



North Oakland Village

Monthly Newsletter



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President's Letter

I have had the opportunity to visit several Villages in California and in Washington, DC. Some are big and wildly successful,

Art Group

3rd Annual A's Game Outing

UPCOMING EVENTS

>> Monday Menders

>> Handability Group

>> Member Salon

>> Time to talk about NOV

>> Monthly Bridge Game

>> Non-Fiction Book Group

COMING ATTRACTIONS

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Low Cost Summer Community
Events

Monthly Potluck

5:00–7:00 PM

Sundays

July 25 and August
27



NOV Headquarters
First Congregational
Church
27th at Harrison

some are small but the commitment of the members and volunteers is always impressive, and on that score our own NOV is no exception. Here's where we are the exception: maybe I'm biased, but our Village has heart in a way that is truly rare. Relationships run deep, caring for one another really exceptional.

Like just about every nonprofit that was ever born, our Village is now at the 7th year turning point – we have to grow in order to be a sustainable organization, or we'll have to start thinking about options for closing down in ways that are best for all our dear members and friends.

But we are not sissies. Getting old is not for sissies, and launching an organization that helps us all to live where we want to live isn't either. Let's all step up and think about inviting people we know to potlucks and programs and share the news about the fun we have together. Invite your friends and acquaintances to become volunteers or members. Let's grow and continue our work of taking this challenging, funny, poignant, and beautiful chapter of our lives together, in the great-hearted Village called NOV.

– Susan Pierpoint
President

Members:
Need a ride? Call
510/547-8500



NOV Office Closure for Labor Day

The North Oakland Village Office will be closed on **Monday, Sept. 4th** to celebrate Labor Day.

Members, since there will be fewer drivers than usual and to allow our volunteers to enjoy their holidays, for the Labor Day holiday, please get ride requests for Thursday, August 30 through, Thursday, September 7 into the office no later than Tuesday, August 26. With your help, we can all relax over the holidays knowing our members have the rides they need.



In Memory of Jocelyn Berger

Jocelyn Berger, who had been a member of the North Oakland Village for a fairly short time, passed away peacefully in her sleep a few weeks ago. Shortly after her husband died she moved to Michigan to live with her son and his wife. She had another son, who was married and the father of twins, and lived in Holland. Both sons had been in Oakland with her when her husband died.



Jocelyn was born and raised in Southern California. She attended UCLA, which

is where she met her husband John. He taught for many years at Oakland High School. She was able to use her love of books and reading to create a longtime profession working in many book stores in Oakland. Her home was a veritable font of reading material of all sorts, but she especially was knowledgeable in children's literature.

– Sandra Coleman

A brief history of North Oakland Village

North Oakland Village had two mothers, both working toward the same goal at the same time but without knowing each other.

In 2008, Judith Coates, having heard about Beacon Hill Village in Boston, began having monthly gatherings of folks, including Christine Wilder-Abrams and Ruby Long, from the Piedmont Avenue neighborhood, in her kitchen. These groups explored how to make something similar happen in north Oakland.



Sandra Davidson and Judith Coates

In June 2009, a short article about NOV that appeared in the *Montclairion* newspaper caught the eye of Sandra Davidson, who was trying to organize a group of elders in her church, St. John's Episcopal. Sandra called Judith and Ruby, whose numbers were listed, and suggested they get together. As they sipped coffee, the threesome discussed how both groups could combine their energy to form one organization.

2010 was a big year for the Village. After a lot of work from novices Sandra D. and Judith, an application to register as a non-profit organization was submitted to the state. Ruby held down a table at La Farine on Piedmont Avenue for two hours every Tuesday, handing out information sheets and answering questions for people curious about the concept and the organization that by this time was calling itself North Oakland Village. The group elected officers, with Judith agreeing to be president. In May, NOV announced itself to the public with a launch party at Plymouth Church. Two of the people attending that night were Sandra and Michael Coleman, both of whom have become very active as NOV members and made numerous valuable contributions. For instance, Sandra was president from 2014 to 2017, after Sandra Davidson had led the group for a term.

As a non-profit, NOV could begin charging dues. While this meant a reliable source of income, it also demanded greater organization. Finding a home rather than meeting in members' living rooms became a priority, and with an office, hiring staff and keeping regular office hours were possible. Office space was discovered in the shopping center at 51st and Broadway, and in October 2011 NOV moved in. The space was large enough for meetings and social events as well an office and it soon became the site of monthly potlucks, a tradition which continues to the present time.

