THIS POINT-

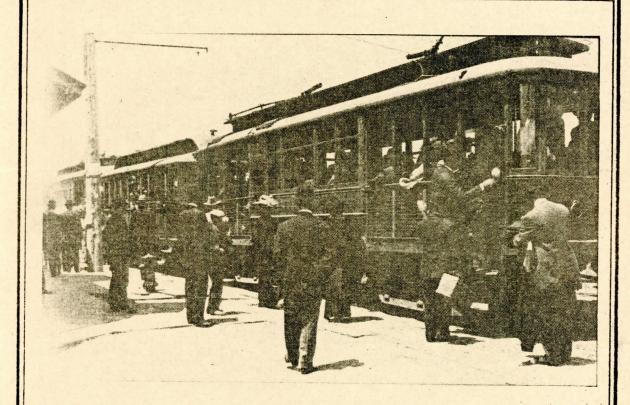
NEWSLETTER

A PUBLICATION OF THE POINT RICHMOND HISTORY ASSOCIATION

VOL. IV, No. 9

MAY, 1986

75 cents



MASS TRANSPORTATION IN RICHMOND, 1907, from the Don Church Collection, courtesy of Chevron, USA

HISTORY ASSOCIATION NOTES HAZEL SALMI IN PURSUIT OF HISTORICAL TRIVIA	1 2 2	NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL BUSINESS ASSOCIATION MASQUERS; WASHINGTON PTA	14 14 15
	10	BRICKYARD COVE; HOTEL MAC POINTS IN THE PAST & FUTURE	19 20

in time_

** THISTORY ASSOCIATION MOTTES **

ANNUAL MEETING and

[annual gourmet]
POTLUCK LUNCHEON

and

program —
WHAT'S NEW
IN OLD POINT HOUSES
fascinating stories,
before & after pictures,
of remodeling dreams
and nightmares

Bring Yours, and join
 Doug Corbin, Kate Lord,
 Joe Travis, Rosy Roselius,
 Jerry Feagley & others

SUNDAY, MAY 18, 1986 Linsley Hall

235 Washington Avenue, Point Richmond

1:00 p.m.

Salad Luncheon — bring your favorite salad,

Suggestion: If your name starts with A to G, bring a dessert instead.

FOR INFORMATION, CALL 235- 4222 THE JUNE ISSUE of our newsletter will be published in mid-June. It is our summer issue; the next newsletter will be published on September 1.

THANK YOU...

Donations were received this month from Nelly Ross — a 1965 plan by Frank Krueger, for a proposed lake in Richmond's urban core. (What if?????) And from Griff Brazil, a watercolor cartoon about Hotel Mac, created in the '40's, and donated by a member of the MacAfee family.

MEMBERS

Pam Wilson, membership chairman 521 Western Drive Pt. Richmond, CA 94801

Thank you to the following members who have renewed their memberships this month:

Rev.Dennis Araujo J. S. Byers Dorothy Davis Robert Feyder Arline Hartman Betty Wirth

Mary & Victor Highfill The John Knox Family The MacDiarmid Family Masquers Playhouse,Inc. Pam Wilson

And welcome to the following new members:

Henry Francis family Janice A.Hantzsche Elaine Harris Mrs. Evelyn Isola Ruth McKay Marcia Ann Southward

Mrs. Evelyn Isola Marcia Ann Southward Jonathan Swett Warren Winkelstein jr family

IN PURSUIT OF HISTORICAL TRIVIA

courtesy of Stan Nystrom

ANSWERS:

The answer to last month's question, Though Point Richmond is no longer an island, there are still five islands that are all or partially within the Richmond City limits: Can you name them?

East Brother (near Pt. Molate, where East Brother Light Station is located. West Brother (west of East Brother)

Red Rock, or Molate, next to the San Rafael Bridge

Brooks Island, , just off the coast of Richmond, and

Bird Island, on the southwest side of Brooks Island, and unseen from the shore.

(Castro rocks do not count as islands)

THIS MONTH'S QUESTION:

According to extensive research done by Dr. C.L. Abbott, pioneer Richmond physician, Richmond was named after Richmond Point or Point Richmond — (later known as Ferry Point, the terminus of the Santa Fe Railroad ferry that goes to China Basin in San Francisco.)

It is believed that the Point was named "Richmond" by the Federal Survey Party out of loyalty to the Richmond, Virginia birthplace of Edmund Randolph, who was on the State Geodetic Survey Commission. Randolph was the first State Assemblyman from San Francisco at the time of California's admission to the Union. (From Whitnah's book, The History of Richmond).

The "Point" of all this is: Richmond is not a unique name at all. . . The Trivia question is: "How many other cities (including Richmond, California and Richmond, Virginia) are there in the world?

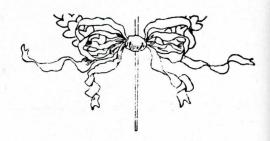
A VERY SPECIAL WOMAN – HAZEL GOWAN SALMI 1894 - 1986

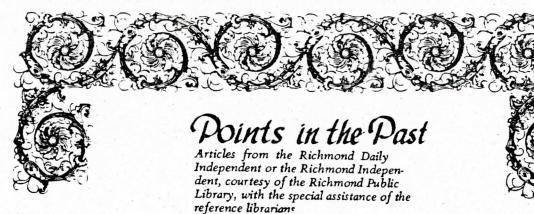
Many people have written about Hazel Salmi. Our last article about her was written in the September, 1985 newsletter by Alexandra Gautraud. Hazel Salmi died on April 22, but what she has done will live on. In her 92 years, she never stopped working, she never stopped learning, she never stopped creating.

And she never stopped teaching. It was her teaching that led her to establish the Richmond Art Center — the place which many of us credit with having provided our children with inspiration, appreciation and creative skills — which they couldn't get elsewhere.

Mrs. Salmi's strength and determination kept the Art Center growing during her 24 years as its director. The Richmond Symphony and the Richmond Ballet flourished and grew under the Art Center's wings.

This year, the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Richmond Art Center would have honored Hazel Salmi. Her spirit will be honored, but it may be a very long time before anyone with her dynamic leadership might appear again — no one who came in contact with her could fail - to learn; to be a better person because of it.





70 YEARS AGO ...

by Dierdre Cerkanowicz

Whoever said 'there's nothing as old as yesterday's news' hasn't sat down at the old microfilm machine recently. Quite a lot can be gleaned from old newspapers. This month we are treated to the continuing saga of the ferry Charles VanDamme. For all the 'hoopla' surrounding its debut, it seems a bit sad that it ended up, years later, grounded in Sausalito, rotting in the weeds while ideas about turning it into a restaurant were tossed about, and the deserted boat eventually went up in smoke.

