

THIS POINT...in time

NEWSLETTER

The Point Richmond History Association

www.alkos.com/prha

Vol. XVIII No. 4

December/January, 2000

\$1.50



Happy Holidays
Point Richmond

Join Us!
Point Richmond History Association
General Membership Meeting

at
Point Methodist Church
Martina & West Richmond Streets

at
2:00 pm
Sunday January 30, 2000

We welcome guest speaker
Bruce Beyaert
of
Trails for Richmond Action Committee
(TRAC)
San Francisco Bay Trail

*Learn about the San Francisco Bay Trail and its
progress and route through Richmond.*

This should be very interesting, don't miss it.
Refreshments will be served.

From The President

Mid Dornan

This is the final edition of "THIS POINT...in time" for the 20th century. One wonders what it was like in the Point on January 1, 1900 without electricity, automobiles, telephones, running water, radios and fewer than 100 residents in the area. So much has filled and changed the Point the past 100 years. One wonders, too, what it will be like on January 1, 2100. In place of travel to other continents, will it be to other planets? Today plastics replace money, ? then. Will the airways be like today's freeways? And our automobiles have flying capabilities? What new technology will change the world? Who of us will know?

My wish is that in 2100 the staff of "THIS POINT...in time" will still use our records for reference.

**HAPPY NEW
MILLENNIUM!**

*Methodist Choir at the
Annual Tree Lighting
Ceremony, November 27th*

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

Rena nee Cairo

Mr. & Mrs. Herbert Hunn

Stephen Wyrick

Arline Rodini

Mid Dornan

Dora M. (Beesley) Feuerhelm

Al & Hortense McGee

Thelma (Hecker) Harvey

Audrey Edwards

Anna S. Gaumer

Madeline Albright

Tom Piazza & Mary Crosby

Alice Jordan

Pina J. Barbieri

And a warm welcome to the following
new members:

**Bill Vallivero & Richard
Giordano**

Mary Rosen

Bonnie & Bill Pickens

Roth/Karl Family

Museum Staff Coordinator Betty
Dornan thanks these volunteers
who staffed the History Building

Mary Roth

Lavinia, Luke & Lillian Karl

Bruce Bartram

Anita Christiansen

Betty Dornan

**Mid Dornan
Avis Blanchette
Chano Forner**

Thank You!

Santa Fe Market

Special thanks for the new rack Bob!

and

**Point Richmond
Market**

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

Mary J. Rudolph

June 8, 1922

November 12, 1999

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

Here is your Holiday Edition of "This Point...in time" In it you will find the second and final "Random Memories" from Harold Shawl. Harold, everyone sure is enjoying this if you come up with additional memories, please record them. Also a few special things like a nice note to the community from Ellen E. Schaefer. Not to mention the usual good work of our regular staff, thanks without Mid, Allan, Jean, Dee and David this would not exist. Sorry, no report from Biblio in this one.

Thanks for the cards and letters. Thanks to Bob Peckham for the new rack in the Santa Fe Market. Makes our publication much more visible and has sold for us twice the usual number of copies.

I are very sad to loose Mary Rudolph, she was a great treasurer for our organization. I will miss the quiet, respectful confidence she brought to the meetings at my home.



left...

*Liz McDonald folding TPIT at
our newsletter put together*

The town looks good for the holiday season. Special recognition to David Vincent's office on Washington Avenue, he says he makes up for the number of lights on the big tree. Also kudos for the usual great job by the Hotel Mac.

Everybody ready for (or sick of) Y2K. Hope this isn't our last issue! Assuming that it is not the deadline for the February/March issue is Friday January 21, with an anticipated date of assembly of February 3rd.

See you at our January meeting or with the next issue. HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Thanks to the November issue assembly crew:

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

The Cover:

Just a simple holiday greeting

A-Mid TRIVIA

-Mid Dornan (510-234-5334)

Question: What happened in 1904 that became identified as traditional American food?

Answer at end of Trivia.

There is something about the holiday season that inspires people to become essayists. Especially in connection with Christmas greetings! But, bless those that are thoughtful enough to write something besides their signature on the cards.

Have you seen "Toy Story 2", the latest computerized film by Pixar of Point Richmond? It was released at Thanksgiving.

A holiday gift from the Point Methodist Church is Sain-Saens CHRISTMAS ORATORIO by the Joyful Noise Chorus and Orchestra, Virginia Cherniak, conductor on Saturday, December 11, 1999, 7:00 p.m. Get the holiday spirit as you relax here. For more information, call 232-1102.



DO NOT MISS the one-person art show at the Point Mechanics Bank. About 15 works of fourth grader, 9-year-old Chenda Neuo will be on display through January 10. Her paintings are very colorful and she uses geometrics and words to inspire her viewers. Her Cambodian parents came to Richmond two years ago and Chendra began painting just a year ago. Her mentor, Nan Powell of San Leandro, is also an artist who volunteers with the "Invest in Kids" program because she enjoys helping children who have fewer advantages.

They say that one in every four Americans is unbalanced. Think of your three closest friends. If they seem OK...you're in trouble!

The new year has in the past begun at many different times. The ancient Egyptians began the year on September 21; the ancient Greeks, on December 21; and March 25 was the usual New Year's Day among Christians during the medieval days. Introduced in 1582, the Gregorian calendar put January 1 in the position of New Year's Day, and it was immediately accepted by Germany and Denmark, by Sweden about 1700 and by England in 1752.

No matter when the new year begins, forget the past year and look forward to the coming year, plan for the future and marvel at the new millennium.

Hundreds of people are paying to come to the Bay Area to celebrate the 2000 Millennium. How many of you are paying to spend it elsewhere?

Being Y2K-compliant (year two

thousand) has been in the news for months prompting confusion and concern. And aren't you tired of it! Of course, all major utilities and banks claim to be prepared, but here are a few suggestions--in case. Save all utility company records as well as credit card and bank statements for three months prior to the end of the year as proof of your normal usage and verification that you are current in payments. Keep some hard cash on hand, it is always good. Keep your gas tank full. And, DOUBT that anything significant or major will happen.

