

By the Members — For the Members

Dec., 2022

Dana Kelly, Editor

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From the editor – Best wishes for a happy, healthy holiday season and a great 2023!

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FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

It has been 18 months since I became the Executive Director of the Center and I am LOVING the work!

Those of you who've known me over the 8 years that I've been here know that I do love to be in charge :) But what I love more is collaborating with you all -- in committees, at events, with programs and workshops and outreach to the community. I hope you agree that things are getting better and better here -- the Facilities Committee is taking care of the deferred maintenance, the Landscape Committee is giving long-needed TLC to the grounds, the Membership Committee is very passionate about finding ways to keep you all engaged and creative, the Archives Committee is finding ways to catalog and preserve our history, the Fundraising and Finance Committees are working on grants and fundraisers to fund all of the other committees' great ideas. The Board is supportive and very involved on all levels. I feel so fortunate to have this community to work with.

Coming to the Center and working amongst the natural beauty, the art, and the deer is just magical. Thank you for your support and encouragement. I hope to see all of you at the December 15th *End of Year Party & Gift Sale* so we can celebrate together.



-- Erma Murphy

(Photo: Daniel Patrick)

IN MEMORIAM – MEREDITH BRUCE

Longtime OHCA member Meredith Bruce died in July. Meredith was in Abby Wasserman's writing class, performed at the Sunday Salons, was a regular at the Saturday Perception Workshops, and served on the Landscape Committee. (Poem by Eldon Beck)

Meredith

***She's a bit like Miss Marple of Agatha Christie fame.
Seemingly slowed by age, but quietly observing life
in her small village, her clothing is unpretentious,
her grey hair, on some days, could bear another combing.
But the twinkle in her eyes is noticeable from across a room.
She speaks in stories; tales of the sink and the dishes
she hates washing, the challenges of her cat and how
she worries when she wakes at 4:00 AM. With multiple
beginnings that wander like a bee in search of a lush
blossom, her stories flit about until words are found
that speak of deeper truths, with knife-like precision,
wrapped in innocent humor.***



MEET OUR NEW ART BOOKS LIBRARIAN, CHRISTINE LEMOR DRAKE

I moved to Mill Valley in 2019 and took a few classes at the OHCA before it was closed due to COVID. I first joined the Archives and the Landscaping committees and helped remove the dead blackberry canes and the non-welcomed brooms. I still go and pull baby brooms. As the Librarian position recently vacated, I volunteered for it. I currently prefer art books to exhibits. My plan for next year is to emboss all the books and make an exhaustive list available to members. You can find me in the Loft most Friday mornings. clemordrake@me.com



(Photo: Nicole Regner)

VERSE VERTEX

OHCA member ERIC NEWTON is a writer and consultant living in Mill Valley.

The journey

i'm not going to one place
so much as i am leaving another

you begin to end and then
you end to begin again

we leave this year behind
to take that trip to who knows where

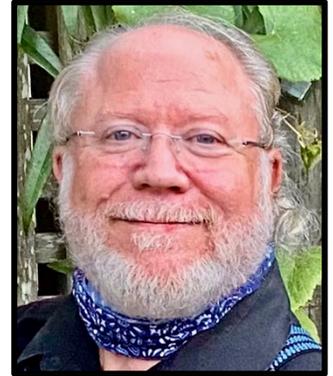
so goodnight sweet prince
forever and forever
farewell Cassius

goodbye old paint
goodnight Chet
goodnight David
Goodnight Moon

and that's the way it is

an existential exit —
she said,
dancing into the setting solstice sun

or wherever it is
spirits go
to contemplate the lessons
of this life
so they won't have to be learnt again
in the next one



(Photos: top, Megan Eisemann; above, Dana Kelly)

***The Hear-Say welcomes submissions from members. Contact Dana Kelly at
kelldana98@gmail.com for details.***

CHALK IT UP!!

At our recent New Members get-together, members had the chance to decorate our repaved driveway with chalk drawings. Left to right – Gavin Lakin, Christine Lemor Drake, Noni Garner, and our fearless leader Erma Murphy.



(Photo: Dana Kelly)

Designate O'Hanlon Center as a beneficiary in your estate planning. Contact the OHCA office for details: office@ohanloncenter.org or 415-388-4331. For more options for giving and volunteering, check out our website: ohanloncenter.org.

