

THIS POINT

NEWSLETTER

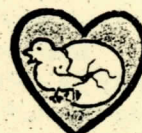
A PUBLICATION OF THE POINT RICHMOND HISTORY ASSOCIATION

VOL. V, No. 6

FEBRUARY, 1986

75 cents

VALENTINE GREETINGS



A COMING
OUT
PARTY

A debutante sweet is she

now,

To society she makes her

bow;

In a year and a day,

She will be called passe,

And by her best friends that

I vow!

A VALENTINE CARD FROM EARLY
1900'S — SIGNED MONICA FREEMAN

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❖ HISTORY ASSOCIATION NOTES ❖

OF BRICKS AND HEARTS AND INDIANS AND STUDEBAKERS . . .

by Donna Roselius

Since most of our activities recently have centered on the creation of the small park to accompany the Indian Statue in the Triangle, here's a brief up-date on that project:

Funds presently on hand, from donations for the plaque and the name-bricks, total about \$15,500. We have spent about \$7,000 for architect/designer fees, for the brass plaque, and for two orders of bricks in October and November. (Thanks to Treasurer Mae Mandl for keeping such excellent track of the funds and paying the bills!)

Another brick-making day is coming up shortly (February 14 – Valentine's Day), and EVERYONE is invited to the party in the Community Center for an all-day celebration. Valentine "makings" will be provided so that you can create your own Valentine. (There will be prizes for the most original creations.) Music, food and refreshments will be available, and, of course, bricks, to help complete funding for the park. Put someone you love on a brick – don't have a heart of stone!

Kirk St. Maur, sculptor of the Indian Statue, was in the Bay Area recently, and he told us he soon would be presenting us with the fiberglass model of the statue. We will probably exhibit it at the Richmond Museum, if they wish to accept it as a permanent loan. A model of the statue won the Council of American Societies award for American artists, when it was exhibited in Springfield, Massachusetts last spring by the Academic Artists' Association.

Tours of the Point seem to have become a popular activity for many organizations. The latest request has come from the Classic Studebaker Club, which will meet (and park their classy classic cars) here on July 26. We will be responsible for a portion of their day, giving them a tour of historic sites in the Point.

SEE YOU ON VALENTINE'S DAY!
(Watch for our balloon which will soon be flying high over the Point! And don't miss your own personal invitation that should be included in your copy of this newsletter.)

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:

Linda Andrew and	Sheila Fostiak
Hal Marshall	Pauline Horner
Emma L. Austin	Clara Jones
Louisa Banks	Mae Mandl
Eleanor Johnson Best	Maxine Mayer
M. Doherty	Mrs. Wm. McCloskey
Sarah Eeles	W. J. & Dorothy
Jack Elle	McCutcheon
Luciano Forner	William and Ruth
Mollie O'Connell	Miller
Marcia Ann Southward	John & Barbara
Maude Wood	Vincent

And a very warm welcome to new member:
James W. Arnold

IT WAS A DARK AND STORMY NIGHT...

by Frankie Greenlaw

So it rained buckets and blew up a gale – but the hardy members and friends of the Point History Association ignored the weather, dined in style at Hotel Mac, and were marvelously entertained by the Masquers and their beautifully produced staging of “The Barretts of Wimpole Street”. If you haven’t seen it, yet, there’s another benefit coming up (see ‘Masquers’ in this issue) but you won’t have the wonderful company of History Association folks to help you enjoy it as much as we did – so there, too.

The talent and spirit of the cast of this production is wonderful to behold – even got a mention in Herb Caen – to wit:

“... Showbiz: After the opening of “Barretts of Wimpole Street” at the Masquers in Pt. Richmond, Theo Collins, playing Elizabeth, said in her curtain call, “And if God willing I shall but love thee better after death.” Steve Schwartz, playing Robert: “But how about after the reviews?” (they were good) ... and so was our evening, all you stay-at-homes! Join us, next chance you get – you’ll be glad you did, rain or shine.

ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT ...

by Meagain Greenlaw

And who should know more about how the West Side was won than the members of the West Side Improvement Club who will be on hand for our March 26 meeting to fill us in. A panel of pioneers and long-time Pointers will empty their memory banks for us and we’ll bet there will be surprises, laughs and a few tear-jerkers in store for History Association members and friends that evening.

Plan to be with us to hear Marion Downey, Louise Novarini, Eleanor Hurley, Anna

Booth, Mary Casey and Josephine Palenchar tell of the many ways in which this group of Point ‘originals’ helped to improve the way things were in the early days of Point Richmond.

Meeting time in Linsley Hall, Washington and Nicholl avenues, in the Point, is 7:30 p. m. As always, refreshments will be served following the meeting.



Richmond's roots

Port of Stevens! The Stevens High School Oilers! It might have been, because in 1850 and 1851 at least, Point Richmond was called Point Stevens.

In 1852, according to *California Place Names*, Stevens was dropped and the Point became Richmond Point on the U.S. Coast Survey map. The city, incorporated in 1905, took its name from the Point.

Now, try this: Richmond was originally part of the large township of San Pablo, which started out being called Point Huchiune in 1772 and became Point San Antonio in 1775.

So that's Huchiune, San Antonio, San Pablo, Stevens and Richmond. (And just last month, Independent columnist Don McCormack suggested the city change its name.)

From an article in the Richmond Independent, contributed by Stan Nystrom



Points in the Past

Articles from the Richmond Daily Independent or the Richmond Independent, courtesy of the Richmond Public Library, with the special assistance of the reference librarians.

70 YEARS AGO

by Dierdre Cerkowicz

Rumors of war are in the headlines. Grocers appeal to the people to "grow their own" to help relieve food shortages and high prices.

On a lighter note, the Chicago Cubs are to play in Richmond.

And there's even 'one for the birds' as a parrot takes command, with dramatic end.

The battle for women's rights continues — this time it's a fight to open 'those swinging doors' to the saloons for women.

A plan to build a bridge from Richmond to Marin county is unveiled and considered 'feasible'. (Took 'em while to get to it!)

Ferry service is proposed on a daily basis to haul freight from Richmond to S. F. — might help with commuter traffic today, right?

Mayor proclaims "planting week" in support of Merchants Association's appeal.

Shades of "Chinatown" (the movie)! Water is a big issue and, as usual, William Mulholland of Los Angeles has his nose in it — even East Bay water!

Point Richmond gains a new resident — the Mayor and Mrs. Garrard have a son.

Work to improve our port continues and a brickyard retools to increase production.

Two Point businesses are mentioned in a promotional drive by local merchants.

'LEAGUERS TO VISIT RICHMOND

"What do you know about it? The Chicago Cubs will play the Richmond ball club at the local ball park on Tuesday afternoon, March 13th. Arrangements were completed this morning by Manager Bert Curry of last year's Richmond club and Danny Long of San Francisco who is booking agent for the Cubs on their California tour.

The Richmond date will be the first time the Cubs will show in this state on the present jaunt and it is expected that many fans will come out from Oakland. . . The Cubs are guaranteed \$200 with the provision that the date will be cancelled should it rain. The Richmond Chamber of Commerce will be asked to underwrite the guarantee . . ."

