

THIS POINT....in time

NEWSLETTER

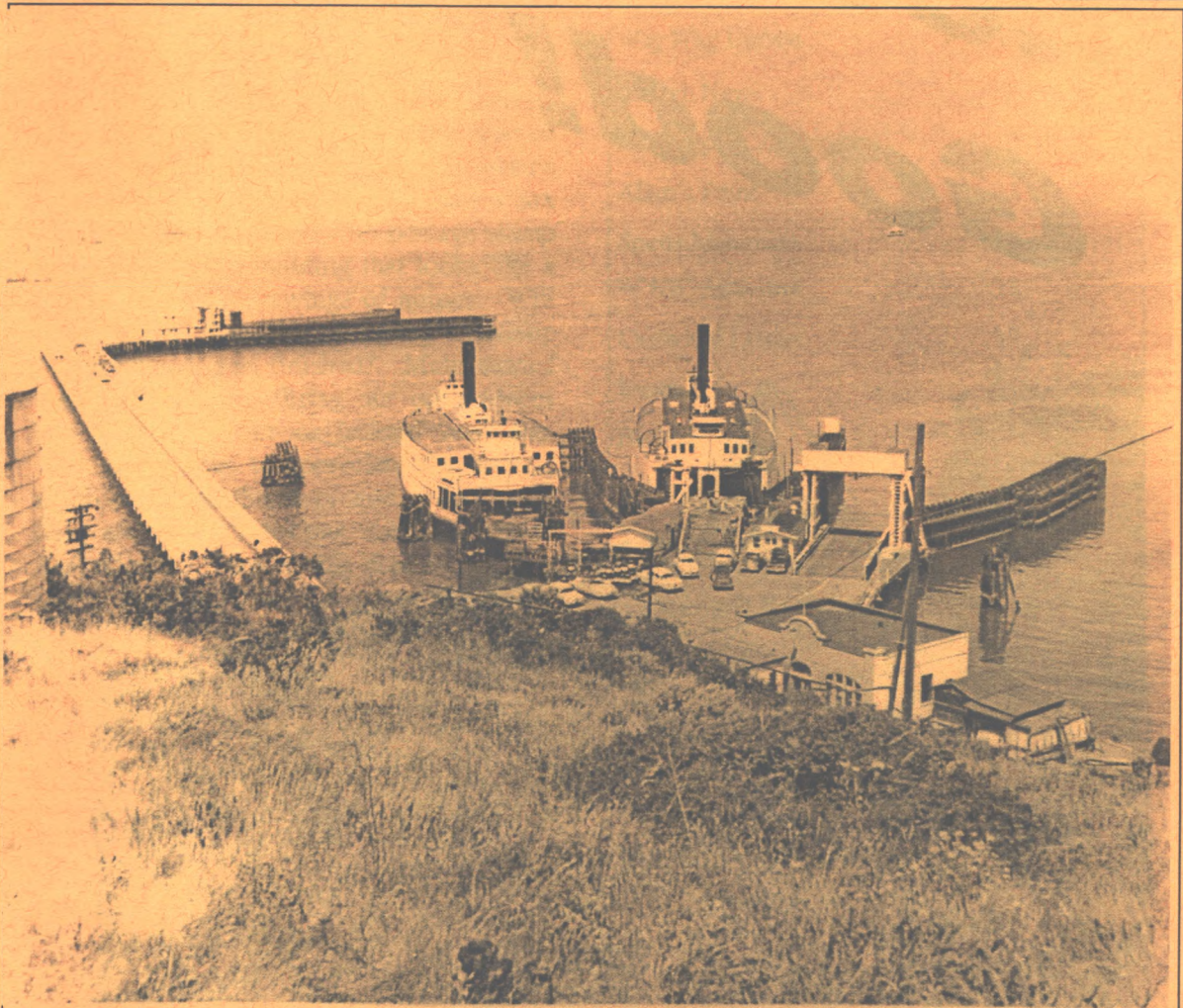
The Point Richmond History Association

www.PointRichmondHistory.org

Vol. XXII No. 2

September/October, 2003

\$1.50



Ferry to Marin

Looking Good!



FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Mid Dornan

Returning and entering the Point neighborhood after being gone several weeks, it was a shock to see the rape of Tewksbury hill! I saw building that seems to start in the core of the earth! I saw a box like four story structure with postage stamp sized windows; a building that looks like a child's first time drawings of houses. Will the design box-like building develop character as it gets finished?. Multi storied condominiums are filling our open spaces and parking is an envisioned headache. Developers need to appreciate the historic significance of this area and reflect it in their architectural designs. Keep the charm that attracted them to this area in the first place. Buildings play an important part in Point Richmond history.

Thank you members for your renewal:

Bruce & Ann Bartram Family
Hazel Tawney
Anita Christiansen
Margaret Morkowski
David & Carol MacDiarmid
Family
Alphonso Diaz
Sparta Chiozza
Karen & Jay Fenton
Stanley & Nancy Toledo Family

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What was the City Planning Department thinking when they approved of this? It's on a two lane street in a residential Historic District.

Allan P. Smith
 Ellen E. Schaefer
 Romulda Burress
 Dody Perry
 Edna Hathaway
 Ilamay Dein
 Pam Wilson
 Linda Newton
 Zoanna Kille
 Augustine G. MacDonald
 Sherri Mertle
 Grace & Jerry Cerkowicz Family
 David & Anne Roth Family
 Phyllis R. Bogue
 June Solosabal
 Louie & Rose Barra
 Doris Silva
 Florence & Jim Wilson Family
 Henry P. Gondola
 Josephene Palenchar
 Dee Rosier
 Mid Dornan
 Mae Mandl
 Bonnie Jo Cullison Family
 June A. Blackburn
 Stewart & Molly Saunders
 Shoney Gustafson

And a warm welcome to the following new member:

Jenny Pearson Fillius
 Eva (Petta) Marchitiello
 Dean A. Smith
 Frank Moscrop
 Norma Wallace

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
 Mohamed & Sheba Warith
 (Point Richmond Market)

History Preservers:

Royce Ong
 Kathe Kiehn

EDITOR'S NOTES

Gary Shows (510-235-1336)

Hope you all enjoyed a very fine summer! Not TOO hot, not TOO foggy and cold (at least not yet as of this writing.

Looking to read news of what is going on in the Point? We have at least three good Point Richmond websites, kept up by local, independent residents, they are all relevant and of excellent quality, check them out, they are:

“Point Richmond Online”, Point Richmond’s Magazine on the Web
(<http://www.pointrichmond.com>)
from Dave Moore

“Talk of the Point”, well written commentary about what’s happenin in the Point.
(<http://www.talkofthepoint.com>)
from Ted Cuzzillo

“My Point”, an interesting twist on the above.
(<http://mypoint.bluehighways.com/>)
from Karen Schnieder.

