

THIS POINT....in time

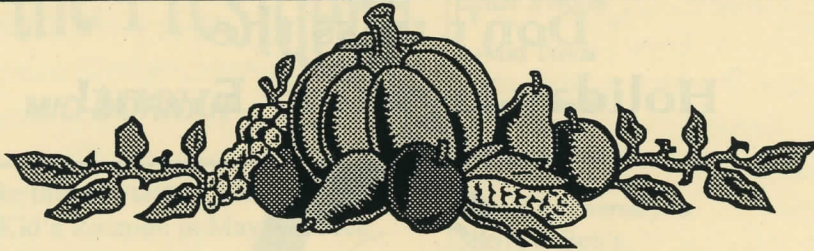
NEWSLETTER

The Point Richmond History Association

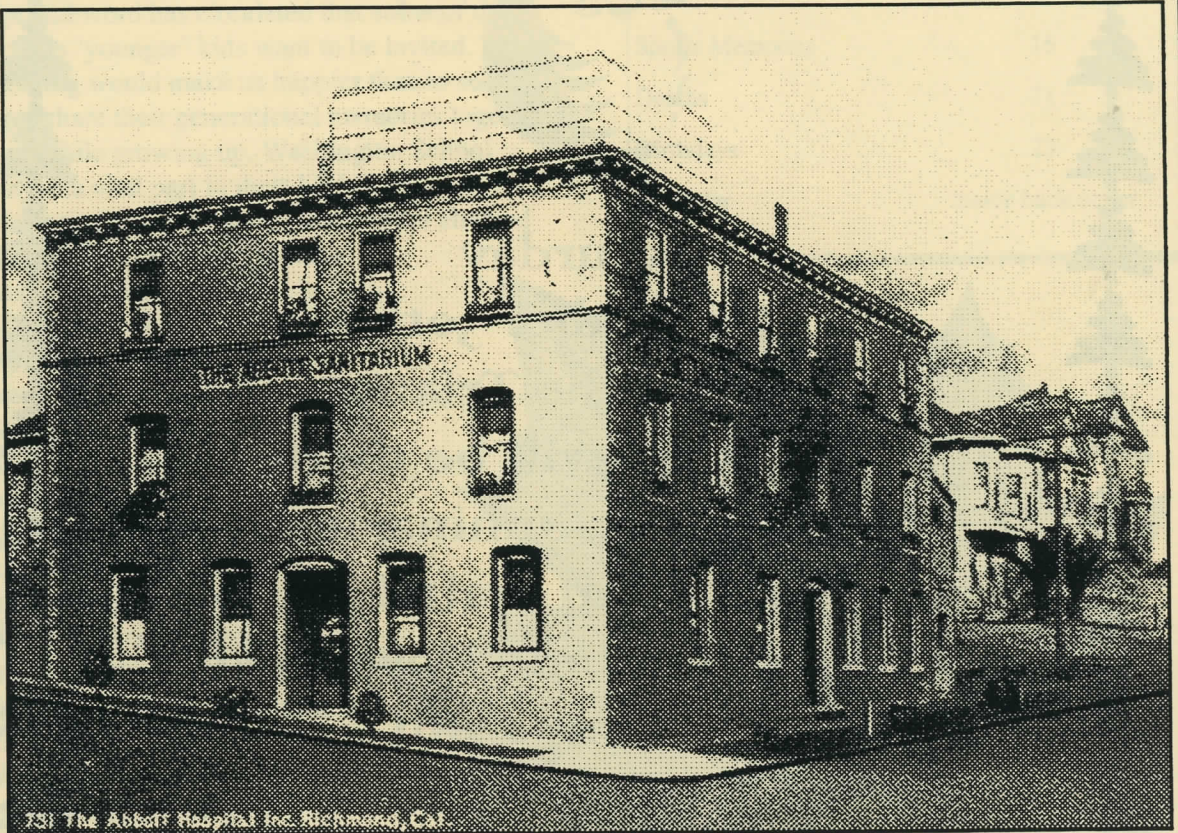
Vol. XV No. 3

November, 1996

\$1.50



Happy Thanksgiving!



WEST RICHMOND AVENUE & SANTA FE, CIRCA 1910

Like it or not.....

Santa Claus is coming to town!

Don't miss the
Holiday Lighting Event!



Saturday

November 30th

Dusk on the Triangle

Yep, Santa will be there.

There will also be luminaries, music,
arts and crafts!

The Big Tree and Downtown
Buildings will
Light Up!

HISTORY ASSOCIATION NOTES

From the President

MID DORNAN

Reunions, like this newsletter, kindle past friendships; the Kid's Reunion in May has been a force in uniting friends the past two years.

Kids attending tend to be in the retirement age and word has circulated that some of the Point's 'younger' kids want to be invited. Nothing would make us happier than to see all ages share their generational memories together.

While growing up, Washington School played a vital part in their life's happy memories. This neighborhood school allowed them to be in the same classes, share teachers, participate in after school activities and then walk home together. They were members of the local Boy Scout Troop, Camp Fire Girls or Girl Scouts, bringing their parents together.

If you are interested or know anyone interested in attending our next KID'S REUNION, send us your name. And parents, why not send us the addresses of your children that attended Washington School so we can compile our list early?

Keep us informed so we can get in touch. Thanks.

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

Jean & Henry Allyn
Joseph R. Phelan
Mary Crosby & Tom Piazza
Marie & Bob Peckham & Family
Marian E. Sauer
Audrey Edwards
Spiro Cakos
George & Jean Williams
William L. Thompson
Marian Hawkins
Nancy Pettengill
Anna Gaumer
Vivien E. Cook
Grace A. Howe
Stella Anellini
Louis R. Cunan

And a warm welcome to new members:

Steve Wyrick
Roy Henry Gover



Museum Staff Coordinator Betty Dornan thanks volunteers who staffed the History Building in September & October:

Mary Highfill
Liz McDonald
Bernard Christensen
Dody Perry
Bruce Bartram
Mid Dornan
Betty Dornan

&

Our usual

Thank You!

to

Santa Fe Market
and
Point Richmond Market
for their donated distribution of
"THIS POINT....in time"

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

This Point....in time

Editor's Notes

GARY SHOWS

Here is your November "This Point....in time". It's assembly went rather smoothly, thanks to all who contributed. Special recognition should go to our main contributors, Mid Dornan and Allan Smith.

The fall change of season has been lovely and the inevitable winter rains are on the way! Hope you are ready.

