

Cooperatively Yours

Fall 2024



Published Spring and Fall for Alumni and Friends of the Berkeley Student Cooperative.

Edited by David Appelbaum, Nancy Blattel, Kaitlyn Pastor, and Portia Lewis.

Designed by Kaitlyn Pastor.

Contact BSC:

www.bsc.coop
(510) 848 - 1936
2424 Ridge Road, Berkeley, CA 94709

Affordable Housing Wins Big with SB 56

By: Kaitlyn Pastor, BSC's Publications Coordinator

Nancy Skinner's work on SB 56 marks a significant achievement in securing affordable housing for the Berkeley Student Cooperative (BSC). The BSC has long been a vital resource for students in the area, providing accessible housing at significantly lower costs compared to traditional housing options. By enabling students to live affordably, the BSC supports equitable access to education and fosters a sense of community among its members.

Having lived in BSC's Barrington Hall when she attended UC Berkeley, Nancy personally experienced the benefits of cooperative housing. For students navigating the high costs of college, the BSC offers more than just a place to live. Its dynamics encourage students to contribute by preparing meals and assigning house chores, which reduces housing costs while creating a sense of shared accountability. This affordability allows students to focus on their education without being overwhelmed by financial stress.

Nancy Skinner is known for her dedication to progressive policies addressing environmental issues, criminal justice reform, and housing affordability. As a state senator representing California's 9th District, Skinner has championed initiatives that uplift vulnerable communities and promote equity. Her personal experiences as an undergraduate student at UC Berkeley shaped her understanding of the critical role affordable housing plays in student success. Living in the Berkeley Student Cooperative (BSC) as a student inspired her to take action to ensure the organization's sustainability and long-term impact, culminating her initiative to have SB 56 be passed.



Photo Courtesy of the California Senate

- SB 56 was introduced with a clear goal: to empower the BSC to own and manage its properties rather than depend on external landlords.
- With BSC properties leased from the university, there is limited autonomy, which posed significant challenges to maintaining safe and affordable housing for Rochdale at the end of the last contract that the BSC had with the UC. With SB 56, the BSC can now directly own Rochdale Village, enabling it to make timely repairs and upgrades to improve living conditions for its members. This change ensures the long-term sustainability of the BSC's housing model.



Photo Courtesy of the California Senate

The bill's development was a collaborative effort, with BSC advocates working closely with Nancy Skinner and other stakeholders. Introduced in January 2024, SB 56 gained momentum due to its clear purpose and strong support from students and community leaders. By September 2024, the bill was signed into law, marking a pivotal moment for BSC and its mission to provide affordable housing.

The challenges in advocating for SB 56 included navigating processes and ensuring the language of the bill was clear and actionable. Skinner and her team worked diligently to highlight the importance of the bill, not just for the organization but for the broader conversation about student housing affordability. Their efforts paid off, securing a better future where BSC can continue to thrive.

With SB 56 in place, the focus now shifts to expanding BSC's reach and ensuring Rochdale remain affordable and accessible to students. Nancy Skinner envisions a future where BSC can serve even more students, maintaining its role as a cornerstone of affordable housing in Berkeley. By continuing to identify opportunities for long-term property ownership, the BSC can solidify its impact for generations to come.

Essentially, SB 56 is a testament to what can be accomplished when policymakers and organizations work together to address critical needs. For the BSC, this bill ensures that its mission of affordability and community-building will endure, providing essential support to students pursuing post-secondary education.



Founded in 1933, the BSC is the largest student housing cooperative in the United States.

The BSC's mission 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.



“I’d love to see the co-ops expand even more...” -Nancy S.

Field of Dreams: A Co-op Soccer Tournament Brings Houses Together

By: Gaby Smith, Content Creation Lead

Tournament Leaderboard:

1st Rochdale

2nd Members at Large

3rd Davis



Over three consecutive weekend afternoons, twelve teams gathered on Hearst North Field to battle it out in the BSC's first-ever co-op wide soccer tournament. This fall, the Experience and Training Committee organized and hosted the event to showcase members' athletic skills and foster community spirit and friendly competition between houses. With over 160 sign-ups across almost all houses and units, the field buzzed with energy and anticipation as members prepared to compete for the top seed in the largest BSC members-only event since the pandemic.



Photos retrieved from: Gaby Smith

Hamid Hakimi, the Vice President of Experience and Training Committee, played a pivotal role in bringing the soccer tournament to life, motivated by a desire to stay active and bring houses across the BSC together. “I love soccer, and I’m glad to share it with so many members,” he remarked on the field. He even floated the idea of creating a mega-BSC soccer team and hosting a fundraiser match for the BSC featuring the tournament’s star players, igniting further excitement among members.

The field was packed with action at all times as three games unfolded simultaneously. Teams awaiting their turn and enthusiastic house members clapped and cheered on the sidelines as they watched their housemates and rivals sprint up and down the field. “It really felt like a community... you belong to us, we belong to each other,” said Hamid.

Even in times of stiff competition, camaraderie was abundant - members helped set up the goals, rival players stepped in to referee their opponents’ games, and teams shared water and snacks with each other. Health Education Coordinator Kaye Bergamot and Rochdale Health Worker Eva Marts both attended all three tournament days to offer injured players ice packs and first aid kits.

Throughout the three-day tournament, each team fought hard; but only one team clinched the championship title - Rochdale Rampage, boasting an unbeaten record! The fourth “finale” game between Rochdale and the Davisurs, the two undefeated teams, was close - Davis scored the first goal and held the field down with their defense, but ultimately lost to Rochdale. The Members at Large team, with members from various houses, took second place with three wins and a tie, and Davis finished third.

