

Orinda News

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NUMBER 8

Scout Week Celebration at Walnut Creek

Orinda joins with a million and a quarter Scouts and Scouters (adult leaders) in responding to the theme "Scouting Carries on American Ideals." This is the 7th birthday for Scouting in Orinda. It marks the 29th birthday of the Boy Scouts of America, first incorporated in the District of Columbia and later granted a Federal Charter by Congress.

The real objective of the Boy Scout movement is Character Development. Every step in the Scout program is but a means to this end. The variety of the requirements are, after all, but a means of holding the interest of the boy who is pledged to the Scout Oath and Law under such leadership as will bring about character development.

Experience has demonstrated that outdoor Scout training, with its knowledge of woodcraft and its ability to care for one's self in the open, helps immeasurably in developing resourcefulness and self-reliance. Scouting, as a teen-age boy program is not militaristic but is patriotic and trains for CITIZENSHIP.

As part of this great National celebration to commemorate the fellowship and brotherhood of Scouts, all Scouts of Contra Costa County (Eastern Division) will hold a Merit Badge Exhibit at Walnut Creek on Feb. 10th and 11th, where parents and friends may view some of the results of the training that Scouting has given in its various fields.

Orinda will be represented by two exhibits, one in Pioneering; the other, Safety. The public is cordially invited, and Orinda Scouts will appreciate the support of their community and look forward to a large attendance.

Adult Education for Orinda

The formation of an adult class in child study and parent education is announced by Mrs. Alfred Sands, Parent Education Chairman for the Orinda Union Parent-Teacher Association of which Mrs. Josephine Dawson is President. The class will meet at half past one every Wednesday afternoon for twelve weeks to study "Family Relationships", Mrs. Sands said. The class meetings will be held at Casa Verano and there will be provision for caring for young children who may come with their mothers. The registration fee is only 75c. Anyone desiring to take part in the class should call Mrs. Sands, Orinda 6756.

February Meeting Notice

THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF THE ORINDA IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION WILL BE HELD FRIDAY, FEB. 3RD, AT 8 P.M. IN THE AUDITORIUM OF THE ORINDA SCHOOL.

THE STROLLER

It is not often, perhaps, that the average person stops to think of all the things that have happened in the last few years to our beloved California (you notice, I hope, that I take in the whole state, not just the Northern portion). Two new bridges, new, rapid transportation between San Francisco and the East Bay and as a crowning glory our Golden Gate International Exposition which opens on the eighteenth. The folks that made this wonderful exhibition possible have asked that during the premier week (14th to 19th) all true Californians don Spanish costumes to lend color to this great show. I feel assured that this great Spanish county of ours—the former stamping ground of the Moraga's and Peralta's will do its part in this regard.

Going back again to the subject of very recent history, there was an event that took place during the month of January that perhaps just left us old timers a little sad. It was the passing of our beloved passenger ferries. You folks who, like myself, made the trip quite often across the bay perhaps brought some stale bread for the sea gulls or perhaps every morning you got your cup of coffee in the dining room and met some of your cronies or maybe you sat in on a game of Pedro or bridge while crossing, and in the process cursed the fog and conditions in general. Now what happens? You get

(Continued on page 2, col. 1)

Police Telephone Changed

If you should wish to call our Deputy Sherriff at the number shown in the old copies of the *Orinda News*, do not be discouraged if the operator tells you that the line "has been discontinued." This is because of technical rules of the telephone company.

Call Orinda 3421 to reach Mr. Donaldson now.

A request has been filed with the Telephone Co. to give callers the new number.

Highlights of Jan. Meeting

Dr. N. Austin Cary gave a beautifully illustrated talk on the growing of orchids. His display was much admired. It seems that these flowers can be grown successfully in Orinda—if one knows how.

