

Published June 22nd, 2011

Rotary Club of Moraga Hosts 20th Annual Field Day

Submitted by Gary Irwin



Girls' sack race Photo Ohlen Alexander

Marilyn Engelhard Simonsen, grew up in Orinda and enjoyed participating in the Orinda Rotary Club's Field Day as a child-Simonsen wanted a similar fun event for Moraga children, and established the program with the help of Orinda Rotarian Frank Isola.

Moraga Rotary is a local service club within Rotary International that meets most Tuesdays at noon at St. Mary's College. For information, please call Gary Irwin at (925) 376-7688.



Rheem 3rd grade relay-runners Molly Midthun, Celia Campo, Nina Munson, and Kelly Robles show off their gold medals. Photo Carol Irwin

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On June 8, the Rotary Club of Moraga held its 20th annual Field Day event at Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School for third, fourth, and fifth grade Moraga students. 205 students competed in events such as sprints, relays, sack races, long jumps, and football/softball throws. Medals were awarded to the top three contestants in each event.

Donald Rheem Elementary School won plaques for the most winners and highest participation. Rheem has been the big winner the past few years due to the enthusiastic support of Principal Elaine Franks and P.E. teacher Heather Thornton.

The High Point winners were all from Rheem. The High Point Girl was 3rd grader Nina Munson. There was a tie for High Point Boy between 5th grader Daniel Nelson and 3rd grader Mark McCurdy. These students, along with the High Point Teacher, Mrs. Caraska, and Principal Elaine Franks, will be guests at the June 14th Rotary luncheon meeting, where they will be presented with the plaques honoring their achievements.

Moraga Rotary's Field Day was originated by its past president Al Simonsen, who continues to chair the event. Simonsen's wife,