“It really felt like a community... you belong to us, we belong to each other...” - Hamid



Photos From: Gaby Smith

Rochdale celebrated their win with a surprise barbecue for members, and commemorated their victory with a jersey signed by each player on the team.

Following the championship's end, many members, even ones whose teams didn't place in the top three, were excited to participate in another soccer tournament in the future. "It's not about winning, it's about having fun," says Kingman player Julian Bourret. Hamid mentioned working with ETCOM to host another tournament in future semesters, along with more BSC member-wide events like potlucks, game nights, and karaoke, if budget allows.

The BSC's first co-op-wide soccer tournament was more than just a series of intense matches - it allowed different houses to expand beyond the microcosm of their houses and meet fellow members. As the referee blew the whistle to conclude the final game, it was clear that this tournament had not only brought the houses together but had laid the groundwork for more memorable events and lasting bonds in the semesters to come.



Photos from: Gaby Smith

Welcoming New Faces in the Office!

Joshua “Yoshi” Fenton recently joined the Berkeley Student Cooperative (BSC) as the new Executive Director, bringing with him a wealth of experience in education, community development, and equity-focused initiatives. A passionate advocate for access and opportunity, Yoshi has dedicated his career to lowering barriers and raising others up, inspired by his upbringing as the child of immigrants.

Yoshi holds an undergraduate degree from UCSC and two Master’s degrees, including a Rabbinical ordination from the American Jewish University. His career spans decades of leadership, from working within the Jewish community to running capacity-building organizations that champion diversity and inclusion. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Yoshi led an educational team supporting students with learning differences before joining the Posse Foundation, further expanding his expertise in equity work.

At the BSC, Yoshi is most excited about developing long-term strategies to support students, sharing the Co-ops’ impactful stories, and fostering a culture of collaboration. Outside of work, he enjoys connecting with people and exploring the Bay Area’s vibrant community. Yoshi’s vision is clear: to create sustainable pathways for education and opportunity, ensuring the BSC continues to be a vital resource for generations to come. Welcome, Yoshi, to the BSC!



Photo Courtesy: Joshua Fenton



Photo Courtesy: David Appelbaum

David Appelbaum brings a diverse and impactful career to his role as Development Director at the Berkeley Student Cooperative (BSC). With a strong background in nonprofit development and workforce initiatives for underserved populations, David is dedicated to expanding the BSC’s fundraising capacity, building partnerships that support affordable housing, and increasing access to essential student resources.

David’s educational journey includes studying Russian history and literature at Vassar College and UC Berkeley, where he developed a passion for critical analysis and storytelling. His professional path began in marketing and technology, where he led strategies for major companies like Oracle and Autonomy. He later transitioned to nonprofit work, focusing on social impact programs that address systemic inequities. These experiences led him to the BSC, where he combines his expertise in development with his commitment to creating opportunities for students.

As part of the BSC, David is thrilled to lead efforts that directly impact the student community, including broadening scholarship opportunities, enhancing mental health initiatives, and deepening connections with alumni. He is inspired by the collaborative and inclusive culture of the BSC and is committed to building on its legacy of empowering students through affordable housing and education. David is excited to work closely with the team to develop innovative solutions that ensure the long-term success of the cooperative and its members. We’re grateful to have David join the BSC!

A Love Letter to Cloyne

By: Shiva Yabut,
Cloyne House Manager



Hello, my name is Shiva Yabut, I am a current resident and the house manager of Cloyne Court. I have lived here for a year and a half, and I would like to share my experience with the traditions of Cloyne.

Living at Cloyne has been an experience, with the highs and lows of adjusting to doing the whole workshift stuff and incorporating projects while balancing both work, social, and school life. As someone who has lived in Cloyne for a year, I can proudly say that this place has been a home for me. It's a shared space of laughter, collaboration, and support where anyone who wants to spend their college years living in a community should go to.

Among the Berkeley Student Cooperative (BSC) houses, I'd say that Cloyne stands out from the rest of the houses through its traditions, themed social events, and little everyday things that help foster the sense of being a Clone. In terms of house traditions, we have quite a few of them, and many of them involve food. As a Co-op house, Cloyne has been one of, if not the only house, to serve a hot meal to our members every day. With the Cloyne dinners Sunday-Friday to the Saturday brunch, we stay fed! A nice little tradition we do is to clap for all the cooks who helped us for that day. And even though clapping for food seems like a minor tradition, I think that it is a greatly important thing that we do as a sign of respect and community. It's a little way for us to thank each other for the cooperative experience.

Another tradition that we do is thanks to our facilities manager herself, Zandra, and her dedication to hosting a D&D night for all who want to join. Creating characters, getting snacks for the game, and just creating a fantastic atmosphere is one of the many things that has helped members like me feel included in such a big house. Even if someone does not want to make a permanent character for the campaign, we've found ways to invite them, whether that be them watching us play the game or voicing a character in the story, even just briefly.

But moving on to the more annual/bigger events, we have our own ways to celebrate the various holidays. Last year in the Spring, our former community coordinator hosted a Valentine's Day card-making event, which was just so sweet. I saw members making cards for other members and even members sending out cards to their loved ones back home. And I'd admit, I made one of my own to send to my partner back home, which seemed a little cheesy, but it really did remind me of the time back in grade school where we, as kids, would create little letters and holiday grams for each other.

Other holidays like Día de los Muertos, we've made ofrendas to honor our passed, where anyone can place a photo in the middle of the dining hall stage. And even more, we have our own special dinner that happens at the end of the semester where members are able to make a dish from their culture and share it with the rest of the house. This house is not just a house; it is a melting pot-community from various other cultures.



