

THIS POINT.... in time

NEWSLETTER

The Point Richmond History Association

Vol. XIV No. 2

Summer, 1995

\$1.50

.....And Still Champion!

VJ Day
August 14, 1945



**POINT RICHMOND HISTORY ASSOCIATION
WRITING SEMINAR
WRITING YOUR OWN LIFE STORY**

DATES: Four Mondays June 12, 19, 26, and July 3, 1995

TIME: 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

LOCATION: Point Richmond Methodist Church - Social Hall
201 Martina Street Point Richmond

INSTRUCTOR: Alexandra Gautraud, Author and Historian

FEE: \$25/PRHA members, \$30/non-members
(a minimum number of eight participants needed for class to begin.)

"Writing Your Own Life Story" is a four session class designed to get you started writing or to continue your project. During the class you will learn how to keep your momentum going, tips on making story-writing easy, how to organize your material, professional writer's secrets for effective and easy writing, and how to revise and pull your story together. At each session there will be an opportunity for critiques of your work and optional writing assignments on your individual work-in-progress.

Instructor Alexandra Gautraud is a fulltime writer and author of San Mateo: A Sketchbook Tour of the San Francisco Peninsula's Past which won the prestigious Book Builders West Award. She is currently working on a book covering historic sites in the East Bay. Alexandra has taught writing to adults in the RUSD Adult Education program and to graduate students at the University of San Francisco.

If you are interested in attending this class, complete the form below, enclose your check made payable to Point Richmond History Association, and send it to The Point Richmond History Association, 139 1/2 Washington Avenue, Point Richmond, CA 94801.

.....
"Writing Your Own Life Story" Mondays-June 12, 19, 26, July 3
10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

\$25/PRHA members, \$30/non-members
Checks Payable to: Point Richmond History Association

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

HISTORY ASSOCIATION NOTES

From the President

MID DORNAN

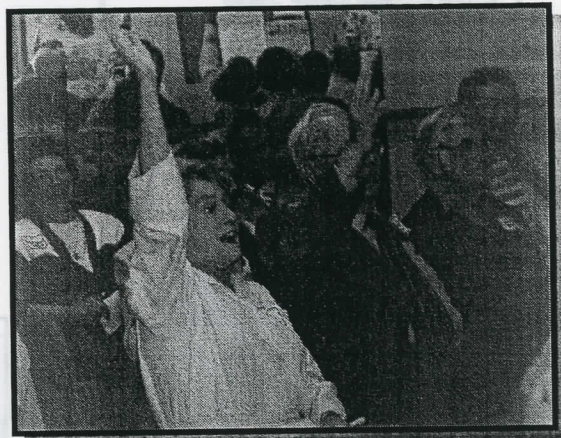
It was a terrific Point Richmond 'KIDS' reunion! The first of more to come as enthusiasm prompted preparations for the next one in May 1996 to be formed by a committee of: George Kelleghan, Teresa Meneghelli, Claude Bisio, Al Frosini and Chano Forner. Now that's a committee! Expect others, to be involved, watch for a date for your 1996 calendar.

Your continued support provides the fuel needed to keep this association going. We are proud of what we have accomplished this last year. Some of our activities include:

- - Published 9 Newsletters (a major feat)
- - Staffed the History Museum over 120 days
- - Sponsored 2 "Writing Your Life Story" classes
- - Presented "Unusual Occupations" program featuring Point Resident
- - Provided information, duplications of photos, and identifications of Point history
- - Planted flowers and decorated Museum for Christmas holidays
- - Participated in Chamber of Commerce Point Richmond Stroll
- - Represented Association at monthly Point Business meetings
- - Worked with Neighborhood Council
- - Attended State Museum Conference in Concord

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There were a lot of smiles at our May Annual Membership Meeting

Thank you to the following members
who have renewed their memberships:

George Kollar
Marie (Corr) Flynn
Bob, Marie & Darian Peckham
Cathe Amber Brazil
Madeline Albright
Thomas Mercer Hursch
Elaine Scott
Fred Beesley
Julio Carrera
Donna Wilson
Zoanna Kille
June (Beesley) Solosabal
James M. Forbes
June Minor
Barbara & Jeff Ward Family
Mrs. Charles H. Baldwin
Elsie Spinola
Albert & Hortense McGee
Glyde G. Cooper

And a warm welcome to new members:

Lucile Meyer
Nancy Pettengill
Joseph R. Phelan
Delma Healy
Donald Amantite



*Museum Staff Coordinator Betty Dornan
thinks volunteers who staffed the History
Building in May.*

&

Our usual

Thank you!

to

Santa Fe Market

*for their donated distribution of
"THIS POINT....in time"*

FIRE SEASON

A Reminder

from Fire Capt. McDowell

**The grass season is upon us, and
grasses are especially high in the
hills surrounding Point Richmond.**

**The Fire Department expects an
extreme fire danger this year.**

**Be sure to cut and remove tall
grass weeds 30 feet out from
homes and buildings and keep tall
grass and weeds at least 10 feet
from fence lines.**

**If you can help staff our History Building
(2½ hours per month) call museum Staff
Coordinator Betty Dornan at 232-4317.**

Museum Hours:

Thursday	11:30am - 2:00pm
Saturday	11:30 - 2:00pm

Editor's Notes

GARY SHOWS

I have, for quite a few years wanted to produce for the PRHA some special booklets of interesting subjects, such as a full text with illustrations of Dr. Thompson's memories, but have never found the time. I requested and received support from the Board of Directors to change to six TPIT newsletters per year in return for one special publication each year to be mailed to our members at no charge as a part of their membership. The new schedule will begin in September and will plan on the first special booklet to be out for the next summer break. Please let me know if you have a suggestion or requests for a special publication or compilation.

As for this issue, there is a lot of information here. I did receive some very interesting material on VJ Day and other World War II experiences but they were all quite long and would not fit in this unusually busy edition. I will keep them handy for the next or future issues.

Thanks for the recognition at the meeting, I really did appreciate it. Putting this little publication IS a lot of work but I remember every now and then that the CONTENTS is, in the end the most important part of any publication. All who contribute (especially Mid Dornan) should receive your gratitude.

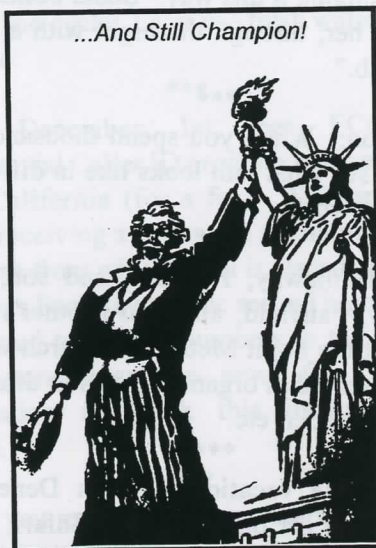
Don't forget to write to TPIT. Have a great summer!

The deadline for the September issue is August 18.

