



North Oakland Village

Monthly Newsletter



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>> Singing with Sara

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Happening in November & December

Singing with Sara	Nov. 2 & Dec. 7
Monday Menders	Nov. 6, 13, 20 & 27 Dec. 4, 11 & 18
Improvistational Theater Performance	November 9
Social Action Forum	Nov. 10 & Dec. 8
Art for the Holidays	November 10
Move with Ease	Nov. 11 & Dec. 9
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Time to Talk about NOV	Nov. 18 & Dec. 16
Bridge Group	Nov. 18 & Dec. 16
Member Salon	Nov. 20 & Dec. 19
Non-Fiction Book Group	Date to be announced
Beautify Oakland Work Team	Nov. 25 & Dec. 23
Holiday Concert & Potluck	December 17

President's Letter

>> Member Salon

>> Monthly Bridge Group

>> Non-Fiction Book Group

>> Help Beautify Oakland Workgroup

COMMUNITY EVENTS

>> Oakland Activities in November & December

COMING ATTRACTIONS

Holiday Concert & Potluck

December 17

4:00 – concert

5:00–7:00 – Potluck

**NOV Headquarters
First Congregational Church
25th at Harrison**

**Need a ride? Call
510/547-8500**



Devi Leads 2016 holiday concert

Note: There will be no potluck in November

Dear NOV Community,

Chestnuts are in the stores already and by the time you read this, we'll be beyond our Halloween Potluck (which promises to be a great party!) and entering the Holiday Season.



We will celebrate the holidays as a Village at a highlight event, the Christmas Concert on December 17 with the Rockridge Chorus, followed by a Potluck supper. Mark your calendars, invite friends and family and please bring food to share at our potluck dinner. We will invite the members of our Advisory Committee, Mr. Scott Means – Aging and Adult Services Manager for the City of Oakland, members of the Mayor's Commission on Aging, Mayor Libby Schaaf, certain members of the City Council and Ben Carson, our supervisor on the Alameda County Board of Supervisors. Please plan on joining us!

By that time in December, we'll be actively making progress on our "Coming of Age" Plan objectives as we implement the vision of the world's shortest Strategic Plan. Our 1-year strategic plan, which launched on October 1st, following meetings with members and with volunteers, is a little over 1 page long, and is chock full of achievable goals and a couple of dreams. Part of the plan involves introducing the Village movement and our Village particularly to city and county officials so we can work together to make Oakland an Aging Friendly City.

I look forward to seeing each and every one of you at one of our great programs in November and December. Warm wishes for a

Holiday Closings for Village Office

The North Oakland Village office will close for Thanksgiving and the Winter holidays. Please be aware that *e-mails and phone calls will NOT be monitored during these periods*. Members please plan ahead for service requests for these time periods.



Thanksgiving: office closed: **Wednesday, November 22 – Friday, November 24**. The office will reopen on Monday, November 27.

Christmas/New Year holidays: the office will close at noon on **Wednesday, December 20, 2017**. We will reopen on Wednesday, January 3rd.

Note: North Oakland Village is unable to provide emergency services, so if you have an emergency during this time, please contact 911.

Volunteering

In our volunteering meeting, we discovered that volunteers want more information about ways to best get involved with action plan items listed in the strategic plan.

In January, with the launch of our new newsletter format, we will have specifics. We are currently seeking to fill a volunteer coordinator position as well as folks with specific skills relating to grant writing and funding resources. In the meantime, the list below identifies our most active committees, which meet once a month. If you want to get involved before January, please let the office know.

1. **Program Committee** to plan and organize activities to engage members and volunteers

2. **Ambassadors Committee** Our task is to recruit new members and volunteers to North Oakland Village

3. **Membership Committee** meets monthly to review member needs, and provides personal contact and support to members.

4. **Newsletter Committee** – seeking writers and graphic talents

Georgie Meets Santa Claus by Ruby Long

Christmas was always a big deal at our house. It was easy to have a Christmas tree – we just went into the woods and cut one. And somehow, no matter how little money we had, gifts for everyone appeared under it. The adults always threatened we wouldn't get any gifts if we didn't behave, but every Christmas morning we woke to find something Santa had left for each of us.

