

—THIS POINT—....in time

NEWSLETTER

The Point Richmond History Association

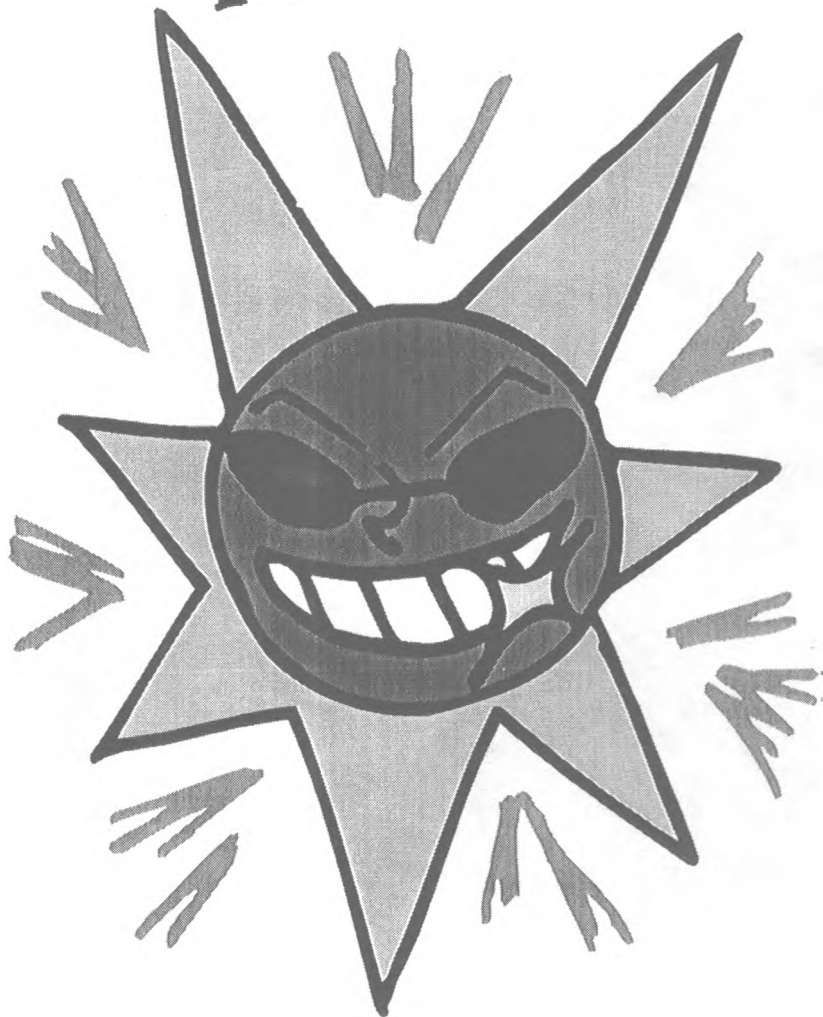
Vol. XVII No. 1

Summer, 1998

\$1.50



Hey, El Niño



Get Lost!

From The President

Mid Dornan

Seventeen years have passed since the Point Richmond History Association was organized by Donna Roselius. Our accomplishments each year are many and we are grateful for the dedicated volunteers who keep this alive.

I can't proclaim too loudly or strongly the importance our editor and CEO, Gary Shows, plays in our success. 'THIS POINT...in time' is our life blood and outreach. You who contribute articles are important to the editor and increasing membership lets us know you are reading us.

The dependable board has been instrumental in our past year achievements.

- Published bi-monthly newsletters.

- Staffed the History Museum 110 days with visitors from Cuba, Arizona, Louisiana, New York and 14 cities.

- Exhibited Iron Collection.

- Provided new home owners with information on Point Richmond and the History Association.

- Participated in the Chamber of Commerce Point Richmond Stroll.

- Decorated building for Christmas.

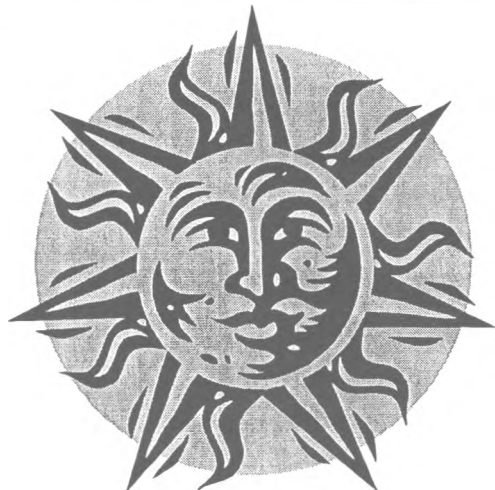
- Assisted with Valentine and Easter Egg contests.

- Supported Richmond Museum of History Red Oak Victory Ship Restoration.

- Presented program on PIXAR.

Contents

From The President	1
Members	2
Editor's Notes	3
A-Mid Trivia	4
Hollywood North	6
Churches	8
Dr. Thompson Poem	12
Meeting/Reunion	13
Dr. Clark L. Abbott	17
Westside Library	20
Allan's Point	21
Sports Memories	22
Cards and Letters	23
Birthdays	27
Calendar	inside back cover



-Member Point Richmond Business Association.

-Maintained Museum building.

-Updated newsletter photography with a new publishing program.

-Produced and maintained a World Wide Web home page.

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

Donna Wilson

Ralph and Marion Voigt

Pat Dornan

William Kollar

Martha and Gene Bielawski

Gary Shows

Bernice Shows

Mary Rudolph

Sonja Darling

Robert and Marie Peckham

Anne Hanzlik

John and Jean Knox

James L. Wilson

Don Amantite

Al and Gerry Higuera

Emile and Edwyna Pleau

Barbara and Jeff Ward

Romilda Burress

Lucile Meyer

Alyce Williamson

Betty Jo Nickola

Theresa Daniel

Charlotte Woods

Augustine G. MacDonald

Jan Burdick

Cathe Amber-Brazil

June Solosabal

Virgina Littlefair

Maurice Doherty

Ann and Bruce Bartram

Thomas Mercer-Hursh

And a warm welcome to the following new members:

Tonita A. Granado

Jerome Vloeberghs

John A. Bailo

Joyce (Taylor) Crownover

Barbara Blackwell

Ilamay Dein

Museum Staff Coordinator Betty Dornan thanks volunteers who staffed the History Building in April and May

Thank You!

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

Gary's Column

Gary Shows

Think we are going to have a summer at all this year? Maybe by the time this arrives in your mailbox summer will have finally arrived, I hope so.

