

THIS POINT.... in time

NEWSLETTER

The Point Richmond History Association

Since 1979

www.PointRichmondHistory.org

Vol. XXXIX No. 3

Nov/Dec/Jan, 2020/21

\$3.00



See Page 1

Santa, Choir Director and I agree that this year's tree lighting should be cancelled due to the virus. Someone will flip the light switch with no fan-fare on at 5:30 on Saturday Nov 28.

David Vincent

Save the Date!

Saturday, January 23, 2021

**Contra Costa County Historical Society Annual Membership Meeting featuring
The History and People of Point Richmond**

The CCCHS Annual Membership Meeting will be conducted virtually on Saturday, January 23, 2021. Join your friends in history for the Annual CCCHS Update, the featured presentation: The History and People of Point Richmond as well as special thanks to retiring Executive Director Dr. Priscilla Couden and retiring Director and past-president Scott Saftler.

How much do you know about “The Point”?

This little community is full of history and interesting characters. Guest speaker Karen Buchanan will entertain us with an illustrated presentation about the colorful characters and history of Point Richmond.

You will learn about Professor Botts and his Flying Machine, C.L. Cofer and his Terrestrial Wave Detector, and how a failed duck-hunting trip turned into a business deal that literally put Point Richmond on the map!

Q&A to immediately follow.
Further details about the virtual event are forthcoming. Please check the CCCHS website www.cocohistory.org and your email inbox for updates.



Donated in 1909, this Indian statue mysteriously disappeared in the 1930s. Replaced 1984. CCCHS Photo

From the President

by Bonnie Jo Cullison

Hello history enthusiasts.

I am pleased to say that we have opened our Museum again. We have been following the Contra Costa County’s local health orders and once the County moved to the orange tier we were allowed to reopen with restrictions: face coverings, one visitor in the Museum at a time (two if household members) along with the docent. In addition, we require that each visitor use the hand sanitizer provided at the door before entering the Museum. We understand that we might need to close again should the County move back into the red tier. Please be cautious everyone!

Our schedule remains Thursdays and Saturdays, 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

I would like to thank our outstanding docents for being willing to step back into their schedules on short notice: Heinz Lankford, Linda Andrew-Marshall, Gary Shows, Karen Buchanan and Lori Kauth.

If there are times when you need an unusual (but fun) diversion from the unpleasantness that seems to be too pervasive these days, you might find just what you need in the issues of Point Counterpoint from the 1960’s and 1970’s. Gary Shows, our scanning guru, has been able to scan and make available on our website (pointrichmondhistory.org) nearly all of the issues spanning 1966 to 1975. They offer an interesting glimpse of what was happening in Point Richmond in the ‘60’s and ‘70’s. Point Counterpoint differs from our current Newsletter in that it was a

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“Journal of Civic Communication” with each issue focusing on local concerns impacting Point Richmond residents at the time as well as the activities going on around town. Want to know what businesses and restaurants were in town back then? There are lots of ads. And it was hand delivered and only cost a dime!	
Wishing you warm, cheery, healthy and safe holidays!	

The Cover:

Crew assembling an early “Point Counterpoint”

Photo taken by Mid Dornan in April of 1967

People left to right:

Gary Smith, Bob Dornan, Connie Healey, Joe Morin, Francis Smith, Florence Wilson, Sandra Kenter (seated) , and Johnny Kenter

Thank you to Pat Dornan for sharing this picture.

Thank you members for your renewal:

Tony Ramirez**

Elizabeth Kella & George

Tomberlin Family

Linda Andrew-Marshall

Mark & Gloria Maltagliati**

Debra & Michael Jackson Family

David Dolberg**

Victor H. Morales & Sharon K.

Halpern Family

Anne Brussok-Roth & David Roth**

Carole L. Corbett

Ken & Kay Madison Family

Donna Wilson**

Christopher Wilson

Virginia Martinez-Burgess

Winston Tharp & Pat Miles Family

Jean Rose

Mary Highfill Family

Michael & Caitlin Hibma**

David B. Janes**

Don Amantite

Henry Marchitiello

Jeff & Barbara Ward**

Penny McGee Canario

Victor J. Westman**

Royce V. Ong**

Sandra & Bruce Beyaert**

Welcome to new members:

Peter D. Stark

M.K. Anderson

*Gift Membership

**Special Supporter, *Thank You!*

Thank You!

Santa Fe Market

For distributing

“THIS POINT.....in time”

Support our local retailers

*Visit our little museum and view our
1000 picture slide show of historic Point*

Richmond photos.

Open Thursdays and Saturdays

*And the first and second Tuesday of
each month*

11:30 am - 2:00 pm

*Please wear a face covering when
visiting.*

We will supply hand sanitizer.

If you live in the South:

You know what a hissy fit is....

You think that the first day of deer season is a national holiday.

Editor's Notes

Gary Shows
garyshows@gmail.com

I am glad this very emotional election is behind us. It was a very consequential election with a satisfying result, we can now concentrate on fighting this annoying pandemic and put it in the past as well.

Thanks to all of my newsletter contributors, I appreciate you for giving me interesting things to print. And thanks to all of our members for supporting our history group, you are a generous and loyal bunch and that says good things about our wonderful community.

Happy Holidays to all of you, have a warm and safe winter. Please wear your masks when out among others.

The deadline for the next issue of "THIS POINT.....in time" will be January 15, 2021.

So that we did the proper "social distancing" we paid the printer to fold and staple the last issue, work usually done by our group. Thanks for addressing and mailing go to:

Gary Shows
Jerry Cerkanowicz
Bonnie Jo Cullison

Thanks to the Volunteers who open and close our museum two days each week.

Linda Andrew-Marshall
Heinz Lankford
Gary Shows
Lori Kauth
Bonnie Jo Cullison
Karen Buchanan



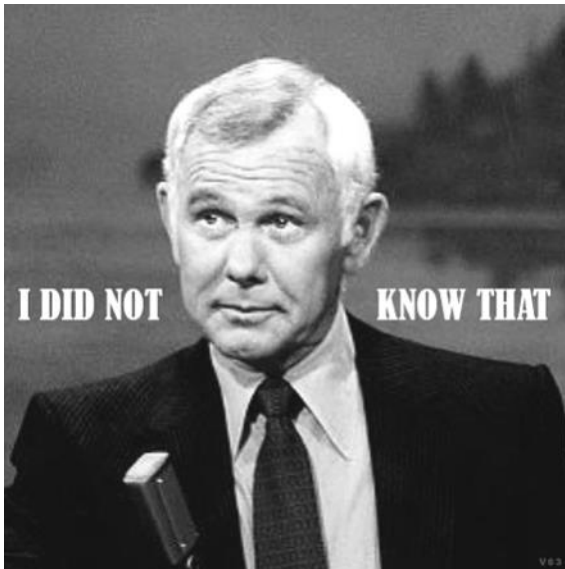
Thank You to Our Special Supporters!

History Makers

Donna Wilson
Rosemary Corbin
Kathe Kiehn
John A. Thiella & Rosa T. Casazza
Roberta & Richard Palfini
Patricia Dornan
Les Crim
Norm and Jean Reynolds
David & Ruth Janes
The Bartram-Owens Family
Burl Willes
Garry & Maryn Hurlbut
Bob Armstrong
Diane Hirano
Steven Birnbaum
Ron Vandergrift
Lynn Maack
Barry Goode
Ellen Pechman
Mark J. Kornmann
Jim & Olivia Jacobs

History Preservers

Royce Ong
Kevin, Renée & Griffin Knee
Linda Newton
Tom & Shirley Butt
The David Dolberg Family
Bernie McIntosh
Don & Ingrid Lindemann
Mary Crosby & Tom Piazza
Norma Wallace
Victor J. Westman
Gloria & Mark Maltagliati
Anne Brussok-Roth & David Roth
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Dee Rosier
Alison Alderdice & Alexi Erenkov
Jessie West
Kathy Dornan Barnes
Tim & Roberta Montgomery
Richard Lompa
Don & Carole Woodrow
Karen Buchanan
Sandra & Bruce Beyaert



Trivia From Mark ***(coincidental accidental discovery)***

When I proofread Mid Dornan's memorial issue, 2 words in the first big article jumped off the page at me: Norfolk, Nebraska!

Why? The late great Johnny Carson got his show biz start there – first doing magic tricks for his friends and later in small theaters, then as a part-time DJ on the local radio station. Carson was born in Iowa in 1925; his family moved there in 1933. Carson would've been 7 or 8 (he was born in Oct); Mid 11 or 12. What I wonder is if they ever crossed paths – do any of you ever recall her saying anything about him? If so, please enlighten us via a letter to the editor or e-mail me (beerman1949@gmail.com) & I'll collect them for an article for the next issue.

Mark Kornmann, Proofreader

Mark Kornmann asked the above question in the summer issue of TPIT. He got his answer below.

Kathy Barnes responded.

