

POINT COUNTERPOINT

A JOURNAL FOR CIVIC COMMUNICATION

VOL. III • NO. 14

WEEKLY 10¢

POINT RICHMOND, CALIFORNIA

JULY 12 to JULY 19, 1968

VINEYARDS

?



IN CONTRA COSTA

?

THE VIANO VINEYARDS STORY • P. 5-6

• INDEX •

CIVIC CALENDAR	16
CIVIC NEWS	9, 12
COMING EVENTS	2
FEATURES	
Story of a Vineyard	5, 6
FILIPINO CIRCLES	10
HERE AND THERE	8, 9
LETTER TO EDITOR	14, 15

OLD PROF.	7
PARKS	7
POETRY	13
REMINISCING	3
WANT ADS	17
WASHINGTON SCHOOL PLAYGROUND	11

... ABOUT the 4th

The Point Richmond Civic Group committee for the Fourth of July Celebration, and its chairman, Mark Peppard wish to thank all the people who helped in the "Shuttle to Nicholl Knob".

Kids who helped guard the gate at the top--Matt Eakle, Mike Allaire, John Kinter, Paul de Benedictis, Matt Martincich, and Wayne Rasmussen, and others whose names we didn't get.

The drivers who volunteered time, cars and strength were Tom Christenson, Jack Healy, David Brunton, George Marks, and Dave Gillespie.

Attractive colorful hats which were sold at the top are still available to anyone who would like to buy some -- call 235-6717 with your order.

City Forum

Last Monday night's City Council meeting, which was held in the Richmond Auditorium to accommodate the large crowd was a vivid demonstration of the power of fear. If such powerful fear could be directed against the inadequate staffing and facilities of our schools, it could accomplish a great deal. However, the fears shown that evening accomplished nothing constructive. The gesture, harmless and well-meaning as it sounds, to support and commend the Police Department, replaced a gesture which would have at least meant that the city recognizes the value of human life. Both resolutions could have been passed, without any conflict, if fear and distrust had not been the primary motive. The resolution worked out by the City Manager and a five-man City Council Committee was rejected even though it presented no conflict with existing state statutes regarding police use of firearms.

The meeting was also broadcast live

on radio, enabling an even larger audience for the animated meeting. Discussion from the audience included wise and ridiculous statements, and all gradations between. It would take too much space to repeat them, or their essence; however, the result, at the end of a very long evening, hardly justified the time spent.

A Cookbook and You

The Contra Costa Shoreline Parks Committee is planning to back up their conviction that in the realm of "Regional Cookery" our own area can produce as elegant a cuisine as any province in the old or new world.

As positive proof, they are asking all Point chefs to come to their aid: Everyone is asked to send in their favorite (and tastiest) picnic Menu. Star one of the items on it, and follow with the recipe for the starred item.

For example: Tomato juice, *Fried chicken, Salad, fruit compote, cobbles.

(Follow with Fried chicken recipe)

It is not necessary to be a writer. The book will be edited in a professional manner. It need not be fancy, but your idea of a favorite picnic in the park. It would be very nice, as well, to include a very brief note about your favorite spots in the Point, how you first came to the Point, or any anecdote concerning the Point you think applicable.

The book will be printed and sold; the money will be used to pay for activities and materials to further the progress toward the shoreline Regional Park and other work of the Park Committee toward beautifying the shoreline.

The books, when completed, should make a good gift item. For more information, call 235-6717 or 233-5509.

Deadline: August 1, 1968. Leave or send contributions to 642 Cypress Point Road.

REMINISCING

with Don Church

Interesting and sometimes amusing articles from old Richmond and Point Richmond newspapers, courtesy of the Richmond Museum.

MR. BOTTS' AIRSHIP

1901 - 1903

PART II

Events leading up to the production of an airship invented by R. H. Botts were in last week's story. The picture below was taken in 1901.

It shows the early model of the airship, superimposed on a picture of Point Richmond. This model differs considerably from the model which actually went to the top of Nicholl Knob in 1903 for a test flight.

Last week's picture was of the final model, and showed a group of men proudly carrying it to its take-off spot on Nicholl Knob. During the last part of 1903, or in January of 1904, the craft was hauled by horse and wagon up the hill, to the Santa Fe Reservoir, where the men took over. As the airship awaited its momentous trial flight, a storm, accompanied by tremendous winds, blew the ship down the hill and into the gulley located just above

the top of Glenn Avenue, and it lay there, a total wreck.

I do not know what ever became of the Company, or Mr. Botts. Perhaps there are some 'old-timers' left who tell us!