February 3, 1917

RAISE YOUR OWN VEGETABLES

"In an effort to cut down the high cost of living and to meet the proposed shortage of canned vegetables the Richmond Merchants association has issued an appeal to the people of Richmond to plant their back yards with potatoes, onions and other eatables and in furtherance of this plan is preparing to ask the city council to give permission to the public to 'farm' vacant lots adjoining the homes of local residents. This plan is being followed in many cities in the state and it is hoped that it will be followed here. . . (According to Pulse Brothers) "The sending out of the country of every class of food stuff from butter

to prunes means that we will feel a serious shortage this year unless people respond to the situation and raise their own stuff . . . It now costs local dealers more at wholesale for canned vegetables than they have been selling them at retail and the dealers expect another big raise before summer."

February 3, 1917

PARROT COMMANDS HORSE INTO BAY

"A talkative parrot, an obedient horse and six fathoms of water off Point San Pedro dock at Richmond nearly caused a catastrophe yesterday.

Polly was preening its emerald plumage in the sunshine on the pier when H. J. Williams, driving a transfer wagon, stopped his vehicle near the parrot's cage. Second nature to Polly were the commands which he heard drivers give when stopping and starting.

'Back', said Polly. The faithful horse, ever mindful of his owner's command, took a few steps toward the edge of the wharf.

'Eack', repeated the bird.

Again the animal moved closer to the edge.

'Back', again commanded Polly, and then almost instantaneously cried 'Whoa' - but it was too late. There was a splash, a crashing of wagon wheels and harness as horse and wagon went into the bay.

Williams and several workmen managed to land horse and wagon on the pier, at which the parrot said 'Can you beat it?'"

February 5, 1917

WOMEN VOTE - LET THEM IN SALOONS

"Stoutly contending that women should be allowed to enter saloons because they are allowed to vote, Councilman William Picton last night asked the city council to amend the restricting ordinance No. 397, accordingly. This motion was made following the adoption of the 'clear-glass-fronts-for-saloons-ordinance' which was approved following a wordy discussion of the councilmen. Picton's motion

was referred to the City Attorney."

February 6, 1917

ENGINEER PLANS RICHMOND-MARIN BRIDGE - \$2,000,000

"John G. Little, an engineer connected with the Board of Public Works in San Francisco believes that if a bridge connecting the Marin shore with all the rich territory to the north with Richmond and the rest of the East Bay territory can be constructed for something like \$2,000,000, money will be found to build it.

Little has worked out a plan for such a bridge that shows a cost of \$2,200,000 and he says it is utterly feasible. He has left plans with the Richmond Industrial Commission which has told him to also consult the City Council of Richmond . . . Little's project embraces the trestling plan and a concrete tunnel connecting the ends of the trestles that will extend from the Marin shore and Richmond."

February 6, 1917

CARRIE ELLSWORTH WILL DANCE

"Featuring her 'Egyptian Dance', little Carrie Ellsworth 'Richmond's little fairy' will be one of the stellar attractions at the Richmond Municipal Band's concert this evening in Lincoln Auditorium . . . Mayor E. J. Garrard and City Attorney Hall will be speakers of the evening. Tickets for the occasion have been selling rapidly for ten cents each and the proceeds will be used for a benefit planned by the band."

February 6, 1917

Carrie Ellsworth lived for many years in the Point on Scenic avenue and performed in musicals in San Francisco as an adult. Ed.

MAYOR PROCLAIMS PLANTING WEEK

"With every local public and commercial body united to make the affair a big success, the 'Planting Week' inaugurated by the Richmond Retail Merchants Associa-

tion to fight 'Old High Cost of Living' and Mayor E. J. Garrard's official indorsement of the city government to the movement it promises to see more spades being sunk into the earth and more seed put into the grounds about Richmond than at any one year in the city's history. . .

It is said that the warring European nations have already contracted for the entire outputs of nearly every cannery in the state and that the dried fruit packers are in the same boat.

If you want to eat canned vegetables next fall and winter unless you raise and can your own, you will pay the fanciest prizes(sic) ever known."

February 10, 1917

DIRECT FERRY PLANNED TO S. F.

"Daily ferry service between the new municipal dock and San Francisco will be operated in the near future by the San Francisco shipping firm, Stark and Brown. Both members of the firm spent all day yesterday in this city looking over the possibilities for daily service for the handling of freight.

The gas steamers, 'Hope' 125 tons and 'Belvedere' 100 tons will be put on the run and will leave San Francisco in the mornings of each day, bringing freight to this city at less cost than the present rate. The return trip of the boats will start from the local dock late in the afternoon. . .

. . . Stark is a heavy property owner in this city . . . He will make his home here. (He) was president of the company which owned the ill-fated 'Roanoke' which went to the bottom recently. He laughed yesterday and said 'When the Roanoke sank, I lost \$300,000 in 3 minutes.' "

February 10, 1917

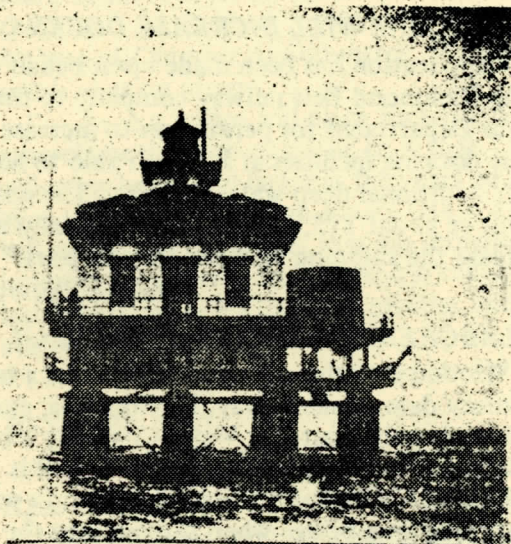
'NEW MAYOR' AT GARRARD HOME

"Mayor E. J. Garrard is passing the 'smokes' about to his many friends today! Why?

A nine pound son was born to his wife . . . at the family residence, 205 Cottage avenue this morning at 10:00 o'clock. Dr. C. L. Abbott was in attendance.

Congratulations Mayor and Mrs. Garrard and many good wishes for the 'youngest mayor'."

February 17, 1917



The Southampton Shoals Lighthouse in 1910. James Hounsell's father was the lighthouse keeper. (from the Don Church collection)

BIBLE USED AT WATER CO. HEARING

"Declaring that there was Biblical authority for the assertion that oil and water would not mix and that the allegations of oil seepage urged against the water lands of the San Pablo watershed by the attorneys for the allied east bay municipalities was in reality a benefit, William Mulholland, veteran Los Angeles engineer and one of the best known authorities on hydraulic engineering subjects on the coast testified before the State Railroad commission in its hearing on east bay water rates.