Photos Courtesy: Shiva Yabut



Green Dreams: Transforming BSC's Gardens, One Seed at a Time

By: Eytan Stanton, BSC Garden Revitalization Project Lead



Last February, ten Garden Managers convened at Rochdale's Davis Park, most of us never having met each other before. Under the pergola and around the table, our minor manager cohort self-organized, perhaps for the first time in BSC history, to assess the barriers we face in our under-supported position. Encouraged by good company and enlivened by the coming Spring, we began envisioning the potential of a more supported garden program; one that cultivates food sovereignty, supports native habitat restoration and extends the cooperative ethic beyond the doors of our units.

The 2024-2025 BSC Garden Revitalization Plan was directly informed by this meeting with the dual purpose of empowering our current GM cohort and ensuring the long-term sustainability of our program. With central-level support, a grant from The Green Initiative Fund and donations from local organizations, the seeds we planted this February are blossoming into reality, marking a major turning point in the BSC's land stewardship history.

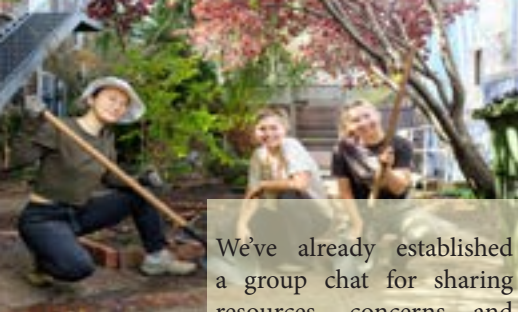
Until recently, most of us encountered several barriers to something as simple as securing new plants or compost for our unit. Some GMs entirely lacked budgets and even if we didn't, the closest nurseries vary from two to five miles, rendering purchasing inaccessible to those without cars. Not to mention, this individualistic supply process is antithetical to the cooperative spirit, where bulk purchasing and collective distribution keep prices down and supplies stocked.

In light of these challenges, the first goal of our garden revitalization is to establish a "Garden Manager Hub" featuring a propagation space, seed library and garden materials center. This October, the current cohort began a series of educational field trips to local horticultural institutions like Spiral Gardens Community Food Security Project. The nursery and garden was started by a BSC alumni, Daniel Miller, and our tour was led by our very own Alan Solorio, CZ's GM who works there.

Drawn through the warm greenhouses, abundant plant supply and mounds of compost, we popcorned ideas about what our own hub might look like. This collective brainstorming, much like the conception of the Garden Revitalization itself, will directly inform the design and programming of our hub this coming Spring. Collaboration with members of Cal's Architecture department will help us turn the lessons gleaned from these field trips into physical form. Ultimately, we will assemble the hub together, a collective ritual inaugurating our new capacity to determine the quantity and variety of our hyper-locally grown plant stock.

Like any effort in a university context, turnover is fast and therefore, mechanisms for institutional memory and education are critical. To this end, a Garden Manager Coordinator position, tasked with maintaining the nursery and communications amongst future cohorts has already been approved. Those living in the coops this Summer or next academic year should consider applying. At a unit level, few landscape plans exist, even fewer of us get to meet the previous stewards and the majority of us don't have relationships with the local ecology. Our second goal, therefore, is to cultivate skills, confidence and community to support more informed and continuous stewardship.

Photos Courtesy: Eytan Stanton



We've already established a group chat for sharing resources, concerns and inspiration between our gardens. This winter, we will develop a central-level curriculum to integrate into existing member education. Topics range from regional socio-ecological history, to more site-specific technical skills in urban agroecology (i.e.- fire safe landscaping, regenerative pest, pathogen and aggressive plant control and tools for facilitating garden workdays).



Photos taken by: Evtan Stanton

While much of this plan is future-forward, our third goal involves hands-on peer-to-peer assistance at each unit. In the first two months alone, twenty-two consultations across eleven units have addressed immediate barriers to success. Some GMs have ambitious visions and supply needs for major improvements while others need help identifying plants and their watering needs.

Needless to say, the BSC pick-up has certainly been pulling weight. We've delivered a full dump-truck's worth of high quality local mulch to five units, along with dozens of cubic feet of soil amendments and vegetable mix as needed. For more structural work like retaining walls and raised beds, nearly one ton of salvaged stones and several truckloads of local lumber donated by Bay Area Redwood have been distributed. And while our own nursery is yet to be built, Urban Habitat Project has donated nearly five dozen native plants whose roots have already taken hold.



“were able to completely transform a section of our garden... to a mulched, shady understory of California native plants.”

At Stebbins, Elijah Lurie hit the ground running: “I’ve replaced lead-contaminated soil in our raised beds with clean bulk soil, added mulch around the garden which will add nutrients and organic material to the soil as it decomposes, and built a rock wall to support new planting areas.” Meanwhile across campus at HiP, Hannah Johansen and other dedicated members “were able to completely transform a section of our garden from weeds and trash to a mulched, shady understory of California native plants.”

This cooper-led effort is a testament to the agency we have over our housing and its governance. After this year, our program will have lasting infrastructure that directly benefits not only current and future Garden Managers, but all 1,200 student residents and the more-than-human beings for whom these healing, biodiverse and bountiful gardens will be revitalized.



Together, We Thrive!

By: Cyn Macias-Gomez, BSC President

I have been a part of the BSC since 2021, serving in various roles at Cloyne, Rochdale, and Wolf House. This year, I am the BSC President. At the board level, we have been working diligently to ensure access, retention, and to raise awareness about what the cooperative movement aims to achieve—shared resources, shared responsibility, and shared success.