The two diagrams below are of the steam engine and boiler. The caption under the engine reads, "The Little Engine". The engine patent is described in "Scientific American" as follows:

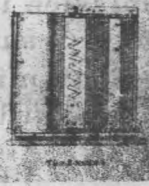
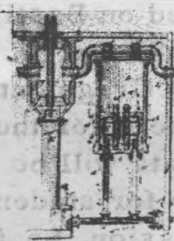
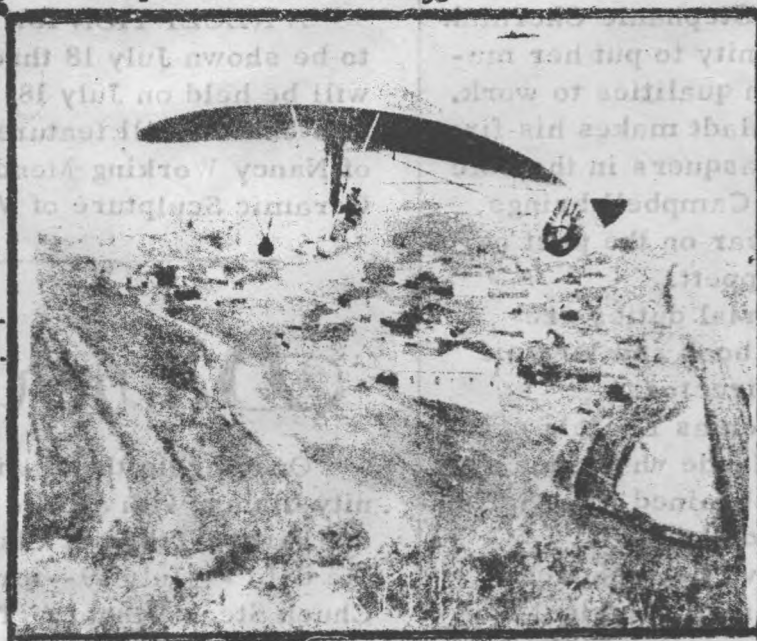
"Steam engine, Robert H. Botts, Richmond, Cal. Mr.

Botts has devised a very light and simple form of steam engine designed primarily to be used on an air ship of which he is the inventor. The steam engine comprises a crank shaft with which the cylinder is directly connected. A non-reciprocating piston with valves is arranged with cylinders and connected with hollow piston rods, forming

induction and exhaust pipe. Right angular connections for the pipe are provided. Stationary stuffing boxes form the axes of oscillation.

"The boiler has a large surface and a small steam area, is of small weight and especially adapted for air ships or locomobiles. It consists of a number of sets of generating chambers, each set being composed of a number of chambers concentric with each other, and composed of inner and outer tubes, which are spaced apart to secure the desired steam space. Pipes are provided for circulation of water to supply the steam chambers and

to discharge the steam thence as desired."



Coming: "REDHEAD"

The Masquers of Point Richmond are busy putting the finishing touches on another summer musical, "Redhead", with book by Herbert and Dorothy Fields and music by Albert Hague. The original Broadway show, which might very well be called a mystery melo-comedy starred the delightful Gwen Verdon.

Set in England at the turn of the century, the plot centers around a young "old maid", Essie Whimple and a stalwart young American, Tom Baxter, a strongman in an English music hall.

Essie is played by Stephanie Cherniak who has a fine opportunity to put her musical talents and gamin qualities to work. Attractive Charles Schladt makes his first appearance with the Masquers in the role of Tom Baxter. Scott Campbell brings his varied talents to bear on the part of Tom's pal, George Poppett.

Once again directorial duties are shared by Jo Camp on book and Virginia Cherniak as musical director.

Virginia is also seen as Essie's severe and proper Aunt Maude who hides a heart of gold. Scatter-brained Aunt Sarah is played by Marie Wedell.

Exciting dances have been choreographed by Susan Cherniak. Musical numbers are expertly accompanied by Vicki Kellogg. Costumes of intriguing and colorful design have been executed by hard-working Suzanne Salter, Mary Jo Campbell, Kaye Parisho and Bert Miller. The attractive sets have been designed and built (with invaluable aid) by resident stage manager, Dorth Hadley.

For reservations to this "mad merry musical murder mystery, call Th3-5475 or BE2-3888. The play opens on Friday, July 19 and continues through August 24, playing each Friday and Saturday evening. Curtain time is 8:30. Admission is \$2.

This sounds like the perfect summer evening's entertainment -- don't miss it! (At the newly-painted Theatre, at 105 Park Place),

ART

Besides the three-man show in the Richmond Art Center Gallery, there is now on exhibit in the corridor exhibit cases a "small works" exhibition, by the Artists Equity Association. The show is composed of drawings, watercolor paintings and prints, several of which are by well-known Northern California artists.

The three-man show, by Richard Fiscus, John Galey and Don Sereff, will end on Bastille Day, July 14.

A RECEPTION for the new show, to be shown July 18 through August 25, will be held on July 18, from 5 to 8 p.m. The exhibit will feature the Paintings of Nancy Working Mendelsohn, and the Ceramic Sculpture of Vaea.

Dinner..

Once again there will be a community dinner with all the trimmings at the First Methodist Church. Set aside the date -- July 19 -- for a delicious Chuck Steak Dinner. Tickets are available in advance, if you wish to purchase them -- call 232-4131 or 237-4772.

Music

An evening of Schumann, Mozart, Schubert, Hayden, Brahms, Debussy, Beethoven, by piano-duo team Mary Fain and Marvin Tartak, will be presented on Bastille Day, Sunday, July 14 at 8:30 p.m. The concert will be at 911 Cragmont, Berkeley, and is a benefit for the Women for Peace. Tickets will be available at the door, \$1.25 for students, \$2.00 for regular admission, \$5.00 for patrons.