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THE OUTDOOR ART CLUB, INC.
One West Blithedale Avenue
Mill Valley, CA 94941

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Communicator

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- One copy to Calendar Editor,
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

LeAnn Glass

There are not enough ways for me to say thank you to all of you that have made my Presidency during our 106th year a truly rewarding experience. In particular, to all the many, many volunteers that contributed to every aspect of keeping the OAC a remarkable organization, my sincere and heartfelt thanks.

Once the date had been set for removal of our cherished Heritage Oak tree, I prepared to grieve for a long time. I couldn't begin to imagine what our grounds would look like once it was gone. To my great surprise, the first time I walked through the front gate, I realized that our focal point is now our historic Maybeck clubhouse. It is a treasure, and we all work so hard to maintain it for our members and the community.

The new accent lighting and replacement of the old path lights added a new look to the landscape. The building's security lighting was also checked. Areas where existing lighting was not working were identified and are now functioning once again.

In the interior of the building, a high priority was given to checking the ceiling. We needed to make sure it would not cause serious injury after a member experienced a close call. The 106-year-old battens were losing their grip, and gravity was beginning to take over. Everyone experienced a great sense of relief once the job was completed. The treads on the back stairs were replaced, and a handrail on the left side for extra safety was added.

In the course of the preservation of our clubhouse, we discovered a barely legible inscription on the face of the mantel of the fireplace on the stage. A rubbing was made, and revealed a lovely poem by Henry Van Dyke (1851-1933). It reads as follows:

*When each heart gives out its best,
Then the talk is full of zest:
Light your fire and never fear,
Life was made for love and cheer.*

We hope this charming inscription can be restored in the future.

Please read the individual annual reports from the Directors and the Chairs. In doing so, you will get a true sense of why I am so grateful for having had the honor of being President of this wonderful organization. It has been an enriching experience to work with such a talented and enthusiastic group of women. I thank you all again for your friendship and generosity with your time, which have made my job so much easier, as well as very enjoyable.

First Vice President

~ *Janis Bosenko*

This has been a terrific year, in which we welcomed a number of enthusiastic and talented new members. New members are required to volunteer at Club events a minimum of 20 hours per year for the first two years. This is an excellent way for them to meet other members and become integrated into the culture of the Club.

Every activity a new member participates in—from helping in the kitchen, chairing an event, serving on a small committee, or baking cookies—is recorded on membership cards by the first VP. The First VP also serves as an ex-officio member of all committees. It has been a pleasure to fill this position the past year.

2nd Vice President

~ *Jan Spars*

The 2nd Vice President is responsible for forming a committee and selecting programs that will both educate and entertain members. The committee presented the following programs this past year:

- A surprise program prepared by Janis Bosenko in honor of past presidents;
- Director of Quarryhill Botanical Garden of Glen Ellen, Bill McNamara, on collecting seeds of plants with a high probability of extinction;
- Women's Health Issues presented by two distinguished women doctors;
- Dr. Claudine Chalmers spoke on "The French in California";
- "Wings of Song" of Singers Marin presented a program of holiday music;
- A Visit from Abraham Lincoln by Lincoln Impersonator Roger Vincent;
- Lecture on the exhibit of the creations of Yves St. Laurent by Julia Geist;
- Design Secrets (how to work with your things in your space) by residential and commercial interiors designer and OAC member, Jamie Geidt;
- Marin native Joanna Berman spoke of her life as a prima ballerina;

- Two gifted musical sisters, Katrina and Elisabeth Zosseder, played Irish music on the violin and harp;
- OAC member Nan Paget spoke on “Ruth White and the Great Mill Valley Fire of 1929”;
- A docent from the California Academy of Sciences talked about the Academy’s new building;
- Local artist and writer Abby Wasserman spoke on “Ann O’Hanlon’s Creative Gifts to Mill Valley.”

Committee members were: Gail Holway, Jan Spars, Marilyn Smith, Kett Zegart, Janis Bosenko, Dylis Sommer and Noelle Forfota.

Corresponding Secretary

~ *Ellen Sargent*

The Corresponding Secretary collects and distributes incoming mail and writes letters and notes on behalf of the Board. I am responsible for sending thank you notes for donations to the Club, including Mill Valley Market and Tamalpais Bank, both of which include the Outdoor Art Club in their community outreach programs. I write condolence notes to the family of members who have passed away. I also send invitations to the honorees of our annual Past Presidents’ Lunch in September, and in February I send invitations to all the Life Members for the tea honoring them.

