



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

Speakers

May 13, 2020

[Russell Kassoff](#)

Stories and Music from a Master Musician and Composer

May 20, 2020

[Panel Discussion: California's Housing Shortage](#)

Panel Discussion: "How the California Housing Shortage Developed and What Can be Done About It"

May 27, 2020

[Joan Blades and Brooke Deterline](#)

Living Room Conversations and Berkeley Rotary Club

June 03, 2020

[Speaker: TBD](#)

June 10, 2020

[John Swartzberg, M.D., Professor Emeritus, UC School of Public Health](#)

"The COVID-19 Crisis - Where do we go from here?"

Events

May 13th

[Peace Committee Meeting](#)

May 18th

[Covid-19 Interest Group Meeting](#)

May 20th

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

May 25th

[Covid-19 Interest Group](#)

May 27th

[Communications Committee Meets](#)

June 1st

[Covid-19 Interest Group Meeting](#)

June 3rd

[Membership Committee](#)

A Few Announcements . . .

- Bob Sorenson reminds us that we can help restore Skyline Gardens even during this time of social distancing. Contact Bob and he'll tell you all about this opportunity to join him on the trail, weeding out the invasive plants. He's careful about distancing, masks, gloves, hand sanitizers, etc. Contact Bob at rsoren@mac.com if you're interested.
- We're in for a treat on Wednesday, May 13. Our speaker will be Russell Kassoff, the musical director for Rita Moreno. Russell will regale club members with show biz stories, amaze us on the keys, and answer a question or two along the way. Brought to you by John Ferguson (of course!) and Team #3, Berkeley Daily Planet.
- Did you meet Steven Hudson, President of the Rotary Club of Kingston Jamaica at our last meeting? Steven has graciously invited our members to join HIS Rotary Club meeting, via Zoom on Thursdays at 12:30 Jamaica time (Central). Contact Joan Collignon at joancollignon@gmail.com for more information.
- It was good to see Larry Kinsey at the Membership Committee meeting last week. Larry had hip replacement surgery in Rochester, Minnesota, and immediately went into quarantine up there. We hope to see him more often.
- Don't forget to update your Zoom app to version 5.0 before May 30th. After that they will update you automatically when you join a meeting, but it may cause a delay.

Last Call for Questions for the Housing Panel

By Frederick C. Collignon

Akin to the panel on mental health in January, where club members had the chance to submit questions in advance which the panelists sought to answer, on May 20 a panel of experienced professionals will address the problem of housing availability and affordability in the Bay Area and address your previously submitted questions. How did the problem arise and evolve? What can be done to alleviate it? Submit your questions to fcollig@berkeley.edu. The panelists Libby Tyler, Maxim Scroggin, and Fred Collignon have decades of experience in designing, implementing, evaluating, and researching housing projects, programs, policy, and legislation, and have sat through several hundred public hearings on specific housing proposals both in California and other states. Questions submitted so far are below:

[Read More](#)

Conquering Polio and COVID-19

By Anne Pardee

To be able to travel to India, virtually, and administer the polio vaccine to the children was quite a gift. Brentwood Rotarians Mike and Marsha Crosby shared their incredible journey with us at our ZOOM meeting last Wednesday. Mike is the incoming Assistant Governor for the Brentwood/Antioch area. Under the guidance and coordination of Past

[Meets](#)

June 3rd

[Supportive Housing Committee Meets](#)

June 8th

[Covid-19 Interest Group Meeting](#)

[Birthdays](#)

[Monica Marie Fox](#)

May 11th

[Kenneth N. Matsumura](#)

May 15th

[Anne Pardee](#)

May 24th

[Rebecca Phuong](#)

May 26th

[Jacqueline Peters Hammond](#)

May 26th

[Matthew Hermann](#)

May 26th

[Rosemary Mann](#)

May 29th

[Christopher K. Ahoy](#)

May 29th

[Jack H. McPhail](#)

May 31st

[Bipin Singh Kathayat](#)

June 2nd

[Khawaja Mohammad Ashraf](#)

June 10th

RI Director, Brad Howard, who leads a team he calls Polio Warriors, Mike and Marsha visited Delhi and Jaipur and impoverished outlying villages. They were welcomed by the people who, after 30 years, have accepted Rotarians along with local public health workers to administer the 2 drops of this life-saving vaccine to their children.

The Crosbys shared with us pictures of open sewers, garbage, and trash along the roads as they became more and more immersed in the world of polio. We saw, too, pictures of a school and hospital where, with support from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and Rotary, young people are fitted with prostheses and given the ability not just to walk but also to become self-sufficient.

Mike compared the polio virus with the COVID-19 virus, lack of sanitation being a primary conduit of both diseases. There is no cure for polio, but there is a vaccine. Despite its existence, it took a global effort to reduce the countries in which polio occurs. In 1988, there were 125 endemic countries, now there are just 3 — Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Nigeria. Rotary volunteers have been at the forefront of this eradication effort. On the recent Polio National Immunization Day in India, 1.2 million people in 1100 villages were immunized.

According to the April 2020 **Support World Immunization Week** announcement, with the new challenge coming from COVID-19, the Rotary Foundation is using the vast infrastructure developed to identify the polio virus and deliver vaccination campaigns, the polio eradication program is pitching in to protect the vulnerable from COVID-19, especially in polio-endemic countries. Thank you to Mike and Marsha for sharing their experience and giving Berkeley Rotary Club insight not only to the challenges ahead but also the possibilities.

Sustaining Arts During a Pandemic

By Irene R. Hegarty



What is the role of the arts during a time of global crisis? When will audiences feel safe to go to the theater again? What does the public need and want from arts organizations?

These are only some of the questions and concerns that the Berkeley Repertory Theatre — like all arts organizations — are considering as they remain closed during this era of social isolation. Our April 29 speaker Johanna Pfaelzer, Artistic Director of the Berkeley Rep, shared how Berkeley's renowned and beloved theater is coping and adjusting to its new normal. As Pfaelzer states, Live theatre is uniquely dependent on artists and audiences coming together in a shared space in real time. Which is exactly what we're not supposed to be doing right now, for the health of our community.

The remainder of the Berkeley Rep's 2019/2020 season has been cancelled and the theater will remain dark until next winter, Pfaelzer said. Within the next month the theater will announce its new season. In the meantime, the Rep is offering some plays and performances on a live-streamed basis, a play reading group has been developed, and the School of Theater's programming is continuing through online classes and workshops.

[Read More](#)