The May Issue Assembly Crew:

Liz McDonald
Muriel Clausen
Mary Highfill
Pam Wilson
Mid Dornan
Betty Dornan
Jerry Cerkowicz
Gary Shows

...And Still Champion!



THE COVER:

Scanned from the front page of a August 14, 1945 copy of "The Atlanta Journal". The headline above this picture is "JAPS SURRENDER". You can take a look at the paper at our museum.

A-Mid TRIVIA

-Mid Dornan (510-234-5334)

Question: Who wrote the Pledge of Allegiance to our Flag? When? (Answer at end of A-Mid Trivia).

"Let the National Flag float over every schoolhouse in the country and the exercises be such as shall impress upon our youth the patriotic duties of American citizenship.

Benjamin Harrison

The children in the first grade were singing "God Bless America". The teacher heard a little girl singing it this way. "Stand beside her and guide her, through the night with a light from a bulb."

Vacation: When you spend thousands of dollars to see what rain looks like in different parts of the world.

Edna Hathaway, Hanford, and son, Les Hathaway, Fairfield, attended Mother's Day services at the Point Methodist Church where Edna had served as organist and choir director, Camp Fire leader, etc.

It must be vacation time as Deneanne Winters went off on an African Safari, Tom and Shirley Butt went to Paris as did Delfina Franco Tawney, Oretta Eaton and the Norm Reynolds family are off to church camp, the Lloyd Farleys and children, grandchildren and great grandchildren to Hawaii.

Remember Christo and his running fence

in Marin County? Beginning June 17th through July 6th, he plans to cover Berlin's Reichstag with a silver blanket. Silver was chosen "because it fits with the building, the heaven and light in Berlin". A symbol of the Third Reich in 1933, the Reichstag will house the reunited Germany's federal parliaments in 2000.

Deja vu? In 1890 photography changed when the Kodak camera came out. You would take your pictures, send the camera back to the factory and soon the camera would be returned with the developed photos and a new roll of film already installed. In 1995, you take your pictures, drop the disposable camera at the drugstore, they return the photos and you buy another camera with film already installed. Progress?

Modern technology continues to be impressive. In the April issue of TIME magazine, listed in one corner of the article on Tax Cuts was my name, the name of My 7th Congressional District Representative to Congress and how he voted on the issue. Considering the number of subscribers, this is astounding!

Cartoon: The only problem with adding years to your life is they all come at the end!

A bunny has joined "DJ" the parrot at Petra's Flowers to Remember.

Madison Taylor (remember, she was born on the Bay Bridge!), and Regen Bradshaw helped brother, Jackson, celebrate his 3rd birthday in Maui, Hawaii along with parents,

Chris and David Bradshaw.

Allyn's Men's Store on vacation? For the first time in almost 10 years Hank and Jean Allyn closed shop and vacationed together along with daughter, Melissa. Travels took them to Mesa Verde, Bryan and Zion National Parks. With a snowstorm the first night in Flagstaff, they depended on "faith" for the rest of the sunny days!

Rev. Bill Gates, First Methodist Church, received his Master of Divinity from Pacific School of Religion, Berkeley. Coming to share the event were his parents, Al and Emily Gates of Pocatello, Idaho and his wife Pam's Mom, Kathy Jones, from Farmington, New Mexico. Bill has been appointed youth minister of the Lake Oswego, Oregon church and will be leaving June 26th. A farewell luncheon will honor the family, Bill, Pam, Ryan, Trevor and Camy, after services on June 11th. Everyone is welcome.

A graduation breakfast was hosted by the United Methodist Women to honor their graduates, Kimberly Valentine, Bill Gates and Ryan Gates, Ben Woodson as guest speaker.

Kimberly plans a career in the Culinary Arts. Ryan has received a Soccer scholarship to the University of San Francisco so will remain in the Bay Area when the family leaves.

A BIG VOID will be felt in the Point community as Debbie, Umesh and children Dani and Kadar Kurpad move in June to Connecticut where Umesh has accepted a position with Cigna Corporation. Who will replace Debbie's wonderful soprano voice in the church choir?

GBI Key and Security Locksmiths, next door to the video Store, are welcomed to the Point.

Listed under Milestones in the May 14, 1945 Commemorative Issue of Time: Divorced, by Phyllis Haver Seeman, 46, bouncy, blonde bathing beauty of many an oldtime Mac Sennet custard-slinging silent film: William Seeman, 53, millionaire Manhattan wholesale grocer...after 16 years of marriage:...Said she, "Bill has too much vitality. I'm getting older and want a little peace." It had to be 1945!

Sluggish coffee pot? Clean it with white vinegar. Pouring it in the reservoir, let it go through the cycle. Later use fresh water and do the same.

On December 1st, per FCC, the controversial Caller ID program will be hooked up in California (for a fee). This enables a person receiving a call to see the number of the telephone from which a call is placed. Privacy-conscious East Bay has the second highest total of unlisted telephone numbers in the U.S so watch your telephone news for complete information to block this information if desired.

Are you mislead by items marked FREE in big letters only to learn at the checkout the words, 'no fat' in miniscule printing is elsewhere on the item?

Jo Ann Day Freeman, Paradise Valley, Arizona, researching her husband, Orland Freeman's, genealogy traced a common

relative to the late Trannie Freeman Dornan. Coming to the Bay Area to follow through, she and her husband recently met with Betty Dornan to discuss, what else, relatives!

What fun..the Point Richmond Stroll! Even more fun when you win Point Richmond Travel 8 drawing prize. Here's to you!

Have school age children? Looking for ways to keep them busy this summer? Why not enroll them in a Vacation Bible School Adventure at the Point Methodist Church for the week of July 17-21. Call 236-0527.

The birth control pill is 35 years old!

It is possible to count the number of seeds in a bushel but it is not possible to count the number of bushels in a seed.

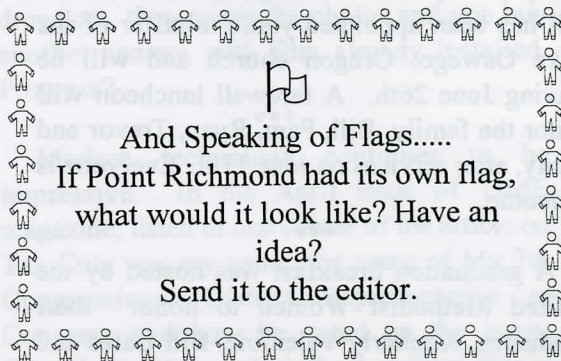
HAPPY 90th BIRTHDAY RICHMOND. You began in the Point, nourished and grew. And continued to grow into over 52 miles of city and waterfront. Congratulations to our Mayor, City council and all employees of Richmond. We are proud of our city's accomplishments since 1905.

Do you have your 1995 Atlantic Olympic Summer Games tickets ordered?

