



North Oakland Village

Monthly Newsletter



In This Issue...

May Newsletter

Happening in May

President's Letter

NOV Office Closure for Memorial Day

Newsletter Editor Profile: Jaki Jepson

Special Presentation - Making Things Happen-Turning a Town Around

Art Group

Men's Monthly Gathering

Social Justice Forum

Recap of World War I presentation

Singing is Breaking out all over

Time to Talk about NOV

UPCOMING EVENTS

>> Monday Menders

>> Singing with Sara

>> Handability Group

>> French Conversation

Happening in May

Monday Menders May 1, 8, 15 & 22

Singing with Sara May 4

French May 5, 12

Conversation Group

Handability Group May 8

Art Group May 10

Special Presentation May 11

Member Salon May 15

Men's Group May 17

Time to Talk May 19

Bridge Group May 19

Non-Fiction Book Group May 26

May Potluck May 28

OFFICE CLOSED May 29

President's Letter

Dear Members and Friends of NOV,

When my children were growing up, I remember thinking that May was always the busiest month of the school year. Indeed it was, but now I realize it's the busiest

>> Member Salon

>> Time to talk about NOV

>> Monthly Bridge Game

>> Non-Fiction Book Group

COMING ATTRACTIONS

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Cooking Demonstration

Monthly Potluck

5:00–7:00 PM

Sunday

May 28



April 30 potluck

NOV Headquarters
First Congregational
Church
27th at Harrison

Members:
Need a ride? Call

510/547-8500

month every year, whether we're in school or not. North Oakland Village is a good example of that!

April was a good warmup, with several splendid programs, a fantastic art project, friendships blooming at the Monday Menders get-together, the Men's Group inaugural meeting and a presentation on WW I. April 11, a group of us attended a City Council meeting of the Committee on Life Enrichment along with a member of the Mayor's Commission on Aging (our own Michael Coleman), where 3 members of our Board addressed the Committee, introducing North Oakland Village as a resource for joint conversations about making Oakland an "Aging-Friendly City," pointing out the benefits of Senior Playgrounds, and pointing out that several of our members volunteer to tutor in Oakland public schools – doing our part to give back to the City.

We glided into May on the beautiful final notes of the Rockridge Choristers' concert at our April 30 Potluck. On May 3, we'll be at City Hall Plaza for "Aging Out Loud" celebrating Aging in the City of Oakland where NOV will have a table set up to share materials and information about our organization. We've also been asked to help distribute lunch to the many hundreds of Seniors who attend these events. Also in May: Thursday the 11th at 2:00 Steve Early will lead a discussion about his book *Refinery Town* – the story of our neighbor, the city of Richmond. Then there are the ongoing events: Bridge, French conversation, Singing, Art, and the Salon.



The first meeting of our Social Justice Forum had to be put off – (again! So sorry) but we now have a firm date and invite all members and volunteers to calendar

Thursday, June 8th at 2:00 pm at the NOV Office. Come prepared to talk about your own history of taking action for things you believe in, if there is one thing you could accomplish that would make the world a better place, what would it be? Think a bit about Seniors too – what would make Oakland a better city for Seniors? How can we make a significant contribution to the people of Oakland?

Join us as we embark on this crazy journey of Aging Out Loud and loving every minute of it. Plan on being a part of this busy community – studies confirm it will enrich and prolong your life! Hope to see you all soon.

– Susan Pierpoint
President

NOV Office Closure for Memorial Day

The North Oakland Village Office will be closed on **Monday, May 29**, in honor of Memorial Day.



We will reopen on Tuesday, May 30. Members, since this is a holiday weekend, please get requests for rides Friday, May 26 through Thursday, June 1 into the office no later than Tuesday, May 23.

Newsletter Editor Profile: Jaki Jepson

Everyone in Jaki Jepson's family was a reader. Plus, when she was five years old, her mother's aunt came to live with them in Fargo, North Dakota. Auntie stood ramrod straight and, after 50 years of teaching in a one-room schoolhouse in the rural Iowa school system, had lots of practice correcting children. "We all spoke flawless English," Jaki says with a smile. "The word 'ain't' was NOT in my vocabulary."



No surprise, then, that Jaki chose to study English at the University of Denver. But, B.A. in hand and employment opportunities limited, she began to question the wisdom of that choice when jobs for someone with her qualifications did not readily appear. After a few anxious months, however, a position with a sociology professor at University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee opened the career door for her. In that job she originated and produced a newsletter for thirty women's organizations in Milwaukee.