The impatiens in front of our museum were (still are) just beautiful, thanks Mary Highfill. And speaking of the little building, here is a picture of it on West Richmond just before the move.

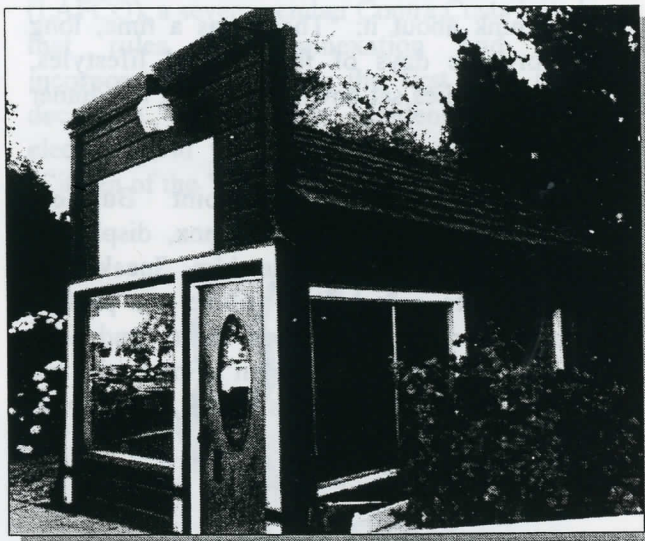
A reminder to all that this little publication is distributed to over 300 folks 6 times a year. Please use it to inform the community of your organizational or family events or announcements. I encourage regular participation by such groups as the Neighborhood Council, the Business Association, the RFD, the RPD, etc.



The next issue of TPIT is December/January winter and the deadline for articles to that publication is November 22nd.

Thanks to the September/October issue assembly crew:

Mary Highfill
Liz McDonald
Pam Wilson
Jerry Cerkanowicz
Gary Shows
Betty Dornan



Our little museum building before it's "rescue".

The Cover:

162 Santa Fe as it appeared on a 1911 postcard as the new Abbott Hospital. Thanks to Danny Allen for donating it.

A-Mid TRIVIA

-Mid Dornan (510-234-5334)

Question: Which came first? TV Guide or TV dinners?

(Answer at the end of Trivia)

Bruce and Ann Bartram, who have visited many parts of the globe, decided to appreciate our own country's beauty spots taking trips to Colorado and Oregon this past summer.

Think about it: "There was a time, long before the days of fast-forward lifestyles, when families sat down together at the dinner table.

At the September Point Business Association Meeting Jack Knox, displaying the expertise that made him Speaker in Sacramento, was MC as tribute was paid to and honor bestowed upon Henry and Jean Allyn, owners of Allyn Men's Shop, who are retiring and closing this oldest, continuing



family business in Richmond. Also honored was Sherry Hartnyck from Patio of Fashion for 50 years in the Point. Their stories of past history of the Point were interesting and humorous. Now, to get them to put those stories on paper for the rest of you to read! 'Panhandler' Hank and his first nickel? the "toy dog"? The Point Richmond Property Owners Association!

Gardenias for everyone at the Business Meeting were from Tim at Flowers to Remember located in the former Richmond Supply Company building at 145 West Richmond.

For the highest office in the land there are few Constitutional requirements. The president must be 'natural born citizen,' at least 35 years old, who has been a resident at least 14 years.

You know you live in a small village when someone asks how you feel and they really listen to what you say.

Richmond is subjected to much unwarranted negative publicity so how about a positive spin. Onyx Pharmaceutical, a small biotech company in Richmond, has turned a common respiratory virus into an avenger that can hunt down and kill cancer cells! The product is being tested on people with head and neck tumors. Expect first results and more publicity in early 1997!

Where else but in Point Richmond do you hear melodious carillon bells (from the Catholic Church) wafting down to the business area during noon and dinner hours? Another

charm that makes it special to be here.

Neighborhood Strolls are popular and serve the business community in which they are held. But, no Stroll comes even close to the great Point Richmond Stroll! At the recent El Sobrante Stroll the only free food offered on the entire stroll was by Point Richmond's Rosemary's Bakery!

Whatever makes consumers so gullible they pay for clothing, cups, shoes, etc. displaying brand names or logos in big bold letters? Shouldn't the manufacturer be paying us, the consumer, for this advertising?

How often do you read the very small print of a contest? While Jean Allyn was standing in line reading the small print on a flyer telling her how she might win a new Chrysler just by using the ATM card, she spotted the following: "Canadian winners must correctly answer a mathematical skill-testing question before prize will be awarded" ???

Nancy Mootz, a pride of her former Camp Fire leader, is a San Francisco Restaurateur entrepreneur and co-owner of the trendy Vertigo in the base of the Transamerica building. In November Nancy will open "Gracie's", formerly Mama's, hoping to cater to the theater district crowd. In addition in November, Nancy will open a restaurant in Mill Valley and is discussing a restaurant for a new hotel in Sonoma. She has gone a long way from the Christmas Cookie bake each December a 225 Clarence! At the top of her Camp Fire 'Five year prophecies list in 1983 she predicts: "Will be executive of a small, high profit corporation in the southwest (i.e. Texas, New Mexico, Arizona) OR I will buy

out Nation's Hamburgers and turn it into a Nation wide chain."

Sympathy is extended to Jim Smyk and family on the loss of his sister, Patricia Ann Smyk-Taylor, in Milpitas.

Point resident, Martin McNair, who helped develop Hilltop Mall and surrounding Chevron-owned property (as well as our Point History Museum Building), has been elected to the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO), a seven-member Contra Costa board that rules over annexation and city incorporations. This is the first time in a decade a West County resident has been elected. Did you know Martin was Orinda 'Citizen of the Year' in 1976?



decade a West County resident has been elected. Did you know Martin was Orinda 'Citizen of the Year' in 1976?

Golden Congratulations to Bernard 'Chris' and Anita Christensen on celebrating their 50th Anniversary. Chris is another of our faithful Museum staffers.

Betty Dornan and Ruth Wood, Rossmor, spent three days in Las Vegas enjoying the lights and action in this desert showplace of megalights: but alas, no great fortunes were won!

Busy, always upbeat Dody Perry has undergone more surgery on her hands. The loss of hands limits activity but Dody says, "Don't feel sorry for me; there is always someone worse off!" Dody is one of our regular volunteers at the Point History Museum.



Anna Schwarz fell over some shoes and broke her arm making Anna and best friend, Dody, quite a pair!