A letter from Trefrey Ross brought sadness as well as smiles. Sadness (see Letters to the Editor), smiles because in the early '50's Tref and Nellie Ross lived down the street from childhood friend, Bob Dornan, as neighbors their names often entered into conversations. It was with great surprise when one of the local Boy Scouts, that had heard the names of

Tref and Nellie many times, found they were two people and it wasn't someone with an Italian last name of TREFANELLI.

ANSWER: Francis Bellamy. Working for a journal called "The Youth's Companion", it was his job to promote patriotism and flying the flag over America's schools. For the 400th anniversary of the discovery of America, Mr. Bellamy penned his own now famous words: "I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation, *(under God was later added)* indivisible, with liberty and justice for all." On June 21, 1892, President Benjamin Harrison signed his now famous proclamation.



The Historic Women's West Side Improvement Club

by Betty Dornan

The next meeting of the West Side Women's Improvement Club will be a luncheon on June 6th, at 1:30 pm. Public response to our meetings has been very enlightening

This will be the final meeting of the club until September.

Church News

Point Richmond Methodist

Jean Reynolds

What bakery had a drawing for free pies at the Point Richmond Stroll this year? The Point Methodist Church had a table at the Stroll to help make us more known in the community, to promote Vacation Bible School, and to award pies to six lucky winners. (Seven, since Norm Reynolds' name was the first one drawn, and we disqualified him but baked him a pie anyway.) The Stroll was the debut of our green-with-black-print shirts. Ryan Gates designed the logo: "Point Richmond United Methodist Church" with an outline of the church and the flame and cross symbol, and Pam Gates organized the shirt sales. Thanks to their efforts, there was a small sea of green shirted people at the stroll to represent our church. Special thanks to the folks at the Santa Fe Market who held pies for some winners to pick up and did not even sample the prizes.

Sunday, June 11, there will be a special celebration at the 11:00 AM worship to give thanks for the Gates family (Bill, Pam, Ryan, Trevor, and Cami) and the Kurpad family (Umesh, Debra, Dani and Kedar) and to wish them well on their journeys. Pastor Bill Gates will accept an appointment in Lake Oswego, Oregon, to begin July 1st. The Kurpads are moving to Connecticut, provided Debra has a chance to sing a duet with everyone who wants to sing with her. (No, on second thought, that would keep them here indefinitely!)

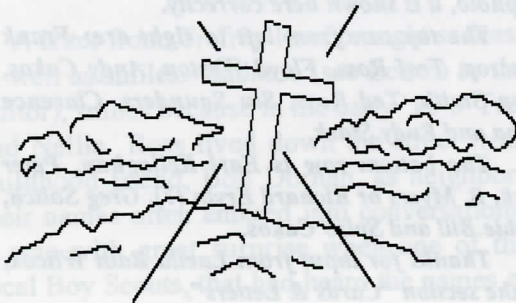
Special music on June 11 will be provided by the Joyful Noise Choir and The Brass Band, a male quintet featuring Jim Aron on trumpet, Bob Leach on trumpet, George Wallace on baritone horn, Johannes Mager on tuba and Bob Jennings on trombone. The Brass Band has

Our Lady of Mercy

Allan Smith

Josephine Piaz (1915-1995), a member of our parish for 60 years, died on May 13th. Her Memorial Mass was attended by a large number of her family, relatives, and friends. She is survived by three sons, five daughters, 20 grandchildren, and 34 great-grandchildren. Rudy, one of her sons, still resides in Point Richmond on East Richmond Avenue and is well known in this area.

On May 25, 1995, our Pastor Rev. James C. Clift will be celebrating his 38th anniversary as a Roman Catholic Priest. He has served as a U.S. Navy Chaplain and has been Pastor here since 1989. Congratulations are also in order for parishioner Linda Lanning, daughter of Jenny Lanning (Stark) and the late Paul Lanning. Linda has just earned a Doctorate Degree in Education from the University of San Francisco. She is presently teaching in the Richmond Unified School District.



been performing for twenty-five years, and has toured the world. They recently rejoined after a four year hiatus to experience the joy of making music together again. We feel blessed that they will share that joy with us. (I can't wait to sing with them!)

If you are part of this community, you may be aware of the gifted ministry of Pastor Bill Gates. During the three years of his appointment at our church, he has been a Many Hands classroom volunteer, he chaired the task force for GRIP's Winter Shelter Program, and has, through his own example, challenged us all to find ways to minister to one another. We hope the whole community will join with us on June 11th as we show our appreciation for Bill and his family.

There is still time to sign up for Vacation Bible School scheduled for the week of July 17-21. The theme is "God's Amazing Deeds". There will be music, stories, crafts, games, snacks and plenty of fun for kids aged three years to grade five. It will meet from 9:-11:30 AM. Call Kristi at 235-9925 to enroll or sign up at the church. Enrollment is FREE.

Graduates from the Class of '95 will be honored on June 4th with a breakfast for them and their families. This year, we have three grads.

Ryan Gates will graduate from Berkeley High School and plans to study graphic design at the University of San Francisco next fall. He was selected to play on the All-State Soccer Team this spring.

Pastor Bill Gates received a Master of Divinity degree from Pacific School of Religion on May 21.

Kimberly Valentine, granddaughter of Vern and Helen Valentine, Will also be honored as she graduates from High School. SALUTE!

POINT METHODIST CHURCH HISTORY

-Mid Dornan

Church history is rich with contributions of women. One church group in the 1920's was the SOCIAL LEAGUE of the First Methodist Episcopal Church whose history is reflected in their minutes printed below and taken from the canvas covered, red leather cornered natebook which cost \$1.15. The minutes are printed as written. This is the 15th installment.printed as written.

September 16, 1924

The Social League met at the home of Mrs. Owens with the new Officers in charge. Eighteen members and one visitor were present.

The meeting was opened by prayer led by Mrs. Scofield.

The minutes of the meeting of Sept 2, were read and approved.

A report of the silver committee was given by Mrs. Scofield stating that at Vose and Rich in Oakland 8 doz knives, forks and spoons of various patterns could be obtained for \$80.00. It was decided that they wait until a reply was received from the Jewelers before placing the order.

The by-laws were read by Mrs. Ford and a motion that they be accepted was made by Mrs. Burdick, seconded by Mrs. Erickson. Carried.

The date for the Pastor's reception was set for the 2nd Friday night in Nov. or the 14th of Nov. With Mrs. Ford in charge of the Program. The Secretary was ordered to send written invitations to all Richmond Pastors.

Mrs.Gnaga offered to do all hemstitching for M.E. Bazaar free of charge. Next meeting at Mrs. Parkers. Meeting adjourned.

On hand	\$82.57
Mrs. Ford-dues	.60
silver offering	2.66
Total	\$85.23

Mabel Redman, Secy

Bernard Bernes Remembers

Springtime brings memories of kite flying in back of the houses on Standard Avenue. Also it was "Top Spinning Time", that is probably a lost sport. The tops were spun into a circle. Each person took a turn at being first to spin. The objects of the game were to have your top spin the longest and also to knock your opponents top out of the ring, with your spinning top.

