

BREEZE

University Section Club, Inc.

Berkeley, CA

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



Message from Section Club President, Deirdre Bauer

Winter 2020

It is my honor to be your President at the start of a new decade and the 93rd year of a vibrant, giving, caring and fun organization. My hope for this group is continued success and growth for many more decades. Please continue to recruit new members! It is never too late to join one of our 17 sections which are a great way to meet new people doing something you enjoy. At the heart of our organization is the continued hard work and dedication of our many volunteers. It is heart-warming to read the thank you letters from the UC students we assist with financial aid during difficult financial challenges. Your generosity is needed and appreciated and there are many ways to help.



Wishing you all a very happy, healthy and peaceful 2020. I hope to see you at the BEEHIVE in February and the Intercampus Open House in April.

Attention Section Club Chairs!!

The Archivists, Linda Vida and Joan Jenkins, desperately need your help. We are missing many of your sections' reports and information on special events for previous years.

Please contact us via email so we can arrange to get the missing material ASAP. Thank you.

Lindavida55@gmail.com and yalejoan11@yahoo.com



The **Beehive fundraiser and luncheon** is coming! Tuesday, Feb. 25th, 11-2:30 pm. Watch your email for a registration form or mailbox for those who receive communications by snail mail. The usual wonderful salmon luncheon with delicious salads will be served and many wonderful items or experiences to bid on. *This is one of the most enjoyable events of the year!*



Natalie Hahn

Thank you, UC Bear Lady! For nearly 20 years **Natalie Hahn** has coordinated the making of the Cal teddy bears to be given to children of international visiting scholars at the I-House holiday party in December. Up to 100 bears are made by hand each year. Natalie buys the fabric and cuts out the front and back side of the bears for a hand-sewing and stuffing party in October. She has been an active member of the Section Club and the International Student and Scholar Committee (ISSC) since 1980 and was president and treasurer at different times for the Section Club.

Judy Gordon has coordinated the I-House holiday party for 25 years. Working in coordination with the Berkeley International Office, Judy arranges for the magician, recruits cookie bakers among Section Club members, makes sure that craft supplies are available for the children while they wait for Santa, and sees that everything goes smoothly! Like Natalie, Judy has been active with the ISSC and was president of the Section Club board.



Judy Gordon



On December 14, 2019, the Club celebrated another wonderful holiday party at I-House for international visiting scholars and their families. Over 70 families attended with their children, all of whom got to meet Santa and receive a handmade teddy bear. Santa gave out 79 bears!

Services Offered Students (SOS)/Elberg Emergency Fund

Trish Hare (trishhare20@gmail.com) and Dorothy Kaplan (dotkap@usa.net), Co-chairs.

The SOS Committee and interested Section Club members met on December 2nd for the SOS fall annual meeting. We had the pleasure of hearing from two staff members whose programs provide broad-based resources to Cal students. Brieanna Wright, the Program Director with the Educational Opportunity Program (EOP), spoke first about the program and Ruben Canedo, Strategic Equity Initiatives Director, spoke about the newly established Basic Needs Center <http://basicneeds.berkeley.edu/>. Both speakers started out by saying how important the SOS/Elberg Emergency Grants Fund is and how students, who have exhausted all the campus and federal programs, can still receive support from the local community. Our awards are especially helpful because the funding goes directly to the student, cutting out onerous paperwork and delays.



Brieanna Wright

Brieanna spoke about EOP's staff and student ambassadors who help first generation, low-income, and underrepresented college students with the guidance and resources necessary to succeed at Cal. Through individualized academic counseling, comprehensive support services, and an extensive campus referral network, EOP helps students achieve their educational goals. Keeping students on their academic tracks is sometimes difficult when food, housing and other issues consume precious time students need to study. When a student cannot provide basic essentials, Brieanna and her staff work hand-in-hand with Ruben Canedo and the **Basic Needs Center** to provide economic, food and housing justice. Over the past six years, initially as a food pantry, the new Basic Needs Center has expanded beyond providing food to meeting broader needs of the UC Berkeley community. The Center helps students apply for the Cal Fresh program (<http://calfresh.berkeley.edu/>), enabling them to receive \$192/month in SNAP (food stamp) funding, sometimes the only funds they have for food. The Center has helped over 10,000 students receive those benefits. EOP, along with the other UC programs that SOS supports, dovetails with the Basic Needs Center to address all the issues that a student may encounter.



