

THIS POINT....in time

NEWSLETTER

The Point Richmond History Association

www.PointRichmondHistory.org

Vol. XXI No. 6

April/May, 2003

\$1.50



THE CORNER OF WEST RICHMOND
AVENUE AND MARTINA STREET FROM
THE AIR

The Point Richmond History Association

Annual Meeting and Election of Officers

CELEBRATION

Point Kids Old Timers Newcomers

Sunday, May 18, 2003

1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church

301 W. Richmond Avenue

Point Richmond

Light Refreshments

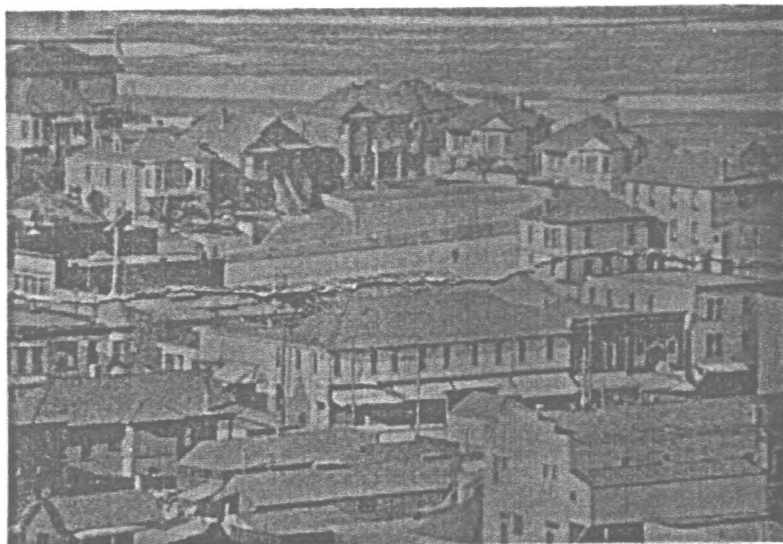
For more information call Pat (Bill) Pearson 510.234-2532

FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Mid Dornan

Our annual meeting on May 18th will not only be for the election of officers but also for a celebration of all the Point kids, the old timers as well as our newcomers. It is a time to come meet new members, the younger Point kids as well as those who made Point history. This unique community in Richmond has an enviable bonding that reaches across the generations and miles. Plan to come for a day of memories. Come meet your editor and board of directors. Come meet your neighbors and make new friends. Who are these "kids" of old you read about? Sunday, May 18, 1-3 p.m.

Our Editor, Gary Shows, has done a remarkable job of putting all our pictures and newsletters on our website, . Have you visited it? He has even made it possible for viewers to contribute to the costs of the endeavor. Because of his efforts, we are hearing from relatives of former Point residents inquiring about other information. It is a great outreach.



Allan Smith recently donated this photo, I have not seen it before, would someone help me to date it? I presume it is a Don Church, I-1-207-DC.

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Thank you members for your renewal:

Alexandra Gautraud
Roberta Jenkins Smith
Brenda McKinley
Mike Chartock
Inez A. Pestana
John Papadakis
Viola Kennedy
Maxine Mayer
Lloyd & Melba Farley
Al & Helene Frosini
Shoney Gustafson
Elizabeth McDonald
Mary Highfill
Gary Shows
Dennis Amantite
Herbert Hunn
Sonja M. Darling
Reva Ward
George L. Williams
Myrna Wishart
Albert J. Kollar
Sandi Genser-Maack & Lynn
Maack
Linda Andrew-Marshall
Janice Cook & Jeff Lee
The Feagley Family
Stephen Wyrick
Sandra & Bruce Beyaert Family
Glen Myers
Betty Dornan
Beatrice Casey
Muriel C. Clausen

And a warm welcome to the following
new member:

Janis E. Henry

**THANK YOU!
SANTA FE MARKET**

AND

POINT RICHMOND MARKET

FOR SELLING

"THIS POINT.....IN TIME" FOR US.

Thanks to the Volunteers who open and
close our history museum on Thursday and
Saturday:

Betty Dornan (Director)
Bruce and Ann Bartram
Pat Pearson
Mid Dornan
Bonnie Jo Cullison
Dody Perry
Anita Christiansen
Sonja Darling
Betty Dornan

Museum Hours:

Thursday 11:30 am to 2:00 pm

Saturday 11:30 am to 2:00 pm

Thank You! Special Supporters!

History Makers
Sherri Mertle
Doug & Rosemary Corbin
History Preservers:
Royce Ong
Dennis & Ellen Schaefer
Kathe Kiehn

EDITOR'S NOTES

Gary Shows (510-235-1336)

Here's your TPIT March/April edition! Some of these newsletters are a bit more of a hassle than others. This one was a hassle. Anyway it is done and I think a pretty good one. Thanks to all, heyespecially Allan Smith (even though he was quite late with his submission, thus becoming a major contributor to my "hassle"), but his wonderful contribution was worth it, he amazes me that he continues record Point Richmond history that is interesting and will be enjoyed by many people for many years to come. And thanks to all contributors for your usual high quality stuff. I want you to know that we do miss the ones that couldn't contribute to this issue.

We have a great staff, but always want more. The pay is low but the rewards are great.

Keep your eye on the PRHA Website, I am

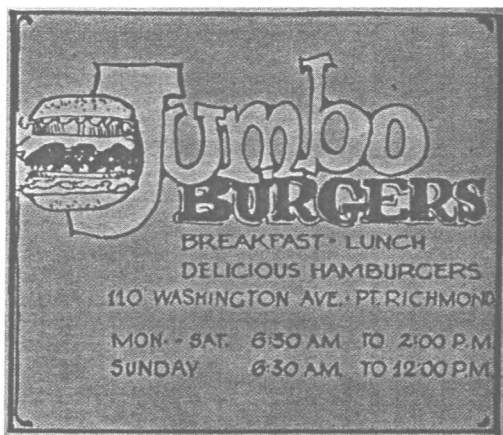
not even close to having "all" of our pictures online for all to see!

Until the May meeting.

The deadline for the Summer issue is Friday, May 23, 2003.

The February/March issue assembly crew was:

Jerry Cerkowicz
Gary Shows
Mid Dornan
Bruce Bartram
Ann Bartram
Sonja Darling
Betty Dornan
Bonnie Jo Cullison
Patricia Pearson



Ah Memories.....

*Probably had more
combination omelets
than anything else.
Jumbo Burger and fries
was awfully good too!*

*Thanks to Betty and
Shirley!*

The Cover:

**Aerial photo of the corner of West Richmond Avenue and Martina Street taken in 1990
by Michael Brown**

A-MID TRIVIA

Mid Dornan (510-234-5334)

Question: When was the cell phone invented and by whom?