The Committee on Outdoor Christmas Decorations reported that the first prize was awarded to the Fire Department. Other prizes went to Reuben Chase, R. E. Wadsworth, Dr. N. A. Cary, T. C. Kendall. Others recognized were J. S. Smith, Chester Williams, George Ayrault, Herbert Hauser and H. W. Gentry. Members of the Committee withheld their displays from competition. There were several fine displays in Oak Springs, but as they were not registered, the Committee could not tell to whom they belonged and so could give them no recognition. It is hoped that this contest may become an annual affair and that Orinda may become known for her Christmas decorations.

The Committee on New High School reported progress. They have the support of the Mount Diablo High School District who

(Continued on page 2, col. 2)

Union High School Report

Mr. Breuner of the High School Committee tells us that on Jan. 19th there was a district meeting at Walnut Creek attended by about 19 representatives. All petitions have been signed and filed with the State authorities. This will automatically call for an election to pass on the proposal to have such a District. If the results of the election are favorable, the State authorities will appoint a Board of Trustees to serve until the next election which will come up about the middle of 1939.

Girl Scout News

The Girl Scout Troop Committee met at the home of Mrs. George Hickok, on El Toyonal Road, on Thursday, Jan. 19th at 11:00 a.m. Luncheon was served by the hostess, Mrs. Katherine Pearson. Plans were made for extending the troop work to starting a Troop for the girls of Junior High School age.

Those attending the meeting were: Mrs. Maxine Thompson, Mrs. Blanche Bennett, Mrs. Nina Schworer, Mrs. Arline Harrold, Mrs. George Hickok, Mrs. Anne Elkinton and Mrs. Katherine Pearson.

ORINDA NEWS

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ORINDA IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

Advertising Martyn F. Warner
Editorial Staff—Maurine Donaldson, Mildred Hickok,
Bernice Warren, Mrs. Marie Bennett, Mrs. R. M. Cross
South of Tunnel Rd. Correspondent—Mrs. Harry Holt
Publishers..... R. M. Cross, J. J. McMillan
Communications for the News may be left in the
box at the Orinda Store, or given to any of the above
mentioned persons.

Progress on the School

The question has been raised as to why the Trustees are going to the expense of that tremendous stone wall along the new playground, Inquiry brings out the point that this retaining wall raises the level of the playground high enough to save the removal of thousands of yards of earth. The cost of moving the earth to a dump would be many times the cost of the wall. In fact the trustees claim that this and other engineering changes have kept the cost of the new building down so that the saving will go a long way toward rebuilding the old part of the structure. They say that when the work is finished according to the new plans we will have a school plant of which we may be justly proud, which will completely satisfy the present building code, and which will last as long as any of the present taxpayers will care to use it. The saving in upkeep as contrasted with the expenses of the last few years will go a long way toward amortizing the necessary bond issue. Moreover, they figure that the school tax will come down some 14c per \$100 after three or four years.

Mr. Stanley Smith gives us some data on the cost of this wall. The School District is paying for the quarrying, which is being done with equipment rented from the county; also for trucking, cement and sand. The WPA pays all labor, skilled and unskilled, for loading at the quarry and for placing the stone. This means that the actual cost to the School District is but one-seventh of the total cost, approximately.

Lyons in Orinda

Mr. Harvey Lyon, who owns property in Orinda and who plans to make his home here some day has been convinced that the *Orinda News* is read. He has received a card to which was clipped our recent article on 'Lions in Orinda?' with the note:

"These were Harvey's cubs looking over their new home site." We may have 'bobcats'; we doubt mountain lions; here we have a claim for a new species.

Warning: do not shoot until you see the whites of their eyes. They might be Lyons.

THE STROLLER (Continued)

on the train and in a few minutes you are across the bay. No coffee; former friends perhaps don't take your train and since the new service has been in operation you and I have not gotten done cussing the whole concern. Sometimes I just wish the man that controls the switches would make a mistake and switch our train back to the pier and we could once more tramp on board our dear old ferries.

Orinda Park, Inc. Annual Meeting

Residents of Orinda and members of Orinda Park, Inc., were highly gratified at the reports made at the annual meeting of the corporation when the retiring officers showed that the organization which started a year ago from scratch, had on January 1st of this year a balance sufficient to pay the rent until the season starts—and all bills paid. President Elkinton and Treasurer Gilkey, as well as other members of the Board including especially Secretary Mrs. Harrold and Vice-President Mrs. Hickok, were complimented on the showing.