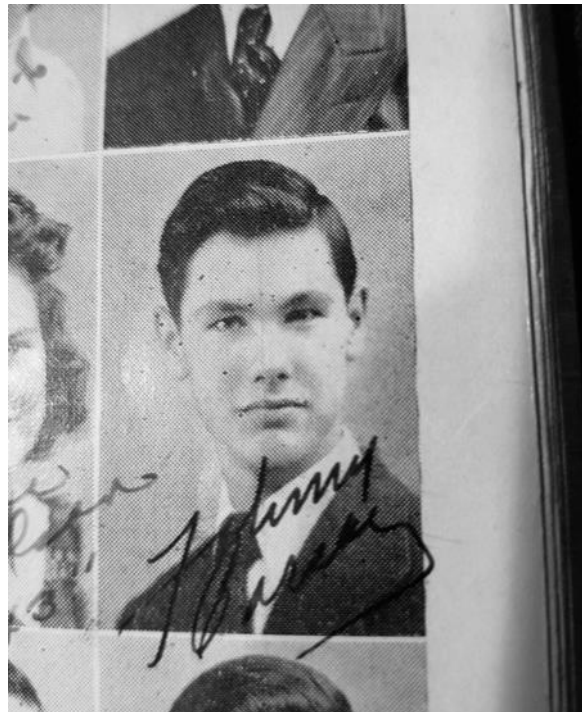
I am Mid Dornan's daughter and am answering your question about whether my mom knew Johnny Carson. You are correct that he grew up in Norfolk and she did know him. She had a younger brother, Bill, who was closer in age to Johnny (a year behind in school).

I asked Bill's son (my cousin Mark) about Johnny and this is what he said:

"Johnny's dad, nicknamed Kit, worked for the Power Company in Norfolk. While he was still in high school, my uncle and Johnny were hired by the power company to paint light poles. My uncle used to joke how he and Johnny Carson once had the same salary. He said Johnny was always hanging around practicing magic tricks. He was Bill's friend, so my mom knew him like any sister knows their brother's friend.

Johnny's dad wrote my uncle a general letter of recommendation (attached). My uncle ended up being hired for a job with Consumer Public Power where he spent his career.

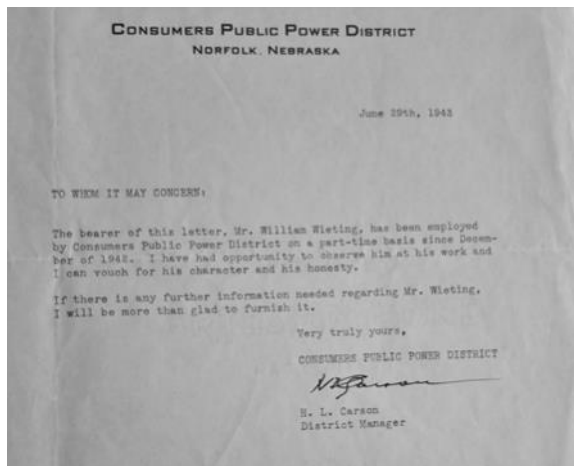
My cousin included a photo of Johnny from



the 1943 Norfolk High Yearbook, and the bio blurb that goes with it (attached...Johnny's bio is in the middle). My cousin commented that Johnny's signature looks like he already knew he'd be famous!

The letter of recommendation was to get into the Army's pilot training program in Omaha. He applied, passed the psychological test, and was to report for physical testing. Don't know what happened as he ended up as a meteorologist in the Army Air Corps!

He was hired by Consumer Public Power in Norfolk when he returned from WWII.

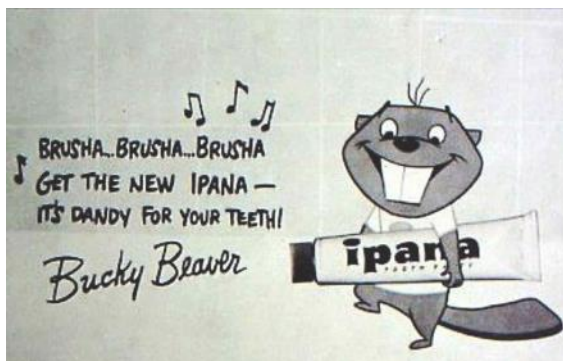


I thanked my cousin for being a diligent and organized record keeper. So happy to share this with you.

Pat Dornan also responded.

I am Mid's daughter and noted that you were wondering if she had ever crossed paths with Johnny Carson.

The answer is a strong yes. My uncle was in the same class with Johnny all through school while in Norfolk. While I remember none of the stories, I do remember that when she was asked where she was born, she would answer, "Norfolk, Nebraska, Home of Johnny Carson."



Vintage A-Mid Trivia

Taken From 1970's Point Counterpoint by Mid Dornan

What is there to compare to the beauty of viewing San Francisco on a clear night from the hills of Point Richmond!!

An easy way to diet - just look at the current food prices! It even makes some people ill.

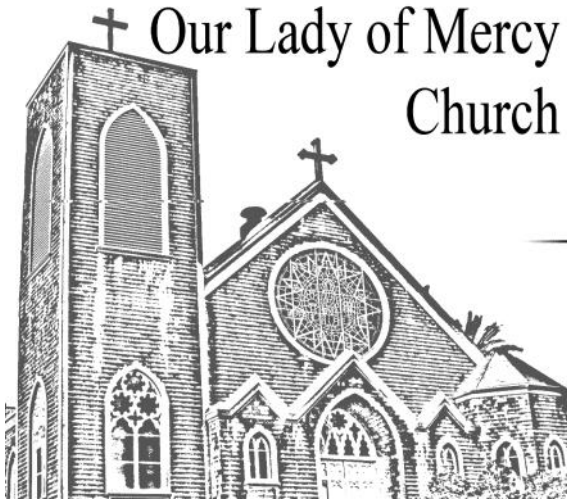
One way to call special attention to significance of trees in our environment is to plant a tree on Arbor Day, the 34th, a custom originated in 1872 by J. Sterling Morton.

Nobody who can read is ever successful at cleaning out an attic or storeroom!

A favorite spot in the Point is the "Rest a Second" bench surrounded by red flowering geraniums at the corner of Washington Ave. and Washington Court. One can relax under the branches of the shade tree, be overwhelmed by the breathtaking view of the S.F. skyline towering between two bridges across the Bay with only the chirping birds to interrupt your thoughts.

An Artist can change the expression on a face with a single stroke of the brush. But then, so could our mothers.

Church News



By Dee Rosier

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drosier@sbcglobal.net

When 2020 came into play, we believed it would be a new year, as a gift with hopes of many new things to take place. – little did we know what we were about to experience.

Labor Day was a reminder that summer was over. Then Fall announced its arrival with crisp mornings. The time would change, giving us another reason to stay in. A friend and I used to have a contest to determine who felt Fall first. Fall also shows us how beautiful it is to let things go (especially leaves).

The outdoor Saturday liturgy will remain outdoors until the weather changes but without the enhanced cello of Pawel Waweroski who returns to his parish, St. Marys in Walnut Creek. He is director of music for the parish. When Father Kraus was assigned to St. Marys, we attended an outstanding music event there.

Our seriously ill parishioners continually are mentioned during Mass. We try to keep in touch regarding their situations. Some of them are in assisted living quarters and we are able to speak/visit with them. Margaret Doherty received

a call from Marcellina Smith and it was difficult to determine who was more delighted. Marcellina is in an assisted living facility in Moraga, which is close to her son, Allan. Father is also anxious to receive a note/email, regarding their health.

Remember these members of our community who are sick and those who care for them:

Jim Arkin, Thomas Brady, Jim/Linda Chesareck, Michael Lambert, Margaret Morkowski, Edwina Murray, Fr. David, Marie Peckham, Emom Roongruangphol, Fred Siegmund, Marcelline Smith.

Father extends his thanks to parishioners who have continued to send in their weekly donations. The church continues to remain in business even though there is no regular attendance at this time.

The recent fires have left our gardens with a lot of ash, which has consumed time to wash off. During this pandemic, our gardens have become lifesavers.

We continue to conform to whatever changes are made in the County insofar as religious services. Mass on Saturday is held on the patio at 4PM, Sunday Mass is held at the usual 9:30 AM time for Communion and time for private prayer and reflection. Music provided by pianist, Cesar Cancino.

An assortment of Father's watercolors have been reproduced onto notecards and are being sold by St. Vincent de Paul. A boxes of six sell for \$20 and are available at the Rectory.

The Parish Council has voted to have fencing installed to surround the parking lot. Even though there is a sign designating it as PRIVATE PARKING, it is constantly illegally used for personal parking reasons. Parking in the Point is a constant and space is readily absorbed. Some of the spaces are legally rented by local businesses, but the intent is for the parishioners use, especially during Masses/funerals, etc.

The Parish Council and St. Vincent de Paul meet via Zoom on monthly Tuesdays.

We continue to accept clothing and food for

those in need. Due to the pandemic, the Souper Kitchen operates under different procedures.

Due to vandalism, the Baptistery window was damaged and will soon be repaired.

The Crane Pavilion smokestack recently wore the colors of purple, white and gold in honor of the 19th Amendment granting women the right to vote. It was also the 31st anniversary of Loma Prieta on October 17.

Mike and Lori Sommers led the West County St. Vincent de Paul Friends for the Poor walk. They picked their own location virtually and led in donations,

Thanksgiving and Christmas will be unusual for many of us this year, but for Elizabeth Hertzberg (Canetta) it will be an exciting time as she awaits the birth of her first child. She and her husband have returned to Milan. Our wishes that she have a healthy child who will hear its mother's lovely, soprano voice. Her mother Adrienne will be there to welcome her grandchild.

If you are a pet owner, one realizes how they become family members and mourning their loss is difficult. Dee Pearson mourns the loss of her once cocker show dog and Gabi Bay her beautiful white cat.

Condolences to Annie Janes (Village Cleaners/Laundromat) for the death of her daughter Jennifer Brandon.

