

**Orinda Garden Club  
General Meeting  
March 24, 2011**

Lorene Quist called the roll. Cathleen Sodos noted that additional volunteers are needed for Saturday, May 14th at the Visions Flower Show. She passed sign-up sheets for volunteering and for Visions aprons. Nita Roethe thanked the members who are hosting the mini-luncheons following the general meeting.

Nancy Dickmeyer introduced the speaker, David Littschwager, photographer, who spoke on "A Close Look at Miniature Biospheres."

The meeting was called to order by President Heather Dunne at 11:00 a.m. The minutes of the February 24, 2011 meeting were approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** Sandy Barnett distributed a list of organizations that have been proposed to receive a donation from the Orinda Garden Club. After a discussion about donating to the Wagner Ranch Nature Area and the California Shakespeare Theater, a motion was made to approve the donations to the list of organizations presented. The motion passed.

Wagner Ranch Nature Area will have its annual Wildlife Festival on Sunday, April 17th. Heather Farms will hold a spring plant sale on Saturday, April 16th.

**Corresponding Secretary:** Lorene announced the change of status of five members. Elizabeth Williams and Jean Schommer are resigning and Joan Andrews is changing her status to associate. Betsy Bingham and Catherine Watters have requested and been granted a leave of absence for three months and one year respectively.

**Programs:** Nancy read a thank you note from Barbara Tuffli, the February meeting's speaker on Camellias.

Marty DeJonghe announced she will be taking photographs of members during the meeting for the online roster.

**Membership:** Margie Murphy reported two new members have been proposed and letters will be mailed to members introducing the proposed new members.

Pat Winther reported for Jane Ryan that members of the Marin Garden Club will be attending the April meeting and it is hoped Orinda Garden Club members will stay for lunch after the meeting. Members of both the Orinda and Marin Garden Clubs will be assigned to tables. A sign up sheet was distributed.

It was also announced that a new A to Z Horticulture Award will be given at future Orinda Garden Club 'in house' flower shows. The Award was designed by Judy Shallat and is sponsored by Isa Mary Ziegler and Joan Andrews.

**Visions:** Phoebe Kahl provided an overview of the logistics and layout of Carmel's Sunset Center where the Visions Flower Show will be held May 12-14, 2011. Nita announced for Pam Goode that tickets to the speakers programs can be purchased from Pam. Tickets to the preview party are available from Phoebe.

Heather noted there is a Tulip Exhibition at the Mountain View Cemetery in Oakland March 25 - 27, 2011.

**Flower Arranging Workshop:** Judy Gray noted the flower arranging workshop is tomorrow, March 25th. She will be hosting the April Board meeting and encouraged members to carpool as parking is restricted.

**Ways and Means:** Charlotte Guppy is selling handbags and aprons before and after today's meeting as a fundraiser to support the cork oak project.

**Conservation:** DD Felton reminded members that two field trips are planned: Sunnyside Organic Seedlings on March 30th and the Marin Sanitary Service on April 11th. Carpooling will leave from the Orinda Country Club parking lot.

**Bouquets:** Dena Raffel said the next Bouquets will be April 11th at 10:00 a.m.

**Cork Oaks/Heather Farms:** Joan Andrews said the weeds will be cleared under the cork oaks next month. Diana Kennedy will be coordinating the cork oaks project next year. Trimming of the Heather Farms roses will begin on April 18th and will continue through the summer. Kirsten Whitsett and Isa Mary Ziegler will be taking over the Heather Farms project next year.

**Beautification:** Joyce Nelson and her husband Bob filled eight bags of weeds from the off-ramp in the rain. Next month's Horticulture workshop will feature Carolyn Parker speaking on roses. It will be held at the home of Midge Zischke on April 19th.

**Historian:** Janet Pease noted the new storage locker in Moraga is set up and will hold Garden Club archival materials.

**NAL Report:** Judy Shallat and Joyce Nelson represented the Orinda Garden Club at the annual National Affairs and Legislation (NAL) Conference held in Washington D.C. in February. Judy and Joyce provided the members with an overview and summary of the conference highlights, particularly focusing on current legislation relating to the environment.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Ann Cinderey*  
*Recording Secretary*

**- return to FMN page -**