Answer at end of trivia.

The test of a good novel is dreading to begin the last chapter.

Belated 89th happy birthday to neighbor Frances McConnell born on Valentines Day!

Jane Carnall has returned from Southern California where she spent time with her mother-in-law during recent surgery. Jane is the new organist at the Methodist Church.

Thank you, Mary Highfill, for the tender loving care of keeping the Museum planter box filled with fresh plants. And to those who keep them watered.

Support your local Washington Elementary School!

Junktique time again! Saturday, May 3rd. Time to clean those cupboards and garages and help a good cause. Funds from this event provide for missions as well as the current budget of the historic Methodist church where a full time pastor serves for the first time in sixty years.. Call Claudia at 215-1813.

Virginia Cherniak is off to a new home and new friends. A lifelong resident of this area, active in the Masquers and choir director of the Methodist Joyful Noise Choir, Virginia will call New Jersey home and will be nearer her daughter, Susan. She will be sharing her new home with older actors and actresses. The church choir serenaded her on her 80th birthday before she left. The church Book Club members as well as her

many friends have kept Virginia aware that she will be missed. She is wished good health and a good trip!

What better therapy than a walk around the lagoon at Miller-Knox Regional Park! There are birds, the bay, boats, bridges, a blue sky filled with white clouds and then there are the people you meet!

Did you know 'stressed' spelled backwards is 'desserts'!

The average life of the early light bulb use was 150 hours compared to 2000 hours today.

Pat (Bill) Pearson returned from a trip in February to Costa Rica and in March, after serious safety and health flying considerations, left for a trip to China with her daughter Julie. Where next month Pat??

Betty Jenkins wants to inform any of her friends still in the area that she will be back for a day of 'memories' and would like to see any of you that can make it on Saturday afternoon, April 19th at the history museum in the Point.

America needs more young people who will carry to their jobs the same enthusiasm for getting ahead that they display in traffic!

Wally and Marilyn Darling's recent cruise wasn't the relaxed vacation anticipated. Marilyn became ill at the beginning of the cruise. After several weeks back home, Marilyn is still trying to recuperate.

A Big THANK YOU to Stewart Saunders, Benecia, who donated copies of his 1932 and

1933 Washington School Class Pictures complete with identification of students! Steward and his wife visited our history museum this past month.

Take time to stroll near where the old tank was located at the end of Crest Avenue and you'll be delighted to see the showy Lupin colorfully taking its place.

Speaking of Crest Avenue, the Crest Avenue People's Park Triangle has been given its Spring rejuvenations!

Dedicated Bruce Beyear has been working non-stop trying to complete TRAC, the Bay Area Shoreline Trail, through Richmond. Our City Council backed the proposal on the latest development through the Richmond area.

When did we lose Theresa and Jerry Daniel, our Point Richmond Bird counter, to Minden, Nevada?

Those Bird of Paradise flowering plants seem to be more magnificent in Point yards this year.

Do you have any old Richmond Union High school year books, THE SHIELD, that you might like to donate to the collection we have at our history museum?

Plant a Tree in '53 was the motto of the Richmond Junior Women's Club in that year. If you have flowering plum trees on your street, they no doubt were planted by these

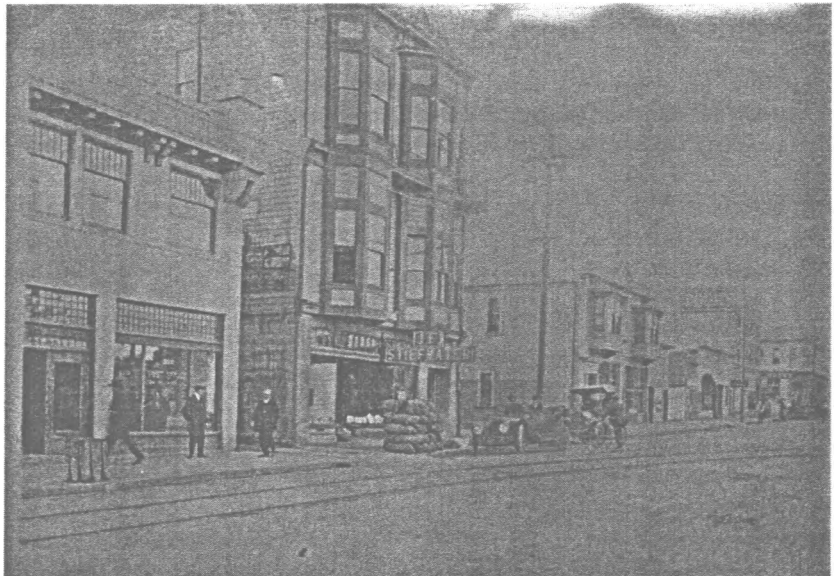
civic minded young women.

Mark your calendar for Thursday, May 19th, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. for the popular Point Richmond Stroll, sponsored by the Point Business Association. It is time to acquaint yourself to all the services offered by the businesses and organizations of the Point. Each has its own free gift drawing and you can enjoy three or four live bands playing at various sidewall locations as well as children's entertainment. Stop by our museum and you might win one of our lovely museum ornaments.

As this goes to press, our country is at war. Support our military who selflessly give their lives for the freedom we enjoy. Prayer in any language is positive energy toward Peace.

Spring like weather in March finds the hills with calla lilies in bloom. Will they still be in bloom for Easter on April 20th!

ANSWER: .. in 1973 by a team of Motorola scientists.



I-2-0061-DC

Tyler Clausen is a Junior at Marin Catholic High School. He was given a history assignment to write about and, being the grandson of Bert and Muriel Clausen he naturally chose Richmond. Here is part one of two parts of his report.

The City of Richmond

by Tyler R. Clausen

Before Richmond was a city there were no buildings or bridges, only the Ohlone Indians who had lived there for thousands of years. An area now known as Point Richmond, which later would be the beginning of the City of Richmond, was part of what was considered an island. It was lightly populated but a change would soon happen. In the late 1800's and early 1900's, railroad barons, who needed to connect their railroads to San Francisco found it best to use Point Richmond as a place to set their western bound tracks. With a bay separating Point Richmond from San Francisco, a pier was built, at a place still known today as Ferry Point, so ferryboats could carry the trains and their cargo from the east side of the bay to San Francisco. Oil was also in demand in the Bay Area and the location of Point Richmond's island proved to be ideal for an oil refinery, especially since their products could be carried across the bay easily and quickly on the newly constructed ferries. "Standard oil opened the second largest refinery in the world in Richmond in 1902". This was only to be the beginning.

