# THIS POINT....in time

The Point Richmond History Association

www.PointRichmondHistory.org

Vol. XXXII No. 4

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\$3.00





"Pt. Richmond, Calif., The circus parade coming along Washington Avenue about 1912. Ringling Brother and Barnum Bailey used to occupy the field across from Santa Fe depot whenever their circus came to town. They always had a parade to get people interested in attending the show performance (The Atchison Village located on site now) Property of Gladyes and Henry OHara"

PRHA photo archive #0937, donated by Henry O'Hara

# From the President

## By Mid Dornan

Valentines just aren't the same. Over the years, things have changed. Do Elementary School children still make classroom Valentine Boxes covered with red, pink or white construction paper, topped with hearts, flowers, cupids and laces? Do they hand make their valentines? Valentines absolutely, positively, without fail had to have hearts. Is the old reliable, standard verse still used, or has the 1980s version been altered such as:

Roses are red: Violets are blue. I don't loan my BMW to just anyone. But I'll make an exception for you.

"Be My Valentine" no longer says it all. Yes, the standard phrase has changed a bit. Saint

Valentine's Day is often a day for a suitor to make a marriage Now the words of proposal. endearment coming from the lips of young people are more along the lines of "Would you be interested in starting relationship with no strings attached?" Sending a bouquet of flowers is still more romantic, as are fine chocolates. May all of vou receive your share of hearts and flowers!

Do you have old valentines you would share for our museum or what are your favorite Valentine memories?

114 Washington Avenue, PRHA Archive Photo #0923 from Allan Smith

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Thank you members for your renewal:

William A. Smith Family Rovce Ong\*\* Virginia W. Smith Stephanie Pearson & David Allred **Family** Wilson & Sonnie Gandola Family Tom Piazza & Mary Crosby\*\* Mitzi Kruse Jav & Karen Fenton Family Dee Rosier Marcelina B. Smith Velma Healy **Judy Buhlis** John A. Thiella & Rosa T. Casazza\*\* **Gary Massey** Lydia D. Jahromi Family **Betty Menzie** Marc Bisio Zoanna Kille **Madeline Albright Darlene Wright Connie Tritt, CPA Bruce & Sandra Bevaert Family** Martha Bielawski **Margaret Doherty** 

A warm welcome to new member:

Jill & Frank Wabiszewski Family Jean Gallant Thomas R. Williams \*Gift Membership

\*\*Special Supporter, *Thank You!* 



Thank You!

Santa Fe Market

Point Richmond Market

For selling "THIS POINT....in time"

Please support our local retailers

Museum Hours:
Open Thursdays and Saturdays
11:30 am-2:00 pm

Thanks to the Volunteers who open and close our museum two days each week Pat Pearson Mid Dornan Bonnie Jo Cullison Heinz Lankford Susan Brooks Gary Shows



## The Cover:

Our little museum building downtown on Washington Avenue.

## Editor's Notes

## Gary Shows gary@alkos.com

Another issue done! Thanks to all of our contributors for the good work and timely reporting.

Happily as I am writing this and finishing up this issue, it is finally RAINING! Hooray for that!

Drop by and visit with me at the museum, I am currently acting as docent on the second Saturday of each month. It is a tough job, but somebody has to do it:).

I have recently added a number of historic pictures to our photo archives. Watch our website for a new way of displaying them., www.pointrichmondhistory.org. You can also read previous issues of "THIS POINT....in time as a PDF file on the website.

The next issue will be April/May and the deadline for articles and items for the next issue is March 28, 2014

Thanks to the volunteers at our last mailing party at Mid's beautiful new home:

Mid Dornan Jerry Cerkanowicz Gary Shows Heinz Lankford Bonnie Jo Cullison Pam Wilson Marcelina Smith

## They told me I had Type A blood, but it was a Typo O

## 7hank You! Our Special Supporters!

## History Makers

Doug & Rosemary Corbin
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## A-Mid Trivia

## Mid Dornan (510-234-5334)

QUESTION: What is the only part of your body that will not heal itself? ANSWER at end of Trivia

\*\*\*

When the New Year began many local residents were unaware of the ban on the use of single plastic bags as Richmond became the first city in Contra Costa to ban them for environmental reasons. If you don't provide your own bags merchants are required to offer for a  $5\phi$  fee paper bags that will increase to  $10\phi$  in two years per the ordinance. The average Californian uses an estimated 400 plastic bags of the 3.8 BILLION bags a year which about 1 Million end up in the Bay.

\*\*\*

The calendar tells us in the Northern Hemisphere, the midpoint of the winter season occurs on February 3 meaning Winter is half over. On the West Coast the weather tells us it never began!

\*\*\*

Mailing a letter has just gotten a little more expensive as Regulators approved a temporary price hike of 3 cents for a first-class stamp, bringing the charge to 49 cents a letter in an effort to help the Postal Service recover the \$28 billion in losses. A lot of people, with the exception of packages, really don't use snail mail anymore so this will have little impact on their pocketbook.

\*\*\*

1% is the percentage of American children who save their allowance money—totaling \$780 per year, on average.

\*\*\*

Up and Under sponsored the Youth Richmond Rugby Team which took first place in the Bay Area Tournament. Great job Washington Elementary Champions!

\*\*\*

The holiday season may be in the past but highlights and memories remain. After opening to a knock on my door a group of special neighborhood kids (plus a few adults and dogs) began caroling! What a treat! And, my Mississippi daughter and granddaughter were here to listen too after which we were all invited to join as they continued in the neighborhood to carol. Neighbors being Neighbors. How special.

\*\*\*

Visitors from Washington D.C., Oxford, Mississippi, Walla Walla, Washington, Santa Barbara, and Irvine, California was a first and made the family complete for the joyful celebration of Christmas at 220 Bishop Alley.

\*\*\*

The Richmond Art & Culture Commission has awarded a grant of \$4000 to Washington Elementary School to provide a music program that gives students hands-on music experiences with professional musicians and a look into the possibility of music as a profession. Kit Eakle and Connie Calderon are the professionals providing their talents.

\*\*\*

Attending funeral services in Willetts for Beverly Price, former Point Resident, were Carol, Lynn and Marilyn Darling, Pleasant Hill, and Barbara Martin from the Point

\*\*\*

Want to know when to purchase something and save a little money? Price tags at some bigbox stores have secret pricing codes revealed by employees and shopaholics. Final markdown prices end with a 4 at Target, 6 at Home Depot, 7 at the Gap and Old Navy and 88 at Sears. Look for the letter F at price tags at Staples

\*\*\*

Supporting local merchants keeps the providing services close, adds jobs, and helps the environment as you save gas and time. We

welcome new businesses. Kristina's Nail Spa opened in December at 145 West Richmond Avenue across from the Fire Department. Look for a new business to open on Tewksbury in February.

\*\*\*

Les and Sandi Hathaway, Jackson, CA, are spending a week end in the Point visiting old haunts, old friends and attending the Methodist Church which he joined in 1960. Also, a good chance they will visit the museum to see the slideshow of films.

\*\*\*

Mr. and Mrs. Condiotti has generously donated and had tuned a piano to the children's playhouse at PRAM.