A belated Happy November Birthday to Audrey Edwards in Maui.

Coming from Belgium to spend the Thanksgiving holidays, Suzanne DeSchutter-Cornelius visited her cousins Ann (and Bruce) Bartram and Jerome Vloeberg.

This is the first time in history that nearly everyone on earth knows the millennium is coming.

Moe and Sheba Warith have owned and operated the historical Point Richmond Market, original site of the Critchett Hotel, for the past 15 years. Hope they plan to stay another fifteen!

Claudia LeGue will see the new year millennium in Paris, France. Ooo-la-la!

The greatest things in human life are one-syllable things--LOVE, JOY, HOPE, MOM, DAD, HOME, CHILD, WIFE, TRUST, FAITH,

HAPPINESS is hearing from our founder, Donna Roselius in Port Orford.

Always busy, talented Donna is making stained glass for those lucky ones on her Christmas list. She and Rosy plan to spend the holidays with their grandchildren in Sonora, California and Tucson, Arizona. It is possible they might be sighted passing through the Point!

Betty Dornan spent Thanksgiving in Oxford, Mississippi visiting her niece, Kathy Barnes and family. And, seeing grand-niece 3-month-old Molly Kate for the first time. A bonus was being able to attend Clay and Emily's school concert.

A noontime treat in the Point is hearing the Carillon Bells coming from Our Lady of Mercy Church on West Richmond Avenue.

Lucretia Edwards is still not feeling her best after a broken back. As if that wasn't enough, son Barnaby Edwards has been undergoing radiation and chemotherapy for his throat.



More lucky millennium travelers, Mary Crosby and Tom Piazza will be spending their Christmas in Rome, and New Year's in a fifteenth century castle in Tuscany, South of France. Mary jokes that if Y2K disaster strikes, she will just stay there.

Where in the Point were the following streets that are listed in the 1928 Directory: Antonio Avenue (later changed to Standard Avenue), Ashland, Central, Clarendon, Glendale, Cleveland, Downey, Garfield, Harrison, McKinley, Mancilla, Mason, Minter, Prospect, Lenox, Scofield, Thomas, and Tewksbury Crescent?

From the Toothsayer: If you can't brush right after eating, chew sugarless gum as it keeps saliva active in your mouth and helps counter the bacteria that produces plaque and decay. Or if you like cheese, try ending your meal with a small piece of aged cheese like Swiss and Cheddar as they have been shown to neutralize the acids, helping to prevent cavities.

HAPPINESS is having your son pick up the tab for your birthday dinner - for the first time!

Budget specialists predict the state will get about \$562 million this fiscal year, with future checks likely to be worth about \$500 million a year, from Tobacco's big payout. Legislators voted to dedicate the cash to health-related programs, but Gov. Davis vetoed the bill and instead put the money into the general fund. Believing the settlement money was raised for health purposes, anti-smoking activists said they will fight the veto measure. Don't be surprised to see it a ballot initiative.

I think that I shall never see
A Christmas tree with symmetry
They look all right upon the lot,
But when I get them home they're not.

Consider the fellow that gave money this year as Christmas presents because, he claims, it was the cheapest thing he could find.

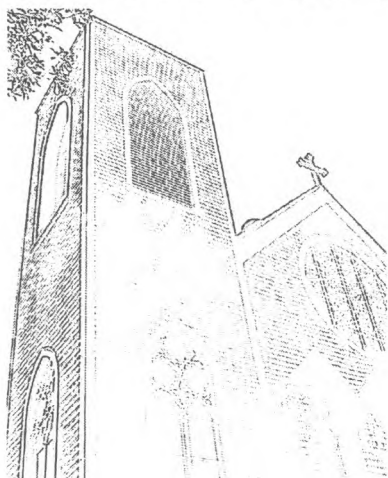
Kiribate, a nation of islands in the South Pacific has moved the International Date Line and will claim the first dawn of the year 2000.

ANSWER: The St. Louis World's Fair is credited with launching the hamburger, the hot dog, the ice cream cone, iced tea and French's mustard.



Mary Highfill folding TPIT

Church News



Our Lady of Mercy

Dee Rosier

232-1387

November was a very busy month, we celebrated the Feast of All Saints, Veteran's Day, All Souls Day, and Thanksgiving which leads us into a new church year and the beautiful season of Advent.

Olin Mills will be taking parishioner's photographs in the church hall on December 6 and 7 from 3:00-9:30 PM. Photographs are by appointment only, so please get yours scheduled soon. There is no cost involved. The purpose of the photographs is to update our church directory which was done some 15 years ago. Names, faces and addresses have changed over the years. The directory will represent our parish family. Since Vatican II, we have a renewed awareness that

we do not walk to God alone, but as a family of God. If you would like to schedule an appointment, call Mary Lespier 235-5276. Your participation will make it a success.

Recently baptized were Andrew Christopher Peters, son of Sharon and Amy Peters and Savanna Angelina Dodge, daughter of Jose and Autumn Dodge. On the same day, Joanna Marie Peters, daughter of Sharon and Amy Peters received her First Holy Communion. We ask the Lord to bless these children and their parents as they grow in faith.

An article in the Catholic Voice said that Americans are more willing to give their time to good causes than their money these days. Our Parish does both. A donation of \$625 was made to the Souper Kitchen as well as our loyal parishioners who volunteer their time.

The Italian Catholic Federation attends Mass quarterly at the local parishes. They recently attended Mass at our Lady of Mercy. About 30 members attended and several of them participated in the celebration of the Mass. Theresa Meneghelli, who was born in the Point and received her Sacraments at Our Lady of Mercy was part of the group.

The Point Richmond Walking Group mourns the death of their friend and walking companion, Irene Sindicich. She now walks on another path along with her husband Louie who passed away last year and was also a member of the group.

