

**Orinda Garden Club**  
**General Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday, March 24, 2016**  
**Orinda Country Club**  
9:30 Arrive 10:00 Meeting 10:30 Program

President **Margie Murphy** called the meeting to order at 10:03 am. **Catherine Dunne** introduced the speaker, John Muir Laws, Jack, naturalist, artist and author. He walked us through an observation technique utilizing the following: “I notice, I wonder, and it reminds me of...” **Margie** reconvened the meeting at 11:05. She thanked the speaker. She said the service for Marty DeJonghe was wonderful including tributes from our members. The scarecrow was presented with over 50 memories from members attached to it.

**Judy Gray** moved and **Barbara Boster** seconded and the February minutes were approved as e-mailed.

Treasurer **Sandy Barnett** announced that her assistant **Laura Sawczuk** will be collecting OGC dues next month. She noted that the contributions from 2015 of \$630 were more robust than those of 2016 which are \$263 so far. She encouraged us to access all the budget details on the OGC website.

**Margie** and **Jane Wiser** announced a special award. **Lisa Jorgens** said that her husband Craig Jorgens came to the meeting kicking and screaming. **Lisa** had the job of coordinating the Audio Visual components for the six club Bay Visions January meeting. It was going to cost \$4,200. Craig volunteered to do all the A.V. work. **Jane** presented Craig will a “Saving our Bacon” award with a restaurant certificate and a bottle of DuMol wine. **Margie** added that the speakers raved about Craig’s A.V.

**Phoebe Kahl** and **Diana Kennedy** invited us to attend their floral workshop on Tues., April 26, 2016, at St. Stephen’s Church. Make checks to OGC for \$50.

Founder’s Fund Coordinators **Karin Carroll** and **Betsy Bingham** conducted a paper ballot vote. Later they announced that our most votes were for The Historic Washington Garden at Old North Church in Boston. Our next most votes were for The Wetlands Education Center at Cattail Marsh in Beaumont, Texas. The results from all the garden clubs will be publicized later and the first place award will be \$30,000 and the second place award will be \$10,000. Next year’s proposals are due this June 1st. OGC won second place for the Heather Farm Pavillion Project in 1986 & 1987.

**Shari Bashin-Sullivan** updated us on our Median Project. She said that there will be a meeting next week with Parks and Recreation about the demolition and irrigation parts so the ball is in motion. **Margie** added that the first portion will be the median strip from the Safeway to the Shell and will cost about \$19,000.

Vice President **Cathleen Sodos** announced that we have three new members: Barbara Weikert, Gwen Manfrin and Bonnie Miller. She thanked the sponsors and co-sponsors.

**Margie** thanked Ruth Fortune and all the hostesses and co-hostesses for the mini luncheons.

**Nita Roethe** reported for **Bobbie Wilson** from the joint club projects that **Shari** gave an in depth in service on how to care for the pots on the theatre side of Orinda. She thanked her for that. **Nita** (community affairs) said there will a bond measure assessment on the ballot for road repairs. Miramonte Girls Basketball team will compete for the State Championship 3/26/16. Regarding the triangle that we maintain opposite Orinda Motors: all three trees have been removed by P.G.&E. with their Line Clearing Project. They are to grind the stumps and pay for replacement trees or shrubs. E-mail **Nita** if you would like to be involved in the selection of the plants. She encouraged all members to attend the Orinda Action Day on Sat., April 23, 2016, 9:30 am. We will focus our efforts on the triangle this year.

**Sue Berger Andersen** noted that there will be a tomato sale in Moraga Sat. and Sun., 4/2/16 & 4/3/16, from 10-3. The re-scheduled Bee event will be Thursday, 4/14/16 at **Sandra Holland's** house. **Sue** will lead a field trip on April 19th to the Sacramento Cemetery, which has fabulous roses. Car pools depart at 8:30 as it is 77 miles.

**Linda Thompson** announced that seven members participated in the Partners 4 Plants 3/8/16 planting at Oakport Park in Oakland. There will be one last P 4 P event 4/12/16 there. **Linda** and **Kristen Whitsett** attended the NAL conference in Washington DC. There were 30 from California who presented Barbara Boxer a Bay Visions scarf. GCA supports lobbying for conservation.

**Joyce Nelson** thanked **Sue Berger Andersen** for the outstanding new member workshop which included an entire pool house filled with seedlings that new members went home with.

**Carol Amstutz** shared the program from **Marty DeJonghe's** service. OGC will remember her for all her efforts in conservation, arranging field trips and of course the scarecrow project. She thanked **Gail Emmons** for doing the flowers, **Carol Wolfman** for her eulogy and **Margie** for the members comments and the scarecrow. She said to treasure friendships and she showed forget me nots and sang "What a wonderful world." She asked members to donate to the Friends of Wagner Ranch Nature Area (P.O. Box 821, Orinda, CA 94563 in Marty's memory.) She reminded us of the Sunday, 4/17/16, Wagner Ranch Nature Area Day which will be open to everyone 11:30-4:30.

**Heather Dunne** announced that Bouquets to Art will be at the de Young Museum starting April 5<sup>th</sup> from 9:30 to 5:15. She and **Mari Tischenko, Phoebe Kahl, and Diana Kennedy** will be showing.

**Heather** announced the Jack John Muir Law books are on sale outside the Orinda Room.

**Margie** adjourned the meeting at 11:45 and wished everyone a lovely mini luncheon.

Respectfully submitted,

Louise Diracles  
OGC recording secretary