Even small articles have their stories—as the one about the marriage of a prominent San Pablo citizen named Rumrill—now I know how the road got its name; Or the sad story of the sinking of the Steamer Roanoke, just two days out of San Francisco. It's difficult to decide on which stories to share with the reader and which to leave to the past.

May 2, 1916 -

Richmond celebrates its first big Fourth of July in 1916? We'll find out during the next months. . . What lies in store for us this year? Or think back to some of our more interesting Fourths – the time Nicholl Nob caught fire, for instance – do you have any Fourth of July memories you would like to share? – Let us know.

GRILLS MERCHANTS FOR ATTITUDE ON FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATION

"'If the businessmen of Richmond do not want this celebration let them say so and I will quit. I am tired of starting a movement and have it fall dead for lack of interest. The Standard Oil company is going to give \$200, the Pullman company \$50.00 and other plants are going to help. We won't pick anybody's pockets. If they want this celebration, let them come out to the meeting Thursday," said Mayor Garrard last evening in discussing the lack of interest in the affair.

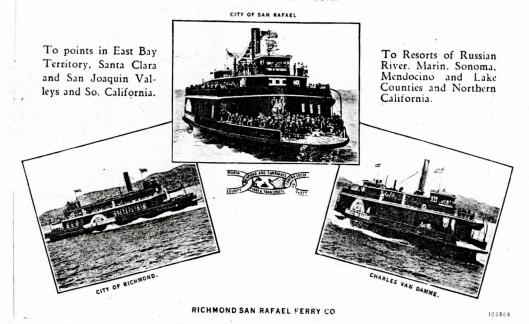
"We have never had a celebration in Richmond yet and it's about time that we did something."

May 2, 1916 – LAUNCH FERRY NEXT THURSDAY WITHOUT FAIL...

"The date of the launching of the new Richmond-San Rafael Ferry Co.'s steamer Charles VanDamme has again been changed and Superintendent Mose Moch now makes final announcement that the launching will positively take place on Thursday afternoon at 3 o'clock. The train leaves Richmond at 1:10 o'clock, arriving at Benicia at 2 o'clock. Those who wish to go to witness the launching will be met at the train with automobile and escorted to the drydock. The launching will take place at the Robinson

Post Card from the Don Church Collection

TRAVEL BY THE SHORTEST ROUTE.



shipyards. . . The vessel will be christened by the little daughter of Mayor E.G.Garrard of Richmond."

May 10, 1916 -

Have you tried to have your cat rescued from a tree or roof lately? Imagine the Fire Department's response to this problem . . .

HORSE FALLS IN CESS POOL; FIRE DEPARTMENT SAVES HIM...

"The Richmond Fire Department was called upon to handle a rather extraordinary case yesterday when Captain Yeater assisted by one of the firemen was called upon to rescue a 1200 pound horse which while grazing near the Desota property at 898 Kearney street fell into the cess pool. . The horse, which was the property of G.H. Barnum was up to his ears . . . The Chief's automobile and a supply of ropes were taken out and the rescue was achieved after a team of horses had striven in vain to release the animal."

May 16, 1916 — SPLENDID ACROSS BAY SERVICE TO BE OFFERED SOON. . .

"June 15th is the date set by Manager Mose Moch of the Richmond-San Rafael Ferry company for the opening of the service. The installation of the machinery in the new steamer VanDamme is being pushed night and day.

"At a cost of several thousand dollars the new wharf and slip for the local landing is being completed. The fill by which street cars can land directly at the entrance to the slip is finished and a 300 foot fence will be ready within a few days.

May 16, 1916 – VAN DAMME WILL BE LAUNCHED AT MIDNIGHT ON 3RD...

"The Richmond San Rafael Company's new \$100,000 ferry boat, Charles Van Damme, will not be launched with all of the ceremonies which were planned. Due to the

tidal conditions of the bay water about Benicia where the big vessel was constructed midnight of Wednesday the 3rd is the only time at which she can put overboard. No one but the workmen who must knock away the blocks will be present . . . "

(A picture of Charles VanDamme, president of the company, appeared with the article.)

May 16, 1916 – SIMPLE TOURIST STRANDED, BROKE...

"Nevermore will Pat Casey, employee of the Standard Oil company of Richmond board an ocean going vessel until he has inquired of the captain, the first mate, the ticket taker, the pilot and the deck hands of its destination. Pat was given a vacation. . . and planned on spending the time in Los Angeles. He sent his wife and children by train and planned to make the trip by steamer himself. Boarding a vessel at the ferry building which he thought was going to the southern metropolis, with \$18 and his ticket, he awoke the next morning to find himself enrout to Australia. As the ship had already made the Farralones he decided it was too far to swim and the walking was not good. Pat is now in Honolulu with his money and job gone and his wife and children mourning him as dead. An attempt is being made to make arrangements with the Standard Oil company to pay for his return trip."

May 20, 1916 – ZEPS IN BRITON – Teuton Air Raid Fruitless

"German aeroplanes shelled Dunkirk and Bergnes, killing six and wounding thirty-eight yesterday. As a measure of reprisal, French sky fleets attacked enemy camps at Wyfwegen, Zarren and Hanzaem and a Belgian aeroplane squadron bombarded the Ghiftelles aerodrome..."

May 20, 1916 -

(And back to local events . . .)
GET TOGETHER TOMORROW
FOR FOURTH PLANS . . .

"With all plans for the big celebration of July 3 and 4 well under way a big meeting of the General Committee is to be held on tomorrow evening at the headquarters, 322 Sixth Street to consider further details. Richmond this year is going to out do anything which has ever previously been attempted in the county and the greatest cooperation on the part of the committee is necessary to accomplish all that has been planned. . ."

May 31, 1916 —
PAT DEAN HAS SUNBECK STAND . . .

"Pat M. Dean, pioneer Richmond liquor dealer, has secured a transfer of his saloon license from the Berkeley Cafe at Washington and Standard avenue to the old stand of Oscar Sundbeck at the corner of Washington and Cottage avenues. Dean is now ready at his new home.

"The lease and possession of Dean's old corner at Standard avenue has been taken by Bernard & Erickson, Oakland grocers, but they have as yet no license to sell liquor."

CASTRO POINT WORK RESUMED . . .

"Preliminary work on the proposed Castro Point Railway which when completed will cost in the vicinity of \$25,000 has been started by H.G.Biggs, of Blake Brothers Quarry. The line will be run from the San Pablo quarry to Winehaven and will connect with the Richmond Belt line. Right of way difficulties caused the sudden cessation of the work shortly after it started about two years ago."

(We almost missed this one – an article that gives us a clue about why specialists stick to their own field . . .)

