

# ORINDA NEWS

PUBLISHED BY THE PUBLICITY COMMITTEE OF THE ORINDA IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

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## Orinda Fiesta To Be Held May 10th Week-End

Three days of festivities for the week-end of May 10 are planned for the Orinda Fiesta, according to the announcement of Mrs. Frank Bryant, general chairman of the Fiesta committee of the Improvement Association. Carrying out the idea of a week-end of celebrating in the old Spanish tradition inaugurated last year, the Fiesta will start this year on Friday, May 10 with three blasts of the fire siren. This is to serve as a warning that all Orindans not attired in Spanish costume will be subject to arrest and appearance before a kangaroo court, of which Warren Harrold is judge.

The kangaroo court has been established to stir up a little more interest in the event, according to Mrs. Bryant and her committee. You can avoid a fine by having proper Fiesta attire. If you do not, the court has a right to fine you. Do not take exception to your fine, pleads G. H. Heinrici, chairman of the court. It is all in fun, says he, and your money will further the good cause of the Improvement Association.

*(Continued on page 3, col. 2)*

## START NEW HIGH SCHOOL

Ground-breaking ceremonies for the construction of the new Acalanes High School in Reliez Valley were held on March 17, with Joseph E. Lawrence, chairman of the board of trustees, turning the first shovel of earth.

Presentation and retirement of massed colors from local organizations was arranged by American Legion Posts under the direction of J. W. Hammond and E. E. Kittredge. The invocation was read by Rev. R. D. Porter of Walnut Creek, and Brother Albert, president of St. Mary's College gave the benediction.

Speakers of the day included G. S. Meredith, Lafayette; R. W. Breuner, Orinda; Mrs. Mary Wales, Canyon; and J. A. Mitchell, Walnut Creek, as well as student speakers representing their districts. Fred Allen was the speaker for Orinda.

"God Bless America" was sung by Margaret Jones who was accompanied on the violin by Patricia Garbutt. Band music was contributed by Mt. Diablo Union High and by the Walnut Creek Elementary School.

Members of the board were introduced by Stanley Warburton who acted as master of ceremonies. They are M. S. Jacobus, C. C. Morse, J. F. Shaddock and J. E. Lawrence.

## April Meeting Notice

The next Regular Meeting of the Orinda Improvement Association will be held Friday, April 5, at 8 p. m. in the Orinda School Auditorium.

## THE STROLLER

Have you by chance tried strolling in the evening? Now that the air is mild at night, Orinda offers a treasure house of pleasant sensations to anyone willing to stretch his legs. There is the sky above whose twinkling constellations are at once an inspiring and an awesome sight. Without the haze prevalent around the bay, the heavens become more interesting because of a greater number of stars apparent as well as a greater brilliance. If you ever feel your ego swell unnecessarily, go look at the sky at night.

Orinda hills, with their gentle undulations are particularly suited to moonlight illumination. The gradation of tone and value gives you a picture of rare beauty. And now that the lake is full, even its muddy water looks enchanting by moonlight.

At night, too, fragrances seem more tangible. A stroll by Orinda gardens will bring you the sweetness of the last daphne, Carolina jasmine, the lowly, but lovely petunia, nicotiana, orange and lemon blossoms, and soon the fragrance of dry grass.

✱

There are some Orinda residents of long standing who feel that with the increasing growth of this community, much of the natural charm of our country side will be ruined. Let us remember that every new house probably spoils someone's view or desecrates a favorite woody spot. Let us not add insult to injury by prominently displaying our clotheslines, fuel oil tanks and other unsightly appurtenances to our domestic lives.

*(Continued on page 2, col. 1)*

## DRAMATISTS READ PLAYS

The Orinda Barnstormers met Wednesday, March 13th, and read four plays. Mrs. Beatrice Cleborne has donated her playroom as a permanent place for the Barnstormers to meet and produce their plays. Anyone interested in enrolling may do so by phoning Mrs. Hazel Cross at Orinda 4851. The next meeting will be Wed., March 27 at 7:30 p. m.

## Movies of California Birds To Be Shown At Meeting

Colored movies will be featured at the program of the next meeting of the Improvement Association, at 8 p. m. on Friday, April 6 at the school, according to the chairman of the program committee, Owen S. Dibbern. California birds in their native habitats will be shown by Dr. and Mrs. T. Eric Reynolds of Piedmont. Dr. Reynolds has made a study of birds his entire life and Mrs. Reynolds takes the movies of them in the fields or trees so that she gives you an accurate picture of unposed bird life.

