



# e-Revolutions

Berkeley Rotary Club

AT THE INTERSECTION OF COMMUNITY AND SERVICE SINCE 1916



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

## Speakers

**April 30, 2025**

[Suzanne Bragdon, Past Governor, Rotary District 5160](#)

"Rotarians Are Peace Builders"

**May 07, 2025**

[Hosted by Berkeley Rotary](#)

"Cinco de Mayo Celebration"

**May 14, 2025**

[Kathy Kramer, Coordinator, Bringing Back the Natives Garden Tour](#)

"How We Transformed Our Yard from an Ecological Wasteland into a Wildlife Habitat Garden"

## Events

April 30th

[Civil Discourse Meeting via Zoom](#)

## Birthdays

John Caner

April 30th

David A Wilson Jr.

May 2nd

Pamela M. Doolan

May 3rd

Jacqueline Peters

Hammond

May 10th

Adrian Vancamper

May 10th

Amit S Randhawa

May 11th

Martin Kaliski

May 12th

Dylan Supencheck

May 14th

Kenneth N. Matsumura

## Club Announcements

By Linda Cogozzo

**Next Meeting.** Suzanne Bragdon, Past Governor of Rotary District 5160, will present "**Rotarians Are Peace Builders.**" In 2017, Rotary International partnered with [The Institute of Economics and Peace \(IEP\)](#), a think tank that annually ranks the peacefulness of countries against the "8 Pillars of Peace." Learn how we, as Rotarians, are the boots on the ground, building more resilient and stable communities and neighborhoods by applying these pillars of peace to the projects we undertake locally and abroad. The speaker is provided by the BRC Europe Team; Volodymyr Goshylyk, Captain.



**Volunteers Wanted for No More Summer Slide.** Would you like to help struggling readers in the Berkeley Unified School District? Sign up at the next club meeting or contact Pamela Doolan at [pmdoolan@aol.com](mailto:pmdoolan@aol.com) to sign up and participate at one or more schools.

Rotarians will set up books, help students "shop" for books to bring home for summer reading, and assist at a parent breakfast or dinner meeting. Teachers will give instructions on arrival at the school. This project replaced the Berkeley Rotary 3rd Grade Dictionary Project. It is our second year contributing to and volunteering for No More Summer Slide.

**What Do You Say?** Hosted by the Berkeley Rotary Peace Committee, the next in a series of Civil Discourse meetings is on April 30, 2025, via Zoom, from 2:30-3:30 PM PT. **Topic: "What could be done to reduce the expression of antisemitic sentiments in campus discussions and interactions?"** The Zoom link will be emailed to you.



**Volunteer.** BUILD Bay Area has some great volunteer opportunities with Oakland high school students. All events through the end of this school year are listed on [this sign-up link](#), including three Business Plan Competitions at different East Oakland schools, an Oakland Coliseum Design Challenge, and a Mock Interview workshop. Questions? Contact Grace Karr ([gkarr@build.org](mailto:gkarr@build.org)), BUILD's Senior Community Engagement Manager.



## And Now a Word from Our Community Partners

By Joan Collignon

May 15th  
Olatubosun Ade Fasipe  
Ph.D.  
May 17th  
Anne Pardee  
May 24th  
Rebecca Phuong  
May 26th

For more than 5 years, BRC's Supportive Housing Committee, led by Jackie Hammond and Joanne Dickerson-Harper, have gathered volunteers together each month to package hygiene products for distribution to our unhoused neighbors. It is a mammoth undertaking involving fundraising, bulk purchasing, volunteer management, and superb organizing skills. But while they provide the product, the group could not succeed in the actual distribution of the items until they partnered with community groups, who know exactly what is needed and how to get it to their clients. Jackie and JoAnn realized they needed to introduce Berkeley Rotarians to two of these partners, who spoke to us on April 23.