Condolences to Diane Marie for the death of her husband Bill Gutierrez. Bill was an exceptional person who lost his battle to lung cancer. He will long live in our hearts as a gentle, kind person. We have lost one of the favorites in our group of friends.

When it's time in Mass to deliver the gifts to Father, one of the first to respond is Charlie Kercher. Charlie and his family have moved to Baton Rouge, Louisiana. We will miss him and his always smile.

Margaret Doherty's granddaughter who lives in Washington, DC, delivered flowers to the Supreme Court on the death of once-in-a-lifetime

Supreme Court Justice, Ruth Bader Ginsburg.

A walk to the Post Office was enhanced by a chance visit with Michael Fitzgerald and his dog Biscuit. We spent time playing catch-up and ultimately posted our mail. Michael's dog has fully recovered from his fall.

Voting always brings to mind the volunteer days we worked at the Methodist Church with Mid Dornan as the Inspector, Sonja Darling, Dolores Hamamoto and myself as her assistants. It was a social event which produced many happy memories.

Wishing all a Happy Thanksgiving as well as a Merry Christmas.

YOUR HARDEST TIMES OFTEN LEAD
TO THE GREATEST MOMENTS OF YOUR
LIFE. KEEP GOING. TOUGH SITUATIONS
BUILD STRONG PEOPLE.

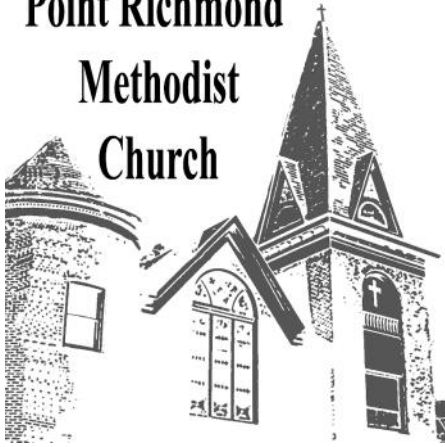
SEE YOU IN CHURCH



Dee Rosier

**IT IS HARD TO UNDERSTAND HOW A CEMETERY RAISED ITS
BURIAL COST AND BLAMED IT ON THE COST OF LIVING.**

Point Richmond Methodist Church



Jean Reynolds
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sweetheart05@mac.com

On August 23, Alice and Bill Thompson sang the lyrics “It only takes a spark to get a fire going,” in the anthem, “Pass It On.” The words took on new meaning as wildfire smoke blotted the sun from the sky. We celebrated Jessie West’s birthday and welcomed Anne-Paul Swett to worship as she Zoomed in from her home in Connecticut.

Starting the week of September 13, Rev. Jacey Pickens-Jones led an eight-week “Healing the World in Time of Pandemic” Bible Study published by the World Council of Churches. Sessions were offered on Wednesday mornings at 10:00 and Thursday evenings at 7:00. It was an opportunity to get to know each other better, and to connect in a less formal setting. We shared our own experiences and perspectives as we considered how the weekly bible passage applies to our lives now.

Eileen Johnson was commissioned as a Vocational Deacon at California-Nevada Annual Conference on September 20. She earned the title “Reverend” and now is a member of the Annual Conference: no longer a member of our congregation. She will continue to serve as Music Director at El Sobrante United Methodist Church and to work at her day job for a non-profit. We did not meet for our own congregational worship

that Sunday, but joined in the Annual Conference worship and Consecration-Ordination service via Zoom.

October 18 was Laity Sunday. Debbie Benko, our Lay Member to Annual Conference, shared the parts of the conference that meant most to her. Jean Reynolds shared reflections on the scripture. Alice and Bill Thompson led Children’s Time. Doreen Leighton read scripture; Karen Buchanan was the “Community Voice;” Laila Millar led the congregational prayer; and Gill Stanfield sang the anthem, “Peace in the Valley,” and led the closing benediction song. Alice Thompson recorded the accompaniment for the hymns, several choir members recorded themselves singing the verses, and Gill Stanfield mixed the recordings. Our worship over Zoom is getting ever-better, and requires more prep each week. Everyone who participates gets a boost from being part of the process.

For Halloween, we hosted a Spooky Tea over Zoom. Doreen Leighton, Barbara Haley, Linda Andrew-Marshall, Jennifer Metz Foster, Kristi Johnson, and Sandra Simmer baked purchased, and prepared treats for the tea. Fran Smith, Rev. Jacey, and Doreen Leighton got boxes and bags to wrap the treats. Rev. Jacey, Rev. Emily Pickens-Jones, and Walker Weatherly boxed everyone’s goodies and decorated each one with Halloween stickers and customized names. They spent twelve hours making all the boxes special! I especially liked the ones where the skeleton had its head in hand or on the other side of the box. Most people picked up their Spooky Tea boxes on Saturday morning before the tea, but some were delivered personally to people’s homes by Debbie Benko, Linda Andrew-Marshall, and Jean Reynolds. Rev. Jacey, Rev. Emily, and Doreen dressed in costume and distributed boxes from the church yard by the palm tree. When I arrived, Emily was in a plastic T-Rex costume and seated on a chair. A real turkey wandered in to see what was happening. The tea was at 1:00 p.m. Claudia Russell and Bruce Kaplan sang and played for us. Each person told about their own costume. Gill and Christina Stanfield had virtual costumes they could change with the touch of a button. We played a round of BINGO, then met in smaller breakout rooms to chat. It was like being at a table together. The Spooky Tea was a huge success. We

enjoyed working together to plan it and had a fun, safe event.

On November 1, we celebrated "All Saints Day." Rev. Jacey made a video/slide-show of photos people sent her of their saints: family, friends, and mentors, whose lives are now cherished memories. We sang the hymn, "I Sing a Song of the Saints of God," which always brings to mind our previous accompanist Melody Hastings, who is now a saint herself. Melody loved the lyrics to that hymn. We all relish singing the line that ends, "and one was devoured by a fierce wild beast." How often do you get to sing those words in church?

Our trustees continue their attentive care for our property. Jonathan Swett, Bill Thompson, and German Alvarez are modernizing all of the electrical systems in the church, with direction from our favorite licensed electrician, Chris Davis. Some circuits still have ancient knob and tube wiring, and keep us from qualifying for full fire insurance coverage. Since the building is not being used, they have had time to do the job thoroughly: even the original lights on the sanctuary ceiling are being refreshed. When the work is done, the building will be less likely to self-ignite.

These people sang one or more anthems in September and October: Alice and Bill Thompson, Heather Damon Wagner, Laila Millar, Jonathan Swett, Laurence Tietz and Rose Ayers, Gill Stanfield, and Jean and Norm Reynolds. George Peter Tingley sends us pre-recorded pieces we can use for gathering music or anthems. We are thankful for our musicians.

Bill and Alice Thompson remind us weekly during Children's Time that we are all God's children. They and the children have shared about simple joys and hopes, favorite animals, and prized possessions. They shared ways they cope, are kind, and how they care for themselves and others. They invited us to remember people who treated us as special, and encouraged us to treat others that way.

We are re-imagining how to celebrate Thanksgiving this year. There is no way to share a meal in community in Friendship Hall, or to even be together to prepare food in our church kitchen. We plan to help the Bay Area Rescue Mission and Greater Richmond Interfaith

Program clients as an alternative to our usual feast, and acutely feel the loss of the close connections we usually enjoy with neighbors and friends at the church on Thanksgiving. We are still truly thankful for all of you!

On the Calendar:

Holiday Bake Sale: Saturday, December 19. Home-baked holiday cookies, pies, cakes, and fudge will be available to pre-order online or by phone. Details will be available in December on the church website, advertised on signboards in downtown Pt. Richmond, and posted on NextDoor. Let us do the baking for your holiday festivities.

Christmas Eve Jazz: December 24, 7:00 p.m. This perennial favorite will feature jazz by the Kurt Ribak Quartet, some special musical guests, and the traditional Christmas story. Again, for safety, we will gather on Zoom.

For updates, see the church website: <https://www.pointrichmondmethodist.org>



Jean Reynolds



We Have Standards!

Episode 9: Compatibility vs. Differentiation

by Caitlin Hibma

In our penultimate edition of “We Have Standards!” we look at Secretary of the Interior’s Standard Number 9, which states that “New additions, exterior alterations, or related new construction shall not destroy historic materials that characterize the property. The new work shall be differentiated from the old and shall be compatible with the massing, size, scale, and architectural features to protect the historic integrity of the property and its environment.”

In short, this addresses the basic concept of “compatibility versus differentiation,” a core tenet of preservation practice. When a project affects a historic building, we want to make sure whatever is added or changed respects and works with the existing fabric, but that it is easily interpreted as not historic by the man-on-the-street, thus avoiding the false historicism discussed in episode 3.

It is a balancing act and can be argued at oh-so-many angles, which always makes it a controversial and hotly-debated Standard when it comes to design review. Some preservationists prefer differentiation over compatibility; “make NO mistake, this bit is new!” Some favor compatibility; heavy historical reference that perhaps only an expert eye could distinguish as not quite authentic. Sometimes, and in some towns, one approach is more readily supported than the other, but ultimately, we strive for the middle path with the old dictum of design: “It doesn’t match, but it goes.” My mother is an interior designer and always used this phrase. Maybe the color of the rug doesn’t quite match the couch, but it’s complimentary and its pattern ties in with the geometry of the lamp. In the case of Standard 9, maybe the new addition doesn’t quite match the original portion of the house in its ornament, but it has a similar siding type and the

roof form repeats that of the existing roof.