H. W. Gentry, of 53 La Campaña, photographed in colored film the Christmas party given the children of Orinda by the Volunteer Fire Department last Christmas. Here you will see a tradition of Orinda that is attracting more than local interest every year; Santa coming down the road out of the hills in the Orinda fire truck, the anxious, confident expression on the faces of the children at the Christmas party on the Golf Course of the Orinda Country Club as if you had a ring-side seat. You will see why these yearly outdoor Christmas parties are such a success and why we should retain this novel and original tradition, says Owen Dibbern.

Discussion of the road situation will take place, for E. I. deLaveaga of Hacienda Homes Inc. has expressed the desire and willingness that a committee be formed to take over the supervision of road repairs and building permits and restrictions in the Hacienda Homes subdivisions of Orinda. This is a vital subject to all residents of Orinda and a large attendance at the coming meeting of the Improvement Association is expected, to decide on what action should be taken on this subject, according to Wm. Fleager.

## TO CHOOSE FIESTA QUEEN

*Girls! Girls! Girls!*

Any young lady in the Orinda School district may enter the Fiesta Queen contest, providing she attends high school. You may enter the contest by calling Mrs. Warren Harrold at Orinda 3131 or Orinda 5546.

Mrs. Harrold is very anxious to get started on the contest, so girls please call her and tell her you will participate. She would like to have as many girls as possible.

*For an officer of the law, call ORINDA 9741—deputy sheriff P. R. Donaldson.*

# ORINDA NEWS

Official Publication of the  
ORINDA IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

Editor ..... Mrs. Malcolm Lamb  
Associate Editor..... Mrs. Harold Symes  
Staff—Mrs. Miles F. York, Mrs. Stuart Campbell, Mrs. Sheldon Duncan, Mrs. John Ehman, Mrs. George Hickok, Mrs. Carl Zamloch, H. Warren Harrold  
Advertising Manager ..... Martyn F. Warner  
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## NEW MEMBERS VOTED IN

Fourteen new residents have become members of the Orinda Improvement Association in March, and were voted in at the March 1 meeting:

Mr. and Mrs. Winfield S. Thomas, J. A. DeMaria, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph C. Hall, Annette Morrill, F. O. Morrill, Mrs. Ruth Mott, Mrs. Edward Sibbett, Joe Navone, Jack Sheppard, Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Gibbons, J. Pedder.

Congratulations to our new members and we hope they will obtain a great deal of good from this association. We sincerely hope they will offer helpful suggestions at our meetings for the betterment of the community and feel that they are a part of the organization that sponsors community activities.

Each month has shown a steady increase in the number of applications for membership in the Orinda Improvement Association. This is a good indication that the monthly meetings are well worth attending.

All residents in the Orinda District are invited to attend the meetings on the first Friday evening of each month at the Orinda School at 8 p. m. You are invited to attend these meetings whether you are a member of the Association or not. Come and get acquainted with your Orinda neighbors.

D. C. JONES, *Chairman,*  
*Membership Committee.*

## ORINDA MAPS AVAILABLE

A detailed street map is now available for fifty cents. Maps may be had by contacting Mrs. Hickok, Orinda 5041, J. N. Gardner, Orinda 7741 or W. M. Fleager, Orinda 3311.

## PLAN FIRST AID COURSE

Dr. Fieler is organizing a first aid class which will meet at the Orinda School, one night a week for a period of ten weeks. The instruction is free of charge and all residents of Orinda are invited to attend. Registration in the class and further details may be had by contacting W. M. Fleager, Orinda 3311.

## THE STROLLER (Continued)

For ten years Stephen E. Babson has served Orinda as mail carrier. Word has just been received that he will no longer have this position, as he chooses to go into another line of business. His departure is regretted by a good many Orindans who remember with gratitude the many small favors and services he rendered them during the past. As a friend who will be sincerely missed, the *Orinda News* wishes him success and happiness in his new venture.

\*

Just a reminder—a state law prohibits the picking of wild flowers and shrubs.

## Notes on March Meeting

Aims of modern education and problems that arise in the local school were presented by Miss Doris Parks, principal of the Orinda School at the March meeting of the Orinda Improvement Association. Miss Parks then presented the teaching staff including: Mrs. Gertrude Williams, Mrs. Helen Grimsley, Miss Mary Siefker and Miss Bidwell, the school nurse. Miss Cornelia Lincoln, the county supervisor of rural education, gave a short address.