\*\*\*

Stressed over the loss of my stolen purse, a phone call eased the tension and brought reality. While discussing the contents of the purse which included my check book I was told, "Mom, don't worry about your check book. Young people don't use checks anymore. In fact, I doubt if they even know how to write one." Ah, the technical world.

Tammara Plankers is to be honored as the

"2014 Sweetheart" at the San Pablo Yacht Club on March 7. sponsored by the Point First United Methodist Church. Active many years in the Masquers Theater, Tammara recently directed the children's Angel Choir performances in December. Reservations are required. For reservations call Fran Smith at 510-685-2338.

\*\*\*

The Winter Olympics, which kick off in Sochi, Russia, on Feb. 7, will take place under a cloud of controversy. Russian President Vladmir Putin is determined to make Sochi a huge success and has deployed more than 30,000 police and interior ministry troops in Sochi. The Olympics is a time to watch incredible athletes display unbelievable talents that entertain the viewers and new high technology makes viewing even more spectacular. Let the games reflect Harmony among all nations! Go USA!

\*\*\*

"Kindness is the language the blind can see and the deaf can hear.".....Mark Twain

\*\*\*

ANSWER: YOUR TOOTH!.



100 block of West Richmond Avenue

PRHA Archive Photo #0941

## Church News



By Dee Rosier 510-232-1387 drosier@sbcglobal.net

Welcome 2014, Year of the Horse – May it bring you good health, happiness and many blessings.

Christmas 2013 is now in the past. Prior to Christmas a group, chaired by Javier Lopez cleaned and decorated the church until it glowed for Christmas Eve Mass. Our gift was the presence of Elizabeth Hertzberg and her lovely voice. She was home for Christmas from Milan where she is studying voice. She took our breaths away with her soprano voice, while being accompanied by outstanding musicians, including Javier Lopez on the trumpet, and our cellist Pawel. It was such a spectacular evening that it was filmed and recorded.

Good shepherds, Nancy and Stanley Toledo annually chair the Giving Tree. They set the tree up with the star wishes and later deliver the requests to Children's Hospital. The stars went quickly this year and parishioners were extremely generous. Thanks and blessings to Nancy and Stan who continue to chair the event.

Volunteers are being sought to participate in forming a Parish Historical Society, whose responsibility would be collecting stories, photographs and artifacts.

A new heating system has been installed. As expected there is always an issue, which meant dedicated electrical lines to support it. The church

was built before electricity, consequently the original lighting was gas. Thanks is extended to Michael Workman who was the project foreman as well as Martin Lopez who shared his electrical expertise. Parishioners no longer need to bring their blankets to ward off the cold on the pews. Donations to defray the cost have been generous.

Father has had several sick days during the past year and highly recommends recovery in Kauai. During his absence Fr. Kwame fills in and delights us with his homilies.

We have enjoyed several of Father's sketches as bulletin covers. While running a recent batch, the copy machine ran out of ink, but there is always an alternative method to get the job done. Father discover the copy center at the Cathedral could do the copying for us – good to know!

Watch for notice of the pancake breakfast soon returning. A thank you to Susan Brooks who has chaired the event from inception. Unfortunately she is stepping aside after a job well done. Volunteers are sought.

It has been a delight to enjoy the very young children present the gifts during Mass. If your child would like to be, included, please let us know.

Our cellist, Pawel's Oakland apartment was burglarized and the expensive cello made to his order in Poland, as well as the gift of another were both stolen. At present, he is renting one and there are no leads as to the recovery of his.

Our support of the Souper Kitchen continues, but during the season of sharing, we collected \$750 which was donated to Meals on Wheels.

The Daytime Bible Study Group continues to meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday in the church hall at 1PM – all are welcome.

New and better lighting has been installed along the handicapped ramp. It will also enhance the safety by providing light between the paths and buildings. Also planned are additional exterior lights in front of the church.

The visible side of the shingles are complete,

adding to the beauty of the rectory and its craftsman beauty.

Donation envelopes for 2014 are available in the entryway. Parishioners using envelopes may pick up their assigned envelope boxes. New users may register on the parish registration form, indicating the desire to use the system. Include your name and full address, and a box with your name and assigned number will be provided.

For some strange reason there are two electrical panels without much rhyme or reason and an imbalance of draws on the different lines. For safety reasons, a single up-to-date panel with a balanced distribution of electrical sources will replace one.

Several parishioners joined to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> birthday of Javier Lopez – welcome to AARP!

Jack Murray continues to receive hospice care in his home. It was indeed a delight to see Edwina attend a parish council meeting as well as Sunday Mass.

It seems as though not too long ago we welcomed a new little boy to the Duff family on Idaho Street. His crown is now shared with Adrian Chandler, born in November. He is the son of Noah and Susie.

What better way to celebrate your third birthday than to also be baptized – welcome to the Christian world, my little girl friend Tyler Trivers.

Visiting from Houston, Texas for the holidays were Linda and Rick Duste. Our old friends continue to visit when in the area.

Cynthia Young enjoyed the holidays with her daughter Christine and family in the Caribbean.

Get well wishes to Michael McKinley who had surgery and then an infection. He is presently recuperating at home.

The mystery continues on the letter mailed June 1946 and recently received by a neighbor.

There are many assumptions.

David Vincent and Santa passed out candy canes to Up/Under customers on the annual tree lighting night, then pulled up a stool at the bar and had a beer – ONLY IN PT. RICHMOND!

Happy Birthday grandson Griffin – also get well wishes after hand surgery.

Condolences to the family of Margie Agostini. Margie was one of the original Pt. Richmond Walkers.

At one time there were at least 20 walkers and they enjoyed many social occasions. Last year we also recognized the deaths of Barney Dietz and Harris Levine. The group dwindles.

Condolences to the family of Marguerite Clutts who was also a member of the Pt. Richmond Walkers

Condolences to the family of Al Frosini. What can one say about Al Frosini - he was unique and one was gifted to have known him. He may not have remembered your name, but a honey or a dear would always suffice. Condolences are also extended Al's niece, Diane, whose husband Don Diani recently died – another very special person.

A new traffic sign was posted on the corner of Idaho and E. Richmond which in neon colors, visually points to a crosswalk at that intersection. Don't assume that drivers obey the sign as they drive down E. Richmond at freeway speeds. Keep your eyes open because they will not stop for you.

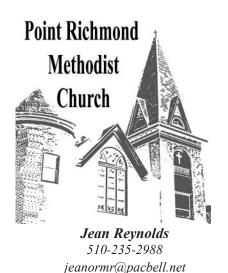
Continue to remember in your prayers: Bill Smith, John Gerk, Dixie and Frank Mello, Jack Murray and Gino Martinucci.

