



Click [HERE](#) for a printable calendar of upcoming events!

Speakers

August 05, 2020

[Yavuz Atila, ESRAG Western North America Regional Chapter Leader](#)

"Supporting the Environment: Rotary's New Area of Focus"

August 12, 2020

[Marty Nemko, PhD, Career Coach](#)

"Work After Covid-19"

August 19, 2020

[Dr. Ambrose Carroll and Rev. Earl Koteen](#)

"Green the Church, an Environmental Justice Coalition."

August 26, 2020

[Dr. Mark Sapir, MD, MPH](#)
"A Single Payer System for Healthcare"

September 02, 2020

[Larry Goldenberg & David Donald Campbell](#)

Events

August 5th

[Supportive Housing Committee Meets](#)

August 6th

[Membership Committee Meets](#)

August 7th

[Rotary Women's Zoom Tea](#)

August 19th

[Board of Directors and Endowment Board Meet](#)

August 27th

[Communication Committee Meets](#)

Birthdays

[Robert Gullett](#)

August 3rd

Breaking the Silence on Racism

By John Albert Ross



Dr. Alvin C. Bernstine

Reverend Dr. Alvin Bernstine's presentation entitled "Breaking the Silence on Racism" was a lively mix of Dr. Bernstine's thoughts on the personal and collective origins of racism as well as interactive discussions which were triggered by provocative questions.

Dr. Bernstine commented that he was surprised to be speaking at a Rotary Club meeting since he had always

thought of the Rotary like the Ku Klux Klan—an organization of white males only. He thought that there is hope for the University of California which recently named Michael V. Drake as the next President of the UC system, its first Black president.

One of the most persistent and troubling aspects of racism in the U.S. and elsewhere is the silence that surrounds the subject. Not until recently has this silence been breached by events such as highly publicized killings of Black people by tragically misguided police officers and the COVID-19 pandemic which has softened our hearts about racism.

Dr. Bernstine maintains that the very foundations of the United States are rooted in racism as many of our country's Founding Fathers were slaveholders. In other words, the United States is a racist construct that is immersed in its own denial.

[Read More](#)

Three District Grants Received

By Grier Graff

Berkeley Rotary is participating in three projects that received District Grant funds this Rotary year.

First, for all to know, a club can only submit one District Grant application each year. The BARSHEEP clubs worked together to submit the two BARSHEEP-led grants and to join in the Alamo-led grant for RotaCare Personal Protective Equipment.

1) Berkeley lead Rotacare Richmond Planning grant; District funds \$10,000; All BARSHEEP clubs participated. \$20,000 total grant; Berkeley contribution \$5,000.

2) El Cerrito lead Camp Tuolumne and the Stanislaus National Forest Tree planting



[Elizabeth Roessner](#)

August 10th

[Larry Goldenberg](#)

August 10th

[Katherine T. Wei](#)

August 15th

[Michael Endlich](#)

August 16th

[Daniel Thomas](#)

August 17th

[Jocelyn Pittel](#)

August 25th

[David Donald Campbell](#)

August 26th

[Marta Laupa](#)

August 29th

(recovery from the Rim Fire 2013); District funds \$12,500; six BARSHEEP clubs participated. \$25,000 total grant; Berkeley contribution \$9,800.

3) Alamo lead ♦ Rotacare in District 5160 (3 clinics) PPE Personal Protective Equipment for dealing with Covid-19 and a measured response to reopening on-site clinics; District funds \$15,000; All BARSHEEP clubs participated. \$51,450 total grant; Berkeley contribution \$5,000.

There were many requests and only a few were funded at the full amount requested and some were not approved.

[Read More](#)

Climate Change: Current Trends/Actions, Policy Recommendations

By Edward F. Church



Daniel Kammen is Professor of Energy at the University of California, Berkeley, with parallel appointments in the Energy and Resources Group, the Goldman School of Public Policy, and the department of Nuclear Engineering.

Dan Kammen began his presentation by talking about his organization at UC Berkeley, called the Renewable and Alternative Energy Laboratory (rael.berkeley.edu) and contrasting the actions on climate change between the Obama/Biden administration with which he was connected and those of the current Trump administration.

He noted how California was achieving its goals in moving toward dramatically less use of fossil fuels in energy generation. His lab also assisted the government of China in deploying electric vehicle taxicabs in Shenzhen. Dr. Kammen showed a slide about the EcoBlock project he is leading in Oakland, which hopes to provide low cost energy efficiency and generation to an Oakland neighborhood. He noted that an "environmental justice" perspective is crucial to any climate change agenda.

His presentation was complex and full of information. For those interested, all of the slides used in his presentation can be found at rael.berkeley.edu. The Zoom video of his presentation can be found at berkeleyrotary.org.

Zoom Issues

By Irene R. Hegarty

Conducting our meetings via Zoom has been a benefit in many ways. Our members who are isolating in various parts of the country and world are able to join us, as well as Rotarians from other clubs and a growing number of guests. Typically, we have over 70 participants attending our meetings, sometimes many more than that!

There have been a few glitches, of course, and we need to remember:

- **Please, please unmute yourself when you want to talk.** You can do this by clicking on the unmute button at the bottom of your screen or by simply holding the space bar down on your computer. When you release the space bar you will be muted again. It wastes time in each meeting for the host to repeatedly remind people to ♦unmute yourself♦.

Please remain on mute whenever you are *not* speaking. An incoming phone call, a dog barking, or other home noises can disrupt the meeting.

- **Position yourself and your computer screen so that we can see you.** Or, if you don't want to be seen or simply want to walk around or stretch, turn off your video which will leave just your name on a blank screen or your pre-loaded image.
 - **Here's a fun tip:** If you click on the video icon at the bottom of the screen you can choose one of the pre-set virtual backgrounds that Zoom provides. You can also upload a favorite photo of a landscape or scene which you can use instead of your own home background. (This is great if you'd rather not clean up your room at home before Zooming!)
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