

THIS POINT....in time

NEWSLETTER

The Point Richmond History Association

Since 1979

www.PointRichmondHistory.org

Vol. XXXVI No. 3 November/December/January, 2017/18

\$3.00



Point Richmond's New Historical Information Kiosk

The Point Richmond History Association (PRHA)
acknowledges with gratitude the generous contributions of
those who made this kiosk and display possible:

Andrew Butt, Interactive Resources

Gordon Hirano, Shigoto-Ya

Jan Brown, Spokewise

City of Richmond
Department of Planning and Building Services
& Parks and Landscaping Division

•

The Bartram family for their donation
in memory of their parents Bruce and Ann Bartram,
stalwart supporters of the PRHA for many years

•

PRHA Supporters who have given generously
to enable the PRHA to collect, preserve and communicate
the history of this community

Point Richmond Neighborhood Council

Point Richmond Business Association

POINT RICHMOND HISTORY ASSOCIATION BOARD 2017

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From the President

By Mid Dornan

2017! Our long awaited Kiosk is up. When did Point Richmond begin? What did it mean ? The History of Point Richmond will be on two panels.

The Point Richmond Neighborhood Council and the Point Richmond Business Association will provide information for residents and visitors on what is Happening in the Point.

A big *Thank You* to the congenial Board of the Point Richmond History Association; read what is noted later in this issue by the Project Manager, Bonnie Jo Cullison.

Here's to another great year - 2018!

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Thank you members for your renewal:

Leslie Crim**

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Bob Armstrong*

Gloria Crim*

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Olga Thomsen

Jean & Norm Reynolds**

Welcome to new member:

John Bonfield*

David Ballard Family

Jessie West

Winston Tharp

Will Wenham**

*Gift Membership

**Special Supporter, *Thank You!*



Thank You! To

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

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

Mid Dornan

Pat Pearson

Heinz Lankford

Gary Shows

Lori Kauth

Virginia Mooney

Bonnie Jo Cullison

The Cover:

Point Richmond's new informational kiosk.

See page 22 for its story.

Editor's Notes

Gary Shows

garyshows@gmail.com

Here is the TPIT winter issue. For the first time in quite some time I had to add a page (4 newsletter pages) to accommodate all that I wanted to include. Special thanks to Caitlin Hibma and James Cheshareck for expanding on the hand drawn map that was included in the Sept/Oct issue. It's good to record information about this forever lost section of our town. More information or photos of the gone Standard Avenue at the end of Washington would be great. Thanks to Mid for identifying the author of the hand drawn map to be Bernard Bernes.

I hate to say it, but it's kind of nice to see the return of rain to our region. Hoping for a normal rainy season.

I wish you all happy holidays!

The deadline for items to be published in the next, February/March issue of TPIT is Friday, January 19, 2018.

Thanks to those who helped fold, staple and address the last issue:

Mid Dornan
Gary Shows
Bonnie Jo Cullison
Pat Pearson
Heinz Lankford
Kathe Kiehn
Pam Wilson
Karen Buchanan
Tom Piazza



Thank you Les Crim for your generous donation to PRHA!

Thank You to Our Special Supporters!

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Caitlin & Michael Hibma

A-Mid Trivia

TPIT
Exclusive
since 1984

Mid Dornan (510-234-5334) (middornan@gmail.com)

QUESTION: California license plates have been a sequential "7" since 2012. Soon the first "8 A" plates will appear. How many auto series plates number "7" have been manufactured since 2012?

Answer at end of trivia.

You aren't fat, just easy to see.

Who will decorate and provide lights for your windows in the downtown business district, to brighten our spirits as well as our streets?

If you remember the PET ROCK, it made everyone kids again in a fantasy world, Gary Dahl started selling the rock pal after writing The Pet Rock Training Manual, for \$3.95. People paid that for a little rock you could find almost anywhere by looking down.

If you want to keep up with current events in the office, put a dish of chocolate on your desk.

Gotten a bruise? Try a banana peel over the bruise for 10-30 minutes to see if the color can be removed.

In times of economic stress we may find ourselves wishing for what we have not, instead of being thankful for what we have.

Gary Shows has a camera in his patio so he can see who visited him during the night while he was sleeping. (Gary, do you want to list a few?)

Ed. Skunks, possums, racoons, cats and one deer.

The 22nd Annual Thanksgiving Day feast at the Point Methodist Church, Martina and West Richmond Avenue, is for everyone. For those

who want to eat...those that want take-aways...those who want to donate food...those who want to help serve... and for all to socialize. At 11:30 there will be singing and music in the Sanctuary to add joy to the day before serving at 12:00. Contact Kristi Johnson at kristija@gmail.com to donate or contact Fran Smith at 510.685-2338 for all other questions.

Last year more Americans relied solely on cell phones. 50.8 percent of homes and apartments had only cell phones versus 49.9 percent with landline phones.

Have an adjustable office chair with arms to donate to PRHA? call 510.234-5334.

Our veterans ask us to fly our flags November 23rd, Thanksgiving day, December 7th, Pearl Harbor Day, January 1, New years Day, January 15, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

Which Present came from Grandma

It isn't hard to see.

The gift wrap is the same she's used Since 1943.

Is it Christmas in October somewhere? With Holiday sales this early, it must be true.

Want a natural high? Rent a ladder.

Check with Maryn Hurlbut if you are still interested in a commemorative paver in the walkway to the picnic garden by the Plunge.

rta-ca.org@gmail.com.

(July, 198? , THIS POINT...in time) It was a grand and glorious Pancake Breakfast Day for Scout Troop 111, their most successful in 21 years. After 400 breakfasts, over 1500 pancakes,

and 8 dozen eggs, tired but happy boys thanked those assisting and attending. They had the \$\$ needed for their back-packing trek into the wilderness area.

Run bacon under cold water first and there will be 50% less shrinkage.

Condolences to siblings Deirdre and Jerry Cerkanowicz on the passing of their mother, Grace Cerkanowicz.

Whether you have friends or guests, Rosie the Riveter center is open seven days a week, from 10:00 a.m to 5:00 p.m.

TUESDAY, THURSDAY and SATURDAY Betty Soskins speaks on being African American in Richmond during WWII.

THURSDAYS at 2:00, a representative talks about the floral growers in Richmond.

FRIDAY 10:00-12:00 and 1:00-2:00 Women and men who worked in the Kaiser shipyards are available to talk.

Kathy and Molly Barnes will arrive from Carbondale, IL to spend the holidays with her Mom, and sisters Pat Dornan, Roberta Palfini, Irvine, CA and Rachel Palfini, Alameda, Robert Palfini, San Jose.

Enjoy life now, it has an expiration date.

To freshen pet beds and mattresses brush in baking soda to zap the odors. In 15 minutes, vacuum.

It's hard to stay cheerful and jolly,
Or even to keep self-control.
When you need a few inches of clear tape
And you can't find the end of the roll.

(from Christmas Unwrapped, Scott Emmons.)

ANSWER: A total of 13,588,900 auto series "7" plates since 2012.

United Methodist Church

21st Annual Free Community Thanksgiving Feast

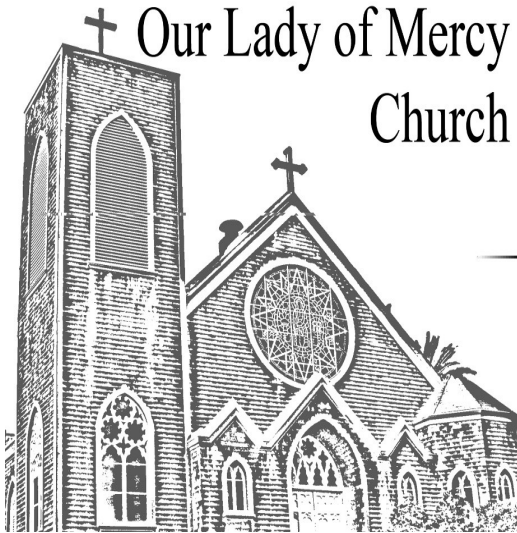
**supported by our local businesses, church
members, friends and neighbors.**

Date: Thursday Nov. 23

**Place: 201 Martina St. @West Richmond
Ave.**

Dinner served from 12 noon to 2:00 PM

Church News



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

The seasons continue to speed by as we enter Fall, which means that Winter cannot be far behind.

It is difficult to account for Spring and Summer. It has been a year of tragedy involving water and fire. We were fortunate to escape both, though we all knew someone who lived through the devastation. The Richmond Fire Department was on the scene and our good neighbor, Nate Trivers, from Up/Under spent several days providing food for emergency responders. Am sure there were many more who contributed their time. What a wonderful human gift to come together in time of need.

The last pancake breakfast of the year was held recently and well attended. With the Holiday Season approaching, there will be many other social events, thus they will resume in 2018. Many social groups sponsor pancake breakfasts, but it brought to mind the unique Pt. Richmond pancake breakfast at the Methodist Church and sponsored by Bob Dornan and his boy scouts. It was an SRO affair.

Most of the major church repairs have been

completed, but it is time to cast some time to renovate the rectory. It too is in need of updating,

Religious education programs commenced in September. Participants are enrolled and information concerning it was issued in the Spring. There will be two First Communion weekly sessions so classes can be small, and one youth confirmation class. Additional information is available through Margaret Morkowski – 510-234-4219. Years ago, Sisters of the Holy Family came on a regular basis for catechism instruction. My Catholic education was also via Sisters of the Holy Family. I lived in a small mostly Catholic community, all Catholic students were dismissed early on Tuesdays and walked two blocks to the church for religious instruction.

Sebastian Alessandro Merino recently was baptized and three others are pending. The more baptisms, the greater our Catholic population increases. Welcome all to our Christian Community.

Wendy Haller is conducting a “Lord Teach Me to Pray” – Ignatian prayer series for women only. Weekly meetings are held in the parish hall from 6:30-8:30 PM. Contact her for additional information – 925-817-7741.

Bible study classes also continue to be held in the parish hall every other Wednesday, 6:30-7:30 PM. Contact Anne Brussok – 510-517-9905 for further information. All are welcome to attend.

Most of the above information can be found on our webpage: Pointrichmondatholic.org.

A Blue Mass recently was celebrated at the Cathedral for all first responders. Honoring them could not be more timely.