TRY TO BE A RAINBOW IN SOMEONE ELSES CLOUD

SEE YOU IN CHURCHP



## How do you make holy water? Boil the hell out of it.



Point Methodist News - - February 2014 Jean Reynolds reporting (510-734-3942, sweetheart05@mac.com)

**Thanksgiving** – It was a warm afternoon: some diners preferred to enjoy their tempting turkey dinner at tables in the back yard. Culinary experts Tinna Manansala and Paul Garnett, talented Shirley Ramirez and many other volunteers whipped up a gourmet feast in the church kitchen. We served about 200 meals. Pastor Dan, Eileen Johnson and Tom Belton played live music from their side stage. In the weeks before, Tom Baynes spoke with businesses to ask for donations. Bill Thompson and Jonathan Swett re-tweaked the Wolf stove; they could make stove repair a profession now. Kristi and Russ Johnson picked up donated food. Doreen Leighton, Tom Baynes, Kristi Johnson, and Yulia Solovieva decorated the hall. Bill and Diane Gutierrez, Nick Pollutro, Norman, Jackie, Mike and Jane Carnall, Mim Drake, Deborah Doctor, Julio Osegueda, Manuel Navidad, Camille Garnett, Kit Eakle, Peggy Geary, Jane Farkas, Sam, Charlotte Johnson, Eric Dauden, Lisa Laigo, Asia, Selah, Kiani and Ella served and/or prepared food. Pie bakers included Matt Foster, Pat Pearson, Molly Smith, Mark Ellis, Linda Andrew Marshall, Diane Frary, Fran Smith and Jean Reynolds. Continuous cleanup by Steve Shank, Mark the bike mechanic, Kathe Kiehn, and Heinz Lankford allowed us all to go home earlier than ever. Mark Ellis, Logan Ellis, Karen Bianchini, and Jean Reynolds helped with take down. Fran Smith coordinated the numerous volunteers, set-up crew, cleanup, and donations. We all marvel at Fran's organizing skills and grace!

Thanks to our generous donors: Aky's Café, El Cerrito Natural Food Grocery, Spot Liquors, Smith Office Solutions, Hotel Mac, Pikhana Brazilian Restaurant, Little Louie's, Starbucks, Point Richmond Market, Salute E Vita Ristorante, and Santa Fe Market. Thanks to the volunteers whose time and cheerful effort made the day a success!

Bake Sale – December 21. All of the bakers outdid themselves this year! Paul Garnett and Tinna Manansala made a yule log confection of unbelievable detail. We offered pepper jelly, rocky road candy, fudge, cakes, cookies, sweet rolls and pies. Pat Pearson and Mary Simmons must have made *everything* in their "most delicious recipe" file! Molly Smith made flan. Pat Dornan did her wrapping magic. We sold lots of handmade crafts, jewelry, and knit items on the side table, too. I hope we helped make everyone's holidays a little sweeter and homier!

Christmas Pageant – Tammara Plankers directed a Pageant on December 22, with talent she recruited from the Masquers, our wider community of children, and the Joyful Noise choir. The pageant was performed at 11:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m., with more carols in the evening. The Angel Choir (Aubrey Herrera, MaryAlice Cropsey, Cecilia Butt, Hazel Brubaker, Riley Landon, Sadie Cosby, Skyler Rouse, Mia Thorp and Zoe Thorp) met for two months on Sunday mornings to rehearse with Alice Thompson and Tammara. Robert Love, Anna Smith, Peter Budinger, Kyle Johnson, Gill Stanfield, LaMont Ridgell, DC Scarpelli, Alice Thompson, Norm Reynolds, and Jean Reynolds rounded out the cast. Pastor Dan directed the music. Bill Thompson gave technical support. Costumes, music, earnest actors, and a timeless story made for a memorable program.

Christmas Eve Jazz – The Dan Damon Quartet backed soloists and the congregation as we shared songs to reflect the spirit of the season. It was a poignant evening for Kurt Ribak, recently healed from his latest surgery and reunited with "Blondie", his sonorous upright bass. Lincoln Adler sizzled on sax and Randy Odell synchronized our heartbeats with his drums. Soloists included Dave Tattershall, Paula Helene, Sara Pollutro, Gill Stanfield, Sheilani Alix, Bethany Reynolds, and Heather Damon. Manuel Navidad and Liam Thompson each read a version of the Christmas story, and the Angel Choir angels sang the first verse of "Silent Night".

Our church community donated disposable diapers, wipes, clothing, crocheted hats and other items to the Early Childhood Mental Health Program in Richmond on Macdonald Ave. We plan to offer continued support to their clients.

Helen Wysham delivered baskets of socks we collected for the Rescue Mission in December. They were grateful to be able to supply people with warm socks in the wintry weather.

A generous donor supplied a new door to Friendship Hall! We appreciate the beauty and functionality of its metal casing, safety glass, and double hung window.

## On the Calendar:

"Cracking the Codes: The System of Racial Inequity" Saturday, February 22, 1:00- 4:00 p.m. About 80 people viewed and discussed this insightful film by Shakti Butler at the church December 7. View it FREE in February hosted by WriterCoach Connection and the United Methodist Women. Questions? Contact Doreen Leighton, d3leighton@icloud.com or 510-316-9238. To learn more about the film: http://crackingthecodes.org

Acoustic Concert Series, Friday, February 14, 8:00 p.m.: Singer Songwriter Claudia Russell and Acoustic Concert Series organizer Bruce Kaplan perform on guitar and mandolin. Tickets are \$18.

See details at the website: www.pointacoustic.org http://www.pointacoustic.org/Point\_Richmond\_Music/Point\_Richmond\_Acoustic.html

Concert: Fiddle Jazz presents Jeremy Cohen and his ViolinJazz Quartet San Francisco Feb. 28, 2014, 7:30 p.m. Tickets are available at the door (\$20) or in advance online (\$15) http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/567774 See and hear the performers on their website http://quartetsanfrancisco.com.

Program for Lent, Monday, March 10, 6:30 p.m.: Call to Prayer and Self Denial service and supper. The women of Open Door United Methodist Church will host. Open Door UMC is located at 6226 Arlington Blvd., Richmond, between Solano Ave. and Tulare Ave. Take Patterson Circle to find parking on the church grounds. Easter Hill UMC presents the program to celebrate United Methodist mission projects such as community centers, domestic violence and homeless shelters, children's homes, schools, colleges and universities. All of the offering collected will help expand and green those facilities. Everyone is invited to participate, reflect and share.

Sweetheart Dinner: On Friday, March 7, a grand dinner and program will honor Tammara Plankers as our 2014 Sweetheart of the Year. Tammara, a member of the Masquers, has been a costumer, director, and actor for local theater productions. She conceived and directed the Christmas Pageant the past two years, incorporating actors from the Masquers, Angel Choir, and Joyful Noise Choir. Attend for \$45 and enjoy a sit-down dinner and program at the Point San Pablo Yacht Club, 700 W. Cutting Blvd. near Canal Street in Point Richmond. Stories and songs about Tammara are sure to entertain! The event is a benefit for the church. Contact Fran Smith, junosmith@aol.com, or phone: 510-685-2338.

**Program for Lent,** Monday, March 10, 6:30 p.m.: Call to Prayer and Self Denial service and supper. The women of Open Door United Methodist Church will host. Open Door UMC is located at 6226 Arlington Blvd., Richmond, between Solano

Ave. and Tulare Ave. Take Patterson Circle to find parking on the church grounds. Easter Hill UMC presents the program to celebrate United Methodist mission projects such as community centers, domestic violence and homeless shelters, children's homes, schools, colleges and universities. All donations collected will help expand and green those facilities. Everyone is invited to participate, reflect and share.

Easter Sunday, April 20, 2014: We will celebrate all morning, so people can join for their favorite parts. "Sunrise" Worship in the garden, 8:00 a.m.; Breakfast, 9:00 a.m.; Sunday school for all ages, 10:00 a.m.; Formal worship in the sanctuary, 11:00 a.m.; Easter Egg hunt for elementary ages and below at approx. 12:15 p.m. Special music is guaranteed at both services. Walk the labyrinth in the garden at 8:00 a.m. or later on your own.