Recording Secretary

~ *Pat Peacock and Shirley Larkins*

Taking minutes of the Board and Membership meetings is a big job and responsibility. For the first time, this year the duties were split between co-chairs. Pat Peacock took minutes of the Board meetings, held the 2nd Thursday of every month (except April and August). Board minutes were made available for member review after each Board meeting or upon request.

Shirley Larkins recorded the minutes of the Thursday Membership luncheon and tea meetings from September thru May. Shirley also read aloud the minutes of the previous membership meeting to members in attendance.

It has been a pleasure for both of us to observe and record the progress, challenges, and interaction of those whose donation of time and talents continues to make the OAC a special place in the heart of Mill Valley for women to gather and grow together.

Ways and Means

~ *Janis Bosenko*

The elected Ways and Means chair for the 2008/09-club year resigned for personal reasons very early in the term. Efforts to find a replacement were unsuccessful, so the prior W & M chair re-assumed the responsibilities of the position.

Many thanks to the ladies who chaired the seven Ways and Means events:

Birthday luncheon: Kathleen Perka Ford chaired this event for the 16th consecutive year.

Fashion Show: Betsy Bryant chaired the show, in which OAC Members modeled clothing from Annie's Secret Hang Ups.

Fashion Show Luncheon: Carol Werschky and crew served a gourmet lunch of salmon cakes on salad greens.

Holiday Boutique: Kathleen Sheehan chaired. Several afternoons and evenings of set-up and pricing of items took a lot of effort with little return. Afterwards, unsold items (there were MANY) had to be hauled to Mt. Carmel Salvage and the Family Store. A revised format for this event is anticipated.

Holiday Dinner Dance: A committee, led by LeAnn Glass, Kathleen Perka Ford and Dylis Sommer, took charge of this event when an event Chair could not be recruited, thereby saving this popular annual event from cancellation. They presented a delightful dinner in a holiday-decked clubhouse. Dancing to the lively and entertaining *Le Hot Quartet* followed.

Crab Feed: Janis Bosenko chaired, and Marjorie Shank provided clever decorations for this popular sold-out event.

Teddy Bear Tea: Bonnie Freiberg and Shirley Hasley did another fabulous job on this fun event. As a bonus, one week later, the ladies took their decorations, "loot" favor bags and entertainment to Marin City to delight the Kindergarten and 1st graders. Great community outreach!

Spring Dinner: Janis Bosenko chaired. Dinner featured a reprise of the Maybeck's Supper Club theme. Pianist, Doug Ferguson, husband of member Jane Ferguson, provided tunes during the cocktail hour, adding to the supper club ambience.

Anne Hamblett handled reservations and seating for all W & M events with grace and courtesy.

A list of the events, along with the net profit of that event follows:

August Birthday Luncheon	\$ 2,014.06
Fashion Show & Luncheon	3,345.32
Holiday Boutique	1,478.30
Holiday Dinner Dance	1,416.91
Crab Feed	1,353.35
Teddy Bear Tea	600.00
Spring Dinner (Maybeck's Supper	

Club)	<u>1,914.51</u>
<u>TOTAL NET PROFIT</u>	\$12,122.45

Raffles held at the Fashion Show, Holiday Boutique and Crab Feed added over \$600 to overall net profit.

Net profits were down over **\$3000** from 2007/08. This was primarily due to hiring staff to serve at the evening dinner events. Members need to step forward to chair and work Ways and Means events. With more members volunteering to prep, plate, serve and clean up, especially at the evening events, we can reduce or eliminate hired staff. The alternative is raising the price of events, something we would like to avoid in these shaky financial times.

Much appreciation to **all** members who worked on events, donated items for raffles and the Holiday Boutique. Of course, thank you to members and guests who attended the events.

House Report

~ Janet Oyen

Although it has been a busy year for the House Committee, you may not have noticed many of the improvements we made. For example, we installed a new water heater in the basement, new plumbing and new fire sprinklers in the Butler's Pantry, repaired track lighting on stage, and put in some energy-efficient lights and a new battery for the emergency lighting. Changes you may have noticed in the kitchen are new cutting boards, new stools, a new screen door and a new stockpot and roasting pans. We also purchased three new market umbrellas and had the chair upholstery cleaned.

Lee Lewis, with his storehouse of knowledge about House matters, has been a terrific help in easing me into this busy and detailed job. Francisco Cortez, our dishwasher, has been a dedicated and loyal employee. A big thank you to my committee members for their help, especially Sharon Levien and Jean Dunnigan for taking over when I was gone. Thank you all.

Now that I have learned some of the ins and outs of being House Chair, I decided not to let that knowledge go to waste, so I signed up for another year!

Building Preservation

~ Jean Dunnigan

We have postponed the historic restoration of the women's restroom. Some materials have already been purchased and are stored at the Club. The project is now scheduled for January 2010.

