

Cooperatively Yours



Hoyt Hall Reunion

November 12

2017

Sunday 12:00 - 2:00

Lunch served.

\$20 (\$10 recent grads)

Tickets: <https://hoythall.eventbrite.com>

Tell your friends!

Wonder what Hoyt looks like today? Have some great stories to tell some eager students?

This reunion follows last year's fun Hoyt Herstory Night, where women young and old built and reinforced their Hoyt Hall bond with stories of empowerment and growth at Hoyt Hall.

Please join us! The women of Hoyt Hall look forward to meeting you.

From the BSC President

By Zach Gamieli, BSC President, 2017-18

Dear BSC Alumni,

It is my pleasure to write to you as the BSC President for 2017-18! The Berkeley Student Cooperative has provided me with not only affordable housing and cooperative community, but phenomenal opportunities that are not typically available to college students. I am driven to give back to the BSC because it has provided so much for me and thousands of other students!

Los Angeles, CA is where I was born and raised. My dad came to the US when he was 14, and my mom's family arrived in the early 1900s, with both families settling around LA and surrounding counties. After graduating high school in 2012, I deferred my acceptance to UC Berkeley in order to continue working full-time so I could save up for college.

In Fall 2014, I moved into Casa Zimbabwe and it completely changed my life! The semester prior was my first time at Cal, and I was living in an apartment that lacked community and drained my wallet. If it weren't for discovering the Co-op, I think I would have quit school and returned to full-time work.

Affordable, cooperative, freeing, and full of incredible individuals, the BSC transformed my college experience.

After my first two semesters at CZ, I was a House Manager for the 2015-16 academic year. House Manager was an invaluable, unique opportunity full of experiences and challenges I will carry with me the rest of my life. I ran for Board Representative after my stint as House Manager, and last year I served as the Vice President of External Affairs.

I feel grateful to the BSC for providing the potential to work at so many different levels of a non-profit housing provider. My experiences on Board and as a unit-level manager may even be worth more than my college degree! I am excited to continue work for the BSC in my new capacity as President.

This is an exciting time in the BSC as we continue to reclaim our mission statement and operate as an even better cooperative.

I am looking forward to meeting many of you at the alumni events.

Cooperatively,
Zach

Boarding Scholarships for Hungry Students Among Our Mission-Centric Initiatives

By Zach Gamlieli, BSC President



Zach Gamlieli represented the BSC at the recent Summer of Love street fair on Telegraph Avenue.

The BSC continues to reclaim our mission – to provide a quality, low-cost, cooperative housing community to university students, thereby providing an educational opportunity for students who might not otherwise be able to afford a university education.

While our low rent – and a waitlist of over 1,400 – might measure our operational success, we still need to constantly strive to meet our mission and ensure that low-income students are well served.

Revamped Recruitment Strategies

Oftentimes, low-income students, especially first-generation college students, do not learn about the Berkeley Student Cooperative until freshman year or even later. By the time they reach the top of our 1,400+ person waitlist, another year would have passed before they can enter into the BSC. On the other hand, more privileged students who already have social connections with the campus (e.g., an uncle that also went to UC Berkeley and knew about the Co-op) manage to put themselves on the waitlist earlier, enabling them to enjoy the benefits of low-cost housing for a larger portion of their college careers.

The BSC's revamped recruitment strategy evens the playing field for low-income students so they can improve their chances of obtaining a bed space at the BSC. We collaborate with various student groups that serve our target demographic. We've also strengthened our partnership with the UC Berkeley Centers for Educational Equity and Excellence, which supports disadvantaged students (such as foster youth, disabled students, transfer students, undocumented students, and more), the UC Berkeley Financial Aid

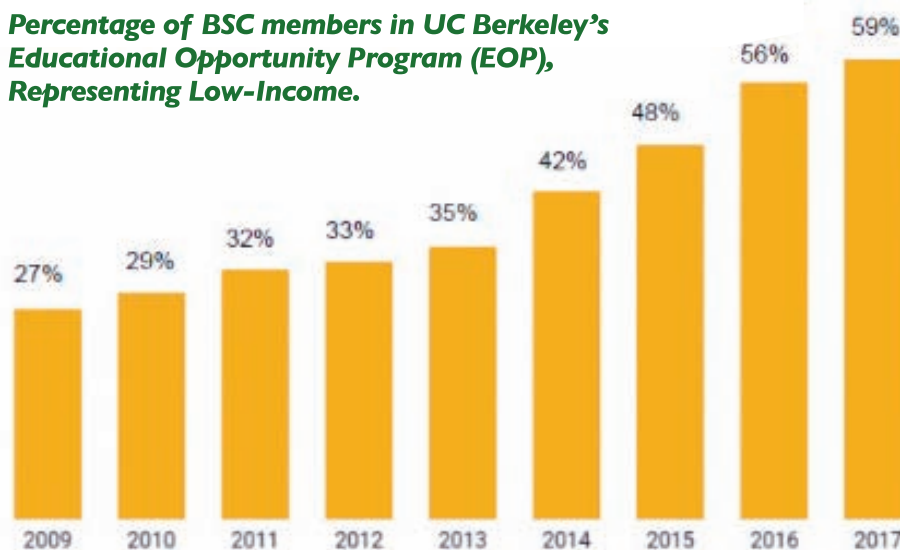
office, and other leadership at both UC Berkeley and Berkeley City College.

Expanded Scholarship Program

Our members redistribute wealth by allocating part of our rental income towards scholarships, which reduce a student's BSC rent by 1/6. As the proportion of our low-income students rises, we are more dependent on donation support. Out of our total scholarship budget of \$130,000, over 60% is funded by our own students (i.e. we increase everybody's rent by about \$60), and the remainder comes from alumni donations.