Any others, let me know, I might make this regular informational spot somewhere in TPIT.

The deadline for the November issue is Friday, October 17, 2003.

The Summer issue assembly crew was:

Jerry Cerkowicz
Gary Shows
Mid Dornan
Bruce Bartram
Ann Bartram

Sonja Darling
Betty Dornan
Bonnie Jo Cullison
Pam Wilson



I am really awed and impressed by the progress on the old Bank Building. Probably be next issues cover, would love to do a story on the trials and tribulations of the beautiful building’s restoration. Also, were there any notable historical finds, and thoughts. If the owner and/or architect or anyone else involved, presents a story to TPIT we will print it!

The Cover:

The Richmond/Marin Ferry shortly before the building of the Richmond/San Rafael Bridge. The start of the bridge is visible in this picture.

A-MID TRIVIA

Mid Dornan (510-234-5334)

Question: Many residents have been hosts to foreign exchange students. Bob and Marie Peckham have been a loyal international host family for many years. How many foreign students have the Peckham's been host to in their home? Answer at end of Trivia

Timmy came home from his first day of school and his mother asked, "Well, what did you learn today?" "Not enough," Timmy replied. "They want me back tomorrow."

Remember when you drove along the major highways and were kept entertained with the Burma Shave signs. Does your husband Misbehave Grunt and grumble Rant and rave Shoot the brute some Burma Shave

After October 1, foreign visitors entering the United States must have an electronically coded passport; a passport that is machine-readable. Previously visitors could visit for up to 90 days without a visa.

Dana Dean, daughter of Point Richmond's Claudia Beale has graduated from John F. Kennedy University Law School. Dana passed her California State Bar Exam and was the valedictorian speaker at her graduating class. Congratulations!

And Claudia's sister Irma Jan Kruse has a grandson who just signed with the New York Mets.

Of the 41.8 million kids under 15 who lived with two parents last year, more than 25 percent had mothers who stayed home, according to a

Census Bureau report. Nearly 10.6 million children were being raised by full-time stay-at-home moms last year, up 13 percent in a little less than a decade. Those children that were in day-care growing up are now becoming mothers themselves, and now they don't want their kids to become day-care children. Children with married mothers who stayed home tended to be less well-off economically than those in two-working-parent families.

John Burroughs tells us we are rooted to the air through our lungs and to the soil through our stomachs.

You may not realize it, but more than 80 million Americans have ties to the military. They've either served or are serving today or they have a family member who wore a uniform.

For most 100th anniversaries, a huge cake with butter cream frosting and loads of candles would be appropriate. For one particular anniversary this year, celebrate with pecan pie. Karo syrup--the thick, sweet elixir essential to the South's favorite holiday pie--was first offered on grocery shelves in 1903 in convenient take-home bottles. Until then, housewives lugged jugs to the grocery store to refill them from large barrels of corn syrup. About 30 million pounds of Karo syrups are sold annually. Happy Anniversary!

Answer: These two Good-Will Ambassadors have touched the lives in an American way to over thirty-seven (37) foreign students.



Chronological History of Brickyard Cove Development

Construction

from Muriel Clausen

- | | | | |
|------|--|-------|--|
| 1965 | Aug., first and second passes at dredging & building levees to contain later dredged fill. | 1976 | Dec. Atlantic Richfield grants fill for Sandpiper Spit |
| 1966 | Sept 6, permit #68820 = 140,000 cu. yds, now fill completed for units 1 & 2 | 1977 | Sept 6, Building permit #89483 issued: Marina ok'd and extend Brickyard Cove Road. |
| 1967 | Feb. 21 163,000 cu. yds fill & 100,000 cu. yds dredged, permit #69732 | 1978 | April 1, Brickyard Cove Marina startup date. |
| 1967 | Lot prices set for residential in #3520 set at \$17,000 to \$24,000. | 1979, | Summer, add new berths to Marina opening in Sept |
| 1970 | Brickyard Cove Road developed. | 1982 | Alls Fare into hexagonal building in Brickyard Cove Marina |
| 1973 | May, apply for 105 boat Marina, harbormaster's office and 2 office buildings | 1983 | Nov. road and utilities completed for subdivision #3637 |
| 1974 | Jan. 2 improvements fully completed. | 1984 | End of year, open Pt. Richmond Properties for lot sales on #3637 |
| 1974 | April, request grading permit for Arco fill | 1988 | Spring: Dredgin of waterways at #3520 |
| 1974 | Temporary "end" to first grading: but allowed permit to remain open. | 2000 | Summer, start construction of two office buildings at 1160 & 1150 |
| 1974 | Nov. first phase unit #3; #3637 approved. | 2002 | Sept, wating list of berths in Marina up to 300. |
| | | 2002 | basement of new buildings have 40 storage units. |
| | | 2002 | Sept., Proposal to add 30 more in-water berths to the Marina. |

Wig Wag Update

Taken from the Neighborhood Council's Minutes

June 25, 2003

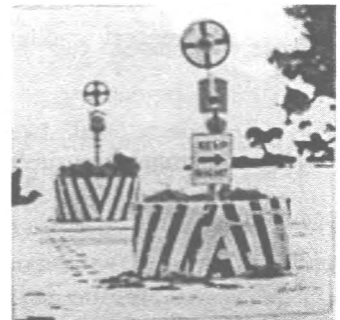
David Dolberg reported that the PUC has ruled in favor of stopping work on the Wig Wag train crossing signals in downtown Point Richmond, and that the railroad, BNSF, is appealing the ruling. A Superior Court ruling found in favor of BNSF, that the City of Richmond had no authority to put the Wig Wags on the Historic Register, and the City of Richmond is appealing that ruling. "So everyone is appealing everything," explained Dolberg. The next expected step is for the Public Utilities Commission to discuss this behind closed doors and "come up with a ruling."

A new point of possible contention was brought up by Richard Fritz regarding a strict PUC "General Order" which might empower the City Attorney to sue the railroad directly for its violation. A vote of the PRNC members present was in favor of asking the City Attorney to look into suing on the basis of General Order 135.