Mrs. Geoffrey Mayo arranged a program of dancing by students of Mrs. T. F. Seward's dancing class.

The committee on public welfare and safety suggested that a letter be directed to Sheriff John Miller calling his attention to dangerous shooting being done around Orinda and urge him to take steps to have it stopped.

William Fleager announced that two-thirds of the maps of the Orinda area had been sold and the remaining were ready for sale and distribution. The Scout Troops will help in the distribution. Seventy-five dollars was advanced from the Improvement Club for this project.

A motion by Lowell Berry that the by-laws of the Association be amended whereby the election of officers shall be held in June rather than May was voted on and carried.

Carl C. Miller, president of the Oak Springs Improvement Association announced that \$5 had been voted as a contribution toward the projected Orinda-Moraga community clean-up. William Fleager and Geo. Hickok were appointed as a committee to meet with Oak Springs Improvement Club and discuss the campaign.

## GARDEN SUGGESTIONS

April has much of interest in the garden. It is the time of seeding annuals on which most of the color of the early garden depends; and for the transplanting of bulbous plants, such as tuberose and dahlias, from flats to the ground. But it is also the month of replacing—doing over work earlier done. The latter is of importance if the gardener expects the best results, for the loss of some small plants in seasonal storm is inevitable. Making good the loss this month guarantees full flower beds for summer blooming. Nurseries can supply the small plants with which to fill in.

This month the gardener may plant such seeds as verbena, godetia, zinnia, delphinium, coreopsis, salpiglossis, lobelia, nemesia, geum, cosmos, gaillardia, phlox, gladiolus, canna, anchusa and such bulbs and roots as watsonia, freesia, dicentra, peony and begonia.

## WOMEN'S GUILD NOTICE

The Women's Guild of the Orinda Community Church will hold its monthly meeting at the home of Mrs. J. W. Dieterich, 317 La Espiral, on Tuesday, April 2 at 12:30. The co-hostesses are Mrs. L. S. Barden, Mrs. G. S. Perkins, and Mrs. Ralph Wilson.

Mrs. Ralph Fisher, the guest speaker of the day, will discuss child psychology.

## ORINDA IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

### OFFICERS

President ..... Ralph Sisson  
Vice President ..... Owen S. Dibbern  
Secretary ..... J. T. Morrison  
Treasurer ..... Harrison Ketcham

### STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Reception and Hospitality..... Mrs. James Anderson  
Program and Planning ..... Owen Dibbern  
Entertainment ..... Mrs. E. R. Taylor  
Membership ..... David Jones  
Publicity ..... Mrs. Malcolm Lamb  
Music ..... Mrs. Martyn Warner  
Taxes and Finances ..... Edward H. Sibbett  
Education ..... Mrs. Geoffrey Mayo  
Roads and Highways ..... Kenneth Allen  
Safety and Public Welfare..... William Fleager  
Community Park and Planning..... Warren Harrold

## BOY SCOUT NEWS

By JACK HULSE

Troop 1 of the Orinda Boy Scouts held a Court of Honor at the Orinda School on March 8. The program started with the lighting of 12 candles which represented the scout laws. The scouts lit their candles as they recited the law their candle represented. Although there was a little hesitation the ceremony was impressive since all were in earnest.

Mr. Jack McNeill was given a well-deserved award for his services as our former scoutmaster. Mr. Gardner, our new scoutmaster was welcomed by Mr. Symes, and awarded the bronze palm by Roger Bales.

Pat Rosenthal's patrol gave an exhibition of rope tying and Tom Snook's patrol gave a comedy skit on first aid. Francis Allen's performance as the snake had them rolling in the aisles. Tom Snook also contributed much to the little play.

Installation of officers was next and officers' awards were given the following: Sr. Patrol Leader, Fred Allen; Jr. Assistant Scout Master, Sheldon Kales, Bill Harrison; Patrol Leader, Tom Snook, Pat Rosenthal; Scribe, Jack Hulse; Quartermaster, Ben Warrick; Assistant Patrol Leader, Gordon Martin, Ralph Corder.

Keith Bennett, Bob Hulse and Herman Geriche were awarded their tenderfoot badges and welcomed into the lodge. Gordon Martin was awarded his second class badge.