Recently we were also honored by having (as our guest), Bishop Chad Zielinski, of Fairbanks, Alaska. He services 47 parishes in an area 410,000 square miles with the assistance of only 17 priests and very limited funds. Most commodities have to be shipped in, which increases the cost, i.e., a loaf of bread costs \$7. Travelling in the snow is not a plus and he mentioned that the cost of flying from Fairbanks to Oakland was much cheaper than within Alaska, which has some extremely remote areas. It takes someone describing their area of

existence to make us realize how very fortunate we are to live locally. Donations can be made to the Catholic Bishop of Northern Alaska, Diocese of Fairbanks.

As part of the celebration of our church's anniversary, Father is planning the commissioning of people in the church who serve in the rites. All ministers will renew their Eucharistic ministry. Also recognized are our children who are responsible for presenting gifts to Father. They know exactly when the gifts are to be delivered and do it with a proud show of smiles. Kudos to our kids.

November is the month of All Souls, and to honor our deceased family members, envelopes with their names are placed on the altar and they are remembered during daily Mass. Remembering our departed loved ones is an important demonstration of our faith.

Michael Fitzgerald, our local journalist, spent the summer in Upstate New York where he spent time working on a new publication. The Group Huggers who sit behind Michael in church recently had open enrollment and welcomed him into their group with open arms.

Another local journalist is Christine Volker whose novel, "Venetian Blood," was published recently. Christine is the daughter of former parishioner, Varsi Lometti.

The OLM Huggers Group recently enjoyed a Ladies Night Out at the Galileo Club. Good food, good company, good times and celebration of birthdays for Wendy Heller and Dee Pearson. Before this outing, the ladies celebrated John Heller's birthday with only the Huggers Group in attendance. John claims it was one of his most memorable birthdays.

Welcome back Nancy Noble after her cruise to Switzerland.

Taking pictures at a recent Crockett event was former Pt. Richmond resident, Dan Robertson.

Congratulations to Florence Wilson who recently passed her California Driver's license and to beat it all, on a computer at DMV – good job Flo!

Word was out recently that Marie Peckham was seen in Point Richmond. Lucky are those who actually saw her. Marie always will be warmly remembered by her Point Richmond friends.

It was a joyful delight to witness the

Washington School children parade from school to downtown for their annual Halloween trick/treat. Lots of smiles to share and great costumes. Thanks to our local police for blocking roadways to clear the way for the children.

Welcome back from Houston Linda Duste, who survived the hurricane. She has returned to reside in Petaluma and has returned to work in a Santa Rosa hospital. She will be an intermittent attendee and we will look forward to seeing her.

Congratulations to Ann Chavez who retired recently. No more daily trips from Pinole to San Francisco. Enjoy all of your days. Ann and her husband, Gil are regular attendees at OLM.

Continue to remember in your prayers: Jim and Linda Cheshareck, Veronica Arkin, Betty Ann and Michael Lambert, Fred Siegmund, Jim Wilson, Dixie Mello and John Sepulveda.

Condolences to the family of Esther Sindicic. Esther was 99 and one of the original Point Richmond Walking Group members. She and her martinis were always enjoyable company.

Condolences to the Spencer family in their recent loss of their son, Mark.

Condolences to the Quinn family in the loss of their mother, Lorraine. Lorraine was a parish council member and a lady of class. She was a regular at Saturday night Mass. Father describes her as the absolute picture of creole grace and elegance. She had moved recently from her home in Marina Bay to a smaller residence in Sacramento.

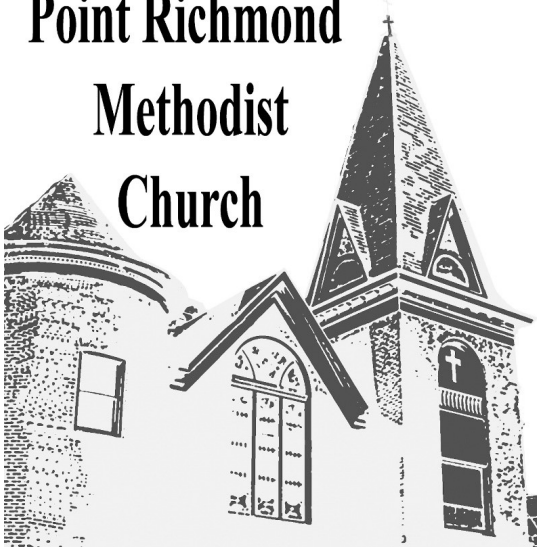
We all mourn in different ways and always wonder if they are appropriate or not. Take the time to go on the internet and read, "The Mourner's Bill of Rights." It is a helpful tool to assist one through a journey that we at one time or another will travel.

This will be the last writing for the year. Heartfelt wishes for a thankful Thanksgiving and blessed Christmas and for those who celebrate in other ways, I wish you happiness and the gift of being with a loving family.

HAVING SOMEWHERE TO GO IS HOME
HAVING SOMEONE TO LOVE IS FAMILY
HAVING BOTH – IS A BLESSING

See you in Church

Point Richmond Methodist Church



Jean Reynolds

510-734-3942

sweetheart05@mac.com

We made five trays of spaghetti in the church kitchen for “Movin’ for the Movement” basketball tournament and report back for the Annual Conference Philippine Solidarity Task Force on September 9. Jerry and Eva Salde, Norm Reynolds and Jean Reynolds, and Hannah Duhaylungsod provided lunch for eighty hungry basketball players at the Alameda Point Gym. During lunch, four people who travelled in the Philippines in July told tournament participants a bit about their trip. They stayed in a farming community impacted by environmental damage from mining, visited political prisoners, and talked with people whose family members were killed in the War on Drugs.

In worship on September 17, we participated with a coalition of congregations and organizations across the U.S. in “Solidarity Week with The Philippines.” Since President Duterte began his government’s so-called “War on Drugs” last year, police or bounty hunters killed more than twelve thousand people. Ten northern California congregations spotlighted the extreme violence waged mainly against Filipinos living in poverty. Pastor Dan played piano and led singing

as part of Berkeley Methodist United Church’s Choir Blast on Saturday, September 16, where speakers Toyomi Yoshida and Maggie Lohmeyer highlighted the killings and other injustices in The Philippines.

The Jean Eakle Art Auction and Gala on September 23 included a live auction with auctioneer Robert Love. Diane Frary and Debbie Benko organized the donations; Fran Smith organized the program and staff. Ron Wheatley, Julio Osegueda, Yulia Solovieva, Doreen Leighton, and Jonathan Swett helped with the setup. Russ and Kristi Johnson greeted people at the door. Ken Osborn unobtrusively photographed and documented the scene. People donated amazing items reflecting their talent, taste, and travel. The jewelry table almost exclusively featured Diane Frary’s excellent beadwork. Matt Foster and Jennifer Metz Foster sold tickets for the door prizes. Shirley Butt shared her special memories of Jean Eakle. Several people prepared food and saw to other details. The weather cooperated and beckoned bidders to lounge on the deck. Pastor Dan provided background piano music; Coley Grundman sang jazz standards to enhance our enjoyment of the setting. The Point San Pablo Yacht Club welcomed us and made us feel like family.

On October 8, Saffron Strand provided lunch after the worship service as they honored us again with a new menu. Their delicious meals have given our congregation a chance to linger together at the table and get to know each other better. Saffron Strand is a gift to the Point Richmond community: Yvonne Nair and her super team of volunteers work together to develop life-fluency skills with their members.

We met at St. Luke’s UMC on Barrett Ave. on October 14, for our annual All Church Conference, with Los Rios District Superintendent Schuyler Rhodes presiding. Other circuit members from Pinole UMC, Open Door UMC, and El Sobrante UMC joined us that day to review highlights of the past year, set pastors’ salaries, and approve elected lay leadership. Attendees met in smaller interest groups after the joint business meeting to explore ways to collaborate on Immigration, Youth Ministry, Public Education, and other community issues.

We enjoyed a variety of special music in the

last two months. All our Sunday worship hymns and some choir anthems came from Pastor Dan's latest hymn collection, "My Child Is a Flower," until we sang every one of the seventy hymns. On October 22, Rebecca Rust, internationally acclaimed cellist, accompanied by George Peter Tingley on piano, played *Vocalise* and *Reverie*, two pieces composed by Mr. Tingley. Outside of worship, The Point Richmond Acoustic concert series started October 13 with Stevie Coyle and Glenn Houston, aka "The Quitters," and the Point Richmond Jazz series kicked off with David LaFlamme and It's a Beautiful Day on October 27. We are blessed to have activist musicians Bruce Kaplan, Claudia Russell, Kit Eakle, and Emily Onderdonk who organize these concerts and enrich our community with regular opportunities to enjoy and support musicians and live music.

October 21, the United Methodist Women hosted a Chinese Tea. Annie Ao equipped each table with a tea set from her own collection: some were gifts from her grandmother. Annie, Steve Chen, Lily Chu and David Tung arranged the décor, entertainment, and planned the menu. Before each of the two seatings, Glen Zhang played his pipa, an ancient Chinese stringed instrument, and played a tune on a cucurbit (gourd) flute; Mr. Wu did a Tai Chi demonstration; and David Tung taught everyone to sing a popular Chinese folk song, "Mo Li Hua" ("Jasmine Flower.") David demonstrated how to sing it, and then directed the audience to sing it alone. [*The folk tune inspired Pastor Dan to write lyrics that we all sang in worship October 22: "Though the Fig Tree Fails to Bloom."*] Jonathan Swett hoisted the kettle to aid in tea preparation. The food was delicious, says Norm Reynolds, "Like dim sum without chicken feet."

Jojo Gabuya, Pacific School of Religion student, showed the video "Unmanned" on October 26. Sixteen people came to view the one-hour presentation which illustrated the toll taken by U.S. military use of drones in one area of Pakistan in 2011: lives lost, constant fear generated by drones flying overhead 24/7, families torn apart, communities left without leaders, and an individual drone operator haunted by the deaths he caused. While by no means a

comprehensive assessment of drone use by our military, it provided context for reports in our current news about ways our military is quietly expanding its use of drones around the world, and the ill-will their use generates toward the U.S.

On the Calendar:

Point Richmond Acoustic Concert: November 10, 7:30 p.m. Johnsmith with special opening by guest musician Steve Meckfessel. Get tickets in advance www.pointacoustic.org for \$17.50 or take your chances at the door for \$20.

Friday, November 17, 7:30 p.m. November Concert Extra! Natural Rhythms, featuring Elise Witt, Becky Reardon, and Terry Garthwaite. Tickets are available now \$15 in advance on BrownPaperTickets.com, or as available seating permits, at the door for \$20 after 7:00.