In this story, I was fifteen, Georgie, my half-brother, was three-and-a-half and it was Christmas time. We had decorated the Christmas tree, wrapped packages had begun appearing under it, and the whole family was anticipating the arrival of Santa Claus. Every time one of us children asked an adult in our family what we were getting for Christmas, the reply was, "Have you been good?" Our reply, of course, was always "yes" even though we might have had some personal and secret doubts about whether that statement was true.



A couple of days before Christmas, the family was all gathered in the living room when I had a great idea. With three adults and five children in it, the room was pretty full and I knew I could be gone for a few minutes without being missed, so I left quietly and went to my room. I scrounged around, opening drawers and looking in the back of the closet till I found a pair of red pants and a red shirt. I put on a pair of black rubber boots. I don't remember what I did about a beard, but I rigged something up that covered most of my face and I pulled on a red cap. When I looked in the mirror, I thought I had done a pretty good impersonation of Santa Claus.

I sneaked out the back door and walked around to the front, making sure to create lots of noise climbing the three steps to the front door. I banged on the door loudly. My mother answered the knock and immediately became my accomplice, announcing, "Look, it's Santa Claus. Come on in, Santa Claus."

I stepped into the living room. "I'm looking for Georgie, I said, changing my voice so I wouldn't be recognized. Someone pushed him forward." "Are you Georgie?" He nodded his head, his eyes sparkling. "Have you been good, Georgie?" I asked.

He nodded again. "Well, I came to check. You know I don't give presents to boys and girls who aren't good. You keep being good and I'll bring you something for Christmas."

I turned back toward the door. My heart beat hard in my chest and I had a difficult time of it not to smile. Georgie was seeing Santa Claus! I was very pleased with myself for bringing him to life for my little brother. At the door, I looked back and waved. "Good bye," I said. "Good bye, Santa," everyone chorused and waved except for Georgie. He was quiet. I went back to my room, took off the Santa garb and returned to the living room.

"Ruby, you should have been here," everyone spoke at once, excitement in their voices as I came into the room. "Santa Claus was here. You missed him. Too bad." "Oh, I am sorry," I said. I wish I had been here. Did he bring us anything? What did he have to say?" "He came to talk to Georgie. He wanted to know if he had been good. He's coming back on Christmas Eve." "Darn. I wish I could have seen him." I sat down and tried to look disappointed. In a minute, Georgie came over to me. "Ruby," he said. "Would you go out and get dressed up like that again?"

Like to Laugh?

Join us for a fun couple of hours at NOV on **November 9 at 2:00 PM.**

The Perennials, an all-woman improv group, will perform. All over 50, these women act out incidents from newspaper headlines, their own lives and perhaps yours. Sure to be fun and possibly hilarious.



Put it on your calendar so you won't forget:

Thursday, November 9, 2:00 PM at the NOV Office

Art for the Holidays!

On Friday, November 10 from 10:30 AM to 1:00 PM the Art Group will have a wonderful, art-making extravaganza in the NOV Office. We have accumulated LOTS of old holiday cards, pictures, blank note-cards, blank wrapping paper, blank paper, ribbons, stickers, etc. for all of us to transform into beautiful holiday greetings of one kind or another. You are all invited to join us and, if you

want, bring pictures, etc. of your own to add to the transformative items.



We have so much fun in the art group that we wanted to include all members and volunteers in our festivities, especially on the eve of the Holiday Season. Let us know if you want to come, and members tell us if you need a ride. Also, if you have any questions, don't hesitate to call the office. We hope to see many of you there ready to "deck the halls, the cards, the gifts, etc. with boughs of holly"!

You can come for the whole time or just drop in for the time that suits you. Let's spend the afternoon playing with creative ideas. Men, remember you are creative types we know – so we especially want you to joins us.

The public is also welcome. Members if you need a ride, give us a call.

– Sandra Coleman

Have a happy and healthy holiday - Move With Ease!

The holidays are almost upon us. By the beginning of the New Year, we will all resolve to eat better and exercise more, and we all know how that turns out.

Well this year you won't have to make that resolution, as we have an antidote for holiday excess.



"Move with Ease" is a new class where members and volunteers meet once a month on a Saturday morning (most likely the 2nd Sat once established). We will begin with quieting the mind with Mindfulness Meditation, ease into some chair yoga and possibly some walking meditation or a regular walk.

New Volunteer Susana Renaud who teaches yoga and mindfulness will be leading the group. All members and volunteers please join us at the NOV office on Saturday, November 18th and December 9th. 10:00 AM to 11:15 AM.