. . . Questioned . . . as to the need and use for the San Pablo . . . dam and surrounding watershed . . . Mulholland said 'I am surprised that . . . this project was not begun some time ago. . . In addition . . . the water rate-payers do not stand the cost. for it is taken out of the

taxes . . . The San Pablo oil will have not effect on the water . . . oil and water will not mix, and we frequently put crude oil on the slopes of our reservoirs to prevent wave erosion. Oil poured in cisterns and wells kills mosquitoes . . . leaving the water underneath pure.' ”

February 17, 1917

BELT LINE WILL INCREASE DOCKS

“Application has been made upon behalf of the Richmond Belt railway company to the War Department for permission to increase the docking facilities at Pt. San Pablo to handle additional deep water shipping. The cost will be about \$75,000 and will materially increase the shipping facilities for this port.”

February 17, 1917

LABORER DROWNS AT WATER DAM

“Hurled into the raging torrent, when a temporary dam washed away, M. Gonnella, employed at the East Bay Water Company's big dam, was drowned in San Pablo creek this morning. . . Gonnella, a concreteman . . . was working on a bridge when thrown into the torrent which had risen 9 feet during the night's heavy downpour.”

February 21, 1917

IMPROVEMENTS UNDERWAY AT BRICK FACTORY HERE

“Improvements involving an expenditure of \$150,000 are now underway at the Los Angeles Brick Company's plant, and when they are finished the output will be materially increased and the quality of brick improved. . .

Superintendent John Gerlach stated. . . that all of the present machinery is to be removed and more modern installed. . . ‘The company is seeing the very best year in its history and the future looks even brighter. . . ’”

February 21, 1917

On February 21, 1917, a mythical lady named ‘Miss Merchants Association Dollar’ was

given an imaginary tour of local businesses. Included was a stop at the Bank of Richmond in Point Richmond ‘. . . first organized when the city of Richmond was almost entirely built over on the other side of the Santa Fe tracks, and its original directorate numbered some of the pioneers of Richmond, and men who worked to every end to make Richmond what she is today.’

Miss M.-A. Dollar's next stop was at 25 Park Place. . . ‘Spiersch Bros. in addition to their plumbing business carry a complete line of stoves, ranges, etc. and have about as well equipped tinning and repair shop as is to be found in the county.’

60 YEARS AGO . . .

by Sarah Eeles

MRS. JOS. NICHOLL CALLED BY DEATH

“Mrs. Jane Mills Nicholl, member of a pioneer Richmond family, and daughter-in-law of the late John Nicholl, ‘the founder of Richmond’, was called by death . . . at midnight last night . . .

Mrs. Nicholl was born in Iowa 66 years ago, and came to Richmond 39 years later. She resided, with her husband, Joseph Nicholl on the ‘Nicholl homestead’ at 2800 Macdonald avenue until the time of her death. She was a charter member of the First Christian church in Richmond and was known and respected by practically every resident of the city.”

February 1, 1927

STREET WIDENING DEEDS RECEIVED

“The city council last night received deeds to five parcels of land in the West Side. The property all fronts on Standard avenue and will be used for the widening of that street.”

February 1, 1927

LAST RITES HELD FOR J.B. M'CABE

“Funeral services for James B. McCabe, Santa Fe engineer, who passed away at his home, 77 Scenic avenue, Sunday night at

the age of 62 years, were conducted this morning at 10 o'clock. . ."

February 2, 1927

NATATORIUM PAINT JOB PROGRESS

"Sandblasting to remove the old paint on the steel framework of the Richmond Municipal Natatorium preparatory to repainting is progressing rapidly . . .

Zeb Knott, the painting contractor, will proceed with the application of the new paint as soon as the sandblasting is done. It was found necessary to remove the old paint because the salt vapor had eaten through to the steel and rusting started. The new paint is guaranteed to withstand the ravages of the salt water and vapor."

February 10, 1927

BANK HISTORY IN RICHMOND TOLD

"On October 7, 1922, the Mercantile Trust Company of California, now the American Trust company, took over the actual operation of the First National Bank of Richmond, the Richmond Savings Bank and the Bank of Richmond. The First National and Richmond Savings Banks are designated as The First of Richmond Branch and continued to operate at their old location in their building at Sixth street and Macdonald avenue . . .

The Bank of Richmond at that time was operating with their main office in their own building at Point Richmond and a branch office on the northeast corner of Eighth street and Macdonald avenue.

Upon the consumation of the merger, the former main office at Point Richmond was designated as the Point Richmond Branch and continued to operate as usual with Clarence Allen, former cashier of the Bank of Richmond, as manager. He was later succeeded by Emil Esola, assistant cashier, as manager . . . and succeeded by John Regello . . ."

February 11, 1927

NEW BRIDGE HAILED AS BIG BOOST TO RICHMOND'S FUTURE PRESTIGE

"The people of Richmond are just beginning to realize the full import of the erection of a highway bridge between the city and Marin county . . . a franchise to erect and operate the bridge comes before the board of supervisors on April 4.

Quoting P. M. Sanford, president of the Richmond Chamber of Commerce, the article goes on to say

" . . . Such a bridge will place Richmond squarely in the path of traffic flow that will grow larger and larger as the years go by . . . The Richmond-San Rafael bridge will span a natural barrier that has impeded progress. It is a step forward and it cannot but help increase Richmond's prestige and attract newcomers to the city."

February 21, 1927

50 YEARS AGO . . .

by Sarah Eeles

RESIDENTS PROTEST FISH CANNERY

"Advance rumblings of a battle over the proposed location of a fish cannery at Ferry Point were heard at the city council meeting last night, although the Del Mar Canning corporation, who proposed the plant, have not yet formally applied for rezoning of the factory site . . .

Theatre Royal

No. 316 Richmond Avenue.
Well Warm and Cozy.
THE PLACE TO SPEND

THIS EVENING

No. 316 RICHMOND AVENUE

Latest and Best Motion Pictures
Four Reels Each Show
Two Shows Each Evening
First Show at 7:15—Second at 8:40.
Four Changes Each Week
Sunday, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.
Ten Cents Admission
Matinees on Saturdays and Sundays

From the Richmond Leader, Jan. 9, 1910 7

George Ellis, pioneer Richmond resident, acted as spokesman for the group . . .

Ellis asserted that he spoke for many residents of the city who feared that the air about their homes might be polluted . . .

'Let them experiment somewhere else until they get a better reputation,' Ellis asserted."

February 24, 1937

WEST SIDE MASS MEET ON FRIDAY

"A mass meeting of West Side residents has been called . . . for the purpose of organizing a civic body and to discuss community problems. G. J. Allyn, West Side merchant, has called the meeting and will act as temporary chairman. . .

The meeting is an outgrowth of the recent Point Richmond citizens' committee which was formed to fight for the retention of a branch post office on the West Side. . .

It is expected that the proposal to locate a fish cannery at Ferry Point will be taken up at the meeting. . ."

February 25, 1937

FISH PLANT FIGHT PLANNED

"The aesthetic value of West Side waterfront property, the setting of a precedent by which the future of Richmond can be guided, and the actual value, temporary or permanent, of fish reduction plants to Richmond.