Regarding disability access, members of the internal affairs committee and the board have begun initiatives to ensure that our houses can meet the needs of our disabled members. As an organization that prioritizes DSP participants, it is crucial that we are prepared to support them as needed, which requires us to update our policies and practices. Historically, accommodating singles has been a strategy to ensure we meet students' needs, and ensuring we have the capacity to meet these needs is one of our key goals this year. Namely, we have begun analyzing current trends in requests for accommodations and adopting the policy to reflect community needs more accurately. Starting Fall 2025, members at units will increase the proportion of accommodating singles in each house to 20% of single rooms in that house, for a total of 49 accommodating singles across the BSC.



Photo Courtesy: Cyn Macias-Gomez

Additionally, we have been working rigorously to improve our external relations. Through COVID challenges and targeted media articles, we recognize the need to meet our members' needs and work within our network and local community to further strengthen our ability to do so. Whether it involves mental health resourcing, securing city funding for maintenance projects, or collaborating with campus partners, ensuring services and funding for our members is a priority.

Continuous engagement with stakeholders and responding expeditiously to our organizational needs is the focus this year. I look forward to collaborating on the BSC's success and longevity.

A Call to Stand with BSC Now **More** Than Ever

By: Joshua “Yoshi” Fenton, Executive Director

Dear BSC Community and Supporters,

In a time when the incoming administration threatens the progress and safety of our most vulnerable communities, the role of the Berkeley Student Cooperative (BSC) has never been more critical. As we face an uncertain future under leadership that has shown hostility towards communities of color, LGBTQ+ individuals, and other marginalized groups, the BSC remains a steadfast beacon of hope.

The BSC is more than just housing; it is a sanctuary where students from diverse backgrounds can live safely, share meals, and engage in dialogues that educate and empower. Here, we do more than house students; we nurture future leaders committed to equity and justice. In a society where these values are under threat, supporting spaces that uphold and advance these ideals is crucial.

With Linda McMahon poised to lead the Department of Education, there is a genuine concern that the financial supports crucial for the education and well-being of these communities are in jeopardy. This makes your support for the BSC not just valuable but essential. We must ensure that our cooperative continues to provide affordable housing and a supportive community environment, despite any potential federal shifts away from supporting educational equity.

Now, we call on you, our alumni, friends, and advocates, to stand with us. We are at a pivotal moment where your support can shield and strengthen our cooperative against the waves of change that threaten to push back the hard-won gains for which so many have fought.

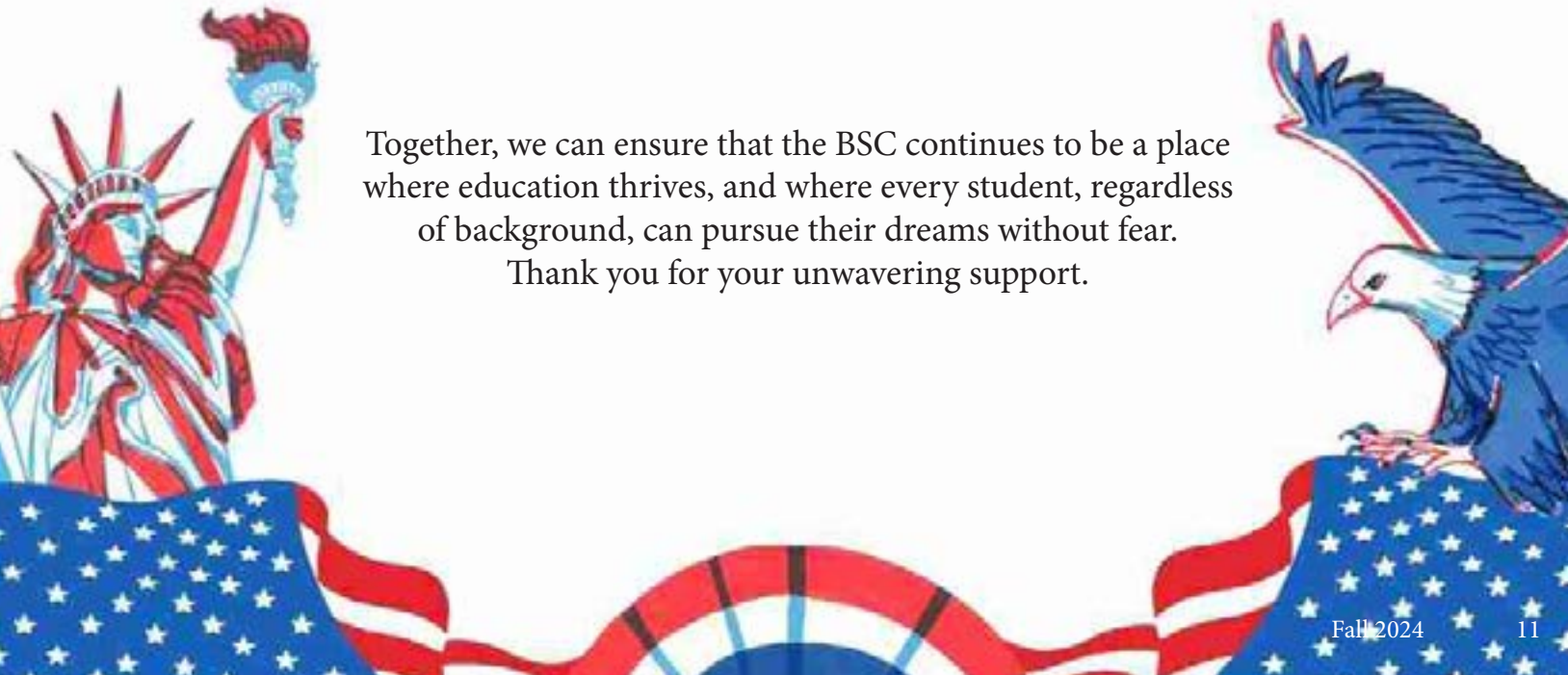
How You Can Help:

- **Donate:** Your contributions will directly support the BSC’s ability to provide low-cost housing and resources for our students.
- **Volunteer:** Give your time to help us manage our properties, support our students, and strengthen our community initiatives.
- **Advocate:** Speak out about the importance of organizations like the BSC in providing safe, inclusive environments for learning and growth.