Workers and other settlers who quickly found their way to Point Richmond in the early 1900's had no place to live and resorted to tents, as they did not want to wait for buildings to be constructed

before they moved in. "Richmond was a tent city." There were individual lodging tents and there were also dining room tents that housed long wooden tables for eating. As the population grew, so did the town. A well was soon installed which became known as "the town pump", and shortly thereafter, the first building was constructed, the Critchett Hotel.

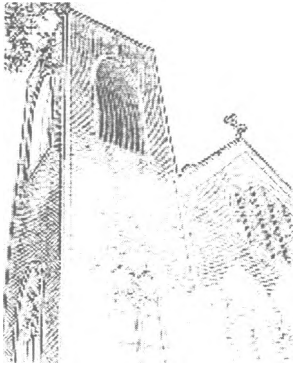
In 1900, the population of Point Richmond was 250 people; by 1902, the population had soared to over 2,000. This quick population boost meant that the town had to grow and, by 1905, Point Richmond had evolved into three different communities: Old Richmond, Point Richmond, and Atchison. Atchison was least favored of the three because it was the housing community of railroad employees. Atchison only had a few stores and a dance hall, and it soon died because nobody really wanted to live there. Point Richmond, however, slowly thrived.

Richmond's slow growth continued until the outbreak of World War II, when once again, Richmond proved to be instrumental, his time as one of the best places for shipbuilding. World War II created a high demand for ships and the San Francisco Bay provided not only protection but also allowed ships to enter and leave quickly. The Kaiser Shipyard, located in Richmond, "became one of the largest wartime production facilities, producing ships at the rate of one per day and employing 100,000 workers at the peak of its war effort." Thousands of people from the South moved to Richmond to work in the shipyards. The workers who were mostly women, were to become known as "Rosie the Riveters."

Conclusion in the next issue of TPIT



CHURCH NEWS



Our Lady of Mercy Church

*By Dee Rosier
510-232-1387*

The Fall planted bulbs are blooming - it must be Spring!

We continue to enjoy the presence of Father Jim Pickett who spiritually enhances us with his homilies and enthusiasm to keep Our Lady of Mercy open to all. Should you have strayed away, please return and join us. We have experienced several church traditions, new to us, and Father Pickett explains the historical significance associated with each one. On a recent Sunday candles were blessed to signify that life, like a candle, is lit at birth and burns down at death. While lit, we should remember that we are the light of the world wherever we go. Palms from last year were collected, burned and the ashes used this year on Ash Wednesday.

The Parish Council meets on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:30 PM in the Rectory. As parishioners you are welcome to attend. The Finance Committee also has regular meetings and a representative is available at the Parish Council meetings. Father Pickett reported that several of the lights inside the church have been replaced and that the heating system had been checked.

One of the items discussed was the fact that there is not an adequate bed in the rectory. A bed frame has been donated and an anonymous donor donated \$100 towards a box spring and mattress.

Coffee and donuts are served on the first Sunday of each month. They are compliments of the Santa Fe Market. If you frequent the Santa Fe Market you will be pleased to see a familiar face, that of Mike Peckham, who has returned - WELCOME HOME! Alan and Marcellena Smith have offered to again host a breakfast, date yet to be determined.

Personal Mass intentions can be made by placing your intention in the Sunday collection. Most dates are available and the cost is \$10. Recently a Mass was offered for Pt. Richmond native, Claude Bisio. It was a pleasure to have his widow, Bernadette, and sister Nellie attend. Claude's Mass coincided with coffee/donuts Sunday so it was a double celebration.

The Calvin Family's Mass intention for their parents filled the church with several generations of Calvans. Two of the Calvin sisters have daughters in the military and they were remembered in the Mass.

It is a welcome sight to see the devotional candles back on the altar. A box is provided for

donations.

Many of us attended the Sweetheart of the Year dinner hosted by the Methodist Church and this year honoring Fay Hawkins. I had the pleasure of being seated next to Bob and Marie Peckham. When Bob was Sweetheart of the Year, the Methodist Church made him an honorary Methodist. On a brick to be placed in the Methodist Church garden, the inscription reads: Bob Peckham, NON Methodist.

Condolences to Angie Kirkpatrick on the recent death of her sister in Indiana.

Condolences to Althea Hellenbach in the recent death of her husband, Alvin. A memorial Mass was recently held with many friends and neighbors present. Alvin and Althea are New Orleans natives and were married 52 years.

It was Baptism Day for Isabella Ultsch on March 2. Isabella is the daughter of Bruce and Dina Ultsch and sister to Nicholas. The family filled the church, grandparents, aunts, uncles and most prized, many young nieces and nephews. Father Pickett explained each of the baptism rituals, and included Nicholas in the ceremony. Welcome Isabella to the Christian world.

Father Pickett attended the 50th wedding anniversary of his cousin, Joanie in Ohio. After the cold of Ohio he went on to Florida to thaw out. During his absence, Father Charm celebrated weekday Masses and on Sunday we celebrated with Father Robert McCann and Father Tony Herrera. Father McCann said that his mother would be proud of him because he celebrated Mass in 45 minutes. Being a gourmet cook, Father Herrera was impressed with Pt. Richmond and its fine eating places.

In the last issue I praised Alan Smith for the donation of a cordless microphone for altar use, when, in fact, my praise should have gone to Ann Brussock.

Mark your calendars for what is becoming an annual event. Chaired by Nancy Toledo our Seder dinner will be held on April 16. All are invited to attend

Father Pickett held a get together for those that work for God - Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers. Responsibilities were reviewed, with some new additions, so that we will all be in sync. Acolytes will have a separate session. Dennis Amantite was a welcome new addition..

Msgr. Ted Kraus celebrated his 65th birthday and 40th year of ordination. A Mass at Santa Maria was held and several parishioners were honored to attend. We enjoyed a picnic-style lunch and entertainment. Msgr. was presented with a framed print of the Pt. Richmond wig wags.

In a recently read article, it stated that those that pray stay healthier and live longer than those who don't. Prayer and faith speed recovery in illnesses. This may well have been verified by an article in a local newspaper. A Los Angeles parochial school decided to try a new approach to the schools money woes. About 100 supporters contributed \$25 each and went to the horse races. The money was put on a pick six ticket and they won \$200,000.00. Proof that prayer works - you bet!

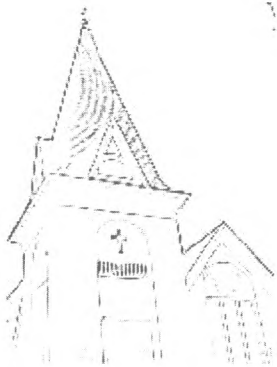
Remember to pray for our homebound parishioners, as well as PEACE.

I TRY TO TAKE ONE DAY AT A TIME,
BUT SOMETIMES SEVERAL DAYS ATTACK
ME AT ONCE.

See you in church.