BLAKE'S SAFETY IS UNIQUE DEVICE...

"By the ingenious device of putting a square turn in a road just before a railroad crossing, Dr. C.R.Blake, health officer of Richmond, hopes to cause fewer accidents. (The writer doesn't say how many accidents Dr. Blake has caused, but...) According to the official, the sharp turn would force the driver of any automobile to slow down before attempting the crossing.

"Dr. Blake has taken up the matter with State Railroad Commissioner Gordon."

60 YEARS AGO ...

by Pam Wilson

May 3, 1926 – ENTRIES COMING IN FOR DOLL BUGGY PARADE ON SATURDAY...

"More entries keep coming in for the doll buggy parade on next Saturday according to Mrs. Marie Jensen, secretary of the Richmond Merchants' association, who is managing that feature of Child Welfare Week. It looks now as if the parade will be a good sized one and that there will be active competition for the cash prizes which are to be provided by the merchants for the best decorated doll and buggy outfits."

May 24, 1926 – SANTA FE TO BEGIN WORK ON HARBOR LINE...

"The Santa Fe railroad company is ready to begin the work of building a spur track from the Oakland branch line to Municipal Wharf No. 2 on the inner harbor just as soon as the signed permit for the track is received from the state railroad commission,

it was announced today by City Council-E.J. Garrard . . . "

May 29, 1926 – MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVANCE IS MAPPED HERE...

"Final details of the Memorial day services in Richmond tomorrow and Sunday have been worked out. The ceremonies in honor of the memory of deceased sailors and marines will be held aboard the Richmond-San Rafael ferry tomorrow afternoon at 2:00 o'clock... On Monday a parade will be held at 10 o'clock..."

50 YEARS AGO ...

TWO BOYS, EVADING GUARDS, BECOME FIRST TO WALK ACROSS BAY BRIDGE...

"Harold F. Pollock, 19, and John M. Birchfeldt, 19, of San Francisco became the first civilian pedestrians across San Francisco bay having crossed the skeleton span to Oakland during the night, evading guards. "It was kind of scary work," they admitted. 'We could see pretty well by moonlight, but at some places the beams were only two feet wide.' Starting before midnight, they did not arrive in Oakland until 4 a.m."

May 2, 1936 —
OPENING PICNIC AT ROD AND GUN
SET FOR MAY 10 . . .

". . . Annual 'Opening Picnic' of the Standard Oil Rod and Gun Club . . . Opening affair of the day will be a skeet shoot to be held at the skeet field starting at 9 o'clock.

"At high noon the flag raising ceremony will take place and at one o'clock the swimming committee will officiate at an unusual program in the pool. The highlight of the event will be the big inter-department tournament. Additional features will include novel and difficult diving exhibitions and probably some race events.

"Dancing will be enjoyed in the pavilion from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.

"A horseshoe tournament, boxing and wrestling exhibitions and a baseball game are also included in the program."

46 CHICKENS STOLEN BY CHICKEN THIEF...

"Forty-six three-weeks old chicks were stolen from their doop at the West Side some time last night according to a report made to police by Mrs. Theresa Brignoni, 1000 Standard avenue. The chicks were valued at \$12."

May 6, 1936 – WE MUST HAVE TRANSPORTATION...

"With the opening of the bridge to San Francisco only a few months away, the matter of transportation between this city and San Francisco over the bridge becomes urgent. The Independent has pointed out before that direct and unified service to San Francisco can no longer be overlooked if this city is to take its place among the important commercial and residential centers of the bay area . . . On November 7 the bridge will be open for traffic. . . The transportation committee of the chamber of

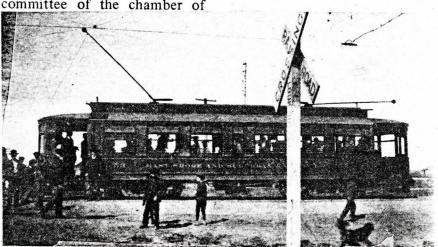
commerce has issued its invitation to the companies to come forward with a constructive plan, showing some interest in Richmond welfare, but so far the transportation companies are maintaining a cagy silence.

"Rail transportation over the new bridge will not start until possibly a year after the bridge is opened. This city should not be required to wait that long..."

May 8, 1936 – KEY ASKS TO RESTORE OLD FERRY LINE...

"Patrons of the Richmond-San Rafael terry will no longer have to walk the weary and dusty miles from the ferry to the present terminal of the East Bay Street Railway at the Standard Oil plant. Alfred J. Lundberg, president of the Railway, announced this afternoon that he has just filed an application with the State Railway Commission to extend the present bus line from its terminal at Standard and Scofield avenues to the ferry terminal.

". . . It will replace the former street railway service to the ferry, which was abandoned some time ago. The bus service, it is understood, will meet the ferry boats on their arrival from the Marin shore.



Going home after a day at Standard Oil Refinery,

from the Don Church Collection

"This action on the part of President Lundburg is but another of the many evidences of a public, progressive spiritedness shown by the company under Lundburg's management. A fight for this service has been waged for several weeks by local bodies."

May 22, 1936 – REGATTA TO BE HELD OFF FERRY POINT SUNDAY . . .

"Star boats of this region are prepared to enter into their first major competition Sunday under the banner of the East Bay Star boat fleet.

"Two races Sunday, to be held off Ferry Point, will be the first of a three-race series to decide upon an East Bay representative to compete in the international star boat races..."

"Arrangements have also been started for the snipe boat three-race series for the John F. Galvin trophy... Since most of the snipe boats of the bay region are owned by members of the Richmond Yacht Club, it is not anticipated that the trophy will leave this vicinity..."

40 YEARS AGO ...

May 1, 1946 – INDIAN ARTIST ON RICHMOND PROGRAM SERIES . . .

"Ataloa, guest artist to be presented by the Richmond program series . . . is a Chickasaw Indian. . . possessed of a beautiful contralto voice, she has won international recognition as an interpreter of the art, music and philosophy of the American Indian.

"Honored guests at the performance will be members of the Laguna and Acoma tribes, natives of New Mexico, who reside in Richmond. They are employed by the Santa Fe in a special arrangement with the Federal government, and in their Indian vil-

lage here in Richmond, live together and observe many tribal customs."

May 3, 1946 – MARINES JOIN ATTACK ON ALCATRAZ FELONS...

"The Police Boat D.A.White, cruising off Alcatraz Prison, reported that gunfire was increasing in volume on the island at 8:30 a.m. after being sporadic during the early morning hours.

"U.S.Marines and prison guards intensified their attacks on a desperate band of 'stir-crazy' convicts on Alcatraz Island today, more than 18 hours after the desperadoes launched the bloodiest and most determined fight for freedom in the history of the 'escape proof' penitentiary.

