



Speakers

October 23, 2019

[Wangmo Dixey, Executive Director of Dharma College](#)

"From the Sea of Enlightenment to Urban Berkeley Wisdom Center"

October 30, 2019

[Tina Akins, DG, Rotary District 5160](#)

"It All Adds Up"

November 06, 2019

[Grier Graf, Co-Chair of Grants Committee](#)

November 13, 2019

[Dr. Arvin Gouw: Cancer Researcher/VP for R & D at Rare Genomics Institute](#)

"The CRISPR Gene Editing Revolution: An Overview from Science to Ethics"

November 20, 2019

[Nadesan Permaul](#)

"Divided America: The Politics of Culture"

Events

October 19th

[Hospital de la Familia - Work Party](#)

October 30th

[Leadership Team Meeting](#)

November 6th

[Membership Committee Meets](#)

November 9th

[BRC Support for SF Walk to End Alzheimer's](#)

November 13th

[Social Committee Meets](#)

November 13th

[Peace Committee Meets](#)

Birthdays

[Helen Walker](#)

October 21st

[Joanne Dickerson-Harper](#)

Welcome to new member Ignacio Franco

By Tina Etcheverry

Ignacio Franco grew up in inner city Richmond in the area known as the Iron Triangle. There, Ignacio saw the worst aspects of life firsthand, and even partook in activities that would eventually change his life. Attending Berkeley High School, he decided to turn his attention from skateboarding and roaming Richmond to classwork, where he discovered his passion for mastering language, writing poetry about the neighborhood he loved (and hated), all the while attending funerals for his neighborhood friends or seeing others go to jail.



Through his diligence for study, he was accepted to UC Berkeley and earned the Berkeley Community Fund scholarship funded by us and mentored by our club. His experience at UC Berkeley allowed for Ignacio to explore his curiosities of the world he inhabits.

[Read More](#)

Last week's Casting About meeting addressed finding service opportunities

By Frederick C. Collignon

Casting About met last Wednesday at 11:00 am to answer questions of new members. Chair Arlene Marcus was called out of town on short notice, and Fred Collignon and Moe Orenstein filled in as substitutes. President-Elect Chris Ahoy was there to help answer questions posed by newer members. Interestingly, more veteran members also found the answers useful and learned new information. The questions addressed mostly involved how members can find service projects to work on or bring projects to the club. [Read More](#)

Ready for some local service - help the homeless and those in need

Club members have been bagging toiletries and distributing them to homeless shelters and encampments, community colleges, and other venues where people in need go. They would welcome your help. They gather every other Monday, 10-12 at 1612 Hopkins Street in Berkeley to bag toiletries and load a car for delivery. They could also use help on the distribution. Phone Patricia Lewis for more information on how to help,

October 29th

[Joan H. Collignon](#)

November 3rd

[Pate D. Thomson](#)

November 5th

[John M. Ferguson](#)

November 11th

[Dennis V. Hacker](#)

November 14th

[Elizabeth Holl Tyler](#)

November 16th

[Luc Ibata](#)

November 18th

[Maurice Gene Marcus](#)

November 19th

510-601-0102.

Along with preparing and distributing toiletries, club members have been preparing meals for the homeless youth and young adults at the YEAH shelter at 1745 University Avenue in Berkeley. They gather every 2nd Saturday from 5-8 pm. and would greatly welcome help. Why not come join them? Reach out to club member John Denvir for more information.

The Orchid Conservation Alliance

By John Albert Ross



Berkeley Rotarian Steve Beckendorf, Ph.D., a UC Berkeley Professor Emeritus of Molecular and Cell Biology, spoke enthusiastically about his experiences as a Board Member of the Orchid Conservation Alliance (OCA) on October 9. He also showed beautiful slides of rare orchids and their habitats.

Founded in 2006, the OCA promotes the conservation of orchids and orchid habitat around the world. Today, the OCA has reserves in Brazil, Ecuador, and Colombia, but is open to orchid conservation anywhere in the world. Preservation of natural orchid habitat preserves the orchids, their pollinators, their genetic diversity, and other fauna, as well as the birds, frogs, insects, reptiles, and mammals in the forests where they live.

[Read More](#)

BRC Welcomes Alameda County Supervisor Carson

By Joan H. Collignon

Alameda County Supervisor Keith Carson visited the club on October 16, bringing us news of the 2020 census. After a refresher course on what Alameda County is i.e., "County 101" he emphasized the importance of **Making Alameda County Count**, by asking us to encourage all our friends and families and associates to participate in the census. Why is this important? The state and federal governments direct billions of dollars to resources in the City of Berkeley and Alameda County. They allocate those dollars according to our population, and we need to make sure that EVERYONE is counted.



It's hard to find everyone the unsheltered, people who move often, those living communally and in institutions but there's another issue this year. For the first time we will fill out the census questionnaires electronically. People with concerns about privacy will be doubly distrustful of entrusting their data to a computer.

[Read More](#)

The Berkeley Rotary Flyfishing Club in Truckee

By Arlene Carol Marcus



The Berkeley Rotary Flyfishing Club (you are invited to join) spent a few wonderful days in the Truckee area. Beautiful weather, crummy fishing.

Kurt Hauch, O♦Neil Dillon, Maury Marcus, Arlene Marcus, Pate Thomson

District Interact Kickoff Last Sat. in Woodland

By Frederick C. Collignon

On Saturday, Oct. 12, the all-student District Interact Council held its kickoff of its annual program. Three club Rotarians and a friend attended. The training was different this year, focusing on how to organize multiple clubs into larger projects. Students from the high schools in contiguous areas worked together in the training and socials.

There were lots of initial interactive games to get the youth attending across the District to meet one another. This year's fundraising project, which most District Interact clubs will pursue, is raising money for the Environmental Defense Fund, reflecting the environmental concerns of the students. The service project of the day was preparing tree plants for replanting in areas hit by disasters. Those attending also had a chance to tour the large Agricultural Museum, where the event was staged. The Council reported that 62 clubs had registered with the District so far this year; they expect to have their usual total of 4000+ Interactors across our District by the end of 2019-20. Our own club's Interact students couldn't make the kickoff, but are getting active in their project with autistic kids at Cal and in other projects. Tina Etcheverry has returned as our club Interact liaison.

[Read More](#)