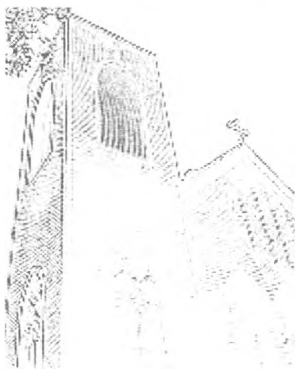
August 27, 2003

Dave Dolberg reported that a meeting between the railroad and the City, an agreement was reached in principle, that the streets in the area of the wig wags be realigned and the wig wags will only be operated for ceremonial purposes. The railroad will put up small crossing arms, and will sell a piece of land near the wig wags at a "reasonable price". He proposed that the existing Wig Wag Fund be used for something else.

Thank you Dave Dolberg for all of your work, it appears that you have done a very good job of preserving the wig wags, but I wonder how "small" is "small crossing arms", I hope the wig wags remain a dominant structure at the intersection and am anxious about the realignment?



CHURCH NEWS



Our Lady of Mercy Church

By Dee Rosier
510-232-1387

Oh days of summer how quickly you came and went, with fall's footsteps near. It will be another year before we hear, "are we there yet?"

Our parish continues in its transition phase with Father Jim Pickett leaving our faith community. Fr. Pickett was on a temporary assignment of three months, but stayed six months - he liked us and we adored him. Fr. Pickett came out of retirement to serve us. While here, attendance increased and parishioners were introduced to new religious events. During one of the Masses he requested all children in attendance join him on the altar. As they surrounded him, he pointed out that they were the future of our church. It was very impressive. He refers to our transition as progression. Prior to his leaving Fr. Pickett served as ship Chaplain on an Alaskan cruise. We have not yet cut the apron string since

he will return periodically and will be genuinely welcomed.

We welcome our new spiritual leader, Father David O'Rourke. He is one of 7 children, 5 being sons and a New Jersey native. He is a graduate of Yale and has been a Dominican Priest for 41 years. He is a prolific writer and has published a number of books as well as journal articles. He is also a California State License Marriage and Family therapist. The awards he has received, boards he has served on, are too numerous to list. He also works in the Cannon Law office of the Diocese. For the past four years he has been involved in restoring Catholic life in Lithuania and the Former USSR. His assignment to our parish was announced after his travel itinerary had been planned. Consequently, there will be periods when he will be away. During this time, we will have visiting Priests and, when his schedule allows, Fr. Pickett. Fr. O'Rourke will reside in the rectory. He recently celebrated a memorable "70th" birthday dining with friends at the French Laundry in Yountville. He refers to his assignment here as "minding the store." There will be instances when a Priest is not available for daily Mass. During these times, Mass will be held as a liturgy of worship without a Priest. With the renewed foundation set by Fr. Pickett, Our Lady of Mercy's future will surely flourish under the liturgical leadership of Fr. O'Rourke.

We are officially a mission parish with direction administered by Fr. Jesus Nieto of St. Marks. What it translates to is that Fr. O'Rourke will preside over the ministry and liturgy, but not burdened with the likes of replacing a roof, etc. This is the second time around that Our Lady of Mercy has been a mission of St. Marks. The last time was during the Depression Years.

Fr. O'Rourke attended one of our parish council meetings and brightened our spirits with his encouraging words regarding the future of our Parish. Emphasis will be directed in increasing membership. The main topic of the last meeting was our annual BBQ. For the last two years, Linda Lanning has excelled as Chairperson and the BBQ was a financial success. This year the BBQ will be chaired by Bob Peckham (not his first time either). With a spirited group to assist him, we look forward to another successful BBQ. At the present time a specific date has not been set since we are trying to coordinate a time when both Frs. Pickett and O'Rourke can be present. I can tell you that it will happen in October on either the first or second Sunday. Chano Forner and John Gerk will be cooking the steaks. In previous years we always depended on Shirley Gerk and Angie Fitzpatrick for the salads, beans, etc. Due to health problems neither will be available so another group chaired by Anne Brussock will try their best to emulate Shirley and Angie. Diane Siegmund will be ticket chairperson. Many other hands are assisting and we welcome volunteers. Future advertising will be visible throughout the Pt. Richmond community. Your presence ensures a success.

Coffee and donuts continue to be served on the first Sunday of each month. We were recently delighted to have Bob Peckham present and he was able to view the enjoyment of his continued generosity.

Congratulations to Sean Siegmund a recent high school graduate. Sean will be attending Chico State, his families Alma Mater. We wish him success as he begins a new chapter in his life and want him to know that we will miss him but look forward to his return visits. The collection basket with his name on it will only be temporarily retired. We also miss seeing his grandmother, Angie Kirkpatrick and wish her well.

Welcome back to Pt. Richmond Linda and Robert Drake. There's no place like home. We also look forward to the times when Amelia Drake joins them for Sunday Mass.

Fr. Pickett celebrated a Memorial Mass for Althea Hellenback. During Althea's illness, she was blessed to have a very capable in-home caregiver. Faye is now caring for Jim Hurley who underwent surgery. Jim is progressing well enough to attend Mass with his caregiver.

Speedy recovery wishes to Al Alcares. Al left church on a recent Sunday feeling ill and before the day was over was undergoing emergency surgery at Brookside Hospital. He has had a few setbacks and coming along slowly. His sister, Vee Garcia has also experienced a recurring illness. Chano Forner is doing well after his heart decided to get out of sync. Theresa Meneghelli recently underwent cataract surgery and is presently adjusting.

Tommy and Lisa Gerk attended Mass along with their new daughter, Alexis. Years ago the Gerk family attended Mass and filled an entire pew. It prompted a call to Shirley on the number of children in the family. John and Shirley had nine children. They have 17 grandchildren and 13 great grandchildren with number 14 on the way. Congratulations. Your are indeed blessed.

There is always a need for additional lay ministers. It is not a difficult task and indeed an honor to assist in the Mass. If you are interested, please call Steve Shaffer (232-1315). By the way, Steve should have been included in the get well paragraph, since he also underwent surgery and is coming along slow, but sure. Steve devotes an enormous amount of his time to Our Lady of Mercy and we need him well. Thank you Steve for all you do for our faith community.

Anna Schwarz hosted several family

members visiting from Germany. Vince Kafka attended a family reunion in Canada and thereafter left on an Alaskan cruise. Stan and Nancy Toledo visited family in Chicago. Edwina and Jack Murray spent some hot days at their summer home. Raquel Martinez, stationed in Italy, was home on leave. She and her mother, Mary took a trip to Las Vegas.

Condolences to former parishioners, Alvin and Rita Esquivel on the recent loss of their grandson in an automobile accident.

The annual Bishops appeal exceeded our assessment, consequently every dollar over it is returned to Our Lady of Mercy.

