

NEWS from the CASTLE

BERKELEY CITY CLUB CONSERVANCY, FUNDING THE PRESERVATION OF
JULIA MORGAN'S BERKELEY CITY CLUB BUILDING

2315 DURANT AVE., ROOM 306 ♦ BERKELEY, CA 94704 ♦ (510) 883-9710 ♦ WWW.BERKELEYCITYCLUBCONSERVANCY.ORG

COFFEE AND CHOCOLATE FAIRE: A HUGE SUCCESS

The Berkeley City Club Conservancy's October 27, 2019 Chocolate & Coffee Faire was a resounding success, with swarms of attendees moving enthusiastically throughout the public areas of the Club. Anticipation and fun were in the air as approximately 500 ticket-holders and another 100 volunteers and exhibitors sampled delicious specialty chocolates, heard fascinating lectures about chocolate, coffee and the Club's pool history, listened to Berkeley Chamber Performance musicians and saw three different synchronized swimming groups display their talents in the Club's breathtaking pool.

Many were also treated to the opportunity to engage in conversation with Julia Morgan, in the person of legendary Morgan doppelgänger, **Betty Marvin**. One of the biggest draws of the day was the truffle-making demonstration by the First Lady of Chocolate, **Alice Medrich**, who provided incredibly scrumptious tastes of truffles as she finished preparing them. Alice brought the French art of truffle-making to the United States in the early 1970s and has won numerous awards and written many books related to chocolate and baking. She was a dedicated volunteer for the Faire, lending invaluable expertise and guidance.

Other popular features were both the raffle, which offered numerous, high-quality items, and the silent auction, with a truly astonishing array of items ranging from a swim in the Neptune Pool at Hearst Castle, dinner for eight catered by **Chef Fabrice**, a Marc Chagall print donated by our Treasurer, **Sarah Gill**, and an antique lap

warmer used for carriage rides donated by our board member, **Bob Hamilton**. A unique silent auction item was an orchid-naming

opportunity, donated by **John Leathers**, who has developed a new hybrid orchid. Raffle prizes were many, including weekends in private homes in Inverness and Tahoe, hand-embroidered linens by **Dianne Ayers' Arts & Crafts Design Studio**, several books by Alice Medrich, a weekend at the Club's hotel, a huge basket of gourmet foods from **Market Hall**, and many more. This treasure trove was accumulated by the enthusiastic and well-connected team of our volunteers, **Carlene Anderson** and **Angela Mason**.

The Faire was the brainchild of Conservancy board member and "Chair of the Faire," **Barbara Westover**, who conceptualized a fundraiser around the theme of chocolate and coffee, which were Julia Morgan's sustenance of choice as she traveled by train between working on the City Club and Hearst Castle. Just about everything offered during the Faire or created for it was directly tied to Barbara's creative mind and skill, including enlisting the musicians, swimmers, and over half the volunteers, as well as obtaining permission to use the 1924 sketch of Julia Morgan at her drawing board drinking coffee and eating chocolates, which was used in our promotional materials. Barbara was helped by a team of dedicated Conservancy board members and volunteers who spent ten months in planning and organizing.



Synchronized swimmers. Photo by Pete Andreotti



Chocolate sampling in progress. Photo by Pete Andreotti

NEWS FROM THE CASTLE WINTER 2020

News from the Castle is the official newsletter of the Berkeley City Club Conservancy.

The Berkeley City Club Conservancy is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to preserve the Berkeley City Club building, and to promote the legacy of Julia Morgan, its architect.

◆ Board of Directors ◆

Claudia Falconer, AIA, *President*
Mary E. MacDonald, *Vice President*
Sarah Gill, *Treasurer*
Christopher Adams, *Secretary*

Robert Hamilton, Mary Hardy, Daniel McDonald, Susan Veit, Barbara K. Westover
Anne Foley; Honorary Director

◆ Charles W. Wolfram

Berkeley City Club Conservancy Liaison

The Conservancy Board meets monthly, except August, on the second Thursday at 7 p.m. The meetings are open to the public. Call (510) 883-9710 for more information.



Public tours of Julia Morgan's clubhouse, sponsored jointly by the Conservancy and the Berkeley City Club, are held on the Fourth Sunday of every month (except December) from 1 p.m. - 4 pm. The cost is \$10 per person. All proceeds go towards the restoration of the clubhouse. Private tours may also be scheduled. For details, email the

Docent Coordinator at
drsarahgill@gmail.com.



BERKELEY CITY CLUB CONSERVANCY

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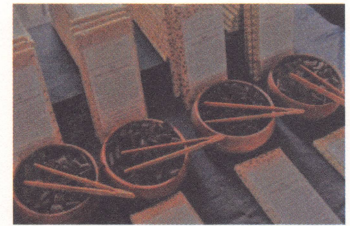
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Vice President **Claudia Falconer** organized a team of 60 volunteers for the day of the Faire, as well as the musicians, the synchronized swimmers, and the lecturers. Secretary **Christopher Adams** identified parking sites for attendees, arranged special parking for exhibitors, and organized the exhibitors' deliveries. Board member **Tracy Weber** was the exhibitor coordinator, securing insurance and business documents from them in addition to serving as the emcee for all the lectures. Board member **Daniel McDonald** handled the digital aspects, such as updating the website with Faire information and setting up Eventbrite ticketing, with the assistance of Conservancy Administrative Assistant **Kala Hale**. Bob Hamilton funded the large Faire banners hung on the building as well as ribbons for the volunteers and exhibitors. **Karen Yencich** lent her professional expertise by preparing and submitting public relations materials to various outlets.