[An incomplete casualty toll listed 2 guards dead and 14 others wounded.]

High Explosives

"At 3:42 o'clock this morning, Sheriff James N.Long's office in Martinez received a request from the Benicia arsenal for an escort through this county of a truckload of high explosives destined for Alcatraz Island.

"The high explosive was to be used by Marines and prison guards in blasting the rioting convicts from their cells."

May 8, 1946 – FORD MOTOR COMPANY SUSPENDS OPERATIONS...

"The coal shortage caused by miners' strikes claimed its first virtually-complete major industry lay-off today as the Ford

RICHMOND BAKERY

Washington and Park Avenues

BREAD, PIES AND CAKES.

J. Matsen, Proprietor.

Ad from a Richmond Newspaper, about 1906, courtesy of the Richmond Museum

Motor Co., announced that all operations will be suspended tonight.

"Bricker said 110,000 persons will be affected by the shutdown and that many will take their vacation now."

May 18, 1946 — OPENING DAY PICNIC AT STANDARD OIL ROD & GUN CLUB

(Rather than quote from this article, we will list the activities, to compare them with the 1936 picnic quoted previously . . .)

Events included a comic diving exhibition, water races — free style, a lemon race, a cork race — and fancy diving; Jo-Jo the Clown and his company of fun makers held a five-act vaudeville show; dancing with live music; field events and lots of races. Buses were provided for transportation throughout the day from Castro Street.

30 YEARS AGO ...

May 1, 1956 -

QUESTION MARK COLUMN . . .

"Canada has just sold to Russia a large quantity of wheat, and if you are a former Richmond shipyard worker you would probably instantly recognize the ships that Russia is sending to collect the purchase. They all slid down the ways of Richmond's inner harbor during those fevered wartime years.

"Seems that this country 'loaned' Russia a bunch of those Richmond-built ships to help them with their war effort. But the Soviets just can't quite bring themselves to pay back the loan."

May 2, 1956 -

'HAYRIDE' BACK IN RICHMOND . . .

"The live television show, "California Hayride' returns 'home' to the Richmond Auditorium. . . after a tour of Northern California cities.

"The whole gang with Cottonseed Clark, Eddie Kirk and the Hayride Orchestra will come back to the auditorium for a 9 o'clock television show and evening long dance."

INDIAN STATUE PARK DONATIONS

Only three and a half months remain, if you are planning to make a donation to the Indian Statue Park Fund. A donation of \$200 or more will be commemorated with your name on the third bronze plaque on the statue's base. We have now reached the \$9400 level!

According to Lindsay Stroud of the City Recreation and Parks Department, an application has been sent to the state for additional funds, which should be available in July. The park, however, can be started before that time.

Donations are tax deductible. See the form in this issue.

As of this printing, donors of \$200 or more are:

Alko Office Supplies Anne Anderson Rhoda J.Ayers Louisa Banks George M.Batten Brickyard Landing M.H.Carey &W.R.

Stribley families
Muriel & Bert Clausen
Marshall C.Collins
David Del Simone
Robert Dornan family
Marion Downey
Luciano, Michael, Leo

&Aldo Forner
Henry A.Francis
Barry & Erica Goode
Lois & Loraine Haigh
Adele C.Hollander
Alberta P.& Walter W.
Horn

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with partial payments from:

Robert Butzbach Camille Zulpo

LOUISE HENRICH ROGERS' MEMORIES OF THE EARLY POINT

Mrs. Rogers, who lives in Oakland, has from time to time shared memories of her childhood in the Point. In our last conversation she brought up the theater on Standard Avenue that had a large stage for live entertainment. She and two other girls at one time joined the 'tryouts', and were paid one dollar for their rendition of "I Love You, California".

"MARINERS BUILDING"

Mrs. Rogers' father owned the bakery in what has recently become known as the Mariners Building, and she wrote to us of her memories from the time she lived here:

"In answer to your question . . . about the bakery my father had on 1 Park Place, which he bought in 1908 from John and Annie Matson, then he sold it to some other people who also had a bakery there (I don't remember their name) in about 1914 or 1915:

"I remember it was a wooden building and always painted a light grey. I can't remember if the front top went straight across or to a peak, but the roof of the rest over the house part was slanting, as I asked my brother how he remembered it.

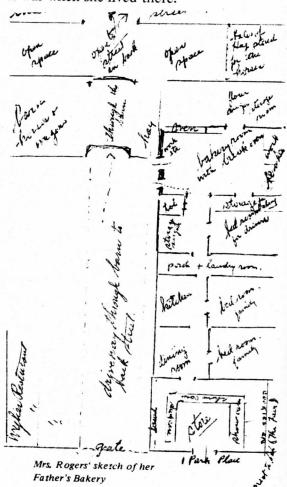
"On June 11, 1978, I took a niece over to see the Point and the bakery — a quick tour as we left a wedding reception at the Yacht Harbor near Point Richmond that was given for another niece (Karen Nelson Stevens) after she was married in Hawaii. The bakery at that time looked the same as when we were there, only a liquor store was in it. There was the driveway going all the way to the back street, and then the Santa Fe railway which went through the (old) tunnel to the pier for the Ferry boat that went over to San Francisco.

Alongside the driveway was a restaurant

run by Mr. Wylie and next to that was Wylie's Saloon. These were on the right, and on the left was a grocery store called "The Fair", run by Charles E. Genazzi — this is printed on the plate that I mentioned to you. The date and calendar on it is 1912.

"I have now received the address of Erna Brendt, whose father was either owner or ran the winery at Winehaven. I will send her the magazine . . . and ask her about memories she would recall, then I will pass them on to you. We used to go to school together."

Mrs. Rogers drew a plan showing the layout of the bakery and the house behind it, as well as the other parts of the building, as it was when she lived there.



SPECIAL EVENTS AT THE RICHMOND MUSEUM

Richmond History in Quilts

The softer side of Richmond's history is told through the quilt exhibit which will be open Friday through Sunday, 1 to 4:00, through June 22.

Besides seeing the quilts, you can read about them and their creators in the catalog published by museum volunteers.

Special events during the quilt show include:

FILM DAYS:

April 20, 1:30 and 3:00: "Quilts in Women's Lives", a nationally acclaimed film, directed by Pat Ferrero;

May 10 and 11: Films shown throughout the day: "Quilting in Rural America", "Anonymous was a Woman", and "Quilts in Women's Lives".

QUILT SHARING:

The public is invited to bring in their quilts for show and tell quilt sharing. Inez Brooks-Myers, Associate Curator in the History Department of the Oakland Museum and Julie Silber, Curator of the Esprit quilt collection will host this event at 2 p.m.

