

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

Speakers

February 23, 2022

[Daniella Thompson](#)

"Maybeck & Morgan: An Enduring Association"

March 02, 2022

[Andrew Sorenson, MD, Chief of Ophthalmology at Alta Bates Medical Center](#)

"Transforming the Hospital de la Familia Eye Clinic"

March 09, 2022

[TBD](#)

March 16, 2022

[TBD](#)

Events

March 5th

[Cal Rotaract Service Event](#)

March 10th

[Supportive Housing Toiletries Packing Day](#)

Birthdays

[Grier Graff](#)

February 27th

[Richard M. Betts](#)

March 1st

[Oscar H. Luna](#)

March 3rd

[Tina Etcheverry](#)

March 6th

[Terrence M. Regan](#)

March 11th

[Jonathan Y. Shindo](#)

March 15th

[Donata Hubert](#)

March 21st

March Meetings Remain on Zoom

By Arlene Marcus

The Board has decided that the club will continue meeting on Zoom for the month of March. At the Board meeting in March, we will decide on the April schedule.

Club Announcements

By Linda Cogozzo

Next Meeting. Wednesday, February 23, 12:30 PM PT, via Zoom: Daniella Thompson, architectural historian, writer, and photographer, will speak on "Maybeck & Morgan: An Enduring Association." The talk will cover the 45-year relationship between Bernard Maybeck and Julia Morgan, beginning in the 1890s, when she was his student, and culminating with a number of professional collaborations, the last of which occurred in 1939-40.

Calling Berkeley Rotarians! Cal Rotaract invites us to join them on Saturday, March 5, 9 AM-12 PM, to help restore the habitat at Garber Park, located behind the Claremont Hotel. (Please take a few photos and/or a 30-60 second video, and send them to images@berkeleyrotary.org.) More info: www.garberparkstewards.org



PDG Tina Akins Honors BRC's Foundation Donors

By Frederick C. Collignon



Past District Governor Tina Akins returned to the club last week, in a visit we had to cancel two years ago when we first shut down our in-person meetings and shifted to Zoom, in order to present new Foundation awards for giving.

She began by noting the recent e-Rev report on our progress on our 2021-22 goals, and the high number of generous donors in our club compared to most clubs in our district: 81 Paul Harris Fellows, 30 Paul Harris Society members, 21 PHF+8 donors, and 20 Major Donors. So far this year, 81 of our 113 members have given at least \$25 to the Foundation; if we all did, we would qualify for the first time for Every Rotarian Every Year (EREY). She then proceeded to honor those moving to first and higher Paul Harris levels, those reaching the highest Paul Harris Fellow step PHS+8 (\$9k giving combining personal donations, gifts, and matches), those reaching new levels of being a Major Donor, and finally, all the Paul Harris Society members in the club (donating \$1000/year). Along the way, she told us why that giving

was important in a way that made it come home, in terms of international impact and lives saved.

We report below on those newly advancing, but not all achievers advancing to the first level, all moving to higher levels, all Major Donors, and all Paul Harris Society-eligible members, whose names were shown on the club screen at the meeting. Some 40 or more of our members were in the lights receiving our thanks for what they make possible for our club to achieve in service. Are you ready to move up in your giving for our joint goals? That was Tina's final appeal. At least one member was so moved, donating during the meeting to become a Double Major Donor. Can you give at least \$25 before June 30 so the club can achieve EREY? [Read More](#)

A Find Day for the Birds

By Joan Collignon

Did you know that Coots have very weird feet? That several hundred Dowitchers swooping six feet over your head sound like raindrops pattering on a roof? That the Bufflehead is the world's cutest duck? A dozen Berkeley Rotarians braved the only cold and foggy day in the last two weeks to meet these birds and many more, as we explored the very oddly situated Arrowhead Marsh in Oakland on Valentine's Day. Walking on Port of Oakland land between the Oakland Airport and the Oakland Coliseum, we could hear planes taking off and helicopters buzzing but that didn't bother the birds. About 30 species were right at home diving in the deep waters of the bay or dabbling in the shallow seasonal ponds that were created as part of a 1990s marsh restoration. As the tide receded, we watched different birds arrive to probe the emerging mudflats for buried critters, until the chilly winds drove us back to the warmth of our cars. Still, it was a good two hours of enjoying a picnic together complete with Cosmik Freeze-Dried Ice Cream and Valentine's chocolate, and an interesting amble around the waterfront.

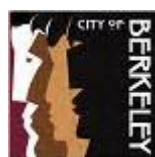


The Social Committee is planning more in this series of field trips, and yes, they will be scheduled for weekends when more people can attend. Stay tuned.

We all got a kick out of pictures of the long lobed toes of the ubiquitous American Coot.

COVID-19 in Berkeley: An Update

By Irene R. Hegarty



On Feb. 16, Berkeley Public Health Officer Lisa Hernandez, MD, MPH, and COVID-19 Response Team Unit lead Katherine Sullivan provided an update on how Berkeley is doing in response to the COVID virus. The good news: Berkeley's infection rate is going down dramatically after an Omicron spike earlier this year. Our hospitalization rate is also down, and 92% of Berkeley residents who are eligible have been fully vaccinated. Starting this week, Berkeley is following the state guidelines in allowing vaccinated people to be unmasked in indoor settings, although individual businesses may still require masks.

Lisa Hernandez provided an analysis of the progress of the virus locally over the past two years of the pandemic, represented by a number of charts which can be viewed on the club's website.

Katherine Sullivan outlined the components of Berkeley's information, outreach, and

support programs. First and foremost, Berkeley has a commitment to equity, ensuring that communities of color, essential workers, and homeless individuals receive needed support, including outreach, information, contact tracing, isolation, and food deliveries. She described Berkeley's testing program, with over 800,000 tests administered to Berkeley residents by certified testing centers. Berkeley's Health Department also works closely with the Berkeley public schools and childcare centers, providing testing, a COVID-19 Liaison toolkit, and ongoing technical assistance. Support for businesses and community organizations includes grant opportunities, a "Berkeley Bucks" incentive program, support for outdoor operations, and support for tenants and landlords.

After the presentations, there were a number of questions posed by club members, but perhaps the most relevant was, "How can Berkeley Rotary help?" It was suggested that our club could help provide accurate information about vaccines, e.g., "mythbusters" flyers, through our Rotacare Clinic in Richmond to help reach underserved communities.

For more information on Berkeley's COVID-19 program, including the City's dashboard and COVID-19 information toolkit, see www.cityofberkeley.info/covid-19/.