Phyllis Feyer is to undergo hip surgery and by the time this gets in print it is hoped she is up and about.

Just when you think you've mastered the terminology and become computer literate you learn of advanced technology capabilities that makes you terminology ill - - as in Illiterate!

Respect the Golden Gate Bridge posted speed of 45 miles per hour. Fines are DOUBLE on the Golden one.

Ray and Joy Ainsworth, now living in Orland, celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary on October 5th.

Our Mayor Rosemary Corbin gave the Opening Address for the Trade Fair in our sister city Zhoushan, China!

"Don't call us looser," lamented the team's Captain. "Refer to us as winning impaired!"

CORRECTION: It was Jim Wilson not June Wilson, that underwent heart bypass in July and he is feeling great!

Already Practicing the Messiah, the Methodist Church choir, directed by Virginia Cherniak and accompanied by Jean Eakle, suggest you mark Sunday Evening, December 15th, 7:00 pm on your calendar. You won't want to miss this free event, promising to be even better than last year!

What do Johnny Carson and this writer have in common? We are both graduates from Norfolk High in Nebraska, we both put us with my younger brother, Bill, (Johnny was his classmate and later they shared a job together, cleaning oscillators) and we both recognized the 100th birthday of our former Palber Method Penmanship teacher, Fay Gordon. Johnny paid her a visit at her Retirement home in Norfolk and was photographically noted; mine was via the postal route. Johnny has contributed thousands of dollars for a Cancer Center, Library, football field and other needs in 'our' hometown.

Shortest word containing the first nine letters of the alphabet is "bright-faced".

Frank and Pad (Davis) Pearson have spent a few weeks in the Point taking time to entertain old friends. The former Point residents now live in Oregon: both were active in community affairs while living here.

Sonja Darling has been in North Dakota where her mother, Emma Fugelsten, is recuperating from heart surgery.

Records show that one woman in five almost never gets to sleep before 11 p.m. Yep!

You know election officers put in many, long hours for little pay. This puts them in the 'good citizen' category. But, when a worker, Dee Rosier, calls and says, "I'll bring the cookies", it also tells you being a good citizen is stimulated by good food. (Remember, no raisins, Dee.)

Election Day is Tuesday, November 5th. Your one vote is valuable. A presidential

election year, candidates Senator Bob Dole and President Bill Clinton, have presented their cases. VOTE!

Answer: *TV Guide* came first and the first edition appeared the week of April 3-9, 1953. Dezi Arnaz & Lucille Ball's son was on the cover. Lucy gave birth to little Desi a real life and Little Ricky on "I Love Lucy"....Remember?

TV dinners hit the freezers in 1954 with Swanson offering turkey dinner with dressing, gravy, peas and mashed potatoes, served in a metal tray that went from oven to table. Isn't that the same menu today by Swanson in microwaveable containers? The folding TV tray came soon after.



Church News

Our Lady of Mercy

Allan Smith
235-2988

In preparation for our centennial in the year 2002, early church history from knowledgeable people is requested for a publication featuring Our Lady of Mercy Church. Unfortunately, during the depression years, 1930-1933, Our Lady of Mercy Church closed (except on Sundays when a priest from St. Mark's Church in Richmond officiated) and was rented out. When the church was reopened the only documents that could be found were the original Baptism and Marriage records.

Recently we were honored to have as a guest speaker, Rev. Ruben Martinez O.M.I. who preached on behalf of the oblate Foreign Missions whose mission territory exceeds that of any other order, congregation or society in the church. He spoke on his latest experiences in Baja California.

Former pastor, Carmelo Mifsud, returned for a brief visit last month. He is retired and resides in Arizona. Father Carmelo was with us from 1977-1983 as Administrator.

Several members of our parish participated in reciting the Holy Rosary for the Catholic Hour. It is a memorial to Rev. Denis J. Araujo who passed away on November 26, 1994. and was taped to be aired on radio station KVTO (1400) on November 27th at 7:00 pm. Father Denis was pastor of Our Lady of Mercy Church from 1983 to 1989.

Point Richmond Methodist

Jean Reynolds
235-2988

We welcomed Gill Stanfield, May Cotton, and Juanita Hamilton as new members on October 13. Susan Armstrong, and Jim and Linda Brooks have also joined recently. It is wonderful to see the membership list grow longer with people who are so involved in our community.

The Dan Damon Trio entertained at Brickyard Landing on September 22, as the Point Methodist Church congregation hosted "Jazz at Brickyard". We all enjoyed the music, good company and pleasant surroundings. Yes, it is true, Pastor Dan performs just like that on Sunday mornings at worship, with or without the rest of the trio.

By the time you read this, the annual Country Fair holiday bazaar will have come and gone. The United Methodist Women of the church put on this event every year as a "fun-raiser" (and it earns money, too!). Handmade crafts, baked goods and holiday decorations are featured, as well as a hot lunch on Friday and homemade soup and pies on Saturday. If you missed it this year, look for it next year the weekend before

Halloween.

LOOKING AHEAD...

We're planning a community Thanksgiving dinner and worship service on Thanksgiving, November 28. Members of the business community will join with us to prepare and serve dinner to anyone who wants to come. The worship service will begin at 11:00 AM, and dinner will be served from 12:00 noon to 2:00 PM.

The Joyful Noise choir and Friends will again present a musical offering of Handel's *Messiah* this year during Advent. Sunday, December 15, at 7:00 PM, is the date to note on your calendar!



Point Methodist Church History

-Mid Dorman

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 notebook which cost \$1.15. The minutes are printed as written. This is the 23rd installment.

March 3rd, 1925

The Social League met at the home of Mrs. Hendricks with Mrs. Hendricks and Mrs. Mythen as hostesses. There were 22 members present and 3 visitors. The meeting was opened by repeating the Lord's prayer let by Mrs. Owens.

It was moved, seconded and carried that a bill of \$15. by paid the Park Florist for flowers.

It was moved and carried that the Food Sale to be given by the Social League be postponed to March 21st instead of March 7th on account of coming too close to the food sale given by the Ladies Aid.

It was moved and carried that articles be procured for the bazaar to be worked on during club meetings. These to be paid for out of the Club Treasury.

Mrs. Jones reported that nothing had been done in regard to purchasing apron material but that the committee would try to have something to report by the next meeting. Mrs. Genevieve Holbrook was welcomed as a new member.

A report was made of church finances showing an indebttness of \$110 for the period ending March 1st.