For updates to the calendar or just for fun, see the new church website: http://www.pointrichmondmethodist.org



The deadline for nominations for Richmond's 2014 Historic Preservation Awards is March 29, 2014.

The award ceremony will be Monday, May 12th, 5:30 in the City Council Chambers, followed by a Reception at the Richmond Art Center.

For more information go to: www.ci.richmond.ca.us/preservationaward

## WESTERN DRIVE IS NEW STREET NAME

Western Drive—a name made ropular by the German army was last evening selected by the city council as the new title for Ocean boulevard on the west side.

The "drive" part of the title was decided upon after definitions had been made as to just what a street, avenue, boulevard and drive really were.

## **BRIEFS**

For the assurance and comfort of the water consumers of the city, Health Commissioner Blake states that the water at present being distributed by the company is microscopically examined twice each week by an expert in the offices of the company in Oakland to discover the presence of injurious elements. A recent analysis shows that while the water is very muddy, and at times makes one think he is drawing buttermilk from the faucet, it is absolutely free and clear from all disease-spreading bacteria. It looks bad enough but the doctor states that if is the things not seen which do the mischief. It is a case of shutting a your eyes and enjoying it.

## 11-16-1911

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In Richmond, should a man choose to paint the town red, he will have occasion to smear and dabble with a deeper red, on the walls of the city bastile. The jail is at present undergoing its quarterly change of color, and as a saving of labor cost, Chief of Police Arnold is having the work done at the hands of the inebriates who come to stay over a few days.

Don Church
collected
thousands of
newspaper
clippings! These
are Richmond
Daily
Independent
articles. These
are between 1911
and 1917

# RANTULA BITES MAN AND THEN DIES

Joe Wolf, the popular young clerk Stiefvater's Big Store, was bitten a huge tarantula yesterday afteron while unjacking a crate of nanas. Wolf had unpacked the te and was lifting the bunch of and fruit out when of a sudden tarantula jumped out and fixed claws in the fleshy part of Wolf's name of the sudden claws in the fleshy part of Wolf's name of the sudden claws in the fleshy part of Wolf's name of the sudden claws in the fleshy part of Wolf's name of the sudden claws in the fleshy part of Wolf's name of the sudden claws in the sudden cl

Wolf, in his excitement to get ay from the tarantula, fell into a of ripe tomatoes, and as a sorryking sight when placed on his t by several of the clerks.

t is said the bug died as a result biting Wolf.

## SHACKS MUST GO ON WEST SIDE BUSINESS DISTRICT IS DEMAND

West side property owners are waging a campaign against ramshackle buildings in that section of the city and have asked the city council to assist them in their city beautiful plans by prohibiting buildings being erected in the future.

A communication signed by Mrs. W. S. Runyon, Mrs. Ambroe Whitcomb and Mrs. Rose H. Curry to

the council last evening asked that old buildings on property owned by J. J. Davis, Dr. C. L. Abbott and Frank Carlson be condemned. The buildings are located on Richmond avenue between Washington and Santa Fe avenues in a portion of the west side business district.

City Health Officer C. R. Blake also recommended that the buildings he torn down. 3-27-17

# CORONER'S JURY SAYS ACCIDENTAL DEATH

A coroner's jury impaneled last evening to investigate the cause of death to August Keller, a saloon man of the west side, on the night of July 21st, at which time he was run over by a Santa Fe passenger train at the entrance to the Ferry Point tunnel, brought in a verdict of accidental death.

The deceased was 52 years of

# HOUSE CAT CAUSE OF FIRE AT THE POINT

Damage of \$50 was sustained last evening when a house cat overturned an oil lamp in a lodging house at 164 Tewksbury avenue.

The blaze was discovered by Paul Alwatta, a cooper employed at the Standard refinery who immediately summoned the fire department

## XPLODING OIL STOVES CAUSE BIG COMMOTION

Poooooof-Bang!

An explosion, followed by another and still another, caused Undertaker Bert Curry and Frank Dietrich, west side jeweler, to poke their heads through the swinging doors of the Mecca saloon, 41 Washington avenue last night to investigate.

The racket had been caused by two coal oil stoves exploding.

"Their's was not to make reply, their's was not a question why, their's was but to do or die," and in they went, each grabbing a blazing stove.

Fire Chief Roy LeMoine responding to the general alarm turned in, found both Curry and Dietrich smashing the stoves in the street in an effort to stop the blaze.

12-27-15

## WWIC Est. 1908

## News from the Womens Westside Improvement Club

by Kathleen Wimer

At our November 5, 2013 meeting we recognized the birthdays of Alice Zeier and Janice Cook. Hostesses Diane Hirano, Kathleen Wimer, Kim Hampton, Linda Newton, and Kathy Branstetter decorated with an autumn theme and brought great desserts to accompany our brown bag lunches. Attorney Doris Mitchell, our featured

speaker, gave a helpful talk clarifying some of the differences between having a trust and one's estate going through probate. President Norma Wallace updated us on our on-going projects. Several of our very active community members announced upcoming activities in lovely, lively Point Richmond, many of them special to the holiday season: Altha Humphrey, Knit and Such and Arts of Point









Liz MaCarthy, Andrew Derrer, Park Ranger II; Joe Puleo, and Linda Newton inspect plants for placement. Diane Hirano put some muscle into the job. Maureen DeCompe, Hillary Brown, and Elizabeth Whipple transport mulch. Viola! 36 new plants installed and staked along the walk way.

Richmond; Pat Pearson, Red Oak Victory; Mid Dornan, United Methodist Church; Helen Wysham, the Rescue Mission; Marion Kent, PEO (Philanthropic Educational Organization), and others.

Later in November, about a dozen people pitched in to help with our beautification project at the ramp into the lagoon area at Miller-Knox Park.

We tried something new for our December holiday party. We asked the women's new start-up cooperative in Richmond – Fusion Latina Restaurant – to cater the luncheon. They prepared a Latino holiday menu of red enchiladas,

vegetarian tamales, organic red and white quinoa with black bean salad, small apple cinnamon empanadas for dessert, and ponche de frutas to drink - a hot tea with apple, cinnamon, cane, tejocote fruit, raisins, and sugar. Delicious and reasonable. We highly recommend them. Call 510-730-6072. We dispensed with our regular business meeting to party, sing carols, eat, and visit.

We kick off our 106<sup>th</sup> year February 4 with a brown bag lunch at which we decide recipients of this year's small grants for improvements to Point Richmond.



Two of the hostesses, Altha Humphrey and Gail Eierweis, put finishing touches on holiday table decorations. Linda Newton's invitee, Lori Kauth who works at the Richmond Convention and Visitors' Bureau, and Grethe Tedrick check in with 2nd VP and Acting Treasurer, Kathe Kiehn. Reverend Dan leads a rendition of "Silent Night" as you have never heard. President Norma Wallace and Alyce Williamson sing along.