Point Richmond Jazz, Friday, November 24, 7:30 p.m. Jason Anick and Jason Yeager Quartet. This is part of their West Coast CD tour for recently released CD, *United*. Buy tickets in advance at BrownPaperTickets.com for \$18 each, or at the door for \$25.

Free Community Thanksgiving Dinner: Thursday, November 23, 12:00 to 2:00 p.m., Thanksgiving Dinner with all the trimmings. Interfaith Service of Thanks, 11:30 a.m. in the sanctuary. To help with dinner, call Fran Smith, (510) 685-2338, or email junosmith@aol.com

"Singing and Signing Party" Celebrate the publication of Pastor Dan's latest hymn collection, *My Child Is a Flower*, Sunday, December 3, 4:00 p.m., El Sobrante United Methodist Church, 670 Appian Way, El Sobrante. Dan will play some pieces from the collection for all to sing; you may buy a copy of the book for \$10. Every donation given to a special offering will go to victims of the recent Northern California wildfires.

December 8, Friday, 7:30 p.m., Point Richmond Acoustic presents Janet Klein and Her Parlor Boys. Opening act by Meredith Axelrod. Get tickets in advance www.pointacoustic.org for \$17.50 or take your chances at the door for \$20.

Holiday Bake Sale, Saturday, December 16, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. (or until the goodies disappear.) Find us this year at Interactive Resources, 117 Park Place, Point Richmond. Get home-baked pies, cookies, candy, fudge, muffins,

(Continued on page 11)

WWIC Est. 1908

News from the Womens Westside Improvement Club by Norma Wallace

A dedicated group of members met Tuesday September 12 at the First United Methodist Church for the first WWIC meeting of our new year, which parallels the traditional school year of September through June. As restrained as our numbers were, so went the decor. A simple yet colorful presentation of yellow and orange fall leaves, miniature gourds, orange and yellow napkins and yellow tablecloths created a festive atmosphere in Fellowship Hall.

The hostess committee of the officers provided an array of desserts including Cathy O'Brien's contribution - White Cake from our Centennial Cookbook! Apparently, cream cheese and whipping cream are part of the secret to this cake's (and Cathy's) success.

While several members missed out for a variety of reasons (travelling-yeah! illness-not so yeah), the intimacy of numbers provided a great opportunity for attending members to get to know each other better.

WWIC members were pleased to see Martha Bielawski in attendance, thanks to board member Margaret Jordan's...engaging persistence. Especially enlightening was her reminder that "Friends of the Richmond Library has the largest bookstore in Richmond! Ok, well, it's the only bookstore as well." Please see them for your book reading needs.

And, isn't that part of the fun of being in The Point - knowing your neighbors on a first name basis? Greeting neighbors by name when you pass on the sidewalk? Discussions took a serious turn as we considered together the vitality of the group before welcoming new member Fran Smith to Point Richmond and to WWIC. A long-time active member of FUMC, Fran had been looking forward to enjoying WWIC in her retirement. She quickly fulfilled that dream! In commemoration of her joining, President Linda Newton bestowed upon Fran a WWIC Centennial Teacup.

On this occasion, Fran introduced us to herself and her lively wit (paraphrased):

So I move to Point Richmond, to Contra

Costa Avenue. I was 29 years old and my neighbor happened to be Mid (Dornan). I ask her, "What is WWIC? Is it something to join? (Mid) No, it's a bunch of old women!"

Proceeding with announcements, members applauded September birthdays of: Diane Marie, Diane Diani, Margaret Morkowski and Linda Newton. More applause came when Carla Bowman announced it was her parents' 78th anniversary. Anne Brussok-Roth described efforts at Our Lady of Mercy to launch a St. Vincent de Paul Society to serve Point Richmond and a portion of the Iron Triangle. Already, they have helped nine families - food and utilities for example. Anne thanked WWIC for our start-up donation from the Sunshine Fund which enabled them to obtain their phone line and get started.

A majority of the membership turned out for Tuesday October 3 in Fellowship Hall at the First United Methodist Church for our annual luncheon fundraiser. Tables were decorated with bright orange tablecloths, Halloween themed napkins, autumn leaves and gourds.

President Linda Newton thanked the hostess committee of Kathleen Wimer, Altha Humphrey, Gail Eierweiss, and Doris Mitchell for providing desserts - cookies were baked by Kathleen, Gail and Marion Kent - and handling the tea and coffee; Norma Wallace for table setup, and Diane Diani and the Salad Luncheon committee of Altha Humphrey, Mary Lee Cole, Pat Pearson, Norma and Kathleen. The centerpiece of our October fundraiser was a super sized salad from the recipe included in the WWIC Centennial Cookbook. There was more than enough for all, with Mary Lee's special homemade raspberry vinaigrette.

Members applauded the October birthdays of Lara Choe, Evelyn Thill and Kathleen before welcoming special guest speaker J.G. Larochette, cofounder of the Mindful Yoga and Mindful Life Project, recently relocated to The Point proper from Marina Bay. J.G. shared fascinating background and science related to mindfulness (yes, science!), and touching observations of and expe-

riences with bringing mindful practice to children.

The room seemed altogether most touched by a comment J.G. related from a child trying Mindful Yoga: "I've never felt that safe in my life." One specific piece of science J.G. imparted: eight minutes of daily (mindfulness) practice over six weeks impacts all one's systems.

Mindful Yoga brings this mindfulness practice into the schools to our kids. Schools provide only 35% of costs; Mindful Yoga exists as a business to provide the rest of the funding for in-school programming. Everyone who takes a class here supports our kids.

After thanking J.G. warmly for his time and comments, during Announcements, Linda advised that past beloved member Susan Brooks was well and safe from the storms over Texas, living both 50 miles away from Houston, and on higher ground. Norma advised that the brochure for the Welcome Project was due from the printers, and requested volunteers for a team to discuss next steps in implementing the project funded by the Gateway Foundation.

[Photo caption: WWIC Board and Hostesses: President Linda Newton, Diane Diani, Mary Lee Cole, Margaret Jordan, Kathleen Wimer, Doris Mitchell, Gail Eierweiss, Pat Pearson]



Point Richmond Methodist Church News

(Continued from page 9)

cakes and more. Buy non-fat handcrafts for gifts or your own pleasure. Come early for the best selection.

Friday, December 22, 7:30 p.m., Point Richmond Jazz presents Matt Eakle in concert. Matt is jazz flutist most extraordinary, and since 1989, has played extensively with the David Grisman Quintet and with a wide range of well-known musicians. Don't miss him in this intimate setting. Buy tickets in advance at

BrownPaperTickets.com for \$18 each, or at the door for \$25.

Christmas Eve Jazz Service: December 24, 7:00 p.m. A Point Richmond holiday tradition: it is sure to fill the sanctuary and hearts to overflowing. Come early for the best seating.

Guest musicians and thoughtful theologians: Dennis and Marsha Johnson from Placerville will lead music and share their faith journeys with us on Sunday, February 4, 11:00 a.m.

For updates and more details, see the church website: pointrichmondmethodist.org

I want my children to have all the things I couldn't afford. Then I want to move in with them.

-Phyllis Diller



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 a 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. Crichtett's place. Even the names are historical. These minutes are a priceless treasure of Point Richmond's history.

-Linda Newton, President

Pt. Richmond, Oct. 27, 1908

The Woman's West Side Improvement Club of Richmond met in Curry's Hall.

The meeting was called to order by the President Mrs. Adams.

The roll call of officers resulted in all being present except Financial Sec. Mrs. Trautvetter, Finance Com. Mrs. Garrard, Mrs. Lang & Mrs. Jones, Executive Com Mrs. Windrum & Mrs. Dimick.

Mrs. Curry reported that the Executive Com. had held a meeting about the improvement of the park and would begin work at once upon it.

Mrs. Butterfield reported that the Committee appointed to meet with the Republican Com. had held a meeting and no definite decision had been made but that the Rep. Com thought they would like to have the ladies give Gov. Gillete an informal reception. A general discussion ensued and it was moved and carried that we should not as a club give a reception to the Gov.

Mrs. Butterfield brought up the subject of placing a small fountain. There was a general discussion on the subject and the motion was moved and seconded that the club place a small fountain as some convenient place. The motion was lost. It was moved and carried that the club have a tag day to raise money for the big fountain.

Moved and carried that a committee be appointed to take chare of tag day. Mrs. Drinn, Mrs. Coleman & Mrs. Niedercker were appointed on the committee.

Moved and carried that we hold our next regular meeting on Monday Nov. 22nd.

Moved & carried that we hold doll fair about Dec. 1st.

Mrs. Marston reported that she has been work-

ing towards the establishment of a reading room and had already secured the promise of \$20.00 monthly subscription and \$5.00 toward starting.

Mrs. Marston, Mrs. Grover & Mrs. Peard were appointed a committee to solicit means of support for reading room.

There being no further business to come before the club the meeting adjourned to meet Nov. 2nd 1908.

Receipts \$2.00

Mrs. Geo. W. Topping (Sec)

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Pt. Richmond, Nov. 2, 1908

The Woman's West Side Improvement Club of Richmond met at Curry's Hall.

The meeting was called to order by the President Mrs. Adams

Roll call of officers resulted in all being present except Financial Sec. Mrs. Trautvetter, Finance Com. Mrs. Garrard, Executive Com. Mrs. Windrum & Mrs. Arnold.

Mrs. Topping read her resignation as secretary and the motion was made and seconded that her resignation accepted, the motion was lost.

Mrs. Dunn reported that she had the tags and districts were assigned to the different members for distribution.

Mrs. Marston reported that she had about \$29.00 monthly subscriptions toward the running of a reading room and \$12.00 toward starting.

Moved and carried that we invite Mrs. Cora E. Jones, District President of the California Federation of Woman's Clubs to visit us at our last meeting in November.

There Being no farther business to come before

(Continued from page 12)

the club the meeting adjourned to meet Tues. Nov. 10, 1908

Mrs. Geo. W. Topping, Sec.

Pt. Richmond, Nov. 10, 1908

The woman's West Side Improvement Club of Richmond met in Peards Hall.

The meeting was called to order by the President Mrs. Adams.

Roll call of officers resulted in all being present except Finance Com. Mrs. Garrard, Mrs. Lang & Mrs. Jones, Executive Com. Mrs. Windrum, Mrs. Arnold & Mrs. Niedecker.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

A card was read from Mrs. Cora E. Jones stating that she could not meet with us the last of November but would do so at some future date.