For information call 235-7387.

HAPPY MAY BIRTHDAY . . .

Muriel Clausen **Bev Price** Ruth Beardsley Maurice Doherty Evelvn Essarv Marcelio Caceres Pat Doman Cindy Quist Dave Bray Becky Horn Lucretia Edwards Bill Kretzmer Vern Doellstedt Lloyd Darley Jon Doellstedt John Knox, Jr. Richard Matteucci **Bob Fevder** Diana Spinola Winifred Jones Christine Dennis Diana Corbin Anne Price **Douglas Corbin** (birthdays? call Mid Dornan, 234-5334)

CHURCHES

POINT METHODIST CHURCH

by Mid Dornan

Church history is rich with contributions of women. One of the church groups in the early 1900's was the home Missionary Society of the First Methodist Church whose history is reflected in their minutes, printed below and taken from the stiff cardboard covered notebook purchased from "Shoen's Pharmacy in the Point".

May 20, 1908

The Home Missionary Society met at the home of Mrs. R.N. Woods in the absense (sic) of the President the meeting was opened by Mrs. Adams. The subject was Mormons of today and the meeting was opened by responsive readings. And all repeat the Lord's Prayer. The minutes of last meeting was read also report and Mite Boxes was read and accepted. The treasurer's report on Treas \$13.55. On Mite Boxes \$7.70 for refreshments \$3.65 and contingent fund 30 cts.

Then several reading our Mormons subject and general discussions. Music by Mrs. Stanley.

Refreshments 70 cts.

(No signature, but Mrs. L.C. Pritchard was secretary)

METHODIST CHURCH NEWS

Everyone in the community who likes to sing is invited each month to join on the second Sunday of each month at 7:00. Roy Jones accompanies on the piano in his own style, and beginning this month the singalongs will alternate between the Baptist and Methodist churches. This month, on May 11, it will be at the Methodist Church. After the singing there is a fellowship time, and refreshments will be served.

A new white picket fence between the church and parsonage has just been completed, and it enhances the roses blooming next to it.

Letters have been received from former members and members who are overseas. Jennifer and Jack delaFonteyne (Barnett) send greetings from Holland, where they just returned from a ski holiday in Switzerland. Major Jim and Reba (Slagle) Downs, in Norway, expect to return to the States in the fall. Velma Slagle plans to visit her daughter and family before their return. Veora Heiney, now in Redding, continues to remember the church here where she once served as Women's Society president.

Special recognition will be given to mothers at the service on Mothers Day.

The recent youth snow and ski trip was a great success.

Craft sessions have begun at the church on the first and third Wednesdays of each month, in preparation for the fall bazaar scheduled for October 24. Anyone can join the women on craft nights.

OUR LADY OF MERCY CATHOLIC CHURCH

by Marion Downey

The Knights of Columbus donated the proceeds of their breakfast, \$211.51, to the St. Vincent dePaul Society, which helps with our bags of groceries to needy families. In April, 193 bags were distributed.

New members joining our parish were David Obrien, Kitty Chaperon, Daniel and Colleen Shannon, Georgia Haley, Sandy Perez, Charles Blanchard, Gerald and Felice Williams, Rich Mezzie and Manuel and Cypriana Caldera.

On April 15, the Catholic Daughters of America held a salad bar luncheon in the church hall, which was attended by a large group of guests, and the food was delicious. Following the luncheon, the group enjoyed playing grocery bingo.

Quotes and Comments from the POINT RICHMOND BAPTIST CHURCH

by Roy Jones

Near Sonoma there's a fine old church building that now houses the "Sheik Boutique". Cute. Real cute. I concede the building is maintained very well, but . . . well, it's just that there is a vast difference between presenting the word of God to all who may come and peddling designer lingerie to yuppies. God forbid such an ignominious fate should ever befall this old church, but it could have.

Without further procrastination, following is an account of how our congregation left and stayed gone a long time and then came home. This church experienced healthy growth during its first ten years. But then, beginning about 1912, we were in decline. Churches are people, not buildings. So, when the congregation here by a majority vote moved to Barrett Avenue, this building was left with only a few families — keepers of the flame they were — to operate the Point Mission, as we became known.

Operating as a mission under the auspices of the First Church, now at Barrett and 13th Streets, services were still held here every Sunday. Without a regular minister and with only an occasional visiting ministerial student from the Berkeley Divinity College our building was maintained and kept open by a few devoted people — more about that group later.

Along about 1940 a steadily-growing group of members at First Church were intent on returning to this building. But they could not join because we were not officially a church, though the Mission had by this time obtained a regular minister — a Rev. Robert Lincoln Kelley, formerly pastor of the First Baptist Church of Benton Harbor, Michigan (don't ask me how that came a-

bout!) Organizing a new church is no big thing for a Baptist — all they needed was people, preacher and permission. They had the people and the preacher — permission was to be sought from the Northern California Baptist Convention and the San Francisco Bay Cities Baptist Association — sort of a Baptist Vatican. Now, to quote from a letter written by the pastor at the Mission — Rev. Robert Lincoln Kelley, to Rev. E.F. Austin, pastor at First Church:

In line with the confirmatory action all around to the prospective independency of the Point Mission, I am writing in request for a blanket letter of dismissal to us for the following, all of whom are members of record with you and who will constitute the list of charter members at the Point when and if the new church is recognized. (There follows a list of 54 people – I wish I could list a few whose names are still familiar in the Point. Rev. Lincoln closes his letter with). . . in the event that anything should hold up this project, something now unforeseen, those listed above would still remain on your records.

(The letter is dated Sept. 27, 1941)

And the soon coming reply from Dorothy Long, Church Clerk, on letterhead of the First Baptist Church, Barrett Avenue and 13th Street, Richmond – telephone Richmond 1451-W (I like those phone numbers).

On Sunday, September 28, 1941, the members of the First Baptist Church of Richmond, California, voted unanimously to grant a blanket letter of dismissal to the Point Richmond Church members whose names appear below, that they might form an independent church, and to become Charter members of same . . .

(and follows a list identical to the one Rev. Lincoln had requested.)

And now to quote from Minutes of

Meeting held for the purpose of getting permission to form a new church:

A discussion has arisen both within the Mission constituency and with the members and pastor of the First Church and the Associational and Baptist Union and Convention officers. Unanimous action favoring this move was taken by the First Church, the Point Mission and by the committee of the Bay Cities Baptist Associational Council which met at Lakeside Baptist Church on October 7, 1941. The Council very carefully went into the tentative organization of the Point Richmond Church, the constitution and by-laws and at 8:10 p.m. that evening, October 7, 1941, the independent status was achieved.