We have expanded our scholarship fund every year for the past 5 years, and in Fall 2017, we are introducing a new scholarship for food-insecure students to address the growing problem of student hunger (UC Berkeley opened its new food pantry in 2014). The new scholarship will allow 11 students to receive full boarding contracts at a unit of their choosing, alleviating food insecurity while also providing them with study spaces and community. We will be working with UC Berkeley and Berkeley City College programs supporting homeless and hungry students to get these scholarships to students who need it most.

Percentage of BSC members in UC Berkeley's Educational Opportunity Program (EOP), Representing Low-Income.



Organizational Support for BSC Apartments and Theme Houses

Historically, BSC leadership attention and resources have focused on the operations of our room and board houses. This year, Board will be thinking about how to better support students who live in our apartments and theme houses. Our apartments are a pillar of the BSC, providing our lowest rates, and our theme houses are vital safe spaces for supporting the various identities that make up our wonderful community. Improving organizational support to both types of units will only strengthen the BSC.

BSC Students Helping Local Senior Citizens and Other Good Works Around Town

By Kim Benson, Executive Director



We are organizing our members and other students to help low-income seniors living in Berkeley. Last semester we cleared out the overgrown yard of a local senior.



Alumnus Jon Lampman organized some alumni and many students to clean up Strawberry Creek

The BSC has been enjoying a stellar reputation in our community due to our members' increasingly competent management of unit-level operations, our incredible safety record, and positive neighbor relations. I commend the efforts of Zach Gamlieli and other leaders in expanding our presence in the community. By improving our standing and perception in the community, we not only make recruiting easier, but we also are better able to approach the City and the University with regards to policy, legislation, and funding. With expansion a real prospect over the next few years, we will need all the friends we can get!

In the past year we have been commended by UC Berkeley and the City of Berkeley for our safety record. We have been held as an example to other student organizations, including the Greeks, who have sought training from BSC members on how to create a culture of consent and safe party environments.

We are also leveraging our membership workshift pool to do good works elsewhere in the community. Projects include neighborhood clean up after Halloween celebrations and Strawberry Creek restoration.

Most recently, UC Berkeley, through the Chancellor's Community

Partnership Fund, awarded the BSC funding to expand our program to provide assistance to local low income seniors who need help with home projects like repairs and yard cleaning. We have been working with the City of Berkeley, the West Berkeley Senior Center, and the South Berkeley Senior Center to provide these services to those most in need. With our expanded program, we will be recruiting and coordinating volunteers from other student housing organizations as well!

Lunch with Founding Member and His New Co-Op Friends

By Madeleine Loh, Development Director



We discovered that Kei and Harumi Befu, both BSC alumni, lived in the same retirement community as Dick Millard, founding member of the BSC. Kei helped organize a lunch date for the four of us.

Kei (Tomita) Befu was born in Sacramento, CA, but was taken to Japan as a young child. World War II left no prospects in Japan, so in 1950, Kei and her sister decided to return to California in hope of obtaining college education. They first lived in Southern California, where they spent few years learning English and working. In January 1954, Kei transferred to UC Berkeley, and found a job with the family of Stanley McCaffrey, then the executive director of the California Alumni Association. Eventually the scholarships she earned made it possible for her to live and study in the Berkeley Student Cooperative.

Kei moved into Hoyt Hall in September 1954, and her roommate was Janet (Wong) Quong. Both Janet and Kei were struggling students without any parental support. One of Kei's favorite memories was cooking up late-night snacks with Janet. At the time, the only unlocked food available was the left-over lettuce in the refrigerator, so they stir-fried the lettuce with Janet's Chinese seasonings! "The opportunity to live at the Co-op really helped me complete my education. I am thankful for the good old days at the Student Co-op. Those are wonderful days."

Harumi Befu was born in Los Angeles, CA and also taken to Japan as a child. He returned to the US in 1947 to study anthropology at UCLA. While working on his master's at the University of Michigan, he lived in a co-op. When he later went to Berkeley to conduct doctoral research, Harumi connected with the Berkeley Student Cooperative and boarded at Oxford Hall.

Harumi met Kei when Kei, who had already graduated and working at the Doe Library, became one of his subjects for his anthropology research on Japanese kinship systems. After marrying, Harumi and Kei lived all around the country and finally settled in Palo Alto, CA where Harumi taught anthropology at Stanford until he retired. Currently they live in Portola Valley, CA.

Dick Millard is the remaining founding member of the Berkeley Student Cooperative! Dick grew up in Weed, CA and transferred to UC Berkeley. With the help of the YMCA and Harry Kingman, Dick was one of the students who formed the Berkeley Student Cooperative in 1933. He lived in a house on Ridge Road which he later named "Barrington Hall." After graduating from UC Berkeley with a degree in education, he went to the Episcopal Divinity School and became ordained as a minister. He served as rector of Christ Church in Alameda for 10 years before being appointed assistant bishop of the Diocese of California. He retired in 1980.

Special Give Success, Record Number Of Alumni Give Back to an Important Cause



Thank you! In five days, 380 of you gave back, helping us meet our Special Give goal. We raised a total of \$102,118 and thoroughly appreciated your many words of encouragement.

This campaign is important to us not just because the funding that will help our scholarship program, seismic retrofits, and rent stabilization. We are building awareness that the BSC is not just an alternative lifestyle for students. We are an important cause to support!

Thanks you to the volunteers who crafted messaging around our social justice work – education access through affordable housing – so that we can grow the list of contributors far beyond the 4% return rate we currently have. That’s right, only 4% of our Co-op alumni are donating: we need to double that to equal the Cal alumni rate, and double it again to meet the rate that private universities typically receive from their alumni.

Special Thanks to the Special Give Volunteer Team. You gave your

time, heart, and social capital and overcame busy schedules and technology hurdles to help the BSC build relationships with our alumni and friends. You are dear to the BSC:

We are building awareness that the BSC is not just an alternative lifestyle for students. We are an important cause to support!