The extra large TV on the stage has been removed, as well as some unneeded items in the

basement.

Projects that will soon be completed are: repairing the back stairs, lifting and securing a section of the gutters, and checking, securing and replacing any battens in the main hall and the library.

Grounds Report

~ *Susan Reynolds*

The Grounds Advisory Committee members were: Kathleen Perka Ford, Lauri Harper, Jane Singer, Kristin Jakob and Susan Reynolds. Thank you to all the committee members for the many jobs and projects they handled during the year.

We are happy to report our goals for 2008-09 have been accomplished. They were to improve the quality of our grounds in the following ways: amending soil, deep fertilizing, removing old patio oak and designing a new garden space, spraying Oaks for SOD and caterpillars, mulching, improving our irrigation system, formative pruning on many trees, pruning hedges, and mending fences. The grounds are beautiful and were indeed ready for inspection on the "Garden Tour" day. The grounds are a work in progress, increasing in beauty as they evolve. Thank you for your patience.

New copper post lighting was installed along the side steps. An entirely new lighting system was installed along the front path, including up lights on trees. Many thanks and a grand vote of appreciation go to Jane Singer, who was able to purchase all the new lighting fixtures, wiring and the plants in the new front garden at wholesale prices!! This was a tremendous help in making these projects possible. Jane and Kristin also collaborated on the new front garden design and plant selection.

A wonderful group of club volunteers, the "Deadheaders," came regularly last summer and fall to keep the gardens weeded, deadheaded and nurtured. Please join us and learn more about our garden and plants. Call Susan Reynolds 388-0883 or the new co-chairs Marti Cagwin and Chipps Barsky.

Rentals

~ *Laureen Novak*

Wow, another year over and I am looking forward to one more term. With such uncertainty in the economy, I thought it would be a benefit to continue on as Rental Director. As everyone is trying to cut costs, many of the questions that are coming our way have dramatically changed, so it should be an interesting year ahead. Rentals are down from last year by about 8.5%. We are only now starting to receive requests for 2010. The Rental Committee will keep a close watch over rentals in our area to determine any changes that may be necessary. The committee recommended and the Board approved a "**Stimulus Package**" for the months of March –August 2010 for Fridays and Sundays only. The rental rate on these days only will be decreased to **\$2900**.

Rentals rates for private rentals remain at **\$3,500**. Mill Valley non-profit rates increased from **\$800 to \$1500** and non-Mill Valley non-profits increased from **\$1500 to \$2000**. Any non-profit rental on Saturday will be at the full rate. Member rates remain at **\$500**.

The preferred caterers list has helped to maintain a high standard of service and help reduce wear and tear on our building. We are now asking caterers to take their wet waste and recyclables with them, which will help to decrease the number of cans on trash pick-up day. Not only do we notice the cans, but so do the many Mill Valley black birds. With less trash, there should be fewer birds and happier neighbors.

Many thanks go out to our Saturday morning docents. Our renters frequently comment how beneficial the docent tours are. In fact, one of our recent renters called to tell me how helpful the docents were as she moved forward in planning her event. Thank you ladies! A big thanks to Renee Polanco, who has been working closely with me for the past two years. Sandy Seeger has stepped forward to help as Renee steps aside. And finally, a big thank you to Dona Monet, who keeps me on track and heads up the docent team. I would be remiss not to thank Mr. Lee Lewis. We are so very lucky to have his services; what a fine job he does for the Club.

This year we gave in-kind/outreach \$90,600 in rental services. The club reaches out to many charitable organizations to enable them to hold their annual fundraisers at our beautiful historic building and grounds. Many of these organizations report that because they are holding their event at the OAC, they know it will be well attended.

Have you ever wondered who benefits from the Club's reduced-rate rental program? Beneficiaries include the following: National Charity League, Senior Access, the Mill Valley Film Festival, our good neighbor Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, and the College of Marin, to name just a few.

Contracts **Written** between July 1, 2009 and May 8, 2009 (differs from Events **held** during this period since most contracts are written at least six months in advance.)

Total Days Rented:	80	
Days at Full Rate:	33	
Days at OAC Member Rate:	14	
Days at MV Nonprofit Rate:	19	
Days at Outside MV Nonprofit Rate:	2	
Days at Member Memorial Rate:	3	
Days at MV Nonmember Memorial Rate:	7	
Free Days:	2	
Rental Income (net of security deposit)		\$135,950.00 as of 6/11/09

Membership

~ Cassandra Cosby

This year has been a busy one for Membership. Twenty-two new members were voted in, 25 new members attended the orientation coffee in March (some from last year), and nine new members were introduced to the membership-at-large at the March tea. I want to thank the Sponsors who have taken a more active role in mentoring their new members, and I want to thank the Board for encouraging the new members to become involved in the Club's various activities. As of this writing, we have 392 active members.