(and I will leave history alone until next issue.)

The Ordination Ceremony for our pastor, Richard K. Knott, was held here Sunday, April 20. It was an impressive ceremony followed by a gourmet buffet — food prepared by our ladies and fit for a king — or a newly-ordained Baptist minister. Among our distinguished visitors were Rev. and Mrs. Smith and his mother, the lovely and lively Genevieve, from the Methodist Church — they are good neighbors.

You are coming to our next first Sunday gospel singing, aren't you? Sunday evening, May 4, at 7:00 p.m. at the Baptist Church.



Our Lady Of Mercy Church and Parsonage from an early publication

POINT NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

courtesy of Linda Andrew

SURVEYS...

At the April 10 Neighborhood Council Meeting, George Coles distributed surveys prepared by the Mayor's Office, to determine wants and needs of the area. The survey sheets were to be returned to George by April 28.

CLEAN-UP WEEKEND . . .

A Clean-Up Weekend to be sponsored jointly by the Neighborhood Council and the Point Business Association is to be discussed at the next Business Association meeting on May 7. Emphasis on the Washington School area and many other spots in the Point are on the clean-up agenda. Residents would supervise and may join in with work furlough crews provided by the City for a weekend in May. The City also provides all tools and bags, as well as trucks for hauling trash away.

POINT MAP.

An updated cartoon map of the Point is being prepared by Jeanne Eger and Joel Beck.

CHRISTMAS PREPARATIONS!

Georgia Haley volunteered to coordinate the Holiday decorations for our downtown area trees, using sparkling lights. Discussions will be held with the Business Association proposing that merchants participate, beginning a holiday tradition. Electricity could be furnished by the Indian Statue Park or the Community Center.

YOUTH PROGRAMS - CHILD CARE

The lack of youth activity programs and child care facilities were discussed, and a meeting was tentatively set for April 24, to which interested parents and children would be invited. An Ad-Hoc committee of Georgia Haley, Janet Lyons, Allan Romano and John Dasey was to organize the meeting and inform interested residents, but the meeting was cancelled because of lack of interest, and it will be discussed at the next Council Board meeting.

NEW OFFICERS:

Elected at the meeting were the following officers: Michael Brown, president; Georgia Haley and Allan Romano, vice-presidents; Jay Ward, treasurer and Linda Andrew, secretary.

POINT RICHMOND BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

courtesy Griff Brazil

PARKING

At the April Business Association meeting, Dick Danker of the City Public Works Department talked about the possibility of angle parking along Park Place and making Park Place a one-way street. Mr. Danker voiced doubts about angle parking making space for very many more cars to park. He and Walter Connelly are to take a survey to determine reactions to a one-way street.

Danker also spoke about the aligning of Cutting Boulevard as it enters the Point.

INDIAN STATUE DAY . . .

President David Vincent announced that the Statue Park fund now has \$8400. Committees will begin planning Indian Statue Day.

YOUTH PROGRAMS

City Councilman David MacDiarmid discussed the possible formation of programs for young people, supervised by the Recreation and Parks Department. Since vandalism has been a problem, David Del Simone will draft a letter to the Police Department giving them a partial account of vandalous acts that have taken place here recently.

According to police records, there have been very few incidents in the Point. The importance of reporting all unlawful incidents was emphasized.

SAVE THE WIG-WAG?

The attempt to get the old railroad crossing signal on West Richmond repaired has alerted the P.U.C., who plans to replace it with a modern structure with gates. A letter to the P.U.C. asking them to replace, not remodel the signal will be sent by the Association.

FESTIVAL BY THE BAY . . .

The Annual Festival By The Bay will be held on September 7 along the Marina Bay waterfront. A blend of historical and cultural preservation and heritage, the festival is expected to be larger and even more successful than last year. A report on events planned was made by Peggy Young of the Mayor's Office and Dan Greene, President of the Chamber of Commerce.

NOW AT THE MASQUERS

by Jerry Cerkanowicz

"Whose Life Is It Anyway", by Brian Clark is quite a surprise. The story of a young male artist who is paralyzed and wants to be removed from a life support system and die sounds depressing. But it's not. It's a witty, moving, thought provoking evening of entertainment.

Set in an English hospital, the play stars Bruce Larsen as Ken, the young artist. Paralyzed from the neck down, Ken argues, threatens and jokes with his doctors and nurses in an attempt to prove his sanity, and to obtain his goal of living his life as he wants.

Using the whole theater as a set, director Theo Collins draws the audience into the drama. Everyone in the cast does a good job, and the production staff, especially the set constructors, create a believable hospital atmosphere. I recommend this play and commend the Masquers for undertaking this production. It's done with style and humor.

Performances are every Friday and Saturday night through May 10 at 8:30, with a Sunday matinee May 4 at 2:30 p.m. Support your local theater!



by Omera Johnson

Our school is suddenly feeling a great loss, because our principal, Nino Petroni, has had to retire for health reasons. A fine person and a fine principal, he will be missed by all of us.

The PTA will hold a business board meeting on May 13 for the purpose of nominating officers for the coming school year.

On June 3 we invite everyone to a very special program. Washington students will participate in a Debate Program, the result of the children's forensics taught at the school this year. Students will also present examples of their creative writing. The program will be held in the auditorium at 7:30.

Our thanks to the Richmond Boatworks for donating a copy machine to the school; and thanks to the parents for their patience during the recent lengthy fundraiser!

A-MID TRIVIA

by Mid Dornan (234-5334)

May Day! The first day of May has been celebrated for many years as a Springtime festival, and in some countries as Labor Day. Traditional festivals have made terms like 'maypole' and 'May queen' a part of our language. Maying, the celebration of May Day, could end in mayhem, necessitating a call of "Mayday" (an international radio — telephone distress signal taken from the French "m'aider" meaning help me); or it could be as peaceful as a mayfly fluttering around mayapples or maypops. . . . Maybe that's enough about May, but somehow we left out the mayonnaise!

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By the end of April, if you're the average working American, you will have earned enough money to pay your 1986 tax bill, if everything you earned was allocated for federal, state and local government taxes. . . Depressing? You could live elsewhere, and it could be even worse there!

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Isn't it wonderful to fill your gas tank and have the number of gallons exceed the number of dollars! Too bad that, at 77 cents a gallong, it can't be stored for future use.

Paul Cort is one of five students from Kennedy High School qualifying to represent Northern California at a National Debate Tournament in Tulsa, Oklahoma on June 14 to 21. Their success requires the team to raise fund to finance their \$8,000

trip.

"Dateline: Point Richmond" — that was the heading for the Contra Costa Press Club annual recognition awards presented at the Hotel Mac.