Was again impressed by the summer youth group at the Masquers. It was a delight to see the end product of three weeks training. Am saddened that my granddaughter, Jennifer, has reached the age where she must retire from the summer program. Will look forward to the time my grandson can attend.

On my return from Calistoga, had a message on the machine from Bob Peckham who informed me that his cancer is now in remission. News such as this should be shared. Way to go Bob!

Watch for the BBQ ads - be looking for you.

Here is a test to find whether your mission on earth is finished - If you are alive, it isn't.

See you in church.



POINT RICHMOND METHODIST CHURCH

by Jean Reynolds

510-235-2988

jeanormr@pacbell.net

During the summer months, we enjoyed two Sunday evening concerts. The first, on June 8, was the Kingston Chamber Players. It featured Fran Tannenbaum-Kaye, Violin I; Adelaide Tolberg, Violin II; Sue Nelson, Viola; Helen Loudon, Cello. They played Haydn and Schumann string quartets. The second concert was Philip Rosheger playing classical guitar on August 24. Philip played some traditional pieces as well as some of his own compositions. It is such a treat to hear classical music performed locally, and the acoustics in the sanctuary make it the perfect place to listen. We are fortunate to have so many talented performers in our community!

Vacation Bible School, July 21-25, was the best ever for numbers of kids, staff, and quantity of fun! One of the highlights was learning some American Sign Language from Ronnie Martinez to help tell the Bible stories another way, especially since some of the students have studied ASL in Pt. Richmond and were anxious to practice it. Jean Womack and Fay Hawkins spent a lot of prep time for our super craft projects. Over twenty adults and youth helped in some way to provide leadership, crafts, snacks, and music, and over twenty morning campers attended. It was great to see so many kids from PRAM families (Pt. Richmond Association of Mothers) this year. We collected over \$320 for Heifer International to send chickens and training to raise them to people who need them.

On June 8, we welcomed new members Dan Colvig and Jim and Susie McCutchen. On June 15 the sanctuary rocked with the Fathers' Day Jazz service featuring the Dan Damon Trio.

Pastor Dan was away from the pulpit several Sundays over the summer. Fran Smith and Claudia LeGué filled in for Annual Conference Sunday on June 22; they gave a summary of their impressions of the Annual Conference proceedings. Patrick Matsikenyri, retired head of the music department at Africa University in Zimbabwe, preached on June 29. He taught us to sing songs in Shona whether we thought we could or not. New member Jim McCutchen took the lead on July 13 and shared his thoughts on King David. Jean Reynolds spoke on July 20 while Pastor Dan was having some tests done. Retired pastor Ray Pitsker was in the pulpit two Sundays in August, while Pastor Dan and wife Eileen Johnson were attending the Hymn Society meeting in Halifax.

Blyth Nelson installed our new Peace Pole at the West Richmond side of the garden. It has the message "May Peace Prevail on Earth" printed on it in four languages. Wendy Nelson put rose quartz in

the concrete at the base of the pole: the love stone. We plan to dedicate the Peace Pole at a special service this fall, perhaps on September 21.

On the Calendar:

September 7: Homecoming Sunday and Sunday School resumes. Sunday School for all ages at 10:00 a.m., worship at 11:00 a.m., and potluck brunch in Friendship Hall after the morning worship followed by dessert in the garden.

September 3: Joyful Noise Choir rehearsal, 7:30 p.m. The choir plans an advent concert in December, and will perform with the Masquers for "Amahl and the Night Visitors." New voices welcome!

September 6: Angel Choir rehearsal, 10:00 a.m. For children and youth who like to sing.



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 62nd installment

Tuesday, March 15, 1927

The meeting of the Social League was held at the home of Mrs. Redman. Mrs. Redman and Mrs. Dicely presiding as hostess for the afternoon.

The meeting was opened by repeating the Lords Prayer. Twently-three members responded to the roll call and there was also one visitor present. Minutes of previous meeting were read and approved. It was suggested that the Secretary keep a list hostesses and date of serving. Plans for Silver Tea were discussed and each member of league privileged to invited three guests. Refreshments to be decided by committee.

Mrs. Oehne appointed on committee to act

with Mrs. Holbrook in the matter of purchasing the Communion Cloth.

Mrs. Oehne and Mrs. Alexander appointed on entertainment committee for next meeting to be held April 5.

Moved and seconded that that the Social League serve a luncheon to the Westside Improvement Club if they be willing to guarantee a definite number. The price of said luncheon to be \$.75. The Committee of (word not legible) namely Mrs. Beulah Jones, Mrs. Schmidt, Mrs. Brothers and Mrs. Dingle appointed by President to work out three menus to be presented to 'Improvement Club ' for consideration.

Mrs. Adams an Mrs. Schmidt made contributions to the "Birthday book". Dues were paid by Mrs. Roland who was welcomed for a new member.

Mrs. Rolund	.60
Mrs. Glennie	.60
Mrs. Brothers	.60
Silver Offering	1.20
	4.80

Previous Balance 24.49

Total 34.29

No further business meeting declared adjourned.

Bess Osborn (Sexy)



"I can 'only give you a dollar on this."

This somehow reminds Allan Smith of one of our local business establishments.

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 usually not corrected here is installment #14.

Gary Shows

BAKERY WAGON DEMOLISHED BY STREET CAR

August 21, 1915

Oakland bound car No. 320 of the San Francisco-Oakland Terminal railways company last evening crashed into a bakery wagon, the property of Chausseur Brothers of 128 Standard avenue, at the corner of Washington and Standard avenues.

The wagon was partially wrecked while the car escaped undamaged.

Motorman H. DeLong was in charge of the street car at the time of the accident.

BIG AUTO TRUCK CAUSES DELAY TO FERRY

September 7, 1915

Fifty motorists returning from up state resorts were forced to halt for nearly two hours at Point San Quentin on Saturday evening when a ten-ton

truck, the property of the Packard Auto and Moving company of Oakland broke the gangplank while moving onto the Richmond-Marin Ferry company's steamer "Ellen".

For several seconds following the snapping of one of the heavy chains holding the gangplank it looked as if the truck with its load of furniture would be precipitated into the bay, but prompt work on the part of deck hands and employees of the company saved the truck and its contents.

Until such time as a new link could be welded into the chain the auto truck and its load of furniture had to be roped to piling on either side of the gangplank.

DRINK-CRAZED MAN TERRORIZES TOWN WITH REVOLVER

November 8, 1915

Partially crazed from liquor, John McDonald, a pipe-fitter at the Standard Oil refinery, residing at 345 Standard avenue, last evening threatened the lives of five men, with a loaded revolver in the bar room of the American hotel, corner of Standard and Washington avenues.