Thank you to my hard-working committee, particularly Margot Harker, Debbie Mills, Anne Marsh, Barbara Binns, and Jane Conway, who made themselves available for all these home visits.

I look forward to working with the new board as Membership Chair again in the coming year.

Following is a list of OAC new members for the Club year 2008-09:

Linda McCall	November
Peggy Chenoweth	
Suzanne Burrows	
Maureen Simon	January
Janet Huston	February
Natalie Meyring	
Maureen O'Connor	
Karen Buckter	
Cindy McCauley	
Aniko Kurczinak	
June Hengst	March
Christy Hermann	
Shirley McNeese	
Penn Mullin	
Patricia Liddle	
Patti Anderson	
Judy Dobkowski	April
Alannah Kinser	
Tuyen Bonneau	May
Joan Goldberg	
Pauline Bunton	
Maggie Floum	

USE OF AUDIO SYSTEM;

The Audio System is available to renters with advance request, payment of an additional rental fee, and security deposit.

The system is NOT available for use without prior arrangement and payment of audio rental fees. This applies to all rentals, including **MEMBER RENTALS** and Non-profit rentals. The system has a key-lock operating switch to prevent unauthorized use.

Members: If you are renting the clubhouse and plan to use the audio system, please make required prior arrangements to avoid disappointment.

Email Laureen Novak, Rental Director, at
Rental@outdoorartclub.org

PLEASE REVIEW YOUR ROSTER LISTING

If you have moved or changed your email address or any other personal information and not already informed us of this, please notify our Business Secretary so that you will be properly listed in our new roster, continue to receive our mailings, and hear from your friends.

Please notify **Betty Copple**, bcopple3@comcast.net, 383-2760 through June 30. Beginning July 1 notify our new Business Secretary, **Susan Daniloff**, sdaniloff@earthlink.net, 289-0656.

Front row L to R: Peg Hannigan, LeAnn Glass, Kathy Ford, Joan Ford, Dylis Sommer, Janis Bosenko, Kay Anderson, Diane Balch.

Back row L to R: Pat Martin, Jean Dunnigan, Alice Saxton, Mary Jane Palmer, Karen Kiely, Jean Musgrave, Susan Reynolds, Lupe Coleman, Laureen Novak, Dorothy Petitt, Janet Oyen.

Absent: Lauri Harper, Lyn Jessup, Betty Shapiro, Claudia Hecht, Barbara Yates, Joan Turner, Nan Paget, Anne Clarke.

STANDING RULE CHANGES, 2008

GUESTS: No guest may come to a regular business meeting more than once a year.

PETITIONS: Not to be circulated at any Club meeting or social function. Fliers relating to Club programs are permitted.

SMOKING: Prohibited anywhere inside the Clubhouse (historic building) and anywhere outside on the property, including back and front garden areas and walkways, on back deck, or on front patio.

SOLICITATIONS: Solicitation of local merchants is allowed only by Ways and Means or Garden Tour Committees, not more than once a year. All solicitation of members, merchants, and grant requests must be reviewed and approved by the Board in advance.

ADD:

MEMORIALS: If requested, with President's approval, memorial or funeral services for Club members only may be announced via e-mail calendar reminder.

Fiscal Advisory

~ *Betty Shapiro*

We have had a very busy and successful year. The Fiscal Advisory Committee and the Finance Committee worked closely together with satisfactory results.

At the request of the Board, Grounds Committee and the Building Preservation Committee, we have had several meetings. We recommended that the bathroom renovation be revised and that the selection of the contractors be reconsidered. The bathroom is still on the schedule for next year.

The recommendations of Tom O'Neal and the Reserve Analysis were taken care of by the House Chair and the Building Preservation Chair. These were small jobs that were needed for the preservation of our precious building.

Also the Fiscal Advisory Committee strongly recommended that the exterior lighting around our Clubhouse be improved. This was originated by our Rental Chair because of lack of lighting for the caterers when leaving the building in the evening hours. It turned out that we had the necessary electric fixtures; it was only necessary to install new light bulbs.

Our Committee consisted of Mary Jane Palmer, Kathleen Perka Ford, Evelyn Greenwood, Connie Kroeck and Betty Shapiro. We appreciated the opportunity to serve our Club.

Finance Committee

~ *Karen Kiely*

This year we were able to save money by completing our tax returns in-house. We have also retained an outside CPA to review our financial statements and answer technical questions.