Mrs. Jenkins and Mrs. Jones will be hostesses at the next meeting to be held at the hoem of Mrs. Jones.

On hand 49.78
Park Florist 1.50
48.48

DUES

Mrs. Dustimer	.60
Mrs. Hendricks	.60
Mrs. Jones	.60
Mrs. Ford	.60
Mrs. Griffin	.60
Mrs. Daisy Jenkins	.60
Mrs. Redman	.60
Mrs. Mythen	.60
Mrs. Erickson	.60
Mrs. Danner	.60
Mrs. Hendrick (donation)	.60
Silver offering	<u>2.25</u>
	9.85

Total on hand	<u>9.85</u>
Irene Mythen, Sec	58.13



Elections Past

by Mid Dornan

Elections have changed over the past fifty years in many ways. Votes have gone from being hand tallied to counting machines to computers.

Fifty years ago there were many polling sites in the Point which often included unheated garages. During cold and inclement weather the Election Official was truly a dedicated citizen whose long day began at 6:30 am, ending near midnight and more often into the wee morning hours.

While there were fewer votes per polling site, the voted ballots had to be hand tallied before being returned to the City or County Clerk officers. In late evenings, workers often took turns catching a quick nap on a bench or chair during their break in tallying votes; eight

election members compromised a board.

A Ledger containing the original and officially signed documents of the registered voter was delivered to each precinct Inspector along with the election supplies prior to Election Day. One could learn a lot about a voter from these records. In fact, it was here I learned my mother-in-law, Trannie Freeman Dornan, legally lost her American citizenship in 1917 when she married Irish Immigrant Bob Dornan. *(She later had to regain it as opposed to today's law that grants citizenship status via marriage.)*

During the 1960 November Presidential election I worked in an unheated garage on Castro Street. Bathroom facilities were accessible next door at the Ed Palenchar home

where their garage was also being used for a polling site. *(They provided a heater—our garage didn't even have a plug for one!)* It had been a long, dreary, cold day. At midnight we were barely halfway through tallying candidates votes for many state and local offices plus the propositions of the day. A trip to the bathroom next door was made by parading through the Palenchar's living room where the family was gathered, entranced in watching TV Election returns. The new President elect, John F. Kennedy, was celebrating at his victory party! Our uncounted votes weren't needed, but we still had hours of tiring and eye-straining votes to count. Depressing! Who even remembers the meager pay received?

One time an election board member at the Methodist Church went off to lunch and never returned.

A known felon, released just before election day, tried to vote because his name was still on the Roster of Voters. When he was challenged because the house at the address he gave had been demolished a couple years prior and we knew he had not lived in the precinct the required time *(plus the felon angle)* he literally threatened the board...but was not given a ballot to vote!

One voter called Martinez to complain the flag on the church was displayed incorrectly. Of course, Martinez had to dispatch a worker to check us out! The voter didn't bother to

report it to the election board!

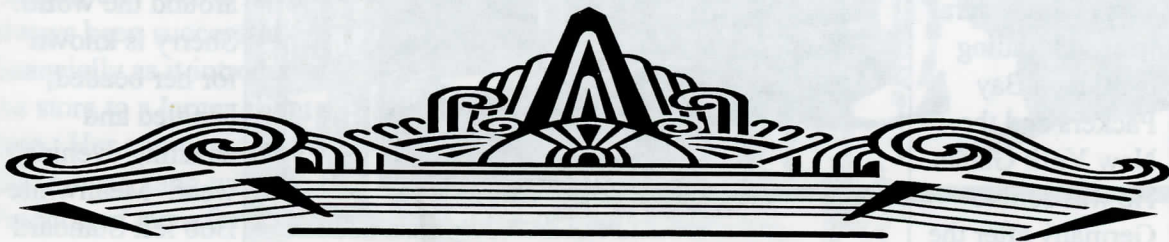
At the end of an Election Day if a precinct didn't bother to report in with the ballots to a designated site by a certain time, a deputy was dispatched to the precinct to check out the problem.

In another precinct in Richmond, the board took their ballots home when they got tired to counting, saying they intended to finish in the morning after a good night's sleep! Some boards had lavish meals after the polls closed making the returns even later. But perhaps the funniest was the board in North Richmond that only counted the Democratic ballots because only a couple Republicans had voted.

Earlier polling sites included the Baptist, Episcopal and Methodist Churches, Hess, Palenchar and the Castro Street garages, Washington School, a site now Pregos, and a room in a three-story building now the site of the Key shop. Does anyone remember others?

Four members constitute a Board today, Roster of Voters lists may have 800 or more names and the voted ballots are delivered to be counted by computer. Inspectors get \$65 for a 6:30 A.M. - 9:30 P.M. (15 hours average) day, with many hours before preparing the alphabetized voter list, checking supplies, lining up substitute workers and attending schools of instruction.

How will elections change the next 50 years?



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO "SHERRY AND BOB'S"

Compiled by David Vincent

Helda Bethel Hartynyk (Sherry) was born on December 6, 1923 in Poultney, Vermont and graduated from Green Mountain College in 1943.

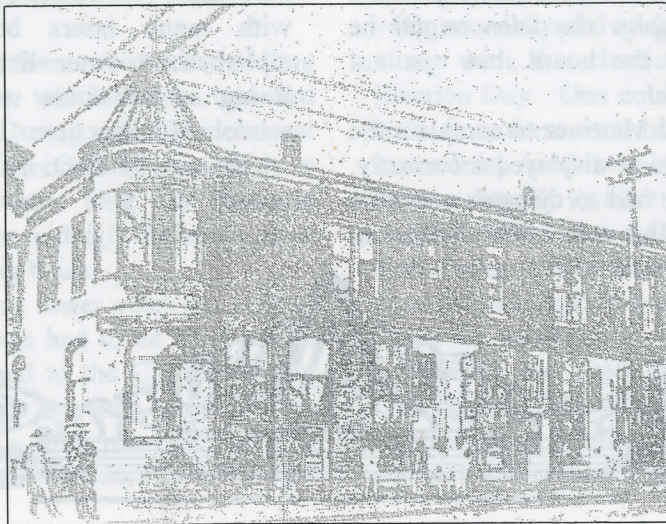
Sherry was working as a buyer for Lord and Taylors when she met her husband Bob while visiting her aunt in Connecticut. They were married on April 11, 1944 at St. Josephs Church in Hartford, Connecticut. Bob had graduated from St. Mary's College in Moraga, California where he played football as an end and a fullback. He later played professional football for 13 years with several teams including the Green Bay Packers and the New York Giants. He was sent to Germany after the

war as a Criminal Investigator.