Your involvement is not just a gesture of support—it is an act of resistance against the forces that seek to divide and diminish us. Join us in this critical time to fortify our foundation of inclusivity and educational access.

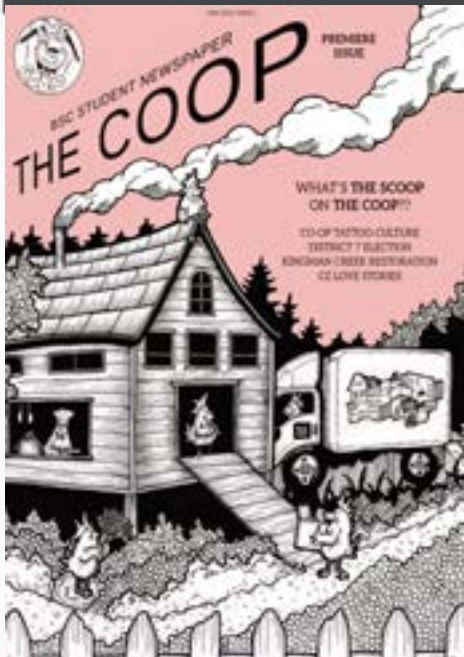
Together, we can ensure that the BSC continues to be a place where education thrives, and where every student, regardless of background, can pursue their dreams without fear.

Thank you for your unwavering support.

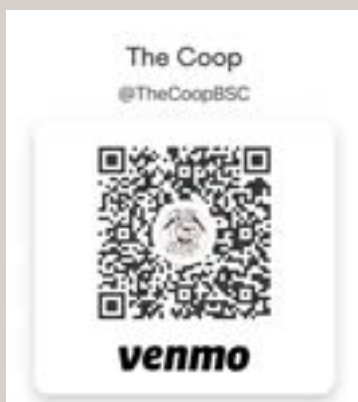


Featuring: The Coop

By: Cam Lippincott



*A Magazine
for Co-op
Minds and
Hearts!*



The Coop is the magazine created by BSC tenants for BSC tenants. The goal of The Coop is to build a cross-house community with journalism, op/eds, visual art, and more! We started last semester at Davis House, but the roots of the project stem from the tradition of BSC student magazines that go back decades. We aim to have a balance of fun community building stories, such as Coop horoscopes, community appreciation, Cook shift reviews, and more serious stories aimed to begin dialogues within houses such as, the Palestine mural at CZ, issues that the Transgender community faces within the Coops, and the renovation of Barrington hall. Ultimately, the project will be the place for BSC culture celebrated, and also ways where members can present issues that are not necessarily given the proper space. The safe and inclusive space we offer can act as a catalyst for further dialogue on important issues such as rent increases, safe spaces for gender nonconforming people, work life balance, and much more.

While The Coop has a staff that produces the majority of our work, we are always looking for submissions from BSC members. We accept written submissions as well as visuals. We want to encourage members to connect over shared interests and experiences. In doing so, we hope to break down barriers, foster a sense of belonging, and create a vibrant, unified community within the BSC that has not existed since the pandemic began in 2020.

We hope to bring meaningful connection with ALL the houses -- no matter if they reside on the north or southside. We want to be an example on what the word "cooperative" means.

Our second issue debuting this November will feature stories on the BSC president Cyn Gomez, a feature of the Palestine mural graced on Casa Zimbabwe, cook shift reviews of different houses, and more. Our entire staff is looking forward to sharing our work with the community.

If you would like to support The Coop we happily accept donations to our Venmo in order to print more physical copies to share among the community. You can also follow us on Instagram @TheCoopNews to stay in touch and see when we are accepting submissions or when the next issue is releasing.



Photos Courtesy: Cam Lippincott

Beyond the Co-op Walls...

By: Emma Taila, '24 Berkeley Graduate
Former BSC Publications Coordinator



An old housemate recently visited me in San Diego, the city I'm from and the city I've called home since graduation this May. Over coffee, we tried to map it out: where are the rest of us?

Former classmates are moving across the country for graduate school, beginning their first 9-5s, bussing tables, or starting families. In the co-op, it was simpler. I lived with my best friends at Davis, my forever home in the BSC. Now we're scattered around the world.

As the former editor of this newsletter, I've written lots about alumni taking their cooperative lessons to inspiring projects and successful careers. As I plan my next steps, I've found that wearing so many hats at the BSC allowed me to explore all my interests and develop hard skills in leadership, mediation, education, public health, and finance. I know from fellow co-op alumni these are the practical matter of successful work now that my workshift days are up.

I arrived at the end of my time in the co-op to find how much I had loved it and how ready I was for something else to begin. The BSC allowed me to try it all. I navigated cabin fever during the pandemic. I tried being a major and minor manager, working a job at central, being a council go-er and no-go-er. I became good friends with people I would never have met otherwise. I lost some friends or otherwise learned to forgive and be forgiven. I even tried house romance (successfully, I'm afraid, only once). I'm grateful for the practical experience of living in and leading a community, but the skills would not mean nearly as much without what I also learned about love. I loved my house and housemates and I learned that love is a huge responsibility.