It was during this time that our office assistant, Linda Joslin, was hired. While she is in the office on a part-time basis, she also gives many hours of volunteer service. Final production of this newsletter is only one of the tasks she assumes that are not part of her job description.

Frank Guinta, whose memory we cherish, led successful fund-seeking operations which augmented member dues as a source of financial support. But nothing could stop the remodeling of the shopping center, and when NOV was told in 2014 the office would be demolished, Bob Field and his committee began looking for a new home.



The First Congregational Church of Oakland at 25th and Harrison was transforming itself from a church only, into a home for non-profit organizations. The site and space were right and within NOV's budget, so packing began, crews were organized, new brochures were printed and NOV moved into its new home.

North Oakland Village has been there for three years, doing business, having committee meetings, hosting a variety of programs and workshops, meeting for potlucks and a myriad of other activities. We hope and expect to be there for many more years.

– Ruby Long (with considerable help from Sandra Davidson and Judith Coates)



This summer we recommend a staycation with NOV

Summer is a big travel time and several NOV members will be away. This means the **Art group** and the **Singing with Sara group** are taking a summer break. Both will resume their meeting schedules in the Fall.

DO NOT DESPAIR! Many of us have decided that right here at home in Oakland is the best place to spend our summer. So join North Oakland Village for a delightful summer.

Why spend all that money traveling when you can come to the book group, take on meaningful social action, take an outing to the zoo or the museum, attend an extremely informative presentation or visit with friends at a potluck?

See our calendar and the articles in this newsletter for information on our many activities this summer. More are in the works, so keep an eye on your e-mail for additional things to do on your staycation.

You will want to save a spot for on your calendar for the **2nd Annual North Oakland Village Intergenerational picnic**. The picnic will be held at Lake Temescal at the same perfect spot we had last summer. The date for that is **September 17**.

Strategic Village

Members & volunteers,

if you are interested in being a part of this short-term work group that will update the Strategic Plan, please attend this important gathering.

Thursday, July 13
2:00 PM

Speaker: Charlotte Milliner, President and CEO of The Center for Professional Development.

CPD is a full-service organizational development and management consulting company, assisting businesses worldwide in the creation of successful 21st-century organizations.

Organizations are byproducts of the way members think and interact with one another. We directly address building of corporate cultures that enable organizations to be more profitable, productive, adaptive, self-correcting and flexible. Individuals who make up the company emerge making wiser systemic decisions that support the organization's strategic goals.

Our session on July 13 will focus on development of a new Strategic Plan and specific goals for North Oakland Village.

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

– Susan Pierpoint

Social Action Forum

(Note: the Social Justice Forum has decided to rename itself Social Action Forum)

Members & volunteers,
please join us!

Thursday, July 12
10:30 AM
NOV Office



The initial meeting of North Oakland Village's Social Justice Forum was a great success, with 15 enthusiastic attendees and a message to the group from a NOV member who was unable to attend the meeting.

Each of us shared a little about our background and interest in social justice and offered one or two possible programs that would make the world a better place. In our conversation, a consensus emerged that we have a preference for taking on something local rather than national or international at this time.

The ideas offered were all valuable and thoughtful. Just a few examples: housing, porta-potties and services for homeless people, addressing food insecurity, especially for elders in Oakland, tutoring in public schools, outreach for diversity in membership, teaching English as a Second Language (ESL) to recent immigrants (NOV's own Sandra Davidson is currently training small groups to teach English through her church) and mapping out transportation options for Seniors (and others!).

This thoughtful, energetic group held a followup meeting on June 28 at the NOV Office. We further narrowed the scope of our ideas and are moving closer to the selection of the course we wish to take. Members and volunteers we would love to have you join us at the next meeting.

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

– Susan Pierpoint

Member Salon now has openings

The Member Salon is still going strong and will be continuing to meet over the summer. The group has been full, but *we now have 2 openings*, so if you are interested in joining the group please let the office know right away.



One opening is for July and August only, while one of our group members is away for vacation. The 2nd opening is for an on-going spot in the group. If you are interested in joining the group for the summer or for the longer term, please contact the front office right away. This will be on a first-come, first-served basis.

Because it is difficult to keep the discussion focused when we have more than 8

people, this group is open to members only. Volunteers from all levels of membership are welcome.

In July the topic for discussion is "Loneliness and Solitude." The August topic will be decided at the August meeting.