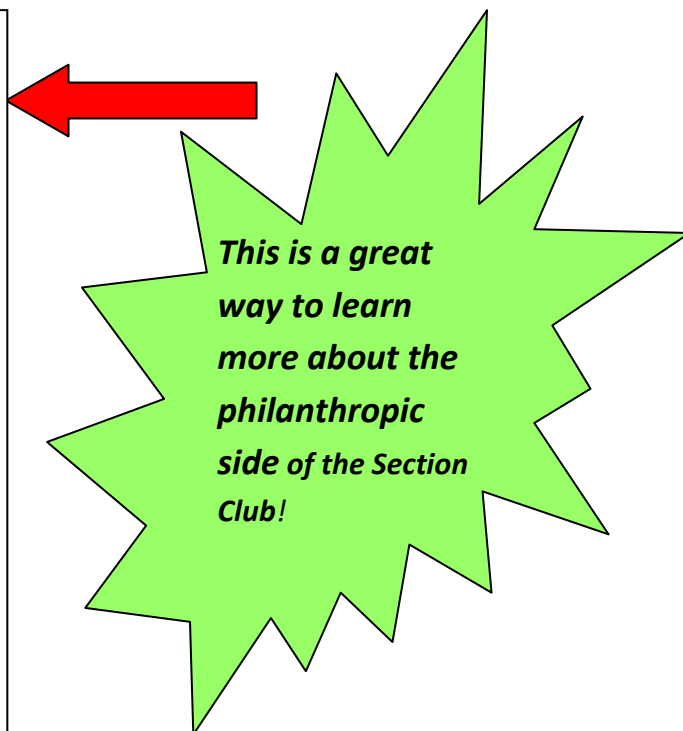
Ruben Canedo

The **Elberg Emergency Grant Fund** awarded \$25,142 in grants from July 1st through December 31st. A large number of student requests were for our maximum of \$750 or more, showing that students' emergency needs are rising.

A special thanks to Section Club members for their continued support and donations. **This fall the program received from members \$8,100 in donations given with dues**, and from the Gramp Foundation, Graeme Elberg, and the following sections: Bon Appetit, Movies, Spanish, Tennis, Walking, and Writers Workshop.

Often our grants are the lifeline between keeping the student enrolled or dropping out. Please continue to keep Section Club in mind when making your charitable contributions this year. If you require information or an address, please contact our Treasurer Emily Ladner at wwspr8@gmail.com.

The SOS Spring Business Meeting will be on Monday, April 27th at the Tang Health Center, from 1:00 – 3:00pm. We will vote on proposals from our campus programs: HOPE Scholars, EOP, Veterans, Student/Parent Program, Tang Health Center and others. Annually, these programs seek grants to fund special equipment or to start a new project. *This meeting is open to all Section Club members and we urge you to attend in order to become better acquainted with the value of our club!* If you are interested in becoming involved in the SOS program or need more information about the meeting, please contact either of the co-chairs. Trish Hare (trishhare20@gmail.com) and Dorothy Kaplan (dotkap@usa.net), Co-chairs.



DID YOU KNOW?..

New Members' Reduced Dues for Spring Semester

The board recently voted to allow new people to join the Section Club in the second semester and pay half the yearly dues. In other words, new members can join beginning in January and pay \$15 for individual and \$20 per couple. Invite your friends to become a member of our club, attend our wonderful sections, and contribute to the important mission of helping students!

