

Orinda Garden Club
General Meeting May 26, 2016
At the home of Susan Andersen Berger
Shuttle Service from the Pink Wall

President **Margie Murphy** called the meeting to order at 10:39 am. She thanked **Susan Andersen Berger** for hosting the group in her beautiful garden. **Jenifer Brunk** moved and **Joyce Nelson** seconded and the April minutes were approved as e-mailed.

Suanne Inman moved and **Judy Gray** seconded and the Standing and Special Committee Chairs were approved as follows:

Standing Committees

(Two Year Term; One vote each)

Beautification and Community Affairs.....Sandy Barnett, Nita Roethe,
BouquetsShari Bashin-Sullivan, Lynn Garrett, Julie O'Melveny
By-LawsJenifer Brunk
Conservation/National Affairs/ Partners4Plants.....Linda Thompson, Kirsten Whitsett
Flower Show.....Phoebe Kahl, Diana Kennedy
Forget-Me-NotsDevon Sherwood, Barbara Boster, Deb Stephenson
Fundraising.....Louise Diracles, Marlene Hallenberger
Horticulture Sue Berger, Laura Sawczuk, Laurie Smith
HospitalityPam Goode, Sugar Filice
NominatingJanet Riley
Program.....Kris Anthony, Catherine Dunne

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

(One Year Term; Non Voting)

Associate/Sustainer Liaison.....Pat Winther
Awards Liaison.....Jane Wiser
Bay Vision.....Carole Wolfman, Pam Wiley
Club Administrator.....Jean Rowe
Founders Fund.....Lisa Stefan
Freeman Medal.....Vanessa Crews
Historian.....Joyce Nelson
Holiday PartyJudy Shallat, M.J. Walburg
Holiday Wreaths.....Lynn Garrett, Lorene Quist
Joint Club Projects.....Bobbie Wilson
Library Flowers.....Judy Gray
Merchandise Sales.....Ann Cindery, Laurie Goetzl, Ruth Fortune
Mini Luncheons.....Janet Riley
PhotographyYoni Mayeri
Public Relations/GCA Bulletin.....Ann Cinderey
Raffle.....Lisa Jorgens, Pam Stefan

Reservations.....Julie O'Melveny
Roses.....Dena Raffel, Jean Rowe
Roster.....Jan Formanek
Scholarships.....Dayna Sayres
Visiting Gardens.....Dena Raffel
Website Administrator.....Jean Rowe

Janet Riley reported for Treasurer **Sandy Barnett** who asks us all to send her our dues checks: Actives \$290 and others \$175, or, go to ogcmembers with password: compost 94563, where paypal is available. The deadline for paying dues is 6/1/16.

Nita Roethe reported from beautification that the triangle has no leaks, and P.G. & E. is to fix the leaks from the water main on. **Nita's** gardener turned the soil. **Shari Bashin Sullivan** has chosen 3 flowering cherry trees to be placed in 24" boxes. The westbound offramp will be weeded and mulched by Memorial Day. The eastbound off ramp will have some work done on Sat. **Nita** thanked members for the plastic bags with which to stuff the scarecrows. A senior carpenter has made our club 30 heads for scarecrows. **Nita** will have workshops in September to make the scarecrows in memory of Marty DeJonghe. She said that we could also start over the summer. She said that patriotic themes are great but not political ones.

Linda Thompson thanked participants of the Orchard Nursery demonstration: fillers, thrillers and spillers. It was pointed out at the nursery that netting or screening works better than pottery shards to keep the soil in a pot. She thanked **Susan** for arranging the demonstration and encouraged us all to vote for Measure AA.

President **Margie Murphy** showed photos of the new memorial bench in honor of members who have passed. She said that OCC manager George Parker had the bench installed into cement. It is made out of recycled milk cartons and has a 100 year warrantee. When one sits on the bench, one looks directly across Lake Cascade to the OCC Tennis Facility. She passed around clip boards for members to sign up for the committee they want to work on next year.

Sue Berger Andersen said that she's lived in this house for 21 years and she loves her old garden roses, her peonies, her tomatoes and veggies. She also loves sharing them with others.