Chocolate samples. Photo by Pete Andreotti

The support and enthusiasm of the Berkeley City Club helped made the day a big success. General Manager, **Momi Assayag**, was accommodating and generous, including donating the weekend at the Club as a raffle item. Chef Fabrice served a special Afternoon Tea in Julia's.

The Conservancy succeeded in its goals of raising funds to help restore the City Club building and increasing the community's appreciation of the Little Castle. Costs to produce the event were covered entirely by sponsors, and we raised over **\$55,000**. As for showcasing the Club, attendees were heard exclaiming how beautiful the building was or were observed looking in wonderment at the interiors.

One attendee summed up the experience as "fun, delicious, beautiful, entertaining, and informative." We couldn't agree more.

~Mary MacDonald, Vice President, Berkeley City Club Conservancy

Anne Foley Elected Honorary Director of Conservancy for Life

In order to pay tribute to her years of service, the Berkeley City Club Conservancy has elected Anne Foley as an Honorary Director of the Conservancy. Anne, age 91, has served the Conservancy once as President and twice as Treasurer. She has also acted a number of times as its representative to the Berkeley City Club Board of Directors.

A resident of Berkeley since she was seven years old, Anne comes from an established Berkeley family. Her mother was born here in 1902. Anne still

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volunteers for the Conservancy. She is the one who bundles up the packets of notecards for sale on the Conservancy table in the club's entrance lobby, and neatly wraps them with pastel colored satin ribbons. This is not her only charity work. She also meets with a group of volunteer knitters on Sunday afternoons to knit hats and baby sweaters for the hospital at Travis Air Force Base. Way to go - thank you Anne!

BCCC Elects Officers

The Conservancy Board elected officers for the year 2020. The new officers are:

President: Claudia Falconer, AIA is a registered architect and Certified Access Specialist (CASP). Claudia has served on the Conservancy Board for two years and has acted as vice president for the past six months. Born in Berkeley, she has run her own architectural practice in Oakland for many years and previously served as the chair of the American Institute of Architects East Bay, chair of the Montclair Village Association and director of the Richmond Architectural Review Board.

Vice President: Mary MacDonald is the immediate past president of the Conservancy, and has a long-held interest in preservation, having served on the City of Oakland's Landmarks Preservation Advisory Board and as president of the Oakland Heritage Alliance. She is a retired attorney from the Office of the General Counsel of the University of California (Office of the President) where she specialized in copyright and trademark law, among other areas, and has been involved in many non-profit organizations. She is also interested in civic affairs and has served on the Alameda County Civil Grand Jury.

Treasurer: Dr. Sarah Gill is a retired art historian who was asked to become an officer in the Conservancy when she joined the Berkeley City Club in 2007. Since then, she has served the Conservancy as Secretary, Vice President, and now Treasurer. Dr. Gill is the author of the book "Julia Morgan's Berkeley City Club, the Story of a Building."

Secretary: Christopher Adams is a retired architect and city planner. Much of his professional life was spent working for the University of California, where his last job was directing the planning of its newest campus, UC Merced. He lives in Berkeley with his wife of 53 years and is currently chair of the city's Landmark Preservation Commission.

Berkeley City Club Liaison: Chuck Wolfram is a retired professor at the Cornell Law School. From 2015-18 he was president of the Berkeley City Club.

Please Continue Your Support

The Conservancy is very grateful to those who responded to our end-of-year appeal letter. These donations will help the Conservancy fulfill its two-fold mission of preserving the Berkeley City Club landmark building and promoting the legacy of Julia Morgan, its architect.

The need for donations continues year round, and we encourage you to donate if you missed the end-of-year push this past December or because you recognize the overwhelming need to restore the clubhouse. In just 10 years, the clubhouse will mark its 100th anniversary, and this architectural treasure needs your help.

Areas of greatest restoration need include the facades of the building, other than the south one, which was restored several years ago.

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Water intrusion has resulted in damage to the reinforced concrete used to construct the building, causing cracks in the façades. Also in need of restoration are the windows in the pool currently covered by translucent wire glass.

Please help us restore this beautiful building so that it may continue to serve the community for years to come. The City Club's business and hotel revenues are insufficient to fund the restoration needs. You may make a tax-deductible donation by sending a check to Berkeley City Club Conservancy, 2315 Durant Ave., Suite 306, Berkeley, CA 94704; by donating through our website www.bccconservancy.org; or by giving gifts of stock (your broker can assist with the procedure). Also, for those required to take a Required Mandatory Distributions (RMD) from your IRA, any amount you donate directly to the Conservancy will not be counted as income to you.

Thank you to Club Members

The Conservancy offers a big thank you to all the Berkeley City Club members and staff that helped to make the Chocolate & Coffee Faire so successful. Thanks go to members **Angela Mason** and **Karen Yencich** who worked so tirelessly and effectively on the Faire Committee. And more thanks go to the Club General Manager **Momi Assayag** and his staff members who cooperated to make the Faire run so smoothly. This unprecedented effort and cooperation resulted in the record-breaking sum achieved for this fundraiser of more than \$55,000, with more money still coming in! All the money raised by the Faire will go towards conserving Julia Morgan's clubhouse and preserving her memory.