Judy Bertelsen
Nancy Brigham Blattel
John Ehrlich
Patrick Ford
Steve Greenberg
Margie (Greene) Guillory
Nick Hamilton
Jon Lampman
Michelle Nacouzi
Bonnie Prestridge
Elissa Roy
Karen Tkach Tuzman
Michael Tripp
Alfred Twu
Steve Wood

Thank you to Special Give Co-Chairs, Al Davenport, Richard Lira, and Tori Partridge, for inspiring teamwork and camaraderie. We are grateful for your counsel.

Finally, Special Thanks to our Challenge Donors for investing in the future of the BSC and the major culture shift we are effecting among our alumni base.

Ted Akulian
Joel Beam
Victor Bloomfield
Ladd Coates
Narsai David
Al Davenport
John Ehrlich
Steve Greenberg
Lee Halterman
Sara Ishikawa
Richard Lira & Gretchen Taylor
Bob Reyes
Omar Shakill
Ruth Spear
Arthur & Sue Walenta
Steve Wood
Anonymous (Cloyne)
Anonymous (Barrington)

Special Give Event: Crawfish Boil Raises Money for BSC Scholarships

By Katharine Hirata, Casa Zimbabwe Resident

On April 23, co-ops from New Orleans shared their springtime tradition of the crawfish boil with BSC residents and alumni, boiling crawfish on-site and cooking up side dishes. About every 40 minutes, they dumped a new, freshly steaming vat of crawfish and seasoning onto long, communal tables and everyone gathered around

to eat with their fingers – quite a sight for someone who had never attended a crawfish boil before! Alumni and their families enjoyed the feast and a sunny afternoon of live music and dancing. Thank you to Casey Harch (CZ), Nina Angelo (CZ), and Grace Treffinger (Ridge) for putting the event on. Thank you to Ridge House for the use of its

beautiful backyard, and to CZ and Wolf Houses for donating funds from their food budgets. The event was intended to highlight the work the BSC has done to increase the representation of low-income students in the co-ops – and we'll need even more alumni on board to help the BSC stay true to this aspect of its mission in the future!



Special Give Volunteer Fundraisers Collect Stories, Tell Stories

Steve Wood has volunteered for Special Give for three years in a row. Each year he reaches out to over 300 Barringtonians, most of whom he's never met personally, and manages to touch their hearts by creating a welcoming forum for stories with a common theme.

From: Steve Wood

To: Barrington Hall Coop Alumni

Subject: Barrington Hall Memories – Your Reflections on 1960's Political Events

Day 3 of the 2017 BSC Special Give is now here! Here is some insightful feedback from three of you who were kind enough to share your experiences:

Ken Wagstaff: (Regarding the HUAC demonstrations at San Francisco City Hall in 1960)

In spring 1960 Barrington's dining room was the planning HQ for the Berkeley contingent intending to join the picketing in SF against the House Un-American Activities Committee (HUAC). My fellow Barringtonian Ian Schiller and I bussed over to the City and participated in the demonstration in the City Hall rotunda. The Sheriff announced we were an unlawful assembly and told us to clear out. Inspired by the lunch-counter tactics of the civil rights movement in the South, hundreds of students sat down instead. The riot police arrived, and began to spray everybody with fire hoses! As water cascaded down the marble stairs, Ian and I slid out to the street! We managed to get back to Barrington in one piece, reporting for duty the Oxford Hall kitchen like nothing had happened.

Bob Hughes: (Also regarding HUAC demonstrations)

I was at Barrington from 1957 through 1961, and remember the night after Black Friday well. I remember Carroll Selph, his clothes wrinkled from having dried on him after being washed down the stairwell, coming to Barrington that night to rally support for the protests. The protesters were going around to the larger houses trying to drum up support and bail money. The focal point of the protest had been the arrest of a fellow high school classmate, Bob Meisenbach who was charged with hitting a police officer with the officer's own baton. In the trial it came out that what actually had happened was the officer slipped on the wet stairs, lost his baton, and Meisenbach – who had stepped on it and fell – picked it up and tossed it out of the way. HUAC and J. Edgar Hoover's reputation never recovered.

Ron Enfield: (Concerning the sit-in and mass arrests at Sproul Hall in 1964). I remember when Bill Cooley came back from Sproul Hall about 3 am to tell us they were going to start the arrests. I grabbed the Daily Cal's 4x5 Speed Graphic and walked from Barrington to campus. I got there in time to hear Chancellor Strong read the riot act to the occupiers, and stayed to take photos of people being dragged out. When my film was used up, I left. My Daily Cal pass got me out of the building.

If you have already donated to the BSC Special Give, thank you! If not, I hope you can help now...click on this link to give on-line: bsc.coop/donate.

Steve Wood
Barrington Hall 1961-66
AB History 1966
MBA 1967

Judy Bertelsen volunteered for the first time in this year's Special Give. We love this message because she compellingly portrays the culture and values of today's BSC students.

From: Judy Bertelsen
To: Stebbins Hall Alumni
Subject: Berkeley Student Co-op, Thursday Message

Dear All,

Last Wednesday I heard a presentation by a young man who is a member of the Co-op and involved in a regular program they have concerning Consent. I'm not an expert on all the details, so this will be my impression, but I was impressed. Students in the Co-op are continuing to develop ways to support each other and improve their life at the university.

Apparently, whenever a Co-op house holds a party, there is a Consent person at the door who discusses the Consent policy with people who want to join the party. !!! They indicate that the party is being held in their home. They ask the guest what is understood by Consent; they clarify that consent is limited; that consent in the past does not mean consent in the future; that a person who is under the influence of alcohol is not able to give consent, etc. If a person who wants to attend the party thinks this is b.s., s/he is not admitted.

There is a much longer and subtler Consent process that is required of everyone who becomes a Co-op resident. They also have an interesting practice involving code words that can be asked of someone, to see if that person feels uncomfortable and wants help. For example, if someone sees a person who looks as if s/he is being pressured or coerced, a Co-op member may walk up and ask (this is just a hypothetical example) "Have you seen Giselle (if the code word is "Giselle")?" If everything is fine, the Co-op member can say something dismissive, such as "She's here and doing fine," but if the person wants out of a pressured situation s/he can say "Yes, I was looking for her and think she may be in the back;" and then they can peel off from whatever was going on, allowing the person who was being pressured to extricate him or herself from the situation.