This was valuable experience when she found herself looking for a complete change of scene. Her marriage to Dan had dissolved and she wanted to make a new life with her eight-year-old daughter and five-year-old-son. They found their way to Oakland where temporary jobs paid the bills for a while. During such a job at Kaiser Engineers, she noticed people were paid to proofread engineering reports, so she took on some of that work. Now she could use those excellent English skills. Meanwhile, an acquaintance who owned health spas hired her to correct policy document language and write procedures for his employees. These were specifics she could cite on her resume. Her repertoire was growing.

This background allowed her to move from writing/editing jobs at one large company to another. A membership in the Society for Technical Communication gave her access to contract jobs for American President Lines, PG&E, Wells Fargo, and the City of San Francisco, among others.

Wanting to be more independent, Jaki began working at home with her kindred spirit husband Ray. They created several publishing-related businesses and a monthly newsletter for a nonprofit where they were members. Ray did the layout and edited Jaki's writing. The business had a ten-year lifespan.

Now Jaki keeps her back as straight as possible (thanks to Auntie), and Dan is again part of the family. She enjoys editing and proofreading NOV News and NOV is fortunate to have someone with her skills contributing to this effort.

Special Presentation

Making Things Happen - Turning a Town Around

Thursday, May 11

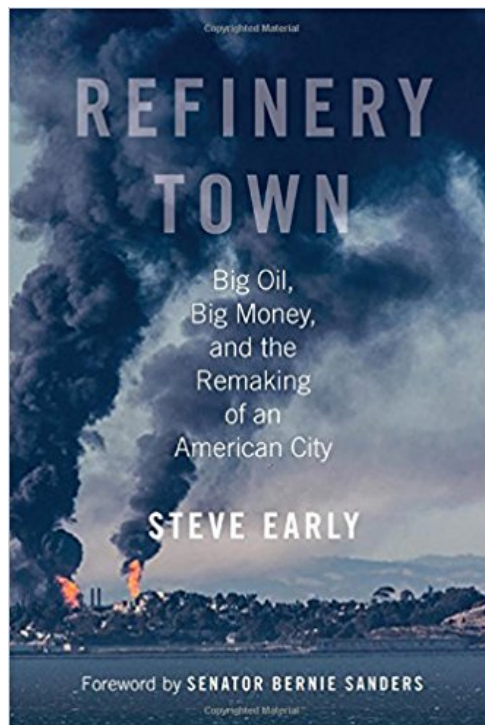
2:00 PM

Location: NOV Office
2501 Harrison Street

Steve Early will tell us what he did to change Richmond from a petroleum-based offshoot of a major industry into a people-friendly community. You might want to read his book *Refinery Town* before the meeting.

Everyone welcome – members, volunteers and the public. There is **no charge** for this presentation. Members, if you need a ride, please give us a call.

Hope to see you there.



Art Group - Let your inner artist play.

**Join us at the next North Oakland Village Art Group
on**

Wednesday, May 10 at 2:00 PM

Location: NOV Office.

At April's art group we had a grand time making our sculptures. Our leader was Shara Shadow Speaker from The Junior Center for Art and Science who came prepared with many precut shapes, seemingly endless art

supplies and good instruction on how to approach our project of creating sculptures in the style of Spanish artist Joan Miro.

We jumped right in with an easy drawing practice. Then we each selected several precut shapes and began painting them as the first step to our sculptures.

Granted, we ran into some engineering problems along the way. However, undaunted, we each managed to get our sculpture together.



Shara demonstrates technique



The next challenge was to figure out how to keep them from falling apart when they were moved. Mainly it worked best if we just didn't move them at all, but we helped each other discover ways to make them sturdy enough to move.

In the end we succeeded, and here we proudly display our finished works. We are not lined up in the same order of our creations so you'll have to guess which sculpture goes with which person.



Sandra Coleman, Linda Joslin, Judith Coates, Lin Tynes, Roxanne Borchich and Michael Coleman with their finished art pieces

In May we will be producing cards (birthday, holiday, thinking of you etc.) from various materials. It should be every bit as much fun as all of our other sessions have been. So, this month break out of your routine and come try another great art project with us.

Remember, no art experience or special talent needed. This is a great place to feel free to just enjoy yourself. **Everyone welcome. Materials are supplied.**

Members, if you need a ride, give us a call. Members and volunteers free. For the public, a donation of \$10 is requested to help cover expenses.

Men's Monthly Gathering for Members and Volunteers

Men, the group you have been asking for is now up and ready to go. We have a nice core of men gathering together to talk



about topics of interest to them and they would like to have a bigger group.