These were some of the points dwelt upon last night when several hundred West Side residents gathered in a mass meeting in the Washington school auditorium to protest the proposed establishment of the Del Mar cannery at Ferry Point. The meeting culminated in the forming of a permanent organization, . . . to provide for the welfare of the district in other matters . . ."

February 27, 1937

Note: Next month we will follow up on the debate about the cannery. S.E.

40 YEARS AGO . . .

by Pam Wilson

MARITIME TO GIVE UP LAST LANDS

"At one minute after midnight tonight the Maritime Commission will turn over the last portion of surplus shipyard property located in the city of Richmond.

It was revealed today that the Maritime Commission, which will retain only Shipyard No. 3 and the huge warehouse on Railroad avenue near the Standard Oil Company, is preparing to turn over Shipyard No. 1, the first yard built here, to the War Assets Administration tonight. . .

With the War Assets in control of all the surplus property, the appraisers recently named can proceed with their survey, preparing the way for eventual sale of the properties. . ."

Yards 2 and 4, the Victory Yard, a prefabricated yard and warehouse had been turned over to the Commission earlier.

February 5, 1947

OUR LADY OF MERCY WHIST

"The monthly whist party sponsored by Our Lady of Mercy parish will be held February 20. The affair will be handled by Miss Bessie Pruitt and Miss Louise Novarini."

February 6, 1947

PRINCE BOOKS SKY TRIP OVER CITY

"Richmond's Standard Oil refinery is one of the Bay Area centers to be inspected by his royal highness Saud Al-Saud, crown prince to the throne of Saudi Arabia. . .

The prince, and his party, which includes eight bodyguards equipped with automatic pistols and jeweled daggers, will fly over the refinery in a blimp . . .

When the prince arrived in San Francisco yesterday . . . he held a brief meeting with newsmen. He took no definite stand on any questions other than to say through an interpreter that Arabians are 'peace-loving people'

... He was clad in a flowing black gown, trimmed in gold and topped off with a long white burnoose."

February 6, 1947

25 YEARS AGO TODAY

February 8, 1922

"Louis Garfinkle, owner of the select ready-to-wear firm of that name, announced today he is opening a branch store in Oakland. Starting in Point Richmond in 1914 with a small store selling notions, Garfinkle is now one of the big business houses in this locality."

February 8, 1947

KRCC SLATES WOMAN'S PROGRAM

"KRCC, Richmond's own radio station is going to have a woman's program! 'Penny Whyze', whose column appears in the 'Independent', is taking to the air tomorrow afternoon... The program, to be called 'Penny Whyze Presents Featurettes of Feminine Interest', will cover fashions, interior decorating, foods and epicurean cookery, and hints on beauty and charm..."

Penny Whyze herself, whose 'Purchase Patter' has appeared in the Independent for the past year, has had extensive radio experience, including four years on the NBC and CBS networks in dramatic shows from Hollywood. She has also appeared in pictures and was a contract player on the MGM and RKO lots.

KRCC programs tonight include the 'Miss Parade'... Juke Box Revue... Latin rhythms by Enric Madriguera... and Les Elgart's orchestra..."

February 11, 1947

EAGLE RESTAURANT

E. ARVANITE, Prop.

OYSTER AND CHOP HOUSE

Open Day and Night. Private Rooms for
—Ladies—

17 Park Place Point Richmond, Cal.
QUICK SERVICE PHONE 1791
PHONE 1791

1910 ad

30 YEARS AGO...

by Pam Wilson

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

by Jim McCracken

"MAC HOTEL... another place with a somewhat different flavor is the old Mac Hotel, with its special smorgasbord. No matter how choosy his appetite, anybody is sure to find something to tempt it in that long groaning board. My main trouble is that I find too many things I like, and oughtn't to eat."

No place in Richmond has so much style as the Mac's dining room, either. Too many places these days to to the extreme of modernism(sic), which may comfort the body but does not promote a restful atmosphere. I have to admit that I am soothed by paneled walls and stained glass..."

February 1, 1957

ARTS; CRAFTS CLASS OPEN

"Volunteer leaders of youth groups were invited today to enroll in a series of 10 classes prepared by the Richmond Art Center on the fundamentals of arts and crafts."

Classes are held in the art center... by Sally Rush and Alice Boyer..."

Mrs. Hazel Salmi, art center director, said that special emphasis will be given this semester in easy methods of lettering for posters."

February 8, 1957

TALK AND TRIVIA

by Helen Williams, Women's Editor

"Assuring a lively growth for Richmond was the arrival on February 16, 1854, of energetic Mr. and Mrs. John Nicholl, Sr., who were aboard the steamer 'SS John L. Stephens' from Panama. En route to the Land of Gold from Ireland, the just-wed couple arrived at the Isthmus of Panama where Mr. Nicholl walked across and his

bride rode a mule. After their arrival in the bustling town of San Francisco, he paid \$1 for a ride from there to San Leandro where they farmed for three years. Then, just 100 years ago, they bought 200 acres of land from the heirs of Francisco Castro, grantee of Rancho San Pablo. The Nicholls built a two story farmhouse, and farmed . . . now the sedate site of St. Cornelius School, Nicholl Park, . . . etc.

Following the nationally famous land litigation suit of 40 years, Mr. Nicholl took 150 acres of hill land on the Bay. Then in 1897 he sold 57 acres of the 'Point' property to the just-formed San Francisco-San Joaquin Railway, later bought by the Atchison, Topeka and the Santa Fe Railway.

The Nicholl Ranch boundaries were from the Santa Fe tracks north to Roosevelt avenue, from 23rd to 33rd streets. Mr. Nicholl was an Elder in the San Pablo Presbyterian Church for 40 years; he died at the age of 92 years in 1914."

* * *

"It was this day in 1878 that silver dollars became legal tender. It was February 16, 1915, that Sila Christofferson made the first non-stop flight—by plane—between San Francisco and Los Angeles.

. . . On February 17, 1897, California's first telephone exchange was opened in San Francisco; on February 16, 1923, the first news dispatches were broadcast by radio."

HISTORY MYSTERY

by Mid Dornan

Valuable historical papers belonging to the Point First Methodist Church have turned up in very mysterious manner at Jumbo's Hamburger Restaurant on Washington avenue. One paper is an invoice for lumber from the Henley-Tyer Lumber Company, 114 McDonald(sic) Avenue, Telephone 1121., sold to O. J. Dahl (a church trustee) for church work in the amount of \$1976.23.

Also discovered were "Application No. 3699 for the Mortgage of the Richmond First Methodist Episcopal Church, filed in Superior Court, County of Contra Costa, April 26, 1916 at 26 minutes past 9 a.m., Val 23, Sats Mortgages, page 424' and 'The Satisfaction of Mortgage papers, recorded at 10 minutes past 9 o'clock before Homer G. Stidham, Notary Public on the 26th day of July 1916 with C. S. Downing and Clarence E. Allen, President and Secretary respectively, appearing when the debt thereby secured was fully paid, satisfied and discharged.'

(a real whodunit)

The papers, in excellent condition — no rust, stains or dust — (even the Henley-Tyer bill dated October 30, 1907!) were 'found' lying on the floor in the back room of the local eatery by the owner, Betty Moore. The room is sealed, has been cleaned and painted many times. How the documents arrived there and from whence they came is a true mystery.