While McDonald was brandishing the revolver about his head and advancing upon his victims whom he had backed into a far corner of the saloon, Policeman Frank Standiford, put in an appearance and after a short battle in which he was forced to beat the drink crazed man into submission, managed to handcuff McDonald and take him to the police station.

The revolver which McDonald had threatened the lives of his victims with on being inspected at the police headquarters was found to have one chamber loaded, while in the others its wielder had stuffed small cardboard cylinders to make them appear loaded.

"CITY GARGABE MAY BE FED TO HOGS ON SHEEP ISLAND", BLAKE

December 2, 1915

Richmond's garbage may go to Sheep Island.

That is, providing L. M. Huffer and I. J. Button, of San Francisco who are starting a hog industry can reach a proper financial agreement with garbage men of this city.

Huffer and Button whose hog raising scheme is thought well of by City Health Commissioner C.R. Blake, intent to start off their new industry with 35 brood shows this week.

A boat has been purchased by the two men which will carry garbage to the island and hogs away from it to the market.

The ground leased on the island by the two men comprises 54 acres, most of which is to be walled in with concrete pens which are to be so arranged that they can be instantly cleansed with a centrifugal pump.

RICHMOND WOMAN RECIEVES BUT SMALL SUM

December 3, 1915

When Martha Partridge of Richmond brought suit against the city, damages in the sum of \$5,000 for what she claimed to be the ruining of her property when Montana avenue was graded in that city, were asked. Judge A. B. McKenzie handed down a judgment Wednesday allowing her \$500, one tenth of the amount asked.

The grading of the street left the Partridge property high and dry on a bluff and because of this fact the owner claimed that her property was materially damaged.

SHH--! PASTORS TO BREAK AID CUSTOM

February 23, 1916

Never in the history of Ladies' Aid society meetings has a man been present.

But this custom is to receive its solar plexus blow Friday afternoon at which time the aid society of the First Methodist church will be the

guests of Rev. P.E. Petersen and Rev. D.W. Calfee.

According to the hosts, one surprise after another is to be sprung on the invited guests and none shall be allowed to remain from the party lest they be fined.

Members of the society are wondering what they day's party will be like.

CLEAR GLASS FRONTS MUST BE INSTALLED IN ALL BARS

January 16, 1917

Ordinance No. 397 which covers the retail liquor business of Richmond was amended by the council last night, calling for clear glass fronts on all saloons within 30 days. The amendment to the ordinance was prepared by City Attorney D.J. Hall upon the favorable report of the council several weeks ago to put glass fronts on all liquor establishments.

Must Submit Plans

Before a saloon owner can go ahead and put in the glass front on his place of business he must first submit plans for the proposed work to the council. No signs, lettering or other objects which will hinder a clear view of the entire bar room will be permitted on the glass fronts.

Chairs in Saloons

Saloons are given the right under the new amendment to place chairs and tables in the main bar room. No saloon will be permitted to have boxes or booths, only one of which be may be installed, this to the owner's private office.

Take it Away

The taking away of any liquor from a saloon under the former ordinance, which could have been regarded a misdemeanor offence, has been changed in the amendment, granting this privilege to persons wishing to buy beer in bulk quantities.

RICHMOND
CALIFORNIA



ALLAN'S POINT

By Allan Smith

The June 1953 graduating class of Richmond Union High School is having their 50th Reunion on September 12, 2003. The following members of that class were from Point Richmond: DICK CUNAN, LOUIS BANDUCCI, CAROL STANLEY, JULIUS MATTEUCCI, JOHN SCHMIDT, PRENTIS SAMPSON, RUSS CHURCH, LYLE CEREMONY, IRWIN CHIOZZA, JERRY STEWART, DON SCHRADER and RICH SMITH. Welcome to the club, you are 'baby boomers'. You all must be approaching your 70's. The only one still living in the Point is Julius Matteucci. How about one of you graduates start writing for this great Point Richmond publication before you start forgetting everything? Remember, you were the ones that transferred to the new Washington Elementary. Also, you were all here when the shipyards were goint 'full blast'. Any recollections? Our editor Gary Shows who puts this 'show' together will welcome any newsworthy contribution. Some has to replace me. For more information about the Reunion contact Rich Smith at 510-232-4615. Do you recall the National Guard that was bivouacked at the old Washington School that you guys had to abandon. How was the double and triple school sessions you had to endure? Where did they get the teachers? So many details that only you know that should be remembered.

I was talking about the "Depression Years" that folks my age went through. Hear this! "I asked my Dad for 5 cents to buy a candy bar (Baffle Bar) from Ardell's Cozy Coffee Counter which unfortunately for the 20 kids that lived on Oregon Avenue was next door. Pa reached into his pocket and pulled out the pocket to show that it was empty, he said to me, "Son, all I have is this Hoover Flag!"

Royce Ong's father worked at the old Eagle Café and for Standard Oil. Royce lives on Golden Gate Avenue next door to Gary and Jerry. He is one of the Head Operators at the San Francisco Trolley Car Museum. We are all welcome to a personal tour.....I am sure. The kids that went to Washington School with Royce Ong remember his first day at school. He ran home!

Royce's aunt was called "The Slave Girl" by the media as she worked at the Standard Oil Cafeteria at the young age of 15.

Loren Smith remembers swimming at the beautiful swimming location called "Long Beach", that was located at the far end of the old brickyard that is now called Brickyard Cove. He remembers swimming with John Kenny before Kenny went to WWII, serving in the Air Force. John Kenny is listed as Missing in Action. The John Kenny marker is now located in front of the "Bath House" Natatorium to some of you and the Richmond Plunge to the rest.

Richmond stole the name "plunge" from the swimming pool in Hayward called the Hayward Plunge.

In the February/March 2002 issue of TPIT, AL BERNES wrote about: "A One Dollar History Lesson". That proved very interesting and I use the information to impress, especially my 10 year old grandson, Julian. The article was to be continued but I never did see the 'rest of the story. *ed: I'll look into that.*

A warning to the natives: Don't go down to revisit "Long Beach", You will cry when you see what is being done to that area. Worse than what was done to the Point Richmond hills by the motorcyclists years ago.

POINT RICHMOND PROGRESS

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HARRY R. BURT, PUBLISHER

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Hubert L. Miller, Circulation Mgr Howard J. Miller, Reporter

GOOD OLD POINT RICHMOND

Someone once said in discussing a certain city which had given away a harbor concession for nothing that that city had given its birthright for a mess of pottage and when the deal was over the city could not even find the pottage.

