meetings hosted by the Berkeley Rotary Peace Committee takes place on Feb. 22, 2023, via Zoom. In recognition of Black History Month, the topic will be **"Is Color-Blindness Racist?"** We will discuss the point of view that opinion columnist Coleman Hughes shares in his article, "Actually, Color-Blindness Isn't Racist" (*The Detroit Free Press*, Dec. 2022), as well as counter viewpoints. For more info and the Zoom link, email Dan Thomas (dthomas@tc-associates.com).

Photographing the Famous Cal Falcons

By Elizabeth Holl Tyler

A packed house of Rotarians and guests (within 50 attending on Zoom alone!) were treated to an amazing and charming slide show presentation by "enthusiastic neighborhood photographer" Bridget Ahern who described her journey following and photographing the beloved UC Berkeley falcons who have been nesting at the UC Berkeley Campanile since 2017.

Bridget told us how she first became interested in following the falcons during her pandemic walks on campus in June 2020 when she heard what she thought were a bunch of screaming pterodactyls in the sky. She had her camera on her and lucked out with a beautiful photograph of the resident



falcons performing a “prey handoff” from one bird to another. Her interest was piqued, and she rekindled her long-time interest in photography to learn how to capture these magnificent birds, the fastest animals in the sky, mid-flight and in their daily activities on campus.

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Birthdays

[Grier Graff](#)
February 27th

[Richard M. Betts](#)
March 1st

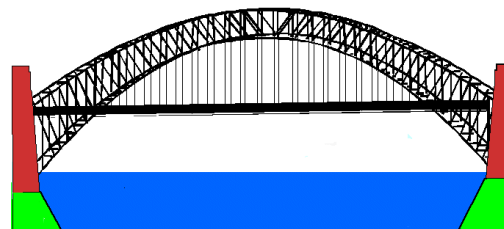
[Oscar H. Luna](#)
March 3rd

[Tina Etcheverry](#)
March 6th

[Terrence M. Regan](#)
March 11th

[Donata Hubert](#)
March 21st

Bridging the Gap Auction Launches This Week!



The club's Bridging the Gap auction starts online this week on February 22, ending with a fun and exciting live and silent auction on March 1. Bid for a vacation stay in Inverness or Twain Harte. Host your friends for a gourmet dinner catered by Berkeley Rotarians, or win a unique, original work of art. And there's more: wine, restaurant certificates, special tours, gift

baskets, sailing on the bay, and even astronaut ice cream. Register online on February 22 at <https://www.betterunite.com/berkeleyrotaryendowment-2023auction> to start bidding on these wonderful items. Don't miss the excitement of the final day of the auction, March 1, for in-person bidding at First Presbyterian. Lunch will be available, as usual, and wine too!

Board Bullets

By Joan Collignon

Here's a brief look at some of the actions taken by the club and Endowment Boards at the meeting last Wednesday, February 15. Please contact Joan Collignon if you would like to see the actual minutes.

Berkeley Rotary Club

- Jackie presented the Treasurer's Report which demonstrated that we will have to dip into reserves to cover our meeting expenses for the year. A committee was designated to look at how better to cover our weekly costs.
- Arlene and the Banner Committee have sorted and counted the 900+ international banners the club has been storing. Grier, Arlene, Valeria, and Pamela were designated a subcommittee to make a proposal to the Board as to their final destiny.
- Pamela reported that she and Joan are involved in ongoing talks with the Berkeley Schools Fund in an attempt to find a literacy project with the Berkeley

schools that would replace the Dictionary Project.

- Libby reported that the District intends to raise the club contribution by \$5 per person for the 2023-34 Rotary year; this will be the first increase since 2012. The District also proposes to charge attendees at the Spring Assembly \$20 to cover costs of food and materials.

Berkeley Rotary Endowment

- The club approves scholarships every year to Camp Royal and Camp Venture, the District 5160 leadership camps for high school juniors. This year there will quite possibly be two nominees.
- The Board approved a request by the Auction Committee to allocate 10% of the proceeds from the March 1 Bridging the Gap Auction to Turkey and Syria Disaster Relief, through the fund set up by Rotary International.
- Grier reported that the club will submit a grant application to the District to support a project in Nayarit in October.

RI Mid-Year Report

By Frederick C. Collignon



President Joan recently had a chance, made possible by the District Governor, to hear from the second woman RI President following Jennifer Jones this year. She'll preside over RI in 2024-25. As a Past District Governor, I attend quarterly briefings by the Zone Director, who sits on RI's Board of Directors, about how RI is doing overall, Board decisions, and future directions. Usually, these meetings also include a Board Director from the Rotary Foundation who reviews how RI fundraising is faring. Here are some highlights from the mid-year reviews:

- Annual Fund donations are on target to meet the annual goal. PolioPlus is slightly behind target, but expected to catch up and earn the full \$50 million dollars of a 2:1 matching grant from the Gates Foundation. The big change is the increasing donations to specific objectives (e.g., environmental sustainability). RI tries to raise \$100 million for its Annual Fund and \$50 million for PolioPlus each year. Donations to specific objectives will total from \$50 to \$60 million. The challenge is that we don't have easy ways yet for clubs to pursue the funds committed to specific objectives for club projects even when the projects relate to our RI and club objectives. Our District, however, is in the top four districts in fundraising around the world.
- At the end of the first quarter, it appeared that RI had finally reversed the many years of decline in club membership. Mid-year that growth had vanished and at best we may achieve a breakeven level. That would still be a major gain over annual decline. Growth remains strong in Asia, Africa, and Latin America. The slow areas remain the U.S. and Europe.

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