There seem to be effective, supportive, and caring procedures created by the students to provide safety and support to each other. Other students in the meeting expressed how effective these practices are. As you have heard, if you would like to make a contribution to the Berkeley Student Coop, that can be done by going to bsc.coop/donate. If you want to see how the effort is proceeding, you can follow this week's co-operative efforts at the the same address. Tomorrow is the final day of the Special Give week.

All best,
Judy
Stebbins Hall 1957-59

Found in Central Kitchen



We found a posterboard of photos when we recently decluttered the basement of Central Office. Do you recognize some of these faces?

“Central Kitchen” is now called “Central Food and Supplies” to better reflect our central-level warehousing and distribution function. CFS procures, sorts, and distributes most of the food, supplies, and furniture that the co-op needs; they keep our members fed and supplied! CFS employs about 40 student workers to process eight deliveries a week of everything from ice cream to cleaning supplies. Our CFS Supervisor, Miguel Duarte (Cloyne 2011-13, Kingman 2013-14) has been working on modernizing our inventory and distribution processes and implementing new software over the next two years. If you were a Kitchen Manager or a CK/CFS worker, we’d love to hear back from you!



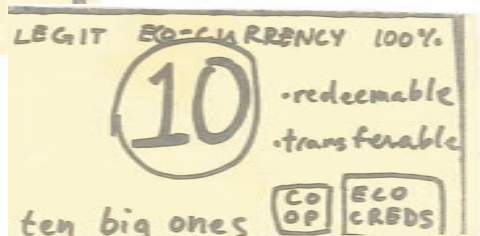
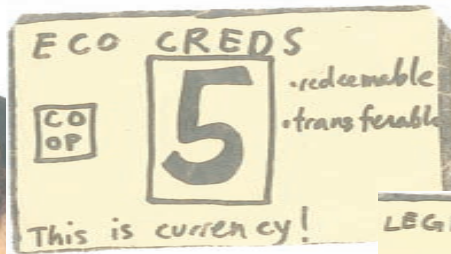
Dave Pew
Organic Gardener
World Traveler

Xiao Xiao
Control Freak Engineer
Berkeley Bionics
Best Big Brother Ever

Nicole Ring
System Analyst
Veritable Vegetable
Best Big Sister Ever

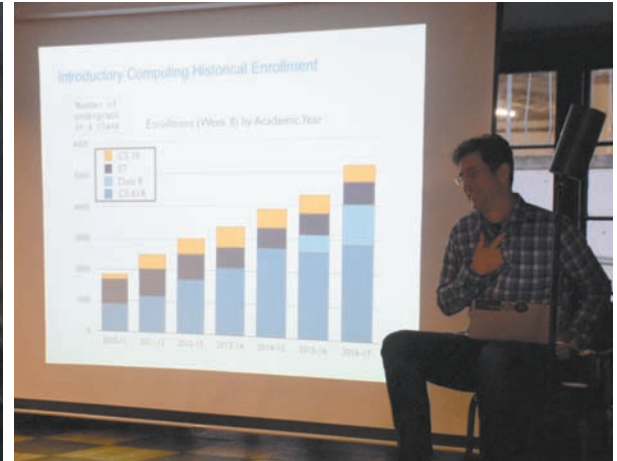


Drew Navarro
Law Assistant



Cloyne Court Hosts Annual Academic Event

On April 19, Cloyne Court hosted its annual Big Academic Event, a talk with UC Berkeley EECS professor John Denero about the future of data science education. Cloyne's Academic Theme Managers Mike Zhong and Meital Avitan organized the event and invited the campus and local community. Besides the intellectual enrichment for Cloyne and BSC members, this event, open to all students, is important to us because it sends the message to the larger campus community that the BSC supports the academic goals of its members.



Southern California Visit Will Become Annual Spring Break Event

By Madeleine Loh, BSC Development Director

We go where our alumni are! Nearly half of our alumni base lives in Southern California. This past Spring Break, the BSC organized a series of alumni events in the Los Angeles-San Diego area.

The first stop was Golden State Mead, located 20 miles north of San Diego, owned by alumnus Frank Golbeck. Frank told us about living in Davis House while attending UC Berkeley as a Navy ROTC scholar.

His journey to mead making began with his grandfather's recipe in the basement at Davis House.

We followed that up with a happy hour in a San Diego brewery, where I saw old Davis House mates Doug Berg and Suzanne Marmion, and alumni who lived in Barrington, CZ, Wolf, and Rochdale.

On the way to Los Angeles, I stopped to have lunch in Fullerton with Lou Kurkjian, Mark Shapiro, and

Anita Shapiro. It was nice to finally meet people I only knew through email! We talked about Berkeley, travel, and the upcoming local Fullerton March for Science, which Mark and Anita were helping to organize.

Our last stop was Los Angeles, where we had a well-attended lunch program at a gallery featuring art expressing political criticism and edgy

social commentary, the kind of environment that was familiar and comfortable to most Co-op alumni.

We'll be back next Spring Break!

Lou Kurkjian was only at Berkeley for one year as a senior in Electrical Engineering. A native of Los Angeles, he transferred to Berkeley from UCLA to take advantage of the beginning Electrical Engineering specialization in Digital Computers that were just being offered and available at UCB. Lou majored in that new field, which has become Computer Science, and it served him well as he worked in the industry for over 38 years at one company before retiring to enjoy family, volunteer work and travel.

Lou lived in the annex of Ridge House from 1955-56 (which has since been developed into "Central Office" and Casa Zimbabwe). He has kept in touch with his two roommates – one lives near Washington, DC, and the other lives in Kentucky.