However that may be, let us in Point Richmond stop occasionally to appreciate the wealth we have here, as a matter of course, in the friendships that our closely-knit community has to offer when we deal with the friends we know. For example, we can drop in at Gust. Allyn's for a pair of shoes; Gordon Perault's for a can of paint; a prescription at Palmateer's; Charlie Ceridono, Tony Mazza, J. E. George, Ed Meurer, or Joe Chasseur for food products. Dupret, the tailor; Marten, the baker; Bernes, the laundryman; Tom Kenny or Joe Matteucci, hotel men; Dr. Lucas is our doctor; Dr. Neilsen, our dentist; Lee Windrem, our lawyer—myriads of friends in the Standard Oil such as, Ed Hall, poet, or John Garvin, baseball fan—everywhere we meet those we know and like. Contrast this with the city-dweller who can count his intimate acquaintances on the fingers of both hands.

Ralph Waldo Emerson says the real friend does not exist; but give us the friendly feeling of a town like Point Richmond—money cannot buy anything like it. Combine that with what R. J. Lavery, S. O. meteorologist calls the finest climate in the world, and we are rich in just LIVING here—all of us—in Good Old Point Richmond.

More on the *Bonecrushers*

Stu Saunders

I always enjoy Allan Smith's articles in the Newsletter. I thought maybe I could give a little more information about Mario Grosso that you might find interesting.

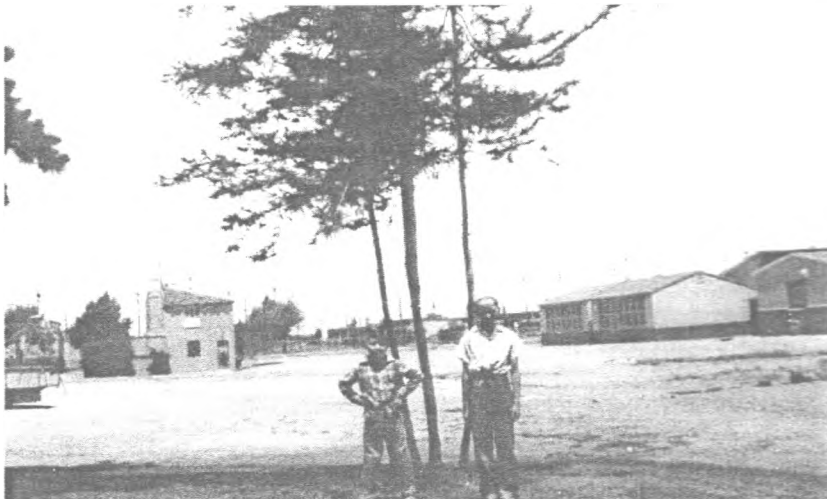
My folks traded regularly at his Liberty Market and he would have our groceries delivered right to our kitchen as we didn't have a car in those days to carry anything home.

When Mr. Grosso heard about the "Bonecrushers", he provided all of us with nice white sweatshirts. They had a very colorful "I G A" logo on the back from the Independent Grocers Assn. My Dad made a stencil where he worked at the Standard and some of the dads got together and stenciled the

fronts of the shirts. From that day on we were the Liberty Market Bonecrushers.

Some of the players, besides myself were Pete Stark, Herb Bill, Donald Bill, Merle Myers, Spiro Cakos. Later, some of the older boys joined the team also. Our main rivals, as you might know were the Lincoln school guys; John DeFabio, Harry Orthman, George Childs and others. The Bonecrushers were named by Swede Janes one afternoon while we all were sitting around after a workout. When some of the older guys joined the team we had some tough games with the San Pablo Boys Club. Earl Kelleghan and Ted Ross were also a couple of the teams best players. A couple of the teams we played in the Remar League were Wrights Pirates, Quality Market, and the Martin All Stars. Most of us by these days, 12 years old or so, had real spikes, and many times we had to walk to our ballgame with our spikes and gloves hung over a bat on our shoulder.

Allan Smith was a few years older, than we were, but I remember that he was one of the best ball players in the Point!



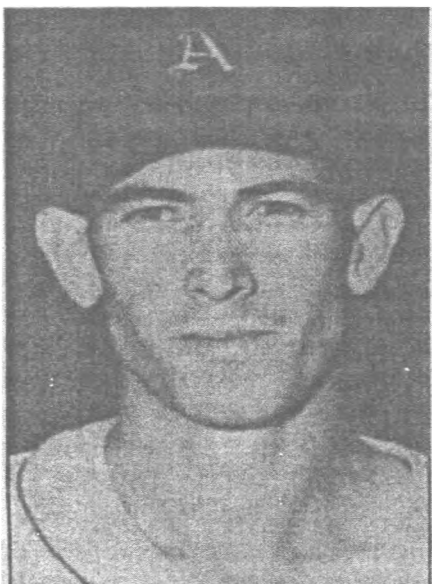
*Semion Burtner and
Jackie Scott.*

*Late 40's or early 50's,
bldg to the left of trees
was a bowl for
performing music in the
park, the stage was made
of wood and had places
in the deck for stage
lights. (note: no chain
link fence around
school's playground.*

SPORTS MEMORIES

By Allan Smith

We all remember Russ Christopher, brother of Loyd, as a very friendly person and was always around the Washington School playground. Russ and Loyd were professional baseball players from Point Richmond. I first remember Russ as a good softball player when the game was very popular in Richmond. It was a high-class softball league with teams from all over the county sponsored by local businesses. Russ played in that fast league. In 1937, his brother Loyd, was signed by the New York Yankees and sent to Wenatche, Washington with the minor league team to play professional baseball. The following spring Russ signed to play ball and was sent to Clovis, New Mexico to play. He won seven of his first starts as a pitcher. Two years later, after winning 16 games in Newark, New Jersey, he was pitching in the major leagues. He played for the Philadelphia Athletics and the Cleveland Indians and with Satchel Paige, the renowned negro pitcher. They combined to help Cleveland earn a trip to the 1948 World Series.



We all knew, as Point Richmond kids, that Russ had a childhood illness that threatened him all during his life. Russ was born during the 1917 deadly influenza epidemic. The disease would weaken his immunity leaving him susceptible to the rheumatic fever that scarred his heart for life. Russ Christopher was voted to be the top choice among starting pitchers in the 1944 All Star Game. In 1954, his heart finally failed and he died at the age of 37. The hard-luck right hander, until the end, continued to say that "he was the luckiest pitcher in baseball."