Absolutely matching a new addition to the historic portion of a building would result in false historicism – a fake sense of history and age – and the inability to tell the new from the old. Alternately, differentiating too much risks creating an incoherent Frankenstein of a building with an old body and new appendages. We strive to find a design for new construction that references the general aesthetic of a style, while staying neutral. My usual recommendation is to err on the side of simplicity. Many factors – particularly those addressed in other Standards, like materials, subservient massing, etc. – contribute to compatibility and/or differentiation, but ornament and detailing have the biggest impact in my mind and can most easily be simplified to echo but not mimic traditional features.

I worked on a project where a third story addition was proposed. The architect thought a big glass box on the roof would be great. In addition to arguing its transparency (practically invisible!), he pointed out that it would be totally differentiated. That is very true; however, it also looked like an Apple store had been plopped on top of a 120 year old Classical Revival style house. I argued that perhaps solid walls would be better and more traditional (sorry about the views). They would look more like something that might have been built 120 years ago, along with punched window openings, and a bit of projecting cornice at the roofline. Instead of taking differentiation to the extreme of curtain wall glazing, it could be achieved through larger single-lite windows (the rest on the house were smaller multi-lite windows), flush horizontal siding (to compliment but not match the lapped horizontal siding elsewhere), and a plain box cornice that echoed the cornice at the main roofline, but dispensed

with the Classical scroll brackets, block modillions, and elaborate moldings. We achieved a third story addition that looked like a logical, natural part of the house, but read as slightly more modern and, thus, easy to interpret as a later addition.

The same tactic can be used when too much compatibility is proposed. It's great to honor the historic style of the building, but take those traditional elements – the gingerbread, the multi-lite windows, the ornate moldings – and simplify them. Take out the ornate, keep the basic form, and you achieve compatibility without the overt matching.

Next Time: Keep your Standards high by making sure you can get rid of it later...



Caitlin Hibma
PRHA Secretary

A vintage black and white advertisement for Philip Morris. It features two main figures: Lucille Ball on the left, holding a cigarette, and a smiling man in a suit on the right, also holding a cigarette. The text is arranged around them. At the top, it says "Smart young Americans are changing to PHILIP MORRIS - WHY DON'T YOU?". A large speech bubble from the man says "SMOKE FOR PLEASURE today". Another speech bubble from the woman says "NO CIGARETTE HANGOVER tomorrow!". Below the woman is a pack of Philip Morris cigarettes. At the bottom, it says "Remember: PHILIP MORRIS is made differently from any other leading brand. And that difference is your guarantee of truly mildness, rich flavor, pleasant aroma. No wonder more smokers have switched to Philip Morris. In the past 5 years, than to all other leading brands combined!". A small box says "I LOVE LUCY". At the very bottom, it says "CALL FOR PHILIP MORRIS" and "You'll be glad tomorrow... you smoked PHILIP MORRIS today!".

A black and white advertisement for a cigarette holder. It features a close-up of a woman's face in profile, smoking a cigarette. The cigarette is held in a holder. Below the image, the text reads "Light Ash Tray Fits on Cigarette Holder". Further down, it says "ASHES cannot spill from a cigarette in a holder fitted with the novel ash receiver shown above. Made of aluminum, the lightweight receptacle is suspended from the holder by a clamp."



Current art exhibitions sponsored by Arts of Point Richmond

from Rita Gardner

Arts of Point Richmond is a community association established to enrich our community by providing support, appreciation, and exposure for the arts. For more information: www.artsofpointrichmond.com

Through January 5, 2021 at Post Office, 104 Washington Avenue, Point Richmond.



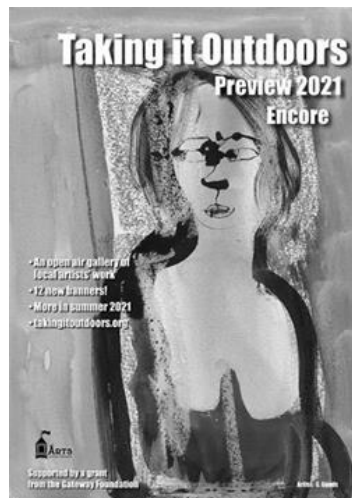
Exhibition of photographic images and mixed media by Mindy Pines. Mindy enjoys capturing people, ways of life, and diversity, using an iPhone to document what she sees in Richmond and beyond.

Ongoing: Lara's Fine Dining Restaurant, 1900 Esplanade Drive, Richmond (Marina Bay).



Exhibition features artists ***Caitlin Hibma, Mary Lee Cole, Rita Gardner, Bonnie Leonard, Virginia Rigney, Betsy Kellas, George Tomberlin, Marilyn Hertzberg, Louise Iiams, Jean Brady, Jan Chleboun, Nancy Whitley, Nancy Noble, Dee Bell, Bob Colin, and Jim DeWitt.*** (As of Nov, restaurant has outdoor and some indoor seating, and art is available to view during their business hours.)

Ongoing: "Taking it Outdoors: Preview 2021 Encore"



Banner displays of 28 members' artworks on the walls of downtown Point Richmond (including twelve new installations.) It's the perfect fresh air art experience during the time of coronavirus. Stroll through town and discover them around Washington Street and Park Place.

Comments made in the year 1957

Taken from an old Point Counterpoint

- ◆ “I’ll tell you one thing, if things keep going the way they are, it’s going to be impossible to buy a week’s groceries for \$20.”
- ◆ “I’m afraid to send my keds to the movies any more. Ever since they let Clark Gable get by with saying ‘damn’ in ‘Gone With The Wind’ it seems every new movie has either ‘hell’ or ‘damn in it.’”
- ◆ “If cigarettes keep going up in price, I’m going to quit. A quarter a pack is ridiculous.”
- ◆ “Did you hear the post office is thinking about charging a dime just to mail a letter”
- ◆ “If they raise the minimum wage to \$1, nobody will be able to hire outside help an

the store.”

- ◆ “When I first started driving, who would have thought gas would someday cost 29 cents a gallon. Guess we’d be better off leaving the car in the garage.”
- ◆ “Kids today are impossible. Those ducktail haircuts made it impossible to stay groomed. Next thing you know, boys will be wearing their hair as long as the girls.”
- ◆ “If they think I’ll pay 50 cents for a haircut, forget it.”
- ◆ “I read the other day where some scientist thinks it’s possible to put a man on the moon by the end of the century. They even have some fellows they call astronauts preparing for it down in Texas.”
- ◆ “Did you see where some baseball player just signed a contract for \$75,000 a year just to play ball? It wouldn’t surprise me if someday they’ll be making more than the president.”
- ◆ “I’m just afraid the Volkswagen car is going to open the door to a whole lot of foreign business.
- ◆ “No one can afford to be sick anymore; \$35 a day in the hospital is too rich for my blood.”
- ◆ “I never thought I’d see the day where all our kitchen appliances would be electric. They are even making electric typewriters now.”
- ◆ “The drive-in restaurant is convenient in nice weather, but I seriously doubt they will ever catch on.”
- ◆ “It’s too bad things are so tough nowadays. I see where a few married women are having to work to make ends meet.”



Trannie Dornan's Memoirs

by Gary Darling
Reprinted from Point Counterpoint

Born in Butte City, of Glen County, Trannie Dornan came with her family to Point Richmond on March 1, 1905. She was the oldest of four in the family. Their first house was located on Pacific Avenue (now called Western Drive). Her father worked at Standard Oil for 27 years and retired in 1932.

Trannie attended Standard Ave. Elementary School. She then went on to the High School located beside Standard Ave. School (which later changed its name to Richmond Union School when it moved to 23rd Street at Macdonald Ave.). Trannie loves to tell about her graduation from grammar school (8th grade), which took place in the once famous Opera House of Point Richmond (located near the corner of Washington Ave. and Standard Ave. - next to Pat Dean's Saloon).

In 1917 she got married to Robert Dornan and had three children, one of which is my devoted Scout Master. Mr. Dornan, with a partner (Art Whitesides), bought out a feed, fuel and drayage company in 1911 and turned it into the Richmond Supply Company. Since his death, Trannie has run the Richmond Supply Co. (located at 145 W. Richmond Avenue)

Back in the old days, says Trannie, it was a custom for all of the men to go to Chris Macaado's Barber Shop for a shave every morning. She says there were rows upon rows of cups in the barber shop, each with a name on it, full of shaving soap. When a man came in for a shave his cup of shaving lather was used. It cost 10¢ for a shave and 25¢ for a hair cut.

In Point Richmond there were two funeral parlors. One was Underwood's Undertaking Parlor (located on W. Richmond Ave. in the house across the street from the Point Orient). The other was Burt Curry's Undertaking Parlor (located in the "triangle", near the site of the present fire station). Claire Schmidt of Schmidt and Dixon was a Curry

girl.

Trannie remembers that in those days, the main source of transportation was horse-drawn trolley cars (which looked like the cable cars of San Francisco). She says they even had a special black car which was only used for funeral processions. The casket would ride in a special compartment under the car, and the people would ride above it in the passenger compartment. The nearest graveyard was Sunset View Cemetery (located on Fairmont Ave. in El Cerrito) and it would take all day for the funeral.