The Co-op fit Lou's need to find affordable housing as he worked his way through high school and the first three years at UCLA to totally pay for his education. Lou remembers his work assignment was house maintenance that year; this included electrical and plumbing issues primarily but all maintenance needs were part of the responsibility. The most memorable part of Lou's year in Berkeley was meeting and courting his current wife of almost 59 years!!! Lou both supports the BSC and has also set up an endowed scholarship fund for the College of Engineering. Providing support for future generations is a priority for him and his wife.

Mark Shapiro lived in Oxford Hall from 1957 to 1961 while majoring in physics. He arrived at Oxford Hall with \$600 he had earned as a Forest Service firefighter and with two \$100 scholarships. The Co-op made it possible for him to complete his first year at Berkeley and stay within budget.



Mark met his wife, Anita, a Mills College student, when she attended an Oxford Hall dance party. Mark and Anita went on to the University of Pennsylvania where Mark earned a graduate degrees in physics while Anita earned her law degree. Mark taught in the physics department at Cal State Fullerton from 1970 to 2007. Mark recently calculated the present value of the \$800 he arrived at the Co-op with, which is just under \$7,000 - far less than a year at Berkeley costs today! Clearly the Co-op is more important than ever for students of modest means.



Founder of Underground Scholars Initiative Talks about “D.F.,” Mexican Food

Carlos Farias served on the BSC Board of Directors last year, representing Stebbins Hall. Carlos had a casual conversation with Danny Murillo (Rochdale, 2012-14), who was incarcerated at Pelican Bay State Prison before attending UC Berkeley. In December 2016, the New Yorker published an article about Danny and the organization he co-founded to support previously incarcerated students, the Underground Scholars Initiative.

How did you hear about the Berkeley Student Cooperative?

When I first got to Berkeley in Fall 2012 a few people mentioned the BSC, and in particular Rochdale. I was told that this is the best housing you can get and it's affordable. I applied in Spring 2013 and paid the \$50 dollar fee to get put on the waitlist but I didn't get housing until Summer 2013. Until I could move into the BSC, I lived in fraternity housing, though I wasn't a fraternity member. I stayed in Rochdale until I graduated in Spring 2015.

Where are you from?

I'm from Los Angeles, but my family is Mexican. Last summer I traveled to all the way from East LA to Fresnillo, Zacatecas by bus. It took 36 hours. I was in Mexico for six weeks.

I saw both of my grandmothers in Fresnillo. Then saw a childhood friend in Irapuato, Guanajuato who was deported 3 or 4 years ago. I saw Guanajuato, Guanajuato, Uruapan, Michoacan, and the Purepecha pyramids.

After that I was in D.F. (Mexico City) for nine days where I have another friend who was also deported. He was only able to provide a couch which was better for me because it forced me to explore. Once I figured out the

subway system I took it all the way to UNAM (National Autonomous University of Mexico).

What's your favorite taco truck?

My favorite truck is on First & International, I think those are the best ones in Oakland. If I were to rate Mexican food in California, Oakland comes in 3rd for Mexican food. People say San Diego is the best, then LA, then Oakland.

I hardly ever go to San Francisco... \$14 for a bowl of menudo!everybody at Cal right now has only ever experienced the city post-gentrification. Yes, people have been pushed out but we still have folks holding down the Mission. I went to a Christmas party in the Mission, in a house where everybody there was from the Mission or grew up in the Mission. What I found interesting is that all the newcomers leave during the holidays and go back to wherever they're

from. People who are actually from the Mission come back to visit their families who haven't been pushed out.

How's the food in D.F.?

Delicious. They have all kinds of crazy stuff like pambazos (a sandwich where the bread is soaked in sauce before being stuffed with potatoes, chorizo, lettuce, cream and cheese).

I love the food in Michoacan. They have bomb-ass menudos. I love how in Uruapan they put aguacate (avocado) on everything. There's a lot of aguacate over there!

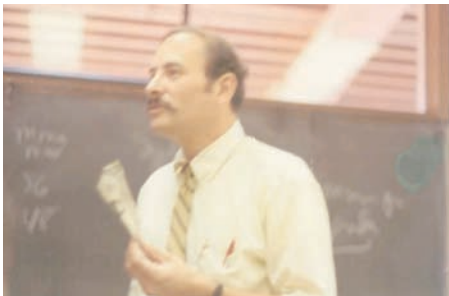
I guess it's not called “D.F.” anymore.

The government had this crazy campaign where they turned all the taxi cabs pink because they renamed the city. It's now called Ciudad de Mexico or CDMX.



Alum from the 1950s Looks Back at Experience as Gay Student

At the BSC Alumni Association annual meeting in October former Co-op member Malcolm Gutter participated in a forum, LGBTQ in the Student Co-op, Then and Now. After the meeting Alumni Association Board member Victor Garlin interviewed him.



VG: We both lived at the student co-op Oxford Hall in the academic year 1955-1956

MG: That's right. I had just graduated from City College in New York City and I was offered a teaching assistantship in the UC Berkeley economics department. So I came out to Berkeley in September 1955. That was only 61 years ago when I was 21. Now I'm 83.

VG: What happened when you moved into Oxford Hall?

MG: Living with only men, none of the co-ops or any other university approved living group were co-ed, I began to realize that I was sexually attracted to men. I had had these feelings as a teenager, but I think I succeeded in repressing them. At Oxford Hall I gradually realized that there were other men there who didn't date women and who seemed to hang out together. This was a diverse group. It included men from agricultural regions of California, the Bay Area, and the South. There were several African-Americans and one or two Latin-Americans.

VG: Can you generalize about these men?

MG: Well, it was a small sample, but most of us were interested in the arts in one way or another, we were not heavy drinkers, and we weren't fanatical about Cal sports teams. We were politically liberal. Several were graduate students like me so the social tone was a little more sophisticated. Most of us seemed like loners, as we didn't join in the collegiate hijinks that many of the undergraduates did. In fact, much of the hijinks had to do with activities that involved women, and looking back on it I guess we just weren't drawn in that direction.

VG: Was there any overt sexual activity involving couples at Oxford Hall.

