

Orinda Garden Club

General Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, January 31, 2018

Orinda Country Club

9:30 Social, 10:00

**Welcome by President, Cathleen Sodos.**

...**And All That Jazz – Ruth Fortune**, in her Jazz costume, reminded everyone to sign up for our Holiday Party. Instead of having a Christmas party this year, a fun cocktail party with jazz entertainment is planned on February 10 from 6:30 – 10:00 at the Metro restaurant in Lafayette.

**Program Chairman, Deb Stephenson** introduced our guest speaker, Greg Lowery, Curator of the Friends of Vintage Rose. Greg spoke about rare old roses and his collection in Northern America. He was a founding member of the Heritage Rose Foundation and has written several books and Rose Journals. His slides took us on two world tours. First, he told us how all roses came from China and transformed the Roses and Gardens in America. Next, he showed us pictures of the Rose Museum in Beijing.

**President, Cathleen Sodos**, called the meeting to order and thanked everyone for all they do behind the scenes – especially the Flower Show committee. Cathleen gave an update of all that was accomplished at our January board meeting. The board approved special circumstances for the two members that missed more than 3 meetings. We approved our annual meeting delegates, **Cathleen Sodos and Deb Stephenson**. We approved **Margie Murphy's** nominating committee who will be nominating Corresponding Secretary, Recording Secretary, and Treasure. We approved sending **Ann Cinderey and Jane Wiser (replacing Mary Ellen Schneider)** to the NAL Conference in Washington DC. It was approved that a \$500 donation will be presented to the Ruth Bancroft Garden and Memorial. Ruth was an honorary member of OGC. We also had a lively discussion on how to spend our Beautification Fund and we welcome anyone's suggestions. We will be presenting ideas soon. Ground Breaking on the Median project in the spring.

There were no corrections to the November minutes, so they were approved as sent.

**Beautification- Nita Roethe** reported that **Bobbie Wilson** wants to refresh the pots on the crossroad side of Orinda. Once plants are selected she will need helpers. Nita said we saved money this year when Torris from Wagner Ranch nature area picked up the pumpkins and bales of hay. Nita has arranged for her gardeners to pull the weeds in the off-ramp garden.

**Bouquets** - February 9<sup>th</sup> 10:00 at Lisa Steffens.

**Flower Market badges** were picked up by **Chris Stoneberg**. Check with Chris if you have not received yours.

**Roses – Sue Anderson-Berger and Lisa Hallahan** announced an emergency rose pruning meeting next Wednesday, February 7 @ 9:00. Heather Farms is concerned we will not finish by the end of February so anyone that can help is needed. Another pruning day will be added later in February.

**Horticulture – Lisa Jorgens and Linda Thompson** reported they had a great meeting in January at Orchard Nursery. Helen Erickson gave a very detailed presentation on miniature fruit orchards. Randall Barnes also talked about what fruit trees he likes to grow. This list will be in the Forget-Me Nots. **Suanne Inman** gave an interesting talk about our entries for the Flower Show. Orchard has ongoing free classes. February 27, Backyard composing and grass cycling. March 10, Succulent class. Our next Horticulture meeting will be Flower Arranging on April 17 at Sue Anderson-Berger’s beautiful garden. Jennie White and Bryn Bettelheim from Piedmont Garden club will show how garden flowers and plants can be used in flower arrangements and talk about what flowers to grow. Quarryhill Botanical Garden Tour will be May 15.

**Flower Arranging Workshop – Shari Bahsin-Sullivan** will lead this workshop for Valentine’s Day on 2/8 @ 10:00 am. They can be shared at our Jazz Cocktail party. Location to be announced.

**Membership – Devon Sherwood announced for Julie O’Melveny.** Please think about your friends and acquaintances that might be interested in joining OGC. March 15<sup>th</sup> is the membership deadline. Each candidate needs a sponsor, co-sponsor and two supporting letters. Membership applications can be found on our website.

**Annual Meeting / Flower Show - Heather Dunne, Phoebe Kahl, Suanne Inman** – Garden show will be at the Hyatt Regency in SF Embarcadero. It will be open to the public on Saturday April 28 and Sunday April 29<sup>th</sup>. Staging for the show is on Thursday, April 26<sup>th</sup>, judging at 1:00 on Friday, April 27<sup>th</sup> in the lobby of the hotel. 316 entries have been received. 11 of our members entered. There are still openings. Four more entries are needed in Collections of blooms (cut flowers from your garden), one in Miniature Landscape, and two in Floral Designs- Wonders of the Desert. Sign up by February 15. Hostess volunteers were thanked. Volunteer training will be in March or April. Look on our website for schedule and more information. **Margie Murphy and Nath Schmicker** reminded us that OGC is also in charge of the Friday night Preview Party from 5-7. There will be a Trio, a cocktail, but no food. Bring your husband or guest and be the first to see the flower show. Cost is \$30 a person. Reservations start February 15.

**Upcoming Meetings – Anita Hughes**

- Thursday, February 22 - Joint meeting with Piedmont Garden Club. 9:30 Welcome, 10:00 break up into separate club meetings. Speaker will be John Greenlee on Meadows and Grasses. Lunch will be set up in the Terrace Room. Deadline to sign up and pay for lunch is February 14.

- Wednesday March 21 - Afternoon meeting, 3:30 Social, 4:00 Meeting, 5:00 program – Amy Stewart “Drunken Botanist”. Signature cocktail

**Catherine** adjourned the meeting at 12:00

Respectfully submitted,

Margene Stahle

OGC Recording Secretary