Congratulations to John and Shirley Gerk who celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on November 21, 1999. Others in the parish who share the same honor are Bennie and Oralia Garcia and Jim and Darlene Byers. May the Lord bless them all with good health and happiness for years to come.

Mary and Kathleen did a great job on their maiden parish assembly. The tables were set with fall decorations and the parishioners enjoyed, coffee, donuts, juice and conversation.

If you are looking for a unique Christmas gift, three-dimensional ornaments of Our Lady of Mercy are now available. Contact Brenda McKinley - 527-6234.

The mystery of the missing angels remains unsolved, and now add to it the missing church cornerstone.

Remember in your prayers all those who are not well enough to attend Mass on a regular basis. Bernadette Bisio remains in Brookside Hospital and Carol Garcia at Kaiser, Oakland. Theresa Meneghelli reports that her son Barry continues to improve after heart surgery.

The Bishop's office is asking Catholics to donate any blanket they don't need to those who have no home. A cold winter is predicted. Your spare blankets can be brought to the church hall. Catholic Charities will distribute them.

Holy Child Christmas seals are available for \$2.00/per sheet through the Diocese. Each sheet contains 50 colorful seals. Proceeds provide urgent care and attention for children who are born into impoverished conditions. Your check or money order may be sent to Holy Child Association, 2900 Lakeshore Avenue, Oakland, CA 94610.

Add to the list of remember in your prayers Gertrude Rondon who is now residing at Meadow Brook Care Home, El Sobrante. For many years Gertrude took care of all of the flowers around the church and her special attention was given to the roses which bloom beautifully each year.

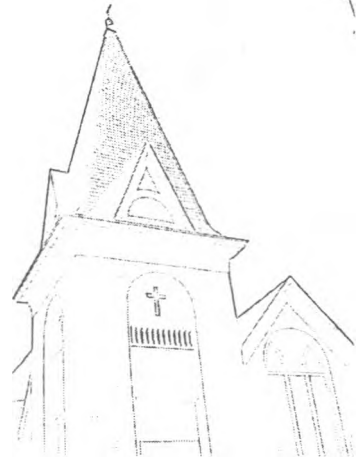
The Rosier family has purchased a second home in Calistoga and it has been a great experience literally starting over in setting up housekeeping. We are not moving there

permanently, but will be spending weekends and summers there as often as we can. When there we attend Mass at Our Lady of Perpetual Help.

What we are is God's gift to us what we become is our gift to God.

Wishing you a happy, healthy holiday season.

See you in church.



Point Richmond Methodist

Jean Reynolds

235-2988

The Thanksgiving worship and feast served for the Point Richmond community was well attended and enjoyed again this year. About a hundred and fifty thankful diners were served a delicious turkey dinner with all the trimmings provided by the church and many Point Richmond businesses. The work and resources of a lot of people go into making the feast happen; especially noted are Claudia LeGué and Juanita Hoffman who kept track of the details. Fay Hawkins donated vegetables and single-handedly peeled eighty pounds of yams. Other willing workers decorated, set tables, greeted people, served food, washed

dishes, baked pies, peeled potatoes, or made fliers to advertise the event. Businesses who contributed to make the dinner "the best yet" were: Altura Roasting Company, Annie's Café, Edibles, Hidden City, Hotel Mac, Hydrangea, Little Louis, Prego, Point Richmond Market, and Santa Fe Market. Chuck Wise and his crew at the Baltic Restaurant cooked all of the eighteen turkeys, stuffing, two kinds of potatoes, vegetables and gravy. We really live in a special community, and it is a great feeling to be part of such a cooperative event!

Best Wishes and Congratulations are due to classic couple Gill Stanfield and Tammara Plankers, who were wed on October 30, at Epworth United Methodist Church in Berkeley. Wedding guests were invited to come in costume, and the wedding party was dressed for the time of Anthony and Cleopatra, but Gill and Tammara were genuine in their pledge to one another. They honeymooned in Hawaii, and returned in time for Gill to practice for his solo part in the Christmas Oratorio.

During Advent, the time before Christmas, our mission project will be to raise money and awareness for Church World Service's Blanket Program: for every five dollars donated for this cause, CWS can provide a warm blanket to someone who needs it. Whenever possible, they help the local economy and save shipping costs by purchasing blankets near to where they are needed. On Sunday, December 5, we will have a "Blanket Fashion Show" as part of the morning worship to shift focus to this cause.

The United Methodist Women will have their annual Christmas party on December 16, at the home of Helen Valentine. The women bring a potluck holiday dinner and gifts for the clients served by the Rescue Mission, while Helen sets beautiful tables, decorates her home from cellar to attic, and, among other things,

prepares yummy holiday treats. (I don't think Helen has a cellar or an attic, but if she did they would be decorated!)

Pastor Dan started off the "Centennial Concert Series" on November 30 with a holiday concert of "Lessons and Carols." The next concert in the series is scheduled for January 23 and will feature Eileen Johnson. Subsequent concerts will be every two months, and will feature local talent. A suggested donation of ten dollars will get you admission to hear some entertaining musicians.

As a special holiday gift to you, on December 11, 7:00 p.m., The Joyful Noise Choir and Orchestra, directed by Virginia Cherniak, perform a Christmas Oratorio, by Camille Saint-Saëns. The performance will be about an hour and will include some traditional Christmas carols sung by all, and refreshments following in Friendship Hall.

This year's Christmas Eve Jazz Service will be December 24, 7:00 p.m., and features Pastor Dan's Jazz Trio. This service has become a holiday tradition and the music and stories are a joyful way to celebrate the season.



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 41st installment.

January 19, 1926

Social League met in the Church parlors with Mrs. Seymour and Mrs. Schmidt as hostesses. The meeting was presided over by the President Mrs. Dicely.

Meeting was opened by 11 repeating the Lords Prayer. Further plans were made for men's dinner. Motion as made and carried that a large garbage can be bought for church kitchen. Motion made and carried that table cloths be bought for the large tables of the church.

Meeting adjourned.