Betty's first thoughts were that someone had broken into the church and then broken into her place where they sorted things out and then either dropped or simply left the papers behind. Since there is no evidence of either break-in, the question arises — JUST WHERE DID THE PAPERS COME FROM AFTER 70 YEARS?

Needless to say, the church members are overjoyed at the 'find', but one wonders if the spirit of Mrs. McDuff, former owner of the building, is giggling at her own private little joke — or is someone very much alive, chuckling to themselves after an accidental discovery of these historical mementos?

IN PURSUIT OF HISTORICAL TRIVIA

courtesy of Stan Nystrom

ANSWER:

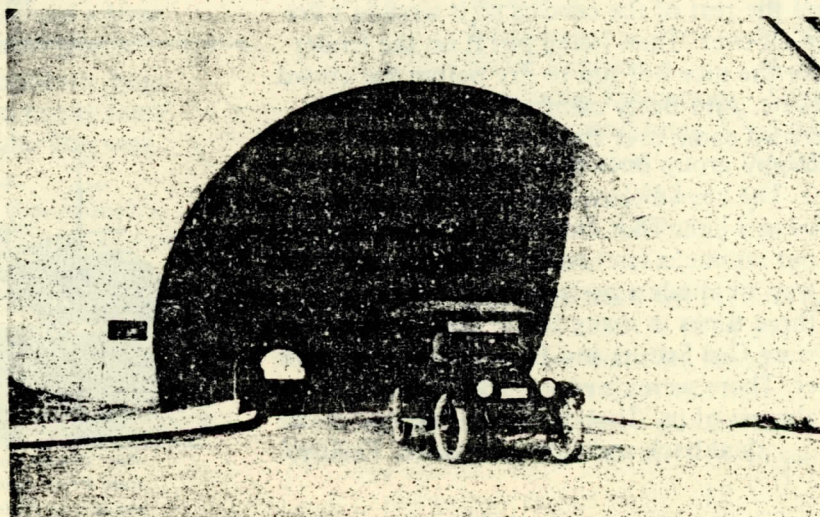
Last month's historical trivia question regarded the number of Army-standard, 30-inch steps it would take to transit the vehicular tunnel at Point Richmond. If you estimated somewhere near three hundred as the answer, you did exceptionally well, as the correct answer is 290, based on the following data, excerpted from the 1912 official report to the city regarding the proposed tunnel: "... the total length is 725 feet between portals ..." (i.e., more than two and a third football fields long.)

QUESTION:

The City Hall complex and the Social Security building are present-day examples of brick buildings in Richmond. Earlier examples include most of the original portions of the Standard Oil Refinery (now Chevron), the Santa Fe shops, the Pullman shops (now Tradeway), the Certainteed plant, the Stauffer Chemical Company, and many of the schools and older buildings downtown and at the Point. Winehaven's storage building is an outstanding example of the early-century bricklayers' craftsmanship.

This month's historical trivia question concerns where the bricks came from. The remnants of only one of Richmond's brickyards still exist, but there were at least three others within the city limits. Can you name and/or give the locations of those four?

*Municipal Tunnel, 1918,
showing plaque on the
left side of the entrance.
Does anyone know what
happened to the plaque?*



CAMP FIRE MEMORIES

by Mid Dornan

Maude Wood was a Camp Fire Girls leader in the Point, 1932-33. A scrapbook of their activities, "DIARY OF THE PIKIDA WAKAN CAMP FIRE GROUP" was kept by Pikida, Kokokoho, Wakada, Wapo Moma and Tandy. Indian names the girls chose for themselves. This is the fourth installment of excerpts from the diary.

"April 21, 1933 National Birthday
Ceremonial

Our first ceremonial was held at Grant school where all of the Camp Fire Girls of Richmond gathered. Everybody was worried that Miss Wood would ask us something we did not know. We marched in trying to sing a song we did not know. After some of the other girls had done their things and it was our turn we marched in and formed a circle around the candles and started to recite. Betty was saying hers when Betty Dornan started hers too so that between the two talking, we did not know who was saying what. While all this was going on Dorothy knocked over the candle and we all started to laugh. We then marched out and went home. We had gotten our membership pin and were proud of them. That was the end of our first Ceremonial.

Submitted,
Wano Moma/s"

"April 23, 1933 John Muir Pilgrimage

Betty and Jean Williams, Helen Rafanelli and Clara Udy and the quartette who attended their mother and daughter tea was given the privilege of escorting Miss Wood on the John Muir Pilgrimage. We arrive too early and enjoyed it immensely before the crowd came.

First, upon arriving at the John Muir home we hiked over clods of dirt to a shady spot under the trees near a creek so densely populated with weeds, that 'X' marked the spot, and we didn't go in very far. We all were very well behaved and quietly ate our dinner of sandwiches, pickles and oranges. An then — Betty got up. An expression on her face and one look at the spot set us all, even Betty, in tears of laughter. Betty had sat in some fresh cow leavings and it had gone clear through her skirt. The smell was too great. Betty walked quickly ahead holding her coat at considerable length. Miss Wood casually remarked that even the hens were cackling, after seeing Betty almost in tears, realizing the full significance of the affair. But washing it off the garment was too much and Betty raced back to the car in tears. While she was making salt, the girls all helped out, wishing for a clothespin for their noses. Miss Wood washed the spot while the others held up the rest of the corners so it wouldn't drain all over. Then Helen put it on the fender for the nice hot sun to dry before the crowd came. And Betty calmly put it on as the crowd came over the road and we were a happy group once more.

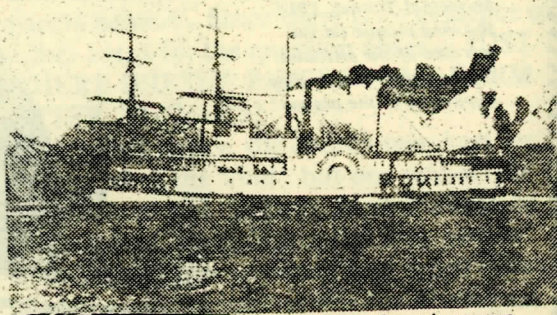
The crowd came. Mrs. Roberts marched us in a line. That didn't suit and it wasn't our stomachs (sic) sticking out either. Anyway we made a prettier showing. There were three times as many Camp Fire Girls as there were Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts put together. There weren't enough Boy Scouts to be abreast of us. That didn't work so good - we

shuffled back and forth and ditto. Finally,

it really got started and we could rest about the marching and lo and behold, we and the Boy Scouts at Salute made the alley like a bunch of cats, and the public made the parade and trailing behind them marched the Girl Scouts with flowers, that looked like they bloomed in July, tra-la. We haven't anything to remark though. They were little brownies and looked nice and would have made cute Camp Fire Girls and more power to the. They were decent enough to come all the way from Berkeley and hold their end of the Girl Scout program. What's wrong with the Girl Scouts of this county. They were asked to be on the program the same as the Camp Fire Girls.