Only a few months in, our BSC community lost two members, one of them my housemate, Adrian. During this time, my housemates became a soft place to land. Even those I had fought with at council the night before — their well-being became essential to me and mine to them. The things we fought about, even serious stuff, melted away. Co-op neighbors down the street

carried over comfort food, offered working hands.

The connection I feel to my housemates is totally unique. It was not a sense of friendship or family or even shared politics that moved us to care for one another. We chose to commit to one another and found that this was how we made it through. In this and other times of intense hardship, I learned the true, tireless work of community which has shaped how I plan for my future.

We talk a lot in the co-op about community and work, but our talk often gets metaphorical. Living it is different. I learned community is work, as in — it's cleaning the showers on your hands and knees, it's sometimes doing other people's dishes, it's admitting when you are wrong. The co-op made it easy for me to find a community. But, I know the hard things will keep coming now that we've gone our separate ways. I've moved along myself, still connected to my close friends from Davis, but with the conviction that...

..building community is lifelong and vital and worth the work.



Photos Courtesy: Emma Taila

We appreciate you, donors!

Thank you to those who donated to the BSC from
January 1, 2024 to December 1, 2024!

1987 Quintana Family Trust
Alan Bierce
Alexander Barone
Alexandra Stone
Alfred Twu
Allen Ansevin
Allen Davenport
Aloha Family Chiropractic
Alvin P. Cohen
Alyssa Kies
Andrew M. Friedland
Anne and Wallace Trujillo
Anne Berenice R. McDevitt
Anne Hadreas and Patrick Granvold
Anthony Germino
Apple Inc.
Arthur J. Ungar
Bank of America Charitable Gift Fund
Barbara A. Wood
Barbara Hughes
Benevity Community Impact Fund
Benjamin Wald
Berkeley Student Cooperative Alumni
Association
Betty and Sal Kadri
Bettye Satow
Beverly Allphin
Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation Matching
Gift Program
Bob Pisani
Bonnie (Been) Allen
Brandon and Trisha Kett
Cameryn and Justin Erickson
Carmen Enciso-Steinberg
Carol and Benjamin Fong
Carol Ghiselli
Charities Aid Foundation America, C/O
CyberGrants LLC
Charles Leitzell
Chi-Sharn Lim
Christine and Howard Watkins
City of Berkeley
Comcast Disbursement Portal
Cynthia Shim
D. Steven Endsley
Dan M. Landis
Daniel Tamsky
Danny Hemingway
Dave Adams
Dave Helmich
David Grossberg
David Richardson
David Robbins

David Woolfe
Dena and Elliot Block
Dennis & Joan Haas
Dennis Mar
Devito Family Revocable Trust
Diane L. Altieri
Diane Mathios
Don Chakerian
Don Naugle
Donna Thompson
Dorothy Partridge
Dorothy Walker and Joe Kamiya
Doug Roberts
Douglas and Patricia McFarland
Ed Sugden
Edith Raby
Edmond and Leslie Wagstaff
Edward H. Jeffery
Eileen Lewis
Eric Hyman
Ernest and Jenny Takahashi
Evan Weaver
Fidelity Brokerage Services LLC
Fidelity Charitable
Francis L. Falgiano III
Frederick A. Carbone
Gale and Phillip Brownell
Gary Marcos
George Arnstein
George Bergman
Give Lively Foundation, Inc.
Greater Horizons
Gregory Barnes
Griffin Foster
Hannah Westbrook
Impact Assets
Intel
Jade DeKinder
James Lewis
Janet and Frederick Klaessig
Jasmin Soltani
Jasmine Hennessy
Jay Devore
Jeffrey Schoner and Justin Brantley
Jeffrey W.W. Koon
Jeffrey Wright
Jewish Community Foundation of Los
Angeles
Joel Agron
John A. Sullivan
John Heins
Jon Wallace
Jonathan and Muriel Heritage

Joseph Decuir
Justin Blanchard
Katherine Ming
Kathleen J. Loretz
Kathryn Neri
Keith Nordman
Kelly Gillease
Kenny Abiko
Kevin Wayne King
Kristin Webb
Ladd Coates
Larry Hartsough
Laura Cattani
Laura Ebaugh-Stocks
Lauren Mercer
Laurie Bonilla
Leon Matt Wilson
Leslie and Karen Suzukamo
Liane Schaffer
Linda Artel
Linda G. Sue
Liz Simons and Mark Heising
Louis Kurkjian
Luis Rivas
Lynn Corcoran
Lynn Ellen and Chris Crook
Margie Guillory
Maria Ryan
Mark and Anita Shapiro
Mark Merrifield
Mark Sarconi and Claire Johnson
Mark Serlin
Marshall Lee Duggs
Mary and Herbert Engstrom
Mary Ann and Leonard Benson
Mary B. McNeill
Maureen Larrowe Jordan
Michael James Miller
Michael Reilly
Michael Sosin and Tedi Siminowsky
Mitchell I. Bonner
Monique Nakagawa
Nancy Falls
Nancy Lucke Ludgus
Niels C. Laughlin
Oh Family Foundation
Oren Leong
Patricia A. Barron
Patricia and Mike DeVito
Patricia M. Leahy
Paul Koenig
Pershing Advisory Solutions
Peter J Reynolds