Thanks to contributors for the timely, quality work, I think this will be received well as one of our better issues. It has lots of current and past information as well as lots of pictures, I hope they reproduce well.

I am happy to report that Mid seems to be doing quite well after a scary illness. Let's hope her recovery continues on the current pace.

It was good seeing so many of you at the very successful May 17th meeting.

Have a great summer, I will update our website during the summer, so be sure to check there for PRHA happenings. As I have time I am putting more on the website, so far you can read over a year of "A-Mid Trivia", Anne Hanzlik play reviews, meeting reports and Donna Roselius' short history of Point Richmond (illustrated). There are also pictures of the latest events in our neighborhood and stories of our notable citizens. Someday I hope to include the entire newsletter.

The deadline for the September issue is August 21st with an anticipated date of assembly of September 3rd.

Thanks to the April/May issue assembly crew:

Mary Highfill
Pam Wilson
Mid Dornan
Jerry Cerkowicz
Gary Shows
Betty Dornan
Allan Smith
Sonja Darling



The Cover:

For the second issue in a row our cover is Allan Smith's "Mystery Guest". See page 21.

A-Mid TRIVIA

-Mid Dornan (510-234-5334)

Question: When was the first book copyrighted? Name the book.

Answer at end of Trivia.

Today if someone pays you in cash people get suspicious that your credit's no good!

A father is a person who spends thousands of dollars on his daughters wedding and then reads in the paper that he gave her away!

When Diana Corbin received her law degree from Cornell University on May 16th, proud parents, Doug and Rosemary Corbin, brother, Jeff Corbin and long-time neighbor, Liz McDonald were in the audience cheering. Diana has accepted a position in a Boston law firm. Diana is another successful Washington School alumni.

Watch for those new twenty dollar bills with the larger and slightly off-center portrait of Andrew Jackson. It is still based on an 1820 portrait but designed to trip up computer-savvy counterfeiters. Your old \$20 bill is still legal tender until it wears out. Could be a souvenir of the times.

The first postage stamp was approved 150 years ago. 78 years ago postage meters were approved. Now, Email electronic postage has been approved for testing and if all

goes well, businesses and individuals will be able to print their own postage using personal computers and the internet. The customer will have an account with the company and can download postage

Do you ever wonder how our local teachers cope with the number of limited English proficient (LEP) students in their classes? The West Contra Costa Schools have an enrollment of 32,284. Of those enrolled, 4,352 are Spanish, 255 are Vietnamese, 15 are Hmong, 174 are Cantonese, 329 are Tagalong, 11 are Khmer, 38 are Korean, 87 are Loa, 307 are Mandarin, 4 are Russian, 164 are Punjabi, 54 are Farsi, 597 are Arabic, 23 are Mein, 438 are other LEP, or 6,857 total LEP.

ONE World, ONE language? After appeals from parents, students and teachers who believe English is the key to success, 14 secondary schools in Hong Kong have been ordered to teach in English.

Did you know reporters couldn't quote a U.S. President without explicit permission until the 1950's? Now it is stuff comedians feed on.

A woman in her late 40s told a friend, "I hate it when men call me an old maid."

The friend asked, "What would you call yourself?"

"I like to consider myself an unclaimed blessing," she replied.

Father's Day may not rank up with Mother' Day but don't overlook it. Buy something sentimental 'cause down inside that

rough husk is a 'little boy' who cherishes a kind word or a plain "I love you". Maybe this year make Father's Day different. Go for it!

ENJOY YOUR SUMMER!

Answer: The first copyrighted book was the Philadelphia Spelling Book by John Barry on June 9, 1970.

Copyright is a legal protection of an author's work. Journalist Frank Sullivan once said, there are people who would not steal a writer's watch but think no more of stealing his brains than they would of stashing a souvenir ashtray.



THANKS!!

For all the flowers, the cards, the balloons, the visits, the telephone calls, the meals, the care giving and the prayers, during my recent surgery and hospital stay, an overwhelming and sincere Thank You! The nurses and staff at Pinole Hospital, San Pablo campus, are still praising the Methodist Choir visit! With so much attention, how can one not get well. What special friends.

Mid

PICTURES FROM 4TH ANNUAL KID'S DAY REUNION ARE IN THE POINT HISTORY MUSEUM, 139 1/2 WASHINGTON AVENUE. STOP BY TO VIEW THEM AND IDENTIFY YOURSELF.

DODY PERRY

Senior Volunteer of the Year

In recognition of her many hours of service to the community in numerous categories, Dody Perry, Western Drive, was honored at the Annual City sponsored Senior Day by being named RICHMOND'S SENIOR VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR.

A well deserved accolade, Dody is one of our regular staff members who keeps our History Museum open every month too. Congratulations!



Picture from Kid's Reunion

Goodbye Robin! Welcome Clint! Hollywood North Loves It!

By Gary Shows

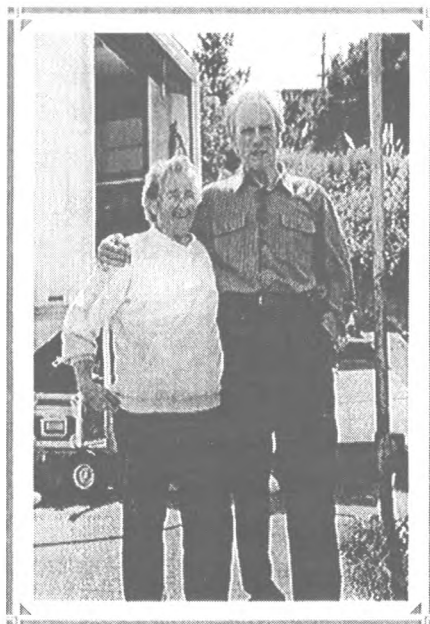
After witnessing the excitement of the free spending movie makers when Robin Williams came to town last month to film a scene from his next movie "Patch Adams" we thought the excitement was over. We were sure wrong. Clint Eastwood came to Martina Street to film a scene for his next film "True Crime" and though the stay was much shorter the excitement was equal.

Suddenly on the Sunday before the Memorial Day holiday about twelve big trucks rumbled into town along with a bus, and other equipment on wheels. Since the location was so near my house, on Memorial Day morning I walked down the Martina stairs and to my surprise, there came Clint Eastwood swaggering up the street! In no time at all film was rolling and I was treated to filming of several outdoor scenes.