Some of the other original businesses mentioned by Mrs. Dornan (as well as many of the others I have interviewed) located on and around W. Richmond Ave. were: Critchett's Hotel (where Ron's Market is now) (*ed. now Point Richmond Market*) next door to this (up the street) is where the first library of Point Richmond was located, the Abbott Hospital (where the Carroll Apartments are located), Bly's Grocery (across the street from the Carroll Apartments), Charlie Reiger's Butcher Shop (where the Catholic Church parking lot is); a candy shop (located down the street, next to the butcher shop), the first Post Office (next to the candy shop), a plumbing shop (next to the Post Office), finally on the corner, the Bank of Richmond (now Sherry and Bob's), which later sold out to the American Trust, which closed down during the Depression.

Many old names pop up during every conversation with Trannie - Otto Ludwig, the butche, Sandy Elsie's Dry Goods Store, Virgil Feuner and Gordon Ferault's Hardware, Ed McDuff's Saloon, Mary Moyle Shoe Store, Steifvater's Grocery Store, etc.

One of her most vivid memories is the 1906 earthquake. She lived on the corner of Summit Place and Golden Gate Avenue. Trannie says the kerosene lamps swung in the early morning and her mother herded all the kids under the beds. She remembers San Francisco's ashes falling on Point Richmond during the big fire, traveling to the Pan Pacific Exposition on the Ocean Wave, and all-in-all, just how many things can a person forget after 70 wonderful years in Point Richmond?

A fine is a tax for doing wrong. A tax is a fine for doing well.

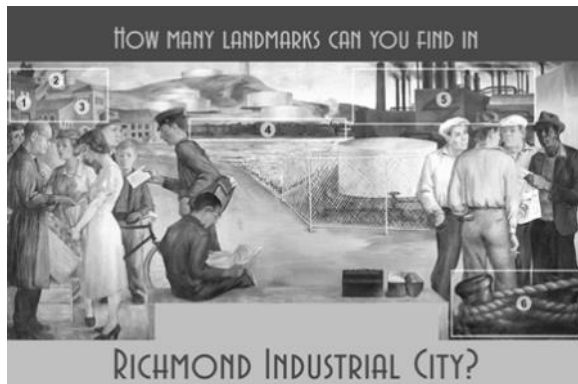
From Richmond Museum of History



Own a piece of Richmond history!

The Richmond Museum of History & Culture is selling bricks from the Los Angeles Pressed Brick Company for \$100. Los Angeles Pressed Brick Company operated at today's Brickyard Cove.

Contact Melinda McCrary at melinda@richmondmuseum.org to learn more and reserve yours today.



The permanent gallery will reopen once again in December with a new addition! The historic Richmond Industrial City mural by Victor Arnautoff has been installed at the Museum and will be debuted to the public by the end of the year. In the meantime, play the mural trivia game! Identify any landmark in the mural to win a prize. Visit www.richmondmuseum.org/mural to submit your answers!



Remember the big tree that was in front of the Natatorium.

Thanks to Linda Andrew-Marshall for sharing.



Early Minutes of the Women's Westside Improvement Club

It's amazing what's in the WWIC minutes! They date back to July 1908 when the Club started. The ladies met weekly. In the first six months they set projects in motion that we enjoy to this day: a statue at Washington and Park Place, a large drinking fountain, a park next to the Baptist Church, and the establishment of a reading room where the city hall had been in Mr. Crichett's place. Even the names are historical. These minutes are a priceless treasure of Point Richmond's history.

-Linda Newton, Past President

Point Richmond Calif. Nov. 2, 1910

The Women's West Side Improvement Club met in regular session at Peards Hall. Meeting called to order by the president.

Minutes of last meeting read and approved.

Roll call of officers resulted in 4 being present and 8 being absent.

Bills: Mrs. Eaton .40¢ supplies, Mrs. Roth \$1.00 library deposit. Mrs. Speirsch .35¢ for express. Bills ordered paid. Moved by Mrs. Roth 2nd by Mrs. Eaton that \$75 be paid to Mr. Cruickshanks to apply on rest room.

Moved by Mrs. Curtain 2nd by Mrs. Roth that a letter of thanks be written to the Winery thanking them for grape juice for punch also a letter to Amaud Harze for mirror.

Mrs. Adams was appointed to take charge of boost buttons for election day.

Mrs. Walker suggested a social day in connection with our work.

Mrs. Adams and Mrs. Curtain were to get paint for rest room.

Meeting adjourned for two weeks.

Receipts: Dues, Mrs. R.C. Lang 1.00, Mrs. W. Curtain 1.00, Mrs. J.K. Coward 1.00, Mrs. McRacken 1.00, Dance 65.65. Total 69.65.

Disbursements: Mrs. Eaton \$.40, Mrs. Roth .50, Mrs. Speirsch .35, Mr. Curichshanks \$75. Total \$76.75.

Mrs. Adams Sec. pro tem

Point Richmond Calif Nov. 16, 1910

The Women's West Side Improvement Club met in regular session at Peards Hall. Meeting called to order by the President.

Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Roll call of officers resulted in 4 being present and 8 being absent.

Application of Mrs. Josie Reposa was read. Mrs. Topping, Garrard and Curtain were appointed Investigation Comm. They reported favorable.

An invitation was read from the Womens Improvement Club asking us to join them and Club Mendelson in entertaining Mrs. Barry the District President Nov. 21.

Mrs. Adams and Hopkins refreshment comm. and Mrs. Adams & Cramer decorating comm.

Receipts: Mr. I Sickles dues \$.50, Mrs. Neil 1.00, Mrs. Reposa fee 1.00, buttons 72.90. Total \$75.40

It was decided to give a progressive dinner Lincoln's birthday.

Meeting adjourned to meet Dec. 7th.

Mrs. Cramer Sec.

Point Richmond Calif. Dec. 7, 1910

The Women's West Side Improvement Club met in regular session at Peards Hall.

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Mrs. Grover.

Roll call of officers resulted in 4 being present.

Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Ballot was spread and being favorable Mrs. Josie Reposa was elected to membership of the club. Sec. was instructed to notify her.

Mrs. Adams reported that she had \$4.40 more in the button fund.

It was moved by Mrs. Eaton and seconded by Mrs. Dimick that the club give what things they had left from their grab bag from July 4th to Mystic Booth of the Guild. carried.

It was moved by Mrs. Adams 2nd by Mrs.

Trautvetter that sec. be instructed to get 500 envelopes for club use. carried.

No further business the meeting adjourned until Dec. 21st.

Receipts: Mrs. A.C. Trautvetter .75, Mrs. C.L. Abbott 2.25, Mrs. J. Kelly 1.50, Buttons 4.40. Total 8.90.

Mrs. Cramer, Sec.

Point Richmond Dec. 21, 1910

The Women's West Side Improvement Club met in regular session at Peards Hall.

Meeting was called to order by President Mrs. Marston.

Bills read from Mrs. Curtain \$4 for hall rent and from Mr. Beaumont \$21.90 for Buttons.

Moved by Mrs. Adams 2nd by Mrs. Curtain that warrant be drawn for 21.90 for Mr. Beaumont for buttons. carried. Moved by Mrs. Adams 2nd by Mrs. Chaucer that warrant be drawn to pay hall rent.

No further business the meeting adjourned until Jan 4, 1911.

Receipts: Mrs. Moyle dues 1.00, Mrs. Reposa dues .75. Total 1.75.

Mrs. Cramer, Sec.

Point Richmond Jan 4, 1911

The Womens West Side Improvement Club met in regular session in Peard Hall.

Meeting was called to order by President Mrs. Marsdon.

Roll call of officers resulted in 4 being present.

Minutes of meetings on Dec. 7th and Dec. 21st were read and approved.

A Christmas and New Year greeting read from Mrs. Berni, Dist. President, Sec. reported having answered it with a New Years greeting from club.

It was moved and seconded that we plant Jaunice Park in grass. carried.

Mrs. Curtain was appointed com. of one to see the Electric Light Co. in regards to putting a light & furnishing it in out in Comfort Room. It was decided to have Sec. notify members of our next meeting, also to put it in papers.

Receipts: Mrs. T.T. Cramer dues .25¢.

No further business the meeting adjourned.

Mrs. T.T. Cramer, Sec.

Point Richmond Calif. Jan, 18, 1911

The Women's West Side Improvement Club bet in regular session at Peards Hall.

Meeting was called to order by the President.

Roll call of officers resulted in 9 being present.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

A letter was read from Mrs. Cory, Dist Treas. resending us of the percapita tax of Federations. It was moved by Mrs. Adams second by Mrs. Coleman that dues be paid.

Mrs. Adams was appointed Com. of one to see Mr. Fritz about seeding the park. Mrs. Dimm, Coleman and Adams were appointed a Comm. for tree planting.

The Subject of Progressive dinner was discussed and left over until some future time.

Mrs. Coleman was elected our delegate to attend District Conv to be held in Stockton Feb 16-17-18. Mrs. Cramer elected as alternate.

Mrs. Peoghegaw of the Women's Improvement Club was introduced and gave quite a talk to the club on the questions of Equal Suffrage as it is before the State Legislature. She also spoke of the bill of raising the age of correct Standard of Weights and Measures and a retired salary for teachers.

The club was asked to endorse these, which they did, the Sec. being instructed to write to Cong. Martinelli asking him to support the same.

Mrs. Younglove spoke about the Huaunaine Calender and asked us help put one in each school room.

Moved by Mrs. McHenry 2nd by Mrs. Walker that club help with this work. Moved by Mrs. Coleman 2nd by Mrs. Walker that the club spend \$2 on calender work.

Mrs. Walker suggested that we use one meeting a month to study the important questions of the day, and to ask different ones to speak to us.