If you are currently a member of the ongoing group, you are already on the list and do not need to sign up, though we always appreciate knowing if you are planning on attending.

All meetings are in a member's home on the 3rd Monday of each month.

**Summer dates: Monday, July 17 and Monday,
August 21**

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

Special Presentations in the works

We have some very important presentations coming in the next few months.

One presentation is on **Home Equity Mortgages also known as Reverse Mortgages**. You will learn things you probably never knew about them.

Another presentation on **Understanding the Complicated World of Medicare**. This talk is designed to make certain we retirees have the best coverage possible

Watch your in-box for dates and details on these upcoming events.

Men's Monthly Gathering for Members and Volunteers

Come, walk and have coffee together.

There is still time to join.

The NOV Men's group decided they would like to start walking together, so in June they went on their first outing.



Whether as a deliberate group decision or just the usual men's reluctance to ask for directions, they ended up walking at Temescal. Since they actually got in a car and drove to the lake, it must be assumed it was a deliberate decision. It does appear that they enjoyed themselves enough that they are going to continue these walks.

In July they are going to try again for the walk they were supposed to take in June, which would be close to that coffee shop they had planned as a stop. So come walk with them in July and August; the group can ramble where it will, and they may actually stop for coffee (or possibly ice cream?).

**Members and volunteers (men only)
meet at David Hendsch's home.**

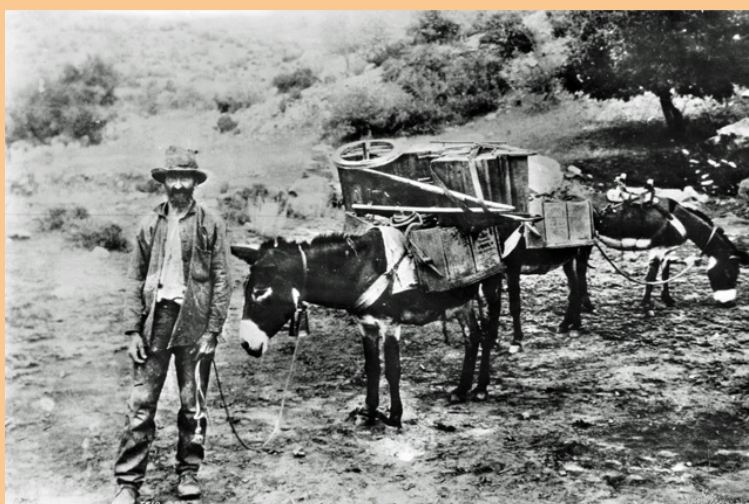
**Dates: Wednesdays, July 19 and August 16
Time: 1:30 PM**

There is room for more men to join up and enjoy some time just for the men.

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

Docent tours of the Oakland Museum Gold Mine Exhibit for Members and Volunteers

This summer our own Larry Hannah is going to do two small group tours of the Gold Mine exhibit at the Oakland museum, where Larry is currently a docent.



The tours will focus on the history through story-telling. While the tour will have a Gold Rush focus, we also will spend a significant amount of time in the "Before the Settlers Came" section with an emphasis on the foothill tribes where the Gold Rush took place. Also covered

will be the negative impact of the Gold Rush on the native peoples, immigrant groups, and the environment.

These small docent tours will end with lunch together in the museum cafeteria, which serves very good food.

Each of these docent tours will be for a maximum of 5 people each.

Reservations through the front office are required. These tours will start at 11:00 AM.

Dates: Group 1: Thursday, July 27

Group 2: Wednesday, August 23

When signing up please designate which date you are planning on attending.
(phone: 510) 547-8500 e-mail: info@northoaklandvillage.org

Outing to the Oakland Zoo

**Thursday,
August 3rd
10:00 AM**

**NOV is going
to the zoo**

One of our volunteers,
Joan Hall-Feinberg, is

also a docent at the Oakland zoo. She has kindly offered to lead members and volunteers on a tour. She has arranged for carts, so those who have more difficulty (or just prefer not to walk) can join in. She has arranged for additional docents to accompany us if needed.



After the tour, you can enjoy the outdoor tables with your own picnic fixings, or enjoy one of the food options within the zoo grounds. Best idea: try out the new gondolas; they will deliver you to a lovely restaurant.

Zoo entrance fees: Adults – \$22

Seniors 65-75: \$18.00



Everyone over 76: FREE

Look for more details coming your way very soon. Members and volunteers, *do let us know if you are planning on attending*. Carpooling is highly recommended, so please let us know if you can provide a ride or would like a ride.