Another we enjoyed was whistling. We enjoyed whistling the modern tunes of the twenties. I wasn't very good at it, I was too flat.

Some one mentioned Sweet's Ballroom in Oakland, on Telegraph Avenue across from the Pantages Theater. We, several of us boys from the Point, would take the streetcar from the Point to Oakland, to take ballroom dancing lessons. I think the teachers must have had sore feet and toes. There were several Taxi Dance Halls in Oakland, they charged ten cents a dance. The dances were short and bumpy.

Regarding dancing, there was the Moose Hall on 6th and Macdonald above Lamoine's Drug Store. We would go there on Saturday nights to dance with the girls from high school. The girls would stand or sit on one side of the hall. The boys would stand on the other side, trying to set enough nerve to ask a girl to dance. Howard Roe, saxophonist, had a small band for the music. Admission was twenty five cents.

Spring also brought the circuses to town. The Barnum and Bailey and the Ringling Brothers Circuses. They would come in on the Santa Fe Railroad, set up on Garrard Blvd., to Standard to Washington Ave. and back to Richmond. It was exciting to see Buffalo Bill, Indians, Clowns, beautiful horses and wild animals parading in the Point!

Something else in the Point, it was the Salvation Army. They would come to the Point Friday evenings, from Richmond by the street cars. The band would play as they marched up Washington Avenue. to the Indian Statue. There they would assemble and preach to the people who gathered around. The boys would yell "Salvation Army save my soul, send it to Heaven on a telegraph pole!" Not very nice! The Salvation Army has done a great deal of good in this world.

If we were going to San Francisco, we would say we were going to "Frisco", I guess many people object now. To get to San Francisco we would take a street car to Albany, get off take the Red Train to the ferry at the bay and cross over to the Ferry Building, take a Market Street car or a Municipal car to our destination. Or we could go to 40th and San Pablo in Oakland and take the Key System to San Francisco. The Key System had the nicest and smoothest boats, they were steam turbine driven and kind of orange in color. All the boats had good restaurants on board.

There also was a ferry at San Pablo Avenue and the Alameda Estuary, it was called the "Nickel Ferry", because it cost only five cents to cross the bay. This ferry was unique, it was the only one that carried horses and wagons, and bicycles across the bay.

HEY KIDS! SETTLE DOWN!

by Mid Dornan

Richmond High alumni belted out a loud, enthusiastic R-I-C-H-M-O-N-D cheer that introduced the mood of the day. It was sheer fun and laughter as stories of 5¢ shows, memories of the 1925 Natatorium dedication and 25¢ swims were told.

A blushing Mary Rudolph heard Claude Bisio's gallant 'Sir Walter Raleigh's' story and a bet between firemen and policemen in the '20's whether at birth, the baby would be a boy or girl!

How George Kelleghan managed to 'get a car' in those days (not acceptable by today's values either!) Chano Forner added, "That's all the good stuff, how about all the bad things we did?" (Of which only he could have been involved!!)

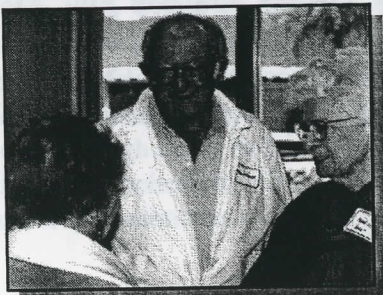
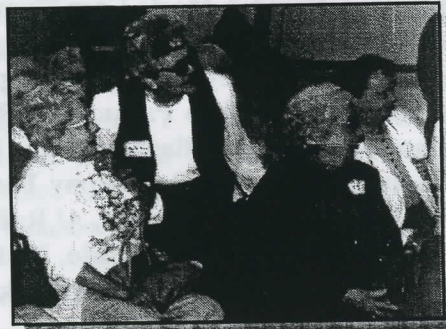
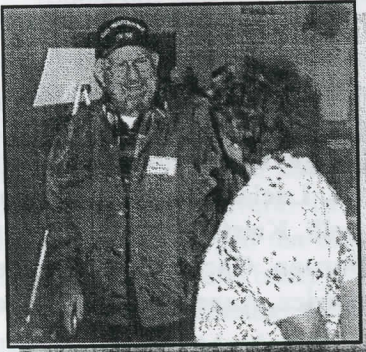
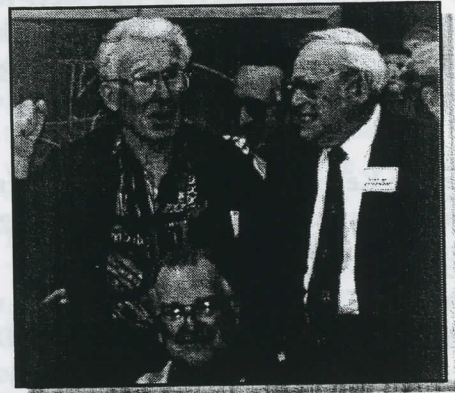
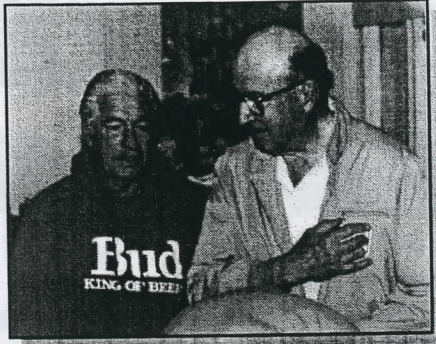
Who came? Those signing the register were: Thomas Kenny, George Malloy, Caesar Frosini, Allan Smith, John Bellando, Sonja Darling, Mr & Mrs. Henry Gondola, Alexandra Gautraud, Betty Glass Marshall, Mary Harlow, Josephine Palanchar, Elizabeth McDonald, Marian & Ralph Voight, Pam Wilson, David & Marie Corr Flynn, Gene Corr, Bob Ellis, Marge Stone, Dody Perry, Al Frosini, Wm. L. Thompson, Lilian Kelleghan, Irene Kelleghan Regalia, Ron Pacheco, R. Lanza, Dean & Dolly Beesley, Teresa Meneghelli, June Beesley Solosabal, George Squires, Madeline Bellando, Nellie Bisio Pasquini & Romeo Pasquini, Fred Beesley, Doris Foley, Mary Forbes, Eleanor & George Kelleghan, Diane Kelleghan Donahoe, Anita and Bernard Christiansen, Elsie Spinola, Joel Spinola, Jimmy Forbes, Luciano Forner, Jeanne Francis Downey, Mr & Mrs Neel Beesley, Don Amantiti, Al Raffanelli, Kristen Gates, Herbert (Pete) Hunn, Mary Crosby, Betty Wirth, Bernadette Bisio, Mid Dornan, Gary Shows, Helene Frosini, Claude Bisio, Phil Carera, Muriel Clausen, Jerry Cerkowicz, Anne Hanzlik, Louie Meghetti, Betty Dornan and Marcellena Smith.