Student Grants

Gerry Morrison and Sonja Velez, Co-Chairs

Student Grants give up to one thousand five hundred dollars to students who deserve our support: the student must have an acceptable GPA, be close to graduation and have an unexpected financial emergency. We work with campus liaisons who screen the students and refer them to us. Once we approve this request we send it to the Student Grants voting committee composed of the president of the Section Club, the past president, the president-elect and treasurer. This academic year we have given seven grants so far. Below is a particularly touching letter we recently received from one of our grantees:

I am writing this note to thank you from the bottom of my heart for the generous funding you were able to provide me. I have been extremely worried about the responsibility of paying the sizable medical debt I've accrued recently and have encountered one dead end after another in this process, so your support is a major relief. Not only will this enable me to continue my doctoral program, but it will also allow me to refocus the time and energy...on my dissertation research. You've made a huge difference in my life and I truly cannot express the depth of my gratitude. The work you do is not only improving students' lives but contributing to positive systemic change in making higher education accessible to those from less privileged economic backgrounds. Thank you again!



How to help the Beehive fundraiser:

Our collectible and bargain tables will be filled with wonderful treasures donated by YOU our members. These treasures as well as jewelry, crafts, and wearables (scarves, jackets & such) are collected by Nancy Oldham and Dorothy Kaplan at dotkap@usa.net (510)524-8365 until February 15th.

We always need MEMBER SUPPORT to procure items for our silent auction tables: gift certificates to local theaters, salons, shops, and restaurants. A "request for donation" letter is available from Section Chairs as well as **Chrys Peters at arcapeters@cs.com**. Some of the most popular silent auction items are experiences offered by our members themselves; special meals, hikes, classes, as well as weekend getaways. A special talent or interest that you could share makes a wonderful auction item!

Be sure to tell your friends and join us for a day of fun, camaraderie, and goodwill all to the benefit of UC students!

Chrys Peters & Lucia Falcone, Beehive Co-chairs

INTERCAMPUS OPEN HOUSE

This year it's at Cal!

April 1st!

**Come join us and welcome members from other campuses
as we celebrate women at Cal!**

The theme "**150 Years of Women at Cal**", commemorates when women students were first admitted to the University. The day includes food, speakers, conversation, and escorted campus tours. Meet us at the Alumni House on April 1, 2020.

You will receive more information and the registration form in the coming weeks. Questions? Want to volunteer?

Contact the committee chair Andrea Lanzafame Campos
Acampos@berkeley.edu

150 Years of Women at Berkeley



Mushroom Walk &

Meal- from Joan Finnie

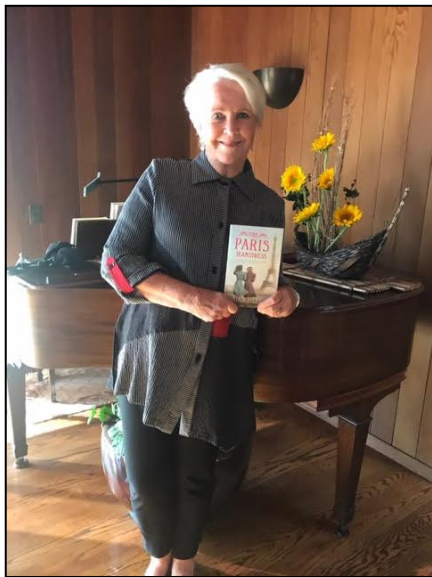
"Prof. John Taylor took the group from last year's sign-up at the Beehive on an informative walk and to his lab to inspect mushrooms under the microscope. We then went to his house where Delia Taylor had an extraordinary mushroom inspired beautiful meal. Unforgettable!!!!"

Just one of the exciting things you can find at the Beehive!



Section News

Book Discussion (submitted by Joan Finnie) The Book Discussion group is going gangbusters! Our monthly discussions are riveting and engaging. We started the year with Michelle Obama's book, "Becoming." Pat Crawford, a new member and former dietician with UC, gave details of Michelle's efforts with the White House garden and dietary recommendations for children. She noted what an improvement it had been for children's diets and ultimate health.



