



Friends of the Joaquin Moraga Adobe Newsletter

www.MoragaAdobe.org

December 2018

Adobe Purchase On Track!

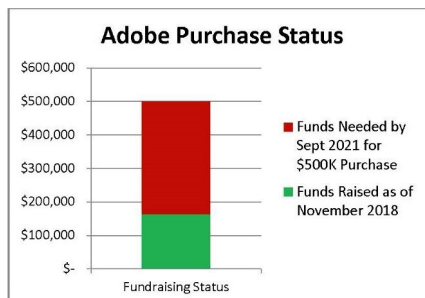
FJMA is very excited that J&J Ranch LLC have received their final state approval, triggering our 3 year purchase agreement for the Adobe. This is a huge milestone forward towards making the 1841 Moraga Adobe a publicly-accessible historical museum and community asset! FJMA now has until September 2021 to finish raising the \$500,000 needed to complete our purchase of the Adobe along with its 2 plus acres of land.

As a first step in the purchase agreement, FJMA made a payment of \$25,000 to J&J Ranch on September 24th at the Adobe. Members of the FJMA, J&J Ranch, The Moraga Historical Society and the Orinda Historical Society were there for this presentation.

The Moraga Adobe is a state and national historic landmark with a rich history, as the Moraga family were instrumental in establishing this area. J&J Ranch will restore the Adobe to its 1848 configuration, with the FJMA purchasing the property and taking responsibility to manage it as a museum and learning center. Located in the hills of Orinda, this important historical landmark is one step closer to being renovated and enjoyed by all!



Sam Sperry, Kent Long, Tania DeGroot, Terry Murphy, Dave Trotter, SB Master, Matt Branagh, Alex Griffith, Colleen Lund & Scott Smigielski



FJMA Fundraising Status

With support from generous individuals, our annual Fandango fundraisers, corporations, and community organizations such as the **Moraga Historical Society**, the **Orinda Historical Society**, the **Orinda Community Foundation**, and the **Orinda Parks & Recreation Foundation**, we have already raised \$165,000 towards our \$500,000 goal to satisfy the Adobe purchase agreement.

However this is only one third of what we need to purchase the property. We are looking forward to everyone's help in the next three years to make this happen.

Community Events

This year, the Friends of the Joaquin Moraga Adobe continued its participation in various community events. In April, FJMA had a booth at the Wagner Ranch Nature Area's Wildlife Festival where we taught kids how to make traditional Mexican paper flowers. The children made over 200 flowers, many of which were used as decorations at our 5th annual Fandango in August.



Mel Silva with FJMA at 4th of July Parade

For the past ten years, FJMA has participated in Orinda's 4th of July celebration. Along with having an information booth about the Adobe, FJMA has ridden in the parade in an old-time wagon. This year was extra special as **Mel Silva**, our horse and wagon driver, was Grand Marshall of the parade.



Making Mexican paper flowers at the Wildlife Festival in April 2018

Fifth Annual Fandango, Lots of Music & Fun!

A Festive Fundraiser with an 1840s feel



The theme of this year's August 25th Fandango was "Party like it's 1848." The Ranch House at Wilder proved to be a really fun venue for this event, and the evening was full of fantastic authentic Hispanic music and dancing. With the wonderful costumes, dance moves and sounds of **Los Arribeños de San Francisco**, it was easy to imagine that one was back in the Rancho days attending an old-fashioned Fandango.

FJMA board member and direct Moraga family descendant **Lance Beeson** delighted the crowd with his festive group of musicians.

Students from Miramonte High School and Orinda Intermediate School joined in the fun and quickly learned the historic dances



and demonstrated them for the crowd.

Chef **Charlie Vollmar**, owner of Epicurean Exchange, donated the delicious rancho inspired dinner complete with chicken mole, soup, salad, and rice. The mole was amazing and got rave reviews.

OIS student **Isabela Chow** once again presented FJMA President **Kent Long** with her earnings for the year from selling eggs and pet sitting as a donation to the Moraga Adobe. This is the 4th straight year that she has contributed all of her earnings to the Adobe!



All proceeds from the evening will go towards the restoration and purchase of the Moraga Adobe.

Thank you to everyone who supported this successful Fandango, and especially to FJMA Board member **Tania DeGroot** who did an amazing job chairing this event.

Save the date for next year's Fabulous Fandango on August 24, 2019 at Orinda's new Art & Garden Center!



Thank You!

Recent Donors

Apple
 Alethea Ballard
 Jeff and Connie Boero
 Michael Bowen
 Holly & Buddy Burke
 Mark Calhoun
 Isabela Chow
 Colin Coffey
 Tania DeGroot
 Epicurean Exchange
 Peter Frazier
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 Toris Jaeger
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 Ryan Thompson
 Tradeline Inc.
 Theodore Urban
 Charles Vollmar
 Ann Williamson Walgenbach
 Steve Westfall
 William T. White III
 Ingrid Wood
 Danuda Zaroda

Smart Giving

Making the most of your charitable donations

The Friends of the Joaquin Moraga Adobe is a qualified 501(c)(3) nonprofit. We need donations to meet our \$500K goal by 2021. Of course, cash donations are always greatly appreciated, but there are also other smart ways to give.

Please check with your tax advisor/accountant to see if either of these situations might benefit you:

- **Stock Donation:** Giving long-term appreciated securities, including stock, bonds, and mutual funds, directly to a qualified charity like FJMA can be beneficial to a donor and have a big impact for our organization.
- **IRA Donation:** It can be advantageous for someone who is required to take a minimum distribution from their IRA to direct that money to a qualified charity like FJMA instead. The funds must come directly from your IRA to the qualified non-profit organization. It is called a qualified charitable distribution (QCD). If you have reached the age of 70½ when minimum distributions become mandatory, this might be another smart way to give.

After consulting with your tax professional, if you want to make one of these types of donations, please contact us at donations@MoragaAdobe.org. Cash donations can easily be made online at www.MoragaAdobe.org by using the "Join/Donate" tab.

Orinda Students, Raising Funds for the Moraga Adobe

Miramonte Latin Club doing their part!

The Miramonte High School Latin Club held a bake sale and a coin drive during their 2018 spring semester to raise funds for the Friends of the Joaquin Moraga Adobe. What a delicious way for these students to help preserve the Adobe! A member of the Miramonte Latin Club organized these events and has been our liaison with the school. This student has attended many of our board meetings, and FJMA very much appreciates their enthusiasm for this cause. The Latin students impressively raised over \$400 for the Adobe!



Miramonte Latin Club Students
at their Bake Sale for the FJMA



Miramonte Students dancing at the Fandango
on August 25th

Newsletter Editor: Teresa Long, TeresaLong@MoragaAdobe.org

A special thanks to Andrew Goett of Pacific Printing for printing this publication.

FRIENDS OF THE



JOAQUIN
MORAGA
A D O B E

P.O. Box 872
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Stamp

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**Moraga Adobe
News**



¡Viva El Adobe!



Moraga Adobe circa 1935

Friends of the Joaquin Moraga Adobe

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Board of Directors

President - Kent Long
Vice President - SB Master
Secretary - Jeff Boero
Treasurer - Bob Thompson
At Large: Lance Beeson, Tania DeGroot,
& Ron Louis

*FJMA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization
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