MG: No, there was none, of any sort. Women were not permitted upstairs where our rooms were. And as far as I know there was no sexual activity involving only men either. There may have been some furtive activity involving men, but if there was, I wasn't aware of it.

VG: How did you come out?

MG: I became besotted with a fellow Oxford Man when we both lived for the summer at Ridge House. This was very unsettling to me as I had no knowledge of how to actually test the authenticity of what I was feeling. I had no knowledge of any gay bars, clubs, bath houses or other places where one could safely meet other men with the same feelings. I was completely at a loss about what to do and that was very troubling. It got to the point where it was seriously interfering with my studies.

VG: I take it that there was no LGBT community that you could get help from?

MG: Are you kidding? LGBT community? There was no community. In the middle 1950's if you were LGBT you were socially isolated, alone, feeling odd about yourself, afraid that people would find out about you, fearful that you might lose your job with the University, thrown out of your living arrangement, and just about every other hardship you can imagine.

VG: Do you have anything to say to today's LGBT community living at the BSC?

MG: You should remember how difficult it was for me and others like me to live without fear of exposure. You should honor the men and women who fought for LGBT rights and who have persuaded most American people that the right to a sexual identity and practice is a human right which, like all human rights, needs constant vigilance to be maintained and protected from attack.

VG: What about your situation now?

MG: I'm in a domestic partnership with to a man with whom I have been living for the past 30 years. I was a professor of economics at Foothill College in Los Altos for 35 years. I devote most of my time now to collecting a specialized form of white porcelain which was made in Meissen, Saxony, now part of Germany in the 18th century.

VG: Any final words?

MG: I was delighted to learn that the Co-op has an LGBT theme house, Oscar Wilde House, and that the whole organization is sensitive to the needs of LGBT students. So much has changed for the better since my stay at the student co-op.

Alumni Notes

New York City Happy Hour

On April 19, Nick Hamilton and Michelle Nacouzi organized another Happy Hour in New York City. Different generations of co-ops gathered to catch up with old friends and housemates. Thank you to Nick and Michelle for maintaining the co-op community thousands of miles from Berkeley, and thank you to all those who attended: Liz Baroi, Matt Davis, Elisabeth Jaschik, Joshua Kwan, Rishi Malhotra, Margaret Savage, Praagya Singh, Eimmy Solis, Raphael Spies, Sara Wexler, Elita Wong, and Thomas York.

Alumni In the News

Send your tips to mloh@bsc.coop

Alvaro Silberstein, MBA student at the Haas School of Business, is paralyzed from the neck down and has no feelings in his fingers or triceps. He became the first disabled person to trek through Chile's Torres del Paine national park in Patagonia with a team of 15.

The Berkeley Student Cooperative was a feature in the Spring 2017 issue of *California Monthly Magazine*.



Narsai David, Cloyne Court 1953-55

I lived at Cloyne for my first two years at Cal, from 1953-1955, and signed up for kitchen work right at the start. We had a PhD student named Mendel Mazelis at Cloyne, and he had been there for a very long time—something like eight years. He was older than all the rest of us, and a sort of unelected “master of the house”. We were warned in the kitchen about him, but nothing could have prepared this seventeen-year-old, when—against all the house rules—he came charging into the kitchen one breakfast, demanding who could possibly have cooked the eggs he was served. He then stepped to the grill and showed how the eggs should have been cooked. It was a real introduction to the kitchen shift. By the second year,

had become food service chairman of all seven Co-op houses. My favorite memory is the coffee tasting I arranged at Oxford, where our Central Kitchen was located. The two most constant food complaints were that the coffee was terrible and that the skim milk looked blue and was disgusting. Well, the girls' houses all voted for the skim milk, it was better for you, and (if I remember correctly) in those days it was also cheaper, so that was that.

Our coffee was Co-op brand, the same as that sold at the Co-op grocery stores. I got to Oxford early to prepare for our meeting and coffee tasting, and carefully cleaned the huge, stainless steel coffee urns using the regular cleaning supplies that were always on hand. I had bought some Farmer's Brothers Coffee, which was at that

time the leading brand for restaurant in the area. (Remember, Peet's didn't come around until 1966.)

The two brands were brewed side by side and offered for tasting. The Co-op brand won hands down—it was clearly the better coffee. When the urns were not cleaned regularly, the oils would build up and turn rancid, making even the best coffee taste awful.

Yes, those two years did indeed contribute to my spending my life in the restaurant and food industry... Great memories.

Narsai, Food and Wine editor For KCBS, is a renowned gourmet food entrepreneur.



David Chi-Cheng Liang, Convent 2011

I stayed in Convent for two months during my summer session in U.C. Berkeley.

It was definitely an unforgettable and happy experience for an Asian student like me to visit the US for the first time. I am glad that I chose to stay in Convent, rather than the usual option, International House.

I really have to thank the Convent manager at that time: Katherine Naegele. She really guided me through so many cultural boundaries. Also, I met so many friendly house mates, including Sara Ann Swenson, Kate Brown, Brian Cunningham and Olga Budu. We celebrated Independence Day, threw a birthday party and even went camping together in Mammoth Lakes.

I miss Berkeley, San Francisco and my lovely housemates. More importantly, thanks to the BSC for providing a low-cost but cozy living situation for me.

Melvin Mann, Ridge House 1949-52

I grew up in Wisconsin and Chicago, and moved out to California to go to school at UC Berkeley. My first housing arrangement was as a live-in babysitter, which lasted only a couple months. After that, I lived in International House, where I worked as a dishwasher. I eventually found my way to Ridge House, which was a wonderful experience. Unlike the fraternities, which were focused on parties and

drinking, the Co-op was a very healthy environment. My workshift manager, George Yasukochi, assigned me to be the warehouse manager. At that time, the warehouse for the entire Co-op was located behind Ridge House, at the end of a driveway. [Ed: now Casa Zimbabwe and Central Office stands in that property.] My parents were in the grocery business, so it was familiar work. Eventually, my sister Rosalind Mann Meisel also moved into the Co-op—Sherman Hall.