Dorothy Conn

Sec protm

tea fund 1.70

Mrs. Adams dues .60

forward 38.53

\$40.83

.75 for flowers

\$40.08 Balance



WANTED: METHODIST CHURCH STORIES

Mid Dornan

An attempt is being made to write the history of the historic Point Methodist Church. In October 2000 the church will celebrate its centennial which also marks the first 100 years of religion in this area.

Records of the first fifty years are scarce or missing. Little history is known of what happened during the war years. Who were members, baptized or married here.

Did you ever attend? Youth group? Womens group? What did they do at meetings? Who were your friends? What was church like in those days? Was there more than one service each week? Were you in a choir? Special program? Attend a special event? Can you help?

Send info to: 225 Clarence Street, Point Richmond, CA 94801 or e-mail: mldornan@earthlink.net or call (510) 234-5334.



Pastor Dan Damon of the Point Methodist Church in Tree Lighting Ceremony Attire.



SANTA FE MARKET RECEIVES PLAQUE

Friends and Patrons of the Santa Fe Market gathered at noon on Monday, November 15, 1999 in front of the store on West Richmond Avenue to honor Bob and Marie Peckham and celebrate their ten years in business.

A plaque from the Point Richmond Business Association, in appreciation of all they have contributed to the community, was presented by Nick Arrington, President of the PRBA who gave the following tribute:

Bob and Marie Peckham symbolize a lot of what's good about Point Richmond. Their Santa Fe Market is a pillar of our community, serving both the everyday needs of this town as well as its more gourmet palates.

The Santa Fe is the kind of store we need here in the Point - intensely personal, friendly and special. Today is the tenth anniversary of the day when Bob and Marie took over the ownership of their Market. They have never looked back.

As residents of this community, I think we owe it to ourselves, our merchants and our neighbors to think globally, but shop locally. Not all the time, perhaps, but often enough so that we can invest in our town, ensure its growth, and keep businesses like the Santa Fe Market here in the Point.

For many years, Bob Peckham served as the President of our Association. Sometimes controversial, usually outspoken - but never boring - he fought hard for issues that matter to us all. And best of all, he's still fighting - with a smile on his face - for what's right. Marie takes all his antics in stride, but in truth, her personal contributions to this village - and especially our children - make it a better place to live.

So today, Monday, November 15, the Point Richmond Business Association is pleased to formally present this plaque to Bob and Marie Peckham and the whole "crew" at the Santa Fe. We sincerely hope that all of you at the market will be with us for many years to come. Thanks for all you've done over the past decade.

(Note: Be sure to notice the plaque near the entrance.)



*Bob and Marie cutting
cake*

Random Memories

By Harold Shawl

Harold Shawl grew up in Point Richmond and graduated from Cal in Civil Engineering in 1930, went to Visalia on a "three months job" assisting lawyers in some extensive water litigation (which did not end until 1935) and have been in Tulare and Kings Counties ever since.

He retired from active engineering in 1985, but his family (he and three sons) operate a sizable fruit farming operation which began in a small way in 1940 as a hobby and has grown. They raise olives, oranges, table grapes, nectarines, plums and black figs. They live on the "ranch" about seven miles north of Visalia. Harold has six grandchildren and two great grand children.

We sincerely thank Mr. Shawl for sharing these wonderful Point Richmond memories.

Part Two of Two

Random Memories

from Harold Shawl

TRANSPORTATION

To go to Albany, Berkeley, Oakland or San Francisco, we rode on the Key System street cars. The carefare was twenty-one cents and if you took either the Key System ferry boat or that of the Southern Pacific the fare was another twenty-one cents. The trip from Point Richmond to San Francisco took at least 1 1/2 hours. The transfer from the street car to the SP train (to the ferry) was made at Albany (Solano Ave., I think) and the transfer to the Key System ferry train was made at 40th and San Pablo Ave.

MEA CULPA

There was a small park alongside the Baptist Church on Washington Ave. In about 1925 the writer unintentionally kicked a football through a window of the residence next to the park. (My Dad replaced the glass and surprised me by not giving me a scolding that I deserved.)

RAILROAD AVE. - POINT RICHMOND

There were some houses of "ill fame" along Railroad Ave., behind the Police station and Firehouse. In the teens and 1920's we younger "kids" wondered who occupied those places! The subject among older kids was always hush-hush, so naturally, it caused us to wonder.

POINT RICHMOND THEATER

During the 1917-1920 era, we would attend the Saturday afternoon matinees to breathlessly watch Elmo Lincoln escape from the clutches of the villain. These serials always ended at a critical point in the plot and of course, we had to wait to see what happened next week. Mr. Tcherassy was the theater manager or owner and the movies cost 5 or 10 cents. There was also a pianist who played appropriate music during the exciting moment of the movie. The theater was around the corner from the Police station.

CHAUTAUQUA

These were traveling tent shows that would annually come to Richmond for a one week series of plays, lectures and other forms of

entertainment. In about 1918—1919, I attempted to sell five season tickets at \$5.00 each in order to earn a season ticket. I could only sell four tickets and as a dejected salesman turned in his money and the remaining unsold ticket, Miss Ashfield, our Washington School Principal, (bless her heart) said she would buy the fifth ticket!

VERNON “LEFTY” GOMEZ

He lived in the San Pablo - Oleum area and pitched for the RUHS baseball team in the late 1920's. In 1926 or 1927 he pitched for the RUHS team that beat the UC Freshmen, an accomplishment that was unusual for a small school team. As you know, we went on to be an outstanding pitcher for the New York Yankees. I met him many years later when he was speaking as a public relations man for Wilson Sporting Goods, and he recalled the incident and who the Cal coach was at the time (Clint Evans).

METHODIST LADIES LUNCH ROOM

In the late “teens” the ladies of the Methodist Church operated a lunch room near the Standard Oil Refinery. I “hashed” tables and helped with the clean up a few times, earning 50 cents and lunch each day.