The four retiring members of the Board who consented to stand for re-election to office for a two-year term and Mr. H. W. Gentry was added to their number taking the place of Joe Varni who was unable to serve again. Mr. Fred Allen and Mr. James Snook were elected to fill the one-year terms of Mr. Cross and Mr. Guerard who resigned because of pressure of other responsibilities. The interest shown by the large gathering which assembled to hear the reports and participate in the election is evidence of the fine prospect before the organization next year.

The treasurer's report shows receipts of \$4328, of which \$1307 were guest fees. The disbursements were \$3948, leaving a net balance of \$380.

Public Speaking Class

Orindans who are interested in Public Speaking are invited to a class conducted Thursday evenings at Casa Verano by Mrs. Wilhelmine Loughrey. The class will assemble at quarter after seven for a two-hour session. Those who attend will learn the principles of poise and voice control, the best way to organize material for an effective talk and the mechanics of speaking effectively in public. Those interested may telephone Mrs. Loughrey for details.

HIGHLIGHTS OF JAN. MEETING (Continued)
find in the plan relief from their own congestion. A report of further development appears elsewhere in this issue.

The Trustees of the Grammar School District report that by a little change of plans two additional rooms, one in each new section of the building, can be made available for classrooms and they are therefore considering remodeling the present classrooms in the old section and using the space for other useful purposes. This will give the desired six classrooms.

It will be cheaper to tear down the old building than to repair it as the farther they go with the investigation into its condition the worse it appears.

For this purpose another bond issue will be necessary. They point out that the average dwelling is assessed at about \$3000, which would make the added bonds cost about \$1.50 a year for the average dwelling, and only a fraction of that amount for a vacant lot.

ORINDA IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

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Secretary Mrs. E. I. deLaveaga
Treasurer George H. Pitt

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Boy Scouts F. A. Kales
Girl Scouts Mrs. George Hickok
Reception G. F. Hickok
Music Mrs. C. J. Cleborne
Membership Warren Harrold
Publicity Martyn F. Warner

Guild to Give Benefit Party

The Women's Guild of the Community Church are giving a 'Games Party' to raise money to buy furniture for the Church. The affair will be held at the home of Mrs. C. C. Fratzke, 17 Camino Leñada, on Feb. 10th. Residents are invited to subscribe for tables and to make up their own groups if desired, but those who do not care to subscribe for tables can arrange for single admissions. Mrs. S. V. Wagler is assistant hostess with Mrs. Fratzke as hostess.

Women's Guild Feb. 7

The regular monthly meeting of the Women's Guild will be held at the home of Mrs. Geoffrey Mayo on Las Cascadas on Feb. 7th at 12:30 p. m. The speaker of the day will be Miss Dewey whose talk will precede the regular order of business. A feature of the session will be the annual report of the President, Mrs. Sisson, and the nominating committee will make their report. Mrs. Hayward and Mrs. Marie Bennett will be co-hostesses.

ORINDA WELCOMES ITS NEW PROPERTY OWNERS, HOME BUILDERS AND RESIDENTS

Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Forbes El Toyonal Rd.
Mr. and Mrs. Gardiner, Lot 118, Moraga Estates
Wilbur Johnson Las Vegas
Albert H. Winters Las Vegas

CHURCH NOTICES

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. The Society is located in the Casa Verano Bldg.

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.

Santa Maria Church Association Meetings held monthly. Next meeting Feb. 7, 1939 at the home of Mr. C. Roy Warren, 962 Arlington Ave., Berkeley. For further information call Attendance Committee, Orinda 4351.

ORINDA COMMUNITY

SUNDAY SERVICES—Sunday School at 9:30 a. m. Church Services at 11 a. m. Dr. Miles Fisher, pastor. Christian Endeavor for 'teen age young people at 7:00 p. m. Welcome!

PERSONALS

Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Chase have just returned from a short stay in Los Angeles.