Sharing a Thanksgiving Meal

Volunteer **Joan Hall-Feinberg** and her husband **Abe** will be hosting a small Thanksgiving gathering at their home for members and volunteers who would like to share a Thanksgiving meal together. There will be room for 9 or 10 people.



If you are a member or volunteer who wishes to participate (and bring a dish to share), *reserve your space through the front office*. Since this is in a private home, space will be limited, so please get on the list now.

We will gather together at 3:00 PM on Thanksgiving Day, November 23rd at the Feinberg home. Looking forward to seeing you there.

Holiday Concert and Potluck - Sunday, December 17

Once again the incredible Rockridge Chorale is gifting North Oakland Village with a concert for the holiday season. The concert includes a variety of music that makes for a joyful afternoon.

A potluck will follow, and we are hoping that as many of the choir as possible will join us for the sharing of a meal together. *Both the concert and potluck are open to the public.*

The concert is *free*, so just bring a dish to share for the potluck.

The concert begins at 4:00 PM. Potluck will be from 5:00–7:00 PM. This event will be held in Reidenbach Hall in the First



Congregational Church of Oakland, where the NOV office is located.

To ask questions, or to let us know you are coming, contact us by e-mail: info@northoaklandvillage.org or phone: (510) 547-8500. Members, if you need a ride, please contact the office.



time to talk – about
NOV

Interested in learning more about North Oakland Village or the Village movement? Come to one of our Informational meetings. You may ask all the questions you want about North Oakland Village, the Village movement, membership or volunteering.

The meeting takes place the **3rd Friday of every month from 10:30 to 11:30 AM** in the NOV office at 2501 Harrison Street. *If you are interested in attending, please let us know.* **Next meetings: Fridays, November 17 and December 15.**

Members and volunteers are welcome to drop in to let people know about your experience with the Village.

To ask questions, or to let us know you are coming, contact us by e-mail at info@northoaklandvillage.org or phone: (510) 547-8500.

Coming in January

Early in the new year NOV will start a monthly group with the focus of accepting our older years. This will be a discussion group, *limited to NOV members and volunteers*, facilitated by Joan Hall-Feinberg, MSW and Sally Hunter MSW. The preliminary meeting

“We’ve been wrong about what our job is in medicine. We think our job is to ensure health and survival. But really it is larger than that. It is to enable well-being.”

ATUL GAWANDE

Being Mortal



will be held on Thursday, January 4 from 2:00–3:00 PM in the NOV office.

Ongoing Events

Subsequent meetings will be the *first Thursday of the month* from 1:00–3:00

Singing with Sara

PM.

Singing group for members and volunteers

1st Thursday of the Month

November 2 and December 7

10:30 AM-11:30 AM

For Members and Volunteers



Gather together to enjoy a morning of singing.

Members and volunteers, if you are interested, contact the front office.

Monday Menders

Sewing with Sandra Coleman

Mondays November 6, 13, 20 and 27, & December 4, 11, and 18

12:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Just drop by with your sewing, quilting, crocheting and other stitchery projects. Bring any mending with which you need help. We do not provide actual instruction, but do offer support, advice and good company. A way to get that project done while spending time with other folks.

Social Action Forum

Contact: NOV Office

2:00 PM

Second Friday of the month, November 10 and December 8



The Social Action Forum now has a regular day and meeting time! This will make it much easier for you to plan ahead. The new regular time is the *2nd Friday of each month at 2:00 PM* here in the NOV office. So members and volunteers, put this on your calendars and plan to be there.

The group already has started working on a gathering with the other non-profits who share space in the church. We have also narrowed down ideas to work with the city on making Oakland an aging friendly city.

Handability

Knitting and Crocheting in Good Company & for a Good Cause
2nd Monday of the Month
November 13 and December 11
10:30 AM-12:00 PM
For Members and Volunteers

Supplies, instruction and support will be provided by the Handability leaders, *free of charge*.

In photo is a sample of the items they have knitted for local hospitals.



Member Salon

Contact: NOV Office
Third Monday of the month, November 20 and December 18
3:00-5:00 PM

A group of 8 or 9 people who get together at a member's home to discuss interesting topics and enjoy one another's company. Group size is limited, so you *must register with the office in advance*. Group is currently full, but if you are interested, let us know. If we

can get enough people, we would love to start a second group.