There has been little change in our capital and operating reserve accounts. The bathroom restoration project has been delayed, and no other large projects were undertaken.

Business Secretary

~ *Betty Copple*

As of May 14, 2009, our membership figures are as follows:

Current total membership	436
Dues-paying members	391
Life members	40
Courtesy members	5

The following membership changes have occurred so far this fiscal year (2008-09):

New dues-paying members	22
Reinstated membes	3
New life members	3
New courtesy member	1
Dropped courtesy member	1
Deceased members	2
Resigned members	6

The foregoing numbers could change slightly by the end of this fiscal year (June 30).

It has been a real pleasure to serve on this year's Board.

Civics and Conservation

~ *Kett Zegart*

The Civics and Conservation Section presented the following four programs the past year:

- Organic Farming in Marin and Beyond. Helge Hellberg, Director of Marin Organics, and Larry Rose, M.D., retired medical director of OSHA spoke on the state of organic farming and toxic spraying for apple moth infestations in Marin County.
- Election Reform—and a Challenge Beyond. The documentary film, *Run, Granny, Run*, the story of a 90-year-old grandmother's campaign to reform election financing and her run for the Senate, was shown.
- Cell Phones and Beyond. What can citizens do to control electromagnetic radiation from antennae on our town buildings? Bryan Crawford, Director of the Marin County Community Development Agency, and William Hammet, engineer, spoke to each side of the issue of the safety of EMR radiation in our cities.
- Ruth White and the Great Mill Valley Fire of 1929. At a guest tea, Nan Paget spoke on the history of the Ralston White Retreat in Mill Valley and the 1929 fire that started behind the retreat. A Mill Valley F.D. officer also spoke on defending our homes from wildland fire.
- A World Crisis: Bringing Safe Drinking Water to the World Beyond. Liz Specht, founder of El Povenir, and Lisa Nash, CEO of Blue Planet Run, spoke and showed slides of their work to provide safe drinking water to areas of the globe in need of this resource.

This year was notable for an increase in interested citizens from the community at large

attending these publicly offered programs.

Garden Section

~ *Barbara Derich and Ruth Lynch*

Field Trip to Conservatory of Flowers in Golden Gate Park. Members were treated to a comprehensive tour of this spectacular living museum of rare and beautiful tropical plants. This gem of Victorian architecture is North America's oldest existing public conservatory. Jane Scurich, Director of Development and an OAC member, greeted us upon arrival. Everyone enjoyed a no-host brunch in Mill Valley prior to this special tour.

Annual Potluck and Plant Exchange. This annual event has become a favorite way to celebrate the holidays by combining the strength of friendship and delicious food. In addition, each member left with a beautiful plant to enjoy during the holidays.

“At Work in the Wild and Cultivated World.” Wendy Johnson, noted author, gardener, and Mill Valley resident, shared a wealth of practical gardening knowledge and her love for the natural world. Over 60 people attended this inspiring presentation. Wendy spoke about her lifetime of experiences and her inner and outer growth. She is also a Buddhist meditation teacher and garden mentor. Wendy's book, *Gardening at the Dragon's Gate*, was available for purchase, and she autographed copies.

Hidden Bounty of Marin: Farm Families in Transition. Fifty-five members viewed this 28-minute documentary. Completed in 2008, it describes the lives and work of nine West Marin farming and ranching families in transition. Writer/director and Mill Valley native, Ellie Rilla, provided an overview before the showing and answered questions at the conclusion. All in attendance enjoyed sampling food produced in West Marin—Straus ice cream, Lunny organic beef, and original blue cheese from Point Reyes Farmstead.

Garden Tour XV

~ *Marilyn Smith*

We are happy to report that our 2009 Garden Tour netted \$38,067. Considering the state of the economy, we can all give a big cheer for that figure. We actually came very close to equaling the net figure for '08. Lunches sold out with 415 folks enjoying the Bombay chicken salad. The Raffle earned \$1470, and the silent auction brought in \$5455. The surprise of the day was the success of our “new” boutique handled by Terry Nevin, Sheila Bertram, and Val Gellner. In case you missed it, these three hard-working members designed and made necklaces that sold like hotcakes. The necklaces and other items they produced netted \$2,136. Congratulations, and of course we will repeat!

Many of the tour participants, as overheard by driver husbands, expressed very positive sentiments about the tour. Some even said it was the “best yet,” despite the challenge posed by one house dropping out, leaving an isolated home off the beaten track.

Special thanks to co-chairs Kathy King and Jane Richmond and the entire Garden Tour committee.

Community Service

~ *Lupe Coleman*

The total value of items made and distributed to various organizations for 2008-09 is \$2,285.00.

