

JM to host pancake dinner

Submitted by Brett Lorie



Photo provided

The fourth annual Peace, Love and Pancake Dinner, to benefit the JBFC Schools in Tanzania, will begin at 5:30 p.m. on Friday, April 21 at Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School.

Dinner, made by the students, staff, and parents of JM, will be pancakes, eggs, sausage, fruit and more. Student art, specially

made for this night, will be for sale. T-shirts will be available to be tie-dyed. And at 6:30 p.m., this year's movie, "Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them," will begin playing in the gymnasium. More information can be found, and tickets (\$10 each) can be purchased, at <http://peaceloveandpancakes.squarespace.com>.

Orinda Boy Scout Troop 57 Honors Record Eight New Eagle Scouts

Submitted by Steve Tennant



Troop 57's Newest Eagle Scouts (left to right): Steven Rein, Matthew Przekop, Robbie Tennant, Kevin Pease, Zach Peterson, Kyle Finger, Sean Kosteck, and Max Fleming. Photo provided

On both a memorable and historic day, Troop 57 of Orinda formally acknowledged the achievements of Kyle Finger, Maxwell Fleming, Sean Kosteck, Kevin Pease, Zachary Peterson, Matthew Przekop, Steven Rein and Robert Tennant at the Eagle Court of Honor Ceremony held on Sunday, March 19.

The Scouts' all had earned Scouting's highest rank of Eagle Scout which was celebrated before a standing-room-only gathering of friends and family at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Moraga. Life Scout Brendan McFeely ably served as Master of Ceremony for the event. After an invocation from Bishop Michael Delange, and opening from Unit Commissioner Herb Lederman, each Scout was presented their

Eagle award by Troop 57 Scoutmaster Jim McFeely. Each Scout spoke in response to a challenge from Scoutmaster David Finger to live by the obligations of the Eagle Scout and continue to live by the Scout Oath and Law.

The Eagle Scouts received proclamations from State Assemblywoman Catharine Baker, Orinda Mayor Eve Phillips, and Ryan Brown from Congressman's Mark DeSaulnier's office. Troop Committee Chair Steve Tennant presented congratulatory letters from elected officials including Senator Barbara Boxer, Senator Diane Feinstein, Vice President Joe Biden and President and Mrs. Barack Obama. Senator Feinstein also sent U.S. flags which were flown over the U.S. Capital in honor of each scout.

Lafayette Rotary support planting

Submitted Matt Pease



From left, Norma Evans, Wendi Shively, Matt Pease, and Laurie Callaway Photo provided

The Lafayette Rotary Club presented a donation for \$1,500 to the Lafayette Garden Club to support their recent work in landscaping the Oak Hill off ramp on Highway 24. The Lafayette Garden Club teamed with the City of Lafayette and Lafayette Rotary to replant this area and refresh the soil and will work with the city to maintain these drought and deer resistant plants. "Lafayette Rotary is proud to support the Lafayette Garden Club to help upgrade one of the entrances to Lafayette, and it is consistent with our efforts to serve communities locally and globally," according to Norma Evans, President of Lafayette Rotary. "We are delighted

to use these funds to purchase plants and other materials for our project and believe everyone will be pleased with the work that has been completed" said Wendi Shively, a past president of the Lafayette Garden Club.

Lafayette Rotary meets every Thursday from 12:15 to 1:30 p.m. at the Oakwood Athletic Club at 4000 Mt. Diablo Blvd. Visitors are welcome to join them for lunch and you can get more information by emailing info@rotarylafayette.org. The Lafayette Garden Club (www.lafayettegardenclub.com) meets from 9:30 until 11 a.m. the second Thursday of the month at the Veterans Memorial Building, 3780 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

Five Lamorinda Odyssey of the Mind Teams Advance to World Finals

Submitted by Keum Roberge



Moraga Rotary Team (Division I). Back row, from left, Coaches Jason Akel and Thomas Wang; middle row from left: Beatrice Roberge, Nicholas Aiken, Jordan Rodino, and Benjamin Wang; front row from left: Tyler Akel, Sophia King, and Joseph Pak. Photo by Mary Pat Aiken

Ten teams from Orinda, Lafayette, and Moraga competed in the Odyssey of the Mind State Tournament at Heritage High School in Brentwood on March 25, where they joined just under 200 teams from all over California. By placing first or second place in their respective divisions and categories, five Lamorinda teams have advanced to the World Finals. Three Moraga Rotary teams, one Orinda Rotary team, as well as the Glorietta Elementary School Blue Team will represent California at the Odyssey of the Mind 2017 World Finals on May 24-27 at Michigan State University.

A Division I team, sponsored by the Moraga Rotary and coached by Jason Akel and Thomas Wang, took second place for their solution to "Ready, Set, Balsa, Build." The problem includes building a balsa wood structure of no more than 15 grams that must hold as much weight as it can. The team, composed of fifth graders from Glorietta Elementary and St. Perpetua School, also placed first in the "Spontaneous" category, for their creative solution to an impromptu problem-solving challenge.

Another Division I team representing the Glorietta Elementary Blue Team took first place in "Catch Us If You Can," a problem that requires designing, building, and operating three vehicles that travel from a multi-

level parking garage to a secret meeting place while creating distractions to avoid being followed. The Glorietta team also earned the highly coveted Ranatra Fusca Award, named for the water strider insect, that is given to teams or individuals who display outstanding creativity during competition.

A Division II team, also sponsored by the Moraga Rotary and coached by Jenny Clare and Zunilda Ramos, won first place in the "Spontaneous" category and took second place for "Odd-A-Bot," a problem that involves designing, building, and operating an original robot that demonstrates human characteristics when performing tasks.

Two veteran Division III teams will compete in the World Finals. A Moraga Rotary Division III team, coached by Lydia Oxendine and composed of seven Campolindo High School students, won second place at the State Finals for "It's Time, Omer." The team, which also competed in the World Finals last year, has been together throughout their high school years.

Last but not least, a Division III team representing the Orinda Rotary and coached by Michael Kim, took first place in the "Ready, Set, Balsa, Build" challenge. Over the years, this accomplished team has represented California at State Tournaments and World Finals.



Moraga Rotary Team (Division II). Back row from left, Zac Yu, Sebastian Fojut; front row (from left): Ryan Erickson-King, Alex Clare, Vishal Lashkari, Jack Erickson-King. Photo Zunilda Ramos



Moraga Rotary Team (Division III). Back row from left, Stone Mao, Jake Oxendine, Michael DaRodda, Maria Wong; front row, from left, Kendall Schmidt, Andrea Calderon (Bennett Coates not pictured). Photo Lydia Oxendine