The amount of \$169.60 was turned in for

tags sold.

The Doll Faire was discussed and the Chairman of the different committees were appointed as follows; doll booth com. Mrs. Dunn, tea booth com. Mrs. Janke, candy booth com. Mrs. Irwin, fancy booth com. Mrs. Lucas, boys booth com. Mrs. Drinick, mistery booth com. Mrs. Eaton. Mrs. Curry, Mrs. Trautvetter & Mrs. Topping were appointed on a com. to solicit articles for our faire from the different stores of Oakland & S.F.

Mrs. Marston reported her work for the reading room and it was moved and carried that the room recently occupied as the City Hall be rented for a reading room.

Mrs. Church asked permission for the Baptist Church to have some of the dirt taken from the Park sight placed in front of the parsonage.

There being no further business to come before the club the meeting adjourned to meet Nov. 17, 1908.

Receipts \$169.60

Mrs. Geo. W. Topping, Sec.

| KEY SYSTEM<br>BRIDGE RAILWAY LINES                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                     | A021235                                               |  |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|--|
| <small>THIS TRANSFER IS ISSUED FOR YOU TO CONTINUE YOUR TRIP IN THE SAME GENERAL DIRECTION FROM THE LINE AND ZONE INDICATED. IT WILL BE HONORED ONLY AT ESTABLISHED TRANSFER POINTS, BEFORE EXPIRATION OF THE TIME LIMIT SHOWN BELOW, ON THE DAY OF ISSUE, SUBJECT TO RESTRICTIONS SHOWN ON THE BACK. NOT TRANSFERABLE.</small> |                     |                                                       |  |
| <small>THIS LETTER AND THE NUMBER OF THIS TRANSFER ESTABLISH THE DATE OF ISSUE</small>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                     | <small>NOT GOOD FOR STOP-OVER NOR RETURN TRIP</small> |  |
| <b>San Francisco</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                     |                                                       |  |
| <small>LINE</small><br>X<br><small>HOUR</small>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | <small>MIN.</small> |                                                       |  |
| 6 AM                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 0                   |                                                       |  |
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| 5 PM                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 0                   |                                                       |  |
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| 12 MIDNITE                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 0                   |                                                       |  |
| Form No. 2032                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                     |                                                       |  |

| RICHMOND SHIPYARD<br>RAILWAY                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                     | 000191                                                |  |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|--|
| <small>THIS TRANSFER IS ISSUED FOR YOU TO CONTINUE YOUR TRIP IN THE SAME GENERAL DIRECTION FROM THE LINE AND ZONE INDICATED. IT WILL BE HONORED ONLY AT ESTABLISHED TRANSFER POINTS, BEFORE EXPIRATION OF THE TIME LIMIT SHOWN BELOW, ON THE DAY OF ISSUE, SUBJECT TO RESTRICTIONS SHOWN ON THE BACK. NOT TRANSFERABLE.</small> |                     |                                                       |  |
| <small>THIS LETTER AND THE NUMBER OF THIS TRANSFER ESTABLISH THE DATE OF ISSUE</small>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                     | <small>NOT GOOD FOR STOP-OVER NOR RETURN TRIP</small> |  |
| <small>LINE</small><br>X<br><small>ZONE</small>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | <small>MIN.</small> |                                                       |  |
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| 12 MIDNITE                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 0                   |                                                       |  |
| Form No. 1154                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                     |                                                       |  |

PRHA Photo Archive #1075.  
Key System tickets donated by  
Royce Ong.

# At the End of Washington

By Caitlin Himba



View on Washington Avenue, Richmond, Cal.

*"End of Washington"*

PRHA photo archive # 0056 from Don Church

The hand-drawn map published in our last issue, which showed the extent of Point Richmond's original business district and identified the businesses located there, captured my attention. A picture is worth a thousand words, as they say, and as a historian (and visual learner) I always find that a map can reveal a lot

more about a place than a written description. Casual hand-drawn maps are particularly valuable, because they often show what was significant to a certain person or group of people – maybe those who would not typically be considered formal authorities – who were familiar with the details that made their important place important. But memory is also fallible and sometimes they can leave “not important” things (at least in their opinion) out, giving historians a puzzle to solve.

The hand-drawn map and key identifies businesses yearly, from 1907 to 1912. It also shows but a smattering, with gaps between locations where other buildings, and businesses, presumably stood. So what else existed in years before and years after? What might have been located in the gaps between the properties identified on the map? And how did the area evolve before it was gobbled up; first by Highway 17, then by the 580 freeway?

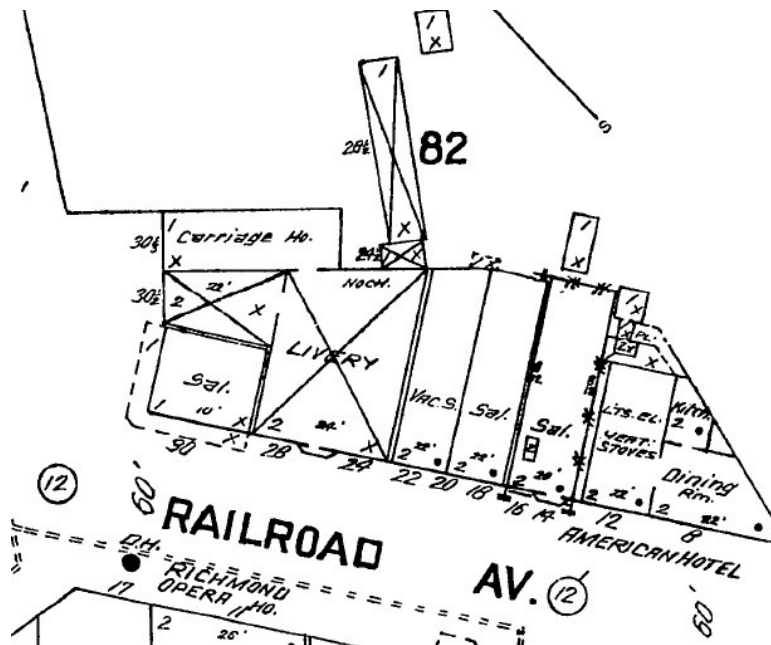
One small cluster of buildings makes an efficient study area and a good place to start. Leaving town via Washington Avenue, have you ever tried to imagine more than shrubbery and the concrete retaining wall of a freeway ramp straight ahead? Can you imagine a grouping of commercial facades instead? What was housed inside each storefront on that small section of what was Railroad Avenue (later Standard, now Tewksbury)?

Before the earliest date on the hand-drawn map, we have Sanborn fire insurance maps that

| Address #    | 1903                                        | 1905                                      | 1907-08                                                     | 1909                                                               | 1910-1912             | 1916   | 1930                                                      | 1951                   |
|--------------|---------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|--------|-----------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 41-42 (8-12) | American Hotel (and bar, later dining room) |                                           |                                                             |                                                                    |                       |        | shop                                                      | Two shops and lodgings |
| 43 (14)      | (open lot)                                  | Saloon with lodging house on second floor |                                                             | <u>Monteverde Hotel</u>                                            |                       |        | Shop                                                      |                        |
| 44 (16)      | harness shop                                |                                           |                                                             |                                                                    |                       |        |                                                           |                        |
| 45 (20)      | <u>Roma Hotel</u> bar                       |                                           |                                                             | Vacant shop                                                        | <u>Lombardo Hotel</u> | Shop   | Genoa (or <u>Genova</u> ) Hotel with shop and dining room | shop                   |
| 46 (22)      | <u>Roma Hotel</u> (with dining room)        |                                           |                                                             | saloon                                                             |                       | saloon | shop                                                      |                        |
| 47           | Undertaker                                  | Office                                    | (absorbed into livery stable that occupied larger building) |                                                                    |                       |        | vacant                                                    | (building demolished)  |
| 48 (24-28)   | Livery stable                               |                                           |                                                             |                                                                    |                       |        |                                                           |                        |
| 49           | Barber shop                                 |                                           | ?                                                           | (absorbed into Hunter's Home Saloon that occupied larger building) |                       |        | (building demolished)                                     |                        |
| 50 (30)      | Hunter's Home Saloon                        |                                           |                                                             |                                                                    |                       |        |                                                           |                        |

\* Dates from Sanborn maps in bold. Dates from hand-drawn map in italic. Sanborn maps show early and later address numbers (later numbers shown in parentheses).





*“End of Washington” on 1909 Sanborn Map*

show the same area as early as 1903. Likewise, we have maps that show the area as late as 1951. From those, we can piece together what was in between the prominent hotels and saloons called out on the hand-drawn map; mostly support businesses like a livery stable, harness shop, undertaker, and retail shops. Take a look at the accompanying chart below to see what was where and how things developed.

After many years of relative status quo (specific businesses sometimes shifted, but general

uses and buildings themselves changed little) the small collection of buildings began to experience attrition. This started around 1930, when the Hunter's Home Saloon building was torn down, followed by the livery stable next door. (By 1930, people weren't renting horses for their daily transportation anymore and the large barn-like building would have been incongruous so close to downtown commerce.)

The last images of the buildings at the end of Washington are found in a 1948 aerial photograph (check out [historicaerials.com](http://historicaerials.com)) and a 1951 Sanborn map. Then, in 1960, a topographic map shows that the buildings had been razed by the tidy arrow-

straight route of what was then Highway 17, heading northwest from Cutting to the new Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. The last buildings had likely disappeared between 1953 and 1956, when the bridge was built and connecting arteries were improved. The 580 freeway eventually supplanted Highway 17 as the approach to the bridge, the majority of it constructed between 1987 and 1991. Now, the flyover ramp to Canal Boulevard is all that exists at the end of Washington.



# CHRISTMAS BAKE SALE

Who knows what inspires so many people to find baking at Christmas a holiday joy! Count on the Point Richmond United Methodist Women, who will have cookies and pies and candies and all sorts of goodies that can be gift wrapped on plates as well as some crafts to sell on Saturday, December 16th, at Interactive Resources office on 117 Park Place beginning at 9:00 a.m. This provides funds to Saffron Strand, GRIP, water for Nepal, and others.