Join now, so you can have a say in what activities this group decides to do together.

Date: Wednesday, May 17, 2017

Time: 1:30 PM–2:30 PM

Place: David Hendsch's

NOTE: If you need contact or address information for David please contact the NOV office, and we will be happy to help you.

First meeting of the North Oakland Village

Social Justice Forum

**Members &
volunteers,
please join us!**

**Thursday, June
8
2:00 PM**



In this new group, we can address important matters of social justice in a way that can include everyone. Please join us at this first meeting, where we will talk about how we can find real things to accomplish that would make the world a better place. Think a bit about Seniors too – what would make Oakland a better city for Seniors? How can we make a significant contribution to the people of Oakland?

To ask questions, or to let us know you are coming, contact us. Members, if you need a ride, give us a call:

e-mail at info@northoaklandvillage.org or phone: (510) 547-8500.

Recap of our World War I presentation

On April 20th, new member **Robert Warwick** honored us with a presentation on the causes of World War I. Robert is an active member of the World War I Historical Society and author of book reviews and talks on the subject.

2017 is the 100th anniversary of the first World War, and Robert gave us a fascinating talk that provided a good overview of the times and mindsets of the period that caused such devastation for the world.

Attendees found it very helpful that he used a map of the world, since countries and their names have changed a lot since WWI.



Robert Warwick presents talk on the causes of WWI

Also, the information Robert provided on the different agreements among various countries, and how those contributed to the conditions that brought about the war, helped provide a context for our understanding of the war's onset.

We want to thank Robert for the time he spent sharing with us.

Singing is breaking out all over

Between the NOV singing group that started a few months ago and now the second wonderful concert by the Rockridge Chorale, NOV is awash in outpourings of wonderful singing.

Sunday, April 30th, was one of those glorious times. Holding the event in the larger Reidenbach Hall at the First Congregational Church of Oakland, where our

office is located, proved to be the perfect location. **Judy Sorey** was in charge of setup this time, but NOV proved we have turned into a true community. **Sheila Pearce** showed up early to help out. Judy and Sheila decorated the tables sitting alongside the wall while others showed up and put out chairs and food.

At 4:00 PM, the Rockridge Chorale provided us with another concert full of beautiful and lively songs. As usual, they were led by the gifted director and NOV volunteer, **Devi Jameson**.



Perhaps my favorite moment of the concert was the "Men's Choir" song, which was very good, and quite funny. There were other great moments, some with the audience singing along. They ended with a great favorite "What a Wonderful World".



On a sunny Spring (though it felt like summer) afternoon in the bright sunshiny room the mood was set for the wonderful potluck to follow.

Several of the choir members joined us for the potluck which was held in the same room and, again, everyone pitched in and the setup was done quickly; soon, everyone was eating and having interesting conversations with the others at their table. The exquisite roses on the tables were from Judy's own garden.

It turned out that not only did everyone enjoy the evening, but they were also inspired to make suggestions for future entertainment for the village. There were even some who have decided they would like to check out joining the Rockridge Chorale themselves. Some already sang in groups that might like to sing for us in the future.



Looks like singing is here to stay at the Village.

– Linda Joslin

**Want to know more about North Oakland Village?
Interested in becoming a member or volunteering?**

Join us for Time to Talk About North Oakland Village

Come to the North Oakland Village monthly informational gathering to help introduce people to the Village and get the answers to all of your questions.



Anyone who wants to learn more about the Village in general, membership or volunteering will find this meeting very helpful. Members and volunteers are welcome to drop in and let people know about your experience with the Village.

**Next Gathering: Friday, May
19**

The meeting takes place every month from 10:30 to 11:30 AM in the NOV office at 2501 Harrison Street. *If you are interested in attending, please let us know.*

To ask questions, or to let us know you are coming, contact us by e-mail at info@northoaklandvillage.org or phone: (510) 547-8500.

Upcoming Events

Monday Menders

Sewing and Other Handwork with Sandra Coleman & Alyce Zacco
Mondays, May 1, 8, 15 & 22
12:00-1:00 PM

Just drop by with your sewing, quilting, crocheting and other stitchery projects. Bring any mending with which you need help. We do not provide actual instruction, but do offer support, advice and good company.

Singing With Sara

Singing group for members and volunteers
1st Thursday of the Month
May 4
10:30 AM-11:30 PM
For Members and Volunteers

Gathering together to enjoy a morning of singing.

Members and volunteers, if you are interested, contact the front office.