Betty Glass Marshall came the farthest, Grants Pass, Oregon and Bob Ellis, Stateline, Nevada.

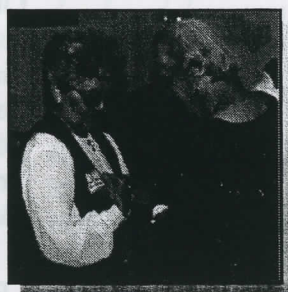
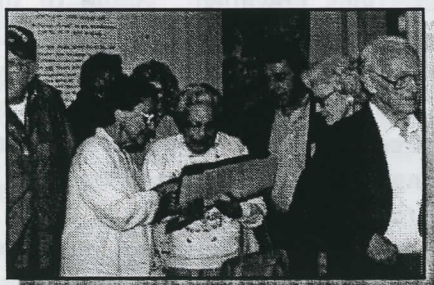
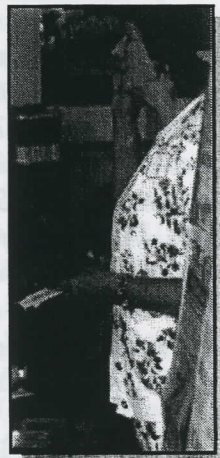
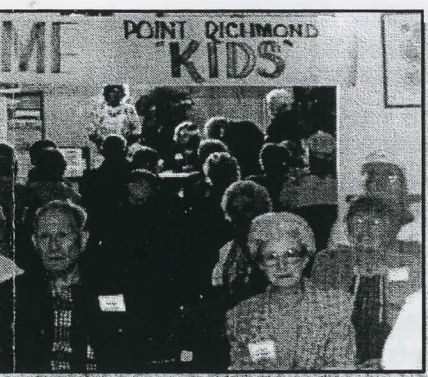
Others came from Smith River, Pittsburg, Clarksburg, Vallejo, Martinez, San Ramon, Vallejo, Kensington, Walnut Creek, El Sobrante, El Cerrito, Brentwood and San Leandro, Pinole.

Letters of regret from Ed Garrard and Tref Ross.

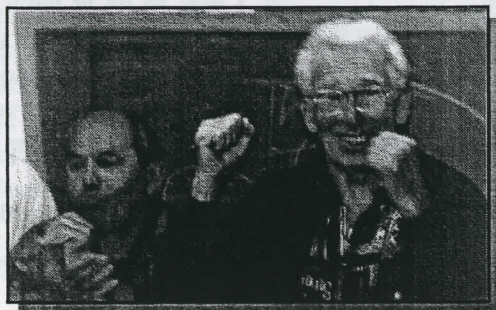
Al Frosini wanted it noted he lived the closest, one block away!



KIDS



**OUR
MEETING**



How the POINT got in Point Richmond

At least according to distinguished Point Richmond resident, businessman and civic leader.

Tom McGowan

Blood Dog was a keen observer of the habits of his customers as well. Increasingly, the anglo spread out his settlements. The built up area of San Francisco had been no more than two or three blocks deep when he was a boy. By the time he dominated the seafood business, it had spread from bay to ocean and as far south as what is now the Mission District. In Oakland it was the same story, and now this primitive urban creep was beginning to move up the shore of the bay into present day Berkeley.

Conclusion

Increasingly, the native peoples were displaced. It didn't seem like displacement to either the natives or the newly arrived anglos because the natives felt they were merely moving on to more pleasant surroundings away from the noise and dust and crowding of the growing cities. Blood Dog saw it for what it was and feared for his people.

Scarcity of land was an unknown concept to nearly all of the mainland natives. It was a well known issue to Blood Dog and those who lived on the island. If the anglos had spread their urbanization from San Francisco to Oakland and on to Berkeley, it was only a matter of time before they would begin to covet

the island.

Blood Dog understood by 1820, as does a modern day air traveler that San Francisco and Oakland and Berkeley are laid out in grids. With the exception of the diagonal slashes of Market Street and Broadway, virtually every block in San Francisco is square. Intersections are all right angles. Even where the steep terrain of San Francisco would have made gently sloping streets much more practical, the iron rule of square grids and right angle intersections prevailed. Some of the city streets ran straight up and down the hills and intersecting streets tipped ridiculously from one curb to the other. The buildings that lined the streets were also variations of squares and rectangles and cubes. Blood Dog knew how to keep the island for his people.

No footpath or horse trail, no wagon road, no parcel of land, no property line on the island was to be at right angles to any other. "The point will be our shield", decreed Blood Dog. "The white man does not know the magic of the shape. As it serves us in our spears and our fishhooks and our boats, so it will serve us on our land".

Tribal records show that Blood Dog was as ruthless in the reorganization of property

lines and right of ways as he had been with the Arache. There were to be no exceptions. If it meant destruction of a fisherman's fine home, so be it. Mysterious fires in the night were not uncommon. Age had not mellowed him.

As the anglo settlements increasingly spread into former Arache land, the Araches finally became aware of their plight. But it was too late. They had lost their fishing rights, their opportunity to participate in commerce, and finally their land. All of this while the man who was the source of their troubles grew wealthy.

On the night of January 24th, 1847, exactly one year before a discovery at John Sutter's mill would expand the size of Blood Dog's customer base beyond his wildest imagination, the Arache took revenge. A small raiding party, disguised as drunken fishermen, rowed to the island and beat Blood Dog to death with an oar.

Without his all encompassing control of operations, the island lost its dominance in the seafood markets. White law made it increasingly difficult for island fishermen to run others off the water. The anglos did come to the island and began their building. Eventually, they even tacked the name of their adjacent mainland city, "Richmond", on the name of the island itself.

But look today at the streets. Look at the lot shapes. Look at the bizarre multi pointed roof of the fire house. Look at the name of the town. Everywhere you look in "the Point" you will see the hand of Blood Dog. When you look at "The Sentinel" statue at the tip of the tiny triangular park, remember the original statue and the plaque that was attached to that first triangular column. It read: "Blood Dog".

Hummmm.....

Life in Point Stevens, CA 94801

from Herbert (Pete) Hunn

I came across the following information in a book called California Place Names by Erwin G. Gudde. I thought it interesting and decided to share it with TPIT readers.

"Point Richmond - The Point was named Point Stevens by the U.S. Coast Survey in 1851. In 1852 the name was changed to Richmond Point, probably after one of the many Richmonds in various sections of the U.S. The geological map of the Williamson Reports of 1853 places the name on the point now called Shoal Point. In 1897 the Santa Fe secured the site just north of the point for its terminal and called it Point Richmond, the settlement that developed there was called Santa Fe."

I can only make an educated guess as to where the Stevens name came from.

In 1844 the Stevens-Townsend-Murphy party brought the first wagons over the Sierra into California across the plains. They had managed to get some of their wagons over the same pass that the ill fated Donner Party had failed to climb the following year. Stevens lived for years in the Santa Clara Valley, owning more than 300 acres of land. "Stevens Creek" that passes through the area is named after him.