# What Happened to Point Richmond's Standard Avenue

*By James J. Cheshareck*

The commercial district map in the last newsletter inspired me to research what Point Richmond lost in order to build the I-580 freeway. I have always heard stories about the lost commercial district from family and late residents, but after seeing the map, I wanted a timeline of what was lost and when. I remember the heavy traffic by The Spot in the late 1970's where my grandfather took me as a child for junk food, and I clearly remember the freeway being built as a teenager in the late 1980's, but my research must go back decades before my time. My great grandfather, Ernest Marcheschi, an immigrant from Lucca, Italy lived on Standard Avenue when he first moved to Point Richmond in his early teens, as did many Italians. Two notable success stories from the district were Joe Matteucci (1887-1962), an immigrant from Lucca who owned the New Roma Hotel at 125 Standard Avenue. He would eventually be referred to as the unofficial "Mayor of Point Richmond" and own a significant amount of real estate in and around the Point. Another Italian immigrant from Genoa,

Leo Candelo (1886-1965), resided in Rust (now El Cerrito) and worked at Richmond Home Laundry on 16th Street in Richmond. He would eventually own the business and relocate to 120 Standard Avenue and call Point Richmond home. He would also count most of the 200 block of Standard Ave among his sizable real estate holdings. Unfortunately, Standard Avenue was in the path of a future bridge and freeway, so State right-of-way would take many of Point Richmond's historical buildings. A feasibility study for a vehicular crossing of San Francisco Bay to connect Contra Costa and Marin Counties was conducted in 1926, but the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge remained a concept until the State Budget Act of 1950. With funding granted, an engineering report was submitted on January 2 1951; construction contracts were soon awarded.

Standard Avenue was an artery to the Richmond-San Rafael Ferry and had undergone previous alignment changes over the years. To relieve Richmond of maintenance costs, Assembly Bill 1763 incorporated it into the State Highway system in 1947 as part of State Legislative Route 69. In less than ten years, it would be significantly widened and realigned as the approach to the new bridge. Though construction of the bridge began on February 26 1953, the razing on Standard Avenue began prior. In 1951-1952, buildings on the north side 100 block with even-address numbers were first to go. Also lost was a building on the corner of Eddy and Standard which once housed the Richmond Italian-American Club and the Oil Workers Local 561 union. The Underhill Apartments at 418 also were razed, and only Standard Oil administration buildings would remain past the 500 block. Historical buildings which once housed businesses such as the Colombo Hotel, Torino Bakery, Genova Hotel, and countless others were gone. Quentin Chinn lost his home and business (Chinn's Food Store) at 128. 120, which once housed Leo Candelo's laundry business was also torn down. Legendary resident Al Frosini (1917-2013), owner of Al's Fountain at 571, constructed a new building at 143-145 Standard to house both his restaurant and The Silver Club, which was displaced from 567. Some businesses relocated



*Standard Avenue on August 29, 1956*

across the street to the 200 block. Nick's Tavern, owned by Yugoslavian immigrant Nicholas Brailo, moved from 144 to 201. Evelyn "Eve" Callapp relocated her hot dog restaurant from 101 to 217, while other businesses relocated elsewhere. The Grand Garage relocated from 130 Standard to 101 W. Richmond Avenue and Louie Mighetti, also at 130, relocated his accounting business to his home at 114 Railroad Avenue. The Mariner's Tavern at 539 relocated to 101 Park Place. Antonio Avenue was absorbed into Standard, and within a couple of years, the 200 block of Standard would be recognized on the map as Tewksbury. Fred's Service Station, owned by Fred Clements, retained its 257 Standard address. Leo Candelo's Standard Apartments were now the Tewksbury Apartments, but many residents continued to use Standard Avenue mailing addresses for years afterward.

In 1954 Standard Avenue was extended from Garrard Blvd. to Cutting Blvd. During this period another wave of demolition targeted the predominantly residential 300-400 block and surrounding area. Lost to the new bridge approach were Prospect Street, Mancilla Avenue, and portions of Eddy Street & Contra Costa Street north of Hillside Avenue, and Clarence Street north of Tewksbury. The bulk of Anna Palenchar's home at 32 Prospect St. was moved to 209 E. Richmond Avenue, but she didn't move along with it. Leo Candelo salvaged a

couple of houses and moved them to Castro Street, but The National Hotel at 443 was gone and the neighborhood was altered radically. Traffic signal installation at Standard and Castro was completed on June 29, 1956. Before the signal, three Richmond police officers were delegated to direct Standard Oil end of daytime shift traffic. Future Chief Leo Garfield was one of those officers early in his career. Traffic signals also were installed at Standard and Garrard Blvd., where Standard gas station number 722 had been pumping gas since the 1920's. The Richmond-San Rafael Bridge, a thirty year concept, opened September 1, 1956 with all traffic using the upper deck. Construction continued on the permanent approach trestles to both decks before the bridge opened completely as planned on October 20, 1957. Another Standard gas station opened on the corner of Castro and Standard by 1958 and billboards soon stood where buildings once were. Standard Avenue was part of State Highway 17 and the Hoffman Corridor, which would prove inadequate and unsafe as traffic volumes increased over the years.

The next thirty-year concept would be completing the I-580 freeway. Assemblyman John Knox, a Point resident, was the driving force behind constructing a freeway. His motivation was eliminating the high accident and fatality rate on Hoffman Blvd, particularly the stretch between



*Standard Avenue on November 5, 1959*

S. 47th Street and Central Ave. referred to as "blood alley". He introduced Assembly Bill 2863 which mandated improvements on route 17 between the bridge toll plaza and route 80 in Albany to "freeway standards" and stipulated the first improvement contract be awarded during the 1977-1978 fiscal year. It was signed by Governor Reagan on May 14, 1974, and the threat of eminent domain again would loom over nearby business owners and residents. Ed Palenchar worried that his home at Tewksbury and Castro, would face the same fate as his childhood home on Prospect St. Al Frosini worried about his building and business too. However, John Knox was also pivotal in getting the right-of-way alignment moved northward to shield the Point as much as possible from the next wave of eminent domain. By the late 1970's Standard Avenue was inadequate to handle peak traffic volumes, particularly between Railroad Ave. and Garrard Blvd. where most of the center divider was removed to facilitate 8 traffic lanes. Frequent train blockages caused congestion, and a 1975 collision seriously injured a driver who failed to yield to a train. Crossing arms later were installed, but Standard Avenue had reached its limits. The first improvement project under Knox's bill was grade separation on Standard Ave. between Railroad and Garrard. The "Railroad Avenue Overhead" overpasses were completed by 1981 and routed traffic over the A.T.S.F. tracks between Castro St. and Canal Blvd along the new alignment referred to as "future I-180" (not 580). Railroad Avenue north of Standard was no longer on the map, but making turns from Washington Avenue were now much safer. Throughout the early 80's the State acquired property through eminent domain, but freeway construction still was years away. In 1984 the State Legislature dropped the Hoffman corridor from route 17 and re-designated it as part of I-580. It was given high priority for funding improvements, and by 1988 the wrecking ball would return to Point Richmond for the final phase of the freeway. The Kenny Park ball field

bordered by Tewksbury/Castro/Standard/Eddy, dedicated to Councilman and Point native John J. Kenny who died in WW2, was gone. Also lost were Hillside Avenue in its entirety, and Eddy Street and Contra Costa St. north of Tewksbury. Marine Street was blocked off at Tewksbury and several houses were lost including 6 Eddy Street, where Amelia Guisto moved when her home at 425 Standard was torn down in 1954. Jean Eger also lost her home at 119 Contra Costa and moved to Crest Avenue.

Many homes and businesses were lost between the early 1950's and middle 1980's to shape gradually what would become the I-580 freeway, which is named after John Knox. Under asphalt and concrete a neighborhood once thrived where several hotels housed immigrants from Italy and other parts of the world. Bars, restaurants, grocery stores, barber shops, liquor stores, and even a shoe repairman once existed where both laborers and entrepreneurs called home. Countless pages could be filled with their names and stories. While only maps and photographs remain of the Standard Avenue commercial district that was lost, a few things survived. What was best known as The Spot bar at 1 Standard Avenue (now 1 Tewksbury), avoided the wrecking ball. Housed within the former Richmond hotel building owned by the Thomas Kenny family, it was once a cigar store and is arguably the oldest remaining structure from the lost portion of the commercial district. The Kenny Park plaque, once displaced and shuffled around, now rests in front of The Plunge. Incidentally, Councilman John Kenny was the nephew of Thomas Kenny. The deck approaching the toll plaza at the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge is still the "Scofield Avenue Overhead". Scofield Avenue once was the junction between Standard Avenue and Western Drive, and was named after first Standard Oil president Demetrius Scofield. Though it was erased from the map decades ago, its name lives on.





## **RICHMOND SUPPLY COMPANY**

**1903 - 1989**

**86 years in Point Richmond, California**

***By Mid Dornan***

Richmond Supply Company was started in Point Richmond by J.Q. Black around 1903. Ownership changed only twice during its history. The office for J.Q. Black's hay and grain drayage business was at 139 West Richmond Avenue. J.Q. leased land from the Santa Fe Railroad on North Railroad Avenue and built a barn for his hay, grain, and horse team. This area came to be known simply as the "Yard".

In 1906, at age 24, Robert Harper Dornan left Belfast, Ireland, via Londonderry, on the S.S. *Columbia*. He arrived at Ellis Island on May 14 with \$35 in his possession and headed to Pueblo, Colorado, where his brother James H. Dornan lived. He worked in Pueblo until 1908 when he learned that another brother, William, had been involved in a serious accident while working for the Santa Fe Railroad in Richmond, California. Robert traveled west to see him. Unfortunately, his brother William died. Robert was hired as a railroad repairman and stayed in Richmond. He also volunteered as a fireman and, as was customary in those days, was given free lodging at the Santa Fe Railroad firehouse.

Robert and another Santa Fe Railroad employee, carpenter Art Whitesides, became interested in Richmond Supply Company. They bought the business from J.Q. Black in 1909. Using their horse drawn wagons, they moved household items, furniture, and delivered trunks for new arrivals in town for 15¢. It was a time of coal oil lamps, walking to the Post Office to collect your mail, and having your grocery order filled at the counter.

Johnson and Braine were competitors with a business on 4th Street and Macdonald and had purchased a truck for their deliveries. When Robert learned of this, he went to his partner and said, "Art, we're behind the times. We need a truck." Art disagreed and wanted to stick with the horse and wagon. Robert felt their business needed

the truck and proposed "You buy me out or I'll buy you out." Art Whitesides contacted Lou Thompson (father of Dr. W. L. Thompson), a Standard Oil boss, who agreed to hire him as a carpenter. So in 1911, Art sold his share to Robert Dornan. Robert bought his truck, a Moreland flatbed with solid rubber tires. The Bill of Sale recorded the price as "in exchange for 3 wagons (1 dump, 2 cargo), 2 teams of horses, and \$10 in gold."