The filming took place outside and inside the house at Martina. It was a thrill for next door neighbor and long time Point Resident Marguerite Clutts as she had the front row seat and got to meet most of the crew including Mr. Eastwood. In fact they originally wanted Marguerite's house for the scene but she turned down the money and fame, she didn't savor the major disruption of her life. Now she is fond of saying that

she is the woman who wouldn't let Clint Eastwood in her house.

The project must have gone smoothly as the crew finished early and after shooting into the night on Wednesday, they and all of their trucks, buses and equipment left Point Richmond in the middle of the night. Thursday morning was normal (except for the incessant rain) and quiet and kind of boring. What's next?



Marguerite Clutts with Clint Eastwood



Martina was closed to traffic for the filming of "True Crime".

Carol Burdick's Team Wins The 1998 Women's Rugby World Cup

Twenty years ago when Jan and Bob Burdick moved to Point Richmond their teenage daughter Carol was still living at home and attending Kennedy High School, graduating in 1981. Some may remember her as a student there or as the newspaper delivery person who threw papers from her moped. Others might have seen her at the local ball diamonds where she, as one of the required three females, played on an adult mixed softball team.

Carol's interest in team sports began when, at 10, she started with little league softball. She continued with this sport playing in the city leagues until 1995. Basketball was a major factor in high school and beyond when she played again at league level. As a little girl she once said "I wish I were a boy so I could play football". However flag football which she played from 1990 to 1995 didn't satisfy her wish for a rougher, tougher sport. Three years ago she found the sport that fit the bill, women's rugby. Her team, Berkeley All Blues, won the National Championship in 1997 and on Memorial Day of this year clinched the title again by playing in Minneapolis, MN. It was quite an honor when she was chosen after so few years of playing to be a member of the USA Team at the 1998 Women's Rugby World Cup held in Amsterdam, Holland on May 1st thru 15th. A very proud father, Bob was there in the audience to cheer them on. The USA Team and the New Zealand Team were the two unbeaten teams who met each other for the final game. It was no dishonor to lose to the phenomenal New Zealand team. Had rugby been an Olympic Sport, it would have meant bringing home a silver medal. Even without a medal, the USA Team was proud that it was second out of the sixteen countries that were represented. Rugby was a new sport for Carol with different rules, scoring and terminology. It was and is even more foreign to her parents but now they can say, without shame, "Our daughter is a hooker."

Jan Burdick

Church News

Our Lady of Mercy

Dee Rosier

232-1387

To spend an evening with close friends and take in a movie and then dinner is always a rewarding experience, but by having it topped off by meeting previous parishioners is a just reward. Long time friends Wally and Marilyn Darling were dining at the same restaurant as our group. It was an evening spent reminiscing and catching up. Our children attended St. Cornelius many years ago and we shared a ride group. When Wally and Marilyn went on vacation in their bus, we had the pleasure of babysitting their rabbits. Our old friends are never forgotten, even though we do not see each other regularly, hence it is such a grand reward to unexpectedly run into them. They are well and send their best to the Parish.

Anna Schwartz had an April 1st birthday - come on Anna is this a joke? Apologies to Dody Perry who I omitted in our February birthdays.

The latest on Louise Banks is that she continues to do well. Her son and daughter-in-law have moved in to help her along. Remember all of our other shut-ins and those unable to attend Mass.

Our deepest condolences to Shirley and John Gerk in the recent loss of their son, Patrick. A memorial mass was held with a standing room only crowd. Amelia and her

helpers were in charge of the luncheon held in the church hall after services. All those in attendance were very generous in providing the food. Patrick's organs were donated and so he will continue to live on as well as enabling others to do likewise.

Our Easter services were done in grand style. Nonie de Bettencourt on cello, Betty on the organ, the choir (Anna, Joanie, Cynthia and Linda) and the 'piece de resistance' Javier, on the trumpet. It was an unforgettable Easter Service. The display of talent was phenomenal.

Back to birthdays - did Father Jim have one on April 30?

The fifth Sunday of the month rolled around again and we were able to generously contribute \$800 to the Souper Kitchen. This does not include the people who give of their time working at the Souper Kitchen. Time well spent helping those less fortunate than us.

Holy Week brought Father Paul Devine to our Parish. He officiated in the Holy Thursday and Holy Saturday liturgies. It is always a pleasure to have him visit our Parish.

Our newest Parish member is Hunter Rian, son of Brian and Nicole Stroul, who was baptized on April 26.

Mother's Day was celebrated at our Parish with the gift of carnations to all Mothers. Those who still have Mothers are indeed fortunate. Those of us who do not will never forget ours.

Our Parish Assembly was held on May 17. Again we thank Amelia for the refreshments. It is a grand manner in which to exchange pleasantries with parishioners and it gives us a chance to catch up and share Parish news. Elected to serve on the Parish Council were Peter Lespier and Donald Schwartz.

Their term will be from 1998-2001. Welcome newly elected and a big hand for Jim Hurley whose term has expired.

Adolph Brossard is back from his Grand Canyon trip. He tells us that it was very cold, 25-28 degrees. He must have had to keep the heat on in his 32 ft motor home at all times. He is back in time to assist the Knights of Columbus place flags on Memorial Day at St. Joseph's Cemetery to honor our war dead.

Anna spent two glorious weeks in Hawaii and says they were the best yet. Welcome back Anna.

Tony Ferreira is doing well after cataract surgery and tells us he did not realize how much color he was missing, but can now enjoy all of it.

Nonie and Tom de Bettencourt celebrated their 40th Wedding Anniversary On May 17. Nonie is our gift from heaven on the cello.

We are becoming a Parish of notables.

Dody Perry was recently named by the City of Richmond as "Volunteer of the Year."

Dody gives much of her time to charitable organizations. Last year Cynthia Young was named "Teacher of the Year." We may be small in number but quite outstanding.

Back to birthdays again - our Contessa, Varsie Lometti celebrated hers on May 14th. Varsie and I lunched together on her special day.

The money received from "Patch Adams," for the use of our parking lot will be put to good use repaving the lot. The Church foyer will also be painted.

June 2 - don't forget to vote.

It utterly amazes me that I start my Parish News on a blank piece of paper and how quickly the space is used up.

Deviating a little from the Church News,

this last issue of TPIT welcomed new members Michael and Janet Heckmann. Michael's father, Joel and I grew up in Crockett and we went to school together. How the world does revolve.

Remember: "Kmart is not the only saving place."

See you in church.



