

**Orinda Garden Club
General Meeting
April 28, 2011**

President Heather Dunne called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. at the Orinda Country Club. Lorene Quist called the role. Heather welcomed the guests representing the Marin Garden Club and noted their Club has become the 200th member of the Garden Club of America. Jane Ryan introduced the Marin Garden Club guests.

The minutes of the March 24, 2011 meeting were approved. Ann Cinderey provided the Treasurer's report. Lorene announced the resignation of Fran Swanson and a one-year leave of absence for Petra Michel-Newton from June 2011 until May 2012.

Margie Murphy announced that two new members will be formally introduced at the September general meeting. One of the new members will be attending the May 26th general meeting.

Cathleen Sodos discussed details for volunteering at the upcoming Visions Major Flower Show. Volunteers should wear a black shirt and bring their Orinda Garden Club name tags, Visions apron, and a reusable water bottle. Volunteers will be receiving an email reminder and on their volunteer day, should report in at the Volunteer room. Cathleen also noted volunteers are still needed for Saturday, May 14th.

Pam Goode reported that today, April 28th, is the last day to purchase Visions speaker tickets directly from her. After today, tickets will be available for purchase at the Carmel Sunset Center box office. She also noted that the Sunset Center lecture hall will be open one hour before each presentation.

Cathleen provided an update on the Orinda Garden Club scholarship program. Two scholarships totalling \$2,000 will be awarded to students attending the Merritt College Landscape Horticulture program.

DD Felton then gave a summary of the April 11th field trip to the Marin Recycling Center, providing the members with important recycling tips learned during the tour. DD announced she will be recycling wine corks and members can bring the corks to future general meetings. DD presented an overview of bisphenol A (BPA), a chemical compound used as a lining in cans holding foods. BPA has been associated with a variety of health problems and DD encouraged members to be aware of the health risks of canned food products.

Dena Raffel announced the next Bouquets will be on Monday, May 9th at her home. The final Bouquets will be a luncheon on June 13th at the home of Jean Schommer.

Joan Andrews reminded members that care of the Austin Roses at Heather Farms will continue every two weeks throughout the summer and she encouraged members to volunteer to help out. Weeding of the grounds near the cork oaks will be scheduled for May.

Gina Field thanked the members who spent time beautifying the triangle and Orinda off-ramp. As part of Orinda in Action Day, Orinda Garden Club members and high school students spent the morning of April 16th at the off-ramp deadheading the daffodils and spreading mulch. She noted that additional mulch will be added to the off-ramp area. Gina then announced that the Orinda Art in Public Places program has identified an area near Mechanics Bank to place a new sculpture. The four Orinda garden clubs will be working together to plant under the sculpture. Gina reported that the Orinda Women's Club, in partnership with Orinda Motors, will be holding a community car clinic on May 14th at 1:00 p.m. The clinic will focus on education for women motorists on car maintenance and operation.

Joyce Nelson announced the May 17th field trip to Casa de Sequos in Oakland at 10:00 a.m. A box lunch will be served in the gardens.

Mari Tischenko requested volunteers for library flowers for the months of June, July and August. A simple bouquet of flowers or a plant are brought to the library on Monday each week.

Other Business:

The New Board/Old Board Luncheon will be held on May 24th at Petra's home at 10:30 a.m. Sign-ups for the luncheon are being handled by Lorene Quist and Lynn Garrett. Committee members should bring their reports to

the Board meeting to pass on to new Chairs. Please bring one copy for the President as well.

The next General Meeting will be held on May 26th at DD Felton's home at 10:30 am.

Sandy Barnett and Carole Wolfman are absent from today's General Meeting because they are attending the Garden Club of America Annual Meeting in Indianapolis April 29 through May 1, 2011.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:38 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Cinderey
Recording Secretary

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