I wrote in the last issue of TPIT about women athletes, especially Babe Didiksen. Well, I came across the following in a 1933 issue of the Point Richmond Progress, edited by the legendary Point Richmond editor, Harry R. Burt. (I'll have to ask Roscoe Grosso where did Harry Burt live?) The story was about the great Semi-Pro baseball team, the Richmond Produce. (It was the dream of all of us would be pro players to play for Ed Banducci and his highly regarded Richmond Produce team).

"A player named Mr. Hilderbrant hit a home run, scoring Mrs. Hilderbrant ahead of him. Mrs. Hilderbrant plays right field and Mr. Hildebrant plays third base for the Richmond Produce nine. Gloria Hildebrant, famed woman athlete and one of the members of the United States Women's team at the 1932 World Olympics, was a runner up to Babe Didrikson in the baseball throw at the meet. Last Sunday, while playing for the Richmond Produce team, she was up 5 times, drew three walks, scored two runs, had one hit and dandled everything that came her way without an error."

How about that? right here in Richmond at the First Street Ball park.

Early Memories of Point Richmond

by Charlotte Kermabon Birsinger

Not many people remember their Baptism, well I do!

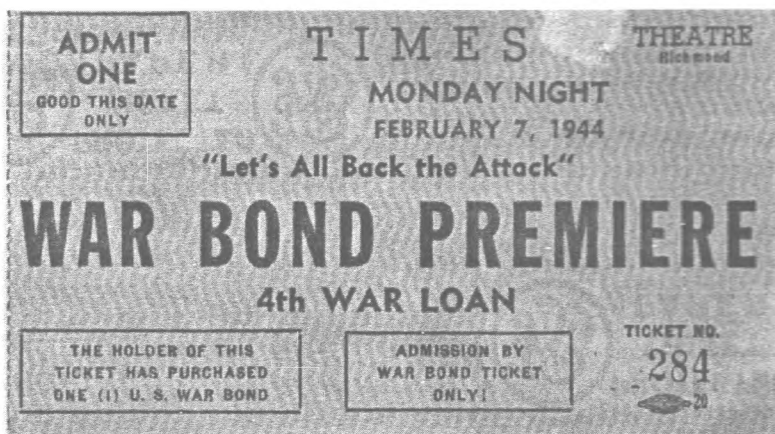
I was born at 19 Oregon Avenue in Point Richmond, California. Our house was between the Smith's and the Stark's. There were only four houses on the block, but there was a total of 23 kids. It was a very busy block.

I was born on November 20, 1916 in the middle of World War I. My mother and father were born in France, so they really were involved in that war. My mother had seven brothers plus her father in the French Army. My father had his two younger brothers (both were killed) in that horrible conflict.

My mother's sister and three of her brothers had lived in Point Richmond before the War, but had returned to France in her hour of need. My mother decided to wait until the War was over, and her siblings were back in Point Richmond, to Baptize her children. By then, there was Paulette, born in 1915, Charlotte (me) from in 1916 and Jeanne, born in 1920. My mother decide to christen the three of us in 1922, I was 6 years old.

We had a black Model T, my father's pride and joy! The relatives all climbed into the Ford, while Paulette and I stood on the 'running board' and hung on as we chugged slowly to Our Lady of Mercy Church. I believe Father Cleary baptized the three of us. Afterwards we went to the local photographer. I think he was located on Park Place, was a bakery and the police station and firehouse. The photographer was named Mr. Snell, and he had a long black beard. I have many pictures in my home, all taken by Mr. Snell.

My mother had a big dinner for all the relatives following the Christening. I raised five children of my, own and had big parties for each one. I think my mother was pretty smart to combine three Christenings into one party, and I do remember every bit of it.



*image
from
Allan
Smith*

WWIC ACTIVITIES

Alyce Williamson

The WWIC met June 3, 2003 at the Point Richmond First Methodist Church to celebrate the last meeting of the 2002-2003 year with a salad luncheon and "Hat Day". Thirty two members and guests were present.

A variety of delicious salads and deserts, brought by members, were enjoyed by all. "Hat Day" meant that each member was to wear a hat of any vintage and tell a story about the hat they were wearing. There was a great variety of beautiful hats and many interesting stories. Anyone not wearing a hat was fined \$1.00. \$5.00 was collected and added to our treasury.

Out going Pres., Anita Christensen, introduced the guests and gave her farewell message. She expressed her gratitude to all members for their help during the year. She wished everyone a peaceful and pleasant

summer. She passed the key to incoming Pres., Margaret Morkowski.

President Margaret Morkowski introduced the officers for the year 2003-2004:

Vice President Wendy Nelson
2nd Vice President Anita Christenson
Secretary Marion Kent
Treasurer Sonya Darling
Corresponding Secretary Alyce Williamson

We have a great slate of officers for the coming year so let us all work together to make this year a success and make our club prosper.

The first meeting for the year 2003-2004 will be Sept. 9, 2003.

See you there! Bring a guest and/or a new member!!

Anita Brougham

From Virginia Mahoney

Anita Brougham reached her 90th year on June 27th. She has shared TPIT with me when I lived in Oakland.

She was born and brought up in Berkeley and went to nurses training at Providence Hospital in Oakland. She was a surgery nurse at Alameda Hospital and volunteered during WWII in the Army. She traveled to Scotland on the Queen Mary and on to England. After D-Day she served in France on the battlefield as a surgical nurse and when the war in Europe was over her division was sent to the Philippines.

When she returned stateside and married George Brougham they lived in the Point for 40 years and raised two sons, Greg and Michael there.

Anita has lived nine years in Santa Cruz at Dominican Oaks Retirement Living. She is near her son Greg and his family who live in Aptos. I thought that her friends would enjoy knowing that she is entertaining her friends here at The Oaks and is keeping us all laughing!

CARDS, LETTERS & E-MAIL

Pam Wilson:

Please renew my membership in "This Point in Time". Check is enclosed.

What a pleasure it was to see so many familiar faces at the recent reunion. These belonged to people who had never before attended a Kids Day. The format was just right for those of us who drive only in daylight hours and there was not a tremendous amount of work for a dedicated few. The necessary planning and executing of the program and eating was well done and I hope not too burdensome. It was a GREAT PARTY.

Thanks to all who made it possible.

Sincerely,

Dephina (Tawney) Franco
Walnut Creek, CA



Dear Pam:

I am happy to renew my TPIT, it is a bright spot in my day when it arrives.

Its fun to read all about the then and now of the Point and I am glad it continues to be active and a great place to live.

As a Point kid it was also a great place to live and grow up, with swimming at Kellers, Cozy Cove and the rock quarry. The brickyard cove used was the skinny dip place. My heart will always

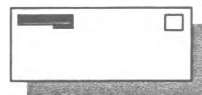
be in the Point.