Peter M. Wendt and Mary Eliza-
beth Wendt
Priscilla Spires Wegars
Raymond Underberg
Rebecca Coleman
Renaissance Charitable
Richard "Dick" Fallenbaum
Richard J. Wilcox
Richard L. Ramont
Robert A. Hughes
Robert N. Henry and Rona S.
Henry
Robert W. Bowdidge
Robert Wood Johnson Foun-
dation
Roger Eric Taranto
Rosemary and John McGuire
Ruth A. Harvey
Ruth Spear
Sacramento Region Community
Foundation
Saint Paul and Minnesota
Foundation
Salesforce
Sara Hendrix
Sara Ishikawa
Selena Feliciano
Sharon S. Inouye
Staci Bush
Stephen A. Klein
Stephen Forrest
Steve and Kathleen Harness
Steven and Joan Matsler
Sylvia Oey Veblen
The Blackbaud Giving Fund, by
its agent Your Cause
Theodore Akulian and Terry
Powell
Theodore Kwan
Tom and Carolyn Surh
Vanguard
Vanguard Charitable
Victor Klebanoff
Vincent Fausone
Walter Okitsu
Wayne Luney
Willi J. Reid Foundation
Yunwei Yang
Ziv and Liz Bar-El

Fall Creek Walk and Memorial Tree Planting for Steve Greenberg

By William (Wick) Smith - Casa Zimbabwe 1974-1977

In memory of Steve Greenberg, who passed away on February 26, 2024, a memorial tree was planted to honor his life.

On October 22nd, 2024 we had a wonderful activity sponsored by the BSCAA that combined our bi-annual Strawberry Creek walk with a memorial tree planting and brunch in the Cloyne Court garden.



Tim Pine, Strawberry Creek Walk oral history guide, gathers group to begin the walk

Steve Greenberg, was a Cloyne alumni who spent six years there while in graduate school. Steve was the maintenance manager and did many projects for Cloyne over his tenure. One of Steve's friends told us about his time with Steve living at Cloyne and shared a story of finding him asleep in the kitchen after working all night on an upgrade of the electrical system.

Steve and his wife Liz embraced environmental stewardship and in his honor the BSCAA decided to get a native California Blue Elderberry as a memorial planting. Working closely with Cloyne's garden manager, Zach Milligan, they decided on a great location for the plant and jointly planted it in Steve's honor.



Steve Greenberg (bottom right corner), standing proudly with the 2022 Strawberry Creek Walk Group

Eytan Stanton, the BSC's new Gardening Manager Coordinator came to support the gardening efforts at Cloyne and we talked about some of his plans for helping the BSC gardens this coming year. The BSCAA recently contributed \$500 in order to help with those efforts.

We were touched by the attendance of a number of Cloyne students and BSC officers including Cyn Gomez, the BSC President and Cristian Zamora, BSC VP of External Affairs. Steve's widow, Liz Varnhagen was in attendance along with one of Steve's brothers, Mark, and several of Steve's friends.



Steve's Widow, Liz Varnhagen (center), holding shovel following memorial Blue Elderberry tree planting

The BSCAA wants to thank all of the students of Cloyne who allowed us to stage the event as they have many others. They even helped us be sure that the extra food was distributed to needy house members!

The walk was led by the recently retired manager for environmental maintenance for UCB, Tim Pines and as always he did a marvelous job. We learned about all sorts of native plants, hidden parts and features of the creek and restoration efforts. There was a reason that Steve Greenberg loved to organize this walk for the BSCAA and it was a fitting way to celebrate his life and his service to the BSC and BSCAA.

Photos Courtesy: Photographer(s) unknown, retrieved from Portia Lewis.

Letter from the BSCAA President

by Portia Lewis, BSCAA President '23-'24 - CZ '18-'20, Rochdale '20-'21, HiP '21



Photo By: Maura Lievano

Alumni at 2024 Annual Meeting and Election

Hello again intrepid & dedicated co-op alumni community!

My name is Portia Lewis, and I use the she/her pronouns. In June 2023, I was elected the President of the BSCAA Board of Directors. I am happy to report on behalf of the BSCAA, we at the BSC Alumni Association have been very busy working hard on strengthening our internal infrastructure and developing a wide array of ways for alumni to be engaged!

Organizationally, we have been diligent at developing a more robust operations infrastructure. Cleaning up our database and making our website more accessible is a seemingly never ending project, but we have made significant strides! We are excited to announce that we have officially transitioned to Google Workspace. We now have institutional emails linked to our domain, Board Officers and Committee Chairs & our Committees now all have @bscaa.coop emails where you can reach them. As always, information about how to contact us is on our website.

In addition to the professionalization of our internal & external infrastructure, we have prioritized developing more ways for our diverse, ever growing alumni community to be engaged

We started an instagram to promote the work we are doing - huge shout out to our Marketing Committee Co-Chair, Modjeh for spearheading that for us! We also recently started Regional Alumni groups in LA, NYC, and DC, to provide

opportunities for alumni in these areas to build community and throw events. Reach out to us if you would like to learn more about how to get involved. Furthermore, the Alumni History Archive Campaign is off to a strong start, with over 60 responses from alumni. We are still looking for more interviewees and volunteers interested in supporting us in documenting the history of the BSC - for more information on how to get involved contact info@bscaa.coop!



