

**Orinda Garden Club
General Meeting
September 23, 2010**

Heather Dunne called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. at the Orinda Country Club. She welcomed all of the members to the 2010-11 season. The minutes of the May 27, 2010 meeting were approved. Lorene Quist called the roll.

REPORTS:

Treasurer: Sandy Barnett gave an overview of the 2010-11 budget. A motion was made to approve the 2010-11 budget as presented. The budget was approved.

Introduction of New Members: Jane Ryan introduced the new members for 2010-11: Barbara Blundin, Marty DeJonghe, Anita Hughes, Tina Locke, and Sheila Wendt.

Flower Arranging Workshop: Judy Gray announced the next flower arranging workshop will be held on Tuesday, November 30th at 9:30 am. at St. Stephen's Church.

Scholarship: Cathleen Sodos reported that the Orinda Garden Club awarded \$2,000 for scholarships to four students in the Merritt College Landscape Horticulture program for horticulture projects completed on the campus. This year, the scholarship program will focus on students currently enrolled in the Diablo Valley College Horticulture program.

Mini Bag Luncheon: Nita Roethe passed a sign up sheet for the October 28th mini bag luncheon.

Bouquets: The next meeting will be October 11th at 10:00 a.m. at Jan Bristow's home.

Forget Me Nots: The next deadline is Monday, September 27th for the October issue.

Visions 2011: Phoebe Kahl provided an overview of the May 12-14, 2011 event that will be held at the Sunset Center in Carmel. Members were given a brochure containing the schedule and entry details. Titled "California on the Cutting Edge", the major flower show is a five-club event that will include a guest flower arranger from France. Joan Andrews noted the registration for the photography division opens to members on October 1st at 8:00 a.m. Joyce Nelson reminded members that two classes within the horticulture division open to members on November 1st.

Ways and Means: Charlotte Guppy reported that the May auction to raise funds for the cork oak project was a great success. This year a mini fundraiser will be held, possibly as a tie-in with an environmental project.

Conservation: Pamela Stefan discussed organic foods as part of Conservation's continuing focus on small steps that can be done to improve the environment.

Program: Nancy Dickmeyer reported that two meetings will be on different dates than our usual schedule: November 18th and January 18th. The November meeting will feature Floral Designer Jon Pinon and it will also be guest day. The January meeting will be a joint club meeting in Woodside. Heather noted we will not be meeting with Piedmont Garden Club this year and we will be inviting Marin Garden Club to an OGC meeting this year as we are sponsoring them for Garden Club of America membership.

Hospitality: Lynn Garrett and Lorene noted the Orinda Country Club are providing the lunch for today's meeting.

Heather Farm: Joan Andrews noted that deadheading and general rose bed clean up will continue at Heather Farm until the first week of November.

Beautification: Joyce Nelson reported the beautification of the three areas in Orinda will take place at 9:30 a.m. on the first Tuesday of every month. Garden Club members should meet at Peet's coffee and will then spread out to the three areas: the Orinda exit off-ramp, the triangle across from Orinda Motors, and the containers lining Moraga Way. The Orinda Junior Garden Club is also maintaining the containers. CALTRANS has removed the plum tree at the Orinda off-ramp.

Horticulture: Kirsten Whitsett announced the first of two field trips will take place on Tuesday, October 19th to the Flora Grubb nursery in San Francisco. A lunch in San Francisco will follow the field trip.

Raffle: Today's raffle organized by Lisa Stefan and Jane Wiser is highlighting the samplings of cork oaks and an Americana theme.

Founder's Fund: Midge Zischke announced that the Orinda Garden Club has submitted a proposal to the Garden Club of America for the annual Founder's Fund award. The proposal is to re-establish drought tolerant landscaping at the California Shakespeare Theater. The Garden Club has historically supported the Theater with a \$6,000 donation to maintain the Redwood Grove and Theater Garden. The three finalists will be featured in the GCA magazine and the winners will be announced at the 2011 annual meeting.

Merchandise: Phoebe reminded the members that aprons are available for sale after the meeting. An upcoming merchandise sale will feature containers left over from workshops as well as containers donated by members.

Roster: Carole Wolfman and Jane Ryan completed the 2010-11 roster and they are available for pick up at the meeting. A special thank you to Jean Rowe for all of her computer processing of the roster.

Membership: Margie Murphy reminded the group to start thinking about prospective new members for the 2011-12 year. Members should consider bringing prospective members to guest day at the November general meeting.

Other Committee Reports:

Midge announced that there is a fund-raising drive for the John F. Kennedy University Garden on the Pleasant Hill campus. The Garden was closed in June due to compliance issues and the American Disabilities Act and \$50,000 is needed to make the Garden handicap accessible.

Diane Kennedy noted the annual Tea and Holiday Party will be held on December 10th at the home of Carole Wolfman.

New Business: Suzie Manners announced four garden trips have been scheduled for 2011. More information and details will be published in an upcoming Forget Me Nots.

Announcements:

The next Board meeting will be held at MJ Walburg's home on October 26th at 9:00 a.m.

The Zone meeting will be September 28th and 29th in Woodside; Carole and Heather will be attending.

Kirsten Whitsett will be representing the Orinda Garden Club at the GCA Horticulture Conference October 24 - 26th in Birmingham, Alabama.

Program: Nancy Dickmeyer introduced the special program highlighting the "The Cork Oak Picture at Lake Cascade" project. Joan Andrews provided an historical overview of Lake Cascade and a summary of the restoration project encompassing the clearing and restoration of 15 cork oaks and 1,500 linear feet adjoining the north side of Lake Cascade. Isa Mary Ziegler reviewed oak tree species and Joyce Nelson presented a list and description of the birds that visit Lake Cascade.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

*Ann Cinderey
Recording Secretary*

- return to FMN page -