Margene Stahle explained the flowers for the library project. You bring the floral arrangements to the Orinda Library on Monday and pick up your vase the next Monday. She passed around a sign up for the summer.

Louise Diracles, Shari Bashin Sullivan and **Gail Emmons** reported on the GCA Annual Meeting that they attended in Minneapolis MN. May 19-22. Photos were passed and a display was on a table. **Louise** said that the "Journey to the Heartland"

was an efficient and educational trip thanking **Margie** and all members for the opportunity. She went into detail about the Preview Party which we will be in charge of in 2018. The guest speaker was a Teddy Roosevelt impersonator in honor of the centennial of the National Parks System. Field trips included museums, Summit Avenue garden tours and the Minnesota Landscape Arboreteum. We learned about bees, butterflies, plants, floral arranging, strategic planning, membership, GCA website, and fund raising. The meals were delicious, the decorations over the moon and the volunteers couldn't do enough for us! **Shari** added how the Twin Cities are so clean, friendly and downright beautiful. She said that all of us are essential members of GCA and that we have extensive resources because of our membership. Finally she had us imagine 650 women solving problems and creating policy with grit, determination and focus; what a force! **Gail** said that we are in charge of the 2018 annual meeting flower show. It will be held at the Embarcadero on the third floor which may pose some challenges. She will need all of us as helpers and volunteers.

Louise Diracles pointed out that her co-chair **Marlene Hallenberger** is the artist behind the posters promoting "Tea in the Garden," presented by the Orinda Garden Club, on Thursday, May 11, 2017. **Louise** went on to say that if we all take a small piece of this huge fund raising effort, it will be a big success. She pointed out the flyers on the tables with the e-mail addresses for members to send their ideas and what they WANT to do to support the event.

Lisa Hallahan explained that OGC gives three \$1,000 scholarships (one to a UC Berkeley undergrad, one to a UC Berkeley grad student and one to a Merritt college student; all in landscape architecture. Andrew Spephan is the winner from Cal undergrad. His family was from Laos and they were refugees from the Vietnam War. They always tried to beautify their surroundings in East Oakland. Shantele Wilkerson is the Cal graduate student. She is moving back to Maryland and will miss California. She likes creating spaces for children to enjoy nature and become stewards of the land. She invited us to check out her work at Blake Garde, 70 Rincon Rd., Kensington, CA. Cathy Raingarden was the winner from Merritt College. She intends to continue at Cal graduate school. She grew up in Napa and got hooked on pruning classes, Botany Design and Construction. She reminded us that plants are powerful.

Jane Wisner announced the winner of the Best Gardening Outfit. It was **Barbara Boster** who was in overalls and covered with flowers; her hair was braided, and her face was muddy. She was presented a basket of gardening goodies including basil, wine, etc. **Jane** said that her daughter contracted lime disease and warned the group to be careful in the garden and woods. Both ticks and mosquitoes can transmit lime disease. The disease can be debilitating for life.

Laurie Smith said that Miramonte High School and Jack Lewis made a video of Orinda in Action Day and OGC is featured working in the triangle.

Sugar Filice and Pamela Croce Goode thanked everyone who slaved over the set up: (**Pamela/John Goode, Lorene Quist, Susan Andersen Berger, Joyce Nelson, Jane Ryan, Margene Stahle & Anita Hughes,)** **shuttled** members up/down the hill: **Lynn Garrett, Kerry Murphy, Kramer Klabau, Lisa Stefan, Sheila Wendt, Jenifer Brunk, Julie O'Melveny, Chris Stoneberg, Laurie Smith, Heather Dunne, Leslie French, Dayna Sayres, Jane** and cleaned up for today's picnic. **Gail Emmons**, our world renowned member, did the beautiful floral arrangements for the tables.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 and the picnic followed.

Respectfully submitted,

Louise Diracles
Recording Secretary

The purpose of the Orinda Garden Club shall be to stimulate the knowledge and love of gardening, to cooperate in the protection and conservation of our natural heritage, to encourage and assist in the beautification of the community.