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# Orinda Historical Society Newsletter

May 2005

P. O. BOX 82, ORINDA, CA 94563

(925) 254-1353

## Orinda Authors Brighten Up OHS Meeting

Orinda has real talent in its midst. At the March 17th general meeting, Orinda Historical Society members were treated to a special evening where they got to meet and hear five authors from Orinda talk about their books and their writing inspirations. The authors spoke about life in Orinda and the influence it has had on their writing.

The speakers were: **Trudi Garland**, a math teacher and author of two books including *Fascinating Fibonacci: Mystery and Magic in Numbers*; **Carolyn Ashe Stokes**, community activist and author of *Multy: The Search To Belong...A Story of Hope*; **Stephanie Mann**, who has written books about neighborhood safety including *Alternative to Fear: Guidelines for Safer Neighborhoods*; **Jessica Barksdale Inclan**, author of numerous novels with her most recent (April 2005) being *Walking With Her Daughter*; and **Wayne Miller**, a renowned photo journalist who showed slides of his photos from his books: *The World is Young* and *Chicago's Southside 1946-1948*.



"The Historical Meeting - authors from Orinda" by Orinda artist Dorothy Davis. From left to right: Carolyn Stokes, Stephanie Mann, Wayne Miller, and Trudi Garland.

All of these authors have been Orinda residents for more than 30 years. Jessica Barksdale Inclan grew up here; Wayne Miller photographed kids in Orinda in the 1950s for one of his books; Carolyn Stokes helped promote an understanding of diversity in this community; Trudi Garland found Orinda a very supportive environment for writers, and Stephanie Mann started her interest in safety and crime prevention here in Orinda. While the authors spoke on diverse subjects, they all shared a passion for their areas of interest which made for a fascinating evening.

This event was the culmination of the Historical Society's celebration of Orinda authors that included a window display at the historical museum that showcased more than 80 books by over 40 Orinda authors.

Thank you to **Barbara Burkhalter** for organizing this outstanding program and coordinating the wonderful Orinda authors window display, and to **Jerry Vurek** for his well-done video of this historic event. The video is available for viewing at the OHS Museum.

### Museum Location

Lower Level of  
Orinda Library

### Museum Hours of Operation

Monday, Wednesday, &  
Friday 3-5 p.m.

Also by Appointment  
24 Hour Answering  
Machine

925-254-1353

[www.orindahistory.org](http://www.orindahistory.org)

### Upcoming Events

- **Board Meeting**  
Wednesday, May  
18th, 3 to 5 pm at  
OHS Museum
- **Annual Meeting**  
Thursday, May 26th,  
6:30 social, 7 to 9 pm  
meeting at the Orinda  
Community Church
- **4th of July**  
The OHS museum  
will be open for  
Orinda's celebration.



**Welcome New Members**

- Eric & Kathy Bane**
- Meg & Mitchell Fields**
- Susan Hass**
- Daniel O. Holmes**
- Pete and Bette Muller**
- Victoria & Wick Smith**
- Barbara Vaterlaus**
- Ginger & Bill Wadsworth**

**Got suggestions, or feedback for this newsletter? email [newsletter@orindahistory.org](mailto:newsletter@orindahistory.org) or contact Teresa Long at 258-9771**

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**OHS Wish list**

The Historical Society could use the following for the museum:

- A display cabinet
- Shelves for storing things in the back room
- A new file cabinet
- A DVD player

If you can donate any of the above items, please call the OHS Museum at 254-1353

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### **A Mural in Orinda’s Future?**

Wells Fargo Bank has asked the Orinda Historical Society to collaborate with them to produce a mural for the bank’s Orinda branch. Erik Andersen will be helping with this project.

### **The OHS Display Window—a Peak into the Past**

Barbara Burkhalter has volunteered to coordinate the OHS displays. Upcoming displays include the history of Rotary in Orinda, which coincides with the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Rotary International, the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Orinda becoming a city, and a display related to the Orinda Film Festival. If you have anything to donate or loan for these displays please contact the OHS museum at 254–1353 or Barbara at 254-6868

### **Any Miner Family Dresses in Your Closet?**

Before there was adequate storage at the Orinda Historical Society, some items were generously stored at people’s homes. One particular treasure we are currently missing are the dresses that were once owned and worn by the Miner family girls. Historical Society member Del Loper knew where these dresses were being stored, but unfortunately she has passed away. If you have them or know where they might be, or if you have other OHS artifacts that you have been storing at your home, please call Susan Ross at 254-3720.

### **OHS Archives - a Valuable Community Resource**

Look for a brief history of Orinda and images from the OHS archives in the upcoming Orinda Chamber of Commerce directory.