Point Richmond Methodist

Jean Reynolds

235-2988

Pastor Dan Damon taught a confirmation class for ten weeks before Palm Sunday. Each of the students in the confirmation class had an "angel" in the congregation who acted as a sponsor. Each angel and student pair got together for one or more fun activities during the time before their confirmation. Student/Angel pairs were: Ginger Paasch/Lorilyn Parmer-Folks, Taylor McClure/Elizabeth Meixell, Bethany Reynolds/Alice Thompson, Emily Goetsch/Jean Eakle, Heather Damon/Juanita Hoffman, and Jessica Horton/Claudia LeGué. The students and their angels gathered for a jewelry-making party at the home of Jean Eakle.

Ginger Paasch, Taylor McClure, Jessica Horton, Heather Damon, and Bethany Reynolds joined the church on Palm Sunday, April 5, in good company

with our choir director Virginia Cherniak who also joined on that day. The new members participated in the service and helped serve communion. Following the service, a feast for the community provided by the businesses of Point Richmond and friends of the church was served in Friendship Hall.

May Cotton taught a five-week series for the Youth Sunday School class on the "The Four Foundations of Methodism" that ended on May 24.

Susan Marks was baptized and became a member on April 19. Susan shared her faith and wrote a poem Song Of Faith to celebrate the occasion.

Some of the women of the church participated in a spiritual retreat April 17 and 18, in the Marin Headlands. May Cotton led a study on angels, Kristi Johnson led a guided meditation, and we had beautiful weather for a stroll on the beach.

We had a table at the Point Richmond Stroll on Thursday, May 21. We gave away free home-baked cookie to strollers. Five entrants won homemade pies. The cookies lasted until 7:00 p.m. when Virginia Cherniak happily gave the last one away. We had a banner to thank everyone who has donated to retire our loan for the church roof. The balance on the loan is about \$10,000 now: we feel blessed by the community support we have had for this project!



On the Calendar:

A Jazz Worship and Hymnal Signing Party are scheduled for June 14, 11:00 a.m. Pastor Dan's second collection of hymns has been published! Following a special jazz worship service on June 14, he will be available to sign copies. The new hymnals will be available for purchase (maybe some of the old ones, too!), and there will be food and festivity after the jazz service.

Please note the change in the date!

Our morning Vacation Bible School will be the week of July 27-31 from 9:00 to 11:30. Linda Brooks promises that Anansi the puppet will be there with stories from Africa. Kristi Johnson is planning to take us on an Internet trip of Africa as we study, sing, dance, create art, and taste African treats. We plan to learn more about Christians in Africa as we anticipate the mission trip in August to Africa University that will be attended by Pastor Dan Damon and Claudia LeGué from our congregation. They are going with others from the United States as part of a chorus, and will take donations to Africa University in Zimbabwe to help endow a chair for the music department.



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 notebook which cost \$1.15. The minutes are printed as written. This is the 32nd installment.

Sept 10th, 1925

The Social League met in the church parlors with Mrs. Dingle and Mrs. Owens as hostesses.

Meeting called to order by President, Mrs. Dicely, at 2:30 P.M. Roll Call found twenty-five members and two visitors present.

As the Baptist Ladies Were to have a food sale on our regular date, it was decided that each of our members should earn, (or, at least, turn in) one dollar or more, to the League, in palce of having food sale.

Com. f or Bazaar as follows:

Cooked food: Mrs. Beulah Jones, Mrs. Scofield, Mrs. Owens, Mrs. Martin.

Selling food: Mrs. Oeline, Mrs. Alexander, Mrs. Erickson.

Fancy work: Mrs. Brothers, Mrs. Parker, Mrs. Redman, Mrs. Mythen.

Handercheifs tic): Mrs. surdick, Mrs. Danner, Mrs. Lyder, Mrs. Ford.

Candy: Mrs. Seymour, Mrs. Griffen, Mrs. osborn, Mrs. E. Jenkins, Mrs. Beckley.

Decided on motion, to turn aprons made by the ladies of League over to the Ladies Aid.

The question was asked if the Men's and Boys dinner, to be given the 24th was for local people only, or if men and boys were coming from outside points and was answered that Rev. Grant had given his promise that only local people would

come.

Comity (*sic*) for dinner: Mrs. Brothers, Mrs. Scoield, Mrs. Owens, Mrs. Dicely, Mrs. Deymour, Mrs. Dusthimer, Mrs. Osborn.

It was decided that each should donate what they could afford to the Bazaar. That is, to donate to any or as many departments as they could. Mrs. Dusthimer volunteered to buy materials for fancy work for the League.

Mrs. Dicely reported that the last Men's and Boy's dinner given cleared all expenses and enough over to buy \$2.00 worth of poppy seed, for the Boy Scouts.

Decided to have the minister's reception on Friday, Oct. the 9th.

Mrs. Ida Jones was welcomed as new member.

Bill for \$1.00 to Richmond Rose was ordered paid.

Cash on hand:	\$18.99
---------------	---------

Paid out: Mrs. Oeline for book &	
Richmond Rose	1.15

Dues paid:

Mrs. A. D. Jones	.60	Mrs. Burdick	.60
" Brothers	.60	" Martin	.60
" Osborne	.60	" Erickson	.60
" Scofield	.60	" Seymour	.60
" Dusthimmer	.60	" E. Jenkins	.60
" Lyder	.60	" Holbrook	.60
" Danner	.60	" Oeline	.60
" Dicely	.60	" Parker	.20
" Vloeberghs	.60		

Total	9.80
Tea Fund	2.70
Total	12.50

Meeting adjourned,
E. Dusthimer, Secy.



Creed of the Lone Back Packer

By William L. Thompson

*Far over and above its fellows
with shaft that transfixes the skies--
massive and gray in the morning,
see that mighty cathedral arise.*

*Built in the Gothic manner
of granite and roughly hewn stone--
built by the Master of builders,
with tools that are his alone.*

*With stones frost riven and battered
by wind and then beaten by rain--
rears a work of infinite beauty,
conceived by an infinite brain.*

*Forged by oceans and earthquakes
carved by glacier and stream--
it rears its majesty heavenward,
as part of an infinite scheme.*

*How puny and inconsequential
are all man-made temples today--*

*when we have here the work of the Master,
and before his own alter may pray.*

*In temples of cities far distant
are greed and political strife--
with religion and love but a ruse,
with hate and hypocrisy rife.*

*How happy the fortunate traveller
who pauses to worship here--
close is he to the rythm of nature,
and the secret of heaven seems near.*

*But few are the pilgrims who wander
in the shadow of yon great spire--
For the journey is long and arduous,
and the flesh will weaken and tire.*

*But still it beckons me onward
and so I must worship alone--
in the presence of infinite grandeur,
at that mighty cathedral of stone*



This Point....in time



**OUT
OF
CONTROL!**





Kid's Day 1998!