Save the Date! North Palmdale Village Song & Dance: (510) 547-8500.

The 2nd Annual Inter-generational Picnic

We will top the summer off with another intergenerational picnic. We had a blast last year, where we had the perfect location: the Big Rock site at Lake Temescal.

NOV will be going to the same location for this year's picnic, and hopefully we will have the same good luck with weather. There is a nice, long pathway to get to the picnic site, so it is quite accessible for everyone.

SAVE SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17th

Bring food to share, toys, dogs and most important, please bring your family and friends. We really want this to be a time for all generations to enjoy time together.

Keep your eye out for more details as we get closer.



Very Special summer potlucks

This summer at NOV we are having some very special potlucks, so you will not want to miss them.



Photos courtesy of Sara Evinger

Our summer potluck series started at the end of June. It was an early celebration of Independence Day. **Lin Tynes** and **Vicky Lepell** were in charge



winners **Iva** and **Carol** in front

of the potluck, and red, white and blue were the colors of the day, with all kinds of decorations on the tables. Lin provided tiny little vases with flowers from her yard which were a great hit. Vicky provided some decorative door prizes, so new member **Carol Pingree**, along with **Paul Shepard** and **Iva Baerlocher** all went home with a festive

decoration.

Now for the rest of the summer:

JULY: With such a large number of members and volunteers having birthdays in July, we are going to have a **big birthday bash** at the potluck. The main feature will be the celebration of **Martha Anderson's** 100th birthday. Martha turns 100 on July 7 and *the mayor of Oakland proclaimed July, 7, 2017 "Martha Anderson" day in Oakland*. Come, help sing happy birthday and celebrate all July birthdays.

AUGUST: Member **Marion Lee** has invited the NOV family to enjoy her backyard, complete with a cabana and a swimming pool for our August potluck. This one will be an afternoon gathering, starting at 3:00 PM. Keep you eyes on your e-mail for details.

SEPTEMBER: The 2nd Annual Inter-generational picnic at Lake Temescal. Sunday September 17. *This will replace the end of the month potluck in September.*

So, as you can see play time is here! No need to leave Oakland to enjoy your summer.

Making a Difference

Thursday morning, June 29, four NOV volunteers, **Iva and Bill Baerlocher, Christine Wilder-Abrams and Ruby Long**, made a difference in how the neighborhood looks.

Gathering at the NOV office, they received picker-upper tools and big plastic



Downtown Oakland Senior Center

bags, then made their way to the Downtown Oakland Senior Center about two blocks away. For the next hour-and-a-half, they picked up trash, empty bottles, loose cardboard, plastic bags and other leavings of the careless.

After filling two big black trash bags and a smaller one, the grounds looked a lot better. All agreed it was a very satisfying way to spend the morning. If you'd like to be involved in future similar endeavors, call Ruby at 595-9514.

– Ruby Long

NOV Art Group

We had a wonderful day of relaxation and creativity

Volunteer **Renate Sadrozinski** was the instructor for the June Art group. An example of her work is in the photo at right. We did not even attempt to compete with that on our first try.



We did have so much fun and were so engrossed with our projects that we completely forgot the time, and when 4 o'clock arrived, everyone jumped in and helped to clean up our work area very quickly.



Renate demonstrates techniques for the group

Think about that! In these times when there is so much stress and emphasis on competition, a place where you can come to relax, play and create without worrying about the end product is a welcome opportunity. No special talent is needed. We get to try our hands at so many things in this group. We have done collage, wet on wet watercolor painting, sculpture in the style of

Jean Miro, and more.

We are taking July and August off. We will start up again in the Fall. Keep an eye on your e-mail to see what is up next.



At the "old ballgame"

It was supposed to be a dangerously hot day, and the A's were up against the team with the best record in the league, but NOV members, volunteers and their friends, headed out to the Coliseum anyway.



Charles Tynes always goes to the ballgame to celebrate his birthday, and this year he celebrated with us and we are honored that he did.

Free tickets for all were provided by the A's, and we had incredible seats: right under the overhang with an excellent view of the field and the game.



Lin & Charles Tynes

Yes, Houston got 10 runs in the 2nd inning and the A's were fairly unimpressive until the 8th inning. And, yes, Houston won 12



Front – left to right: **Judith & Barbara**
in row behind them left to right:
Ruby, June & Yvette

to 9, but hey, we had food, an incredible cooling breeze, a really good view of the field and each other for company. All in all, it was a nice way to spend an afternoon.

