

Published September 17, 2008

Orinda Launches First Annual Restaurant Tour-9/30/08

By Andrea A. Firth



It's time to eat, drink, and be merry in Orinda. The Orinda Chamber of Commerce in partnership with the Educational Foundation of Orinda (EFO) and the City of Orinda will host the first annual Orinda Restaurant Tour. The inaugural event will take place from 5:00 to 8:30 pm on Tuesday, September 30th in Theater Square. "The Chamber is very excited to be spearheading this event," states Keith Miller, President of the Orinda Chamber of Commerce. Miller came up with the idea of the having a restaurant tour in Orinda after attending neighboring Lafayette's Taste of Lafayette. "This is a terrific opportunity for Orinda's restaurants to showcase their offerings and for the community to come out and show their support of their local businesses." Patrons of the event can register between 5:00 and 6:00 pm and enjoy a complimentary glass of wine along with live music in the Square. Participating restaurants will be open at 6:00 pm and will provide specially prepared samples of some of their signature dishes. The evening will conclude back in the Square with dessert-Nation's pie-and coffee. "For Lamorinda residents who have haven't yet tried the many great restaurants in Orinda, this is a great way to get a taste of several at once," states Candy Kattenburg of the Orinda Chamber. "I am anticipating that this will turn out to be a really fun dinner party," she adds. A significant portion of the proceeds from the Restaurant Tour will be going to the Educational Foundation of Orinda to support the Orinda Union School District. Ten dollars from each ticket sold will be donated to EFO. In addition, a silent auction of painting by local artist and gallery-owner Allison Mccrady will take place during the dessert hour, and fifty percent of the purchase price will also be donated to EFO. "We are so pleased that the Orinda Chamber of Commerce selected the Educational Foundation of Orinda as its primary beneficiary of the Orinda Restaurant Tour," says Janet Riley, President of EFO. "All Orinda school children, from kindergarten through 12th grade, benefit from the Foundation's financial support of the schools. We hope everyone joins us on September 30th to support our local restaurants and the Orinda schools." Tickets for the Restaurant Tour are \$30 per person and can be purchased in advance at the Chamber of Commerce Office (24 Orinda Way adjacent to the Library) or Mechanics Bank (77 Moraga Way) or on the night of the Tour. "Everyone wins with this event," states Miller. "Come out and join us." Participating restaurants include: Casa Orinda Europa Hof Brau Kasper's Hot Dogs Lava Pit Hawaiian Grill La Piazza Loard's Ice Cream & Candies Shelby's The Orinda House Turquoise Mediterranean Grill check the Chamber web site for the updated Restaurant list www.orindachamber.org



Shelby's Chef Arno Kober presents "Grilled Chicken Mango Salad in Dijon Vinaigrette" with Line Cook Marta Perez Photo Andy Scheck



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