RICHMOND
CALIFORNIA





POINT RICHMOND METHODIST CHURCH

by Jean Reynolds

510-235-2988

jeanormr@pacbell.net

We celebrated Fay Hawkins, and all of the many ways he contributes to our community, at the "Sweetheart of the Year" dinner on February 13. The bash took place at The Baltic Restaurant with a sit-down dinner and speakers: Dale Hawkins, Chuck Laird, Mid Dornan, Bob Boatwright, Bob Peckham, Lorilyn Parmer-Folks, and Tom Butt ably led by M.C. Leo Garfield. Pastor Dan, the piano man, played gathering music, and the Joyful Noise choir sang a closing. Kudos to Fran Smith for organizing such a fun party, and to Fay Hawkins for being such a great guy.

The Joyful Noise choir is truly joyful to have Jane Carnall as our accompanist. Jane fills the void left by Jean Eakle, who has a new role nursing a friend who lives out of town. The choir is in a transition as we change directors, too.

Virginia Cherniak is moving to New Jersey to live in a "retired actors" home near her daughter. She will probably start a choir there, too! We know New Jersey will be a better place when she is there. Thanks to Pastor Dan and Alison Feather, who have agreed to direct, the Joyful Noise Choir will sing on...

Members met on March 22 for lunch and a Visioning Day led by Kristi Johnson. It gave us a chance to think about the things we like about the church, what things we would like to change or add, and what our ideal church would be like. Participants were enthusiastic about the process and some great ideas and energy flowed! The March ad-board meeting focused on how we care for our members and visitors. We are taking time to examine our goals as we embark on our new "full time ministry" adventure with Pastor Dan.

We plan to erect a Peace Pole in the church garden. The pole will have the message "May Peace Prevail on Earth" written on it in four languages, and will be a reminder for us to visualize, pray for, and work toward world peace. The Peace Pole Project is a non-profit, grass-roots movement, started by the World Peace Prayer Society in Japan.

On the calendar:

Candlelight Vigil for World Peace: a gathering every Sunday at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary to pray for peace.

Masquers'/Hotel Mac Dinner Theater evening: Thursday, April 10, 6:00 p.m., cost \$30. See the play "Cinderella Waltz" and enjoy dinner at the Hotel Mac. Call Jean Reynolds (235-2988) for ticket availability.

Palm Sunday Feast, Sunday, April 13, 12:15 p.m. in Friendship Hall. Free of charge, all are welcome. Especially famous for scalloped potatoes cooked by the Baltic Restaurant, good

company, and pies!

New: Easter Worship in the Garden, April 20, 8:00 a.m. Enjoy an early youth-led worship in an outdoor setting, followed by breakfast in Friendship Hall at 9:00 a.m. Sunday School will meet at 10:00 a.m.; worship in the Sanctuary will begin at 11:00 a.m. Children can hunt for Easter Eggs in the yard after the 11:00 worship service.

Handbell Concert: Sunday, April 27, 5:00 p.m., featuring the handbell choir from El Sobrante United Methodist Church, directed by Eileen Johnson. Sliding scale donation \$0-\$10. No one refused for lack of funds.

Annual Junktique: Saturday, May 3, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Find that perfect item at the right price! Have lunch while you shop! During April, call Claudia LeGué (215-1813), or Juanita Hoffman (234-8052) to arrange pick-up of good usable items for sale.

Monday, May 26, Masquers Community Yard Sale. Plan to eat pancake breakfast at the church while you shop.



The 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 61st installment.

Feb 16, 1927

Meeting held in the church parlors after the luncheon. Called to order at 2 P.M. Mrs. Holbrook presiding. 16 members present and 2 visitors. Letter read from Rev. Grant in answer to the one sent to him. Rev. Grant was present & reported again on the organ proposition. It was said, that the question had been settled until we could raise enough money to pay for one & not go in debt for it.

Moved and carried that all money for the organ fund be put in a savings account so it would draw interest.

Mrs. Jones suggest that we hold these luncheons more often & it was decided the next one would be held in April.

Report on the luncheon.

The amt taken in was	\$63.71
Amount of bills	24.59
Amount cleared	\$39.12

Election of Officers:

Mrs. Redman steps in as new president.

Mrs. Alexander as 1st vice president

Motion made & carried that she be unanimously elected.

Motion made & carried. that Mrs. Glennie be elected as Treasurer and Mrs Osborne elected as Ssecretary.

Next meeting to be held at the home of Mrs. Danner, she & Mrs. Robbins to be hostesses. Mrs. Brothers, Mrs. Dingle & Mrs. Redman appointed on the entertainment committee for next



The
MASQUERS PLAYHOUSE

presents

Don Nigro's

fairy tale for adults

CINDERELLA WALTZ



Directed by Michael Haven

Cinderella and her Prince. Simple. Safe. But what if love is something deeper, more dangerous? Will Rosey accept the traditional role of Princess, or make the risky choice, the dance of the Waltz? Does she dare to summon up the courage required to take the other path, to create her true soul's dream of life and love? The music is playing. Will she dance?

The Cast

Christina Angelos • Alexandra Creighton • Patrick Dowling • Linda Ellinwood • Charles Evans • Diana Godet • Don Hansen • Karen Lynne Horn • Ben Ortega

March 28 to May 3

Box office opens half hour before curtain

Fridays and Saturdays at 8:00

Sunday matinees at 2:30
on April 6, 13 and 27

All seats \$13

For reservations call 510-232-4031

All tickets must be prepaid by cash, check or credit card. All sales final.



Dinner at the Hotel Mac and "Waltz" on Thursday, May 1st for only \$28. Call 510-232-4031 for reservations.

meeting.

Etta Rowland welcomed as a new member.

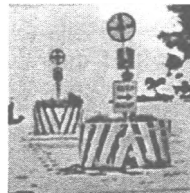
Dues received from Mrs. Jones - .60

Previous balance 17.29

17.89

(total made by League since Dec 11 - 23

\$1043.83)



LOCAL NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS, 1913-1932

I have this ring-binder that is full of yellowed original clippings from old newspapers. The hand inscribed front cover says "Local Newspaper Clippings-Richmond - 1913-1932". It has a documenting problem as that most of the clipped articles do not give credit to the source, most however seem to be from the "Richmond Herald-Record". I do not know who put it together. Allan Smith thinks it's the work of Don Church, he is probably correct. They are, however old, hand dated and interesting reading, spelling errors are not corrected here is installment #12. Gary Shows

CLOSED CARS ARE IN DEMAND September 3, 1922

"With each summer season the utility of the closed car is becoming more evident", says C.C. Kratzer, local dealer in Chevrolet passenger and commercial cars.

"Experience has shown that the closed type of car can be just as airy and cool as anyone desires. The sedan and coupe of today are constructed with a maximum of window space. And the best of it is that this can be arranged to suit the tastes of the passengers.