Just like younger kids, the older they get, the less control! This was evidenced at the recent reunion as the 'kid's' ignored the gavel and all signs of order before finally their attention was gotten!

Who came the farthest? Betty Glass Marshall coming from Grants Pass, Oregon claimed that honor with Luella Bain Wilcox from Oroville the next farthest. Others were from Hercules, Pinole, Martinez, Soquel, El Cerrito, Antioch, Portola, Santa Clara, Vallejo and Napa. Sixty-five signed the register.

A conflict this day caught some guests leaving early for a 50 plus Richmond High Reunion in Vallejo that afternoon. But, before leaving, Al Frosini led the Richmond High cheer in full volume!

The oldest born in the Point attending were Dr. Louis Thompson and Bill Kollar, both 89 (and a half!). The youngest born were Pam Wilson, Linda Lanning and Susan Armstrong.

Others attending were Jospehine Matteucci Palenchar, Beverly Bartram, Merv Kelleghan, Fred Beesley, June Beesley Solosabal, Beatrice Beesley Casey, Dora May Beesley Feuerhelm, Harry McDonald, Jim McDonald, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Gondola, Mary Highfill, Ann Bartram, Terry and Phyllis Downey, Julio Carrera, Marian and Fay Hawkins, John Bailo, John Cizmick, Al and Helene Frosini, Frank Matteucci, Bruno Bianchini, Teresa Meneghelli, Luciano Forner, Jerry Cerkowicz, Sonja Darling, Emeric Baxter, Alice Baxter, Steve Wyrick, Pam Wilson, Loren Smith, William Smith, Chet Thompson, William L. Thompson, Bruce Bartram, Marian and Ralph Voight, Al Kollar, William Kollar, Jim Wilson, Florence Wilson, Linda Lanning, Johanne Lanning, Bob Peckham, Mary Harlow Rudolph, Rich Smith, Lupe Avila Morris, Dody Perry, Donna Wilson, Tonita Avila Granado, John Granado, Tom Kenny, Stella Giovannini, Frank Smith, Richard Beeseley and wife (!), Nancy Neville Pellatreau, Jerome Vloeberghs, Gary Shows and Mid Dornan. Well, those are the ones that signed in!

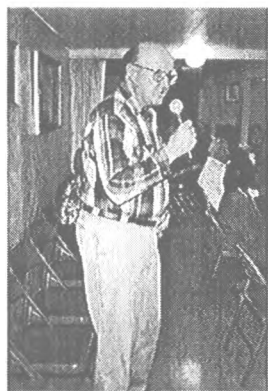
It had been 50 years since Bruno Bianchini, John Bailo and John Cizmick had seen each other. We heard stories about jumping off box cars, tying 3 feet of clotheslines into knots, who belonged to Scout Troop 1 (Richmond's first troop ala Merv Kelleghan and Al Kollar?) and who taught who to be bad! Chano claimed you had to be bad to live in the Point (*always* trying to *qualify his* behavior!) but claimed being bad then meant throwing eggs to test their freshness.

One unnamed person said she comes to the reunion "to hear the old guffers talk!" The Voights admitted they were newcomers to the Point, only have been here 20 years!

Feeling yearly reunions lose significance and are a lot of work, the committee moved they not be so often. Motion was noisily defeated and all those standing and voting to continue will be contacted next year by chairman Chano Forner and Julio Carrera to assist!

As always, it was a memorable day and Ann Bartram and her committee were flawless. She graciously assumed the leadership when Teresa Meneghelli took time out to do some healing after surgery and radiation. See you all next year?

Mid Dornan



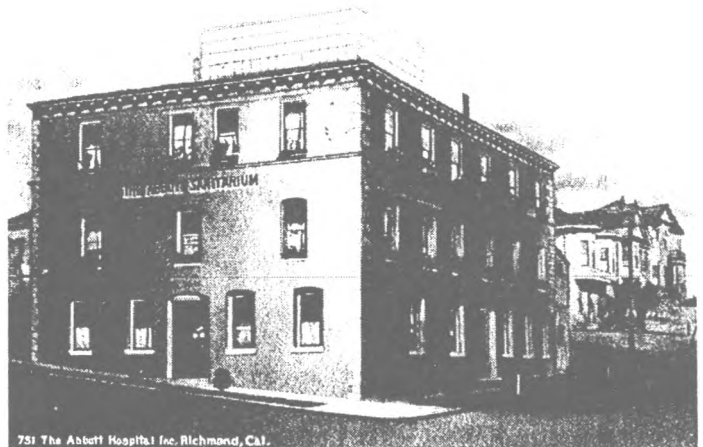
Dr. Clark Lorenzo Abbott

By Dr. William L. Thompson

Another very important person in Richmond, Pt. Richmond and Contra Costa County history was Dr. Clark Lorenzo Abbott. Dr. Abbott graduated from Rush Medical College in Chicago at about the turn of the century. For some reason he came west and settled in San Pablo some time around 1900. There was no Richmond or Pt. Richmond at that time and the population of San Pablo was very scant. However the Santa Fe was established in Richmond by that time and he may have gotten work from them. The Standard Oil Co. (now Chevron) came to Richmond before there was a Richmond, Point Richmond began then and Dr. Abbott moved to Pt. Richmond. He was one of the first doctors in the area. He soon built a hospital at the junction of Santa Fe Avenue and East Richmond Avenue. The building still stands but has become an apartment building. I believe that there were only two other hospitals in Contra Costa County at the time, the county hospital in Martinez and the Martiez Community Hospital. There was very little population at that time. Dr. Abbott lived for several years in a large house near the hospital. I think that it was just north of the hospital on Santa Fe Avenue, but it may have been Martina Avenue.

Dr. C. L. Abbott, Dr. Palmerton C. Campbell and Dr. William S. Lucas were the main doctors in Pt. Richmond at that time but there were a few others who came and went. Later Dr. Abbott moved his office to 9th and MacDonald in Richmond and much later moved to an office in Oakland. For many years, however, he still maintained his home in the Point.