### **Yes, OHS Has a Web Site!**

Our web site is up and available for viewing. The address is [www.orindahistory.org](http://www.orindahistory.org)

### Proposed OHS Board Members 2005/2006

**President:** Lucy Hupp Williams  
(650) 349-3382

**Vice President:** Erik Andersen  
(925) 254-8444

**Secretary:** \*\*\*\* Open \*\*\*\*

**Treasurer:** Pat Jackson Draa  
(925) 376-6657

**Archivist:** Susan Ross  
(925) 254-3720

**At-Large:** Charles Blue  
(925) 254-2324

**Assistant Archivist:** Kent Long  
(925) 258-9771

**Finance/City Liaison:** Carl Weber  
(925) 254-8473

**Membership:** \*\*\*\* Open \*\*\*\*

**Newsletter:** John Holmgren  
(925) 254-5677  
Teresa Long  
(925) 258-9771

**School Liaison:** Kay Norman  
(925) 254-9536

**Videographer:**  
Jerry & Ruth Vurek  
(925) 253-7995

**Displays:**  
Barbara Burkhalter  
(925) 254-6868

## Don't Miss the May 26<sup>th</sup> Social/Meeting!

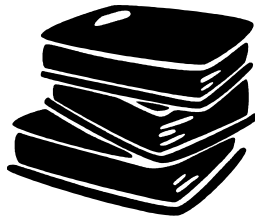
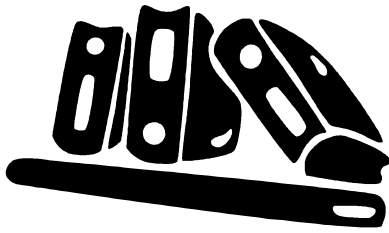
The Orinda Historical Society annual meeting will be held on May 26th at the Orinda Community Church. The social will begin at 6:30 pm with the meeting to be held from 7 to 9 pm. It will feature a speaker from the Orinda Rotary Club, the election of the OHS board, and other important events.

## Past OHS Presidents

The Orinda Historical Society was formed in 1969 to fulfill the need of the Orinda community to preserve the past and to look forward to the future. The following description was found in the OHS archives: "Twenty-one people attended the first meeting at the Pine Grove School Library. At a second meeting on November 18, 1969, James Burchell was named Chairman. Officers were elected with Harry Clemons the first President of the Society." Since then a number of people have stepped forward and taken on the role of OHS President. We are compiling a list of past OHS presidents and we'd like your help to fill in the blanks. Below is the list so far; if you have corrections and or additions, please call the OHS Museum at 254-1353.

<u>Year</u>	<u>OHS President</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>OHS President</u>
1969-70	Harry Clemons	1994-99	Kathy Sylvester
1970-71	Carol Leland	1999-00	Gloria Brown Brobeck
1971-75	? David Loofbourrow	2000-01	Chuck Blue
1975-77	Muir Sorrick	2001-04	Sarge Littlehale
1977-78	John Loper		
1978-79	?		
1979-80	Margaret Van Siclén		
1980-82	Ralph Hickox		
1983-84	Frank McMillan		
1983-84	Al de Grassi		
1984-86	?		
1986-87	Carol Leland		
1987-88	?		
1988-90	Bob Paterson		
1990-92	Stefan Jovanovich		
1992-94	Kay Norman		

Thank you to the following Orinda  
Authors who loaned or donated books for  
the OHS Display Window



**Doug Adams**  
**Poul Anderson**  
**David Bach**  
**Micha Bar-Am**  
**Katherine Brady**  
**Marion Brown**  
**Robert Etheredge**  
**Samuel Etheredge**  
**Trudi Garland**  
**Don Glen-Reiland**  
**Bill Gurule**  
**Albert Heiner**  
**Dan Henke**  
**Lucie Hupp**  
**Jessica Barksdale Inklan**

**Jane Juska**  
**Peter Karplus**  
**Betty Karplus**  
**Robert Karplus**  
**Paul Kratter**  
**Douglas Kyle**  
**Ken Light**  
**Susan Hart Lindquist**  
**Margaret Wood Little**  
**Stephanie Mann**  
**Gloria Marchick**  
**Jackie McKinley**  
**Wayne Miller**  
**Maria Monahan**  
**Joe Monroe**

**Tapan Munroe**  
**Mollie Poupenny**  
**Kirk Russell**  
**Mark Sanford**  
**Karl Schonborn**  
**Carolyn Stokes**  
**Frederic Tubach**  
**Pamela Turner**  
**Kathy Waddill**  
**Ginger Wadsworth**  
**Ray Welles**  
**Robert Weyeneth**  
**Harold Witt**  
**Norbert Wu**  
**Peter Yanev**

*Thank you to Allen's Office Supplies in Orinda for generously  
providing the printing of this newsletter.*