"For touring, the closed car is now regarded as ideal. It protects its occupants from the sun, from dirt and dust. It is the cleanest type of conveyance. And for any change in weather it is always ready. A trip of any length can be taken with the assurance of the utmost comfort under all conditions, all

the way.

"And these advantages apply equally to the everyday use of the closed cars. For trips in the interests of business they afford dependable comfort all year round. They add to the efficiency of business transportation.

"To the doctor they are indispensable. They are a valuable aid in keeping him fit for his work.

"Women especially appreciate closed car features that make them independent of weather for shopping and other necessary getting about. They appreciate the neatness of the sedan and coupe.

"And the farmer need no longer feel isolated by weather conditions. Closed cars afford him a luxury of all season travel that has added to the attraction of farm life.

"That the distinctive features of closed cars are being recognized is proved by the increasing favor in which they are held."

MAD DOG CREATES STIR AT WEST SIDE HOTEL January 2, 1914

A large mastiff dog belonging to Ben Brignone, proprietor of the Hotel Colombo, on Standard avenue, became rabid yesterday and Pound-master Smith was hurriedly called by telephone to the hotel where Mr. Brignone has succeeded in locking the dog up in a vacant room. Smith, in order to take no chances with the mad brute, shot him and after severing the head, sent the same to the state pathologist, at

Berkeley, for examination.

The dog was a monster, weighing 160 pounds, and fortunately wore a muzzle at the time he developed the rabid symptoms. He attacked several inmates of the hotel but was unable to do anyone any injury.

SUICIDE HAPPENS ON STOCKTON BOAT NEAR POINT ORIENT

January 30, 1914

It was reported this morning by several employees of the Standard Oil company at Point Orient that two pistol shots were heard on the steamer W.T. Walker last evening as that boat was passing the wharf near the Standard Oil company's can factory. The Stockton boat was proceeding on its journey to the Slough city and was about two hundred feet from the wharf at the time. A man was seen to plunge into the waters of the bay shortly after the report of the pistol was heard.

The steamer came to a stop and a boat put out but no trace of the suicide's body could be found. The captain of the W.T. Walker informed those on the wharf by megaphone that one of his passengers had committed suicide by shooting himself in the head, but could not give the name of the unfortunate man.

The body will probably wash ashore in the near future in the vicinity of Point Orient.

ITALIAN ON RAMPAGE IS CAUSE OF NEAR PANIC

November 27, 1914

Mystery surrounds the case of C. Paqua, an Italian, who last evening jumped from a rapidly moving street car at Wall street and Macdonald avenue with his infant

daughter in his arms and fired five shots into the car, causing a near riot.

With the gun barrel still smoking in his hand Paqua turned and fled into the darkness before a posse headed by Motorman Howard in chare of the car at the time could surround him.

Sergeant Jennings and Patrolman Sprague who were detailed on the case managed to locate Paque after nearly an all-night search, at which time he was found hiding in the attic of his cabin with a sawed-off double barrel shotgun lying by his side.

Paqua, while in a cell at the city prison today absolutely refused to so much as speak of the night's incident when an attempt was made by newspapermen to secure an interview from him.

Just what Paqua intended to do with the sawed-off shotgun is proving a mystery to the police.

The police are inclined to believe that there is a feud existing between Henry Rossi, another Italian, and Paqua and believe that Rossi had boarded the car but one block east of Wall street and was just in the act of taking his seat when the five bullets hummed through the car.

ABBOTTS TO LEASE BANK BUILDING

October 28, 1923

The entire upper floor of the Bank of Richmond building has been leased to Dr. C.L. Abbott and Dr. U.S. Abbott who will use the rooms for the purpose of conducting minor operations.

The building formerly the Abbott Hospital will be turned into an apartment house but up to the present time nothing definite has been given out as to who the new manager of the place will be.

But, on Standard Oil Refinery's payday Nick would always be open to cash the refinery workers checks at a fee and a \$1.00 drink. We called him Nick the Greek but I think he was really Italian. Nick Brailo had no relatives in this country and when he died all of his estate was left to relatives in Europe.

Curry's Opera House
Point Richmond

2 BIG NIGHTS 2
Fri. and Sat. Dec. 12 and 13

THE WESTON & HERBERT
BIG VAUDEVILLE SHOW

Presenting a refined and High
class entertainment, including
the celebrated mimic and
ventriloquist

HUGH J. EMMETT
The society entertainers
M.R. AND MRS. HARRY NEAL
The black face delineators
COLE AND ALLEN
Miss May Russell, Little Carrie,
Edison's Latest Moving
Pictures and
WESTON & HERBERT
The kingpins of musical comedy

PRICES 25 and 50c

On this 1902 clipping of Curry's Opera House, please note the name of Little Carrie, one of the performers. That must be Carrie Ellsworth, one of Point Richmond's beautiful maidens, who later went on to New York and starred on the stage. A clandestine mystery ended her career on Broadway. She used to thrill the Point Richmond gentlemen(?) with her dancing artistry and beauty. It was said she used to perform dancing on the bar of the Baltic.

L.A.P.D. does not mean the Los Angeles Police Department, but stands for the Los Angeles Press Brick Department that was the first brick company in Point Richmond. I believe it was

located in the Winehaven area. L.A.P.D. bricks were used for the Palace Hotel in San Francisco in 1878 (*It would be wonderful if someone reading this could elaborate in future issues of TPIT!*). Also, in the restoration of the old bank building on Washington Avenue all the bricks were from L.A.P.D. Drop by and observe the progress, all the bricks are stamped L.A.P.D. and are in plain sight. What a great job they are doing with the old building! It is a complete remodel job.



Part of the building was once used as a department store business by a family named Carlin. The son, Phil was a good tennis player competing along with our Jim Hurley who was once a California Tennis Champion. Say Jim, where is your trophy? It would make a fine donation to the Point Richmond History Association!

