

Daphne Ganter of LMYA

Photo Gint Federas

Springbrook leads the way at 8th annual Lafayette Championship Meet

By Jon Kingdon

With 722 swimmers, 300 volunteers and very interested families and friends, the 8th annual Lafayette Championship Swim Meet was held July 27-28. In what is becoming an annual ritual, Springbrook came away with the championship trophy. They were followed in order by Rancho Colorados, LMYA, Sun Valley and Oakwood. Springbrook also won the Leap Award as they had the highest result when dividing the current year team points by prior year team points and Sun

Valley won the Spirit Award.

Springbrook head coach Ray Meadows attributed the success of his team to a couple of factors: "We have had a good run over the years. We're the biggest team and have an advantage there. We've been able to maintain our 15-18 swimmers and they have done a great job of mentoring the younger kids. Plus we have a mature and seasoned coaching staff, 'Springbrook Grown' that has kept things consistent.'

Rancho Colorados head coach Tom Rottici had a much younger team than he was used to and had to

adjust to the start of the school dates moving up: "Overall, it's been a success. We're very happy with the way our team was swimming. We had a lot of new members this year (63 6 and unders). We graduated 10, 15-18 boys last year and so a lot of our younger boys stepped up and emerged as role models." Rottici found great satisfaction on two extremes: "Katherine Hawkins broke the all-time cumulative record at the Springbrook Pentathalon and on the other end, I got a kid that finally worked up the courage to make it to the end of the pool for the 6 and unders." ... continued on Page A11

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Dine and dance to help purchase the Joaquin Moraga Adobe



Featured band Los Arribeños de San Francisco.

Photo provided

B1-B8

By Sora O'Doherty

The Friends of the Joaquin Moraga Adobe, a local nonprofit, is holding its sixth annual Fandango Aug. 24 at the new Art and Garden Center at Wilder in Orinda to help meet its 2021 goal of purchasing the historic 1841 Moraga Adobe. Last year the Friends had hoped that their event would be the first at the new Art and Garden Center, but unfortunately the building was not completed in time.

All proceeds from this benefit event will go toward the purchase and restoration of the Moraga Adobe, located in Orinda – the oldest original structure in Contra Costa County and the original Mexican land grant home of the Moraga Family. It is listed as a California State Historic Landmark and on the National Register of Historic Places. Since 1841, this Adobe has been privately owned, but now, the community has the opportunity to preserve a part of California history for all to enjoy.

Fandangos were an important part of life

for families in the Rancho period of California history and the Moraga family was no exception. Fandangos were occasions when neighbors would come to visit, eat, dance and have a good time. FJMA is carrying on this tradition by hosting a fundraising evening with an historic 1850s theme. The Fandango will include a dinner catered by local Orinda chef Charles Vollmar, authentic Hispanic music by Los Arribeños de San Francisco, dancing demonstrations, a silent auction, a wine talk by Captain Vineyards of Moraga, and a handmade textiles exhibition.

Guests may feel like they are back in the Rancho days as a group of local elementary and middle school students demonstrate historic Hispanic dances such as the El Borrego, and the Jarabe (the Mexican Hat Dance that has been around since the 1700s.)

Guests will also be able to find out about another "mystery" adobe that was also part of the Lamorinda area.

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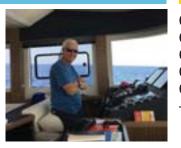
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