Then we had some more fun. Jean Hanna, John Muir's granddaughter, and her fat chum Eleanor Bissell entertained us. It is a wonder Mrs. Hanna didn't shake Jean for all the impolite noise we were making. The men of the Sierra Club were there in their shorts and what not. Betty took a picture of the back of one of them, with Jean Wms standing beside him, much to the amusement of the rest of the Sierra Club. After the program Jean Hanna took us into the house and we all drank some funny water and left, after being invited again, arriving home early for once.

Respectfully submitted
Tanda/s "



The "Ocean Wave" was the first ferry in service from Ferry Point. Shown passing a sailing ship enroute to Richmond, 1901 or 2. (From the Don Church collection)

CHURCHES

OUR LADY OF MERCY CATHOLIC CHURCH

by Marion Downey

Thanks to Allan Smith, Maria Cranshaw and many others, the CCD breakfast on December 14 was a good one.

On December 21, Mass began with a Healing Service.

Recent baptisms (starting in November) included the following:

Karl A. Williams (confirmed Jan. 25), Ashley Marie Hale, Victoria Davina Casillas, Nicole Erna Moralde, Alexander Forbes Arone, Vincent Santiago Rodarte, Brandon Richard Wind, Nicole Pauline, and Gerald Maurice Williams, Jr., Vincent Earl Dimagiba. Incidentally, the first baptism in our church took place on October 10, 1902. (The first Mass was said at Richard's Hall and the first pastor of the newly-built church, dedicated August 2, 1902, was Father Scanlon.)

On January 18, 1987, an Annual Seminary Collection was taken in support of those studying to become priests.

The seventh anniversary of The Cenacle was celebrated January 25, with Mass at 3:30, Benediction and later a pot-luck dinner in the hall for parishioners and a large contingent of out-of-town participants.

The parish continues to distribute bags of groceries each Thursday to needy families. St. Vincent de Paul Bundle Day was observed on December 7.

A final historical note for this month's column: copies were made recently of two documents noting that property for Our Lady of Mercy and for the Point Methodist church was sold to representatives of each congregation by Emily Tewksbury in 1900 and 1901 for the royal sum of 'Ten Dollars. in Gold Coin of the United States of America. to her in hand paid'.

POINT BAPTIST CHURCH

Quotes and Comments

by Roy Jones

Last year, we had begun to mention all the previous pastors of our church together with random happenings and highlights of each ministry. Though the exact dates of each pastor's tenure are not available, there are documents in our files that reflect who was here doing what, and it is a real pleasant experience to glance through records of a bygone era when church was the center of the average family's life.

We are up to 1912 and dispensing with the questionable services of a certain Reverend Horn. Our second pastor, Reverend A. C. Austin, who had served us in 1904, volunteered to return. Also, our church most generously donated the corner lot adjacent to the chapel to the City of Richmond 'in consideration of one dollar gold coin in hand paid . . . (The City of Richmond, not most generously, offered to sell this lot back to us in 1942 for five thousand dollars!)

The following from our treasurer's report for year ending September 1, 1912:

Paid out for Pastor's salary	\$475.00
Supplies	40.50
Painting & Repairs	143.05
Bal. on steps	34.65
Insurance	22.50
Missions	37.50
Other Expense	6.75
Ministerial Education	5.00
Total Expenditures	\$765.95
Total collected	766.05

Balance on hand Sept. 1, 1912 10

Signed by A. L. Pearson, Church Treasurer

And that's cutting it close!

However, our files are filled with letters of Dismission along in 1912, 1913, 1914 and the mass exodus to leave Point Richmond with its smoky trains, oil fumes and hilly streets was having its effect on our church. Mr. F. F. Stout, church clerk in 1914, in our

church's annual letter to the Association dated October 18, 1914, and signed by A. C. Austin, pastor, shows a decreasing membership and only one additional member. We lost our status as an independent church and became known as the Baptist Mission at Point Richmond. It was not until 1942, when World War II brought hordes of people to the Richmond shipyards that we were to regain our status as an independent church. But our church never closed; services were held right here on Washington avenue every Sunday morning and evening during those thirty years as a mission.

POINT METHODIST CHURCH

by Mid Dornan

The United Methodist Women of the Point have elected the following officers for 1987: Marion Hawkins, president; Jean Creed, vice president; Jean Reynolds, secretary; Helen Valentine, treasurer; Christine Dennis, membership; JoAnn Bray, Christian Personhood; Cathy Smith, Social Relations; Oretta Eaton, Program Resources and Missions; and Mid Dornan, Public Relations and Publicity.

Point Methodist Youth have made plans for a ski trip on February 17 and 18.

Graduating senior Stacie Espinosa delivered the message from the pulpit on Youth Sunday at Point Methodist church. She said she hoped the congregation didn't mind that it was short (chuckle, chuckle) since it was Super Bowl Sunday. Her father, Reverend Charles Smith, was down with the flu, so he couldn't appreciate what a wonderful message she gave.

Emily Anne Barnes was baptized on Sunday, December 28, 1986, by Reverend Charles Smith, at the Point Methodist church. She is the daughter of Kathy and Richard Barnes of Vermillion, South Dakota, and is the fourth generation in her mother's family to be baptized in the Point church. Her mother, Kathleen, her late grandfather,

Robert Dornan, and great-grandmother, Trannie Dornan, as well as brother Robert Clayton were baptized here. Joining the family for a late afternoon buffet were former minister of the church and family friend, Reverend Darrell D. Thomas and wife Donna of Lodi, and their children and families, Keith and Tammy Thomas and two sons of Fresno; Jill and son Jared of Williams; and Joan Thomas of Monterey.



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". This is the twentieth installment.

"July 16, 1909

The Womans Home Missionary Society gave an Oriental Tea at the home of Mrs. I. Lesters. A very interesting program was given. The Ladies dressed in Oriental costume. About 60 ladys (sic) present. Dainty refreshments served.

Receipts \$8.00

L. C. Pritchard /s

The President reports 38 garments given out.

"August 20, 1909

The Home Missionary Society met at the home of Mrs. Younglove. The meeting was opened by singing "He Leadeth Me" then reading of Scripture lesson 2 Cor. 6:1-10 by Mrs. Wood and prayer by Mrs. Younglove. Miss Busch gave an interesting talk on the Deaconess work.

A motion was made and carried to pay a bill of 95¢ at McWhorters Grocery. It was also moved and carried to pay the \$15.00 subscribed on the church.

Miss Pierce gave her name as a member.

Dues paid: Mrs. Pritchard .60

Mrs. Bradley .60
Miss Pierce .50
Rec'd for refreshments 1.85

\$3.55

L. C. Pritchard, sec /s"

"Sep 17, 1909

The Home Missionary Society met at the home of Mrs. Butterfield. Twelve ladies were present and the afternoon was spent in serving for some little children.

Mrs. Lester paid dues .20¢ Rec'd for refreshments.