And there was a very exciting 8th inning when the A's did manage to get 6 runs. That brought all of us and the very young boys sitting directly behind us a chance to cheer and celebrate.

I have a feeling we will make it back next year, so once again we can sing "Take Me Out to the Ballgame" and enjoy each others' company.

Upcoming Events

Monday Menders

Sewing and Other Handwork with Alyce Zacco & friends
Mondays, July 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31 and August 7, 14, 21 & 28
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.

Handability Group



Knitting and Crocheting in Good Company & for a Good Cause

2nd Monday of the Month

July 10 & August 14

10:30 AM-12:00 PM

For Members and Volunteers

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

Member Salon

Member Salon

Contact: NOV Office

Monday, July 17 and August 21

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.

July topic; Lonliness & Solitude (Yes, that was supposed to be last month's topic, but we got sidetracked.)

The salons are for members only. All levels of members are welcome.

Time to Talk about NOV

Led by NOV Ambassadors

Contact: NOV Office

3rd Friday of every month: July 21 & August 18

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, July 21 and August 18
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.

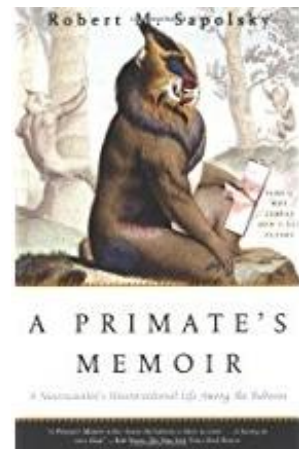
Non-Fiction Book Group

Non-Fiction Book Group
Contact: NOV Office
Last Friday of the Month
Friday, July 28 & August 25
2:00-4:00 PM
North Oakland Village Office

Members and Volunteers, *the group meets at the Village office. We would be happy to have you join us.*

The book for July is: ***A Primate's Memoir*** by Robert Sapolsky.
Linda Joslin will lead this discussion.

The discussions are lively, and you can help select what we read next.



Coming Attractions

Watch your email for information about upcoming events

Summer at the Village has lots of treats, such as:

- Several presentations are in the works for Fall
- Atual Gawande streaming talk cancelled in the winter will be happening in September

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

Community Events

Community Events for the Summer

Pat Sullivan's super cheap or free fabulous events July/August 2017

Volunteer Pat Sullivan shared this wonderful list of affordable activities to help make your summer special.

To get on this list, write pat@visionary-resources.com

07/06 sundown	Movies on the waterfront, Jack London	Foot of Broadway in Oakland free movies Bring blankets, chairs, warm coverups. Tonight: "Raiders of the Lost Ark" FREE
07/14 4:30-7:30	Concerts at Crab Cove, 1252 McKay Ave, Alameda	tonight features The Patsychords (Patsy Cline tribute). Great place to walk the beach, see the sunset, have a picnic. Bring plenty of layers and perhaps a chair.
07/20 sundown	Movies on the waterfront, Jack London	Foot of Broadway in Oakland free movies Bring Blankets; chairs; warm coverups Tonight: "Dirty Dancing" FREE
07/22 11-6	Pedalfest bicycle celebration	Live music, bike demos, stunts, pedal powered stage, rides, art and food. Handmade bikes, including wacky inventions. Admission FREE; food and drink for purchase.
07/July 21, 4-6	Summer of Love Sing-along, San Francisco	SF Botanical Garden Summer of Love Singalong July 21, Ninth Avenue and Lincoln Way in Golden Gate Park. \$8 adults, \$6 for seniors over 65
08/03 sundown	Movies on the waterfront, Jack London	Foot of Broadway in Oakland free movies Bring blankets, chairs, warm coverups. Tonight: "Selena" FREE
08/11 4:30-7:30	Concerts at Crab Cove, 1252 McKay Ave, Alameda	Tonight features Up and Down (bluegrass/country/rock) . Great place to walk the beach, see the sunset, have a picnic. Bring plenty of layers and perhaps a chair.
08/17 sundown	Movies on the waterfront, Jack London	Foot of Broadway in Oakland free movies Bring Blankets; chairs; warm coverups. Tonight: "Moana" FREE

08/27. 28 10-5	Oakland Chinatown Street Festival	Music, food, booths, dance and more.
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