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10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY IN MORAGA.

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Community Service

We are pleased to make space available whenever possible for some of Lamorinda's dedicated community service organizations to submit news and information about their activities. Submissions can be sent to storydesk@lamorindaweekly.com with the subject header In Service to the Community.

100th Anniversary of Girl Scouts

Submitted by Thama Brentano



Photo Katie Coates

On Sunday, October 23rd, under a bright blue sky and gentle breeze at Kennedy Grove, the Orinda Moraga Girl Scouts celebrated the 100th Anniversary of Girl Scouts in the USA. Although the real date of the 100th anniversary is March 12, 2012, Orinda Moraga decided to celebrate early and in honor of founder Juliette Gordon Lowe's October birthday.

Over 200 scouts ranging in age from Daisy (kindergarten and first grade) through Senior and Ambassador (high school age) participated in the celebration. Part carnival, part educational, and totally fun, the scouts enjoyed face painting, a bounce

house, learning about Girl Scout traditions, a vintage Girl Scout uniform fashion show, and an old-fashioned cake decorating contest and cake walk. Other popular booths run by scouts included making s'mores, SWAPS (Special Watchamacallit Affectionately Pinned Somewhere), henna and green "tatoos", and a very special "Pin the Badge on the Girl Scout" game. There was also a booth teaching scouts about the five Girl Scout World Centers in Savannah, Georgia (home of Juliette Gordon Lowe), Mexico, England, Switzerland, and India.

In keeping with the Girl Scout's theme for the 100th Anniversary, For-

ever Green, the Creative Re-Use Depot, REI, and the Marine Mammal Center were also on hand running activities. Girl Scouts of Northern California also ran a "Girls Go Tech" program.

Two community service activities demonstrated that Girl Scouts "Do a Good Turn Daily" by collecting over 400 books to donate to the Children's Literacy Project in Oakland, and by making cards that will be distributed with meals delivered by Meals on Wheels. The afternoon ended with the singing of songs, and the traditional Girl Scout friendship circle. Happy Birthday Girl Scouts! We wish you a very happy second 100 years!

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5500 Quilts for Babies at Risk

Submitted by Joyanne Elkinton-Walker



Peggy Moe, Rudi Thomas and Beverley Finlayson carry the quilts from the sewing room to the sanctuary. Photo provided

Early in October, 50 handmade quilts were displayed in the sanctuary of Orinda Community Church for dedication to at-risk babies in the Bay Area. These are in addition to 5500 previous quilts that have been created by the Sewing Circle of the church and sent to various groups caring for babies in crisis.

The Sewing Circle began in 1989 and the first recipient of quilts was the Children's Quilt Project for babies born with crack and Aids symptoms. They went to Children's Hospital, Highland Hospital and Alta Bates Neo-natal unit. The quilts were placed over incubators so babies could see colors and shapes.

Subsequent quilts have been provided to Contra Costa Foster Parents, The Solid Foundation of Oakland, Foster Moms of Alameda County and Project Open Hand.

As disasters struck, quilts were sent for Hurricane Relief in Haiti and New Orleans.

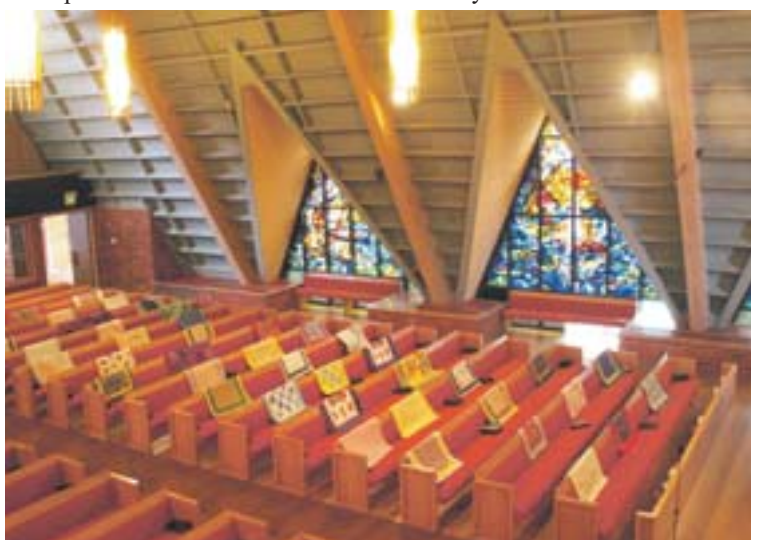
Recently they have been given to Interfaith Housing in Contra Costa, the Banana Respite Program and to the Center for Intervention in Deaf-

ness. The dedicated women sewers include Melody Ferreira, Beverley Finlayson, Peggy Moe, and Liz Thompson under the leadership of Rudi Thomas, who has been the inspiration from the beginning. Many other women have been part of the group through the years.

These ladies have also made banners, stuffed animals, and stoles for all of the pastors and associates at Orinda

Community Church, and created the large quilt of Mt. Diablo that hangs in the dining room of the Orinda Senior Village.

Women in the community who would like to participate in this project and have basic knowledge in the use of a sewing machine are invited to join this friendly group on Monday mornings. Call the Orinda Community Church Office at (925) 254-4906 to leave your name and contact.



The quilts displayed on the pews show the variety and numbers of quilts ready for shipping. Photo provided