Dr. Abbott for many years was coroner of Contra Costa County starting way back before World War 1. For a short time during that war he was with the army and the coroners office was tended by Mr. Wilson of Wilson and Kratzer mortuary. After I started practice in 1940 he asked me to help him as forensic pathologist and anthropologist. I



The old Abbott Hospital is now an apartment building.

held this job for many years until his retirement when I continued under Dr. Frazier and later under the sheriff's office. I had done this work for Kern County while in Bakersfield.

Dr. Abbott was a patient of mine until his death in 1963 at age 88. During his last illness in Richmond Hospital he wanted both a old and a young doctor to care for him. I was the young doctor and Dr. Cunningham aged about 90 was the old doctor.

For many years Dr. Abbott was a member of the State Board of Medical Examiners. He was on the board when I took my examination to practice and congratulated me on passing.

Dr. Abbott's first wife died after a long illness in her middle life and after a few years he married the widow of a man who had been head of the Atlas Powder Company. They made a remarkable couple. Margarite Abbott lived on until she died in a rest home at the age of 101. She lived alone and cared for herself until she was past 97. She died in 1993. She accused me of keeping her alive.

Dr. Abbott was a remarkable person. He spent much of his life in Point Richmond, was active with the Richmond Museum Association. He did a lot of good and had many friends.



WESTSIDE IMPROVEMENT CLUB NEWS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

-Anita Christensen

The West Side Improvement Club celebrated their last meeting of the season at the Mac Hotel for lunch on June 2nd.

At the May 7th meeting, the nominating committee presented to the members a new slate of officers for the coming year. Since there were no nominations from the floor, the members joyously approved that we accept the new slate of officers.

Let me present the new officers serving the club from Sept. 1998 -June 1999. They are:

President: Amelia Drake

vice President: Mary Forbes

Secretary: Anne Hanzlik

Treasurer: Varsi Lometti

Congratulations to our new officers. We wish them a successful and fruitful year.

We are closing up shop for the summer. (Hopefully we will have a warm summer).

The club will meet Sept. 8th, 1998. Mark your calendar. Please join us in welcoming the new officers.

Dues for the year are \$10.00. Meetings are always the 1st Tuesday, occasionally changed to 2nd Tuesday. We meet at the 1st Methodist Church in Point Richmond. For more information you may call these numbers . . . 224-8031 or 232-1930.

Wishing everyone a delightful and safe summer.



Around the Point

By Allan Smith

From the Richmond High School Richmond Hi-Nus' September 1926 (the weekly bulletin published by the students of RUHS and edited by the journalism class and printed in the school print shop) I recognize pictures of Point Richmond students; Willard Spiersch, Norman Gregg, Jack Doney, John Carey and Joseph Hirth who later married the daughter of the Point's Medo family.

Point Richmond people and their nicknames: BOYCO, FINNEGAN, GOO-GOO, OZZIE, SPIDER, FAT B.

Check out the Jerry Feagley real estate office. There is an old elementary school desk there, one without an ink well, so it must be for grades 1 to 4, as we started to use ink in the 5th grade. What a thrill that was to receive your pen, pen point and ink. It is true, Mary Wilkins used to wear her hair long and it was an easy target to the guy sitting behind her to tip her braids in the ink well, much to her consternation (The pen point was our dangerous weapon in those days).

Also Jerry has on display from an artist, Rosita Pardo, of the National Institute of Art and Disabilities, "The World of Boxing". Real nice, Point Richmond Boxing Coach, Al Frosini should be interested in this exhibit.

The ATSF (Atchison, Topeka, and Santa Fe Railroad has pulled a dumb move. They

installed new "rail high" crossings at the railroad crossing in the Point at West Richmond Avenue. Only, they foolishly heavily oiled all of the new crossing. There is oil everywhere, the sidewalks, the street, even into the Todd Hotel. I wonder if any of the mothers of Washington School students that pass that way are complaining? Oil is hard to remove from shoes and carpets.

Tom Butt's Interactive Resources, has a large poster or drawing of the old winery at Winehaven. It is very interesting, and one that I can't recall seeing before. The poster also contains a California Wine Association poem. It is on display in the front window of his office. It's too bad he had it covered up during the recent Point Richmond Stroll.

The recent Point Kids Reunion brought back many fond memories and experiences. I was talking to Bruce Bartram (his wife Ann was Chairperson of this years reunion) about World War Two experiences. One of those episodes was when Bruce was in New York City in 1943 while serving in the United States Maritime Service aboard a cargo ship. He attended with one of his shipmates, a show at the Paramount Theatre which featured the late Frank Sinatra. He remembers well the screaming of the young girls who idolized "Ole' Blue Eyes" the "Chairman of the Board".

SHHH!

By Biblio Tek

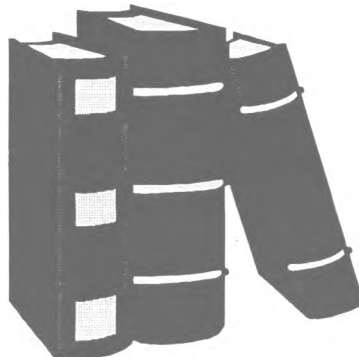
Westside Branch Library News

It is 10 a m Thursday morning, the library is closed, but it is full of mothers, strollers, babies and toddlers. What is going on you ask? This is the tremendously popular Storytime. When Lynn, our branch librarian, started four years ago, attendance ranged from 0 to 5 children. Now, weekly attendance is 25 to 30. That is quite a baby boom! Stories, songs and finger play make this a rewarding experience for youngsters and mothers (also fathers) alike. Future readers all.

Speaking of readers, the Summer Reading Game is underway for all children through age thirteen. Bring your kids and grandkids in to learn to Read Like An Egyptian this summer. Prizes for readers and the joy of exploring the library for everyone.

By the way, if you have not explored the branch lately, you may not know that the library recently acquired a copy machine, the only public use one in the Point. Ten cents per page, somewhat more to enlarge or reduce.

Did you know that the entire annual budget for adult books at the branch is \$3000? That encompasses reference books, non-fiction and fiction, including those ever popular mysteries. Incredible, isn't it? So how do they do it? Well, teamwork and community spirit. Special thanks are due to Kelly Hannah, Gionni Banner, William Bycraft, Jason Katz Brown, Jan Burdick, Alan Coleman, Phyllis Partridge, Art Salina, Bob Rudesill, Kathleen Clancy, Hillary Miller, Richard Malloy, Lynn Whitson, Janet Paige, The Friends of The Library and countless others for recent contributions of current bestsellers, dependable magazine and newspaper subscriptions, volunteer work and cash donations.



