

**Orinda Garden Club Minutes
General Meeting Guest Day
Thursday, November 19, 2015
Orinda Country Club**

President **Margie Murphy** welcomed members and guests and called the meeting to order at 10:04 am. She announced that the Orinda Garden Club (OGC) adopted several areas downtown. We maintain the off-ramp by planting bulbs and weeding since there is no water in that area. We also are beautifying the Triangle opposite Orinda Motors and have placed 40 flowerpots with plants on the Theatre side. We raised \$65,000 (from The Orinda in Bloom Garden Tour and the Carter donation,) and are ready soon to begin the Median Project from the Shell Station to the Safeway.

Heather Dunne moved and **Marty DeJonghe** seconded and the Minutes from the October general meeting were approved as e-mailed.

Treasurer **Sandy Barnett** reported that the latest treasury information is posted on the OGC site. She asked members to mail her a check for the 2016 Flower Mart badge: \$10 for renewals and \$25 for new badges which include a parking pass.

Ruth Fortune reiterated that if you want to be heard, get your Forget Me Not newsletter articles to **Deb Stephenson** by the 23rd. **Devon Sherwood** and **Barbara Boster** have a goal of editing the newsletter down to about five pages.

Chris Stoneberg asked all members, not just Bouquets Members, to come to the Holiday Bouquet making at the Orinda Community Center on Monday, 12/14/15, at 10:30 am with evergreens and shears. She said merchandise sales today and again at the holiday tea include: **Jane Wisner** with Sarah Oliver hand bags and Carmen Priolo jewelry as well as lots of Garden Club merchandise.

Kathy French thanked **Marty DeJonghe** for the scarecrows around town. **Marty** said many others participated. She asked members to take down the scarecrows after Thanksgiving and store them for next year. **Kathy** said that OGC has 15,000 daffodils ready to plant at the off ramp.

Gail Emmons reminded us of the April 26-29, 2018, Garden Club of America Meeting to be held at the San Francisco Hyatt Embarcadero. Zone XII (which is the largest GC zone) will host the event. OGC is in charge of the flower show. Please e-mail Gail your ideas. There will be around 600 participants so we should plan to take BART.

Nancy Dickmeyer and **Nath Schmicker** said the eight new OGC members will show off their "Let the Season Sparkle" tablescapes in the Orinda Room for the Holiday 10:30 am Tea and 6:00 pm Party on Dec. 3, 2015. The wreath making will be before the tea at 8:30 am, and the wreath hanging will be Sat., 12/5/15, at 9:00 am in front of the B of A. **Nath** asked everyone to RSVP on the eVite as well as send your checks to **Julie O'Melveny** (\$9/person for the tea and \$90/person for the party.) **Sylvia Carter** asked everyone to bring sandwiches or sweets for the tea. **Nath** thanked **Chris Stoneberg** for the decorations for Dec. 3rd.

Pam Stefan and **Lisa Jorgens** asked members to buy raffle tickets for the bouquets created by speaker Dundee Butcher.

Linda Thompson reported that the Partners for Plants weeding, mulching, and planting went well in the area off 66th in Oakland. She said we're making a difference in Saving the Bay. Harbor Porpoises, geese, ducks etc. are returning to the Bay. She encouraged everyone to sign up to attend the El Cerrito Recycling Plant Field Trip on Jan. 12, 2016, carpooling from OCC at 9:45 am. She encouraged members to join the Monarch Butterfly Count over Thanksgiving.

Jane Ryan introduced reinstated member **Marian Handy** who moved to Tuscon where she started a garden club in the late 1990's and now she has moved back to Rossmoor and is happy to be back with OGC.

Jane Wiser presented a certificate of Appreciation and Excellence to Catherine Waters for her many contributions to our OGC. She knows flowers inside and out. Many OGC members take her Botanical Classes: **Tina Locke, Jane Wiser, Joyce Nelson, Mary Ellen Schneider, Laura Sawczuk, Midge Zischke, & Cathleen Sodos.**

Marty DeJonghe from Bay Visions announced our next OGC general meeting will be on Wed., January 20, 2016, at the Greek Orthodox Church in Oakland. Six clubs will participate. She would like to know if you will or will not attend. Lunch will be \$25; please send a check to Marty made out to OGC.

The Penny Pines basket was passed around; these monies buy trees to plant in the Tahoe and other regions.

Margie announced that all clip boards will be placed on the table by the balloons. She adjourned the business part of the meeting at 10:34 am.

Catherine Dunne introduced the speaker, Dundee Butcher, who is a native Texan who married an Englishman and now lives in Healdsburg. Her Russian River Flower School is a blend of the formality of England and the Casualness of California. Her speech was on Rearranging. She made six European Hand Tied floral arrangements in a plastic bag of water in a square bag with soft handles for OGC to raffle off. Winners included: **Anita Hughes, Joyce McCulaugh, Catherine Waters, Heather Dunne, Jane Ryan and Laura Sawczuk.**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30am.

Important Upcoming Dates:

December 3 Wreath Making 8:30 am
 Tea Party 10:30 – 12:30
 Holiday Party 6:00

December 5 Wreath Hanging – 9:00 am-Meet at Bank of America lot

6 Club Visions Meeting – Wednesday, January 20, 2016

**Greek Orthodox Cathedral
4700 Lincoln Avenue - Oakland**

9:45 OGC Meeting/Roll Call - Upstairs Conference Room

10:15 Social 10:45 Program