Gwen Austin is the Community Engagement Manager of BOSS (Building Opportunities for Self-Sufficiency). The mission of BOSS is to help people who are poor, homeless, or have disabilities to achieve health and self-sufficiency and to fight against the root causes of poverty and homelessness. Their programs started in Berkeley but have expanded throughout the East Bay. Gwen started her career with BOSS in policy, trekking to Sacramento with clients to campaign for better services. Now BOSS contracts with cities, counties, the state and the federal government to provide those services. [Read More](#)

## Thank You, Marty!

By Joan Collignon



Citing health reasons, Berkeley Rotary President-Elect Jason Russell resigned this week from his club position. We thank Jason for his service as Foundation Chair, and look forward to his returning as an active Berkeley Rotary member.

Finding a member who could serve as PE—to become club president just a few months from now on July 1—might seem impossible, as all club presidents must have attended PETS, President Leadership Training, which occurs every year in March. But Berkeley Rotary has the great good fortune that Marty Kaliski, our President Elect Nominee, who had been elected to serve as club president in 2026-27, was willing and eligible to jump in now as PE. Marty has been president of El Cerrito Rotary twice, so has been well-trained in all things presidential. And he was nominated for the grueling Leadership Academy, held last January, where he spent a weekend

with other District 5160 leaders learning about how Rotary really works. We'll be in good hands with Marty.

## Dorothy Day House

By Eric Chavez, Cal Rotaract President

This month, Cal Rotaract teamed up with Berkeley Rotarian Kate Harrison to lend a helping hand at Dorothy's Closet, the retail clothing store supporting the amazing work of the Dorothy Day House. They are a partner of Berkeley City Rotary that's working hard to end homelessness in our community.

Early on the morning of April 12, our Cal Rotaract crew arrived energized and ready to serve . . . and maybe just a little bit motivated by the fresh homemade muffins lovingly

baked by the one and only Judy! Also joining in the service were Robbi Montoya (Executive Director of Dorothy Day House) and Laura Burnett (store manager of Dorothy's Closet), who helped guide the day's efforts and shared stories of the organization's impact.

Rotaractors got a hands-on look behind the scenes, learning how donated clothing gets sorted, organized, and distributed to support those experiencing homelessness in Berkeley. With guidance and some on-the-job training, students tackled the towering piles of clothes graciously donated by BRC members. They transformed the piles into sorted, store-ready treasures. After sorting, folding, and lots of laughs, the group delivered the goods to both the Dorothy Day House center and Goodwill on University Ave, ensuring every item found a new purpose.

A huge shoutout to Kate Harrison for being our amazing connector and helping us support such a meaningful cause. This event reminded us all that even something as small as a sweater, or a muffin, can warm both hearts and lives.

Below: Rotaractors and volunteers sorting donations; group photo of the students.



## Ten in a Row

By Jason Draut

The Boston Marathon was last Monday. I'm still a little surprised that I got through it. My knee was not right when I started the race, but I had a plan to mix walking and running to get through the full 26.2 miles. I am very happy to say that it worked! I did some prep "runs" last week where I walked for a minute or two and then ran for a minute or two and that gave me a plan for how I could get through the race.

On race day, I started out with this same interval of walking and running. With a crowd of people around me, I ended up doing more running and less walking than I expected. Then, around halfway, my knee wasn't getting worse, and I started to increase the running intervals and decrease the walking intervals. At mile 22, I realized that my knee wasn't bothering me much when I was running, so I more or less stopped walking at that point. I know there were people praying for me to finish, and I believe those prayers were answered! (Either that or I needed a 22-mile warmup.) I finished the race in 4:04:23, which is a lot faster than the 5+ hours I was worried it would take.

I wouldn't have even attempted the Boston Marathon this year except for [Many Hopes](#). I just wanted to continue to support the work they do to promote survivor-driven change all over the world. **Thank you to everyone who has already donated!** If you would like to [donate now](#), you still can.



Many Hopes' philosophy can be summed up this way:

***We believe that children rescued from injustice are not a problem to be solved, but a solution waiting to be unleashed. So we equip them with tools they need to become adults of influence who can be that solution.***

**Publisher:** Jason Draut

**Editor:** Irene Hegarty

**Club Announcements:** Linda Cogozzo

**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.