



Orinda Garden Club
General Meeting Minutes
Thursday, September 24, 2015
At the home of Mary Read
10:00 Social 10:30 Meeting/Picnic

The meeting was called to order by President **Margie Murphy** at 10:32 am. She thanked hostess **Mary Read**, and meeting organizers: **Pamela Croce Goode** and **Sugar Filice** noting that it takes a lot of work to make it look like it's not a lot of work.

Margie read the following poem:

Honored, excited and so very humble,

I stand before you today

What an amazing group of women you are

Is what I have to say!

Our house is now in order

With our By-Laws up to date

Our Chairs and committee members

Have prepared fabulous programs

You'll find first rate

Because we are a busy bunch

Quality is what we are striving for

Combining, streamlining our activities for sure

So now that you all know this fact

I know we will see you at every single act!!!

Beautifying Orinda while dealing with Caltrans and "The powers that be"

Has not always been easy

But we'll get there...you just wait and see!!

Our Orinda in Bloom was a huge success

With some monies now in the bank

Our days of pulling those weeds and clover

As far as I'm concerned, are definitely over!

Look at all the wonderful things we do

We do not need to add any more

We are just going to fine tune what we have

Keep learning, doing, giving back for sure

We are sticking to our purpose

While having lots of fun

It is because of you and your input

That makes our wonderful OGC run.

Thank you for all you do!

Margie asked for additions or corrections to the May 21, 2015 minutes. **Petra Michel** asked to have the following wording inserted for her report: Petra took on the

FMNs to learn more about interactive PDFs. She also learned a lot about the English language thanks to her proofreader Jane Zuercher. She thanked all the writers who supported the newsletter." **Heather Dunne** moved and **Pamela Croce Goode** seconded and the minutes were approved as corrected.

Treasurer **Sandy Barnett** read a description of our club and its 501 C-3 status. **Midge Zischke** moved and **Heather Dunne** seconded approval of the Administrative Budget which has income from dues and expenses to operate our club. That balance is \$32, 250. **Nancy Dickmeyer** moved and **Tina Locke** seconded approval of the Contribution Budget which has income from fund raising and gifts and expenses for the projects we donate to. That balance is \$66,802. Both budgets were passed. **Sandy** announced that our CD balance is \$7,504 and is earning .05%. **Sandy** said our Garden Tour led by **Cathleen Sodos** netted \$50,000 plus the \$15,000 donated by **Sylvia and Tim Carter**. The monies will fund the Median Project.

Cathleen Sodos for **Janet Riley** and the Nominating Committee asked for approval of **Jan Formanek** to be **Tina Locke's** co-corresponding secretary. **Carole Wolfman** moved and **Sandy Barnett** seconded and the motion passed.

Nita Roethe reported from the Beautification Committee that the east bound off ramp has been weeded, an August work party occurred at the Triangle. From the Mayor's Meeting, she reported that the Olive Festival will be Sunday, October 4, 2015, benefitting Wagner Ranch programs and a Film in the Garden Room of the Orinda Library on 9/29/15, at 6:30 pm. Each incoming freshman at Miramonte received an iPad compliments of EFO and Miramonte parents club. **Nita** announced a work party for hay bales and pumpkins on Thurs., 10/1/15, at 10:00 am at the east bound off ramp. **Marty DeJong** will contribute two scarecrows and she solicited OGC members and the community to make more with her. She envisions the project like the bird houses in Lafayette. Please e-mail her if you want to participate.

Chris Stoneberg said the Bouquets group meets on the second Monday of every month at 10:30 am. The group makes small bouquets and delivers them to the Martinez Hospital. Two large floral arrangements are made for the nurses' stations. OGC members are asked to bring flowers and greens

to make the bouquets. She invited new members and everyone to participate noting that many hospital patients have never before received flowers and it is very meaningful.

