



**Orinda Garden Club  
General Meeting Minutes**

*Thursday, March 26, 2015*

*Orinda Country Club*

*9:30 a.m. Coffee*

*10:00 a.m. Program, 11:00 Meeting*

*12:00 Mini Luncheons*

President **Janet Riley** welcomed members in the Orinda Country Club Orinda Room at 10:06 am.

**Linda Thompson** introduced our speaker David George Gordon from Seattle. He is an author, speaker and chef with a special interest in invertebrates. His presentation was about "The Secret Life of Slugs and Snails...Life in the Very Slow Lane." He told us many interesting facts about them and also how to get them out of the garden: water in the morning, make slug traps with beer or have dry areas around your plants.

**Nita Roethe** announced a field trip to the Berkeley Botanical Gardens for our May 21, 2015, general meeting. **Suanne Inman** has bought 15 parking spaces for carpool drivers. A sign up clipboard was passed around. There will be a box lunch available for purchase.

**Dena Raffel** said that there are two more rose pruning opportunities: Monday, 4/20/15, and Thursday, 4/30/15.

The minutes were approved as e-mailed from the February 19, 2015, general meeting.

President **Janet Riley** asked members to consider going to the Santa Fe Garden Club's "Behind Adobe Walls Home and Garden Tours" on 7/21/15 or 7/28/15 for \$75. 800-283-0122. Janet also encouraged us to go to the Mountain View Cemetery in Oakland where members: **Heather Dunne and Mari Tischenko** are exhibiting in the Tulip Festival in the Chapel. Janet announced a change of date for the next Board Meeting: Thursday, April 9, 2015, at 3:15 pm at **Shari Bashin-Sullivan's**.

Beautification

**Laurie Smith** asked us to vote on our five projects: Containers, Triangle, Off Ramp, Heather Farms Rose Pruning, and Partners for Plants. She asked for suggestions for other projects. She asked if we feel that we're doing too much and if so, what should we eliminate? Please reply to Laurie's e-mail or paper ballot. Laurie told us that Wendy insists on safety while working on the off ramp. We must wear safety vests, leather gloves, helmets and goggles or glasses. Please meet at the Library on Sat., 4/18/15, at nine am, for a clean up day in conjunction with Orinda in Action Day.

**Diana Kennedy** said that the 2013 Centennial Cork Oak Lake Cascade Project has been completed and the remaining funds will be used for maintenance in May. **Diana Kennedy**,

**Phoebe Kahl, Gail Emmons, Heather Dunne and Mari Tischenko** will be exhibiting at the de Young Museum's Bouquets to Art from April 14-19. You can buy your tickets online.

**Jane Wiser** asked everyone to bring extra flowers and greens to the next general meeting on April 23, 2015, at 9:00 am when we will celebrate 50 years of making bouquets for the County Hospital. There will be a \$25 lunch for associates and sustainers organized by **Jean Schommer**.  
Membership

**Dona Snow** noted that this year's new sponsoring deadline will be 4/25/15 and only two sponsor letters and two endorsement letters will be required instead of six letters. Next year it is proposed to move the deadline up to 2/1/15 for change of status and then move the sponsorship deadline back to 3/15/16. **Mary Read** will take over for Dona Snow reading the new member proposals. Dona announced the two resignations as Laurie Lowery and Susie Romak and the seven members who went associate as: Karin Carroll, Jackie Voigt, Gina Field, Carol Amstutz, June Cunningham, D.D. Felton and Charlotte Guppy.

Treasurer **Sandy Barnett** reported: The Administrative Account has \$14,376; The Contribution Account has \$8,022 and the savings CD account has \$7,502 for a total of \$29,900. She said that a \$50. dues increase may be necessary to fund our expenses.

Education:

**MJ Walburg** said that the last Partners 4 Plants planting event will be Wednesday, April 1, 2015, 12:30-2:30 with carpools leaving the OCC pool parking lot at noon. She announced the HORT field trip on Tuesday, April 14, 2015, will begin at 10:00 but carpools will leave the OCC parking lot at 9:30 am for the Tilden Botanical Garden Tour with emphasis on California Natives. **Joan Andrews** added that Bart O'Brien assisted the OGC in the selection of the manzanita plant that won second best in the Freeman Award Contest.

**Lisa Jorgens** announced that our speaker for the April 23, 2015, general meeting will be Sam Hodder and he will speak on Save the Redwoods and trails and parks.

**Petra Michel** announced the Forget Me Not newsletter deadlines will be as follows: April 5<sup>th</sup> for the April FMNs and April 30<sup>th</sup> for the May FMNs. She also stated that this year's back FMNs are online on the OGC website.

**Cathleen Sodos** said everything will take place on May 7, 2015 for the Orinda in Bloom Garden Tour. After the tour on 5/7/15, from 5:00 to 7:00, there will be a Garden Party for 65 people, which will cost \$125/ticket, \$250/patron ticket, or \$500/sponsor ticket. The \$125 tickets go on sale on April 1, 2015. The party tickets will be in addition to the requirement of buying four \$50 tickets to the Garden Tour as our way and means fund raising obligation. Cathleen announced the additional proceeds will sponsor the Camino Pablo median project for which Sylvia and Tim Carter have pledged to match funds for up to \$15,000. There will be a \$20 buffet lunch available at OCC which will include: a salad bar, asparagus soup, fruit salad and a cookie. Barbara Llewelling will cater the evening party, DuMol wines will be served and there will be music. Cathleen will distribute the programs (which will be your tickets) at the next general meeting 4/23/15. There will be an online auction including: a diamond necklace from Morrison's, a dinner for ten at MJ's, a workshop with Chris Stoneberg etc. There is a link to the

OGC website for paypal and Orinda in Bloom Garden Tour information. Five different gardens will be featured on the tour in addition to the Garden Party Garden.

**Anita Hughes** thanked the hostesses and co hostesses for the mini luncheons.

As there was no new business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:50 am. Members proceeded to their mini luncheons at members' homes.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Louise Diracles  
Recording Secretary

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

**Key Dates:**

**April 1: Tickets for the Garden Party at \$125 go on sale. Checks go to Mary Ann Schneider at 44 La Vuelta**

**April 1: noon carpools at OCC Pool Parking Lot: HORT goes to Partners 4 Plants**

**April 14: 9:30 carpools at OCC Pool Parking Lot for 10 am HORT to Tilden Botanical Gardens for Native Plant tour**

**April 14-19: Bouquets to Art at the de Young Museum; tickets online**

**April 18: 9 am in front of the library for Orinda in Action Day clean up of the off ramp from Lafayette to Orinda**

**April 20 & 30: Heather Farms Rose Pruning**

**April 23: 9 am Bouquets 50<sup>th</sup> and General Meeting at OCC**

**April 23: noon Associate/Sustainer Luncheon at OCC**

**May 7: 10-4 pm Garden Tour**

**May 7: 5-7 Garden Party**