GRAMMAR SCHOOL TRACK MEET

The grammar school of Contra Costa County held a track and field meet in 1920 or 1921 on part of the large open area between the Santa Fe yards and the populated area of Richmond. The event was well attended and I think the Lincoln School was the high point winner.

DOMESTIC WATER SUPPLY

Prior to about 1928, our domestic water was supplied by the Peoples Water Company.

Thereafter, with the formation of the East Bay Municipal Utility District, the Peoples was taken over by the newly formed district. The circular reservoir on top of the hill was then still in use.

GOLDEN GATE AVE. BOCCI BALL

On Golden Gate Ave. we had some Italian neighbors, whose menfolk built a bocci ball court and played the game seriously. Some of the families involved were Pucci and Giovanetti.

TWILIGHT BASEBALL

Employees of the Standard Oil plant had a team and games were played frequently between Richmond Standard Oil team and others at the Richmond ball park on McDonald Avenue. Some of the players were former professional ball players and the level of the games was semi-pro. There was a keen rivalry between the Richmond and El Segundo refineries.

PT. RICHMOND PLUMBER

In the late “teens” a Mr. Topping was a plumber in Pt. Richmond. His work vehicle was a cutdown, chain-drive Metz. His Son, Howard, a civil engineering UC graduate, (class of 1922) did some work with Professor Derleth on the design of the Carquinez Bridge.

HOME HEATING AND COOKING

In those days most houses were heated by burning coal, which was delivered to homes in large burlap sacks and dumped into a coal bin. Cooking was done by wood or coal stove or by burning kerosene, before the advent of natural gas. My brother and I had a Saturday job (I was 9 or 10 years old) carrying coal by the bucketful, from the basement to the second floor coal bin, over McWhorter's Grocery Store on Richmond Avenue. Where were the child labor laws in those days?

more on page 15

A Time To Give Thanks...
To The Point Richmond Community
By Ellen E. Schaefer

In this 1999 season of thanksgiving, I realized that this was my 20th year living in Point Richmond and time to show gratitude to a community that has afforded me the only roots I have ever known. The move to my second home in the Point was the 30th move in my lifetime of 54 years. Until settling here I had never lived more than four years in any one place.

I was born in Philadelphia; most of my family was East Coast born and bred. My parents divorced when I was five and two years later my mother, a diplomat with the U.S. Foreign Service, took me with her to India to live from 1951-56. From our base in New Delhi we traveled widely through Asia, Europe and the Pacific. It was a riveting, glorious childhood full of wonders. In 1958 we were assigned to Saigon, just as troops were building in the North for a terrible war. The State Department then sent us to Bangkok, Thailand where I spent all four wonderful years in high school. Then it was back to the U.S. for me, alone, for college, graduate school, marriage, a move to California to teach,

Life in Marin County for 12 years, a new career in the education field, divorce. In 1979, with rents out of reach in Marin, I found a renovated Smoky Row cottage on East Richmond Avenue with an incredibly affordable lease and settled in. Oh, how I settled in!

I lived in that tiny, cozy space, made it my own and planted my little garden every season

for 15 years. Then, magically, I met my husband who moved from Michigan to start our new life; I found us another, much larger house in the Point. The roots were not ripped out, they just stretched around a few blocks to another location.

In the course of my years here, I have never been able to adequately express how grateful I am for my caring and generous neighbors who have looked after my animals and garden when I travel; for a landlady who let me call her house MY house; for the kindness of strangers who always said hello when I walked my dog around Washington Park; for Bob Young and Brent Moriwaki, whom we all miss; for Bob and Marie Peckham and everyone at the Santa Fe Market, who are the backbone of this community and who feel like family; for the cheery gardens all around the Point tended so lovingly by their owners; for the sense of safety at all hours; for the owners of all the small businesses whose services made life easier or more efficient; for the hosts of the Mac and all the fine eateries we share; for TPIT ensuring our sense of history moves forward; for the gorgeous bayside park that I watched transformed from a mud hole into a world-class natural environment. And most of all, I am thankful to an entire community which opened its arms and gave me a home, at last. My restless spirit has been at peace here.



continued from page 13 "Random Memories"

WASHINGTON SCHOOL MISCELLANEOUS

I recall an eighth grade incident that was very embarrassing to me. It involved a skit where I was "Dr. Wiseguy from San Pablo". During a "serious" speech my false mustache fell off and the audience thought it was

supposed to happen! Mis Lucas, our teacher, wasn't too pleased.

We used a "ditto" process that used an indelible ink won the original master sheet and pressed it on a gelatin sheet in a metal pan. Copies could then be made by laying a paper on the gelatin sheet and presto! a copy was made. Xerox, where were you when we needed you

end

TOM BUTT HALL OF HONOR RECIPIENT

The Fayetteville (Arkansas) Public Education Foundation is a fund raiser for education which awards grants to the school district and honors former students, educators and friends of the school district for their 'fidelity, honor, and service.'

Honorees become role models to current students and are not chosen based on prestige or wealth. "They have to have heart!"

Tom Butt was one of the four honorees this year. A 1962 graduate, he received his bachelor's degree in architecture from the University of Arkansas and his masters from University of California at Los Angeles. Tom served in Vietnam for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, where he was awarded the Bronze Star. In 1974 he founded Interactive Resources.

Tom has been honored as a fellow of the American Institute of Architects and has been recognized by the White House for his work in historic preservation. He pioneered the use of both solar and wind energy in residential and commercial buildings. As a community activist, he sued the state of California to prevent closure of this district's financially troubled schools, winning the schoolchildren's case before the California Supreme Court. In November Tom was reelected to his second term on the Richmond City Council.

Congratulations Tom!

SHHH!

By Biblio Tek

Westside Branch Library News



Sorry, I received no report from Biblio for this issue.

Trefry Ross' Thoughts on September/October TPIT

Page 21 "Deaths", was a sad one for me. I knew all three.

Ed Garrard grew up in the "Garrard Apts" on the corner of Martina and West Richmond only a half block from where I grew up. My grandparents home was four houses up the hill on Martina. Used to pass each other daily, however at the time we did not "mix well". It's good one soon outgrows such foolishness.