Mrs. Bradley, Sec ProTem/s"

"October 1909

No meeting was held as the Richmond Carnival was on and the ladies of the Baptist Church held their bazaar on the date of our regular meeting. Out of courtesy we omitted (sic) our meeting so that the Methodist women might attend the bazaar.

Mary B. Younglove, Sec protem
/s"

WEST SIDE LIBRARY

by Jan Burdick

By now, you might have read all those books you got for Christmas. Maybe it's time to select from recent additions to West Side's collection:

- "Stranger in Two Worlds" - Jean Harris
- "Good-bye, I Love You" - Carol Pearson
- "An Ex-smoker's Survival Guide" - Les Sussman
- "Eisenhower: At War 1943-1945" - D. Eisenhower
- "Ernie's War" - David Nichols, editor
- "Rediscovering Love" - Willard Gaylin
- "The American Cancer Society Cancer Book" - Arthur Holleb
- "How to Read the Financial Pages" - Peter Passell
- "One Knee Equals Two Feet" - John Madden
- "A Machine That Would Go of Itself: The Constitution in American Culture" - Michael Kammen

If murder is your cup of hemlock, the books on display in February should appeal to you. Both fiction and non-fiction murder tales will be featured.

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Church Work

DATE	POB.	SIZE	LENGTH	DESCRIPTION	CONTENTS	TOTAL FEET	PRICE	VALUE	AMOUNT
				Am't. of Bid	-	-	-	1715.00	
				Extra	-	-	-	261.23	1976.23
				Cr. By Cash 10/12	\$500.00	-	-	1973.23	
				" " " "	200.00	-	-	1700.00	
				Total Balance	-	-	-	1276.23	
								400.00	
								276.23	

POINT RICHMOND NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

by Linda Andrew

At the December 11 meeting of the executive board, Allen Romano said he will continue as liaison to the Planning Commission on his own but will not attend each meeting. He will monitor all mailings and advise when any glaring issues arise requiring representation from PRNC. Romano also volunteered to appear on behalf of President Michael Brown on those occasions when he is out of town., at meetings of the Shoreline Conservation and Development Strategy Committee. Secretary Linda Andrew agreed to appear when needed at Richmond Neighborhood Coordinating Council meetings.

Jay Ward reported that the new store on West Richmond avenue, formerly occupied by Friendly TV, seems to deal in weapons, survivalist and camouflage gear, war games, etc. and is not likely to survive long in this community due to lack of business.

Treasurer Jay Ward reported a balance in the PRNC treasury of \$142.86, and a balance of \$89.90 remaining in the Holiday Lighting fund. Nearly \$490 was raised for the lights. It is expected more can be raised for similar activity next year. Thanks were expressed to Jay, David Vincent, Steve Burman and Joe Hawley for the many hours of work contributed toward the successful Holiday Lights Festival. They will arrange for removal and storage of the lights and decorations.

Adele Hollander introduced the subject of local burglaries and petty thievery in the downtown area. Although the Crime Watch area program works well in residential areas, she wondered about the possibility of a security guard supported by local contributions patrolling the downtown area. It was thought that \$600-\$700 might cover such service and that 60 to 70 people might be found to pay \$10 per month as a crime

deterrent in the business district. Jay Ward will take the proposal to the Business Association meeting.

After hearing from Katharine Anderson of Western Drive regarding remodeling work being done by a neighbor, Ron Bartkowski, that she feels will constitute a danger to his property and hers as well. The council agreed to provide her with a list of neighbors in her area (Area 7) from whom she can request support in the form of a petition and/or letters to the Planning Commission which will discuss the issue at their December 18 meeting. Allen Romano said he will attend with Ms. Peterson.

Minutes of the General Meeting on January 8 had not been received by publication time. Matters discussed at the meeting will be covered in our next edition. Ed.

THE MASQUERS

105 Park Place
Point Richmond, CA 94801



"The Barretts of Wimpole Street" by Rudolph Besier, the true story of history's "Immortal Lovers", Elizabeth Barrett and Robert Browning, opened January 16 to critical acclaim at the Masquers' Playhouse, 105 Park Place, Pt. Richmond.

The play is historically true and tells of the struggle of the lovers to cope with an autocratic, domineering, fanatical Victorian father who is almost psychopathic in his abhorrence of love and marriage.

Performances are every Friday and Saturday night at 8:30 p.m. through February 28 with Sunday matinees at 2:30 p.m. on February 8 and 22.

Tickets are \$6.00 each and for groups of 25 or more are offered at reduced rates. For reservations call 526-1038.

A special dinner-theatre party will be offered on Thursday, February 26. For information, call 232-3888.

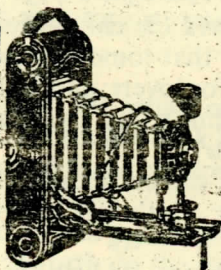
POINT RICHMOND BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

Among topics discussed at the January meeting was the replacement of trees in the downtown area. Rosemary Corbin suggested that the city be notified of plans to install trees following Tom Butts announcement of plans to go ahead with tree planting since the city had failed to keep its promise to replace trees removed.

Following a report from Steve Burman regarding brick donations for the Indian Statue Park, it was agreed plans should be made for a Valentine's Day party at the Community Center February 14 to promote further interest in brick donations. (See insert in this issue for information.)

It was agreed that the business association and its members should continue to show interest in plans for the proposed freeway interchange at Castro or Garrard and Canal and also the proposed North Richmond bypass to ensure that the best interests of the Point are served. It was further noted that any concerns that local members may have regarding routes and/or closures should be expressed in writing or in person at a hearing scheduled for February 3 in the Point.

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A-MID TRIVIA

by Mid Dornan (234-5334)

Have you marked your calendar to remember someone special in a special way on Valentine's Day?

-O-

The annual New Year's Eve gathering at the Roselius' was the biggest ever, with those attending asked to cast some part of their anatomy in the 'casting room'. These will be parts of a sculpture to be taken with them to their new home in Oregon as a visual and highly visible memory of their many good friends here. Everything from noses, ears, faces and feet to elbows, hands, laps, and even a delightful boot, were cast, and with Donna's expertise at putting them all together, it should be quite a masterpiece (to say nothing of a conversation piece!) Amid toasts and 'Auld Lang Syne', it was agreed unanimously that a condition of sale of 212 Bishop Alley should be that the buyer agree to host the annual gathering.

-O-

Major Jim and Reba Downs and 3-year-old son, Colin, are visiting her mother, Velmas Slage, who has been ill. He is stationed in Norway with NATO, and when Colin was asked if he enjoyed the plane ride, he unhesitatingly answered "No!"

-O-

Pam, Paula and their mother, Donna Wilson, spent New Year's in Hawaii!

Mae Mandl can be coaxed into telling you about her recent trip to Australia...

Ruth and William Miller spent several weeks in Tahiti and Australia.

Say, writing about these peripatetic Pointers may be fun — but taking the trips would be a whole lot more so!

-O-

Sorry to see the 'USA' entry from S. F. in the America's Cup 'down-under' out of contention. A large part of the crew is from the Richmond area, and wouldn't it have

been sensational to have the challenger berthed in Brickyard Cove Yacht Club?