Sherry and Bob had two children, Sheila and Bob, Jr.

They came to Point Richmond in 1946 when Bob accepted a job with Standard Oil Company. Sherry opened her first store where Edibles is now where she sold children's clothes, toys and she operated a dry cleaners. They lived above the Santa Fe Market at this time and looked across the street at the building that they eventually bought in 1956.

When they bought the former Bank of Richmond in 1956 they moved their store there and offered more women's clothing as well as designer clothes from around the world. Sherry is known for her beaded, bangled and dazzling evening wear. Meanwhile Bob left Standard

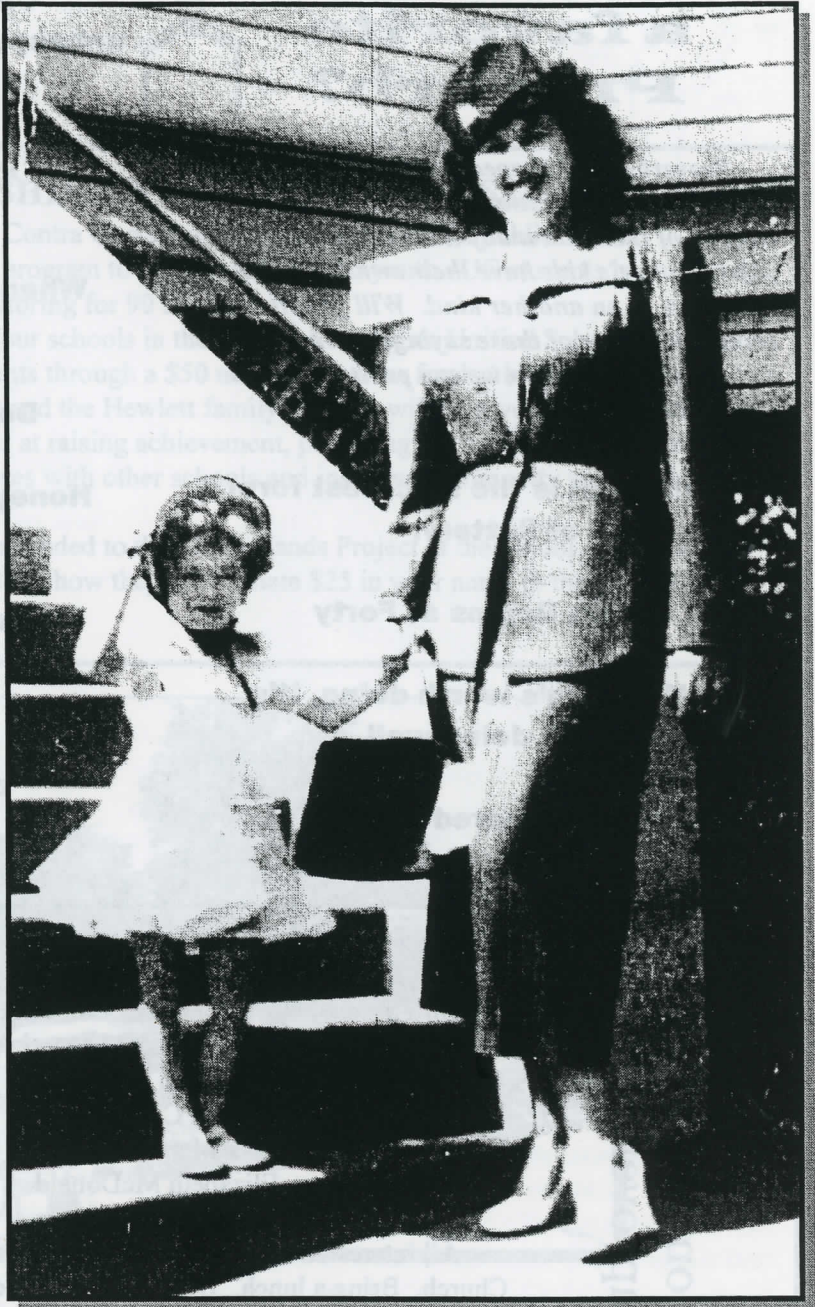


This Point....in time

Oil and opened Bob's Hardware & Variety in San Pablo. When he was called up in the Reserves for the Korean War, Sherry suddenly found herself managing two stores. Bob died in 1979.

Fifty years later, Sherry has many memories of Point Richmond. One interesting memory was her service on the board of directors to the predecessor to the Point Richmond Business Association. It was called Businessmen's, and didn't become gender correct until 1982 or so. The group's claim to fame around the early 1950's was to get the downtown Point streets paved. She seems to think they were oil and gravel (which I find hard to believe) and getting cross-walks painted.

Sherry has provided fashion shows at luncheons around the Bay Area for Shriners, Sportsmen, Moose Lodges, etc. These have always been successful financially as it introduced the store to a larger client base. Her companion now is Ed , who sang with the San Francisco Opera for 25 years.



Do you have a favorite Proverb?

Proverbs have shaped our thoughts and speech; we may question or laugh at the wisdom of them but many have withstood years. Today's kids have their own lingo, let's clue them in on another kind. Will you help bring back some of those sayings you heard as a child or use today so we can print them in a special column?

**Imitation is the sincerest form
of flattery.**

Life Begins at Forty

**If a thing's worth doing, it's
worth doing well.**

**A trouble shared is a trouble
halved.**

**One of us is going to be
unhappy and it isn't going to be
me.**

**A penny saved is a penny
earned.**

**When one door shuts, another
opens.**

Don't bet the farm on it.

**Honey catches more flies than
vinegar.**

**Handsome is as handsome
does.**

**Three may keep a secret, if two
of them are dead.**

Got down yours and send them to us.

Women's Westside Improvement Club

Richmond's oldest women's service club has changed their November Meeting to the second Tuesday because of election day on their regular date.

On Tuesday, November 12, 1996, the guest speaker will be Elfriede Spenza, teacher of Millinery and Apparel Accessories at Laney College.

New Officers for the club are:

President: Virginia Cherniak

Vice President: Marian Voight

Secretary: Elizabeth McDonald

Treasurer: Anita Christensen.

All interested women are invited to this meeting at the Point Methodist Church. Bring a lunch. Dessert is provided. For more information call 236-8036.

