

OPAWL



Emilia Sugiyama

Message from the President

I am so excited about our upcoming year! Our Installation Dinner held on May 25th, was a fun event at Opus Restaurant. The food was fantastic and the wine tasting was an extra bonus. We had a great turnout. Next event, our spouses have to join us.

June came and went and that is the month that we usually have a big fundraiser, however, this year, we didn't have one. The board has come up with some great ideas and one of those ideas putting on a family Pancake Breakfast. I love it and look forward to planning it! But first, does anyone have a huge grill??

July is upon us and we just celebrated America's Independence. This year's theme was "Keep'n it Country" and boy did we do just that. Our float in the OPA Parade was fun, festive and decorated with 4 lovely dames tossing out candy. Please see page 3 for pictures.

Our planning meeting will soon take underway so if you have any ideas that you would like to present to the board, please prepare to share them once the date is announced. Also, check out the sections page....a **NEW** group is being formed and it promise to be FUN.

JULY 2017 NEWS LETTER



The Garden Group
Visit Duchess Home &
Garden Shop 2



OPAWL in the
4th of July Parade 3



The Gad-About Visit
Heritage Museum 4



Membership Renewal 5



2017-2019
Board Members 6



Sections Group
Birthdays & Sunshine 7



Orange Park Acres Women's League

Encouraging Friendship, Philanthropy and Community for a thriving Orange Park Acres



THE GARDEN GROUP

Tour of The Duchess Home & Garden Shop

The OPAWL, Home and Garden Group's most recent venture was a great visit to "The Duchess's Home and Garden" one of the City of Orange's newest ventures. This amazing place on 910 E. Chapman Ave. has been transformed with an outstanding, new look and full of countless things to delight over. It was enjoyable just walking thru and has many unusual things to purchase for the home and patio. Thanks to Rose Ellen Cunningham, our visit which was planned by her in advance, was enhanced by the new owner Shelley Kim, who gave us a personal tour. She is "over the top creative." Everyone enjoyed their time there. If you missed coming with us, you can visit and please tell Shelly that you heard about her from the OPAWL Garden Group

This photo was taken of our group by a photographer for the Villa Park, *The Hidden Jewel Magazine* who just happened to be there. We thank Brian Kalchman for being so generous to take our photo for this month's newsletter.

The month of July, is a busy one for the Home and Garden



Group. On July 20th we will be hosting a group from a local church who have generously offered to help us work at the "Pony Park". We plan to provide the helpers with cold drinks and some sandwiches and treats throughout the day. We would love all of the garden group to come by and help cheer them on. Lisa Shuss, 714-235-7906 is in charge of these refreshments. All members are welcome and appreciated to help in this endeavor. The next Home & Garden Group event will be August 24, 2017. Details will be announced in the next Newsletter or you can contact Rose Ellen at 562-618-5379.

Contributed by: Lois Widly



OPAWL in the OPA PARADE

This year's OPA parade theme was "Keepin' it Country" and boy did OPAWL put the Country in Country!! It all started with Chris Cormack being able to secure us a traile & her neighbor's awesome vintage truck, her Pintrest obsession and Connie Bowin's amazing decorations. This gave Linda Mazarra, Emilia Sugiyama and Chris Cormack a platform to start crafting our float. So on a Saturday morning, these three ladies went to work and transformed the trailer into a patriotic, fun and countried-out float. Heeeeee-Hawwwwww!

So thank you to these creative ladies and a HUGE thank you to Lorrie DiGangi, Judy Denton, Connie Bowin and Chris Cormack who rode on the float and tossed out candy and a thank you to those ladies that purchased and donated the candy. <<BTW, we need more for next year, we ran out 😊>> Lastly, a gigantic thanks to Chris's beau, Jim, for being the driver!! I have to say...our float rocked!!

pictures & contribution by: Emilia Sugiyama



THE GAD-ABOUTS GROUP

A visit to The Heritage House on May 18th

We met up at Cyrano's for brunch and had a lovely meal outside. Beautiful day. We left to carpool to the Heritage House, listed as the most interesting and cultural center in Orange County. The centerpiece museum covers 12 acres, two big homes, a historical plaza and several buildings from the 1890's. Some of the photos included show the three story Kellogg mansion we toured. Our docent took us on a nice tour of this home, one of the finest neo-classical homes in the OC. It was truly enjoyable to see all the antique furniture and clothes of that time period. The stairs wound around up to the third floor. Mr. Kellogg loved ships and so the center of the house is built like a boat. Everything was very old but in good condition. We took a hike of some of the acreage where Indians lived and work the land and visited the shop where horseshoes were made onsite. The old tools were quite a sight. We also visited an old store on the property. So cute but actually closed. All in all it was a fun and interesting experience. Thanks to all the ladies that came. ~ Judy Denton



Membership Renewal

*Annual membership dues of \$45 are payable
starting June 1st.*

*Please mail in your check or renew online by clicking here
=> <http://www.opawomen.org>*

who is OPAWL & what do we do...



Who we are...

In 1974, several women in Orange Park Acres created the OPA Garden Club reflecting their interest in gardening. As Orange Park Acres grew, many of the newer women employed gardeners and interest in the OPA Garden Club waned. In 1983, the women of Orange Park Acres renewed interest in the organization, giving it a broader purpose beyond gardening. Since that time the organization has actively supported the Orange Park Acres community. In 1984, the organization formalized itself, applying for tax exemption and incorporating. Since then the bylaws have been rewritten and a clear mission has been developed; **Friendship, Philanthropy and Community.**

Over the years, many OPAWL women have generously contributed their time and effort to organizational functions and varied fund-raising projects. Such support and participation has made it possible for OPAWL to enrich individual lives, support special groups, and contribute to the community in the last several decades, OPAWL has contributed more than \$200,000 to the community for trail support and beautification throughout Orange Park Acres.