Allan Smith's Point

The Mystery Photo on the front page of the last TPIT Newsletter was identified by many Point Richmond residents. It was a picture of the electric trolley that ran from the Standard Oil Refinery's #1 Warehouse to the Marine Department's Long Wharf. It was used to carry packaged oil products, merchandise and ship crewmen to the tankers loading and unloading before a road was built to the area. My uncle ran the trolley in the early 1920's. Point Richmond's Jim Wilson and Luciano Forner also were the operators at one time during their careers with Standard Oil. Young Point Richmonders would get a free ride at times if the operator was willing, especially

when you went down to the Refinery's Salt Water Station to get your gunny sack filled with herring when the fishing season was on. The trolley would slow down and you could "hop" on for a ride out to the end of the Long Wharf while the Standard people were filling your sack.

My Mystery Guest picture (on the cover) this issue is of a young teen aged gal who came from the State of Oklahoma. This good looking "Oakie" came to Point Richmond in the 1930's and became well known to all of us. She is currently ill and hospitalized locally.

Think you know the mystery guest? Call me, 510-234-5149.



This group of "kids" were all born in the Point and still live

Sports Memories

by Allan Smith

I wonder if our Editor, Gary Shows, has seen a game this year of his favorite sport, Baseball?? I haven't but when I become interested in seeing millionaires playing ball while chewing bubble gum, sitting on the bench watching the game, scratching their posteriors, I'll consider going to the so called Football-Baseball stadium in Oakland. Watch college baseball and semi-pro leagues for the true game.

Looking over the 1925 Richmond High School yearbook "The Blue and the Red", which was later changed to "The Shield", I saw names of Point Richmond people that were familiar to me; such as Raymond Clark, Louis Cunan, Robert Paasch, Charlie Hess, Louise Navarini and Mario Mighetti. The sports leader for that year was Bob Paasch who received high ratings in both football and basketball.



1925 Richmond Union High School Baseball Team

SAVE THE PLUNGE NEEDS MEMORIES AND PHOTOS

The good folks who are working to save the Richmond Plunge are planning an event for late summer at which they want to include a fashion show of bathing suits from 1926 to the present. If you were a swimmer at the plunge during any of those years and have a photo you could spare and you would be willing to have it reproduced in a booklet about the plunge, please send it to:

Kay Walker
1200 Brickyard Way #402
Richmond, CA 94801
Fax: 510-215-9864

We are also collecting "Memories of Good Times at the Plunge." Perhaps you could probe the secret places in your brain for old memories and send us a letter, a note, or a fax describing a good time, a funny time, or just any old time. Thank you in advance...and watch this space for how to get a copy of the Memories of the Plunge Booklet. Seen on a button on Walt Fauerso's lapel:

**THE PLUNGE
ISN'T JUST
ANY OLD DIVE!**



CARDS & LETTERS

Hi Gary:

Regarding the Trolley:

If I am not mistaken, it is the trolley that ran from the Main Gate to the Long Wharf where the oil tankers docked. It would take supplies and personnel out to the ships. My father's laundry did the laundry for the crews of the tankers. I rode the trolley many times delivering and picking up laundry from the ships.

Captain Rumsey was Port Captain, father of Laura Rumsey Carey.....hope I am on the right track!!!

I still keep in touch with Willard Spiersch, exchange stories via email.

Best regards to you and my old friends in the Point.

Bernie Bernes
bbernes@aol.com

X

Dear Pam Wilson:

I noticed in the last issue of TPIT that our name was not included in the list of membership renewals. I mailed a check to you on Feb 21, 1998. It has not cleared our bank therefore I am assuming that it is lost or misplaced. If you find it please let me know.

I am enclosing another check for renewal of our membership.

We thoroughly enjoy every word of

TPIT and don't want to miss a single issue.

Love TPIT,
Emile Pleau
Richmond

Sorry, your first check didn't make it to us, you are up to date now, Pam

X

Dear Gary:

I'm writing in regards to your Point Richmond paper. Would you please let me know what months you send the paper out? My Aunt Alice Nelson waits for it daily and I do not know what to say to her. I would also like to know if you mail them out at the same time each month as we receive it quite late.

Thank you,
Elaine Marshi
For Alice Nelson
Koloa, HI

Thanks for asking, thought I would answer your question here as others have the same questions.

TPIT is published six times a year, June, September, November, December, February and April. They are usually mailed on the first Friday of the month. They are mailed as "Non Profit" rates which gets them delivered locally very quickly, but unfortunately out-of-state members don't get delivered for two to four weeks. Hope this helps, Gary.

X

Hello Nice People,

When the TPIT arrives I stop every activity to sink down into my easy chair to devour from cover to cover information from yesterday and today. Love it truly.

With all the rain all of us had on the West Coast, the May flowers should be the biggest in the world.

My condolences to Mid Dornan for a rash of sad happenings. My sympathies to those that lost their homes in mud avalanches. Now the tornadoes are wreaking havoc in the flattened houses we witness on television.

I'm glad spring is here for a new beginning and look forward to seeing you on kid's day.

Sincerely,
Betty Glass Marshall
Grants Pass, OR

X

Dear Allan Smith:

Howard S. Arnold was born and raised in Pt. Richmond. He was the son of James P. Arnold, the first Chief of Police of Richmond. His sister Ila was born shortly before the family settled in the Point and his two brothers, Wesley and Odgen, were born at home in the Point. James P. Arnold arrived in Pt. Richmond in November, 1901. The family home, built by James and his brother, is at 114 Nevada Ave., now having a different house number.

That is the background of the family. In Howards belongings were some things I thought might be of interest to the museum. Please let me know which of them you would like to have.

⇒ 8X10 photo – About a doz. young men standing atop of what appears to be the

foundation for a huge bonfire. I'll send it, it looks interesting!

- ⇒ A copy of The Poppy, June 1922. I noticed you had a page from The Poppy in the Newsletter. This one includes the class picture.
- ⇒ 8X10 pictures of the High School Band, 1926 and the High School Orchestra, 1926.
- ⇒ Small pictures of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Dunlap, 1943.
- ⇒ Newspaper clippings
- ⇒ Richmond Hi-Nus, 1926
- ⇒ Standard Oil Co. scrip, 1933
- ⇒ The Blu-J, June 1923 and December 1923
- ⇒ Anuario, Richmond Union High School, May 1926
- ⇒ Blue and Red, May 1924 and May 1925

I made a copy of Ila Arnold McGarvey's 6th grade Washington School class picture, May 5, 1913. Mrs. Crawford, teacher. The names are with the picture.