By the way, I really enjoyed the "old-timers" meeting on the 21st.



Where Was I on VJ Day?

Trefry Ross

On VJ Day my wife, Nellie, and I were having a vacation on the Russian River at Monte Rio. Upon returning from the war in Europe I spent 30 days in R&R at the Miramar Hotel in Santa Monica courtesy of the AAF. My wife was with me and we had a grand & glorious time. Being an ex-POW I was given the choice of any

Mostly about the Second World War Years

by Louise Banks

I came to San Francisco in 1925 by boat from Victoria, British Columbia, Canada. In 1926 we moved to Corte Madera, then my husband got to work on the Richmond-San Rafael ferry boats in 1928. They tied up at 10:00pm so he had to rent a room at Mrs. Kenny's rooming house. So we moved to Point Richmond. The first house we moved to I put up my husband's lunch at night and the next morning it was full of ants. We didn't stay there very long. We moved to Nevada Avenue and our year and a half old boy was playing in the front yard and a car came over the bank and just missed hitting him. So we moved from there to a place on East Richmond Avenue and then to the place we bought up on the hill in 1932.

In 1938 when my husband could see the ferry boats would be no more because the bridge was

AAF Base of my desire. Naturally, living in Point Richmond, I chose Hamilton Air Force Base at Novato. I remained there until discharged in November of 1945. It was in August that I had a few days leave and we went to one of our favorite locations, the Russian River. And that's where we were when it occurred, VJ Day. We didn't make it to the "City" but read about it, quite a celebration.

Incidentally, thanks to the Dornan family, Bob and Mid especially, the "Dornan family cabin" was home to a number of close friends for many weekends for quite a few years.

being built, he joined Standard Oil tankers. Then in 1941, when they started building ships in the shipyards, things got pretty busy in Point Richmond and so many of the women went to work in the shipyards. A friend of mine, Elsie Grosso, owned the Liberty Market and cashed checks on Friday and some of the workers from the yards couldn't sign their names and they made an "X" and we signed for them. I didn't want to go to work, my friend was so busy and her daughter and sister were on a short trip and I asked her if she would like some help and she said she sure would and I stayed there for eight years. During that time my husband was hauling oil in 1943 and 1944 for Standard Oil from the Azores to Bristol, England under black out and many ships were blown up. He was gone nine months one time and during that time my oldest son, Stephen, was in the Navy for two years. Then two years later my son John joined the navy.

V. J. Day!

Mid Dornan

Tuesday, August 14, 1945

(I was living in Pasadena, in southern California on this eventful Victory in Japan Day. The memories aren't local, but still reflect the spirit of the occasion.)

V-J-Day. It's over! A date in history! After days of rumors and waiting, days of raising fears and hopes for indication that Japan would surrender, the magic words flashed across the nation. At 7:00 p.m. in the White House, President Harry S. Truman read the proclamation. Japan surrendered unconditionally to General Douglas MacArthur, Supreme Commander of the Pacific and to the Allied Big Four, United States, Canada, Russian and China. Japan's first military defeat in 2,605 years.

The magic words, "it's over", were heard that Tuesday, August 14, 1945 on the west coast at 4:00 p.m. and almost instantaneously the celebrating began.. Work stopped in government offices, many stores shut their doors promptly and remained closed the next day.

All functions ceased at the 822nd (eight-ducey-ducey as we referred to it) Army Supply Depot in Maywood, California. In the payroll/personnel offices, where I worked, silenced adding machines and typewriters echoed the importance of the announcement (no computers or calculators then). Scrambling out the check point gates, no one stopped us as security officers too had left their posts to celebrate. An euphoria of excitement dominated the 45 minute auto ride home to Pasadena.

Bells rang! Whistles blew! Horns honked! Men, women and servicemen let themselves go in a display of joy and jubilation and happiness. Two work friends joined me to celebrate in Pasadena. We became lost in the thousands of merry-makers walking the streets and sidewalks along Colorado Boulevard where traffic was bumper to bumper and impossible with the spontaneity of celebrating. Passengers were not only inside the cars but on running boards and hoods waving small American

flags. People jammed the free busses riding routes around the town. Few people stayed home.

Effigies of Hirohito and Tojo and other leaders were dragged through streets. Literally tons of paper was torn into small pieces and showered the streets.

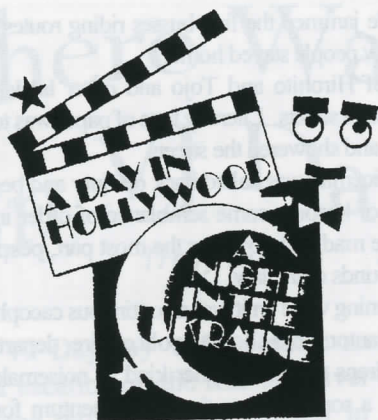
Every policeman was called back on duty and began the tedious task of keeping some semblance of order in a city that had gone mad with joy! For the most part, people kept within the bounds of the law.

As the evening wore on it was a continuous cacophony of noise from automobile horns, police, fire departments, ambulance sirens and every other kind of noisemaker that would make a sound. Soon the momentum found us aboard the Red Line streetcars headed for Los Angeles where the madness was even greater. Confetti was ankle deep. Sailors and servicemen kissed every young girl in sight, exacting kisses as a tribute for their part in the victory. None of us resisted.

The bedlam of shoving and pushing crowds in LA. made us decide to cram aboard a streetcar headed for Hollywood where it was now after midnight. Taverns, bars and places dispensing liquor closed within minutes everywhere after the victory announcements but people evidently had ample supplies elsewhere for this historic moment. Hollywood was the only place we experienced unacceptable behavior from the revelers. Throughout all the spontaneity of celebrating I successfully tried to protect the full cast on my right arm. One police officer assisting me through the crowds commented in disgust, "Why don't you go home?" It didn't seem appropriate to tell him why the fake cast was there! About two a.m. we joined others returning to their homes arriving in Pasadena in the early dawn where others were still whooping it up.

Along with the end of the war, the Office of Price Administration (OPA) ended rationing of gas, oil and oil stoves. No more blue points were needed for canned foods and vegetables as good crops were predicted. But other items like sugar, butter, tires, meat, and shoes were to be rationed indefinitely. The OPA urged the 5,500 rationing boards to stay on their job. Most gas stations were closed the day after V-J Day and oil companies didn't make deliveries because of the holiday. Not since May 15, 1942 had you been able to say, "fill 'er up!" (Gasoline was 10¢ a gallon).

The war was over!



Anne Hanzlik Review

What a refreshing change from the mundane world to spend a few hours in the wacky world that is offered within the walls of the MASQUERS these months of June and July.

The musical, A Day in Hollywood / Night in the Ukraine, by Dick Volburgh and Frank Lazarus, is giving us theater goers that treat. It is a double header with two venues, Hollywood in the thirties and the Ukraine, date unspecified.

The High spirited cast carries along in song and dance in practically a non stop wave of witticisms and merriment against a brilliant backdrop of only two sets, red and gold being the colors that reflect the overall mood.