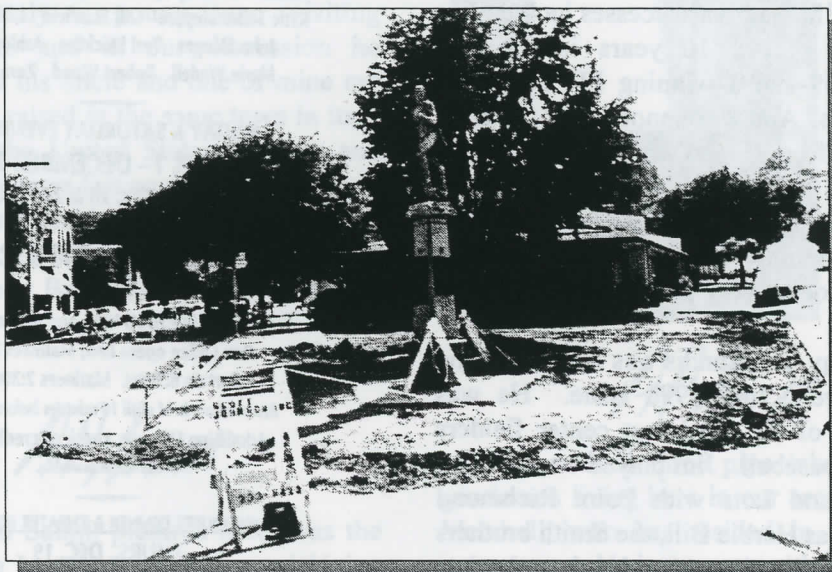


WASHINGTON SCHOOL CHOSEN

Washington was one of six Contra Costa Schools named as the first public school beneficiaries of UC Berkeley's program to help disadvantaged youth. UC students have already begun their after-school math tutoring for 90 students.

Washington is also one of four schools in the West Contra Costa Unified School District to clear hurdles toward getting grants through a \$50 million program funded by former U.S. Ambassador Walter Annenberg and the Hewlett family. Grants will be given \$100 to \$200 per student to use for reforms aimed at raising achievement, providing professional development for teachers, sharing reform successes with other schools and inspiring community support for schools.

Fifty-five Sponsors have responded to the Many Hands Project at the school. (Call Jan and Jerry Feagles, 237-3908 to find out how they will donate \$25 in your name to the Many Hands Project!)



Building of Indian Statue Park

Sports Memories

by Allan Smith

The World Series was exciting, a dramatic return of the world championship to the American League!

It was good to see a player from Richmond still in the Big Leagues. Willie McGee attended Harry Ells High School before becoming a professional baseball player, and is now playing for the St. Louis Cardinals. His season is now over as the Cardinals lost to the Atlanta Braves in the playoffs.

Of all professional players from Richmond who played in the Big Leagues, Willie McGee appears to be the most successful. Fifteen years of playing ball and he is still doing well. Other notable hometown successes include Jim Landis, who played 10 years in the Big Leagues (1959-1969) winning FIVE Golden Glove Awards. And we cannot forget the great Lefty Gomez from Rodeo who played 19 years professionally starting in 1927. He attended Richmond Union High School with our Dr. William Thompson. Dr. Thompson remembers Gomez very well during their high school days.

By the way, Jim Landis was featured in the *Baseball Digest*, July 1996 issue. He was rated as one of the very best center fielders ever seen in baseball. Jim played on the Point Richmond Sand Lots with Point Richmond natives, such as Herbie Bill, the Smith brothers and Eddie Loux, who was related to the late Loyd Christopher. Incidentally, Loyd signed the great relief pitcher Dennis Eckersley

The MASQUERS PLAYHOUSE
presents

"THE WIZARD OF OZ"

Follow your heart "Over The Rainbow" with the all-time-favorite family musical by L. Frank Baum, music and lyrics by Harold Arlen and E.Y. Harburg, directed by John Hull.

THE CAST

Keith W. Barlow Vanessa Butler Ed Collins
Tura Franzen Andrew Gabel Claudine Jones
Dallas McMurray Joan Nelson Sara Scheuenstuhl
Katie Sciancalepore Gill Stanfield Gillian Stenger
John Stenger Teri Stockton Ashley Tatro
Marie Wedell Robert Wood Zura Young

FRIDAY & SATURDAY EVENINGS
NOVEMBER 1 - DECEMBER 21, 1996
Sun. Matinees: NOV. 10 & 24, DEC. 1 & 15

24-Hr. Reservations: 510 232-4031

NOW ACCEPTING VISA and MasterCard!

Box Office opens 8PM; Matinees 2PM.

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Reservations held until 10 minutes before curtain.

Admission \$10 cash, check or credit card.

Group Rates available.

MASQUERS DINNER & THEATER BENEFIT

THURS., DEC. 19

DINNER at Hotel Mac
And "The Wizard of Oz"
\$25. Call (510) 236-4988

Allan Smith's Point

I trust my memory of the early Point Richmond days but still will accept corrections. My latest memory lapse was in the September/October issue of *THIS POINT...in time* when I wrote that the late Gust Allyn, prominent community leader, former Mayor of Richmond, was a great Democrat. Gust Allyn was a Republican who attained the Postmaster of Richmond position during the Eisenhower Administration (I wonder if he turned over in his grave?)

AP Smith

While talking with Mid Dornan at our museum recently a young man visiting recognized me and in our discussion he mentioned that his uncle and one of mine my marriage were raised in the same town in Italy and came to the United States together and also shared the same last name. This native of Point Richmond resided at 315 Golden Gate Avenue and knew my brothers very well. His name is Anthony Baiocchi. The museum is a good place to meet friends and share experiences.

AP Smith

Mr. Martin Salmi, pictured here, was the Machine Shop Instructor at Richmond Union High School for as long as I can remember. My time was in the late 30's. Many high



school students who did not take a college course were very fortunate to have Martin Falmi teach them one of the Industrial Arts trades. Many fond memories of this teacher are shared by his former students. Mr. Salmi lived in Point Richmond on Western Drive.

AP Smith

I've noticed three pipe tobacco smoking gentlemen living here in our area. One is Hal Marshall, who has resided in the Point for many years. He is the man with a white goatee who walks briskly and stands erect. We call him "the professor" or "captain". Hal worked

at the University of California in the same area with Dr. J. Robert Oppenheimer ("Oppie" was always seen with his favorite pipe).

We are grateful to Hal as he has donated to the PRHA a 65 year old Presidential campaign item featuring Herbert Hoover. It is now on display at our Point Richmond Museum and a must see item.