-0-

"Mathematics Framework" for grades K through 12? Adopted by the State Board

of Education with guidelines written by a committee of math experts who believe students should have calculators continually available in class, on homework assignments and for tests, it is meeting with controversy. It could free teachers from hours of checking the accuracy of hand written computations, but will it make children 'calcuholics'?

-O-

Doug and Penny Greiner will leave in June to spend a year in Switzerland where Doug will be on a work assignment.

-0-

The Heifer Project is a program that is supported by the Methodist Church which provides animals for overseas countries. In explaining to some young children why he was requesting contributions for the project, Rev. Charles Smith asked, "If you didn't have milk to drink, what would happen?" A wide-eyed youngster quickly replied, "You'd have to drink coke and you'd get rotten teeth!"

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At the Point Richmond Travel Agency there is a display of photographs by Point artist Dierdre Cerkanowicz. Enjoy the view next time you stroll by.

-0-

Starting in May, there will again be a Farmers Market in Richmond! Every Friday in front of the Main Library, from 2 to 6:00 there will be fruit, vegetables, fish, honey, nuts and eggs — fresh from the farm.

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Russell Greenlaw celebrated his 40th Big One during the Hotel Mac's birthday celebration on the night the Point History Association was especially invited. Among those attending were his two children, his mother, Frankie Greenlaw; his Grandmother, his Brother David, and Hortense and Frank McGee.

Juanita and Robert Veneabel of Jasco, Washington visited the newest member of their family tree, granddaughter Bethany, daughter of Jean and Norm Reynolds.

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Daily exercise in U.S. schools was first made compulsory in Boston in the 1850's.

-0-

After two and a half years of intensive work on a masters degree in Health Counseling, Arline Hartman is graduating from John F.Kennedy University. For her final integrative project, she combined her background in fine art with counseling, conducting workshops and individual sessions in her home. She is excited about the possibilities in this work, since the experience has revealed the powerful effect of the creative process making use of art materials, in getting to the heart of certain psychological issues and blocks that cause stress and affect health. The courage to be creative can enable a person to live life more fully. She jokingly calls her work "Fine He[art] Counseling."

Barbara and Gordon Campbell dropped by on their way home from Mazatlan. They have some old pictures of their former home on Western Drive which will be on display along with others, at our Annual Meeting.

-0-

What product has as its logo "Sailor Jack and his dog Bingo"? If you guessed Cracker-Jack (with no 's'), you're correct. Cracker Jack began production 114 years ago in Chicago, and has since the beginning offered a prize in every pack, designated for kids aged 5 to 12. Cracker Jack claims to be the world's largest user of popcorn and buys a special hybrid called the Iowa 12 from growers in Indiana and other midwest states. . . . (now, aren't you glad you read this column?)

At last we will have a driver's license that fits into a wallet. Effective in April are changes authorized by the State DMV that will make the licenses one-eighth inch smaller with rounded edges; they will also have a dotted rectangular area for the organ donor renewal program, and holes will be punched in expired licenses to allow drivers to keep them for identification purposes.

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How good it is to see that tree trimmers are finally pruning trees in the Point — must be one of the items restored to the city's budget.

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Those attending Hotel Mac's 75th birthday celebration weren't disappointed. The festive decorations, the 75-cent champagne punch and the special \$7.50 dinners added to the crowds and the enjoyment; and a self-proclaimed 75th guest won't soon forget the honor! Point Richmond Business Association and History Association were well represented on the night reserved for them — what fun!

-0

Have you joined your Point Richmond Neighborhood Council? Memberships are only \$3 per person and \$5 per family — one of the best investments you can make to protect and improve your neighborhood. Everyone's support and interest is needed.

-0-

One hundred years ago the Sears catalog began, when R.W.Sears, an underpaid railroad agent, began shipping discount watches to his buddies. Since that first retailing-bymail in 1886, the Sears catalog has become a sort of American wish book, reflecting changes in consumer taste and needs over the years, though the catalog is no longer Sears' main business. And, unless you place at least two orders of \$30 or more every six months, you must pay \$4.00 to get the once free catalog.

-0-

WEST SIDE LIBRARY

bu Jan Burdick

If you enjoy the works of the impressionist painters, you are probably planning to attend the show at the DeYoung Museum in San Francisco. Closer to home are prints and reproductions at West Side along with books about this style of painting and the artists who paint in this manner.

More new books added to the West Side collection recently:

As Time Goes By:

the life of Ingrid Bergman Laurence Leamer Chilton's Guide to VCR Repair and Maintenance Gene William Confronting Crime: an American Challenge Elliott Currie The Disappeared and the Mothers of the Plaza John Simpson A Few Days (poetry) James Schuyler Man at His Best: the Esquire Guide to Style William Wilson Normal Accidents: Living with High-Risk Technology Charles Perrow Schoolwise: A Parent's Guide to

ad from a 1903 Richmond newspaper, courtesy of the

Richmond Museum

Getting the Best Education

Tapas: The Delicious Little Dishes

Truman: The Rise to Power

for your Child

of Spain

RICHMOND TRANSFER CO

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Freight and Baggage Promptly Hauled. Piano and Furniture Moving.

PHONE BLACK 193 CHURCH & PURSELL

A TOUR OF HISTORIC HOUSES IN BERKELEY

by Deirdre Cerkanowicz

On Sunday, April 20, the Berkeley Architectural Heritage Association (BAHA) held another of its annual house tours. The subject of this year's tour was Maybeck and his legacy — houses by Bernard Maybeck and in the Maybeck tradition.

Bernard Maybeck (1862 - 1957) is probably the Bay Area's best known, loved, and also most eccentric architect.

Maybeck's most well known surviving structure is the Palace of Fine Arts in San Francisco, which houses the Exploratorium. There are at least 45 of his buildings extant in Berkeley.

Past BAHA sponsored tours have covered the structures of John Hudson Thomas, Julia Morgan and many other Berkeley area architects.

The Maybeck tour consisted of visiting nine homes, mostly in the north Berkeley area within walking distance of one another. It was a treat to see these great old homes — they don't build them like that any more. The intricate woodwork, the attention to detail, the sheer exuberance of some of the structural elements — especially fireplaces and stairs — are unfortunately things of the past.

If historic architecture interests you, don't miss next year's tour. For more information about the Berkeley Architectural Heritage Association's lectures, tours or publications, contact them at P.O.Box 1137, Main Post Office, Berkeley, CA 94701; or call 845-6591.

Anyone interested in having a tour of Point buildings?