All of the cast seemed imbued with boundless energy as they give us first, a short reprise of the films, most of us, if not all, remember from many years ago. And the cult of the Marx brothers is almost legendary. Outstanding is Jeff Sanchez' role as Samovar, the Groucho character, as he personifies that zany character uncannily. But it is perhaps hard and unfair to single out one performer over any of the others, the dancers in Hollywood, including that multi-talented youngest member Tiffany Loui are admirable.

Of course The whole thing has to have the invaluable help of the stage crew, from the choreographer, Susan Amacker, the costume designer, Ellie Ohara, the musical director, Dean Starnes and last but certainly not the least of these the Director, Ron Anderson.

It is no wonder that the Masquers have such an impressively long list of members to

draw from, with the attraction of participating in such outstanding productions, such as they almost consistently produce. Long may they "tread the boards!"



Ticks in Point Richmond

Dr. William Thompson

I am writing this as a mild warning to residents of Point Richmond with regard to tick born diseases. As a child I recall no ticks in the Point Richmond hill area but recently I have seen several. Due to the recent heavy rains, brush has grown up very heavily in the hills especially the scotch broom. In two or three places on the east side of the hills trails have become so heavily overgrown as to make it difficult to pass thru. Ticks reside in the brush and drop down on animals or people as they pass beneath. They then penetrate the skin of the victim and aspirate blood to enable them to produce and lay their eggs.

In 1977 a new disease was discovered in this country along the Lyme River in Connecticut. Accordingly it was named lyme disease. It probably originated in Europe but in recent years it has spread widely throughout the United States. The infecting agent in this disease is a spirochete, an organism that is quite similar to the organism that causes syphilis. However this disease is spread entirely by tick bite and not by person to person contact.

One reason that I am writing this is that in recent years this condition has appeared in California and especially in Marin County and the coast to the north, however it is not likely to have spread to the Point Richmond hills yet because this is a rather isolated, but it is still a possibility. This tick attaches to the skin of its victim and takes about 24 hours before it injects any of its fluid. If the tick is infected and is removed within 24 hours the recipient is usually safe.

The main tick responsible for the disease in the region is the deer tick, *Ixodes Pacifica* but there may be others. The normal prey of the tick are the deer and the meadow mouse but humans sometimes get in there. Fortunately for us it is estimated that only 1 or 2% of the ticks seem to be infected.

The disease itself is characterized by a spreading circular red rash which appears within a few days of the bite. This is a circular red area with a whitish central part. It may be as much as 10 or 12 inches in diameter. This clears in time but there may be influenza like symptoms and further rash. However the most important further symptom are a rather severe arthritis that arrives some weeks after the bite. This comes and goes and may involve many joints but the knee is the most frequent. In some cases there may be severe heart muscle damage and sometimes neurological damage. Fortunately this condition can be controlled by antibiotics if recognized early.

To prevent this disease avoid passing thru thick brush or wear clothing heavy enough to prevent the ticks penetration. This is especially true about the neck where the tick usually lodges and the passes down inside the clothing. After an outing in brush carefully inspect for tick, especially in the region between the neck and belt.

I might mention here that this has been a remarkable season for wild flowers. There were the usual flowers in luxuriant profusion and there were a few others that I had rarely seen before in the area. Among these were the yellow lupin, masses of owl's clover and the crimson clover. However one disturbing discovery were several feral cats that will go a long way in destroying nesting birds, small rodents and the many small lizards that reside in the area.

Scott Stanford and Cyndi Sunderman are buying a home at 45 Idaho Street (the third down from Buena Vista) and would like to know about any interesting information about their new (old) home. They also are interested in information on Walter Sunderman who was born in the Point in 1941.

They can be contacted at 1201 Brickyard Way, #210, Pt. Richmond, CA 94801 or call them at 236-1912

Cards & Letters

Dear Gary:

To all the members of the Board of Directors of The Point Richmond History Association, we thank you for such a wonderful day for the Point kids.

It was fantastic, amazing, astonishing, outstanding or whatever adjective you can use to describe the time we all had at our Kid's Day on May 21st.

There were some tears, big hugs, lots of laughter, and a whole lot of talking of the times that will never return. They are now our memories.

My estimate was about 75 people attended. For those that came, we had fun. For those who did not come, you missed out on a wonderful get together.

My hopes are that this "Kid's Day" will not stop, but will continue for a long time. I know it will grow, because so many were not aware of this affair. With a little advertising, maybe invitations, this small group would grow by hundreds and the membership would grow also.

Many thanks for the refreshments and your hospitality, and for such a memorable reunion.

One of the Point Kids
George and Eleanor Kelleghan
Richmond

Dear Gary:

I was so sorry to hear about Howard Arnold's death. He, Willard Spiersch, and I started first grade together at the old Washington School. Mrs. Axtel was our first grade teacher, a fine lady. I believe it was in 1914. Time marches on.

As to myself, I am doing well, still playing a little golf and still active in Ham Radio, W6BIG.

I am renewing my subscription for another year. Since I am 86 years old I am not extending it too far into the future. Am among the "endangered species".

My best regards to all in the Point, especially my old friends Willard Spiersch, Chet Thompson, and Louie Thompson. Maybe I can find a few more things in the bottom of the barrel.

Bernard Bernes
Chula Vista, CA

See Mr. Bernes article on page

It was so good to hear from you again Bernard and I know you can find more than "a few more thing in the bottom of the barrel."



Hi Mid:

Thank you for the note on the inside cover of TPIT. Sure do wish Nellie and I could attend, BUT, for some stupid reason I managed to catch Lou Gehrig's disease. I don't know if its because I used to play lots of baseball in my youth at Point Richmond or not. Anyway we can't travel very far anymore and I had been waiting for a gathering like this for years. I remember one that was in the past, quite a few years ago. It was held in the old Odd Fellows Hall next door to where Nellie grew up, 125 West Richmond Avenue. Bernard

Christiansen was the master of ceremonies. Remember that? It was a good party. So, if anyone happens to ask about us tell them why we aren't there and give them our regards. You can also tell them even if they don't ask—HA!

As ever, the Italians,
Trefanelli
Tref Ross
Tuscon, AZ

Mid did! And so did Allan! Tref also included a letter to Allan that I was also asked to publish, it contains some great memories. For space reasons I will run it in the next issue as well as his WWII experiences. Gary



Dear Gary:

I'm writing in regard Allan Smith's identifications of the picture on page 7 of the May, 1995 issue (Ed. note, Remember that this is the photo that is reversed, causing this confusion). I don't know all of them but Stewart Saunders is the 3rd from the left in the back row. I believe Floyd Weston is 3rd from the right.

In the front row Herbie Bill is the 2nd from the left and Earl Kellaghan is the last on the front row. These I am sure of as I lived next door to the Bills and the Saunders for a number of years.

I enjoy TPIT very much. I'm so sorry I missed the re-union, but I'll make in it '96!