In 2012, OPAWL initiated a Santiago Canyon College Scholarship, awarded yearly to an outstanding female student. Also in 2012, the beautification of the entrance to OPA were brought to fruition with impressive monuments marking the entrance to OPA, now named the Pony Park. The Orange Park Acres Women's League recently celebrated over 32 years and still going strong. The mission of the organization—Friendship, Philanthropy, and Community—remains its significant focus.

www.opawomen.org | opawomen.org@yahoo.com

Friendship

At the heart of Orange Park Acres Women's League is the central theme of Friendship. There are many opportunities for our members to build lasting friendships. Everyone is welcome!

OPAWL's sections provide small group settings for members with common interests. Sections are formed for the following activities, however we are always open to adding new sections if there are enough interested members:

- Beginning Bridge to Advanced Bridge
- Monthly Bunco Nights
- Fiber Arts
- Travel
- Cooking and Baking
- Home and Garden
- Horseback Riding
- Kids and Family
- Reading/Book Club
- Walking

We also have many member socials and events throughout the year to bring members and their families together that contribute to the richness of the organization and life in OPA.

Philanthropy

Philanthropy is a core value of the Orange Park Acres Women's League. Over the years, many OPAWL members have generously contributed their time and energy to organizational functions and varied fundraising projects such as garage sales, themed parties, silent auctions, barn, home and garden tours, etc.

These activities have made it possible for OPAWL to help the local community, support special groups and enrich the lives of others. In recent years, the organization has been engaged in numerous philanthropic endeavors providing support to organizations such as:

- 4H
- The Orange County Zoo
- The Friendly Center
- Second Harvest Food Bank
- Mary's Kitchen
- Beverly's House
- The US Military
- "Secret Santa" Program
- The El Modena High School Nature Center
- Santiago Canyon College Scholarship

It's hard work but it's all worth it!

Community

The Orange Park Acres community is the foundation for our organization. Our members actively strive to make Orange Park Acres a wonderful environment to live in. Here are just a few ways in which OPAWL members have contributed to the community:

- During the Christmas Season, the OPAWL displays wreaths along Orange Park Blvd, enhancing the community spirit in our area.
- OPAWL members have aided in the development and maintenance of the trails through the years, & the Pony Park, a commitment that continues this year.
- OPAWL takes care of friends and members by organizing meals & providing visitation & company to an ailing person.

Thank you for your membership and participation.

OPAWL NEW BOARD MEMBERS

ELECTED OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: EMILIA SUGIYAMA
1ST VICE PRESIDENT: JAN DIAZ
VP MEMBERSHIP: CHRIS CORMACK & DEBRA WELCH
VP WAYS & MEANS: CONNIE BOWIN
TREASURER: DONNA AIDEKMAN
RECORDING SECRETARY: KATHY MANULKIN

APPOINTED OFFICERS/COMMITTEE CHAIRS

SECTIONS LEADER: LORRIE DIGANGI
GAD-ABOUTS: JUDY DENTON
LITERATURE: KATHY MANULKIN
BUNCO: LINDA MAZZARA
INSURANCE: EMILIA SUGIYAMA
HOME & GARDEN: ROSE ELLEN CUNNINGHAM
FIBER ARTS: PAMELA SAPETTO
GOURMET LUNCH BUNCH: MEMBERS OF GROUP
COMMUNICATIONS: EMILIA SUGIYAMA
BRIDGE: ANNETTE MASON
SUNSHINE: JUDY DENTON
PUBLICITY: OPEN

Please reach out to them with questions and concerns. Contact info in the directory.

SECTIONS & OTHER INFO

LITERATURE GROUP

The Literature Group reads through the summer, our next book is **The Handmaiden's Tale** by Margaret Atwood. We meet on the 4th Tuesday of the month, which is July 24th. We meet from 7 to 8 pm at 11141 Meads Ave.

HOT TROTTERS GROUP

Contact Connie Bowin at 714-602-6210

GAD-ABOUTS GROUP

TRIP: Laguna Beach Sawdust Festival July 13th (meet up & leave Ranch Market at 10:30)

Check Evite for details or contact Judy Denton (714) 639 7515

GOURMET LUNCHEON GROUP

A **NEW** group that is forming will allow ladies to come together for a wonderful monthly luncheon outing or a cooking experience. Members of the group will take turns electing the establishment or cooking at home. Stay tuned!!

BUNCO GROUP

BUNCO currently has 27 ladies that have signed up to play several times each year. It's an easy game and a great group of women who echo our mission of friendship in the community. Everyone is invited to join us on the third Friday of the month. We meet at different homes at 7PM. We enjoy appetizers and after play we have dessert. The cost is \$10.00 but it is possible to win some of that money back. Call Linda Mazzara at 714-633-9079 if you would like to come for a fun evening.

HOME & GARDEN

Contact Rose Ellen Cunningham (714)532-1326

FIBER ARTS GROUP

Contact Pam Sapetto at (714)815-7771

BEGINNING BRIDGE

Contact Annette Mason (714)538-4683

JUNE Birthdays

- 4 - Sheree Haavik
- 5 - Lorrie DiGangi
- 6 - Cindy Davidson
- 9 - Marian Levitt
- 21 - Suzette Slater
- 23 - Peri Tooker
- 26 - Debbie Camacho
- 28 - Lois Powers
- 29 - Charlotte Christensen



JULY Birthdays

- 7 - Connie Bowin
- 11 - Cindy Quinn
- 21 - Dorothy Neblett

SUNSHINE Needed...

Please continue to send your prayers and support for BJ Reich who is battling a brain tumor. She is being cared for in her home so please stop by and visit with her. If you are able to provide a meal it would be appreciated...