Friends are congratulating Mr. and Mrs. Harry Craviotto upon the arrival of a baby girl, Stephani Mills Craviotto, born Monday, January 9th, 1939.

Mr. Charles Robbins, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Robbins, of El Toyonal Rd., is to be married this summer to Miss Velma Groat, of Hanford. Orinda wishes the bride and bridegroom-to-be much happiness.

It is with much pleasure that we hear of the new partnership recently formed of Jim Brockhurst and Mr. de Ago, in the grading business. Good luck!

On Wednesday, Jan. 18th Mrs. Geo. H. Pitt, 4 Santa Lucia Rd., entertained at a delightful luncheon and afternoon. Her invited guests included Mrs. F. Bryant, Mrs. N. Austin Carey of Moraga Estates, Mrs. F. Kales, Mrs. J. Dietrich and Mrs. H. Ketcham.

Mr. and Mrs. James Sullivan were dinner guests on Thursday evening January 19th, of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Anderson of Oakland, former residents of this community.

Mrs. Frank Bryant of the Cotton Ranch Tract has had her sister Miss E. Byington as her house guest for the past two weeks.

On Monday evening, January 16th, Mrs. H. McVey, Mrs. G. Kendall, Mrs. L. Dorrington and small daughter Lillie and Mrs. J. Sullivan attended the Symphony at the Scottish Rite Auditorium in Oakland given by the Oakland Senior High Students. Reported a lovely program and very enjoyable.

A musical Recital on the afternoon of December 30th was enjoyed at the home of Mrs. J. T. Morrison on Miner Road. The children participating were: Nancy Harrold, Betty Lou Bennett, Charlene Bennett, Joan Norton, Jean Norton, Betty Pfeiffer, Billy Patterson, Dick Symes, Patrick Elvidge, Brad Gleason, Tommy Gentry, Marjorie Gleason, Joan Woolsey and Lois Ann Haworth.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Merrill left for Honolulu on the 19th of January for three months in the Islands.

P. S. Clarke of the Union Oil Company, who just built a new home at 308 La Espiral, has been transferred to the Los Angeles field and will make his home there. While we are sorry to lose Mr. Clarke, we congratulate him upon this larger opportunity.

Mrs. C. B. Chantler of Davis Road has as house guests her sister Mrs. Robt. Winters and daughters Ann and Christine. Mrs. Winters will remain until the return of her husband, who is a Lieutenant of aviation and is with the fleet in the Atlantic. Ann Winters is attending the Orinda School.

The many Orinda friends of Mr. Frank Jewett were sorry to hear of his sudden death at his home in Berkeley, on January 17th.

O. S. DIBBERN APPOINTMENT

Congratulations to Mr. O. S. Dibbern on his appointment as Chairman of Advancement of the Diablo District of the Boy Scouts of America. This district consists of Lafayette, Orinda, Walnut Creek and Danville. Mr. Dibbern is also a new member of the Orinda Boy Scout Troop Committee.

Why the Orinda Reds Are Not So Very "Red"

By CHARLES E. CHAPMAN

The only things about "Orinda" that I know that are not equally well known to everybody else are my own family and my ball club, the Orinda Reds. We are "Reds" because in a remote sense we are a farm club of the Cincinnati Baseball Club, called the Reds because the first paid ball club in history, the Cincinnati Reds of 1869, made this name famous. And that club adopted the name, not because they were anarchists, but because they had red stockings and red trimmings to their uniforms.

Baseball is almost at the opposite end of the poles from the social and political philosophies now generally styled Red. As at one and the same time a professor of Hispanic American history and a major-league scout in baseball, I think I see this more clearly than most persons could. We often hear remarks to the effect that athletic games keep the children of the slums on the playgrounds instead of in schools of vice and crime, but that is a ludicrously small fraction of the value this country derives from sport, chief in importance of which is the game of baseball. Baseball is the one game we have that reaches every rank of society, and that one which counts by far the most: the mass of the people.