The March 2002 magazine 'Guideposts' there is an article titled "Amelia's Path", written by Carlene Mendieta, a periodontist from our neighboring Pinole. It is about Amelia Earhart's round trip transcontinental solo flight in 1928 that Carlene Mendieta re-created in 2001. She did the flight in a restored 1927 Avro Avian open cock-pit bi-plane, the same type that Emelia Earhart used. I wonder what airport hanger she keeps it in, I'd like to see it! Just my luck to have gone to another periodontist recently. I could have had a ride in her plane which would have been more enjoyable that sitting in her dentist chair. Dr. Mendieta is a member of the Ninety-Niners, an organization of 6500 women pilots. To learn more about Dr. Mendieta's flight visit website

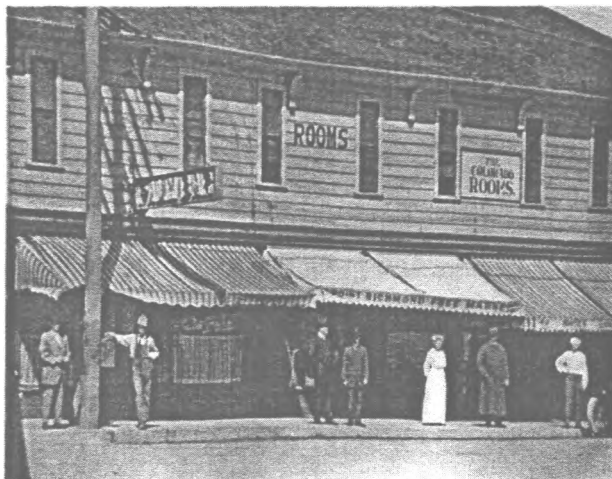
www.guideposts.com or make a dental appointment with her.

The 75 year old plane that Dr. Mendieta uses reminds me of the models Mervyn Kelleghan used to make while in Washington Grammar School. He was good at it.

I mentioned this article of Carlene Mendieta because a local youth of our time was in the U.S. Coast Guard and his ship was sent out to search for Amelia Earhart after her mysterious disappearance. The Point Richmond native was Freddie Wake, who after his return from the search was never the same person that we once knew. Freddie had a brother named Charley whom we graduated with. Mr. Wake, the father, was a postman in the Point delivering twice each day.

I was talking to my neighbor, Cindy, about

books and poetry. She informed me that her grandmother was an author and has written poetry. Cindy offered to let me read one of her grandmother's writings titled: "Capricious Collative Writing 1918-1995" by Dorothy Shepherd Fibush. Dorothy Shepherd started being published at the age of 10 when she lived in Oakland. She went on to attend college and continued writing poetry, plays and personal history. At times, the writings are autobiographic and are very interesting. The writings Cindy let me read were over 150 pages and bound containing paper a full letter size. Dorothy Shepherd writes about Berkeley and areas of Contra Costa County. It is a must read and could be found at a local book store or the Point Library. This "Capricious Collative" was printed privately. Do any TPIT readers recognize this authoress?



*Corner of Richmond and
Washington Avenues*

(Critchett Hotel Bldg)

Neill's Store on the right

2002 AWARD OF DISTINCTION

"The American Water Ski Educational Foundation recognizes AL FROSINI. This honor is received for extraordinary contribution to the sport. As a Skier official innovator, industry leader and other for landmark achievements in the development and recognition of the sport of waterskiing."

AL FROSINI received this award on April 2002 in Florida.

SPORTS MEMORIES

By Allan Smith

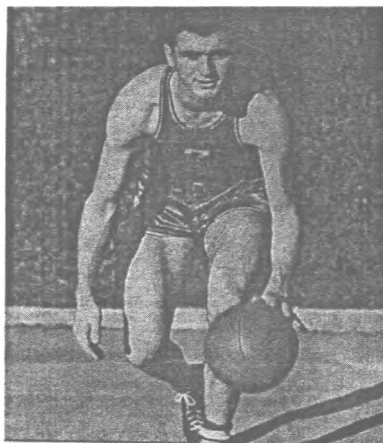
With this "Sports Memories" I would like to begin with excerpts from an article, "Baseball is a Game of Life" written by the University of California Professor, WILLIAM K. MUIR's commentary column in the Oakland Tribune:

"Baseball requires great skill. It is nearly impossible to swing a bat 2 ½ feet long so as to hit a ball 3 inches in diameter, when thrown from a distance of 60 feet at speeds up to 95+ miles per hour when the ball is dipping, rising and coming in and out. Some players by dint of talent focus and practice can do so. Second, baseball requires incredible courage for a batter to face a ball traveling 95 mph. Doctors can tell you what happens when a 5 ounce mass at that speed hits toe unprotected person of a batter's ribs, elbow or head. It isn't pretty. Pitchers capitalize on that terrifying prospect."

I would like to comment on my personal experiences with this material. Our son, Bryan, played professional baseball as a pitcher and claimed he never threw at a batter purposely. My brother, Frank, whom also played pro ball as a pitcher, having thrown a no-run, no-hit game, said he never threw at a batter even when told to do so. I can't say that about my other brother, Leonard, who was one of Richmond Union High School's star pitchers, he also played professional baseball. He told me that it was his job as a pitcher to get the batter out any way he could. But his control was so wild and erratic that the batter didn't know if he was being thrown at or it was just a wild pitch.

Do you remember the movie "The Natural"? The climatic scene when the good fan tells the discouraged baseball player not to give up trying because of an earlier mistake. Returning to Professor Muir's article "I think that we have two lives, one to learn with and one to live with after that. That's what baseball teaches. Error is part of the human condition. We were made to try, to fail,

to learn from failure - and then to try again. We are pressed that nearly everyone around us keeps trying to hit safely, despite the deep odds. And trying our best with what we've got is what the game of life and baseball is really about."



Angelo "Hank" Luisetti was a three-time All-American at Stanford and brought the Running one-handed shot to basketball

Angelo "Hank" Luisetti, the three time All-American basketball player from Stanford, who revolutionized the game by popularizing the one-handed shot, has died. He became the first college player to score 50 points in a game which was done in 1938. Luisetti was known to be the "greatest ever to play the game" and was inducted into the Basketball Hall of Fame in 1959.

Hank Luisetti was hired by the Standard Oil Company of California after graduation and went to work at the Richmond Refinery. It was in the Package Division where I first met him. He stayed there a very short time and I remember him as a soft-spoken and well-liked person. Hank Usisetti played later with the Phillips 66ers and St. Mary's Pre-Flight from Moraga. Now, when you are watching the "sweet sixteen" college basketball teams playing for the championship and see all the players use the one-handed set shot, remember it

was Hank Luisetti, from Stanford and San Francisco, that first used it.

Why do many of the pro and college basketball players have tattoos staining their shoulder arms? It must mean something to them.

Orinda's Vic Bottari, the Most Valuable Player for the University of California's football team in 1938 has died. Bottari played for the Golden Bears national championship squad

nicknamed the "Thunder Team". The Vallejo native was an All-American football player. Vic Bottari set high standards for himself and others. After Cal's victory over Alabama, the Rose Bowl organizers offered to give watches to only the Cal players who performed well in the game. Vic Bottari told them to keep their watches as the Cal team was all one group. I wonder if the Rose Bowl people came through with the watches for the whole team?



*Original
photograph of Jesse
James.*

From Allan Smith

Potpourri from Allan Smith

I called a company to check on my account. After going through the whole litany, even my SSN, I was able to set my case. Was I surprised when I asked the secretary how the weather was in San Ramon, the home office of the company, she replied "The weather is hot here in Manila". Yes she was in the Philippine Islands!!