Movies of Camp Wolfboro were shown by Mr. Kales and a movie starring Pat Rosenthal was shown by Sheldon Kales.

## CHURCH NOTICES

### CATHOLIC CHURCH

Sunday morning Masses the 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays at 10 o'clock and the 2nd and 4th Sundays at 8 o'clock.

The April meeting of Santa Maria Church Association will be held on Tuesday evening, April 2nd, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. George H. Pitt, Santa Lucia and Don Miguel.

### CHRISTIAN SCIENCE

The Christian Science Society of Orinda holds regular Sunday services at 11:00 a. m. and one evening meeting on the first Wednesday of the month at 8:00 p. m. Sunday School meets at 9:30 a. m. Pupils up to 20 years are admitted. Reading room open every Wednesday from two to four o'clock. Everyone welcome.

### ORINDA COMMUNITY CHURCH

Sunday Services at Casa Verano, El Toyonal and Orinda Highway—Sunday School at 9:30 a. m., Church worship at 11:00 a. m. Dr. Miles B. Fisher, pastor. Christian Endeavor for 'teen age young people at 7 p. m. New residents and visitors in the community cordially welcome to all services.

## PERSONALS

Miss Jean Dunham, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. S. Dunham, was the first girl to become a fledgling in the local non-collegian Civil Aeronautics Authority program sponsored by the Oakland Junior Chamber of Commerce. By the end of March, after the 250 students who have enrolled have completed a 72-hour ground course, a competitive examination will be given to decide which 10 students will take the 35 to 50 flying course. The "lucky ten" will have their flight training from April to September and if they complete the course successfully, will emerge as civilian air pilots.

A family reunion to celebrate the 81st birthday of Mrs. C. Madsen gathered at the home of her daughter, Mrs. B. B. Seim, of El Toyonal. Among the out-of-town guests were Mrs. M. C. Martinsen of San Luis Obispo, Mrs. J. B. Beth of Santa Barbara, Mrs. H. O. Hansen of Tacoma, Washington, and Mrs. H. Berthelsen of Astoria. All four are sisters of Mrs. Seim.

During the first part of the month of March, Mrs. Seim had the pleasure of entertaining her sister-in-law, Mrs. H. Madsen from her home in Redwing, Minnesota. This was Mrs. Madsen's first visit to the West and she was impressed with California.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Merrill have returned to their home at Orinda after an absence of several weeks.

Back from New York after a very pleasant trip, are Mr. and Mrs. Marshall Shapiro of La Vuelta, having spent the latter part of March in the East.

Mrs. George Gibson, of Camino Sobrante, has once again been to Sun Valley but this time not to ski actively, as she broke her ankle on her last visit there earlier in the season.

Gary Owen and Colonel Leslie Jones are living in the same hotel in Delhi, India. Mrs. Jones, sister of Mrs. Stuart Campbell, is living at Orinda with her children because of war conditions.

Mr. and Mrs. James Deitrich are home from a three weeks' trip to Mexico.

R. M. Cross has been confined to his home for the past ten days.

Mrs. A. W. Elkinton will leave on a trip East accompanied by her sister-in-law, Mrs. H. Elkinton on the 18th of April. They expect to drive and will be gone two months.

Skiing at Reno over the Easter holidays were Mr. and Mrs. Ritchie Smith. The Smiths spent the latter part of March in Los Angeles.

Frank D. Bryant has been confined in Peralta Hospital on account of illness. He is now able to be home, but will have to remain on a rest cure for about two months.

Mr. and Mrs. Orton Lucas recently spent two weeks at Palm Springs.

Mrs. George Hickok has just returned from attending the National Girl Scout Conference at Riverside Inn.

### P. T. A. MEETING

Orinda Parent-Teachers meeting will be held on Tuesday afternoon, April 15th at 1:30 p. m. The Orinda Girl Scouts will present a Puppet Show. The nominating committee will be chosen at this meeting.

Mrs. E. J. Bouchet left with her son, John, for a trip to the East.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph L. Blumb have sold their home and have gone to the East for a year.

To celebrate their 49th wedding anniversary Mr. and Mrs. Everdine, parents of Mrs. Carl Zamloch, arrived here on a visit from their home in Balboa. To commemorate the occasion, Mr. Everdine presented a new speed boat to Mrs. Everdine named the "Katinka E", which is her namesake.