Sincerely,
Luella Bain Wilcox



Dear TPIT:

In the April issue you identified all of the March Issue photos but the street in the middle

of the photo on page 11 is Piedmont Place (209 is the left most house in the picture). Page 17 is Martina & Nichol (209 partly visible at the left from the porch up).

Thomas Mercer Hursh
Point Richmond



Dear Pam:

Please find enclosed my newsletter subscription renewal check. I have enjoyed the history of Pt. Richmond as explored in this newsletter.

Some of my history; I was born November 3, 1919 at Cottage Hospital Richmond. Lived at 75 Belvedere Avenue at the dead end behind Dan Keller's home. I entered Washington School, don't remember the year. I graduated from Richmond Union High School in June of 1938.

I have two brothers, my twin brother Albert lives in Vallejo and older brother William lives in the Richmond Annex.

I now live at 67 Spar Ct. in Pleasant Hill with my wife Yolanda (Estrada) Kollar. May see you soon.

George D. Kollar
Pleasant Hill



Dear Pam:

Enclosed is my check for a 2 year renewal. I really enjoy the newsletter and am looking forward to meeting you and others at "The Kids Program" on Sunday the 21st of May. My husband and I will be there.

Marie (Corr) Flynn
El Cerrito



Dear Pam:

Attached is my check for a family subscription and a (Ed; generous!) donation.

Keep up the good work. We really enjoy reading this newsletter.

Marie Peckham
Point Richmond

Special note of thanks for all of your's and Bob's support of the PRHA in so many ways.

Gary



Dear Pam:

Enclosed is my check for the renewal of membership and enjoyable reading.

Enjoy reading "This Point", it brings back old memories of friends that I went to school with at Washington. We also roamed those Hills of Point Richmond from one end to the other.

Had a great time.

Keep it up!
Sincerely,
Fred Beesley
Richmond



Pam Wilson:

Am sending in my membership dues, am not sure why was dropped from This Point In Time, but have not received a copy for a long while.

I miss things that go on in the Point. Lived there for 30 years or so and Nellie, Dale and Bobby all grew wup there and went to Washington School. Lots of memories of the period in time.

I am doing ok and making it each day, 92

is quite a long time in time.

My best to all at the coming reunion on the 21st of May. I heard of it from a friend who lives a long way off.

Yours,
Naomi Huffstetter
Pleasant Hill

Thanks for writing Naomi, please remember that memberships are for one year. Yours had expired in 1993.

Pam



Deaths

Dair A. Tandy on May 11, 1995 in Oroville. Age 76. A graduate of Richmond High, he married his high school sweetheart, Lillian Anderson before serving in the Seabees during WWII. A successful contractor, he designed, developed & constructed hundreds of buildings in the East Bay and Northern California, was an expert on school construction. He is survived by his brother, Robert Tandy, Livermore and two sons, Scott of Moraga and Erick of Punto Fijo, Venezuela. Private memorial services were held at his request.

SUMMER BIRTHDAYS

JUNE

Alissa Bagley
William Shea
Anita Brougham
Andrew Butt
Brian Rotting
Stacey Spinola

Jean Eakle
Rosemary Ciacomelli
Dave Macdiarmid, Jr.
Cathe Brazil
Aaron & Michael Marshall
Maurice Doherty
Cynthia Wilson Quist
John H. Knox

Emeric Baxter
Suzanne Unser
Joanne Lansing
Nathan Berman
Claude Bisio
Louisa Banks
Gerry Higuera
Dianne Primevera

JULY

Roger Elle
Francis Smith
Al McGee
Julius Matteucci
Jean Creed
Allen Anderson
Diedre Cerkanowicz

Kathryn Fong
Alice McMahon
Clifford (Lou) MacMillan
Josephine Palenchar
Fred Bellati
Madeline Albright
Madison Bradshaw
Hilary Lord
Amy Rotting
Al Franco

Brian Pease
Jean Reynolds
Mary Knox
Ann Bisio
Ed Squires
Betty Conception
Liz Garrard
Mrs. Charles Baldwin
Regan Bradshaw

AUGUST

Oretta Eaton
Veora Heiney
Bea Kenoyer
Nikki Eaton
Bernio Bisio
Alice Thompson

Anne-Therese Ageson
Connee Fisher
Karla Peterson
Terrence Doherty
Carl Westman
Bonnie Ritzenthaler Wilson
Ethel Schumacher
R. Clayton Barnes
Thelma (Hecker) Harvey

Sarah Thompson (1 year old)
Donna Wilson
Mid Dornan
Joe Darling
Barbara Ward
Tony Bernabich
Lynn Brown
Alia Smyke

Winfield goes back to the wall. He hits his head on the wall and it rolls off! It's rolling all the way back to second base! This is a terrible thing for the Padres.

-Jerry Coleman, Padres broadcast announcer, attempting to tell radio listeners about a fly ball hit by a member of the opposing team.

I would like to join the P.R.H.A.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Type of membership (check one):

<input type="checkbox"/>	Single	\$18.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Senior (65+)	12.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Family	25.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	History Preserver	50.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Corporate Sponsor	75.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	History Maker	100.00

Membership in the Point Richmond History Association includes a one year subscription to "THIS POINT...in time" newsletter (six issues), plus a special annual publication. Please make your check payable to the Point Richmond History Association and mail it to:

Pam Wilson
521 Western Drive
Point Richmond, CA 94801

If you would like to have birthdays noted in the newsletter, please include names and months.

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Jean Reynolds	Article
Bernard Bernes	Article
Betty Dornan	Article
Tom McGowan	Article
Herbert (Pete) Hunn	Article
Louise Banks	Article
Anne Hanzlik	Information
Alexandra Gautraud	Information
Capt. Boyd McDowell	

Articles for each issue are due on or before the deadline printed in the calendar section.

Please mail articles and items of interest to:

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 Point Richmond, CA 94801

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See you in September!

Calendar

Summer, 1995

June 6

Tuesday

Women's Westside Improvement Club Meeting
11:30 am, Friendship Hall, Point Methodist Church

June 14

Wednesday

Point Richmond Business Association Meeting
Noon, Hotel Mac

Flag Day

June 18

Sunday

Father's Day

June 21

Wednesday

Summer Solstice (Longest day of the year)

June 27

Tuesday

Point Richmond Neighborhood Council Meeting
7:30pm, Point Community Center

July 4

Tuesday

Independence Day!

July 12

Wednesday

Point Richmond Business Association Meeting
Noon, Hotel Mac

July 25

Tuesday

Point Richmond Neighborhood Council Meeting
7:30pm, Point Community Center

August 9

Wednesday

Point Richmond Business Association Meeting
Noon, Hotel Mac

August 14

Monday

VJ Day

August 18

Friday

DEADLINE FOR SEPTEMBER ISSUE, TPIT

August 29

Tuesday

Point Richmond Neighborhood Council Meeting
7:30pm, Point Community Center

September 4

Monday

Labor Day

First Indian Statue Dedicated, 1904