One June 18, 1918 the Record-Herald reported that a launch had struck the "Chicken Rocks" and sunk. Where are the "Chicken Rocks"? A biologist from San Francisco State is working on a project studying harbor seals. Her primary study is Castro Rocks. She heard that a Cal Trans worker who grew up in the Point say that the Castro Rocks used to be called "Chicken Rocks. Guess I'll have to wait for our reunion of Point natives to find out.....someone will know.

WWIC ACTIVITIES

Alyce Williamson

The WWIC met February 4, 2003 at the Pt. Richmond Methodist Church with 22 members present. The theme for the day was Valentine's Day.

After lunch and a period of socializing our guest speaker, Nancy Strduch gave a slide presentation and talk on the S.F. Bay Trails. She presented each member with a map showing the Trails from Eastshore State Park, Pt. Isabel Shoreline thru Marina Way Park, Lucretia Edwards Park, Rosie the Riveter Memorial to Ferry Pt & Miller Knox Park in Pt. Richmond. The trails are flat and are handicapped accessible. It is truly a beautiful scenic route and how fortunate we are to have these trails in our area. It is well worth ones time and effort to explore them. When the entire project is completed it will extend to Pt. Pinole and Pt. Wilson. We wish to thank Bruce Beyaert for arranging for Ms. Strduch to speak to us.

A short business meeting followed the program.

The guest speaker for March 4, 2003 will be Joe and Julie Heath with a program on "Land and Seascapes".

President Anita Christensen adjourned the meeting by asking each of us to join with her, whether in prayer, good thoughts, or positive thoughts, but make it direct, that a harmonious resolution be achieved in the threat of war.

Next meeting will be March 4, 2003. See you there. Bring a guest and or a new member.

The WWIC met March 4, 2003 at the Pt. Richmond Methodist Church with 18 members present. The theme for the day was St. Patrick's Day.

After lunch we enjoyed a slide presentation by Joe Heath of "Sea and Landscapes of the West". His photography is beautiful and he captures the beauty and the unusual in many scenes.

A short business meeting followed the program. We still have \$100 left in our annual donation fund to dispense. A motion was made and carried to shelve the decision until next meeting and members were asked to bring ideas as to what they wish to do with the remaining \$100. Next meeting we will need two volunteers for a nominating committee.

It was noted that we are planning a salad lunch for June and that this will be "HAT" day. Soooooo start looking in your closet for a hat as anyone not wearing a hat will pay a penalty.

Watch Out!!! Next meeting will be April 1, 2003. April Fools Day. See you there. Bring a guest and or a new member.





Chronological History of Brickyard Cove

Development

City of Richmond Actions from Muriel Clausen

		approved,; but must donate .74 acres of parkland.
	1971	May 8: Extend map to Unit #3
	1973	January 9: City approves single family dwellings in #3520.
	1974	July 5: subdivide #3637, unit 3 and extend map.
	1975	June 20: extend tentative map #3637 to residential
	1977	July: apply for outer island on pilings.
	1978	Phase II development application.
	1979	Subdivide phase II.
	1979	January: City approves extending Marina (for a total of 250+ water berths for boats.)
	1981	February: City approves final map Phase II #3637.
	1982	February Final map o.k's in writing for unit #3; #3637
	1983	March 25: Subdivision map for #3637 filed.
	1986	February.. City rejects application for guard gate; accepts surveillance "house".
	1989	March: City grants permit to build townhouses on Lot 72.
	1997	July apply for City approval building "E", etc.
	2000	Donation to City strip of land (easements) along B.Y. Cove Rd. for Bay Trail for public use.
1965	May 4:	Request of City to rezone land from heavy industrial to residential and commercial use. This was o.k'd on 6/17/1965
1965	July 2:	grading permit #66220 granted.
1965:	August 30,	City formally rezones land from M3 to residential, commercial, light industry.
1965	Sept. 2:	land configuration is reviewed by the city.
1966	November 18:	general plan updated for residential
1966	February:	#3520 zoned "controlled development"
1966	March 3:	Grading permit granted: Saddle Road and Richfield property.
1966	March 28:	Grading permit #67912 granted (Richfield).
1966	August 5:	City approved overall plan as was submitted by Architect, Jens Hansen,; subsequently submitted to B.C.D.C.
1966	November 28:	Final approval of subdivision map.
1967	July 1:	Approval to extend tentative map.
1967		More grading permits granted as needed.
1968	August 15:	Controlled Development

Next issue will cover Construction chronology.

CARDS, LETTERS & E-MAIL

www.PointRichmondHistory.org

It is a surprise to me to see this Website as I grew up in The Point. I see Mary Highfill is a member of your group. Mary's son Larry and I grew up together in the Point and when I left in 67 to join the Navy I lost all contact with my Friends. I just loved the Old Times 4th of July Celebration that were held in the 60's and I learned to Swim at the Plunge....and remember the Old Keller Pier for Fishing.....Thanks for your Efforts in doing this site.

Tom Bell

www.PointRichmondHistory.org

Dear Gary,

Just discovered your site and interested in more information regarding the article submitted by Harold Shawl. In his article he mentions he and William E. (Bill) Richmond were in the CMTC Del Monte 1925.

I have been searching for just that information since I learned last year that my father, Valleon Sylvester, was noted in the 1926 Bear Cat Musketeer Del Monte as "Pvt. Sylvester, Assistant Camp Photographer". I have reached dead end trails when I have "looked" via web sites for CMTC Del Monte until yesterday. What an amazing find...I found the 1925 Bear Cat Musketeer for sale (\$150 if any one you know owns it) which I bought only because I have searched so hard for the book. I am hoping to find my father's name there too.

My father, CQM Valleon Sylvester, USN, enlisted in the navy in 1927, and his last ship, USS Finch was sunk 4-12-42 at Corregidor, where he became a prisoner of war of the Japanese, and died 10-24-44 on a "hellship" Arisan Maru. Since 1998 I have obtained his

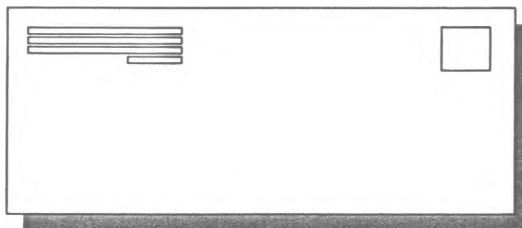
military file, medals, place of death, and where he is memorialized on the Wall of the Missing, Manila, The Philippines.

In his military file is the notation that he was in the army 3+years before enlisting Sept. 1927 in the navy in San Francisco. When I found the Bear Cat Musketeer that noted Pvt. Sylvester, I became very interested in finding out if that would be his army years.