One of the other pipe tobacco smokers name is Frankie who after spending some time as a patient in St. Mary's Hospital in San Francisco recently, will probably give up his favorite past-time, smoking his pipe. Frankie retired from a local company after working 45 years without taking any sick leave whatsoever.

The other man is another nice guy who drives a beat-up Volkswagen and always wears a cowboy hat and boots along with his favorite horse, the pipe. His son was a favorite paper boy of ours many years ago.

AP Smith

We certainly have to thank Mid Dornan, Gary Shows and Jerry Cerkanowicz for carrying on the responsibility of the Point Richmond Museum and Betty Dornan for keeping the building open during visiting hours.

Several Point Richmond natives are member of the Chevron Tree Planting group which is composed of Chevron Retirees.

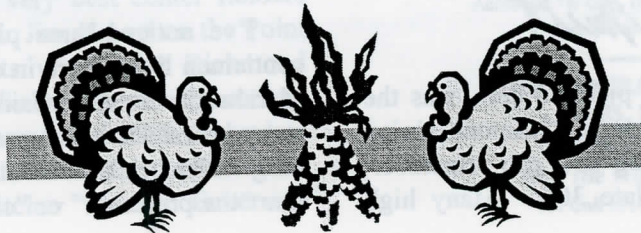
AP Smith

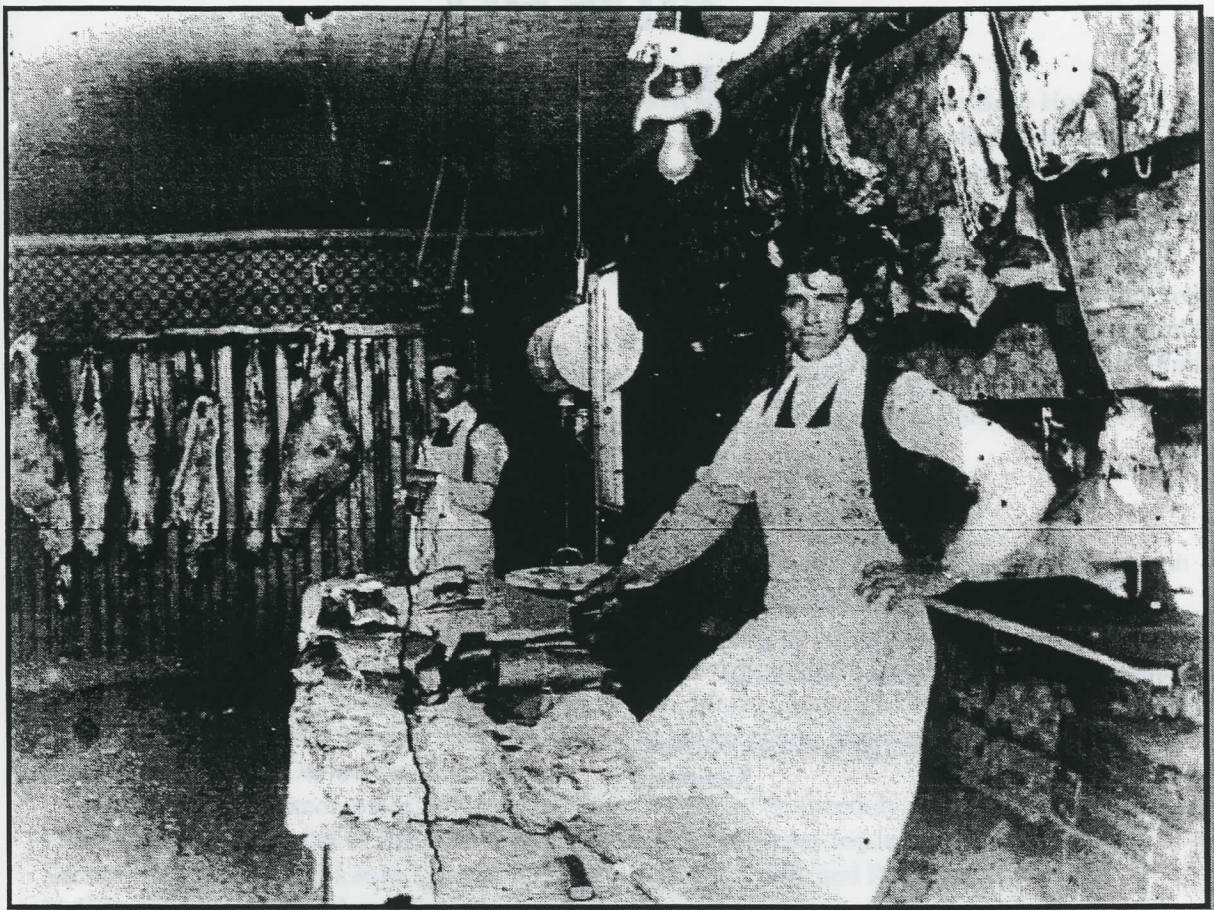
They will be working at the Miller-Knox Park this month replanting trees that were destroyed last year. This group is led by Walt Fauerso who was instrumental in saving the Natatorium for our town. I hope Walt will take a good look at the Bob Dornan Memorial Grove adjacent to the Park and offer suggestions as to its upkeep.

AP Smith

John Tofolli, Sr. was raised at Winehaven and educated at Washington Elementary School in Point Richmond. His father worked at the winery and now his son, John Tofolli, Jr. is the general manager of the Concord Pavilion was honored by a "John Tofilli Day" proclaimed by the City of Concord. He recently featured singer Tony Bennett at the Concord Jazz Festival which was a great success.

AP Smith





This photo was sent by PRHA member and long time Point Richmond resident Joe Savill. Joe is 88 years old and lives in Burlingame, California.

The man in the foreground is Joe's father, Everett J. Savill in his grandfather's Point Richmond meat market. The picture was taken at about the turn of the century.

CARDS & LETTERS

Dear Pam:

Here is my check for the next year's dues. Everything is fine up here in Fort Dick. We live 3 miles out of Fort Dick on South Bank of the Smith River. The river is walking distance, if I could walk. I hope to see you all next year.

Vivien Cook
Fort Dick, California



Dear Pam:

Thanks for the reminder. I would not want to miss "This Point". It is always of great interest and it renews so many wonderful memories.

George (LeRoy) Williams
Richmond



Pam Wilson:

Enclosed is a check for \$25.00, \$12.00 to renew my subscription and \$13.00 is a donation. I enjoy reading the newsletter. I know many of the people you write about.