Linda Jones

November had Linda Jones leading the discussion of the book, "The Paris Seamstress." She did considerable research, including contacting the author in Australia. They corresponded, and she took a photo of the group and sent it to the author. In December Maryly Snow led a lively review and animated discussion of "There There," by Tommy Orange. We learned it is on the syllabus for freshman English at Cal. The story is set among the native American community living in Oakland. In January we select the books for March through December and in February we will discuss "Do Not Say We Have Nothing" by Madeleine Thien. Our final meeting in May is for lunch and features a local author. Contact Emily Ladner or Joan Finnie for further information or for joining this lively group.

Birding (submitted by Ruth Tobey)

This year we have been lucky with the weather so far. In October we visited the Albany mudflats, just a ten minute drive. We found almost 30 species, mostly migrant ducks and shorebirds, plus a few year-round residents, like the perky Black Phoebe. In November we

went to Lake Merritt, which was the first U. S. nature reserve,

established in 1870. There we found both White and Brown Pelicans, Belted Kingfisher and some early migrant kinglets and warblers.

December's trip was to Arrowhead Marsh, one of our favorite spots because we get to see Ridgway's Rails. This year one stood out for us to get great views in our spotting scopes. In January we went to Las Gallinas in Marin County. Despite some recent clearing of the



White-tailed Kite



Black Phoebe

cattails along the pond edges, we saw almost 40 species, including a gorgeous White-tailed Kite and a pair of Common Mergansers.

We have a number of fine trips to Solano County and eastern Alameda County to look forward to and in May we will have a potluck picnic at the end of our field trip. Please contact Ruth Tobey (ruthsobey@gmail.com; 510-717-3264) or Jean Thomas (ejthomas09@comcast.net; 510-843-7783) for further information.

Italian Section (submitted by Elly Skarakis)

Once again the Italian Section celebrated the winter holidays at the beautiful home of Terry DeLuca Schooler. This year we had a sit-down lunch for 34 members and guests. Many members brought family-favorite dishes to share and retold memories of the original cooks. Every bite was a delicious treat! We continued our tradition of singing Christmas carols, in Italian, accompanied by Laura Magnani on piano. Laura also gave us a wonderful musical gift by playing several Beethoven and Chopin pieces.



Italian Section, continued



Rather than a holiday gift exchange our group continued its tradition of donating money to purchase food gift cards for Cal students. Three years ago we collected recipes and published the cookbook 'Tutti a Tavola!' Proceeds from the cookbook launched our tradition of donating money for food gift cards. This year we purchased \$700 in cards from Trader Joe's, Safeway and Sprouts. The cards will be distributed to students in need at the Tang Center and at Albany Village. We also collected children's books for Albany Village families. Our group appreciates and savors delicious food, but we also appreciate being able to help students put food on their tables!

Italian Section member Traudel Prussin, presenting the grocery gift cards to Jen Siecienski, the Associate Director for Graduate and Family Housing at the Albany Village. Traudel is one of the Section Club liaisons, along with Trish Hare, to University Village.

Museum Section (submitted by Sandra Gilbert)

Museum Section got off to a great start this year at the Berkeley Art Museum. We met in October for "Strange," an exhibit about surrealism, and were fortunate to have as our docent Lawrence Rinder, Director and Chief Curator of the BAMPFA. In November Jon Soriano led us through the exhibit called "Hinges: Sakaki Hyakusen and the Birth of Nanga Painting." Jon is the BAMPFA Mellon Curatorial intern and PhD student in art history with a specialty in the Buddhist art of East Asia. We were so fortunate to have his guidance through this beautiful and interesting exhibit!