Bernard Christiansen and I did not cross each other's paths often, I don't know why. I knew his wife Anita Barri, she lived up the hill by Givonetti's Grocery, used to take a short cut going home via Martina Street and Summit Place.

Naomi Huffsteterr was my mother-in-law. Her daughter Nellie and I were married in the Point Methodist Church. My condolences to all my family members.

Page 6, Bob Dornan with a lovely young lass I have no idea who she is. (*ed. Hey Tref are you sitting down, that lovely lass is none other than LeRoy Williams!*) This picture undoubtedly taken at dear old Richmond High on Seniors Day.

Page 12/13 was a great article by Pat Bill on the Bone Crushers. I sure do remember those games. During this time frame (mind you, Little League didn't exist) American Legion Ball was the only organized group. We were in an East Bay league called the "Remar League" sponsored by Remar Bread Company. I remember the coach, Floyd Westen. During

the depression he and his family lived in the Point Methodist parsonage for a while. We traveled and played in El Cerrito, Albany and Berkeley. Saturday night radio station would always give a synopsis of the weeks games. When I had a bad game and my name wasn't mentioned I would be practically in tears. So this picture could very well be the group that played in the "Remar League". I was men like Mr. Bill and Mr. Westin who gave so many hours of their lives to keep us "young rascals" out of trouble and give us a good start in life.

Page 16, class photo names from left to right:

Top Row

???, ???, Ray Golden, ???, Andy

Cakos, John Stevens, Ted Ross

Top Middle Row

Bruno Bianchini, ???, ???, ???, Ed McAfee, Rudy Stark, Nathaniel Allyn, ???, Earl Kellegan (maybe)

Bottom Middle Row

Jimmy and Harry McDonald (twins) ???, ???, ???, ???, ???. Marion George, ???

Bottom Row

Roberta Jenkins, ???, Ester Guisti, ???, Myrtle Smith, ???, Frankie Greenlaw, ???, ???

I think this was Washington Grammar School, class of 1932.

Sure was glad to see the 'ole' wig wag signals are to stay!

Allan Smith's Point

I attended the latest social function of the S/S Red Oak Victory held at Terminal One in Point in Point Richmond which was very well attended. I saw Mary Rudolph who was at the 'greeting' table collecting tickets. The next day I heard she had passed away during the night.

I knew Mary Rudolph from the early Point Richmond days, as she was a native daughter and educated locally. Mary's maiden name was Harlow and the family lived on Washoe Street. Washoe Street was located approximately where the Payless Storage exists today. In the early days four houses existed there and Mary Harlow's neighbors were the Henry Bills, the Williams and Saunders families. I knew the area well as I had to deliver daily papers to the homes which were about one half mile from the center of Point Richmond.

At the annual Point Richmond History Association's meetings, native son, Claude Bisio would always relate this story concerning Mary Harlow. They were both in the fourth grade class at the old Washington Elementary School. Claude Bisio at times would walk with Mary to her home on Washoe Avenue. One time Claude

played Sir Walter Raleigh and covered a puddle allowing Mary Harlow (Queen Elizabeth) to walk without getting her feet wet. The story always brought laughter at the meetings. Claude's mother didn't appreciate the wet jacket.

The wife of the late Captain Joe Gannon died recently. The pioneer Point Richmond Gannon family lived on the West Side of the Point. Mr. and Mrs. Gannon were close friends of Mr. and Mrs. Clark Woods, also natives of Point Richmond. Captain Gannon got involved in the Maritime Unions and was Secretary of the Masters, Mates, and Pilots Association.

Walking with my wife, Marcelina, at Ferry Point we met J.A. Vincent and his wife. J.A. had lived at Ferry Point in the early 1920's as his father was an engineer for the Santa Fe Railroad operating the equipment for the loading ramp. What a history J.A. has of the area. He surprised me by relating that steam Schooners carrying lumber would dock at the pier to unload their lumber. I do not remember that far back. Next time we talk I'll bring a tape recorder.



Mary Crosby and Claudia Beale
at the Annual Tree Lighting
Ceremony on November 27th

Sports Memories

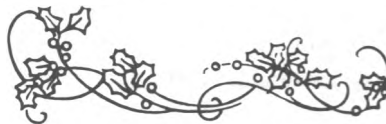
by Allan Smith

Richmond's Willie McGee has decided to retire from playing major league baseball after 18 successful years in the big leagues. He joins former Richmond major league players such as the late Lefty Gomez, the late Russ Christopher and Johnny Babich. McGee has not decided if he will continue in baseball as a manager and coach.

I wrote in my last column of a great Jewish major league player named Hank Greenberg. I haven't seen the movie made of his life yet. Another Jewish player came to mind and this is the late Moe Berg, whose parents came from the Russian Ukraine. Morris Berg was born in New York in 1902 and died in 1972. He played 15 years in the big leagues as an infielder for three years and as a catcher for twelve years. I would like to quote from a book entitled "Moe Berg—Athlete,

Scholar Spy".

"From the moment Moe Berg joined the major leagues after graduating 'summa cum laude' from Princeton, he was a baseball writer's dream. Not only was he a top player, he was an intellectual of genius caliber, master of a dozen languages, as fascinating off the field as he was on, but one thing neither the press nor the public nor his men and women friends suspected about this handsome, enormously gifted man, while still a major league star, Moe Berg was also a U.S. undercover agent destined to become America's most important and effective spy in the heart of occupied Europe in the critical turning point of World War Two. Now for the first time the whole truth about Moe Berg can be told."



ELECTION UPDATE

The November 2nd winners of the five Richmond City Council seats with final results:

Candidate	Vote count
MINDELL PENN	6,957
TOM BUTT*	5,809
GARY BELL	5,321
NAT BATES*	5,272
ALEX EVANS*	5,198

*Incumbents



CARDS & LETTERS



Dear Gary:

I read with great interest Dennis Schaffer's article "This Tree Grows in Point Richmond". My father and mother, Herbert L. Hunn and Myrtie Hunn, built on the property, 55 Crest, in 1949 where the tree stands. How long it had been on the property before that is unknown. The tree received tender loving care during the thirty years that they occupied the premises.