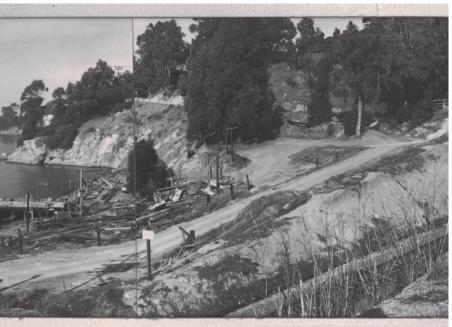


PRHA photo archive #0898 from Grier & I



Theodore Osmundson and Alsociates Landscape Architects

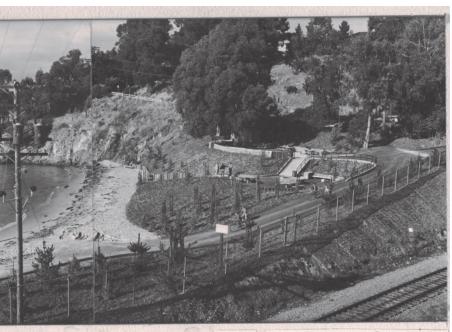
PRHA photo archive #0899 from Grie



Keller Beach was beautifully renovated in 1967.

ochlan Forsyth

KELLER'S BEACH, RICHMOND, CALIFORNIA January, 1967



Thank you to
Grier and
Lochlan
Forsyth for
these pictures.

& Lochlan Forsyth

KELLER'S BEACH PARK, RICHMOND, CALIFORNIA December, 1967





#0930 is one of the last pictures of the old wharf

#0875is a freshly renovated park note new trees

# Thanks to Jean Knox for before and after 1969 Keller Beach renovation. The complete collection will be on our electronic photo display in the museum.



#0879 is of a popular beach, note the Miller/Knox area



#0876 shows Mount Tamalpais in the distance

# History of Neighborhood Councils in Richmond

## By Lucretia Edwards

I thought this short history written by the late and great Lucretia Edwards would be interesting to our readers.

Gary

The development of Neighborhood Councils in the City of Richmond came about because of the upheaval of the city, occasioned by the Kaiser Shipyards that were located in Richomnd during World War II.

In 1940, just prior to World War II, Richmond was a tidy industrial town of 23,000, centered around the western terminus of operations of the Atchison, Topeka, and Santa Fe Railroad, the deep-water port, and the Standard Oil Company (later Chevron).

The African American population of the city at this time was 270 persons, almost all of whom lived in a 4 block area in the northern part of the city.

Then World War II brought the Kaiser Shipyards to Richmond, and in 1942, the population jumped to 50,000, in 1943, to 93,776, and by 1946 hit its peak of 110,000. To house these workers 17,000 units of Lenham Act War Housing units were built on the empty land on the south side of town. The shipyard workers were recruited throughout the United States, and a great number came from the southeastern part of the A high proportion was Africancountry. American, primarily from the rural agricultural areas of Texas, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Louisiana and Mississippi. From the same states and the same time. Caucasian workers were recruited, and southern blacks and southern whites carried their historical and cultural frustrations and hostilities with them.

When World War II ended, it was

assumed by the pre-war, original "core community", that the shipyard workers would return to the far-flung states and towns from which they had come. But this, of course, did not happen, since Richmond, California was preferable in many ways to the circumstances from which many of the shipyard workers had come. While some of the migrants did leave, and some of the housing units were cleared, many people remained. The chaos of the life in a town with a quadrupled population was compounded, post-war, unemployment of the shipyard workers, to the extent that the city was given the doubtful distinction of an article in Look Magazine entitled "Richmond, California, a City Earns a Purple Heart".

One of the factors that perpetuated the confusion of life in Richmond at this period was the fact that most of the people who came during the war years did not have any feelings of belonging to the city. It was not possible when they came pouring in to give them this feeling, since the City was hard put to simply house them. Also, there was the opinion that the newcomers were only in Richmond as temporary workers. Subsequently, many of the residents who came as shipyard workers had no feeling of participation in the life of the City, and no sense of responsibility for the welfare and future of the City. They might experience strong emotional feelings of pride and commitment to the neighborhood in which they lived, but for the city of Richmond, their feelings ranged from indifference to annoyance.

In 1954, because it was recognized that this was an atmosphere with a potential for unrest and trouble, the United Community Defense Services was requested to make a survey of social services in the City. This organization served the same function for cities that during World War II the United Service Organization, or USO, served for individual servicemen, in evaluating problem situations and providing wise counsel to alleviate them.

The survey recommendation was that a Community Welfare Counsel be formed and that a director be found to work with budgeting and coordinate planning on community problems. And so it was that in 1955, the West Contra Costa Community Welfare Council was reactivated and Dr. Ralph Kramer (later with the University of California at Berkeley) was hired as director.

In 1956, the Group Work and Recreation Section of the Contra Costa Community Welfare Council inaugurated a pilot demonstration project in the North Richmond area, to determine how best to provide for the needs of the neighborhood through more effective health, welfare, and recreation services.

The neighborhood people originally felt that what they most needed to bring them together, and provide a centering of the community was a building, a community center. But after a year of hard work in small groups and large groups, in surveys and discussions and study, the people came to feel that what they really needed was a more effective means of communication with the world outside their somehat isolated and segregated boundaries.

Neighborhood Councils, a new concept brought from the east coast (where it had been borrowed from early colonial history and Town Hall meetings) were described and the neighborhoods decided that they liked the idea. So, in 1956, the North Richmond Neighborhood Council was formed, the first neighborhood council in the San Francisco Bay Area.

Funds (\$19,566) were secured from a small family foundation in San Francisco, the Columbia Foundation, to finance this program for three years. There was an sssumption that the city would accept financial responsibility for the project if the validity of the concept was demonstrated and

proved to be successful. Funding was primarily needed for the cost of staffing. Also for materials needed for Councils, such as research, minutes, agendas and reports.

- 1958 Four Neighborhoods were active. The program was financed by the Columbia Foundation, the City of Richmond (under contract) and the Redevelopment Agency.
- 1959 Six Neighborhood Councils were active.

  The Program was financed by the Columbia Foundation and the contract with the City of Richmond. The Columbia Foundation funds were running out. An exploration of other funding sources, including a request to the United Crusade, for financial support was unavailing. The Columbia Foundation gave an additional \$1,500 as a "rescue" grant.
- 1960 Eight Councils. Program financed by the Columbia Foundation and the contract with the City of Richmond. (The Redevelopment contract was not renewed.) There was a request in the 1960-61 Budget for the two staff jobs for this program, which was durned down due to an austerity budget.
- 1961 Fourteen Neighborhood groups were clamoring for staff services. Financial support under contract with the City of Richmond now provided twenty hours per week to the program, or half of the job. The Columbia Foundation funds were exhausted (staff member, Gertrude Hall, replaced by Arnie Leonard).
- 1962 The Neighborhood Council program is to continue on a half-time basis until July 1st, at which time the City will once again consider its contract with the West Contra Costa Community Welfare Council (staff member Arnie Leonard replaced by Ed Grosselfinger).

The problem faced by the Neighborhood

Council movement was not failure, but success. The idea, once launched, was instantly popular, and with roots movement, and had drawn their strength and good staff work and training, the Neighborhood vitality from the needs of the chaotically Councils were speedily organized. They made many disorganized neighborhoods after World War II. The requests of the administration and City Council of second wave of Neighborhood Councils was the city of Richmond through the Coordinating opportunistically superimposed from above, to serve Committee of Neighborhood Councils, requests that a bureaucratic requirement, and to some extent were reasonable and usually granted.

alarmed at the growing power of the citizen groups, accelerate the progress already made.

when the proposal was made to have a Human framework of the city's life. Relations Commission in the City of Richmond, it the new Commission.