I also send it to my brother in Palmdale after we read "This Point".

I enjoyed the "Kid's Day" in May. Saw many friends that I grew up with. Keep up the good work.

Spiro Cakos
Phoenix



This Point....in time

Deaths

Winifred 'Wini' Shimel, died May 2, 1996 at Elmendorf Air Force Base Hospital, Alaska. Age 74. Born in Helena, Montana, Wini was the daughter of the late Earl and Frances Wickersheim, Sr. and was raised in Point Richmond, attending Washington, Roosevelt and Richmond High Schools.

During World War II when the National Guard Unit came to the Point, she met and married Richard Chimel from Bimidgi, Minnesota. The Guard Unit set up anti-aircraft units on the hills of the Point.

After 20 years in the service, she and her husband moved to Alaska where they owned Alaska Ornamental Iron and Manufacture Comapny for 20 years and retired in 1983.

Wini is survived by her sister, Edna Hathaway, Hanford, California and Barbara Davis of Eagle River, California.



Dolores Marie Caceres, September 9, 1901 - September 20, 1996, born in San Martin de Tesorillo, Cadiz, Espana. "if she touched your life you were truly blessed."

Beloved wife of the late Mariano Caceres. Beloved mother of Phillip Caceres, Jae Stradley and Marie Peckham and the late Gertrude Carlson. Beloved grandmother of Ava Carlson, Brad Carlson, Kim Finney, Jarnell Carlson, Roxanne Mann, Mario Caceres, Michael Caceres, Marcello Caceres, Craig Stradley, Brenda Kunz, Steven Peckham, Michael Peckham, Kelley Peckham-Shore and Darian Peckham.

Beloved great-grandmother of Kyle and Ryan Carlson of Schnectady, N.Y., Cameron Finney of Modesto, Bryce Mann of Elk Grove, Mariano Caceres of Napa, Jessica and Jack Stradley of Sacramento, Rachel and Laura Kunz of Carmichael, Sarra, Emily and Rebecca Peckham of Vallejo, and Jessica Peckham of Richmond.

Beloved sister of Edward Gonzalez of San Lorenzo and late Francisco Gonzalez, Carmen Mateo, Joe Gonzalez, Isabel Soares, Alfred Gonzalez, Tony Gonzalez, Miguel Gonzales and Mary Giordano.

She is also survived by many nieces, nephews, great and great-great nieces and nephews and many friends and acquaintances.

Although Mama never had a formal education, she had a Ph.D. in Life and Love. We will truly miss her and feel very fortunate that she laid a strong foundation and paved a smooth road for us to travel.

She worked in many canneries: F. Booth, Felice and Perreli, Red Rock Fisheries and Washington Packing Corp., to name a few. She belonged to the Spanish Club and the Eagles Lodge.

In lieu of flowers, plant a tree in her memory.

Deaths continued....

Ann V. Bisio, died October 7, 1996 in a Palm Desert care home at age 90.

Ann was a 87 year resident of Richmond and the Point. She was a member of the Women's Westside Improvement Club; and Ladies Aid Society. She enjoyed cooking and gardening.

She was preceded in death by her husband, John Bisio. She is survived by a daughter, Jean Soetaert of Indian Wells; brother, Peter Pucci of Richmond; two grandchildren; and one great-granddaughter.

Private burial was at St. Joseph's Cemetery in San Pablo.



Inside the First Bank of Richmond (now Sherry & Bob's) in about 1905

November Birthdays

Ann Greiner
Jason McGill
Betty Dornan
Elsie Spinola
Clare Doherty
Kevin Fong
Gary Shows
Marianne Forbes
Les Crim
Hal Marshall
Nicole Vargo
Matthew Berman
James Cheshareck, Sr.
James Cheshareck, Jr.

Ida Giacomelli
Claudia LeGue
Michael Brown
Aubyn Eakles
Lance Rotting
William Kollar
Theodore W. Beck
Paul Cort
Lynn Rendler
Mary Ann Gaspard
Chris Bradshaw
Craig Seaborg
Bo Amantite
Kenny Paasch

Joe Savill
Mike Price
Shane Thomas
Linda Feyder
Bethany Reynolds
Bobbies Boziki
Shirley Butt
Jack Elle
Marj Bellati
Linda Cheshareck
Jim Eakle
Bernard Bernes
Kathryn Pinkerto
Audrey Edwards

Congratulations to the Farleys!

Lloyd and Melba Farley celebrated an enviable event most never reach. Their 58th Wedding Anniversary! Married October 14, 1938 in San Francisco, the Farleys have lived a large part of the time in the Point. Lloyd is a retired Standard Oil Executive and both are active in the Point Methodist Church.

QUOTE OF THE ISSUE:

While you are away, movie stars are taking your women. Robert Redford is dating your girlfriend, Tom Selleck is kissing your lady, Bart Simpson is making love to your wife.

BAGHDAD BETTY, IRAQI RADIO ANNOUNCER, TO GULF WAR TROOPS

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) and a special 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.

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

Please mail articles and items of interest to:

Gary Shows

**229 Golden Gate Avenue
Point Richmond, CA 94801**

or

fax 510-233-0762

or

email: gshows@hooked.net

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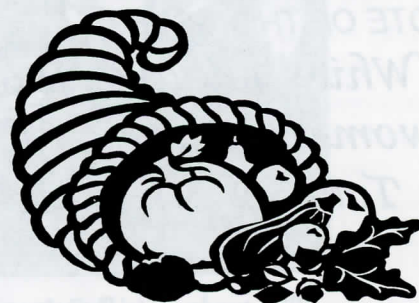
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<http://www.hooked.net/~gshows/prha>



Calendar

November, 1996

November 5
Tuesday

Election Day

November 11
Monday

Veteran's Day

November 12
Tuesday

Women's Westside Improvement Meeting
11:30 am, Point Richmond Methodist Church

November 13
Wednesday

Point Richmond Business Association Meeting,
Noon at the Hotel Mac

November 22
Friday

DEADLINE FOR INFORMATION IN THE DECEMBER/JANUARY
ISSUE OF TPIT

November 26
Tuesday

Point Richmond Neighborhood Council Meeting
7:30 at the Point Richmond Community Center

November 28
Thursday

Thanksgiving Day

November 30
Saturday

Point Richmond's Christmas Tree Lighting Festivities
Saturday Evening on the Triangle

December 11
Wednesday

Point Richmond Business Association Christmas Party
5 - 7 pm, Gates Building, 117 West Richmond Avenue