Value placed on each item is as follows:

Lap robes	24 x \$25	\$ 600.00
Shawls	41 x \$25	1,025.00
Pillows	21 x \$5	105.00
Booties	17 x \$15	255.00
Socks	20 x \$15	300.00
Total		\$2,285.00

Items were distributed to the following organizations: St. Michael's Extended Care, Adobe House, Redwoods Assisted Living, Marin City Senior Center, Casa Allegra Community Services, Tiburon Health Care, Fifth Avenue Convalescent Home, and Life House. The following Community Service members participated in this project: Gail Angiulo, Janis Bosenko, Elvira Cassell, Tayna Dowdle, Nellie Mitchell, Charlaine Shackelford, and new members Christy Hermann and Joyce Johnston.

Cultural Arts

Yoga

Jean Musgrave, Chair

This ongoing class meets Tuesdays from 10 AM to 11:30 AM. Through gentle movements, we're improving flexibility and concentration, and increasing energy.

Goodbye to the Writing Group

~*Carol Staiger*

After ten productive years, the Writing Group has come to an end. The members, for the most part, ran out of material to write about.

Dorothy Petitt was the chair. When one wanted advice, she was most wise, but she never corrected us, just encouraged us. Some of her writing was of her childhood in Iowa. She and her brother taught their younger sister to write her name so they could get books out of the library. This meant more books for Dorothy to read and was the beginning of her life-long love of books.

Marian Jacot was skilled in using the right words to describe a mood, whether watching a sunset or enjoying a fine dinner in France. Barbara Dickey wrote about attending a Catholic school in Chicago, and we all enjoyed her story of a little rat that ran the Dipsea Race, running on stair railings wherever it could.

Estelle Radovich Jenson had good stories of her family in Montana. She used a good

Norwegian accent in reading them. Maureen Roche used her Irish brogue to tell of growing up in Ireland. And Letty Erringer, with a Texas drawl, told about her mother, a well known dancer. Letty also wrote about her own dance lessons.

Ann Phythian had many tales, one of the best being of a clothing-optional raft trip down the Snake River when the leader died. While some paddled upstream for help, the rest had to keep the body wet with towels.

Perhaps the best biographer was Dorothy

Killion. She had a remarkable memory and wrote about growing up in Oakland-Piedmont and later becoming an officer in the second World War.

I, Carol Staiger, wrote about my home town, Dixon, and how living in a small town in the thirties was so different from today.

Adieu to our wonderful Writing Group. It has been great fun.

Stepping Out

~ *Suzanne Irwin-Wells, Chair*

Stepping Out activities continued to appeal to members and their guests, as evidenced by the increased numbers that have shown up for each activity, compared with the turnout for similar activities the previous year. Events included:

S. F. Opera: Elixir of Love, November 2008

Approximately 23 members and guests attended a special family matinee of Donizetti's comedy romance, sung in English. Several small groups of members enjoyed lunch afterwards at different restaurants in the city or in Marin.

Legion of Honor: French Luxury. Faberge, Lalique, and Tiffany, February 2009.

Thirty five members and guests enjoyed a private docent morning tour before the museum opened to the public. Afterwards, several of the members made their own plans for lunch, either at the Museum Café or elsewhere.

deYoung Museum: Yves Saint Laurent. March 2009. Two groups of approximately 20 each enjoyed private docent tours of this amazing exhibit, which showed YSL's clothing through the eras. As always, the docents were well versed on the exhibit and were willing to answer questions, as well as offer tidbits about the designer's life and his desire to free women from the constraints of uncomfortable clothing.

Literary Section

~ *Connie Birkie, Chair*

The Literary Section was pleased to present the following authors this past year:

- Nina Schuyler, who discussed her first novel, *The Painting*;
- Albert Flynn DeSilver, Marin County's first poet laureate, discussed *Letters to a Poet*;
 - Julia Flynn Siler discussed her book, *The House of Mondavi: The Rise and Fall of an American Wine Dynasty*;
 - Gail Tsukiyama spoke on her latest novel, *The Street of a Thousand Blossoms*.

Language Groups

- **The German Group** (*Caroline Robinson, Chair*) met the 4th Monday from 12 Noon to 2 PM;

- **The Italian Group** (*Janet Oyen, Chair*) met the first Wednesday from 10 AM to noon, and the 4th Monday from 10 AM to noon, with a teacher.
- **The French Group** (*Marjorie Cope, Chair*) met every Wednesday at 1:30 PM at the Redwoods.

Art Section

~ *Jean Fawcett, Chair*

The OAC's watercolor class has completed another enjoyable year. We had several teachers, including one Mill Valley man who has become a favorite of the class. We have asked him to return next fall to teach in October, November, and December. This past year we even dabbled in pastels. It was a nice change of pace and stirred a new interest in another expression of representational art. At the September 24th tea, we will present our annual art show.