I got a master's degree in social work and worked as a social worker for public schools in Pacifica, San Francisco, and Oakland. I later became a travel agent after my wife was diagnosed with cancer. Folk dancing is my passion, and I have been involved for many years with the Berkeley Folk Dancers.

Tori Partridge, Hoyt Hall 2008-09 and Ridge House 2009-11

My first semester at Ridge, fall 2009, our Special Dinner theme was "The Marriage of Heaven and Hell." Rachel Doran and Liz Dean, our top-notch kitchen manager and one of our most excellent dinner cooks, pushed for this theme because they wanted to make a wedding cake for Special Dinner. I wish I had a picture to share with you of the beautiful, flowery, four-tier, fondant- and spun-sugar-covered masterpiece they created!

Another favorite theme was Spring 2011's "Midsummer Night's Dream" (do you sense a love of literature here?). A week prior to Special Dinner, our social manager, Hayley Malcolm, put up lists of characters and encouraged people to sign up. As a house, we were VERY into costumes and this was our way of making sure no one came dressed the same! We painted posters of quotes from the play and hung them around the dining room with lots of fairy lights and plant cuttings to make for a magical forest scene.



In Memoriam



General Manager Who Led BSC Through Major Expansion, Designed “Berkeley Student Cooperative” Logo

Richard (“Dick”) Palmer, 1935-2015

Richard Lee Palmer, who, while serving as General Manager grew the Co-op by 559 bed spaces, died at home on October 12, 2015, just before his 81st birthday after suffering with Parkinson’s Disease for several years. His husband, Henry Hopkins, was at his side. Together for 24 years, they married in 2013 when granted equal rights. Richard was the son of Stanton and Annie Palmer who emigrated from Ireland in the 1920s. He grew up in Los Angeles with his older brother Neil and graduated from Washington High School in 1951.

After leaving the Army in the late 1960s, he worked for the Los Angeles flood control district for a few years and entered UC Berkeley in 1960. Shortly after applying for housing at a University dormitory, he received notice from the University that he was not eligible to live in the dorms because he was too old. An acquaintance told him about the “University Students Cooperative Association,” as the BSC was then named. He lived in Cloyne for six years.

In his junior year he moved up from the maintenance crew to maintenance manager and was, for one semester, president of Cloyne’s council. He also sat on the Board of Directors as Cloyne’s representative. It was through his Board membership that Dick, in his upper division years, became closely involved with central level operations. “What really got me hooked was the Planning Commission for Ridge Project. The fact that I was in architecture made it of interest to me. I was in on one of the very first meetings of the planning for the present building . . . there had been other plans for this property in previous years, but they had been scrapped and this was a new start at the time I came into it.”

Dick designed the furniture for the then new Ridge Project Residence Hall of the Berkeley Student Cooperative for his Senior Project.

After completing his degree in architecture, Dick was elected General Manager of the U.S.C.A. in 1966. Dan Eisenstein, a member of the selection committee, reflects, “All of us were impressed with his personal commitment to the Co-op, to the Co-op as an idea being different from other housing groups; and with his imagination, the fact that he was not just a guy who could make figures come out of a calculator, but had really interesting ideas about the whole purpose behind group living, and the kind of thing you could do with a group living situation.”

Dick later said, “If you’re talking about providing low-cost housing and an introduction to a different lifestyle from the competitive, capitalist form, then I think we have a hell of a lot to offer even though we’re large, and old.”

After leaving the BSC in 1979, Dick was a general contractor, managing design and construction projects in Berkeley and Oakland. After the 1991 Oakland Hills fire, he designed and managed construction of ten houses in the fire area, and retired in 2002.

Dick was passionate about collector cars and began working on restoration projects in 1988, primarily Chrysler 300 letter cars and Imperials, receiving many awards at Bay Area Concours events and other car shows. He enjoyed reading Shop Manuals and was a talented mechanic. In 1990, he joined the Freewheelers Car Club, the first gay car club in the country founded in 1978. He met his future long-time partner and husband at a club event in 1990, re-connecting after initially meeting at the Berkeley Pacific Center in 1983 at the Wednesday night discussion group for married men coming out as gay. Richard and Henry were longtime Berkeley residents. They moved to Richmond in 2003 into a large building with room for their collector cars and restoration work. Richard designed their living quarters within the building. He leaves good friends who became like family over the years.

In Memoriam



Dick Palmer's Legacy

In addition to the BSC logo we still use today, we are grateful to Dick for expanding our footprint so that thousands of additional students have been able to enjoy affordable housing. During his tenure, the Co-op acquired 10 properties for a net addition of 559 bedspaces.

1966	Dick Palmer became General Manager, taking the place of Hal Norton, who served for 25 years.
1967	Euclid Hall leased from the Japanese Students Club.
1968	Northside Apartments purchased.
1969	Davis House purchased.
1970	Co-op signed 40-year lease with UC Berkeley for the Rochdale site. Following years of lobbying effort, the Co-op gained federal financing to construct Rochdale Village apartments.
1971	Andres Castro Arms purchased and named after the Central Kitchen chef cook of many years. In October, the Rochdale Village Apartments opened.
1972	Euclid Hall purchased.
1974	Wolf House purchased. Stebbins Hall purchased, after conclusion of 30-year lease.
1975	Lothlorien purchased and becomes first vegetarian-themed house.
1976	The lease on Cloyne Court was renegotiated to extend through 1985. Oxford Hall was sold due to seismic safety concerns. Chateau purchased to replace Oxford Hall. Kingman Hall purchased.
1978	George Proper became General Manager.



Dick Palmer with Carleton MacDonald (center) and representative Ron Dellums.

Harper Puziss, 1924-2017

Harper Puziss, who, as a retired school teacher, donated over \$100,000 over his lifetime to the Berkeley Student Cooperative to support scholarships and seismic improvements, passed away on March 2, 2017.