It was decided that Mrs. McHenry and Mrs. Younglove have charge of our next meeting. Moved by Mrs. Adams 2nd by Mrs. Cramer that our meetings be moved from the 1st & 3rd to the 2nd & 4th Wed of each month.

Receipts: Mrs. F.A. Smith .75, Mrs. McHenry 1.50, Mrs R. Speirsch 2.00, Mrs. L.E. Minor 1.00, Mrs. W. E. Henry 1.50. Total 6.75.

Adjourned to meet Jan. 25, 1911.

Mrs. T.T. Cramer, Sec.

James Cheshareck

Saving our Municipal Signage History

California road history long has been an interest of mine, especially Richmond's. I have researched the history of streets, highways, freeways, and paper roads, and compared successive maps of Richmond, observing changes as well as growth. Since before incorporation, Richmond has added many new streets and changed the names of many others. The most notable name change in the Point was the southerly portion of Garrard Blvd. named for Edward J. Garrard (1879-1927) who was the Standard Oil Company General Foreman, and Richmond Mayor/Councilman. When beloved Point resident Robert Dornan (1922-1981) was slain, we honored him by getting the bayside portion of S. Garrard renamed Dornan Drive in 1984.

The south-north 500 block of Western Drive was renamed twice. It was first named Mintzer Avenue for William Mintzer (1856-1911), who was the second husband of Emily Tewksbury, and pivotal in selling Tewksbury land to Standard Oil and the Southern Pacific railroad. It was next

posthumously named Hartnett Avenue for John N. Hartnett (1873-1938) who was a City Councilman intermittently between 1909-1933. In the early 1960's, it was absorbed into Western Drive. Strangely enough, Hartnett Avenue would appear again as a cross street to Carlson Blvd., which was renamed in 1949 for Richmond City Attorney Thomas Carlson (1894-1961). Carlson Blvd. was formerly Pullman Ave., named for the Pullman Company which operated a 20 plus acre facility headquartered on Pullman Avenue/Carlson Blvd. from 1910-1959.

Beside maps, I've thoroughly researched aspects of road history which are often overlooked, namely "street furniture". Remember when top portions of U.S.P.S. curbside mail boxes were painted red? How about wire mesh City litter cans, or signs on telephone poles reading "POST NO BILLS"? Most people will not discern differences between old and new signs, signals, and lighting as separate entities. However, when all are combined together, the small details contribute noticeably to the aesthetics and



Vintage Point Richmond street signs saved from going to landfill.

character of a historical neighborhood. In my opinion, even vintage street lighting and traffic control devices are historically significant. Installing replica vintage street lighting or by simply painting sign poles can enhance the aura of Point Richmond. A good example is the correctly painted black and white striping on the wig wag “planter boxes”.

Street light standards once were manufactured with fluted poles, decorative bases, and acorn shaped glass domes. 23rd street and downtown Richmond once were adorned with this style of lighting. Sadly, most were scrapped long ago and superseded by bland and uninspiring replacements. In 1972 unsightly utility poles were eliminated on 23rd street with installation of underground service cables, and the vintage lighting unfortunately was replaced at the same time. Richmond’s oldest remaining street light poles surround City Hall and were installed circa 1951, and aren’t nearly as elaborate as the predecessors. The light fixtures themselves were replaced with L.E.D. models a few years back. Although energy efficient, LED’s are a threat to remaining vintage street lighting. The yellow-hued glow of sodium vapor is much more appropriate than the white glare of a modern LED. With advancing technology, an energy efficient yellow-hued L.E.D. replacement isn’t far-fetched and will hopefully throw a lifeline to the Country’s remaining vintage street lights.

With traffic signal LED retrofitting, a single LED module replaces the old assembly which consists of an incandescent light bulb, socket, glass lens, and reflector. Red LED’s were the first to be produced and Berkeley led the East Bay with retrofitting in 1998. A couple years later, green and yellow LED’s debuted. LED’s gutted the distinctive patterned glass lenses of the dozens of the Bay Area’s last remaining art deco traffic signal heads. Macdonald Avenue once had these same art deco signal heads manufactured by the Crouse Hinds company between 1936-1955, but all were gone by the mid 1960’s. Hopefully an actual LED lightbulb will someday preserve remaining vintage traffic signals which are still found in rural areas in the East Coast and other states. Richmond converted reds and greens to LED in late 2002. Yellow remained incandescent

bulb since the cost at the time was not justifiable with yellow bulbs lit only 3-4 seconds per interval. While on topic, the pedestrian signal with green and red neon tubes reading “WALK/WAIT” is another now extinct relic.

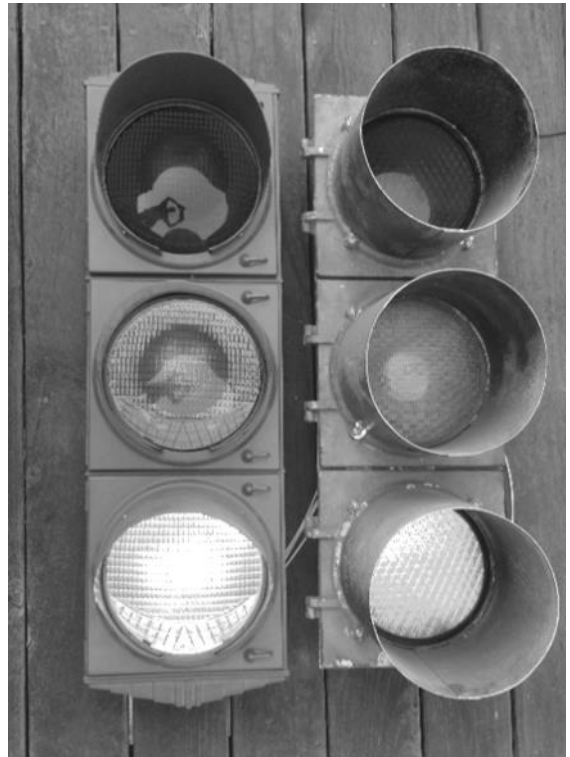
Before aluminum, street name signs were made of steel and coated with black and white,



Comparison of 1940's vintage to modern signage.

baked porcelain-enamel paint. Regulatory and warning signs such as stop signs, etc. were also porcelain enameled-steel with round glass or plastic button reflectors. The majority of these signs were supplied by AAA insurance company. Wooden and metal street sign poles were once painted white or yellow with a black base, and traffic signal poles were painted yellow. Richmond for a period painted metal telephone poles and street name poles orange. As much as I'd like to donate vintage AAA stop signs and such for the Point to cherish, they wouldn't stand a chance. They are now valuable among collectors, who even have a dedicated Facebook page, and many of these signs are no longer compliant with federal regulations. I know of one old stop sign still hanging in Contra Costa County but I will not divulge its location for fear of theft or replacement. There was once a panel of several vintage Gamewell fire alarm call boxes across the street from the Point Molate fire station, but they were pilfered over the past twenty years.

Even if we can't revert to old signage, reproduction ornate light poles are worth the extra cost. In Point Richmond, we need not look farther than the vicinity of our Museum or the Plunge for examples. A grand example of lighting is on Macdonald Avenue in downtown Richmond. When the 1970's traffic signals were replaced around ten years ago, the City opted to install very ornate poles between the intersections of 10th and 14th Street (renamed Harbour Way, and Marina Way respectively in 1974). Perhaps someday downtown Point Richmond will go to



Comparison of Art Deco to common LED signal

underground service cables, thus eliminating the metal utility poles and presenting an opportunity to install vintage style lighting, and perhaps a street clock. In the meantime, pay closer attention to "street furniture".

*Reproduction
vintage
lighting
on
Macdonald
Avenue*



This is from a "fact diary", a book of headlines and interesting events in Early Point Richmond. It was compiled by Don Church from the "Richmond Independent", "Point Richmond News", "The Leader" and "Richmond Herald Record". It is one of many interesting historical items left for us by Allan Smith.

Items of Interest Point Richmond, early 1900's

The Record and The Leader

- | | |
|------------|--|
| 12-17-1917 | New speed cop on job today (Glavinovich)
Fined \$10 for walking through the Santa Fe Tunnel. |
| 12-19-1917 | Jack Best of Home Laundry, breaks wrist cranking car. |
| 12-21-1917 | S.O.Co. worker Andrew Driscoll slips into sulphuric acid pan with one hand and one leg.
Every married man registered for draft has a sick wife. |
| 12-28-1917 | U.S. Gov't takes over the Railroads today.
Andrew Driscoll dies from acid burns.
Limit on sugar to 5 lbs. for each family. |
| 01-02-1918 | Women rush to store for sugar; only 5 lbs. per family after today. |
| 01-03-1918 | Milk up 1¢ to 12¢ per qt.
Showers being installed in City Jail. |
| 01-05-1918 | John Nicholl again head of Mechanics Bank. |
| 01-07-1918 | Selective Service Law declared constitutional by Supreme Court. |
| 01-08-1918 | Rowdyism by drunks to be stopped on late street cars. |
| 01-29-1918 | East Bay Water can issue ½ million in bonds for San Pablo Dam construction. |
| 02-06-1918 | Mrs. T.F. Stout of Point has a new War Bread recipe. |
| 02-09-1918 | Golden State Beer truck runs amuck on Cottage Avenue and crashes into a pole near the Colonial Hotel (<i>ed: now Hotel Mac</i>). |
| 02-12-1918 | No more air guns for boys in the City. \$10 reward for information leading to arrest of any boy using one. |
| 02-25-1918 | Victory Bread makes its first appearance today in all bakeries. |
| 03-03-1918 | Arrest of 5 Mexicans at Santa Fe. Usual payday riot. |
| 03-08-1918 | Germans again bomb London using Zeppelins. |
| 03-11-1918 | Donald Church transferred from Refy to Marine Dept. |
| 03-12-1918 | After 1 year of negotiations, the Santa Fe has finally given City an easement over the tunnel for completion of Western Drive to Garrard. |
| 03-13-1918 | Installation of big press marks new Independent. The morning edition is called The Richmond News. |

I Love his version of It's A Wonderful World---such a talent that turned into an icon.

