

OrangeVale's Community Calendar

Every April Saturday (5, 12, 19, 26)

Save Mart / March of Dimes Hot Dog Feed. In the Save Mart Parking Lot (the old Albertson's) on Greenback just east of Hazel. \$2.00 donation will receive a hot dog, chips, and a soda.

Saturday and Sunday, April 5 and 6

8:30 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. -- L&L Society Benefit Garage Sale: Proceeds benefit an Orangevale Leukemia and Lymphoma Society Triathlon Team in Training. 7340 Almond (corner of Oak and Almond) in Orangevale. Contributions of sale items are encouraged and will be appreciated. For more information, call 967-2932 or (530) 409-7492.

Sunday, April 6, 2008

11:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. Car Wash to benefit The March of Dimes. In the Parking lot west of ACE Cash Express, 7615 Greenback Lane (next to the fire station) in Citrus Heights. Cash donations only. For details call 723-4995.

April 12 through April 17, 2008

42nd Annual Sacramento SPCA Spring Book Sale. Sunrise Marketplace at Birdcage in Citrus Heights. Thousands of used and new books--and the early bird gets to pick the most worms.

Saturday, April 12, 2008

7:00 A.M.-Noon. Orangevale Community Food Closet Pancake Breakfast and Yard Sale fundraiser. East Valley Four Square Church, 7801 Hazel Ave. \$3.00 per plate.

Saturday, April 26, 2008

10:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. Gold Country Lacemakers Celebration. Divine Savior Catholic Church Hall, 7079 Greenback Lane (2 blocks east of Hazel Avenue) in Orangevale. FREE ADMISSION. More information call Fran at (916) 989-1411 or Ann at (530) 367-4830.

Saturday, April 26 to July 14, 2008

Folsom History Museum, 823 Sutter Street in Old Folsom. Play Ball! Exhibit of baseball history centered around the San Francisco Giants. Baseball is Americas' favorite pastime. Spring training is underway and the Folsom History Museum is pleased to offer a new baseball exhibit. Exhibits open Tuesday-Sunday from 11-4 pm. Admission is \$3 for adults, \$2 for teens and children under 12 are free.

Being Straight-Laced Doesn't Mean You Can't Have a Lot of Fun

"IN THE BEGINNING ...We were seven ladies who were interested in making Bobbin Lace and learning more about lace in general," says Gold Country Lacemakers' historian Fran Kennedy. "In a chance meeting at Auburn Needleworks, Chris [Bauer] was teaching Richlieu, a needle lace, and Maria [Verertruggen] was teaching knitting. Maria soon joined the rest of the lace makers."

Members of the Swedish lodge, "Monitor Lodge-Vasa Order of America," who were also interested in Bobbin Lace met and were taught the basics of this age-old practical art form by Wendy Strand who had learned the art while visiting Sweden. In time, these two lace making groups became one. Chris' husband, Wolfe, turned wooden bobbins and with Chris helping, made round "cookie" pillows. Wolfe also made wooden stands on which to set the pillows to make working the laces easier.

Maria visited her family in Belgium and returned with all the tools necessary for making lace. She was taught the art of lace making by nuns at a convent. It appeared that Maria knew everything, She had an assortment of threads and whatever we needed, she had in her case.

"A local club was formed, with the guidance of International Old Lacers, Inc. (IOLI), and we soon became Gold Country Lacemakers. IOLI members in the Sacramento area were invited to a meeting in September of 1996," Kennedy recollects. "Our first official meeting was on the first of October. We were quite pleased with our efforts."

At first, the club was very small. They had to haul their pillows and stands up a long flight of stairs at Breuners' on Date Avenue near Madison and I-80. But despite this minor problem, they had spent many enjoyable hours at their Tuesday meetings.

"We may have been small," Fran says,

"But we sure made up for that with our enthusiasm. The sheer amount of laughter our little group could produce was unbelievable."

She also notes that she is now ten years older and is glad to not have to climb that long flight of stairs at their Breuners' "clubhouse." She smiles as she recollects memories which include "... many new friends and ones lost." She has brought back life the art of lace making she remembers her grandmother enjoying when Fran was still a young girl.

They have many shared "wonderful memories" of trips to Laci's in Berkley, the Lace Museum in Sunnyvale and all the other places to which they have traveled over the years for lace-making demonstrations.

"Our first class was in Russian Tape Lace, taught by Louise Colgan. She floated around the room working with each of us with such ease. Her soft voice gave us a feeling of confidence."

Once they became a Charter Chapter of IOLI the members designed a lovely representation of a California Golden Poppy for their club emblem and pin.

Information for this article was gathered from memories of Chris Bauer, Marcia Verertruggen, Marlys Donohue, Kim Donohue Mazzoni, Kristy Donohue, Ethel Jounson, Judy Cavasos, and Wendy Strand. Historian Fran Kennedy, who was the primary source of information for this article, lives in Orangevale, California.

The Gold Country Lacemakers is a Sacramento-based club dedicated to preserving and teaching the art of lace making and furthering appreciation of this unique art form. They are a Guild and Charter Chapter Member of International Old Lacers, Inc., which is an international organization dedicated to the same goals.



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