Well, that's it. Interested? I hope so. I am Ila's daughter, Howard's niece. The Point held lifelong memories for both of them. All good. It must have been a great place to grow up. I lived there during my early school days and have my own fond memories of the Point. We lived at what was then 45 Nevada Ave.

Sincerely,
Ila May Dein
Paradise, CA

Thank you so much for taking the time and energy to save these wonderful artifacts and seeing to it that they made it to us! We all know of Chief Arnold as a colorful Point Richmond pioneer, we will enjoy and treasure them.

Gary

Dear Gary:

I am sending you a photo of Point San Pablo in 1948. This is courtesy Parr-Richmond Terminal Co. and I would think that they would have other material that the museum would be interested in. The article refers to the rendering of sardines, but also I can remember see whales being rendered also.

Also shown in the photo is Capt. Clark's yacht harbor, its breakwater formed by six steam schooners and a ferry boat. Could the ferry be Capt. Clark's own boat put out of service when the Richmond-San Rafael bridge was built? Maybe J.A. Vincent could tell us more about Capt. Clark.

Keep up the good work,
Herbert (Pete) Hunn
Clarksburg, CA

Thanks for the information, the photo being a xerox copy would not reproduce well so I am not printing it and instead passing it on to the museum for viewing.
Gary

X

Dear Allan Smith:

The name of Ken Koht's garage was "Westside Garage". Compete with Carl Stender in the office leaning on the giant brass cash register. Sorry to hear of Al Fredericks passing....another goodguy.

Sincerely,
Ed Garrard



"Sunset Magazine" has been in touch with us and will be doing an article on the Point in the August issue, be sure to check it out!



David Vincent savors pancake breakfast



Bikes racing up Washington Avenue



Bob Peckham taking pics of Alex Evans and kids

Deaths....

Toussaint Paul Foston died on May 14th in a Berkeley hospital at the age of 63. He worked for CH2MHILL in downtown Oakland for many years. Born in Ohio, he moved to San Francisco in the early '60's after joining the Air Force and becoming an Air Traffic Controller. He then moved to Point Richmond in the mid '80's. He enjoyed sharing his many musical talents of singing and playing to his extended family and friends. He is survived by three children, John L., Tassieanna and Zina Rose Foston, all of Richmond. Brother Bernard Foston of San Francisco and sister Anna of Ohio, two grandchildren Paris and Hardale and several nephews and nieces. He is also survived by longtime companion Rhonda Williamson.



*Some Point residents are not too pleased with the Tour du Point Race
such as this one on Nicholl Avenue*

June Birthdays

Alissa Bagley
William Shea
Anita Brougham
Jean Eakle
Cathe Brazil
Brian Rotting
Claude Bisio
John H. Knox
Rosemary Giacomelli
Dave Macdiarmid, Jr.

Dianne Primavera
Aaron/Michael
Marshall (twins)
Thomas Kenny
Maurice Doherty
Phyllis Downey
Emeric Baxter
Andrew Butt
Joanne Lansing
Dan Weinstein

Stacey Spinola
Gill Stanfield
Alice Baxter
Daniel Buhler
Cindy Quist
Suzanne Unser
Marcelina Smith
Gerry Higuera

July Birthdays

Josephine Palenchar
Amy Rotting
Julius Matteucci
Mary Knox
Diedre Cerkanowicz
Allen Anderson
Ed Squires
Alice McMahon
Hilary Lord
Clifford (Lou) MacMillan

Loretta 'Mertle' Lease
Madeline Bellando
Albright
Jean Reynolds
Ed Squires
Al Franco
Louisa Banks (1905)
Stella Anellini Giovannini
Francis Smith
Mrs. Chas Baldwin

Bea Read
Al McGee
Jean Creed
Madison Bradshaw
Roger Elle
Betty Conception
Liz Garrard
Ann Bisio
Fred Bellati
Regan Bradshaw

August Birthdays

Oretta Eaton
Mid Dornan
Bea Kenoyer
Nikki Eaton
Barbara Ward
Alice Thompson

Zoanna Kille
Karla Peterson
Terrence Doherty
Donna Wilson
Joe Darling
Bernie Bisio

Connee Fisher
Bernice Preece
Mary Knox
Alia Smyke
Lisa Smith

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.

Contributors to this Issue:

Gary Shows	Editor
Mid Dornan	Articles
Don Church/Allan Smith	Historic Photos
Jerry Cerkowicz	Proof/Photos
Pam Wilson	Membership Info
Allan Smith	Articles/photos
Jean Reynolds	Article
Dee Rosier	Article
Dr. William Thompson	Article
Biblio Tek	Article
Frances Smith	Article
Anita Christiansen	Article
Marguerite Clutts	Photo
Jan Burdick	Article
Pat Dornan	Photos

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: gary@alkos.com

"This Point...in time" is a publication of the Point Richmond History Association, a non-profit organization at:
**139 ½ Washington Avenue
Point Richmond, CA 94801**

All rights reserved. Reproduction in whole or in part of any article or image without written permission of the Point Richmond History Association is prohibited.

Board of Directors:

Mid Dornan, President

Elizabeth McDonald, Vice President

Jerry Cerkowicz, Secretary

Mary Rudolph, Treasurer

Mary Highfill, Corresponding Secretary

Pam Wilson, Membership

Anne Hanzlik, Programs

Gary Shows, Newsletter Editor

Sonja Darling, Fund Raising

Betty Dornan, Museum

Allan Smith, Archives

Phone Numbers

Mid Dornan 510-234-5334

Gary Shows 510-235-1336

Fax 510-233-0762

Visit us at our website
<http://www.alkos.com/prha>





Calendar

Summer, 1998

June 10
Wednesday

Point Richmond Business Association Meeting
Noon at the Hotel Mac

June 14
Sunday

Flag Day

July 4
Saturday

Independence Day

June 21
Sunday

First day of Summer

Father's Day

July 8
Wednesday

Point Richmond Business Association Meeting
Noon at the Hotel Mac

August 12
Wednesday

Point Richmond Business Association Meeting
Noon at the Hotel Mac

August 14
Friday

V J Day

August 21
Friday

Deadline for the September Issue of TPIT

September 4
Friday

First Indian Statue Dedicated, 1904

September 7
Monday

Labor Day