I was very young when my father was in the service and probably last saw him when I was 5 or 6. I have few memories of him as he probably was aboard ship most of my young years and am very excited to make this connection to my father, in any way that presents itself.

Thanks for any information you can relay to me.

Maxine Stanley
12705 NE Schuyler St.
Portland, OR 97230
ph. 503-254-9756



Dear Pam:

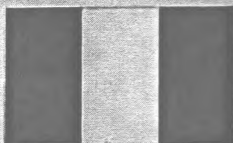
My maiden name is Saunders, I am 75 years old and graduated from Richmond High School in 1945. I am the sister of Stewart Saunders and I grew up in Point Richmond in the 1930's. So many things I have forgotten, but I remember the smells of the plunge, the oil on the beaches and the sour smell and taste of the pickle weed in the flooded spring lots that we crossed on homemade

rafts.

I can also recall the warm smell of hot coffee and homemade cakes the PTA ladies of Washington School shared after their meetings in the auditorium.

Please allow be to join the History Association.

Thanks,
Janis E. Henry
Cupertino, CA



YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND A RECEPTION AND OPENING OF OUR EXHIBIT

LA NOSTRA STORIA

(OUR STORY)

APRIL 13, 2003

2:00 - 4:00 PM

WHICH CELEBRATES AND HONORS THE CONTRIBUTIONS
THE ITALIAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY HAS MADE
TO RICHMOND'S HISTORY

AT THE
RICHMOND MUSEUM OF HISTORY
400 NEVIN AVENUE, RICHMOND
510.235.7387

DEATHS.....



None to report

BIRTHDAYS

April

LOOF LIRPA
Kathy Barnes
Roberta Palfini
Bruce Bartram
Karilu Crain
Dori Freitas
Tara Kaufman
Ruth Wilson
Judy Walz
Paula Israeli

Pam Wilson
Don Amantite
Joel Peterson
Lori Meister
Charlotte Knox
Anna Schwartz
Monica Doherty
Eric Hoiland
William Kretzmer
Melissa Driscoll

Alison Lord
John Maxwell
Sherri Mertle
Taylor Bradshaw
Carol MacDiarmid
Gordon Miller
Rosemary Corbin
Darian Peckham
Robert J.Palfini
Terry Downey

David Bradshaw
Sharon Mertle
Roberta Jenkins Smith
Charline Barni
Cindy Quist
Joni Loux Emerson
Donna Diaz
David Roth

May

Patricia Dornan
Bob Peckham
Diana Corbin
Diana Spinola
Richard Mattuecci
Becky Horn
Jon Doellstedt
Sara Eeles
Lucretia Edwards
Betty Wirth

Vern Doellstedt
Rena Gonsalves
Lyle Fisher
Sandra Loux Fuller
Maurice Doherty
Muriel Clausen
Ruth Beardsley
Nell Brooker
Varsie Lometti
Wini Jones

Douglas Corbin
Julian Smith
Marg Miller
Anne Hanzlik
Shirley Moore
Shoney Gustafson
Winifred Boziki
David MacDiarmid
Jackson Bradshaw
Gene Bielawski

Norm Reynolds
Charles Palenchar
John Knox, Jr.
Diana McIntosh
Dale Huffstetter
Mary L. Roth*
John Granado
Sophia Dolberg
Tonita Avila Granado
Mark Healy

Exclusive - Over 90 Club

An impressive list! And it grows each month!

Mae Mandl
Pina Barbieri
Ruth Wood
Mark Gebhart
Bernard Bernes
Anna Schwarz
Romilda Burress
Jim Kenny

Thelma Hecker Harvey
Jay Vincent
Alice Helseth
Jean Moyle Spiersch
Rena Cairo Gonsalves
Anne Hanzlik
Dulcie Johnson
Lupe Padilla Lopez
Bonnie Kirkman

Kattie Amantite
Ethel Schumacher
Clara Christopher Loux

Now we have an even more exclusive club.

*Welcome to 100 YEAR OLDS:
Have we missed anyone? Let us know.*

CALENDAR

GOLDEN STATE MODEL RAILROAD MUSEUM AND EAST BAY MODEL ENGINEERS SOCIETY

900 Dornan Drive, Miller/Knox Regional Park. Interested in Museum Membership? Museum is open to the public Saturdays and Sundays and July 4th and Labor Day noon to 5 pm. Business Meetings and Workshop on Friday's 7-10 PM. 510-234-4884.

MASQUERS PLAYHOUSE

"Cinderella Waltz" Fridays and Saturdays at 8 pm, March 28 through May 3. Sunday Matinees at 2:30 pm on April 6, 13, and 27. Tickets are \$13, cash check or credit card. Reservations 510-232-4031.

Dinner at the Hotel Mac and "Waltz" on Thursday, May 1st for only \$28. Call 510-232-4031 for reservations.

POINT RICHMOND ASSOCIATION OF MOTHERS (PRAM)

Mondays at 7 PM, Methodist Church, 201 Martina Street. Information on meetings call 273-9959.

POINT RICHMOND BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

Meets 2nd Wednesday each month, Hotel Mac Banquet Room, 12-1:30, Lunch Reservations \$11.
Contact: Paula Aasmus, O.D. 510-235-5228.

POINT RICHMOND COMMUNITY CENTER/FIELD HOUSE & PLUNGE

Info: 233-6881

POINT RICHMOND HISTORY ASSOCIATION

Museum at 139½ Washington Avenue, open Thursday's and Saturday's, 11:30 to 2:00
The deadline for the June/July/August issue of TPIT is Friday May 23, 2003.

POINT RICHMOND NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

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

RICHMOND ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENSE FUND

The REDF is a non-profit corporation dedicated to ensuring that future development here is well-planned, sensitive to the environment and in compliance with city, state and federal laws. Citizen support is encouraged. Further information, call 510-215-6100. General membership public meetings are held monthly. Details of current meetings are available by calling 510-232-0405.

WASHINGTON SCHOOL

Contact: Miss Jones, Secretary 510-232-1436.

WOMEN'S WESTSIDE IMPROVEMENT CLUB

Contact: Anita Christensen, President at 233-3343

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 510-644-1286

or
email: gary@alkos.com

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

139 1/2 Washington Avenue
Point Richmond, CA 94801

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Don Church/Allan Smith	Historic Photos
Jerry Cerkowicz	Proof/Photos
Pam Wilson	Membership Info
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Jean Reynolds	Article
Dee Rosier	Article
Alyce Williamson	Article
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Visit us at our website

PointRichmondHistory.org

Richmond Museum of History 510-235-7387

Red Oak Victory Information 510-235-7387

For Red Oak Project information visit:

<http://www.rosietheriveter.org/>