

BREEZE



University Section Club, Inc.

Berkeley, CA

Website: <http://sectionclub.berkeley.edu>

Spring 2017

Children's Holiday Party at I House

The annual Holiday Party for children of visiting scholars was held on December 3rd at the I House. There were 96 children representing 23 countries. The party arranged by Judy Gordon had two clowns, Joan Finnie and Grace Kobayashi who did their clown act. There were many cookies baked by Section Members. Hank the magician performed some tricks. After the children have had some sweets, Santa (Hans, the I House Director) came and each child received a Cal bear. Natalie Hahn and her team make the bears. Each year she produces 100 bears for the party. She said that one of the children was later accepted as a student at Cal. He brought his bear with him.



Joan Finnie, Judy Gordon, Grace Kobayashi



Children and parents waiting for refreshments



Hans the Magician with children



Santa giving away Cal Bears

Winter Dinner

The Annual Winter Dinner was held at the Bancroft Hotel on Friday, January 27th. It was well attended with 112 guests. Wine and hors d'oeuvre were served at 6 pm followed by a dinner of pear salad, beef and mashed potatoes or vegetarian pasta, chocolate cake and apple tartlets for dessert.

At 8 pm Joan Finnie presented three members for Honorary Membership in the Section Club.

Mary Catherine Birgeneau who as wife of the Chancellor invited the Section Club to her home at the beginning of each school year. She has taken a deep interest in students who need money and always attends the SOS Spring meetings.

Dorothy Kaplan, a member of nine sections, Co-chair of both Tennis and Services Offered Students (SOS), stores items for Beehive and Bambino Thrift Shop in her garage and offers to come to members' homes to pick up items. She has made generous contributions to SOS.

Terry Schooler, current Parliamentarian for Section Club meetings, has given generously of her time and contributed very large amounts of pasta salad to the Beehive and for the Section Club event at Clars Auction House. She arranged for Section members to purchase Cécile Jeanne gold bird pins, a symbol of peace.

Professor Michael Nacht from the Goldman School of Public Policy at UC gave a fascinating lecture on national security challenges for the new President. He elaborated on the importance of the National Atlantic Treaty Organization, NATO, and the importance of keeping it.



Mary Catherine Birgeneau, Dorothy Kaplan, Terry Schooler



Professor Michael Nacht and Traudel Prussin

Student Grants

We gave a \$1,000 grant to a married grad student with a child referred by Paula Flamm. He requested help because of co-pays for needed surgery.

Per your letter from October 22, I am writing to acknowledge having received the University Section Club's generous grant. The funds will go a long way in relieving the financial burden associated with this unforeseen procedure. My wife was very excited when I told her the news earlier today! We are tremendously grateful for the Section Club's philanthropic efforts. I hope to be able to give back in the future with my contributions. I pray that it will be sooner than later.

The second \$1,000 grant we gave this year was for an EOP student referred by Yuki Burton. He had problems with finding housing after his semester abroad. His GPA was lower than 3.5 but we made an exception because he was going to graduate in December with the help of our grant. His previous GPAs were 3.7 and 3.6 respectively.

I would like to start off by saying that I am truly grateful for your kindness! This has been the roughest semester of my collegiate career, especially with my difficulties finding affordable housing and my auntie being diagnosed with breast cancer, all while I've been working 20+ hours a week, taking a full load of classes, doing research, studying for the GRE, and applying to graduate school. I don't know what I would have done without this. I cannot thank you enough for your support, and I want to reiterate that this has had a profound impact on my life.

The third \$1,000 grant was for another student referred by Paula Flamm who was facing surgery with expected out of pocket expenses close to \$3,000. Paula is helping her apply for another grant as well that may help with the remaining costs.

Thank you for the generous grant to help cover my unexpected medical expenses. It is a great help and lets me keep focusing on my studies. I received the check and will deposit it this week. And in the future after graduate school I will keep the Section Club in mind to give back to, you are a very worthy organization!

Janice Lieu, Chair of Student Grants

Services Offered Students

Services Offered Students (SOS), Elberg Emergency Grants and our Student Grants Program are the philanthropic arm of the University Section club. All of your donations to our organization that you make throughout the year go directly to the students. The Beehive Lunch and Silent Auction which we have every February is our fundraiser and social event which raises funds for student needs. Beehive Lunch is on Tuesday, February 28th, 11 A.M. – 2:30 at the Unitarian Church in Kensington.

From May 31, 2016 through January 31, 2017 we gave 25 Elberg Grants for a total of \$14,809. The grants were awarded for payments needed toward medical emergencies, unforeseen expenses, etc. The students we serve are usually living just within their means, have no family support, and have no back-up funds. We serve as a life-line to keep them from falling behind. We receive grateful thank-you notes from these students.

Here is a portion of one note: *“There is not room in one letter to begin to tell you what this grant means to me. Between you and me, I cried when I read the email because I wasn’t expecting to actually receive it. I am the first in my family to college, the first to major in sciences and the first in many generations in my family to be on the way to becoming a doctor. –as a direct result of this grant my disability will no longer affect my academic progress negatively. I am going to make it to graduation.”*

As a reminder donations can be made to the University Section Club throughout the year. Perhaps you would like to honor a friend or make a donation in the memory of a loved one or friend.