The engagement has been announced of Marjorie Watson Harter, daughter of Capt. and Mrs. Gilbert Harter, U. S. A. (retired) of Broadmoor, San Leandro, to Mr. Herbert M. Hauser, son of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Hauser of Moraga Highway.

The romance began when both of the young people attended Oakland High School several years ago and continued during their college years. The wedding will be held on Saturday evening, May 4, at St. Paul's Episcopal Church and will be quite a large affair as the young couple have many friends. They will reside at Pittsburg where the groom-to-be is employed in the Columbia Steel Company.

## ORINDA FIESTA (Fiesta)

Saturday, May 11 will be Children's Day of the Fiesta. All the children of Orinda and Moraga are asked to dress up for the parade which will be held Saturday at 2 o'clock from the school house. Mrs. George Bennett, Orinda 5856, is chairman of the children's party.

The Fiesta dance will be held on the evening of May 11 at the Orinda Country Club. Joe Varni, as chairman and master of ceremonies, announces that there will be prizes for the best costumes. There will be special entertainment and the Queen of the Fiesta will be chosen.

Kenneth Allen will be in charge of the locker rooms at the club where games will be played.

On Sunday, May 12, the Fiesta Parade will take place. The committee is inviting all horsemen in the county to take part. Plans are being made to have a real horse show this year and the committee is seeking a place where expert riders and show men can participate with safety to their animals.

After the horse show comes the grand finale to the three days of celebrating, a Spanish barbecue. Lowell Berry, as chairman and chief cook, announces that his menu is superb, and that he has the finest cooks in the county to assist him.

The entire personnel of the committee under Mrs. Frank Bryant, general chairman, includes: games, Kenneth Allen; tickets, Mrs. Geo. H. Pitt; printing, Warren Harrold; decorations, Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Matheson; barbecue, Lowell Berry; reception, Mrs. A. Bayley Hayward; parade and horse show, Joe Varni; kangaroo court, Garland Heinrici; queen contest, Mrs. Warren Harrold; prizes, Mrs. W. S. Everts; kiddies' day, Mrs. George Bennett and Mrs. W. A. Patterson; dance & entertainment, Joe Varni; publicity, Mrs. Richard Cross.

## Trustees Report Rules

The Board of Trustees of the Orinda Grammar School has issued the following report of the rules and regulations as approved by the board concerning the use of the school as well as the delegation of duties to the individual members of the board:

1. Regular Board Meetings are scheduled for the second Friday of each month at 7:30 p. m., Orinda School.

2. The following persons should be consulted on matters noted:

Finance—Donald Badgley; Orinda 3441  
School Grounds and Physical Education  
Equipment—Stuart Campbell; Or. 3796  
Faculty, Transportation, and Civic Use  
of the School Building

Reuben Chase; Orinda 5561  
Matters to be considered before Board,  
legal, records, etc.

Owen Dibbern, Orinda 5661

3. It is requested that the public refrain from telephoning the principal of the school or the custodian on any of the above mentioned matters.

4. The Board of Trustees and the school faculty welcome visitors to the school, but request that they confine such visits, where practicable, to after school hours (2:30 p. m.).

5. CIVIC USE OF BUILDING AND ROOMS—

(a) Specific space will be assigned for those activities permitted at the school.

(b) The use of the school building during school hours (9:00 a. m. - 2:30 p. m.) is not permitted for other than those uses directly related to the educational activities of the school.

(c) No activities will be permitted within the school building on Sundays.

(d) Application must precede use by at least 48 hours.

(e) Use for educational and civic betterment purposes: no charge.

(f) Use for strictly recreational purposes: a charge of \$1.50 for the first hour and \$.50 for each additional hour up to 11:00 p. m. is required.

(g) Use for activities entailing an admission fee: a charge not less than \$5.00 a night is required.

(h) Use for activities entailing an admission fee and the use of the kitchen: a charge 10% of the gross proceeds with minimum guarantee of \$5.00 will be required.

(i) Breakage, spoilage or damage other than ordinary wear and tear will be charged for at cost.

FRANK BRYANT, *President,*  
*Board of Trustees, Orinda School District.*

## ORINDA PARK POOL TO OPEN

A. W. Elkinton, president of Orinda Park Inc., has announced that the opening of the Park for the 1940 season will be as early in May as the weather will permit. Old members are urged to re-establish their membership at once and he also stated that a limited number of new memberships are available. The chairman of the membership committee is E. W. Miller, Loma Vista Drive, Orinda 5801.

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