

Published May 27th, 2009

Orinda Seniors Having Fun

By John Fazel





Rich Shearer crowns Thomas Dearl at last years event Photo Thomas Black

The 10th Annual Three Quarter Century Club Luncheon will be held June 10th at the Orinda Community Church. All Orinda residents 75yrs old or older are invited to attend the free gala.

☐ Lamorinda Sunrise Rotary, Prudential California and Orinda Community Church are again sponsoring this annual event. Founder and M.C. John Fazel said, "I believe that our seniors should be remembered and honored for their contributions to Orinda and the world.

☐ The idea was brought to Orinda from John's hometown, Perry, Iowa where they started their club in 1930. The tradition includes the crowning the King and Queen, celebrating the Longest Married couple and identifying the "Baby."

☐ They are also entertained by great speakers. In 2004 the late Sam Billison, President of the Navajo Code Talkers described his experiences as a Marine and Code Talker in the Pacific Theatre. The late 'Woody Spears of the Tuskegee Airmen in 2005 talked of his fight to become a pilot and experience as a fighter pilot in Europe. A number of Orinda WWII vets talked about how Billison and/or Spears probably saved their lives during the war. When WWII vets were asked to come onto the stage in 2004 most in attendance were recognized. The next time you see an Orinda Senior think about what they gave to you and our country.

☐ This year we will be looking at the lighter side of life as the "Ghost of Mark Twain" pays a visit. The Ghost is none other than McAvoy Laine, a former Orinda resident and member of Miramonte's 3rd graduating class of 1961. He probably knows more about Mark Twain than Mark Twain remembered about himself. Come armed with your questions, McAvoy has the answers.

☐ If you are an Orinda resident 75 or older and wish to join the fun call John Fazel at 925-324-2017 or e-mail Runmnts@prodigy.net. Seating is limited and reservations are required.

☐

Reach the reporter at: info@lamorindaweekly.com