CANTERS TO THE COVE

by Susanne Blodgett

The Brickyard Cove area seems to attract the local physical fitness buffs. Weekdays, beginning at 5:30 a.m., you'll find the runners. They make their way along Dornan Drive, "do" the Cove streets, go out to the end of Sandpiper Spit, then back, taking in Miller-Knox Park when it begins to get light. Shortly after, you'll see the rowers in their shells pulling up and down the channels between the homes and around the marinas. Once the sun is up the walkers take over, briskly striding along, greeting the morning.

There is a break until 11:30 a.m. when Chevron employees descend. Then for the next hour and a half there are runners everywhere, enjoying the area and the long lunch break and gym facilities the company provides.

In the early evenings, especially in nice weather, the local residents take to the streets to walk, ride their bicycles, play tennis or swim in the pool at Brickyard Landing. It is a friendly, neighborly time of day.

The physical fitness trend has impacted this area in a positive, pleasant way. The beautiful scenery and good weather, coupled with the flat terrain and waterfront have made the Brickyard Cove area a magnet for cantering Pointers who prefer not to take to the hills.

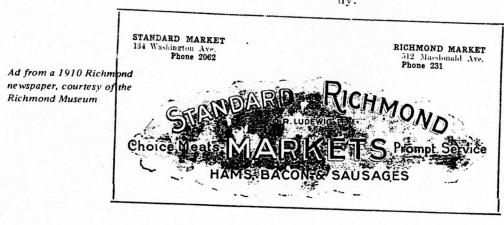
SWINGING PARTY AT THE MAC

by Jean Eger

'Full Swing,' singing nightly, was the big draw at Hotel Mac's week-long 75th birth-day party April 21 through 27.

In honor of the historic Point Richmond landmark's long and happy life, the Mac also featured dinners for the low price of \$7.50.

'Full Swing's' lead singer, soprano Laurie Tvedt, is a charming kewpie-doll of a person, gliding through complicated lyrics and throwing her all into scat singing in "You, You're Driving Me Crazy". They get an A for effort on that one. The group started the second set with the top of their hit list, "Java Jive". The crowd of 30-plus types lit up with their rendition of "Blue Skies". The Music is 'Manhattan Transfer' type, according to Mac management. Alto Donna Spitzer sings faultlessly. Special note should be taken of Robin Lewis's electric acoustic guitar playing and arranging. He gives the songs straightforward treatment with just a little twist that makes it special. Sort of the difference it makes when you put wine in the stew. Lewis also sings baritone; Rob Thorsen is on bass, and Bob La-Rosa sings tenor. Full Swing's favorite song is Double Seven Club, written by Gerry Tennv.



Please fill out and return this form to renew your membership, or to become a member of the Point Richmond History Association, a non-profit corporation. Your support is greatly appreciated!

Name			
Address			
Telephone No.			
TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP (CHECK	(ONE)		
SINGLE	\$15.00		
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ORGANIZATION	35.00		
□ HISTORY PRESERVER	50.00		
HISTORY MAKER	100.00		
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Association includes a year's subscri	ption to		
"This Point in Time" newsletter (nit	ne issues).		
Please send membership forms to:			
PAM WILSON			
521 WESTERN DRIVE			

Articles for each month's issue are due on the 20th of the previous month.

POINT RICHMOND, CA 94801

Please mail articles and items of interest to: Donna Roselius, 212 Bishop Alley, Point Richmond, CA 94801, or call 235-4222.

Items may also be left with Trannie at 145 W. Richmond Avenue.

This Point in Time is a publication of the Point Richmond History Association, a non-profit corporation, at 212 Bishop Alley, Point Richmond, CA 94801

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POINTS IN THE FUTURE ...

MAY-

- 1 May Day Take time to pick some flowers from your garden to share with others.
- 3 & 4 Annual Vallejo Race, to Vallejo on 3rd, back past East Brother on 4th.
- 6 West Side Improvement Club meeting, 12 noon at Our Lady of Mercy Church Hall.
- 10 32nd ANNUAL

BOY SCOUT PANCAKE BREAKFAST at the Methodist Church. Troop 111's

- famous pancakes and all the fixings!

 11 MOTHERS' DAY Honor your special mother, and if you can, adopt another for the day!
- 14 Point Richmond Business Association meeting at Hotel Mac, 12 noon.
- 18 POINT RICHMOND HISTORY ASSOCIA-TION ANNUAL MEETING and POT LUCK LUNCHEON - Everyone's Invited!
- 26 Memorial Day Holiday
- 30 Traditional Memorial Day

POINTS IN THE PAST ...

MAY -

- 1874 The East Brother Light Station Whistle began to blow
- 5, 1961 Alan Shepard became the first space explorer
- 9, 1926 Richard Byrd and Floyd Bennet flew over the North Pole
- 14, 1904 First time the Olympics were held in the U.S. - in St. Louis.
- 16, 1866 Coinage of a five-cent piece known as a "nickel" was authorized - and it actually was used for purchasing things, all by itself!
- 16, 1898 Bread prices rose to 6 cents per loaf there went the nickel . . .
- 21, 1881 Clara Barton founded the American Red Cross
- 28, 1958 Two unknown soldiers of World War I and II and Korea lay in state in the Capital Rotunda.

add your name to history!

DO IT IN BRONZE ...

A THIRD PLAQUE WILL BE ADDED
TO THE INDIAN STATUE PEDESTAL.

DONORS OF \$200 OR MORE WILL HAVE THEIR NAMES ON A BRONZE PLAQUE ATTACHED TO THE GRANITE STATUE BASE.

FUNDS DONATED WILL CREATE A PARK AREA SURROUNDING THE STATUE.

Donations may be sent to the Point Richmond History Association, 808 Western Drive, Point Richmond, CA 94801.

Donations are tax deductible.

When making your donation, please specify clearly how you wish the name printed on the plaque.

Smaller donations are also welcomed, and names will be added to the roll call.

PLEASE MAKE YOUR DONATION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, SO THAT FINAL PARK PLANS WILL MATCH THE FUNDS. ALL DONATIONS MUST BE COLLECTED BY AUGUST 15, 1986.

S POSSIBLE, HE FUNDS. JNDIAN · STATUE · PARK

Park Committee: Patricia Behrens, Catherine Burchell, Tom Butt, Sarah Eeles, Kathe Kiehn, Donna Roselius, David Vincent, Jay Ward, Peggy Young: Lucretia Edwards, advisor. For Further Information, call 235-4222

DONOR S FORM

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I (we),	donate/pledge \$
to be used for the det this amount is due b	sign and creation of the Indian Statue Park. I (we) understand that efore August 15, 1986, and that it is a tax-exempt donation.
Dated	Donor's signature
Address:	
Inscription on plaque	
send to: Point Richn	nond History Association, 808 Western Dr., Pt. Richmond, CA 94801