*Moreland flatbed truck with solid rubber tires, Robert Dornan is at the wheel.*

*PRHA Photo Archive #504 from Mid Dornan*

As Richmond grew, so did the demand for building materials. The need for hay and fuel diminished, and masonry supplies and aggregates were added to the inventory of Richmond Supply Company. Having the storage yard adjacent to the railway was critical. Gravel, blocks, bricks, sand, and cement were delivered via railroad cars and

off-loaded at the Yard with forklifts and large conveyor belts.

In 1932, most men didn't want their wives to work outside the home. Societal standards have changed, but at that time a married man was expected to provide all the financial support for his family. When Robert needed help running his business, his wife Trannie Freeman Dornan chose to break with tradition and work alongside her husband. While Robert was out on deliveries, Trannie would take material orders, manage the books, and sell items from the 139 W. Richmond office.

Richmond Supply had its own gas pump at the yard. During WWII, gas rations for Richmond Supply Company were pumped there. Rabbits were raised at the warehouse and sold during the war. A Victory vegetable garden was planted behind 139 West Richmond Ave.

By 1944, a larger office space was needed. There was a vacant lot adjacent to the office. At one time a silent movie house had stood there. The Nickelodeon had been owned by M. Livingston, with Ray Hollard as movie operator. Next to the lot was a building that housed two businesses. Half the space was occupied by a

Japanese shoemaker, U. Sonoda, who lived in the rear. The other side was a shaving parlor called Apex run by Bill Cooper, who also handled a local laundry service.

The building at 145 W. Richmond, along with the vacant lot, was purchased for the new office. A new foundation was poured and cabinet work was completed by the Negus Brothers. By 1946 Richmond Supply Company had moved to the new address.

*In 1990 the original building at 139 W. Richmond Ave was moved to 139 ½ Washington Ave. It is now the home of the Point Richmond History Museum.*

Inventory at the new office now included paint and hardware supplies, chicken feed, and dry dog food. A lathe plant house was built on the vacant lot for seasonal garden plants. There was an off and on vegetable garden over the years.

A devastating fire occurred in 1949 at the Yard. The fire almost completely destroyed the warehouses, trucks, scales, and building materials on the North Railroad Avenue land. None of the loss was insured. When Trannie was confronted with this horrific loss, she calmly replied that no lives were lost, and everything could be replaced.

Robert Dornan and his son, Bob, who joined the business on his return from the Army in WWII, rebuilt the warehouses and huge gravel bunker.

Whatever aspirations he might have had for himself after the war, his parents had always expected Bob would join the business to assist them. Robert was in his early 60s at the end of WWII, and the business needed Bob's strength and stamina. Richmond Supply prospered from Bob's abilities. A natural mechanic, Bob fixed his mother's washing machine when he was 11. Trained by the Army in truck and airplane mechanics, he repaired and maintained the company fleet of vehicles and machinery. Bob could weld, plumb, wire, lay brick, and blacksmith. His outgoing personality helped Richmond Supply Company acquire new clients.

Richmond Supply Company occasionally had the opportunity to buy



*145 West Richmond Avenue, lower right is the second truck  
PRHA photo archive #0140*

and salvage buildings. During winter and slow construction periods, used bricks were cleaned of mortar with hammer, chisel, and wire brush. Other materials, including oak flooring and redwood siding, came from surplus war housing units on Cutting Boulevard in the mid 1950's.

Richmond Supply delivered the bricks used to build the Ford Motor Company Assembly Plant, the Richmond Civic Center, and many of the older homes in Point Richmond and the greater Richmond area.

Bob negotiated a contract with Contra Costa County for elections. They were responsible for delivery, set-up, and take-down of voting booths, along with the delivery of ballot materials to every voting precinct in West Contra Costa County. This aspect of the business lasted until 1981.

In 1963, Santa Fe Railroad abruptly cancelled the lease for the Yard. The warehouses, trucks, sand, gravel, brick and other building materials, had to be removed. The Santa Fe Railroad informed Richmond Supply Company they planned to expand their "Piggyback Yard" and needed the leased land for this expansion. While Richmond Supply was only given a 30-day lease cancellation notice, it was almost 20 years, 1980, before the Santa Fe Railroad plans came to fruition.

To be a viable building supply business, Richmond Supply Company needed land adjacent to a railway to receive masonry and aggregates. After attempts to relocate the business, it was decided that the building supply aspect of the business had to be sacrificed and the store would continue, simply selling paints, masonry supplies, tools, nails, and garden supplies.

After Robert Harper Dorman died in 1966, age 83, Trannie, age 70, continued to run Richmond Supply Company. Business had slowed as newer and bigger stores opened around Richmond. Trannie could not compete with their inventory but continued her small business selling paints, soil, seeds, and garden plants. Trannie would keep her store supplied by purchasing "at wholesale prices" small quantities of paint and other needed supplies from a local paint store competitor in downtown Richmond. She also proudly sold and displayed crafts made by the local women of the First United Methodist Church.

When she was 85 years old, the store had minimal business, yet Trannie would still walk down hilly Washington Avenue to open the store. She ran on what she called "Point Richmond Time." She would arrive at the store by 9 or 10 am each morning, take a break and go to lunch, stop in the Post Office, or shop at the Santa Fe Market for groceries for that night's dinner. Her day was done when her neighbor would stop in to give her a ride home around 3:00 or 3:30 pm. On days when she had personal business to attend to, she would simply not open the store. She took the local bus for transportation as she had never learned to drive a car. Kids passing her store on the way home from school often stopped in to browse, chat, and sell candy bars or wrapping paper for fund raisers.

Trannie was known and well loved by local businessmen and was the face of the Richmond Supply Company. She had lived in Richmond since 1905 and with her extraordinary memory, was a source of information for the Point Richmond History Association, of which she was a charter member. Librarians often sent people to her for answers to local history questions they didn't know.

One quiet afternoon when Trannie was in her 80s, a young man walked in the store. He had his hand in the pocket of his sweatshirt and pointed something at her. He walked up to her, stood across the counter, pointed to the cash register and said, "Give me all your money!" Nonplussed, Trannie, looked the young man straight in the eye and said, "I've been home sick this week and haven't done much business. I don't have any money to give you. Why don't you go across the street and ask those firemen for money? They always seem to have a lot of money." With that, the man turned around and left. While shaken, she didn't think she needed to call the police. After all, he hadn't taken anything.

When Trannie turned 90, her sister, Hattie Belle, told her she shouldn't have to work anymore. It was soon after that Trannie didn't make it down the hill every day. Some days she would stay home but she never officially retired from the business. She died after a stroke shortly before her 94th birthday in 1989. Her death brought Richmond Supply Company, the oldest family business in Richmond, to an end.

# A Brief History of our Historical Information Kiosk

by Bonnie Jo Cullison

Urban legend has it that the suggestion for a historical information kiosk was first proposed about 10 years ago by Tom Butt. Apparently, a developer took down the old façade of a building on Park Place without permission. The company was fined and the money was given to the Point Richmond History Association. It was Tom's idea that the PRHA portion of the money be used to construct a kiosk adjacent to the PRHA Museum. The idea remained quietly simmering on the back burner of the PRHA stove until 2 and a half years ago when someone at a Neighborhood Council meeting suggested that a kiosk might provide a useful venue for announcing Point Richmond activities. Mid Dornan, President of the PRHA, was at that meeting and informed the Council that the PRHA had been discussing a kiosk for many years and would take the subject up again in earnest.



Bonnie Jo Cullison

would be a fairly straightforward project: come up with a design, ask the City of Richmond to prepare space at the corner of W. Richmond and Washington Aves and contract with Gordon Hirano of Shigoto-Ya to build it. The Women's Westside Improvement Club had sponsored a similar project, the replacement of the map of Point Richmond, a few years earlier on the opposite corner of the same block.

Ah, but a kiosk is New Construction not Reconstruction. Enter the word "permit". What seemed straightforward suddenly and most definitely was not. The PRHA is very fortunate, however, to have among its supporters exactly the right professionals to lead the "blind" through to the end. Starting with Andrew Butt of Interactive Resources. Andrew generously and cheerfully shared his knowledge of what we needed to provide to the City of Richmond Planning, Building and Engineering Departments at each

| 5000AD-1700's                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 1772                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 1823                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Ca 1850                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 1895                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 1897                                                                                          |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Native Americans living in Wildcat Canyon area, use the shoreline around Point Richmond for hunting and fishing. A shell-mound of refuse and human burials develops near Ford Point. It is evacuated and destroyed in 1907. The shells used in grading and paving of local roads. | Pedro Fages and Father Crespi make first contact with native peoples in the Richmond area. In time the Huchuin tribe is indoctrinated into the Catholic Mission system at Mission Delores in San Francisco. | After secularization of the missions, land in Point Richmond passes from the holdings of Mission Delores to private ownership of Francisco Castro as part of Rancho San Pablo, a 1700-acre cattle ranch, Point Richmond remains a quiet, undeveloped bit of shoreline. | With California joining the United States, Mexican rancho lands are broken up and sold to eager new settlers. Dr. Jacob Tewksbury purchases a large parcel of marshland in the Point Richmond area and begins building dikes to hold back the Bay. Eventually Point Richmond, which had been a virtual island, becomes the promontory it is today. | On a duck hunt, Augustin S. MacDonald arrives at the "delightful spot" that will become Point Richmond. Recognizing its deep water access, he lobbies to have a rail line extended to Point Richmond instead of Oakland where cargo can be more efficiently ferried to San Francisco. | Following MacDonald's lead, the S.F. and San Joaquin Railway lays tracks into Point Richmond. |





*Bonnie Jo, Gordon and Jason*



*Bonnie Jo and Mid*

stage of the permit process. “What do we do next? Ask Andrew!” Interactive Resources supplied multiple copies of multiple plans required by the City as they were needed.

Simultaneous with the permit application process we worked with another consummate professional to design the historical information displays that would be exhibited in the 2 display cases belonging to the PRHA. Jan Brown of Spokewise (who herself is a recipient of *National Park Service Home Front Award*, for her body of work over many years supporting the Rosie the Riveter Park) guided us toward a concept that she felt would accomplish our goals. One of the first ideas she proposed was a timeline of Point Richmond history (below). One of our Board Members, Caitlin Harvey (now Hibma), an

architectural historian, immediately volunteered to create the timeline. Her distillation of historic progression was outstanding. Jan’s next brilliant idea was to include “feature panels” to be mounted above the timeline and which would highlight specific people, places and events of Point Richmond history. These can be replaced periodically with additional topics thereby providing more information over the years.