Photo by: Alfred Twu

BSCAA Board Directors gather at Cloyne for Board Retreat

This year was packed full of some incredible events! We had the opportunity to collaborate with the BSC and our Alumni community on a wide range of events such as a Kingman Hall Reopening celebration and Kingman Hall Creek Restoration Project Celebration, the BSC's 3rd Annual Co-op Block Party, a BSC New

Member Brunch, and our favorite annual event Co-op Graduation! Moreover, the Alumni Association hosted two DC based events, an NYC Happy Hour, our second Umunhum Brewing South Bay co-op collaboration, our second Lafayette Reservoir Walk, and two Strawberry Creek walks led by the fantastic Tim Pine. Our most recent Strawberry Creek walk was held in honor of a beloved and dearly missed longtime BSCAA Board Director and Cloyne Alumni, Steve Greenberg. We are grateful for the support & help of Steve's family and friends and Cloyne in making this a truly special event. Please see the report of Creek Walk in Steve's honor. In case you missed any of these events, don't worry, there will be ample opportunities to come hang with your makeshift co-op family in the coming months! If you have an idea for an event you would love to see, send it our way & we will support you in bringing your idea to life!



Photos from Barrington Hall Fall 1964, submitted for Barrington History Project, captured by Barrington Alumni Tom Cluster

Suppose you are not currently a BSCAA member or do not currently receive our communications. In that case, I invite you to take the opportunity (right now!) to sign up - there is more about our very affordable memberships & how to opt into our mailing list below- we are always accepting new members (we promise we will not spam you). We could not do what we do without our BSCAA member contributions! If you did not already know, recent & soon-to-be graduates receive your first year of membership for absolutely free! There is nothing you need to do. Upon graduating, you will receive a welcome email from us; it really is that easy.

If you have had an inkling of stepping up your commitment to our alum community, I strongly encourage you to run for the BSCAA Board! By the time you receive this newsletter, we will have just held our 2024 Annual Meeting & Election, (shout out to our newest Board Directors

who have already brought fresh ideas & passion to the BSCAA!) but as always, you can reach out to me anytime about how to join the Board - president@bscaa.coop.

Being elected the President of the BSCAA has been a gratifying, motivating, and eye-opening experience. I am now half way through my second term and I am incredibly proud and excited of all we have accomplished this year at the Alumni Association - but that is only possible with the support of you all. As the BSCAA looks forward to the new year, we look forward to welcoming our new BSCAA Board Directors, continuing to strengthen our relationship with current BSC members & Staff, building solidarity with other co-ops, and many more fantastic alumni events. As the BSC navigates turbulent times, the continued sustained support of alumni is more important than ever.

I will end by saying, now is the time to get looped back in, either with the BSC or BSCAA. The BSC needs our active support as alumni - whether through making a critical donation or through the contribution of our time and energy, our support that has been critical for sustaining the BSC for the last 90-years. Let's keep it going!

Until Next Time!

Cooperatively Yours,
Portia Lewis

Join the BSCAA!

You can join online at bscaa.coop/membership. Or fill out this form and cut out; mail with a check to "BSCAA" at 2424 Ridge Rd, Berkeley, CA 94709. Membership rates can be found at bscaa.coop/membership. Questions? Email us at info@bscaa.coop

Name

Email

Mailing Address

House(s) Lived at & Years

Select which applies

Lifetime membership

Annual membership

Where do your donations go?

All donations ultimately keep rents low for students. How do we use your donations specifically?

1. Capital Improvements

Donations to Capital Improvements help us preserve and improve our most important assets - buildings and infrastructure. When you donate to capital improvements, you help relieve the biggest upward pressure on rents as we tackle years of deferred maintenance, software upgrades, and capital projects like seismic retrofits.

2. Scholarships

Donations to Scholarships go directly to our lowest-income students who get a rent reduction of 1/6 to 1/3 off their rent.

3. Where It Is Needed Most

Donations to Where It Is Needed Most are unrestricted donations. You are investing in the BSC and our mission to make an impact on the affordability of higher education and the cooperative movement. The Board determines the use of these funds. In the past, unrestricted donations have funded seismic retrofits and helped us grow our operating reserves.

1 Choose your gift:

- \$100 \$1000
- \$ \$
- I am making a gift in my will
- I am donating appreciated securities

2 Choose your area of support:

- Capital Improvements
- Scholarships
- Where it is needed most

3 Payment and Contact Information

- My check, payable to Berkeley Student Cooperative, is enclosed.
- Please charge my credit card.*
*American Express not accepted

CARD NO.	
EXP DATE	CVV/CSC CODE
SIGNATURE	
NAME	
ADDRESS	
EMAIL	
PHONE	
YOUR BSC HISTORY	

Many ways to give!

The Berkeley Student Cooperative is a student-run 501(c)(3) affordable housing provider that removes barriers to higher education for low-income and traditionally marginalized students and empowers them with community-building skills that they can take into the future.

Legal Name: Berkeley Student Cooperative, Inc., a California not-for-profit corporation, with its principal place of Business in Berkeley, California.

Tax Status: 501(c)(3) charitable organization. Confirmation of our tax-exempt status is provided in the form of a letter from the US Department of Treasury, available upon request.

Tax ID: 94-0948140

Contact: David Appelbaum, Director of Development at development@bsc.coop

Donor Advised Fund: The BSC can receive gifts from donor advised funds like Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund, Vanguard Charitable Endowment Program, and Schwab Charitable Fund.

Qualified IRA Distribution: If you're over 73 years of age, you can make a qualified charitable distribution from your IRA. You'll pay no income tax on that amount and satisfy your required minimum distribution.

Securities Transfer: Avoid capital gains tax by donating appreciated securities.

Employer Matches: Double your impact — ask your HR department about gift matching! The BSC has received matching employer donations from Google, Apple, Facebook, Applied Materials, Lawrence Livermore National Labs, and others!



Berkeley Student Cooperative
2424 Ridge Road
Berkeley, CA 94709

The 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 a unique educational opportunity for those who might not otherwise be able to afford a university education.