Topic for November: Technology and its Effect on our Lives – Pros & Cons

Monthly Bridge Group - New Players Welcome

**Organized by Norma Harrison
Third Friday of the Month
Friday, November 17 and December 15
2:00-4:00 PM**

Members and volunteers, are you looking for an entertaining way to socialize? Join our bridge game. You do not have to be an experienced player, but you do need to know the basics. New players welcome. Held at a member's home.

Call Norma at 510/ 547-7530 for location of this month's game.

Non-Fiction Book Group

**Contact: NOV Office
Date: To Be Announced (watch your e-mail)
2:00-4:00 PM
North Oakland Village Office**

Members, the group meets at the Village office. **Men and Women are both encouraged to attend.**

Due to the holidays, the book group will meet on a different date than usual for November/December. The actual dates and the names of the books will be announced in early November.

Help Beautify Oakland Workgroup

Contact: Ruby Long

4th Saturday of every month
10:00-12:00 AM
Meet at the NOV Office

Members and volunteers meet at the North Oakland Village office at 10:00 am on Saturdays, November 25 and December 23, to join us for our monthly community work day.

Community Events

Bring gloves. If you already have a NOV shirt, wear it. Members and volunteers who come to help can get a shirt at the office on the work day.

MOVIE LOVERS - Ronnie's Monthly Movie Night!

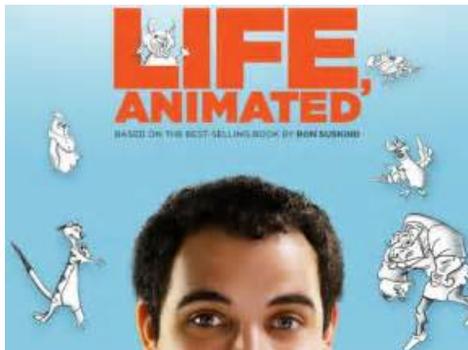
Friday, November

Doors open 6:00 PM – Event starts 7:00 PM.
Site to be announced when everyone is gathered.
Collins Chapel, First Congregational Church

Enter through the Blue Door from the back of the parking lot.

FREE MOVIE! FREE POPCORN! FREE PRIZES!

At three years old, a chatty energetic little boy named Owen Suskind suddenly



stopped speaking and disappeared into autism. Almost four years passed, and the only thing that seemed to engage Owen were Disney films. Then one day his father donned one of his sons puppets – Iago, the wisecracking parrot from Aladdin – and asked "What's it like to be you?" Suddenly Owen responded to his father using dialogue from the movie.

LIFE, ANIMATED tells the remarkable true story of how Owen found a pathway to language and a framework for making sense of the world through Disney animated films. By evocatively interweaving verité scenes from Owen's life, the film explores how identification and empathy with characters like Simba, Jafar and Ariel create a context for him to understand his feelings and interpret reality.

A coming of age documentary, *Life, Animated*, is a story about a boy and his family who overcame great challenges by turning Disney animated movies into a language to express love, loss, kinship and brotherhood.



Oakland Lighted Yacht Parade

December 2, 2017, 6:00 PM

lightedyachtparade.com



Oakland, CA -- Each year on the first Saturday in December, the Lighted Yacht Parade kicks off the holiday season. Bay Area boat owners share in the holiday spirit

by decorating their boats and participating in the parade. Hundreds of spectators gather along the waterfront at specified viewing areas or at restaurants that afford them a view of the estuary.

The boat parade route includes Mariner Square, Marina Village YH, Oakland YC, Encinal YC, South Pole Buoy, Coast Guard Island, Fortman/Grand Marina, North Pole Buoy.

In addition to being a magical evening of lights, it also raises money, toy and food donations for The Oakland Firefighters' Random Acts and the Alameda County Community Food Bank. Sponsorship helps ensure that an even greater contribution can be made to both of these fine charity organizations.

Jack London Square provides excellent viewing areas and restaurants to watch this magnificent holiday attraction. Please make sure to book your dinner reservations early at your favorite Jack London Square restaurant. Special performance by the Oakland Symphony Chorus will begin at 5:30 PM.
jacklondonsquare.com

Coming Attractions

There are plans for many new outings and activities in process for the Village in 2018.

We would like to invite and encourage everyone to share your ideas and talents with the village so together we can evolve into a stronger, more vibrant village.

Contact us at: info@northoaklandvillage.org or give us a call at: (510) 547-8500. Watch your e-mails more upcoming events.

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