My family has had a long history of involvement with the educational system of Richmond. In 1920, my father taught wood working at Washington School. In 1926 the new Richmond High was built and the old school became Longfellow Junior High. My Dad became the new principal of Longfellow. In 1946, he became the principal of Harry Ells, the new high school.

My mother had thirty years at Roosevelt Junior High as librarian. My Aunt Dorothy Hunn taught at Washington and Stege. My brother, Richard "Dick" Hunn and sister, Betty Hunn Moist spent many years in the Richmond School system. I can't help but feel proud of their contributions. I was the maverick of the family and went into farming in the Sacramento Delta.

Thank you for your great publication!
Herbert (Pete) Hunn



Dear Gary:

As I indicated previously, I am sending you a box with the following:

- 1) "Shields" the annual book from RUHS
- 2) "Winged R" from Roosevelt Jr. High
- 3) Old school photos, dated on back
- 4) Scrap books, my sisters kept of the family.

All of this information is from the late 1920's to 1943 when I graduated from RUHS. Allan Smith knows all of these people. If I find more as I go through boxes, I will be glad to send.

Good Luck!
Spiro Cakos
Phoenix

All received in good condition. Thanks to Sprio we have an impressive library of RUHS yearbooks. They will be at our little museum for all to look at. Thanks again Spiro. Gary



Dear Pam:

The other day I got to thinking, "It seems like a long time since I got a copy of "This Point...in time" so I looked in my bookcase and found that the last issue I received was the April-May issue. Then a couple of days later I received the November issue! I can't imagine what happened to the ones in between. I really miss reading the news from there. There are

always familiar names from the old days. I was saddened to read two familiar names in the death notices though. I enjoyed reading "Random Memories" by Harold Shawl. I'm 12 years younger than Harold but remember a lot of the things he wrote about. I graduated from RUHS in June, 1939 and still remember B.X. Tucker. I still have all of my "Shields".

Sincerely,
Audrey C. Edwards
Kahului, HI

We will try to get you the missed issues. Your sister Inez has your gift membership all in order now. I am so glad you enjoy our publication. Thanks to member Spiro Cakos we also have a good collection of "Sheilds".

Gary



Dear Ms. Wilson:

Enclosed is \$12.00 to renew my father's membership in the Point Richmond History Association. He has enjoyed you publication. He will be 87 in October.

In January my mother, Maxine Foulds,

passed away at age 80. She always loved the Point. She would have been particularly concerned over the efforts to save the Plunge, where she volunteered many hours to teach handicapped and mentally retarded children to swim. Other kids on the point will probably remember her enjoyment skating on our patio slab and trying to survive and out do us riding a Flexiflyer down Cypress Point Road.

On a happier note, Dad noted with interest that Lucretia Edwards traveled to our area and enjoyed seeing her grandchild Samuel Edward's graduation from nearby prestigious Pomona College. In June my sister Pam brought Dad down so he could view his grandson James Kinnimond Foulds graduate as Valedictorian of San Dimas High School. Young Jim is now attending Stanford, in spite of his Grandpa's (Cal 37) and Dad's (Cal 63) loyalty to the other school.

For anyone interested in calling Dad, his phone is 831-642-9056.

Sincerely,
Kit Foulds
San Dimas, CA 91773

I trust Mr. Foulds is receiving his TPIT now regularly.....Gary



Deaths....

Mary J. Rudolph died peacefully at her home Friday, November 12, 1999. Born in Bremerton, WA on June 8, 1922. She was 77 years old. Mary was employed for the last 4 years as Gallery Attendant/Volunteer Coordinator for the Richmond Museum of History. An active member and President of the Friends of the Richmond Library and member of the Library Commission. She was involved in all efforts to bring the WWII Victory ship "The Red Oak Victory" to the City of Richmond. She was Treasurer of the Point Richmond History Association. Survived by her son, Gary C. Rudolph and wife Linda of Florida; daughter Carla D. Shefts and husband Jeffrey of Redwood City, CA; and sister Evelyn Rudolph of El Dorado Hills, CA. Beloved grandmother of Lisa H. De Groot of Mobile, AL; Paige D., Trevin Mathew, and Alli Coryn Towland, all of Papillion, NB. Mary met and married Clinton F. Rudolph, her husband of 40 years, in Richmond. Clinton preceded her in death February 8, 1980. Memorial service was at The First Methodist Church. Gifts of remembrance can be made to The Red Oak Victory Fund, Richmond Museum, P.O. Box 1267, Richmond CA 94802.



We Will Miss You Mary

Mary (Harlow) Rudolph loved Point Richmond. She grew up here and had many loving Point friends. That is why, in 1996 when we needed a Treasurer for the Point Richmond History Association, she eagerly volunteered. Mary served this organization in a quiet, unassuming, dignified and efficient manner, she will be greatly missed by all of us.

Mayor Rosemary Corbin described Mary well, "Mary was an elegant person. She added class to anything she involved herself in." The Point Richmond History Association lost some class on November 12, 1999.