Keep up the great work you people do to keep the Point newsletter alive for us former kids.

As Always,

June (Kunkel) Blackburn
Bemidji, MN

P.S. The picture in the summer issue of "born in the Point" was great.



Dear Pam:

Tell Allan Smith the three families that lived on the mud flats on Washoe Street were the Downey's (Terry & Tom), Williams (Gordon, Jean, Leroy & Carol), and the Saunders (Stuart). He stated that delivering papers to those three homes was a long way off the beaten path.

Sincerely,

George (Leroy) Williams
Richmond



Dear Pam:

Thank you for the reminder.

You do a great job. Sorry I haven't been able to make the reunions.

Edna (Wickershein) Hathaway
Hanford, CA

Hi Gary,

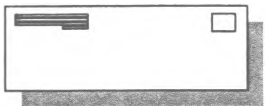
Thanks so much for your great website and all the work you do on "THIS POINT.....in time". I have been a member of the History Assn. for only a little over three years. My sister Janis and I lived in the Point from the middle 1920's to 1939. Why did it take me 60 years to renew all these memories? I so enjoy seeing names and stories from so many of my friends and people I knew from those "KIDS" days. Hi to them all!

Your pictures on pages 2 and 3 of the February/March TPIT especially caught my eye when the story mentioned Bill Dennis. Mr. Dennis was the Dad of Ken and Diana who were good friends of ours as we lived just across the street from them. And next door to Ann Bartram. Mr. Dennis was a neat Dad and good to all of us kids.

The Dennis home is the one on the left in the pictures. It was at the top of Marina St. That hill was pretty steep and we used to spend hours sliding down the hill in our sleds or cardboard boxes. The house our family lived in is the little house just to the left of the tree, 213 Piedmont Place. My mom and dad rented it from Mrs. Burton for 12 dollars a month. A careful eye can pick out the houses too, on your front cover picture.

I have so enjoyed all these early pictures and boy do they bring back many memories to me. Hi to Allan Smith, a ball playing friend of mine. I enjoy his stories in the TPIT too.

Sincerely,
Stu Saunders
Benicia



Dear Mid Dornan:

My wife Patti, son Jared and 7 month old daughter Stephanie live here in Point Richmond at 367 Western Drive. We moved here just over two years ago, and hope to spend our remaining years here, we love our home and the Point.

When we purchased our house, we were told that it had some historical significance in that it was among the first, it not the first home built on the bay side of the hill. We do know that it was the Chiles residence for much of the time, and someone mentioned to me that it was the Bradley residence before that.

I have searched all the photo albums at the museum, but there are only a very few photos from the bay side of the hill.

A few days ago, a mysterious package appeared on our doorstep, it contained dozens of photos of our property, from its earliest days to the mid 1980's. The package and letter was signed "M. Love", but we don't know who it is.

I have enclosed some poor Xerox copies of just a few of the old prints. I have put notes next to some of them. I would be very happy to share all the photos and would love to know if the History Association or any of your readers knows anything more than we do about our home, the Bradley or Chiles Families, etc.

Best Wishes,
Stephen Kowalski
Point Richmond
510-215-8005

P.S. I recently rented the old "Bradley Automotive Shop" at W. Richmond & Tunnel. It will be my off-site workshop. I would love any information you might have on this building as well.

P.P.S.S. I love TPIT, I buy it as soon as it is out.

Men Women **WANTED** Boys Girls

A Splendid Opportunity to Make Some Money

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"A Friendly Newspaper That Dares to Tell the Truth"

We are Now over Four Months Old and Subscriptions
are coming in voluntarily. So that earnest workers are
assured a Good Commission from the time you start.

Circulation Manager

140 WASHINGTON AVENUE

Point Richmond, California

DEATHS.....

None to report



BIRTHDAYS

September

Susan Armstrong
Marie Peckham
Ivar Elle
Daniel Butt
Sara Warren Smith
Joann Busby
Emily Anne Barnes
Al Frosini

Frank Christopher
Linda Newton
Roberta Wilson
Bernard Dietz
Stephen Berman
Ingvar Elle
Gayle Kaufman
Roxanne Trudeau

John Hadreas
David Reynolds
Donna Roselius
John T. Knox
Jerry Cerkowicz
Kenneth Dolan
Theresa Daniel
Jan Feagley

June Kunkle Blackburn
Lorin Buhler
Nadia Warith
Sofia Warith
Isosbel Shaw
Aubrey Lee Rentfro

October

Terry Wynne
Kate Lord
Florence Wilson
Liz McDonald
Jean Moyle Spiersch
Maria Shaw
Marguerite Clutts
Linda Pereira
Rosy Roselius

Timothy Doherty
Jodi Bagley
Jeff Ward
Justin Kaufman
Todd Cort
McKinley Bradshaw
Marian Tedrick
Brian Tedrick
Nathan Berman

Rich Weirick
Charlie Dutrow
Chris Ward
Helen Frosini
Chad Feagley
Isobel 'Boo' Shaw
Jerry Daniel
Grace Cerkowicz
*Otto Barni

Nellie Bisio Pasquini
Jerry Daniel
Betty Glass Marshall
Maria Inchauste Smith
Abigail Munoz Rivera
Toni Cannizzaro
Jan Burdick
Leo Matteucci

Exclusive - Over 90 Club

An impressive list! And it grows each month!

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

Thelma Hecker Harvey
Jay Vincent
Alice Helseth
Jean Moyle Spiersch
Rena Cairo Gonsalves
Ann Hanzlik
Dulcie Johnson
Lupe Padilla Lopez
Anita Brougham
Goldie Mobley
Ethel Schumacher

*(have we missed anyone?
Let us know.)*

*Now we have an even more
exclusive club.*

100 YEAR OLD

Bonnie Kirkman

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

Quality productions, Fridays and Saturdays at 8 pm, Sunday Matinees at 2:30 pm. Tickets are \$13, cash check or credit card. Reservations and program, 510-232-4031.

Dinner at the Hotel Mac on Thursday, for only \$28. Call 510-232-4031 for reservations and programs.

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 November issue of TPIT is Friday October 17, 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:

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Point Richmond, CA 94801

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Allan Smith, Historian

Main Contributors to this Issue:

Gary Shows	Editor
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Don Church/Allan Smith	Historic Photos
Jerry Cerkowicz	Proof/Photos
Pam Wilson	Membership Info
Allan Smith	Articles/photos
Jean Reynolds	Article
Dee Rosier	Article
Alyce Williamson	Article
Muriel Clausen	Article
PRNC	Information
Charlotte Kermabon	Article
Virginia Machoney	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/>