Bridge (*Joanne Mannion, Chair*), **Dominoes** (*Linda Scherf, Chair*), and **Scrabble** (*Sharon Levien, Chair*) were played on the third Monday of each month.

Book Discussion Group

~ *Mary Polite, Chair*

This group was newly organized by Marilyn Smith, who chaired its initial meetings. Its members meet on the fourth Thursday of the month in the Library after the Guest Tea. Mary Polite has agreed to chair the group for the coming year. Call Mary at 380-8165 for more information.

Parliamentarian

~ *Kathleen Perka Ford*

The Parliamentary Committee – members, Jean Musgrave, Lauri Harper, Laurel Gothelf and Parliamentarian, Kathleen Perka Ford – met twice to review and recommend revisions, clarifications and updates of the Club's Bylaws and Standing Rules to the Board. Board Procedures and Job Descriptions are also the responsibility of the Committee.

The Board approved three new additions to the Standing Rules – a Conflict of Interest Policy, a Whistleblower Policy and one on Deposits. Four revisions to existing rules were made regarding Donations, Memorials, Properties and Solicitations.

Three Sections of the Bylaws were amended by the Board in December 2008 and approved by the Membership in January 2009. Additional Bylaws changes were approved by the Board in May 2009 and will be voted on by the Membership at the September 10, 2009 luncheon meeting.

Please take the time to review the most recent changes and additions to both the Standing Rules and the Bylaws, which are listed at the end of this report. Complete versions of both the Standing Rules and Bylaws are printed each year in the Club's membership directory. The directory for 2009-2010 will be available the end of September 2009 in

order to provide the most up- to-date editions.

It was a pleasure serving as both Parliamentarian and Director-at-Large this past year. With great respect and regard, I thank the Parliamentary Committee and appreciate their time and thoughtful deliberations.

Bylaws

Revisions

Effective January 2009

Article IV, Membership:

Section 4, New Members:

“After two (2) years’ membership *and completion of required hours*, a member may reserve the Club at a special rate *for the exclusive use of* the member, her parents or children.”

Article IV, Membership:

Section 5: Resignations:

“Must be in writing to the Business Secretary by *June 1*. For a member to resign in good standing all dues and/or assessments must have been paid to date.”

Article V

Section 5: Deceased Member Donations:

“Upon the death of a member in good standing the President shall direct the Business Secretary to transfer to The Outdoor Art Club Fund (formerly known as the Memorial Fund) the sum of *one hundred dollars (\$100)*.”

Proposed Revisions

Approved by the Board June 12, 2009

Need Membership approval Sept. 10, 2009

Article IV, Membership

Section 8:

Add: before “No member shall receive payment...” “*Club members may be sponsors to the Garden Tour or Ways & Means events, but no use of their business or professional affiliation is permitted.*”

Article V,

Initiation Fee, Dues & Donations,

Section 1: Initiation Fee:

(page 51) change from one hundred (\$100) to *one hundred twenty five (\$125)*.

IN MEMORIAM

Barbara Blackwell

Josette Gavin

Camille Folker

THE OUTDOOR ART CLUB BOARD, 2008-2009

THE OUTDOOR ART CLUB BOARD 2008-2009

Back row:: Betty Cople, Laureen Novak, Karen Kiely, Susan Reynolds, Lupe Coleman, Janet Oyen, Jan Spars

Front row: Shirley Larkins, Kathleen Perka Ford, LeAnn Glass, Kett Zegart, Janis Bosenko, Kay Anderson, Diane Balch, Marilyn Smith

Absent: Pat Peacock, Ellen Sargent, Cassandra Cosby, Dylis Sommer, Betty Shapiro

Outreach Committee

~ *Dorothy Pettit*

The 2009 Outreach Committee was composed of the appointed chair, Dorothy Pettit, the co-chair, Gerrie Young, the past-chair, Penny Foster, two members-at-large appointed by the president, Gerrie Young and Evelyn Greenwood. Civics and Conservation chair, Kett Zegart, Cultural Arts chair, Marilyn Smith, Community Service chair, Lupe Coleman, Fiscal Advisory chair, Betty Shapiro, and Finance chair, Karen Kiely. LeAnn Glass, President, and Janis Bosenko, First Vice President, were ex officio members of the committee.

The committee met four times, once to get organized, twice to hear club members present cases for funding 22 Marin non-profit organizations, once to allot the \$20,000 budgeted for Outreach. Each 15-minute presentation included the goals and budget of each organization.