Walking Section (submitted by Misty MacCready)

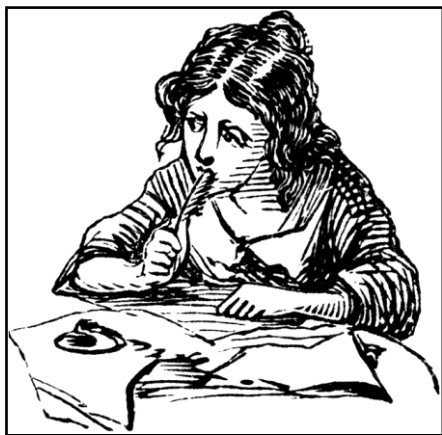
This fall we have hiked in Shell Ridge Open Space in Walnut Creek, the Bear Creek Trail along San Pablo Reservoir, and on Nimitz Way in Tilden Regional Park. In the coming months we plan to hike at Lake Chabot Regional Park, China Camp State Park in San Rafael, Fernandez Ranch in Franklin Canyon, and Redwood Regional Park.



Walking Section stops for a photo on Nimitz Way in Tilden Regional Park.

Writers' Workshop (submitted by Mary Heller)

What's happening in the Writers' Section? Meetings are characterized by the enthusiasm, encouragement, and engagement of both new and longstanding members who are interested in pursuing their literary ambitions and connecting with fellow writers. Writing goals range from memoirs or constructing family history, to poetry, to biography, or to fiction writing, including novels and short stories. During a meeting, typically 3-5 members read a small section of their work and receive constructive comments and encouragement from the group.



Recently, writing prompts have been used successfully to help those who are not working on a current project to get writing. For example, one task was to describe, in a paragraph or two, four events or incidents from your life, but one of them is fictitious. Listeners then guess which one is not true. Another prompt: write a story or a self characterization in six words (e.g., "Engagement ring, worn once. Best offer."). Or topics, such as "the road not taken" or "what I would never eat again" may also stimulate writing ideas. Moreover, such springboards to writing also encourage members to share unique aspects of themselves and enable getting to know each other.



German Section (submitted by Joyce Arnon and Maria Ritter)

The German Section had its annual Holiday Celebration meeting on December 17 at Joyce Arnon's house. We were a large group and enjoyed scrumptious savories and delicious German holiday baked goods brought by our members. We listened to some of Bach's Weihnachts Oratorio, sang many German Christmas carols, and heard poems and stories. It was a very festive occasion and we all enjoyed the good food and music!

German Section meets on the 3rd Tuesday of the month, the program is in German, and we encourage members to speak German during the meeting and the Kaffeeklatsch before the program. We have had many interesting guest speakers and also presentations by our own members. In November Joyce Arnon, Dorothy Kaplan, and guest Ilse Eden spoke about "Stolpersteine", Stumbling Stones, that were placed for their relatives who were victims of the Holocaust in Germany.

In the next few months we will be discussing a short story by the author Judith Hermann, hear Julia Wenk sing Brahms songs, and hear a presentation about Cologne by Christa Shannon. Many of us attend the annual Berlin and Beyond Film Festival in San Francisco and Berkeley (this year it will be February 7 through 13) and other events and concerts at the Goethe Institute and Excelsior German Center in Oakland. We welcome new members to the German Section at any time of the year.



University Section Club, Inc.
Tang Center at UC Berkeley
2222 Bancroft Way
Berkeley, CA 94720-4300



Return Service Requested

Recipient Address

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

UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR

Beehive Luncheon and Fundraiser

Tue., Feb. 25, 11 - 2:30 pm
Unitarian Church, Kensington

Intercampus Open House

Wed., April 1, Alumni House
More details to come!

SOS Spring Meeting

Mon., April 27, 1 - 3 pm, Tang Center

Section Club Annual Meeting

Tue., May 5, 9:30 am, Tang Center

Deadline for Spring Breeze: April 15.

If you email pictures to the Breeze editor, Mary-Ellis Adams,
please send them below 100 KB's.