Neighborhood Councils early development (1956- goes a sense of pride and involvement. Friendships were made, trust was created, and work necessitated by this for of group dynamics. success was experienced. People realized that what they did, working together, made a difference. That they could be responsible for change. Citzens had experienced democracy in action, and it was exhilarating!

During President Lyndon Johnson's War on Poverty, Richmond, because of its history of problems, was eligible, and the recipient of, federal funds for many different projects. One of them was the Model Cities Program, and it ws because of it that the Neighborhood Councils experienced a renaissance. One of the stipulations for acceptance of a Model Cities Program was a Citizen Participation element. Remembering the success of the Neighborhood Councils, the City reactivated the Councils in order to meet the criterion

The original Councils had been a grassbacked by the spontaneity and enthusiasm that had But the City Council was increasingly marked the first, very successful program. However, under capable staff guidance, the concept flourished, and refused to budget funds for staff that would and 30 Neighborhood Councils (and their attendant Coordinating Committee of Neighborhood Councils) Gradually funds were squeezed down, and today are a significant and positive element in

The Neighborhood Council provides the seemed a natural development and a comfortable machinery for citizens to function directly in shaping solution that funding for staff should be diverted to their own community life. When people help to plan programs and shape policies, as they do in a Council So for a time, the Neighborhood Councils, and in the coordinating Committee of Councils, they as a viable element in the life of the City went into understand and believe in what they are doing far decline through lack of the nourishment of robust better than when this work is done for them and funding. But an interesting thing happened. During presented as an accomplished fact. For along with the few stimulating, triumphant years of the the long hours, hard work, and responsibility needed, 1963) a network had been established throughout the Neighborhood Council ideas can restore the old-City. Black and white people worked together on fashioned meaningfulness and friendliness of project for their neighborhoods, and then for larger cooperative community living, and can enrich the projects that affected all the neighborhoods. lives of those willing to undertake the creative hard



Lucretia at our 2004 PRHA General Meeting

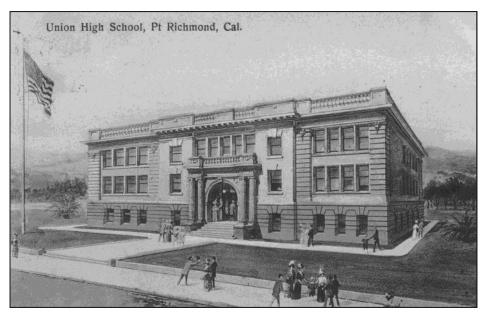
## Mystery Letter

When a letter dated February 5, 1946, for Agnes R. Smith was delivered to an address on Oregon Avenue in Point Richmond in November 2013, the current resident, remaining anonymous, gave the letter to the Point Richmond History Association. A U.S. Postal Service spokesman reviewed the letter and envelope in which it arrived and said it did not appear the letter was resent recently, citing the postage imprint indicated it entered circulation in 1946 with no explanation how a letter could arrive 67 years late.

The letter is a one-page expression of thanks for Smith's service to "the greatest Navy in the world" and was signed by then Secretary of the Navy, James Forrestal, and presumably occurred during World War II. The letter was sent from Washington D. C. Channel 5 News crews came to photograph the letter and envelope for the 11

0'clock news and by the next morning, calls and emails were pouring in from New York, North Dakota, Utah, and all parts of California. Everyone thought they had found the mysterious Agnes R. Smith through Research in Genealogy, Ancestry, Google etc. Another Smith family lives a few doors away on Oregon Street but did not know anyone named Agnes. However, Richard Smith remembered the Busby family that lived at the Oregon Street address and recalled that Martin Busby's mother was Agnes Smith before her marriage to his father. Martin is dead as is his wife Joanne but there is a son, Douglas, who lives somewhere in Alameda. He will be contacted to try to solve this Mystery Letter and perhaps let him own it. Thank you to everyone, and there are too many to name, who showed interest in assisting our search. We are assuming we have found Agnes R. Smith but not where this envelope has been for 67 years.

Mid Dornan



Thank you Burl Wills for sending us this gorgeous postcard of Union High School. Even though Union High School was not in Point Richmond as noted one the card, many older Point Richmonders were attendees. The postmark on this postcard is March 28, 1910. We assume it was delivered timely. #0927 from Burl Willes

## THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY WASHINGTON

February 5, 1946

My dear Mrs. Smith:

I have addressed this letter to reach you after all the formalities of your separation from active service are completed. I have done so because, without formality but as clearly as I know how to say it. I want the Navy's pride in you, which it is my privilege to express, to reach into your civil life and to remain with you always.

You have served in the greatest Navy in the world.

It crushed two enemy fleets at once, receiving their surrenders only four months agart.

It brought our land-based airpower within bombing range of the enemy, and set our ground armies on the beachheads of final victory.

It performed the multitude of tasks necessary to support these military operations.

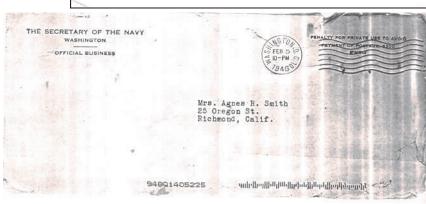
No other Navy at any time has done so much. For your part in these achievements you deserve to be proud as long as you live. The Nation which you served at a time of cricis will remarked you with restricted.

The best wishes of the Navy go with you into civilian life. Good luck!

Sincerely yours,

James Forrestal

Mrs. Agnes R. Smith 25 Oregon St. Richmond, California



Mystery letter and

The envelope is

November, 2013

envelope in came in.

postmarked February

5, 1946 was delivered

to its proper address in

## **Albert Charles Frosini**

September 11, 1917 - December 7 2013

Al Frosini, a family man, an incomparable teacher, and a consummate athlete, defined himself and affected everyone through his actions. Despite his shortcomings, "poor eye sight" and very "humble beginnings" (he grew up during the depression), he grasped life and squeezed every ounce out of it and afterwards discarded it at 96 plus years old. This life evidenced today by the people who came to pay him honor and respect.

Al lived his entire life in Point Richmond. From his humble beginnings which included a brief stint at St. Vincent's School for Boys reform school to his "fists of fury where he let his fists do much of the talking, he could have gone astray from the "straight and narrow," if it were not for Helene, his high school sweetheart who dubbed him the "Fred Astaire of Richmond High" during their dance marathons before school, during lunch, or after school. They eventually married in July 1942. At the birth of their first and only child, Valerie (Al often said that he cried when she was born) Al again went into action. That evening,

white faced, he told Helene, "Guess what? I just bought a restaurant." Her reaction: "What? A restaurant? You don't even know how to cook! What were you thinking?" A natural reaction she was not very happy. Al had no experience being a restaurateur, but again, with Helene's (the creative one) help, made his restaurant a success. Originally the restaurant sign was to read "Helene's Kitchen" to "suck up" to Helene, but he learned it was going to cost a year's profit, it became simply "Al's". As if his challenges and successes were not enough, Al was at it again. He decided not only to build his own apartment house in 1945, but to design it too! Unfazed, he jumped into this venture and again with Helene's help, the family apartment was built and still stands today. What a vision! Not bad for a guy with "poor eye sight."