Our SOS Spring Meeting will be on Friday, April 14, 2017 at the Tang Health Center from 1-3 PM. At this meeting we will have proposals from our campus liaisons such as the HOPE Scholars, Veterans, Student/Parent program, and the Health Center, just to name a few. They are asking for funds to buy equipment or to start a new project for their under-served students. This meeting is open to all members of the University Section Club and we urge you to attend and become better acquainted with the values of our club. If you are interested in becoming involved in SOS or need more information about the meeting please contact Sonja Vélez at svelezmarken@gmail.com or Dorothy Kaplan at dotkap@usa.net or 524-8365.

Sonja MarkenVélez, Trish Hare and Dorothy Kaplan SOS Co-Chairs

50th ANNUAL BEEHIVE LUNCHEON AND AUCTION

Silent auction items are still needed for the 50th Annual Beehive Luncheon and Auction, February 28th. The Silent Auction portion of the Beehive is very popular with our members. **We are still accepting contributions** to this portion of the Beehive. The most sought after Silent Auction items are experiences offered by members themselves. Vacation get away, special meals, hikes, classes, and tours are always popular with our bidders. If you have special talent or interest that you can share or a craft that you could teach and if you are a naturalist with knowledge to share in the outdoors, these skills are much valued and appreciated.

A “request for donation” letter is available which you can take to a favorite restaurant, shop, or winery. Please contact Chrys Peters at arcapeters@cs.com or 510 520-4350 to get a copy of the donation letter or to make a Silent Auction donation.

50th ANNUAL BEEHIVE LUNCHEON AND AUCTION

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2017

11:00 AM - 2:30 PM

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF BERKELEY
1 LAWSON ROAD, KENSINGTON



ALL MONEY RAISED WILL BE USED FOR:

Student Grants, SOS, and the International Student and Scholar Committee

- Bid on **Silent Auction treasures!**
- Buy **jewelry, crafts and collectable!**
- Win a **raffle basket or other prizes!**
- Have **fun!**

Join us for a delicious sit-down luncheon

Reserve a table for your family and friends, and let us know with which section, or member you would prefer to sit.

(Lunch served at 12:00)

Entrance fees and all purchased items should be paid by cash or check. No credit cards. Make checks payable to University Section Club, Inc.

Mail in your reservation by February 21st; \$30 per person (guest \$25)

Preferred name for name tag _____

I would like to sit with (1 name, or 1 Section) _____

SPECIAL OFFER! -- Bring non-member guests for just \$25 each.

Total for one member and one non-member guest: \$55

Name of non-member guests _____

Unfortunately I cannot attend, but here is my donation _____

Send checks and reservation by February 15th to:

Catherine Kaye 1624 St. Norbert Drive, Danville, CA 94526 Phone: 925-820-2540

Birding Section

If you enjoy being in nature and exploring our local regional parks, consider joining the Birding Section. We meet at 9 a.m. on the first Wednesday of every month for a four or five hour field trip .



We started our year in October with a trip to Miller-Knox Regional Park. It's just a short 15 minute drive from Berkeley, but provides a varied habitat that attracts both land and sea birds. The Western Bluebirds were out in force, foraging from the trees and a Caspian Tern gave a great fly by. In November we visited Hamilton Marsh, a newly-reclaimed wetland at the former Hamilton Air Base. Green-winged Teal and Northern Shovelers had arrived from the far north, and huge flocks of shorebirds were feasting on the mud flats. In December we went to Arrowhead Marsh, an amazingly rich habitat near the Oakland Airport. We got great looks at Ridgeway's Rails, Say's Phoebes and Northern Flicker, and a rare opportunity to see both Greater and lesser Yellowlegs in the same pond.

Future trips will take us to other nearby regional parks. In May we will have a potluck picnic at the end of our trip. We all look forward to sharing our favorite foods and planning for the year to come.



Beginning birders are very welcome to join us. We love sharing our knowledge and enthusiasm for nature. Please contact Ruth Tobey (ruthsobey@gmail.com; 510-717-3264) or Jean Thomas (ejthomas09@comcast.net; 510-843-7783) for further information.

Ruth Tobey January 2017



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Return Service Requested

Club wide events: *All members are welcome at these events.*

<p>Beehive Luncheon & Silent Auction February 28, 2017 Unitarian Universalist Church</p>	<p>Intercampus Open House Date TBA UC Merced</p> <p>Spring Business meeting May 8th, 2017 Tang Center, Section Club Room</p>
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OFFICERS

Gerry Morrison (Gary)
 Dorian Bikle (George)
 Sally Stevens
 Susan Storm
 Mary Sharman
 Barbara Denton (Edward)
 Jan Tsuchiya (Gordy)
 Cathy Kaye (Bill)

DIRECTORS AT LARGE

Chancellor Nicholas B. Dirks
 Geneviève Dreyfus (Hubert)

Julia Wenk (Rudy)
 Nancy Oldham (Bill)
 Janice Lieu (Dennis)
 Dorothy Kaplan
 Sonja Marken Vélez
 Judy Gordon
 Marjorie Sauer (Ken)

ADVISORS

Janaki Bakhle (Nicholas)
 Teresa De Luca Schooler (Edmund)
 Linda Vida
 Joan Jenkins (David)

HONORARY MEMBERS

Di Hwa Tien

Sue Cork
 Joan Finnie
 Joan Glassey (Roger)
 Audrey Richards (Paul)
 Marjorie Sauer (Ken)
 Joan Jenkins (David)
 Dorothy Kaplan
 Mary Catherine Birgeneau (Robert)
 Teresa Deluca Schooler (Edmund)

PAST PRESIDENTS

Sally Stevens
 Rita Purcell (Alexander)
 Janice Lieu (Dennis)
 Melinda Buchanan (Bob)
 Mary-Ellis Adams (Philip)
 Julia Wenk (Rudy)