

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

The title, "Being Straight -laced Doesn't mean you Can't have a Lot of Fun" is perfect. We [Gold Country Lacemakers] take serious interest in our work and have loads of fun at the same time.

The article is well written and covers the highlights of Gold Country Lacers beginnings. You have, however, given far too much credit to the involvement of the historian. The second to the last paragraph states it correctly. "The information was gather from memories of..." Chris, Maria, Maryls, Kim, Kristi, Ethel, Judy, and Wendy. As club historian, the original piece was based on quotes from these Lacers.

Fran Kennedy
Club Historian
Gold Country
Lacemakers

Fran:

Thank you for your further insight. As I read your letter, I can't help but remember a saying I once heard. "The people who make history are seldom those who write it. That part is usually by those who often do not realize the critical role they play in the knowledge of our past." And with that said, I am please to present the article once again, with appropriate corrections.. At this writing, I cannot say on what page it will appear - along with the illustration of the subject of our pleasure - fine lace.

Don Werve
General Editor
Orangevale Country
Journal

Dear Editor,

Re: The property on which Disc Golf is played in Orangevale

I am an avid disc golfer. My passion for the sport goes beyond just playing the game. The sport has strict rules of etiquette and courtesy. (www.pdga.com/rules)

On many occasions over the past years, I have taken the time and effort to pick up trash, installed wood planks on the main trails (hole #12), and cleaned the creek of limbs and branches.

Most recently I replaced a damaged and unsafe park bench with a new one I built. For this I was verbally reprimanded by the owner of the concessionaire for not getting prior approval from him.

Having paid a sponsorship fee of

\$100 per sign (holes #10 and #14) for the past 3 years, I have taken over the maintenance and improvements of these holes. (My name as a sponsor has since been removed from these signs). On a lighter note my only Aces have been on #10 hole. (disc golf karma?)

The above has raised some questions for me and possibly others as well, and are as follows:

What authority does the Concessionaire have over the general public regarding this course or the park itself?

Who do I need to get permission from to provide maintenance and repair?

Who has the final say over the park, and where does the responsibility for

maintenance and repair lie?

Sacramento and the Orangevale area in particular, would be well served by having the best disc golf property in Northern California.

Having a modern and safe facility will improve its image and expand recreational opportunities within its sphere of influence, Orangevale.

Such a facility could bring prestige and additional revenue to the local economy.

Would that be such a bad thing in the community?

A well kept and safe facility would compliment its larger brother facility, the Orangevale Community Center on Hazel Avenue, where the Park Board recently spent approximately \$1,000,000 on a new

activities building.

Terry Benedict
41 year Orangevale
resident
Multi-AM Grandmaster
Champion

Please send Letters to the Editor to editor@orangevalejournal.com

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

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. "IN THE BEGINNING...We were seven ladies who were interested in making Bobbin Lace and learning about lace in general," says Gold Country Lacemakers' historian Fran Kennedy in quoting Chris Bauer. "In a chance meeting at Auburn Needleworks, Chris was teaching Richilieu, a needle lace, and Maria

(Verertbruggen) 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 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 recalls. "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 Brueners' 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," Kim Donahue says, "But we sure made up for that with our enthusiasm. The sheer amount of laughter our little group could produce was unbelievable."

Judy Cavasos also notes that she is now ten years older and is glad to not have to climb that long flight of stairs at their Brueners' "clubhouse." She smiles as she recalls memories which include "... many new friends and ones lost." She has brought back to life the art of lace

making her grandmother enjoyed.

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

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