Spurred on by patriotism in 1942, Al managed to get himself enlisted into the 1537th Army Air Forces Base Unit (a fire fighting unit) even though he should have been disqualified because of his "poor eye sight." But not Al. Nothing was going to stop him. During enlistment he memorized the eye chart and somehow passed the eye test. Al was in the Army now. He became a successful boxer, whom, as the story goes, the

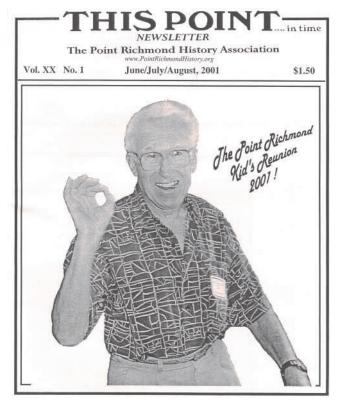
Captain of a transport ship nicknamed "Spider." The nickname stuck. His boxing reputation (he humbly said that he lost almost every fight, but his record said otherwise) also increased. In his fire fighting unit Al recalled putting out burning planes while pulling bodies from In addition, his them. military fame also extended to numerous KP duties



Al cheerleading our 2001 "Kid's Reunion" meeting.

(that's a lot of taters) as well as to several "accidental fist-a-cuffs." It was known that whenever he started to take his prized glasses off, there was going to be a "rumble" of some sort. Al was even asked by the military to be an Italian translator for the Italian POWs during the war. He did receive a number of military awards and finished his military life with an Honorable Discharge.

Al's passion, however, was water skiing, that is, once he was able to get up on skis after 75 tries. It was a fairly common story that Al's restaurant was open only for breakfast and lunch because he wanted to get out to water ski. Ski, ski, ski...and more ski, whether it was Berkeley Aquatic Park, the Delta, or even to the Farallons. The Farallons,



Al was on the cover of TPIT in 2001, he was the life of the party at our Annual Meeting

are you nuts? Yes and yes, but Al did and lived to tell about the harrowing experience. ranked near the bottom of the ski ladder in the beginning, he quickly climbed to the top of the sport. Known by skiers as "Uncle Al," he became one of the bounders of the Point Richmond Water Ski Club and later the Berkeley Water Ski Club (1965.) He successfully initiated the novice tournaments (1970) for beginners, boys and girls. "Uncle Al" tirelessly taught, guided, and molded the epitome of what and who a water skier should be, act and live. Despite thousands of ear drum puncturing spills, several cracked ribs, ankle sprains, broken legs, two hip replacements, and too many other physical mishaps, he kept on skiing and "ticking."

He was a fantastic role model and "father figure" for the many generations of young people, with whom he came into contact and who, in the true sense of the word, saw him as their "rock star." He greatly influenced numerous World Champion Water Skiers. male and female. The culmination of his water ski life occurred when he was selected and honored with the Water Ski Hall of Fame Award. What a meteoric rise from his humble beginnings to the top of his craft. What an influential life of such a humble "Uncle Al" He affected countless individuals in the water ski world.

Al was truly a Renaissance man who lived life to the fullest. First and foremost a family man, he became a fater figure to many by imparting his values and personal commitments. A la Jack Lalane, "Uncle Al" obsessively preached constant physical fitness for a long and enjoyable life. The gym in this garage illustrated this personal commitment. He lauded individuals for pursing their passions, whatever they may be, with hard work and perseverance. With his beaming smile, his many stories, and especially with his endearing personality, Al was a beacon

whose light will never be extinguished and will live on in the hearts and minds of all the people he touched.

## at the Masquer's Playhouse

## The Laramie Project

The Laramie Project opens on January 24 at the Masquers Playhouse. Based on interviews conducted by members of the Tectonic Theatre Project following the 1998 murder of Matthew Shepard, The Laramie Project takes the words of real people and presents them in a breathtaking theatrical collage that explores the depths to which humanity can sink and the heights of compassion of which we are capable. Called "a pioneering and powerful stage event," by TIME magazine, The Laramie Project is an unforgettable night of theater. From director Michael Sally: "The Laramie Project is as much of a story about love, hope and healing, as it is about the unfathomable crime that catapulted the town into the media maelstrom. It was because of what happened to Matthew Shepard that Hate Crime legislation was enacted. This story is as important today, what with the recent brutal victimization of trangendered identified adolescent on a bus in Oakland, as it was in 1998. We cannot forget and must be diligent in our advocacy against hate crimes."

## **CAST**

Jayme Catalano
Alan Coyne
Tim Holt
Avi Jacobson
Kristine Ann Lowry
Carl Smith
Loralee Windsor
Vicki Zabarte

Directed by Michael Sally Assistant Director – David Irving

Set Design by Rob Bradshaw Lighting Design by Michael O'Brien Costume Design by Marjorie Moore Prop Design by Anne Collins Stage Manager – Anne Collins

Performances are Fridays and Saturdays at 8pm and Sunday Matinees at 2pm on February 2, 9 and 16. The show plays through February 22. Tickets are \$22 and all seats are general admission. Tickets can be purchased on line at <a href="https://www.masquers.org">www.masquers.org</a> or by calling (510) 232-4031. The playhouse is located off of Highway 580 (Richmond Parkway exit) at 105 Park Place, Point Richmond across from the Hotel Mac.



## **Birthdays**

## **February**

BOY SCOUTS OF	Walter MacMillan	Kim Ward	Anne Roth
AMERICA	Connie Healy	Velma Healy	Gretchen Van Tassel
Mitzi Carol Kruse	Marcos Rotting	Anne Brussok-Roth	Shaw
Mark Gebhart	Jim Allgaier	Jared Bigard	Brenda McKinley
Sarah Wilson	Landow Howe	Lupe Padilla Lopez	Frank Smith
Steven Mertle	Rowene MacMillan	Allegra Fenton	Leonard Smith
Billy Bob Karl	Ethel MacMillan	Kay Mayfield Madison	Kay Madison
Chris Rotting	Kiley Brougham	Artrese Morrison	

## March

GIRL SCOUTS	Carol Darling	Brian Richardson	Henry Marchitiello
CAMP FIRE GIRLS	Claire E. Crowson	Susan Berman	Evan Jahromi
Rachel Palfini	Dolly Frosini	Mary Valenzano	Kenneth Madison
Elfriede Morris	Reba Downs	Isobel Folson	Kara Piantidosi
Damon Kiehn	Rich Schuldt	Myron Pestana	Michael Smith
Kathe Kiehn	Ben Bray	Delphina Franco Tawney	Tom Butt
Sheba Warith	Ken Madison	Mike Smith	Harlan Butt
Dale Hawkins	Janice Jones	Lorna Huffstetter	Ryland Thomas Butt
Karolyn Macdiarmid	Jean Knox	George LeRoy Williams	
Carol Paasch	Lavinia Karl	Lucile Cottingham	
JoAnn Bray	Darlene A. Wright	Meyer	

Whoops! Birthdays omitted from the last issue: Carolyn Dutrow in October, Chuck Dutrow in November and Les Crim in December



Thanks to Kathe Kiehn and Heinz Lankford for mailing the Winter issue of TPIT



Newly found historic photo of Washington Avenue, #0921 from Allan Smith

## EXCLUSIVE OVER 90 CLUB

Lupe Padilla Lopez - 99 Delphina Franco Tawney - 95 George Leroy Williams - 91 Elfriede Morris - 94 Billie Bonham Shaw - 91 Shoney Gustafson - 97 Jerry Cerkanowicz, Sr. - 93 Grace Cerkanowicz - 90 Steve Wyrick - 97 George Coles - 91 Madelilne Bellando Albright - 96 Mid Dornan - 92 Charlotte Kermabon Birsinger - 97 Viola Lala Kennedy- 96 Gretchen Van Tassel Shaw - 95 Lee Christian - 93

Eunice Ruth Hursh - 97 Mark Gebhart - 97

## Age is not a number, it is an attitude.

Please send corrections and additions to "Over 90 Club" to midornan@sbcglobal.net or call 510-234-5334. Thank you to those who update these numbers.