Permit in hand, it was time for construction. Enter Gordon Hirano of Shigoto-Ya. He has so much knowledge, skill and aesthetic awareness that we could simply hand him the plans and trust that the kiosk would be built to last a hundred years and look good too. But that wasn’t all. He coordinated the preparation of the site with the Parks Department to ensure that the foundation

| 1900                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 1901                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 1903                                                                                                                                                                                              | 1904                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 1905                                                                                                                                                             | 1906                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| The Santa Fe Railroad takes over the S.F. & S.J. and takes over Eastyard as Point Richmond is originally known. Railroad workers are housed in small cottages on Smoky Row, where they are engulfed in smoke every time a train passes | Standard Oil Co. (then Pacific Oil Co.) purchases 85 acres of land in Point Richmond and builds the largest oil refinery on the West Coast. By 1906, it is the largest in the world. Refinery workers make of much of Point Richmond’s early population. | R.H. Botts invents a flying machine and makes plans to launch it off Nicholl Knob. Unfortunately a strong wind whisks it to destruction and Botts fails to beat the Wright Brothers into the sky. | The Baltic, Point Richmond’s first saloon opens. At various times serving as a city hall, funeral parlor, brothel and speakeasy, it also hosts the like of Jack London, who mentions it in his writings. | Richmond incorporates, establishing a city that will eventually spread from the “old town” core of Point Richmond to become the sprawling city that it is today. | The 1906 Earthquake destroys much of San Francisco motivating many refugees to relocate in the East Bay. Point Richmond residents watch the city burn from Keller Beach and the town’s churches shelter victims. |

(Continued from page 23)

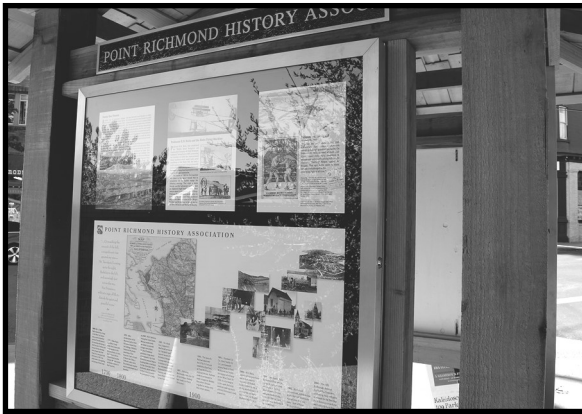
could be laid appropriately. Mark Maltagliati, Parks & Landscaping, was particularly helpful in that accomplishment.

Early on in the planning process the PRHA approached both the Neighborhood Council and the Business Association and asked if they would each like to purchase one display case for their own use. Both organizations were receptive to this idea so the kiosk has 3 tenants with

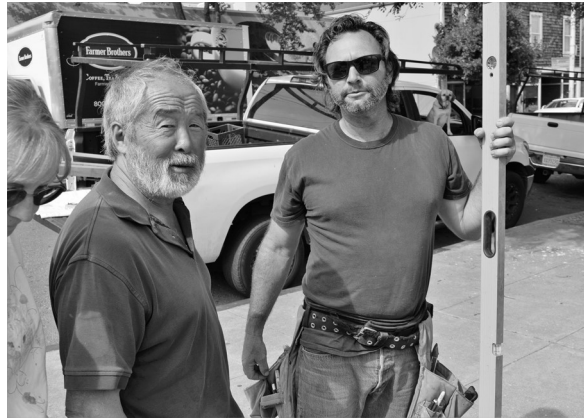
continuously changing information.

To all of these people, including the City of Richmond staff in the departments we dealt with who were always pleasant and knowledgeable and never once rolled their eyes when asked a naïve question, I am grateful. Without them the kiosk would never have reached reality.

And a special thanks to our fearless leader, Mid Dornan, who didn't let the fire go out on that back burner all of these years.



*Historical Display Panel*



*Bonnie Jo, Gordon and Jason*

| 1910                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 1913                                                                                                                                                                                               | 1914                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 1915                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 1920's                                                                                                                                     | 1925                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Point Richmond is the setting for an epic lightweight world championship fight between pugilists Oscar "Battling" Nelson (aka "The Durable Dane") and Adolphus Wolgast ("The Michigan Wildcat"). In the rain, before and audience of 15,000 fans, Wolgast claims the title. | Point Richmond gains a movie theater on the corner of West Richmond and Park Place. Opening night features photoplay titled "Caprices of a King", as well as live music and a speech by the mayor. | Kozy Kove amusement park opens near today's Keller Beach, offering a dancing pavilion, bath houses, a children's playground, swimming and boat rentals. Billed as a "refined family pleasure resort" it is the place to be seen in Point Richmond. It wanes in popularity and closes in 1919. | An automobile tunnel is built, paralleling the railroad tunnel, allowing cars to drive from downtown Point Richmond out to Ferry Point.<br><br><b>1917-18</b><br>America becomes involved in World War I | Prohibition makes America dry. In a town that has 34 saloons, Point Richmond residents have to find other entertainment... or a speakeasy. | John Nicholl, drilling for oil and only hitting water donates land to the community for the construction of the Municipal Natatorium, familiarly known as "The Plunge". Featuring a salt water pool, the Plunge provides Point Richmond residents with a well-appointed indoor swimming pool. |

## New Temporary Exhibit at Rosie the Riveter Visitor Center



On Saturday, November 18th join us at 11:00 AM at the Rosie the Riveter Visitor Education Center for the unveiling of the new temporary exhibit, The Art of Shipbuilding; Kaiser-Richmond Shipyard Employees Werner Philipp and Lillian Tandy.

The program will begin with a brief overview of the exhibit.

The exhibit features reproductions of watercolors painted by German-born San Francisco Artist, Werner Philipp. Philipp worked in the Progress Department in Richmond Shipyard Three illustrating reports to document worker and shipbuilding efforts. There he met and befriended shipyard secretary Lillian Tandy. The two families remained close after the war and the Tandy's supported Werner's illustrious art career. Lillian Tandy's son, Scott Tandy, who generously donated digital copies of Philipp's watercolors for the displays, will be in attendance to dedicate the exhibit. For those who are unable to attend the unveiling event, the temporary exhibit will be on display until the summer of 2018.

The Rosie the Riveter Visitor Education Center is open seven days a week from 10 AM to 5 PM and is located at 1414 Harbour Way South, Suite 3000, Richmond, CA 94804. For more information and directions to the Visitor Education Center, please call (510) 232 5050 x0 or visit <http://www.nps.gov/rori/planyourvisit/directions.htm>. Admission to the Visitor Center and program is free.

| 1929-39                                                                                                                                                                                  | 1941-45                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 1942                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 1955                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 1960-80's                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 1979                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| The Great Depression hits America, leaving many destitute. Point Richmond keeps its head above water, thanks to Standard Oil, which employs a strategy of pay cuts rather than lay-offs. | America enters World War II. Nearby Point Richmond and Marina Bay neighborhoods become the bustling Kaiser Shipyards, setting records in building Victory and Liberty ships. Point Richmond remains a residential enclave but is swept up in the bustle and boon of war time. Houses are filled to capacity, schools operate in shifts and businesses are open night and day. | The Sentinel, or commonly know as "the Indian" statue in downtown Point Richmond, placed in 1908 by the Women's West Side Improvement Club, topples and is melted down like so much other scrap metal, for the war effort. The statue was replaced in 1984 and stands today. | The former grocery store at 105 Park Place, which has also been the home to the <i>Richmond Daily Independent</i> newspaper becomes home to the Richmond Community Theater. Later it earns acclaims as the Masquers Playhouse. | Point Richmond becomes a bohemian enclave; home to the likes of underground cartoon artist, Joel Beck and Grateful Dead sound engineer and LSD manufacturer Owsley Stanley. The town's population of creatives and thinkers commissions many examples of avant guard architecture and the Point begins to boast sleek Modernism as well as traditional architectural styles. | Point Richmond is designated as National Register of Historic Places historic district, recognized for its architectural merit and significant industrial and transportation associations. |

*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 historical items left for us by Allan Smith.*

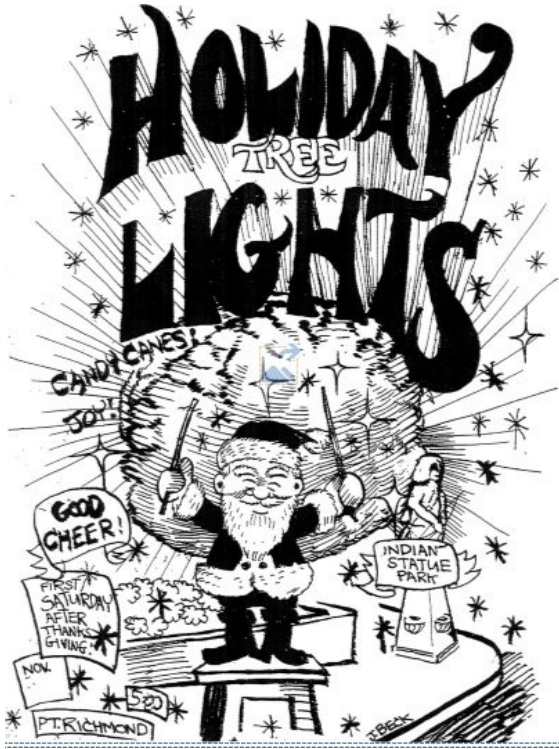
## Items of Interest Point Richmond, early 1900's

