FJMA Fundraising Surpasses $60,000

Thanks to support from local and state-wide organizations along with many generous individuals, the Friends of the Joaquin Moraga Adobe has already raised over $60,000 towards the purchase and restoration of the Adobe. This is an exciting milestone towards reaching the $500,000 needed to fulfill the purchase agreement with the developers. To support the Adobe well into the future, our overall fundraising goal is one million dollars. We are forming a Fundraising Steering Committee, and are planning a rancho cooking class on July 20th as well as our first Viva El Adobe Fandango Benefit (Spanish/Mexican style music, dance and food event) on September 13th.

FJMA is very grateful to have been awarded a generous $5,000 grant by the Orinda Community Foundation in December. Looking forward, the Moraga Historical Society has graciously pledged to raise $100,000 for the Adobe. There is hard work ahead, but also good times along the way!

FJMA members with Orinda Community Foundation President Richard Westin at the OCF Celebration on February 27th 2014

Looking Towards the Future, A Vision for the Adobe

Architect Peter Hasselman has been working with FJMA founding member Bobbie Landers to provide artistic sketches that depict a future vision of the Adobe. His drawings show the Adobe after restoration and being enjoyed by the community. FJMA’s goal is to not only preserve the Adobe, but make it a vital usable asset for people. From school children taking tours, garden clubs creating native plant exhibits, the public learning history and viewing artifacts, to high school kids doing community service projects, the Adobe has so much to offer!
FJMA To Host First Annual Fundraising Gala at Frank Lloyd Wright House

Back in the Adobe days, the Moraga family would invite friends and relatives to a Fandango. This was a big celebration with plenty of dancing, food, and music. FJMA plans to recapture this tradition by hosting a Fandango benefit for the Moraga Adobe. Since the Adobe is currently in a state of disrepair, this fundraiser must be held at a different location. FJMA is thrilled to be able to host this event at another home that is also listed on the National Register of Historical Places. The Frank Lloyd Wright house in Orinda, with its unique architecture and beautiful gardens, will be the perfect site for FJMA’s first annual *Viva El Adobe* Fandango on September 13th. Mark your calendars now—more details will be forthcoming. We can use more volunteers to help with this event, contact **Bobbie Landers at 925 254-8260** if you would like to join us in planning the festivities.

**FJMA Now Accepting Online Dues & Donations**

Are you itching to join the Friends group and/or want to make a donation, but don’t want to the hassle of writing a check and sending it through the mail? Well, the FJMA has made it easier by adding a payment option to the website [www.MoragaAdobe.org](http://www.MoragaAdobe.org). To make an online donation or to join/renew an FJMA membership, choose the “Join/Donate” tab on the home page. FJMA is using PayPal to process the payments; however, you don’t have to have a PayPal account — just follow the instructions on the website. Annual membership is only $35—join today! If you have any questions or comments, contact FJMA at comments@MoragaAdobe.org

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**Upcoming Events**

**Sunday April 27th, 1 to 4 pm: Wildlife Festival in Orinda.**

Look for the FJMA booth at this year’s Wildlife Festival held in the Wagner Ranch Nature Area; FJMA will be sharing facts, photos, and stories about the Adobe.

**Sunday May 4th, 2 to 6 pm: Cinco de Mayo Fiesta in Moraga**

Join the festivities at the Town of Moraga’s Hacienda de las Flores which is celebrating Cinco de Mayo a day early. This is the third year FJMA has participated in this fun family event. Visit the FJMA information table and honor the Moraga family ranching lifestyle by learning to rope a cow. The roping activity has been a big hit with the kids in previous years, but adults are welcome to give the rope a twirl as well.

**Sunday July 20th, 4 to 7 pm: Adobe Rancho Cooking Class with Chef Charles Vollmar**

Learn to cook traditional Rancho fare with Orinda resident and well-known Chef Charles Vollmar. This event will be held at the Ranch House in Wilder Park, Orinda. Cost is $150 a person; all proceeds go to the FJMA. Tickets will go on sale soon; email events@MoragaAdobe.org for more information.

**Saturday September 13th: Viva El Adobe Fandango at Frank Lloyd Wright House**

Save the date for a celebration of Adobe life with an authentic Spanish/Mexican Dance, Dinner and Music party. Visit one local historic home while raising funds to save another. The event will be an elegant evening affair at Orinda’s Frank Lloyd Wright house. Details to be announced. Check the FJMA website [www.MoragaAdobe.org](http://www.MoragaAdobe.org) for the most up-to-date information.

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