A total of \$44,900 was requested, plus two requests for any amount we could give. Each committee member determined what each organization should receive, the amounts to total \$20,000. The final amount for each organization was determined by averaging the members' recommendations. One organization was not funded.

Casa Allegra Community Service	\$1,000
Center for Independent Living	900
Curtain Theater (Shakespeare in the Park)	500
Dedication to Special Education	1,000
Fundraiser for Animal Helpers	500
Golden Gate Opera	0
Lifehouse	1,000
Marin Abused Women's Services	1,600
Marin Humane Society (Share Program)	850
Marin Literacy Program/FLAGship	1,000
Marin Sr. Coordinating Council (Whistlestop)	1,300
Marin Valley Scholarship Program	500
Mill Valley Scout Hall	1,200
Milley Awards	500
Mountain Play Association	800
O'Hanlon Center for the Arts	850
142 Throckmorton	700
Richard de Lone Special Housing Project	500
Ritter Center	1,000
St. Vincent de Paul Society	1,550
Senior Access	1,750
Youth Court	1,000

This was a very hard-working, dedicated committee, able to make the difficult decisions about distribution. I thank them all for a personally gratifying experience.

BLOOD DRIVE

~ *Lise Salmon*

Two successful blood drives were held this past year in cooperation with the Blood Centers of the Pacific — one in October 2008 and the other in March 2009. Thank you to all the donors and the club volunteers who participated in this much needed life-

saving program.

Article V,
Initiation Fee, Dues & Donations,

Section 6, Donations:

(page 51) Change to “shall be deposited into The Outdoor Art Club Fund, unless designated for a specific purpose *which requires Board approval.*”

Article VIII: Board of Directors

(page 53) Add: *Section 1 (e): Co-Chairs: Two members may share committee leadership and attend meetings; only one shall have a vote.*

Article IX, Board Member Duties

Section 18, Civics & Conservation:

(page 57) Add: after “...in addition to the bi-monthly meetings;” *shall submit a list for Board approval of budgeted membership fees and donations to civic and conservation groups at the January Board Meeting. IRS regulations prohibit directly or indirectly participating in or interfering in any political activities; shall have a committee.....”*

Article IX, Board Member Duties

Section 19, Cultural Arts:

(page 57) Add: after “Stepping Out”, *Book Discussion Group*

SAVE THE DATE

Thursday, August 20, 2009 at Noon for the Club’s 107th Birthday—a Ways and Means Event. Members may bring guests. Card tables will be available for bridge, dominoes, or Scrabble.

~ *Chair: Kathleen Perka Ford*

**CHANGE OF DATE—
MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

The Home Day Luncheon that would ordinarily be held on Thursday, October 8 has been rescheduled to **Wed., October 7, 2009** to accommodate the Mill Valley Film Festival. It will be a box lunch. Please mark your calendars now to avoid conflicts later on.

Communicator

Coordinating Editor	Kathleen Perka Ford
Design and Editing	Terry Ulin & LeAnn Glass
Monthly Fliers	Pat Melin
Mailing & Labels	Pat Larson

Reminder to All Members. Please be certain that the last one to leave secures the building: turns out the lights, turns down furnaces, and locks all doors.

PLEASE REVIEW YOUR ROSTER LISTING

If you have moved or changed your email address or other personal information, please notify our new Business Secretary, Susan Daniloff, sdaniloff@earthlink.net, 289-0656

§§§§§§§§

Standing Rules

New Additions & Revisions

NEW

CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY: *The Outdoor Art Club has adopted a Conflict of Interest policy in conjunction with Article IV, Section 8 of the Bylaws Available for inspection upon request of the Parliamentarian.*

WHISTLEBLOWER POLICY: *The Outdoor Art Club has adopted a Whistleblower policy. Available for inspection upon request of the Parliamentarian.*

DEPOSITS: *Deposits of funds are to be done in a timely manner after each Club event.*

REVISIONS

DONATIONS: The Club will gratefully accept and acknowledge donations and contributions which are tax-deductible under our 501(c)(3) status. *Specific purpose donations require Board approval. No plaques allowed.*

MEMORIALS: If requested, with President's approval, memorial or funeral service, *for Club members only*, may be announced via e-mail calendar reminder.

PROPERTIES, KITCHEN: All articles in locked kitchen cabinets are not available to any organization or individual, *including Club members.*

SOLICITATIONS: Solicitation of local merchants is allowed only by Ways and Means or Garden Tour Committees, no more than once a year. All solicitation of members, merchants, and grant requests must be reviewed and approved by the Board in advance. *Club members may be sponsors to the Garden Tour or Ways & Means events, but no use of their business or professional affiliation is permitted.*