In Hispanic America, there is no tradition of sport. The masses do not have this wholesome diversion to occupy their attention, and the young men who esteem themselves as of higher category go in for politics. Not to give details, while we exercise our lungs to the tune of base hits and errors, they do theirs with a "¡Viva la Revolución!" The United States has had only one serious civil war in a century and three-quarters—and that one before the establishment of organized baseball. Hispanic America has had, not one, but *thousands* of revolutions in the past hundred years. In the fifty-three years from 1850 to 1903, for example, Panama took part in exactly fifty-three revolutions. A few of the more disorderly countries, such as Honduras and the Dominican Republic, have at times beaten that average of one revolution a year. Baseball, I believe, is one of the prime differ-

ences between their countries and ours, and, on this point at least, the result is in our favor. It makes for a sound and sane social evolution. It makes politics a decidedly secondary feature of life, and not its prime consideration. Wise men, with some knowledge of history, encourage baseball where they find it. And well they may!

The "Orinda" part of the Orinda Reds comes merely from the fact that I live in Orinda. For two years this name may have escaped notice in the golf capital of Contra Costa County, but it is well known to hundreds of young men in the East Bay. In perhaps 150 ball-games, we have won well over a hundred. And have never played a game at Orinda. It occurs to me we might possibly have laid out a diamond on a combination of the 12th and 14th fairways, and by playing a game there every Saturday and two games on Sundays could have improved the moral tone of this community. Instead of having grown men making themselves unhappy by swearing at a golf ball, we could give them the much superior satisfaction of swearing at the umpire, which is far better for the soul! I fear, however, that I could never convince the Orinda Three-Putt Association of the advantages of my suggestion, and so, regretfully, I expect soon to announce that the Orinda Reds are history. If a suitable ball-ground is provided for us at Lafayette, we plan to become the Lafayette Reds, early in 1939. Maybe Orinda can have a recreation center some day.

By the way, it occurs to me that the use of the 14th hole for *any purpose* other than golf would be highly desirable. Players who, like myself, have taken six and eight strokes at that Devil's masterpiece, the 14th green, will agree with me, I am sure.

Junior Assembly Dance

The Junior Assembly gave a "Street Dance" on January 21st. The "Street" was the new patio at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Geoffrey Mayo on Las Cascadas. The affair began at 6:00 o'clock when box lunches provided by the girls were auctioned off to the boys, and then eaten on the patio. Dancing followed the refreshments. About 15 couples attended.

New Bus Schedule Effective January 15, 1939

NOTE: D—Daily. X—Daily except Sun. M—via Moss Ave.

Leave Orinda.....	7:45D	9:11X	11:15D	2:32X	4:02D	6:07X
Arr. Coll. & Bdwy.....	7:55D	9:24X	11:28D	2:45X	4:15D	6:20X
Arr. 40th & Bdwy.....	8:01D	9:26X	11:30D	2:47X	4:17D	6:23X
Arr. 14th & Bdwy.....	8:08X	9:34X	11:40D	2:56X	4:26D	6:33X
Arr. San Francisco.....	8:20D	9:55X	12:01D	3:20X	4:50D	:X
Lv. San Francisco.....			8:30D	11:30X	2:00D	4:45X
Arr. 14th & Bdwy.....		8:10X	8:51D	11:53X	2:23D	5:08X
Arr. 40th & Bdwy.....	7:23X	8:17X	8:53D	12:00X	2:30D	5:15X
Arr. Coll. & Bdwy.....	7:25X	8:19X	9:00D	12:02X	2:33D	5:18X
Arr. ORINDA.....	7:40X	8:34X	9:15D	12:17X	2:48D	5:33X

Leave Orinda—
 8:34X to Walnut Creek
 9:15D to Pittsburg, Express
 12:17X to Concord
 2:48D to Concord
 5:33X to Walnut Creek
 5:55D to Pittsburg, Local

Arrive in Orinda—
 7:45D From Pittsburg, Local
 9:11X From Walnut Creek
 11:15D From Pittsburg, Local
 2:32X From Concord
 4:02D From Concord
 6:07X From Walnut Creek

The 7:45 a. m. Bus runs via Moss Avenue on Sundays.

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