Thanks to Pat Pearson for keeping the local markets stocked with TPIT and thank you Santa Fe and Point Richmond Markets for the support!

## Memorials.....

**Beverly Ann Price** passed away in Concord, January 14, 2014. Age 70. She spent 32 years as a Point resident where she was known for the many lives she touched. A Richmond High Graduate, later she volunteered as an aide in several Richmond Schools. Bev was proud to be a Woman Boy Scout Cub Master, a Camp Fire Girls leader, Washington PTA leader as well as being active in the Baptist Church. But camping was her passion. She was also known as 'the crazy purple lady ' and sold everyone Avon and Tupperware. She and her husband Stan moved to Leggett, CA. 25 years ago where they purchased Price Peg House, which included a deli, gas station and campsites. Bev is survived by her sons Michael and Dennis and daughters Anne and Rebecca Luddon, brother Frank Andrews and four grandchildren.

**Albert Charles Frosini** died December 7,2013. He was born in Point Richmond on September 11,1917. He spent his life in Point Richmond except for his service time in the Air Force in World War II. He and his wife Helene were founding members of the Point Richmond History Association.

Al was married to Point Richmond native Helene Raffanelli for almost 70 years. He is survived by his daughter, Valerie Frosini Gutierrez and husband Jerry, three grandchildren, two great children, three nephews and one niece.

The life story of Al Frosini is included in this issue of This Point in Time. The article is written by his family and was provided for the many attendees at the Celebration of His Life held at St. Joseph Cemetery on Friday January 3, 2014. We thought our readers would appreciate the article and maybe even send us some more stories to print in future issues.

## Life is a test that is graded on a curve

At age 4, success is ... not peeing in your pants
At age 12, success is ... having friends
At age 16, success is ... having a driver's license
At age 20 success is ... having sex
At age 35, success is ... having money
At age 50, success is ... having money
At age 60, success is ... having sex
At age 70, success is ... having a driver's license
At age 75, success is having friends
At age 85, success is ... not peeing in your pants

Bernard Bernes

## CALENDAR/DIRECTORY

#### ARTS OF POINT RICHMOND

Meets third Tuesday of each month 7-9 at the Pt. Community Center, Contact: Linda Drake, 510672-0793

#### CHRISTIAN SCIENCE READING ROOM

114 Washington Avenue, Point Richmond, 510-223-0487

## GOLDEN STATE MODEL RAILROAD MUSEUM AND EAST BAY MODEL ENGINEERS SOCIETY

900 Dornan Drive, Miller/Knox Regional Park. Sunday 12:00 to 5:00. Special openings on Saturdays and Holidays. 510-234-4884 for details.

## MANY HANDS PROJECT TO SUPPORT WASHINGTON SCHOOL

Contact, Margaret Morkowski, 510-234-4219

#### MASQUERS PLAYHOUSE

Quality productions, Fridays and Saturdays at 8 pm, Sunday Matinees at 2 pm. Tickets are \$22. Dinner Theater Benefit one Sunday matinee during each run provides a show followed by dinner at the Hotel Mac for only \$50 Call 510-232-4031 for information or reservations.

#### PARENTS, RESOURCES AND MORE (PRAM)

A volunteer, nonprofit organization serving families with children 5 or under. Playgroups, social events, educational opportunities, Information go to http://www.PRAM.net or call 510-215-1734.

## PARENT, TEACHER ASSOCIATION

Becky Jonas, Contact, 510-235-0157

#### POINT RICHMOND BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

Contact: Andrew Butt, 510-236-7445

## POINT RICHMOND COMMUNITY CENTER

Info: 233-6881

#### POINT RICHMOND HISTORY ASSOCIATION

Museum is at 139½ Washington Avenue, and open Winter, Thursday's 11:30 to 2:00 and Saturday 11:30 to 2:00 and Summer, Wednesday 4:30 to 7:00 and Thursday's 11:30 to 2:00. The deadline for the next issue of TPIT is Friday March 28, 2014. Info call President Mildred Dornan at 510-234-5334.

#### POINT RICHMOND NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

Meets last Wednesday each month, Point Richmond Community Center; 7:30 P.M Contact: Sue Rosenof at 599-1197

#### POINT RICHMOND/WEST SIDE BRANCH LIBRARY

Information call 510-620-6567

#### **RED OAK VICTORY**

Open Saturday, Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday 10am - 3pm. \$5 donation for adults, \$4 seniors, \$2 children. Pancake Breakfasts one Sunday a month, April thru October. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., \$7 adults, children under 5, free For more information call the ship directly at 510-237-2933 or Richmond Museum of History 510-235-7387

#### RICHMOND SWIMS

The Children and teens "Sail Fish" and Masters swim teams at the Richmond Plunge.

Contact: Coach John Schonder, 510-504-0330

September 25, 2011 open water bay swim raises money for coaching, equipment, pool fees and swimming scholarships for inner-city youth throughout Richmond. More info at http://www.richmondswims.org/ or call (415) 892-0771

#### **WASHINGTON SCHOOL**

Washington School at 565 Wine Street offers traditional and Spanish dual immersion curriculum, K - 6th grade. Contact principal Lisa Levi at 231-1417 for more information.

#### WOMEN'S WESTSIDE IMPROVEMENT CLUB (established 1908)

Richmond's longest standing women's club. Contact: Norma Wallace, President. 510-236-6968

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

email: gary@alkos.com

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

139 ½ Washington Avenue Point Richmond, CA 94801

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Bonnie Jo Cullison, Museum Manager/Staff
Coordinator

## Main Contributors to this Issue:

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Information Historic Photos Proof/Information

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Donna Roselius Line Drawings/article
Gary Shows Uncredited Photos

Bruce Beyaert Content
Kathleen Wimer Article
(Late) Lucretia Edwards Article
Family of Al Frosini Article
Jean Knox Photos
Grier and Lochlan Forsyth Photos
Bernard Bernes Wisdom

## **Phone Numbers**

Mid Dornan

510-234-5334

Visit our website

## PointRichmondHistory.org

Join our Facebook Group https://www.facebook.com/groups/prhafan/

Richmond Museum of History 510-235-7387 Red Oak Victory Information 510-235-7387 Rosie the Riveter Park 510-232-5050



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