

## **Sleepy Hollow Halloween**

For some reason there was a wild side to some Orinda kids that was hard to contain. On Halloween night the older kids would create havoc in bucolic Sleepy Hollow. Eggings, slashed tires, broken windows, whatever.

It got so bad the police had to come in to try to control it. One year the rowdies set a police car on fire and after that there were police stationed at the entrance to Sleepy Hollow for many years.

## **Sports**

Sports were an important part of our culture, and some kids were clearly more athletic and talented than others. Everybody who wanted to could participate.

Not everyone could be the quarterback or pitcher.

You found a place where you could fit in, do your part, and have fun.

After school sports worked for some and not others but during school everyone had to participate in PE every day and usually benefitted from the social interactions and physical movement.

P.E. (physical education) was a special and important part of every day. It got us out of the classroom.

There were 3 main options, football, basketball, and baseball and Swim Team in the summer. We never heard of Soccer.

I did it all and was an average talent but not super competitive. It was fun and it was something to do.

I stopped playing baseball when it switched from soft ball to hard ball and my friend Jerry Texdahl's Dad taught him to throw pitches at the batter's head to brush them back, so to speak. On top of that Jerry was very athletic and a strong pitcher.

I played football until a severe knee injury when a Junior in high school. I played on the front line and later realized that it had prepared me to be physically confident in my approach to life's challenges. Every play was a battle with the tough guy across from me.