Thanks to Dee Rosier for sharing this.

Big cheeks

A grandson of slaves, a boy was born in a poor neighborhood of New Orleans known as the "Back of Town." His father abandoned the family when the child was an infant. His mother became a prostitute and the boy and his sister had to live with their grandmother.

Early in life he proved to be gifted for music and with three other kids he sang in the streets of New Orleans. His first gains were coins that were thrown to them.



A Jewish family, Karnofsky, who had emigrated from Lithuania to the USA, had pity for the 7-year-old boy and brought him into their home. Initially giving 'work' in the house, to feed this hungry child. There he remained and slept in this Jewish family's home where, for the first time in his life, he was treated with kindness and tenderness.

When he went to bed, Mrs. Karnovsky sang him a Russian lullaby that he would sing with her. Later, he learned to sing and play several Russian and Jewish songs.

Over time, this boy became the adopted son of this family.

The Karnofskys gave him money to buy his first musical instrument; as was the custom in the Jewish families.

They sincerely admired his musical talent. Later, when he became a professional musician and composer, he used these Jewish melodies in compositions, such as St. James Infirmary and Go Down Moses. The young black boy grew up and wrote a book about this Jewish family who had adopted him in 1907. In memory of this family and until the end of his life, he wore a Star of David and said that in this family, he had learned "how to live real life and determination."

You might recognize his name. This little boy was called: **Louis "Satchmo" Armstrong.**

Louis Armstrong proudly spoke fluent Yiddish! And "Satchmo" is Yiddish for "Big Cheeks"!

Chances are you did not know any of this.



Thanks Dee Rosier for this Ray Colvin drawing of Washington and Park Place. It is the cover of a Holiday greeting card from the Baltic Restaurant.

A Day at the Polls

Election Day, Tuesday, November 7, 1995 at Washington School in Point Richmond

by Poll Worker Mildred Dorman

Awakening to a 5:30 a.m. alarm to report by 6:30 a.m. at the polling site starts the workday of an election officer that ends at 9:00 p.m. Daylight is breaking through darkness and cars are guided by headlights. Most are headed toward other jobs.

The Election Board consists of four persons recruited by the County Elections Department in Martinez. The Inspector has already inspected and verified the supplies delivered before election day. There are duties to perform before the polls open. Display the flag and directional voting arrows, provide booth information, prepare unvoted ballots in holders, post the index of voters at entrance, verify the ballot box is empty, design system so voters signing the Roster will flow to expedite voting and remove campaign signs and literature within 100 feet of the polling site. Someone had been busy during the last hours as there were many signs, not FOR but AGAINST a candidate! Take the Oath of Office so when it is announced, "The polls are open!" the board is prepared for the first voter in line, and yes there was a line.

To vote, the voters signature and address are needed and are signed alphabetically in the voter Roster and their address is verified by street in the Index. After given a special marker and holder

containing a ballot, the voter proceeds to vote in the booth behind the tables before handing the voted ballot to an election officer who removes the identifying numbered stub from the ballot in the container and gives the stub to the voter. The official then empties the holder containing the ballot into the ballot box.

Voting is steady throughout the day. After all, this precinct has two council candidates! Tom Butt and Donna powers. Voters arrive at the wrong polling place (they didn't look at the ballot received earlier in the mail!), some had moved but fortunately lived within the same precinct so were still listed. Others weren't on both lists or declared they had registered more than 29 days prior but not listed so are given a Provisional Ballot to be verified as to legality by the Registrar of Voters later. Voters bring in their Absentee Ballots to be sent in at the end of the day. One forgot to designate the person returning her Absentee ballot so had to return with the corrected signature later.

Mid morning Bob Peckham arrives with baguettes of SemiFreddie and Acme bread and our favorite cheeses. A great perk-up as we munch and drink the coffee we had brought from home.

Election officers change duties throughout the long day; the seats get harder and by mid-afternoon, already eight hours on the job, you begin to forget your neighbors last name. Children accompany their parents, some old enough to understand the process. A small dogs comes in. Pol Watchers return periodically to check updated voter lists. A candidate arrives to vote.

Each worker has an hour break for lunch and three officers must be on duty at all times. No one can leave after four o'clock, it gets too busy as voters begin to flood in after work hours.

Five o'clock and getting cooler and darker outside. The seats are still hard but enthusiasm remains high. Thoughtful voter Kelly Darling

(Continued on page 24)



(Continued from page 23)

walks through the auditorium door carrying a steaming pot of not fat pumpkin soup along with non fat applesauce cake! Welcome food! Real hits!

The polls are declared closed at 8:00 p.m., thirteen hours after they were opened.

The task of finalizing the day begins. Replace the flag in its box, remove all items from outside the building and booths, balance the ballots voted, unvoted, provisional, spoiled, etc. Remove voted ballots to special box and drive contents of box and supplies to the county building in Richmond to be taken for the computer tally. (A board member recalls the days of hand tally of the votes! Not nostalgically!)

Fourteen and a half hours later the work is over. Five hundred thirty-four had voted. Several voters thanked the board for serving. With one hundred twenty two absentee ballots this

consolidated precinct had a 43% turnout of voters: compared the the city's 27%.

As auditorium doors are locked, one election officer looks up to comment, "Gee, it same round moon is in the sky as it was when I arrived the morning!"

P.S.

WINNERS:

Council: Lesa McIntosh, Donna Powers, Alex Evans, Tom Butt, and Nat Bates.

School Board: Diana Easton & Adrienne Harris-Pitts.

If you had watched Richmond's cable TV station KCRT, channel 25, on election night you could have gone to sleep knowing the winners and not had to believe the West County Times morning headlines.

Ed: Across the Bay Willie Brown was elected Mayor of San Francisco.

AN INTERESTING NUMBER

Here's an interesting number - 142857.

There are six digits, no zeros, threes, sixes, or nines, and no digit is repeated. Multiply the number by two and the sum still contains the same six digits. Multiply it by three, four, five, or six, and you will find that each new sum contains the same six digits. Each new sum, while its first and last digits are different from the first and last digit of the original number, maintains the same order of succession. For example, two always follows four and always precedes eight.

But watch our for a surprise when you multiply the original number by eleven.

EXCLUSIVE OVER 90 CLUB

Martha Bielawski - 100

Morris Simpson - 98

Billie Bonham Shaw - 97

Muriel Clausen - 96

Mary Bianchini Highfill - 96

Tom Kenny - 96

Loretta Stevens Johromi - 95

June Beesley Sosabal - 95

Alphonso Diaz - 95

Marcelina Smith - 95

Victor Morales - 92

Royce Ong - 90

Jean Knox - 93

Hector Lizarraga - 97

Donna Wilson - 90

Florence Wilson - 90

Cards, Letters & E-Mails

Hi Gary,

Just read my TPIT and had many wonderful memories of living in the Point. Such a special, special community. I miss all the good times and friendly faces.

Love receiving electronically. Now I can enjoy whether we are in Minden or Arizona.

Give Jerry a late birthday wish and huge hug. Jerry was one of the friendly faces in Hotel Mac I love to see. Jerry, do you remember when I brought in Krispy Kreme donuts after bringing them back from Sacramento? So many worldly problems solved at the bar in Hotel Mac. Maybe that is what is wrong with the world today. don't have all those special people having their drinks and solving the issues. Grady was always on his stool. Fun times.

Theresa Daniels
Minden, NV

Dear Gary,

Thank you so much for the article about Judges and Spares restaurant on Washington Blvd. I was able to track down one of its owners, Janet Roberts, alive and well, living in Berkeley.

Janet explained that the restaurant was started by Point Richmond resident Allen Brennan in the late 1960s. Allen and his partner were volunteer teachers of English at San Quentin. They owned the large brick apartment building on the corner of West Richmond and Santa Fe. The restaurant was an immediate success and put the Point on the map. It was exhausting work and after 5-6 years, Allen sold the restaurant to Janet Roberts and a friend for \$2,000. They got great reviews.

Allen, Phyllis Skaglund and I started and ran Pt. Richmond Travel for over a decade until 1983 when Phyllis moved to Patzcuaro, Mexico.

Burl Willes
Berkeley

Hi Pam,

If you see Royce Ong tell him I said hello. He and Bobby Paasch, Steven Banks, and Scotty Perault all played together.

I always am amazed when we sent by to get Royce his mother would not let him to out until she took a very large safety pin and pinned a very large piece of jade (shaped like a flat washer about 2" in diameter) to his underwear.