December Birthdays

Jean Allyn
Seth Fenton
Hazel Paasch
Cris Creed
Edna Hathaway
Debbie Seaburg
Fern Eastman
Christine Hayes
Moe Warith
Sherry Hartynyk

Marian Hawkins
Jeff Corbin
Mark Stevens
Gerrie Kretzmer
Mike Turner
Lauren Nason
Marilyn Darling
Linda Mertle
Michael Cheshareck
Eric Turner

Teresa Meneghelli
Tom McGowan
Richard Barnes
Christina Nagatani
Thomas Mercer Hursh
Jerry Feagley
Inez A. Pestana
William S. Kollar 08

January Birthdays

Henry Allyn
Donna Buhler
Cindy Rosier
Tom Brennan
Sonja Darling
Joe Travis
Linda Marshall
Bryan Smith
Doug Greiner
Jeff Quist
Trefrey Ross

Ed Paasch
Jim Wilson
Robert McIntosh
Mary Highfill
Lupe Morris
Ann Bartram
Saryl Weinstein
John Cutler
Diana Kaffan
Marilu Fox
Elaine Harris

Kristina Hollbrook
Louis Cunan
Les Hathaway
Alphonso Diaz
Richard Palfini
Sena Bowles
Diana Mertle Mills
Brad Feagley
Marian Sauer
Sparta Chiozza

Birthstones

With the passing of time, various gems were looked upon as having individual characteristics and the tradition of wearing jewels corresponding with the birth month became popular. The following lists some of the legends and myths that surround birthstones.

DECEMBER—TURQUOISE. The Indians of the Southwest thought this gem represented the spirits of the sea and sky. They also believed it would bring prosperity and keep the wearer from falling off his horse.

JANUARY—GARNET. Jewish legend states that a huge garnet provided the only light in Noah's ark. Later the garnet was considered as a symbol of virtue. They are supposed to prevent the wearers from losing their tempers, and to protect the safety, health and honor of travelers.

Calendar of Events

Alphabetical by Group

MASQUERS PLAYHOUSE

November 5 to December 18

"20" Century Follies (100 Years of Songs and Laughter); \$12. Fri-Sat, 8 P.M., with some Sunday Matinees at 2:30.

December 31

New Years Eve: "Pump Boys and Dinettes", fully staged production of Broadway hit musical; \$35.00. 8 and 11 P. M., includes Noisemakers, champagne, hors d'oeuvres.

POINT RICHMOND ASSOCIATION OF MOTHERS (PRAM)

First Monday of each month, 12:00, info: Lora Bartlett 237-9959. PEO. Box 70852, Richmond 94807. Newsletter: "Preambulators".

POINT RICHMOND BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

Meets 2nd Wednesday each month, Hotel Mac Banquet Room, 12-1:30, Lunch Reservations \$11, Contact: Paula Aasmus, O.D. 235-5228. In December, Annual Holiday Party, 2nd Wednesday, Richmond Branch, Mechanics Bank. January back to regular schedule.

POINT RICHMOND COMMUNITY CENTER/FIELD HOUSE & PLUNGE

December and January activities: 233-6881. Plunge seismic retro-fit in December!

POINT RICHMOND HISTORY ASSOCIATION

The deadline for the February/March issue of TPIT is January 21, 2000.

The next general meeting will be at the Point Methodist Church, January 30, 2000 at 2:00pm. Our guest will be Bruce Beyaert, Chairman of Trails for Richmond Action Committee. See inside front cover of this issue for details/

POINT RICHMOND NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

Meets last Wednesday each month, Pt Richmond Community Center; 7:30 P.M Contact: Rod Satre, President, 232 5059.

WASHINGTON SCHOOL

Contact: Linda Hutcherson, Principal or Miss Jones, Secretary 232-1436.

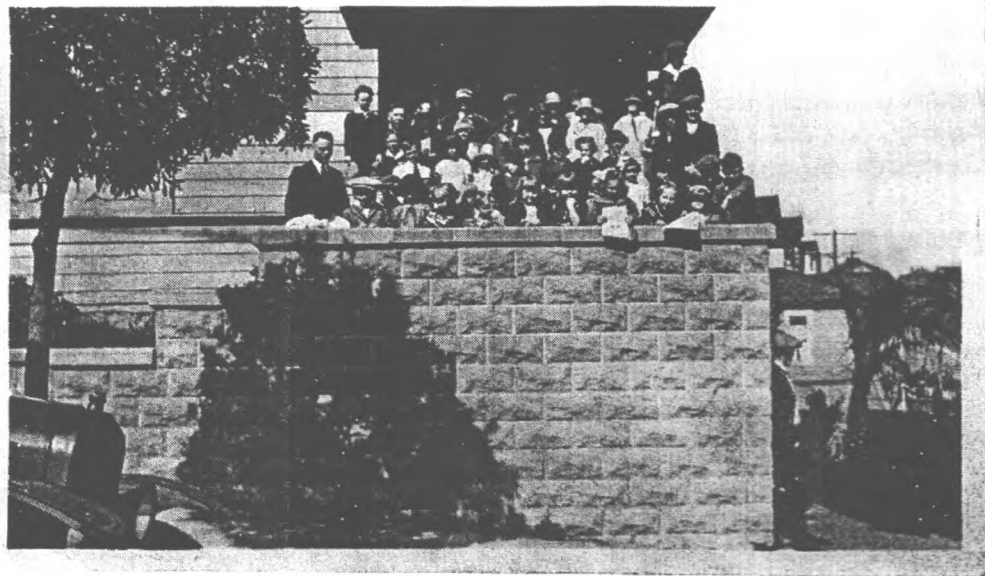
School closed December 20 to January 2, 2000.

WOMEN'S WESTSIDE IMPROVEMENT CLUB

Contact: Amelia Drake, President at 284-8131

For comments, corrections or additions to the TPIT Calendar of Events contact:

*David Vincent
125 West Richmond
Point Richmond, CA 94801
510-235-4850*



*Sunday School
Class, taken at
the old Baptist
Church on
Washington
Avenue.*

*Photo
compliments
of David
Vincent, from
his grand-
mothers
collection.*

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). 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: gary@alkos.com

"This Point...in time" is a publication of the Point Richmond History Association, a non-profit organization at:

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Point Richmond, CA 94801

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Pam Wilson	Membership Info
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Jean Reynolds	Article
Dee Rosier	Article
David Vincent	Calendar/Photo
Harold Shawl	Article
Ellen E. Schaefer	Article
Tref Ross	Article

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Visit us at our website

<http://www.alkos.com/prha>

Richmond Museum of History	510-235-7387
Red Oak Victory Information	510-235-7387