Harper grew up in New Jersey and attended Stuyvesant High School in New York City. He was a Korean War combat vet when he moved into Oxford Hall in 1946. He was always grateful for the opportunities afforded by the GI Bill and the Berkeley Student Cooperative. After getting an undergraduate degree and master's degree in Public Health, Harper taught science and math at Lowell High School in San Francisco.

Even toward the end of his life, Harper remained robust and charitable: chopping wood, making homemade jams and preserves that he would bring to the staff at Central Office, volunteering with the Greater Richmond Interfaith Program Souper Center and delivering for Meals on Wheels. The Berkeley Student Cooperative is grateful for his decades of friendship to the Co-op and our students.



Harper Puziss, right, sits with Ed McGrath at an event celebrating one of our successful seismic retrofits.

BSC to Host Estate Planning Seminar Homecoming Weekend

Over the next several decades, the wealthiest generation in US history will bequeath around 30 trillion in assets to their heirs. Are you prepared? Find out how your estate plan might be affected by current developments in tax and California law. If you don't have an estate plan, is now the time to create one? As a special service to our alumni and donors, the BSC would like to invite you and a guest to attend a free estate planning seminar to hear about these important topics from attorney Rebecca Renzas.

Berkeley Student Cooperative Coffee and Estate Planning Seminar
Saturday, October 21, 2017, 10:00am - 12:00pm (Homecoming Weekend)
Cloyne Court, 2600 Ridge Rd., Berkeley, CA



Rebecca, who lived in the BSC's Hillegass Parker House while attending law school at UC Berkeley, is a partner at Anderson Yazdi LLP. In addition to providing pro bono legal counsel to the BSC, she advises individuals and families in the development of sophisticated estate planning and wealth transfer strategies including the creation of revocable trusts, closely-held entities, charitable trusts, split-interest trusts, dynasty trusts, and private foundations. She also counsels corporate fiduciaries, trustees, and beneficiaries on trust administration and probate matters.

Her seminar will provide an overview of estate planning and the basic components of a comprehensive estate plan. She will also discuss current tax laws and strategies as well as how to avoid planning and administration mistakes.

- Introduction to Estate Planning Tax Law Changes
- Do I Need a Will?
- Trusts
- Identifying Potential Pitfalls in Your Current Trust Instrument
- Planning for Disability and Incapacity
- Inheritance Planning for Heirs
- Tax-free Strategies for Sales of Appreciated Equities or Real Estate

Please contact Madeleine Loh at (510) 649-8984 or mloh@bsc.coop to guarantee your seat(s) for the seminar today.

PLANNED GIVING @ the BSC

The BSC is a 501(c)(3) charitable nonprofit. A legacy gift shows your willingness to invest in our mission now and in the future. Many of us cannot afford to make a major gift in our lifetimes. But we can set up a legacy gift now so that the BSC receives these great gifts in the future.



The BSC is proud to partner with the Silicon Valley Community Foundation to provide estate planning options to our alumni, including charitable gift annuities.

- ↳ BEQUESTS
- ↳ IRA NAMED BENEFICIARY
- ↳ APPRECIATED SECURITIES
- ↳ CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITIES
- ↳ INCOME FOR LIFE (4-9%)
- ↳ CHARITABLE DEDUCTION
- ↳ FAVORABLE CAPITAL GAIN TAX TREATMENT
- ↳ NO ESTATE TAX

Donate directly to the BSC!

Thank you for supporting our important work! The BSC is a 501(c)(3) charitable non-profit organization. All contributions are tax deductible.

Choose your gift:

- \$100.00
- \$1,000.00
- \$ _____
- \$ _____ /Month
- Please tell me about Planned Giving!

Choose your area of support

- Seismic Retrofit Fund
- Scholarship Fund
- Where It Is Needed Most

Join the Alumni Association

The BSCAA is a separate 501(c)(3). Questions about how the BSCAA uses your dues? Contact the President of the BSCAA, John Ehrlich at jehrlich2315@gmail.com. This past year we organized well-attended events in Oakland, Burlingame, and New York. We also started to assemble gift baskets of sweets, treats and blue books for students before finals week. Finally, we have contributed towards the BSC scholarship fund. Check out our new website, courtesy of Analise Smith-Hinkley, at bscaa.coop.

Lifetime Membership, BSC Alumni Association

- \$500 Lifetime Membership
- \$250 Recent Grad Lifetime Membership

Annual Membership, BSC Alumni Association

- \$50 Annual Membership
- \$20 Recent Grad Annual Membership

Address Update

bsc.coop/alumni/update

Moved? Changed your name? Different email address? Let us know so we can keep you informed about local events and BSC news that matters to you. Use the online form, or contact Madeleine Loh at (510) 649-8984 or mloh@bsc.coop

bsc.coop/donate

Mail in your contribution

- My check, payable to the BSC, is enclosed.
- Please charge my credit card \$ _____

Card No. _____ Exp. Date _____

CVV/CSC No. _____



Signature _____ Date _____

Name _____

Address _____

Email _____

Phone _____

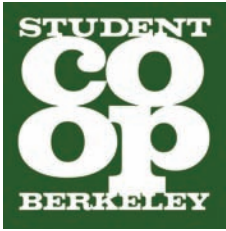
Co-op(s) you lived in and years: _____

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS FOR
SPRING 2018 ISSUE**

JANUARY 1, 2018

We welcome your submissions! Submissions may be edited for length and clarity, and publication may be postponed.

mloh@bsc.coop



Berkeley Student Cooperative
2424 Ridge Road
Berkeley, CA 94709

PRSRT STD
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit #810
Oakland, CA

Berkeley Student Cooperative, est. 1933

The mission of the Berkeley Student Cooperative is to provide a quality, low-cost, cooperative housing community to university students, thereby providing an educational opportunity for students who might not otherwise be able to afford a university education.

BSC Graduation 2017. Welcome New Alumni!