Thank you,
David Janes
Bakersfield



New Year's Recipe

- ◇ One cup kindness
- ◇ Substantial portion of patience
- ◇ Mix well with Golden Rule
- ◇ Put in a generous amount of hard work and determination,
- ◇ Alternate with the same amount of fair play.
- ◇ Pour into mold of friendliness
- ◇ Warm with a cheery attitude.
- ◇ Remove all seeds of hate.
- ◇ Sift out irritableness and any old grudge
- ◇ Trim off self-importance and self-deprecation Cut away indifference, intemperance and fear. Sprinkle well with faithfulness and love.
- ◇ Follow recipe exactly; and try it soon.

From v. II, no. 39, December 29, 1967
issue of Point Counterpoint. A Journal of
Civic Communication. Printed in Point
Richmond, CA

BJC

I'm not a paranoid, deranged millionaire.....I'm a billionaire.

Howard Hughes

Birthdays

November

LaVerne Rentfro
Woolman
Amanda Kinley
Bethany Reynolds
Heinz Lankford
Lynn Rendle
Robert Larsen
Chuck Dutrow
Mary Ann Gaspard

Shirley Butt
Chris Bradshaw
David T. McCarthy
Clare Doherty
K. Patrick O'Higgins
Jason D. Crowson Dee
Rosier
Xavier Delatorre
Joe Savile

Shane Thomas
Jay Fenton
Joann Bill-Cannon
Linda Feyder
George Tumberlin
Nicole Vargo
Kathryn Pinkerton
James Cheshareck, Sr.
James Cheshareck, Jr.

Audrey Edwards
Bobbies Boziki
Linda Cheshareck
Katrina MacDiarmid
Albert Kollar
David Dolberg
Charlotte Birsinger
Gary Shows
Debra Jackson

December

Hazel Paasch
Les Crim
Alexis Lane Jensen
Donald Smith
Debbie Seaburg
Fred Frye
Christine Hayes
Lydia Jahromi
Jeff Corbin

Heidi Framerice
Mike Turner
Lauren Nason
Marilyn Darling
Linda Mertle
Michael Cheshareck
Eric Turner
Seth Fenton
Vince Smith

Jennifer Rosier
Christina Nagatani
Donald Smith
Thomas Mercer- Hursh
Jerry Feagley
Ilana Dolberg
Kayla Dolberg
Bob Burdick
Pat Pearson

Tony Lizarraga
Fernando Garcia
Becky Garcia
Kenny Paasch
Gary Massey
Christopher W. Wilson
Lisa M. Hire
Michael Jackson

January

Don Lindemann
Donna Buhler
Rahne Rosier
Tom Brennan
Altha Humphrey
Gloria Mallaghliate
Linda Andrew-
Marshal

Bryan Smith
Jim Allgaier
Doug Greiner
Jeff Quist
Ed Paasch
Jan Burdick
Jim Wilson
Robert McIntosh

Mary Highfill
Taylor Brougham
Alphonso Diaz
Karen Kittle
John Cutler
Marilu Fox
Elaine Harris
Kristina Hollbrook

Les Hathaway
Richard Palfini
Sena Bowles
Diana Mertle McHenry
Brad Feagley
Frank Kenny

You share your birthday with about 9 million other people in the world!

Please help me keep our lists correct, send additions, corrections or updates to our "Exclusive Over 90 Club" or "Birthdays" to Gary Shows, c/o PRHA, 139½ Washington Avenue, Point Richmond, CA 94801 or email to editor@pointrichmondhistory.org

**A possum is a flat animal that sleeps
in the middle of the road**

Something that I learned while living in the South

Memorials.....

Hannah Edwards Silva, born and raised in Point Richmond, died on September 20, 2020 at home with her husband, Gary Silva, at her side. She was 70 years old. Hannah had lived a long while with an Immunosuppressant disease affecting her heart and lungs, albeit, slowing her down only in the past ten years. Hannah was an avid bird watcher and that was her favorite pastime once she retired from Kaiser Permanente after 38 years. She was a great lover of cats and has quite a menagerie of them living on a beautiful sprawl of land where she and Gary reside on an old country road in Cordelia. Hannah also loved to read and likely read through a stack of ten books each month. Hannah's favorite trip was when she visited New Zealand with the Forbes' girls, along with Brenda McKinley, to visit Judy Forbes. The stories from that trip were never ending. Hannah was preceded in death by brother, John David, mother, Lucretia Edwards, and father, Tom Edwards. She is survived by her husband Gary Silva, and brother Barnaby Edwards and his wife Linda. Hannah will be greatly missed!

Janis D. McNair, a native of LaGrand, OR, died in Oakland on October 29, 2020. She was a 40 year resident of Point Richmond.

Janis is survived by her devoted husband of 39 years, Martin McNair. She was born to parents, Don and June Shelton and leaves her siblings, Dana Shelton Fitzpatrick (Steve) and Steve Shelton (Patti). She is also survived by her step children, Marta McNair and Rick McNair and her step grandchildren, Murphy and Mason. Janis leaves her niece, Tracy Hanna and nephews, Andy Shelton, Bryan Fitzpatrick and Justin Fitzpatrick. Her cat, Lola, will miss her gentle presence.

Janis attended the University of Oregon in Eugene. Before meeting Martin, she taught school in Guam and then moved to Coronado, CA.

She was an engaged member and participant in Soroptimist International of Richmond for the past 16 years. Janis chaired the Live Your Dream Award program which assists women in obtaining skills, training and education necessary to improve their employment status.

She was a student of Master Sha and a professional consultant in feng shui and energy space clearing. In lieu of Covid-19 conditions, a memorial service will not be held. Memorial contributions are preferred to Soroptimist International of Richmond, P.O. Box 21175, Richmond, CA 94820 benefiting the Live Your Dream Award.

A Life Well Lived

William A. Gutierrez (Bill) died peacefully on August 24, 2020 in Point Richmond, Ca. after a long and valiant battle with cancer. Bill was born in San Francisco, August 29, 1938 and attended Saint Vincent's School for Boys. He worked in the steel industry for 45 years. Bill was a member of Alcoholics Anonymous, celebrating 39 years of sobriety. Bill was a member of Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church in Point Richmond. He is survived by his wife of 30 years, Diane Marie, two daughters, Dyanne Howley and Gabrielle Dorsett, and son Greg Gutierrez, plus a large extended family. Bill was a very special friend to all who knew him.

After the game, the King and the Pawn go into the same box.

Italian proverb

CALENDAR/DIRECTORY

ARTS OF POINT RICHMOND

Art is for everyone, the artist, the viewer, the Point is art. Meets at 139 Washington Avenue. Contact: Irene Hightower, irene1328@comcast.net More info: <http://www.artsofpointrichmond.com/index.html>

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE READING ROOM

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

GOLDEN STATE MODEL RAILROAD MUSEUM AND EAST BAY MODEL ENGINEERS SOCIETY

900-A Dornan Drive. Sunday 12:00 to 5:00. Adults \$5, children under 11 and seniors \$3, family \$10. Trains run on Sunday and Wednesday 11-3, Saturday 12-5 viewing only. 510-234-4884 for details or www.gsrmr.org

MASQUERS PLAYHOUSE

The Masquers remains closed for building repairs. For more information see the website, <http://www.masquers.org>

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

Joanna Mina, Contact, 510-235-0157

POINT RICHMOND BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

Contact: Andrew Butt, 510-236-7445

POINT RICHMOND COMMUNITY CENTER

Info: 510-620-6905

POINT RICHMOND HISTORY ASSOCIATION

Museum is at 139½ Washington Avenue, and open Thursday's 11:30 to 2:00 and Saturday 11:30 to 2:00. See the Editors Notes on page 3 for next TPIT deadline. For information call President Bonnie Jo Cullison at 510-412-2202.

POINT RICHMOND NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

Meets last Wednesday of each month, Point Richmond Community Center; 7:30 P.M.

Contact: Peter Thelin at 510-326-8108

POINT RICHMOND/WEST SIDE BRANCH LIBRARY

Information call 510-620-6567

RED OAK VICTORY SHIP

Open Saturday, Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday, 10am to 3 pm. \$10 Donation/Boarding fee.

Pancake Breakfasts one Sunday a month, April - June, August - October, \$9/adults, \$5/kids under 8 years.,

For more information call the ship at 510-237-2933 or visit www.richmondmuseum.org

RICHMOND MUSEUM OF HISTORY

400 Nevin Avenue, Richmond. Open Wednesday-Sunday, 1:00 to 4:00 pm. For more information call 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 - More info at <http://www.richmondswims.org/> or call 415-892-0771

ROSIE THE RIVETER NATIONAL HISTORIC PARK VISITOR CENTER

1414 Harbour Way South, Oil House next to Ford Craneway. For more information call 510-232-5050 or visit www.nps.gov/rori. GREAT movies all day

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: Diane Diani, President. Email: italiandiane@gmail.com

Additions/Corrections to this Directory/Calendar? Email Gary Shows, garyshows@gmail.com

I would like to join the P.R.H.A.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E Mail: _____

Type of membership (check one):

<input type="checkbox"/>	Single	\$20.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Senior (65+)	15.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Family	25.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	History Preserver	50.00
<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 (five 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

☐ CHECK HERE if you would like to receive your newsletters electronically instead of by US Mail

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 "Editor's Notes" on page 3
Please mail articles and items of interest to:

Gary Shows

**229 Golden Gate Avenue
Point Richmond, CA 94801**

or

email: garyshows@gmail.com

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Point Richmond, CA 94801

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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

The Point Richmond History Association is registered with the IRS as a 501 (c) (3) organization. Contributions to the PRHA are deductible under section 170 of the code.

Point Richmond History Association
139½ Washington Avenue
Point Richmond, CA 94801



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