Catherine Dunne said that our next OGC meeting will be Thurs., 10/22/15, beginning at 10:00 am at the Orinda Library. It is a community event so invite guests. The program will feature Before and After garden projects done by **Shari Bashin-Sullivan**. **Ann Cinderey** will submit an article to the newspaper to invite the community. The following general meeting will be at OCC on Thurs., 11/19/15, at 9:30 am. It will feature Dundee who is originally from London and now from Healdsburg. Dundee is part of the Russian River Flower School and will show us formal as well as California inspired floral design. It's another guest day as well as the tea on 12/3/15, so three guest meetings in a row.

Linda Thompson announced that **Sue Andersen-Berger** will host a Tomato Tasting at her home for the Hort/Conservation Committee on Tues., 10/6/15, at 11:00 am. The speaker will be Joe Schirmer (Laurie Smith's son in law,) from Dirty Girl Produce. He will speak about dry farmed tomatoes. Members and Sue will bring crustini, basil, olive oils, and fixings to go with the tomatoes. Sue has 75-90 tomato plants in her yard. **Sue** and **Lisa Jorgens** just returned from attending the Shirley Meneice Hort Conference in Seattle and will report later.

Phoebe Kahl invited members to join her and **Diana Kennedy** for a pumpkin with succulents arranging class on Tues., 10/27/15, at 9:00 am in the St. Stephen's Church undercroft. Your \$50 check received by **Phoebe** is your reservation. She thanked **Chris Stoneberg** for the ideas.

Margie Murphy presented beautiful floral arrangements made by **Chris Stoneberg**, to **Jan Formanek** for her over the summer work on the Rosters which were distributed AND to **Jean Rowe** for her hard work on the OGC website. **Jean's** e mail links are active on the site.

Sugar Filice thanked **Mary Read**, **Pamela Croce Goode** and all the shuttle drivers who made this meeting possible. Next meeting 10/22/15, **Shari** will do a slide presentation, and show how she takes something small and plain and transforms it into something much better.

Lisa Hallahan introduced scholarship winner Anna Thompson who wasn't able to attend our May meeting. Anna is in her final year at Cal landscape architecture. She works for Fleishmann Design. She interned with S.F. Public Works Landscaping and manages a 56 person communal garden. She thanked OGC for the award monies.

Cathleen Sodos said the 6 out of 8 new members attended the new member orientation at **Margie's** home. The following new members were introduced by their sponsors and received a GCA book which features **Mary Read's** home in Napa: **Kris Anthony** by **Carole Wolfman** and **Catherine Dunne**. **Vanessa Crews** by **Shari Bashin-Sullivan** and **Laura Sawczuk**. **Leslie French** by **Jane Wiser** and **Tina Locke**. **Laurie Goetzl** by **Linda Thompson** and **Lisa Jorgens**. **Marlene Hallenberger** by **Louise Diracles** (**Diana Kennedy** sends her best to Marlene.) **Connie Leach** by **Kris Rawson** and (**Rhonda Zakskorn** sends her best to Connie.) **Devon Sherwood** by **Barbara Boster** and **Lisa Hallahan**. **Barbara Boster** asked the new members to stay after the meeting so she could take a photo. Julie O'Melveny introduced new member Lisa Kovalik at the 9/17/15 Board Meeting.

Ruth Fortune announced for **Deb Stephenson** that a layout/design person is needed for the Forget Me Nots newsletter. **Ruth** announced for **Deb**, "If you want to be heard, get it in by the 23rd." Send to forgetmenots@orindagc.org.

Marty said she would do a scarecrow demonstration in the back.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:33 am. A picnic poolside lunch ensued.

Respectfully submitted,
Louise Diracles,
OGC Recording Secretary

Important Dates:
10/15/15 Board Meeting at Jane Ryan's 3:15 pm
10/22/15 General Meeting at Orinda Library 10:00 am

Margie had posters of some of our activities of OGC on a clothes line: Off Ramps, Triangle, Bouquets, Heather Farms Rose Pruning, Library Flowers, Fundraising, Community Programs, Bay Visions, Conservation, Partners 4 Plants, Christmas wreaths around town, Floral Workshops, Scholarships, Horticulture, and more...