Handability Group

Knitting and Crocheting in Good Company & for a Good Cause
2nd Monday of the Month
May 8
10:30 AM-12:00 PM
For Members and Volunteers



Supplies, instruction and support will be provided by the Handability leaders, *free of charge*.

French Conversation

French Conversation Group
Fridays May 5 and May 12
10:30 AM to 12:00 PM

Class will continue every Friday at 10:30 at a member's home through May

Held at a members home.

Member Salon

Member Salon
Contact: NOV Office
Monday, May 15
3:00-5:00 PM

A group of eight people who get together *at a member's home* to discuss interesting topics and enjoy one another's company. Group size is limited, so you must register with the office in advance.

May topic; Time to Transition?

If you have come to a salon or two and enjoyed it, please let the front office know, and we will help to get a second group started. *The salons are for members only. All levels of members are welcome.*

Time to Talk about NOV

Led by NOV Ambassadors

Contact: NOV Office
Friday, MAY 19
10:30-11:30 AM
North Oakland Village Office



This is a monthly informational session to introduce people to the Village concept, and North Oakland Village in particular. It's an opportunity to get all of your questions answered. Join us, and bring potential members or volunteers. Coffee, tea and snacks are provided.

Monthly Bridge Game - New Players Welcome

Monthly Bridge Game
Organized by Norma Harrison
Third Friday of the Month
Friday May 19
2:00 PM

Members and volunteers, are you looking for an entertaining way to socialize? Join our

bridge game. You do not have to be an experienced player, but you do need to know the basics. New players welcome. Held at a member's home.

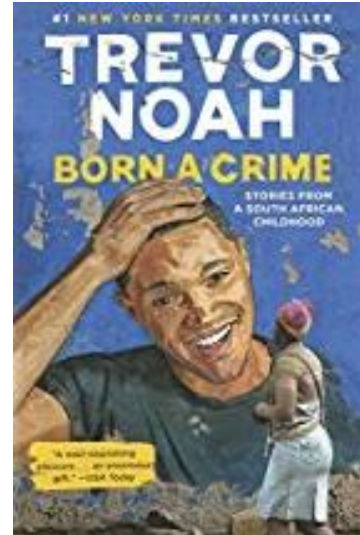
Call Norma at 510/547-7530 for location of this month's game.

Non-Fiction Book Group

Non-Fiction Book Group
Contact: NOV Office
Last Friday of the Month
Friday, May 26
2:00-4:00 PM
North Oakland Village Office

Members and Volunteers, *the group meets at the Village office.*

In May, **Patte Bishop** will lead us in a discussion of *Born a Crime* by Trevor Noah. It has been suggested this is a great book to try as an audible book as Trevor Noah is great to listen to (and a comedian).



It might not be the best book to listen to while walking as you might be so interested you forget you are walking!

Members and volunteers, we would be happy to have you join us. You can come, give us a try and see how you like it.

Coming Attractions

Watch your email for information about upcoming events

The Social Justice Forum begins in June, when there will also be a Genealogy Presentation. We are getting together an outing to the Oakland Zoo, and other outings are in the planning stages.

*More programs will be announced in the future.
Keep an eye on your e-mails for more details*

Community Events

Community Event for May:

Gloria Dominguez, Tamarindo

SUNDAY,
MAY 21, 2017
12:00–12:45 PM

Join us at CUESA's Jack London Square Farmers Market in Oakland for a cooking demo with Gloria Dominguez, of [Tamarindo](#) restaurant, featuring the seasonal bounty of the [Jack London Square Farmers Market](#).

With over 25 years of culinary experience, Chef Gloria has explored food from the roots of the cuisine in her native land of Mexico, in travel to the many kitchens of locals and on working with top chefs in their kitchens.

Taking her native flavors around the world, Chef Gloria has traveled to other countries, such as Italy; in Vatican City, she was invited to cook an event "Navidad en Mexico" representing the state of Michoacan.

Chef Gloria has participated in seminars with Oaxacan chefs, taking culinary classes with some of the finest chefs of the region. One of the biggest thrills was being able to have the honor to cook with the locals in their homes to learn and experience food the ancestral way. The Yucatan Peninsula and, of course, Mexico City were great influences when Chef Gloria opened her current restaurant in 2005 with her Architect son Alfonso, who designed the restaurant, Tamarindo Antojeria in Oakland. The menu brings together the flavors of all Chef Gloria's culinary adventures throughout the years.

All demos take place at the CUESA Classroom (adjacent to the info booth at Broadway & Water Street). *They are free to the public, with recipes and samples for all.*

