



NEW MEMBERS

Our Blue and Gold Program helps newly-minted members meet their fellow club members and learn about a wide range of activities. Newcomers participate in hands-on projects, social events, committee work, Board meetings, conferences, etc. The individuals interviewed below have completed their Blue and Gold orientation, which typically takes six months to a year. However, some of our members, like Lynne and Maury, worked on projects before officially joining the club. Rosie was a former member, and she too knew the Rotary ropes. They raced through in record time.



Lynne Henderson

Clinical Psychologist, Co-Founder with Philip Zimbardo and Director of the Shyness Institute, and former Director of the Shyness Clinic in Palo Alto. She has a private practice in Berkeley and runs classes in Mindful Self-Compassion. Lynne, who joined the club in March 2017, began attending Berkeley Rotary events with husband Austin, himself a relatively new member. As a non-member spouse, she helped with parking for the Berkeley Kite Festival, the club's major fund-raiser; sold hot dogs at the Golden Gate Fields racetrack; and accompanied him to meetings and conferences, including the District conference and the Rotary International conference in Atlanta.

"When I started doing things with Austin, I was struck by how many interesting events Berkeley Rotary offers . . . and how much charitable work they're constantly doing to benefit both the local and international communities. Besides the Kite Festival, I went with him to put furniture together for Youth Spirit Artworks, a local organization promoting art for youth, and participated in a beach cleaning project. This year I plan to work on the dictionary project (the club donates dictionaries to every third grader in the Berkeley public schools and teaches the children how to use them). Rotary works on international

clean water projects and on rebuilding schools in Nayarit, Mexico. We plan to participate in the next Mexico project. Rotary is one of the most impressive altruistic organizations in the world. The weekly meetings also have an impressive slate of speakers; I enjoyed hearing the perspectives of the new mayor of Berkeley, the presentation on the challenges of affordable housing, and the one on Belmont Village Senior Housing, just to name a few."



Rosemary (Rosie) Mann

Hotel Administration (retired). Rosie is no newcomer to Berkeley Rotary. She was a club member for 15 years and, in fact, is a past-president. She left the club two or three years ago for personal reasons, as she coped with a demanding array of care-giving duties and work obligations. During her absence she continued to participate in club projects and social activities, especially the Kite Festival parking activities and Dollar Days at Golden Gate Fields, both key fund-raisers. Much to the delight of her friends, she rejoined in May 2017.

"I left the club when my life went sideways, but am back now. I guess you could say I've come back, but I was never really gone. I stayed involved in projects and remained in touch with people. I'm happy to see that, since I've left, the club has become more diverse - we have more women, more African Americans, more younger members - and more energy! There's something in Rotary for everybody. But it takes a time commitment, and that's not always easy for young people, for working people. We understand that and need to let people know before they join about the expectations for members and help them figure out what works for them."



Maurice (Maury) Marcus

Psychiatrist/ Psychoanalyst, retired after 51 years in private practice and teaching, 44 of those years in Berkeley. He taught psychiatric residents and psychoanalytic trainees, and consulted to organizations. Maury joined Berkeley Rotary in February 2017, after "trailing my wife Arlene around to meetings and social events for over a year," as he laughingly terms it. He came to so many club events, and seemed to have such a good time, it was only a matter of time till he stood at the podium and agreed wholeheartedly to abide by the principles Rotary sets forth for membership.

"I've been so impressed. I've been a member of many organizations over many years, and have found a number to be disappointments, with little getting done. So I took my time before signing up. What won me over? The quality of the people — they're competent, conscientious, and fun — and the significance of the humane projects. I'm impressed by the efficiency of the organization, especially my committee, the Membership Committee - it's right on the ball and gets a lot done. And I've been inspired by my Rotaract mentee (a college student at U.C. Berkeley whom Maury mentors under Rotary's umbrella) — I meet with him every two months to talk about his studies and his future plans, and provide my observations and recommendations. The Rotaracter group is very enthusiastic, and they do good works. Rotary's amazing!"



Rowena Tomaneng

President, Berkeley City College (BCC), Peralta, Community College District (PCCD). Rowena became familiar with Rotary when she worked as the Associate Vice President of Instruction at De Anza College, where she attended a few Rotary events in Cupertino, but no meetings. In July 2016 she assumed her position as president, to find her chancellor boss was a long-time Rotarian and current member of the Oakland Rotary Club. He and PCCD Trustee William "Bill" Riley, also a long-time Rotarian, attended her induction. Rowena has been a multicultural educator for over 22 years, serving as a faculty member in English, Intercultural Studies, and Women's Studies; co-founder of De Anza's Vasconcellos Institute for Democracy and Action; and Dean of Language Arts. She received her BA in English from UC Irvine, MA in English from UC Santa Barbara, and Ed.D. in International Multicultural Education/Human Rights Education from the University of San Francisco.

"Rotary's values regarding service are my personal values; they're also reflected in the mission statement of Berkeley Community College. Because my job is very busy, I don't have as much time as I'd like for club work, but I'm figuring out

how I can connect what I do at work with the projects Berkeley Rotary is engaged in. I want to connect BCC students to support homelessness. The club offers so many opportunities for different levels and methods of engagement and participation, so many activities. Right now I'm mentoring a college student, a Rotaracter from the University at Berkeley. I am bringing her to a club meeting soon. And I'm on the fund-raising committee. I'm hoping to host evening Rotary meetings as well — I want to do more club work after work hours; there are lots of ways we can support the community, so many projects."