### ***The Record and The Leader***

#### ***Point Richmond was called Eastyard or West Side***

- |            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 06-21-1910 | Petition with 500 names turned down by Council. The petition demanded that Hudson be reinstated.                                                                                                                   |
| 06-23-1910 | Petitions for recall of 5 of 6 Councilmen circulating.                                                                                                                                                             |
| 07-09-1910 | Seaman Olaf Erickson killed in the paddle wheel of the Ocean Wave. Someone forgot he was working on it and they started the engines.                                                                               |
| 07-22-1910 | William Hosking goes to work as freight clerk at Santa Fe                                                                                                                                                          |
| 07-23-1910 | Plans to build 3rd story on John Murray Bldg. for Fraternal Hall<br>New Firehouse on Park Place nearly done. (S.F. Jenkins contractor)                                                                             |
| 07-27-1910 | Dope joint raided on Standard Avenue, run by Buelah Warren, colored                                                                                                                                                |
| 07-28-1910 | Dredger filling in between Richmond and Point as it dredges the inner harbor.                                                                                                                                      |
| 08-12-1910 | New theater being made ready on Washington Avenue near McCrackens.                                                                                                                                                 |
| 08-18-1910 | New Carnegie Library dedicated.                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 08-26-1910 | The City of Pekin being dismantled at Pt. San Pablo. Built in 1874 for Pac. Mail Co. and it ran to China and later Panama.                                                                                         |
| 09-01-1910 | Barbers raise prices to shave 25 cents and haircut 35 cents.                                                                                                                                                       |
| 09-29-1910 | S.O.Co. Long Wharf being extended by Healy Tiddetts.                                                                                                                                                               |
| 10-08-1910 | 1st Boy Scout Troops organized in Richmond with 4 patrols. Dr. Blake in charge.                                                                                                                                    |
| 10-16-1910 | No. 4 Battery construction started yesterday at the Refinery.                                                                                                                                                      |
| 10-21-1910 | Dr. Lucas to build new home and office next to Runyons. Cost \$5000.                                                                                                                                               |
| 10-22-1910 | 1st meeting in new Masonic Hall in the 3rd story of John Murray Hall.                                                                                                                                              |
| 10-27-1910 | New Firehouse on Park Place dedicated by Company No. 1.                                                                                                                                                            |
| 11-16-1910 | Button and Ringer (Button Thompson) have sold the Royal Theater and are looking for other interests. (I was winding reels at the time.) They later bought the Palm Saloon in the old Critchet Hotel on the corner. |
| 12-22-1910 | West Side ready for Xmas. All merchants have decorated windows with best merchandise.                                                                                                                              |





Sing Along Choir

Santa

Tree Lighting

Luminaries

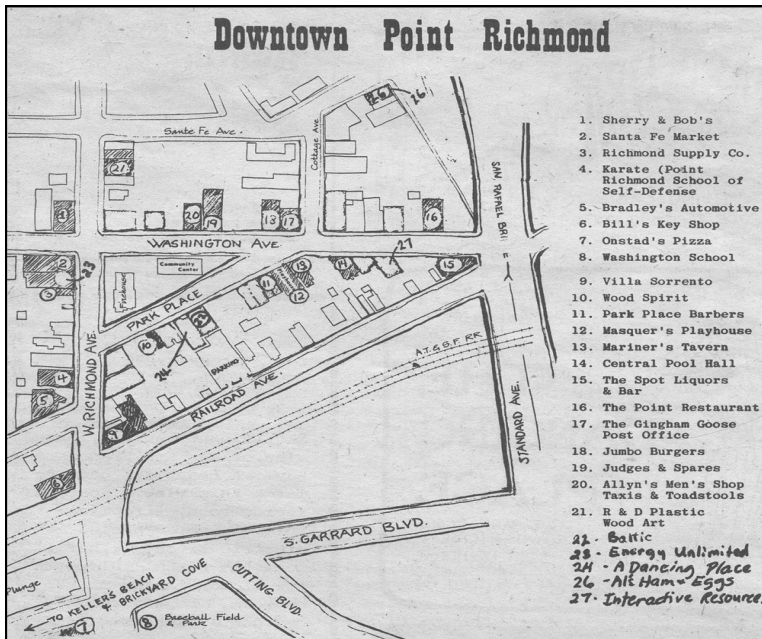
Candy Canes

Saturday

November 25

5 P.M.

Indian Statue Park



*Guess the year*

## Childhood Memories of the Point

Over the decades there have been many articles about specific homes and their special attributes. At least 100 have been written about Smokey Row. But never a mention of the home that I think is the finest in Point Richmond. So I will speak for this old beauty. The home of Mr. & Mrs. Blanchette, a red brick house at 44 Scenic Avenue.

If you are ever invited to climb the brick staircases to the top, you must, for when you reach the top, you will find yourself spooked by the beauty of the unusual view and the warmth

radiating off the mass of bricks. The evening sun, already amber, reflects off the red brick to create a surreal sensation of paradise. Something like an eclipse glow happens every day during the last 20 minutes before sunset. Just to be there at this time makes you peaceful and happy. But you must be at the top, for none of this exists at street level. Who ever designed this home was a chi genius or very lucky as this home's attributes are a head and shoulders above the modern western style and the historical shacks.

However, it will never be as beautiful as it once was, back when Mrs. Blanchette would give me cookies in her living room.

*David McDermid*



# *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  
Charlottte Birsinger  
Gary Shows

## 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

## January

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

Bryan Smith  
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

# *Memorials.....*

**Shirley Ann Woodson** died on October 9, 2017. Age 82. She was born in Nebraska, and was preceded in death by husband Ben Woodson. Shirley worked for the Richmond Unified School District as a learning disability specialist and worked tirelessly to help and encourage children with learning disabilities. Shirley had a beautiful voice and was an accomplished autoharp player. As the wife of a Scout leader, Troop 111 in Point Richmond, she spent times camping, hiking, bird watching, on road trips and a part of scouting over 30 years. She is survived by her two sons, Jim, El Sobrante, Ken, Anaheim Hills, Ca., and two grandchildren.

**Jim Wilson** died on November 8, 2017. Age 91. Jim was born and raised in Point Richmond and retired from Standard Oil. Memorial services will be held later, He is survived by his wife Florence, daughters Cynthia and Roberta. A daughter Susan preceded him in death.

Hello Point Richmond, I just wanted to share that my father, **William Stark**, a Point Richmond native, passed away Sunday, November 5th peacefully in his sleep. Born in the upstairs bedroom at 29 Oregon Street to John and Anna Stark, he shared many stories of the Point growing up. You will find a Stark memorial stained glass window at Our Lady of Mercy on W. Richmond Ave. Dad moved us to Petaluma in 1969 but 2 of his sisters lived in the Point until their passing and he always felt it was home. There was always a Stark family member residing in the Point, overlapping for a total of 99 years. I lived in and loved the Point but moved back to Petaluma in 2011 to help care for him and mom in their golden years. At 90 years old, Dad was the last of his siblings to pass. He lived a long life full of laughter, travels, and even returned to school to obtain an AA Degree from SRJC. He had received an honorary high school diploma, given to his father at ceremony, because he had turned 18 prior to graduation and had been drafted to serve in WWII.

*Ana Walker*



*I'm great at multi-tasking -- I can waste time, be unproductive, and procrastinate all at once.*

*Take my advice, I'm not using it.*

*Paraprosdokians from Dave*



# EXCLUSIVE OVER 90 CLUB

Mary Bianchini Highfill - 93  
Delphina Franco Tawney - 99  
Billie Bonham Shaw - 95  
Muriel Clausen - 93  
Tom Kenny - 93  
June Beesley Sosabal - 94  
Martha Bielawski - 95  
Alice Williamson - 93

Mid Dornan - 96  
Loretta Johromi - 91 (month?)  
Brenda McKinley - 90  
Dallas Wilcox - 90 (month?)  
Morris Simpson - 95  
*Please send corrections and additions  
To middornan@gmail.com or call  
510.234-5334 and leave a message.*

*AGE IS NOT A NUMBER, IT'S AN ATTITUDE*

## CENTURY CLUB

**Madeline Bellando Albright 100**

*September 16th is the most common day on which to be born.*



## *Cards, Letters & E-Mails*

Hi Gary,

It is hard to believe that it's been 20 years since the death of Carolyn "Betty" Moore (1/4/34-6/30/97). The original Jumbo's was in San Pablo before Betty and her husband Bill opened "Jumbo's Burgers #2" on Washington Ave. by 1968 (listed in the 1968 phone book). I have many fond memories of eating breakfast there on Saturdays as a teenager in the 1980's and of the regular customers, many whom have passed away.

*JAMES J. CHESHARECK  
Point Richmond*

*We enjoyed Sunday mornings at Jumbos. My favorite was Betty's combination omelets.*  
Gary

# 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, Miller/Knox Regional Park. 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](http://www.gsrmr.org)

## MANY HANDS PROJECT TO SUPPORT WASHINGTON SCHOOL

Contact, Margaret Morkowski, 510-234-4219

## MASQUERS PLAYHOUSE

The 2016 season has been cancelled.

Masquers will return to full production in 2017

## 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 issue deadline. For information call President Mildred Dornan at 510-234-5334.

## POINT RICHMOND NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

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

Contact: Margaret Jordon at 510-412-3673

## 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 the Richmond Museum of History at 510-235-7387 or visit

[www.richmondmuseum.org](http://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 - 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

## 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](http://www.nps.gov/rori).

See page 22 for programs. 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: Linda Newton, President. (510) 235-0081

**Additions/Corrections? Email Gary Shows, [garyshows@gmail.com](mailto: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"/> | Corporate Sponsor | 75.00   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | History Maker     | 100.00  |

Membership in the Point Richmond History Association includes a one year subscription to "THIS POINT...in time" newsletter (five issues). Please make your check payable to the Point Richmond History Association and mail it to:

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Articles for each issue are due on or before the deadline printed in the calendar section.

Please mail articles and items of interest to:

**Gary Shows**

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

or

**email: garyshows@gmail.com**

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### **Main Contributors to this Issue:**

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|------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Gary Shows             | Editor/Uncredited Photos         |
| Mid Dornan             | Various Articles and Information |
| Don Church/Allan Smith | Historic Photos                  |
| Jerry Cerkawicz        | Information                      |
| Mark Kornmann          | Proof Read                       |
| Pam Wilson             | Membership Info                  |
| Jean Reynolds          | Article                          |
| Dee Rosier             | Article                          |
| Donna Roselius         | Line Drawings/article            |
| Linda Newton           | Information                      |
| Royce Ong              | Information                      |
| David McDermitt        | Article                          |
| Bonnie Jo Cullison     | Article                          |
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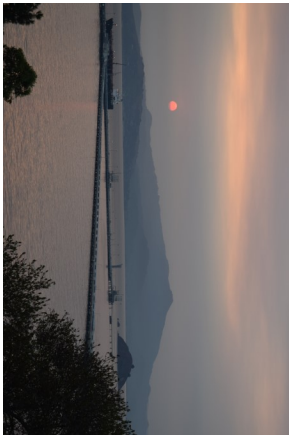
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