-O-

Championship trophies for Volleyball Doubles at their high school were recently won by Stacie and Casie Espinosa. And Casie's basketball team mates surprised her after a recent game with a birthday pizza party in honor of her 'sweet sixteenth'.

-O-

Sadie, 13-year-old Labrador Retriever and love of Tom, Shirley, Andrew and Daniel Butt, died in November. His training, gentleness and breeding are a hard image for their new Lab to follow. While Tom was grieving over the loss, a friend said "It's almost like losing a wife." — to which Tom responded, "Worse!" (Just kidding, he was, Shirley.)

-O-

Captain David Downey, his wife, Diane, and son, Evan, of Edwards Air Force Base, CA, were visitors just before Christmas at the homes of his grandfather, Henry Francis, and his grandmother, Marion Downey.

They were houseguests of the Allan Downeys of Martinez and dinner guests of the Robert Ambroses (Barbara Downey) of Fremont, during their stay in the area.

-O-

The surprise birthday part on December 14 for the Reverend Russ Moore of the Point was just that — a REAL surprise. When Donna Powers opened the front door of Linsley Hall and invited him in, Russ was stunned when he saw over a hundred people in the little former church building. One of his friends observed that it was the very first time he had ever seen Russ at a loss for words. The celebration included sharing of anecdotes about Russ and dining from a sumptuous pot luck buffet in the downstairs hall. Topping off the evening's festivities was presentation of a birthday cake designed and baked by

Michael and Glenna Yates of the Point. Russ expressed his enthusiastic thanks to everyone involved.

-O-

Superstitious? There is a Friday the 13th in February! Some of us are superstitious about such things as two-dollar bills, black cats crossing our paths, breaking mirrors (seven years bad luck), or walking under a ladder. Those whose fears are in the extreme are known as triskaidekaphobes — or people who fear the number 13. A Friday 'fraidy' is a friggaphobiatic. If you're both, Friday the 13th can create a real problem!

Some historic events may seem to belie the unfortunate connotation — Columbus first set foot in North America on Friday, June 13, 1498; construction on the White House was started Friday, October 13, 1793; and Francis Scott Key wrote "The Star Spangled Banner" on Friday, September 13, 1814.

How to foil the old "whammy"? Old records indicate that folks used to "wink at white horses" to break the spell!

-O-

A pox on the 13th! Let's concentrate on the day after that — and commemorate lovely old Saint Valentine's Day!

"Darling," sighed the enraptured swain, "when I think that tomorrow is Valentine's Day, the day for lovers; and when I think that on Valentine's Day a year ago, I didn't even know you . . ."

"Sweetheart", she murmured, "let's not talk about the past — let's talk about my present!"

-O-

Remember! Only 254 till Christmas after Valentine's Day!

-O-

Born: To Dori and Toni Freitas, a baby boy on December 10th. Named Ryan Anthony, he has two sisters, Danielle and Rachelle and proud grandparents are Vern and Helen Valentine.

-O-

MUNICIPAL BAND CONCERT AT AUDITORIUM TONIGHT

*Carrie Ellsworth, Our Little Fairy,
Will Dance Egyptian Ballet*



CARRIE ELLSWORTH. "Our Little Fairy" who dances for the band boys tonight at the benefit concert in the Lincoln Auditorium

*From the Independent, February 6, 1917.
(Story on Page 4)*

LOVE THOSE LETTERS...

"Hello, Pam

I enjoyed the article on the Camp Fire Girls. It brought back lovely memories. I enjoyed those children. They were so happy and frank.

I like to pay all my magazine subscriptions and so forth on the first of the year — then I don't forget.

Here is my renewal subscription to "This Point". Senior 87 years+ \$7.50

I'm cleaning out a lot of old stuff — came across this photographic envelop of Palma-teer's Pharmacy.

Bless you all,

Maude Wood /s"

"December 31, 1986

La Jolla, CA

Dear Historical Society,

My parents were long time Richmond residents and I would like to buy two commemorative bricks in their honor, which I understand will be used near the Indian Statue. Please give me instructions for doing such. I am doing this in lieu of a memorial in their name on the bronze plaque, which I understand is no longer available.

Their lovely home was at:

536 Hayes Street

Richmond, CA

and is now in the process of being sold.

Their names were: Violet Ritzenthaler

August Ritzenthaler

Catherine Burchell, who I believe is a member of your society, met my mother, by chance, while she was in the Kaiser Hospital at Cutting and Thirteenth Street!

Hoping to hear from you,

Sincerely,

Bonnie R. Wilson/s"

"To Point Richmond History Assn.

Gentlemen'

I am interested in joining the above association.

Kindly inform me as to the procedure I must take.

Truly,

Richard S. Duke

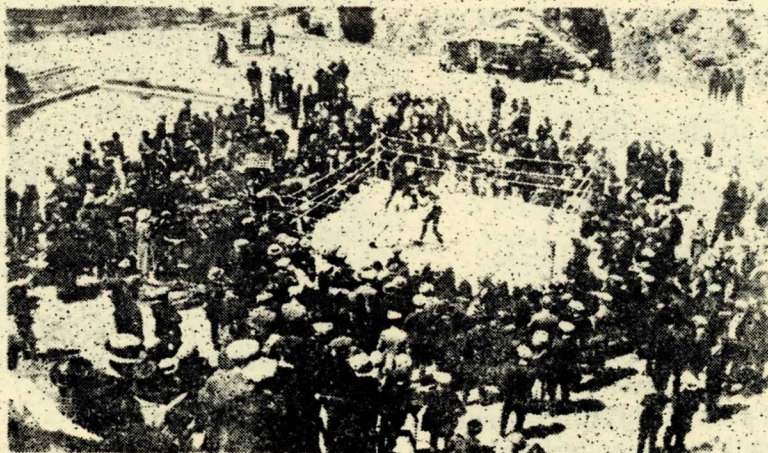
81 Glen Avenue 01/26/87
Oakland, CA"

(Mr. Duke toured the Point recently with a group from the Sierra Club and seemed to find our area of great interest. Ed.)

DEATHS

GERTRUDE A. PAASCH died on Christmas Day in her sleep at home. She had celebrated a grand Christmas Eve at her home with all her children, grandchildren and great-grand children in attendance. Gertrude had lived at her home on Washington avenue for 49 years and her garden flowers, and especially, the beautiful old oak tree in her front yard, were her loves. Gertrude was remarkably talented at large floral arrangements and won many prizes at flower shows in the Richmond Auditorium which were sponsored for many years by the Richmond Women's City Club. Her rose garden, edged with carnations, made the Bishop Alley entrance colorful and attractive.

She is survived by a daughter, Carol Seawell of Richmond; two sons, Russell C. Paasch of Richmond and Robert W. Paasch of Chicago Park; sister, Beatrice Smith of Kensington; six grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.



Boxing match at the Standard Oil Rod & Gun Club in 1925. Photo donated by Ruth Peterson.

Born in San Francisco, Gertrued lived in Richmond for 70 of her 81 years. She was a member of the West Side Improvement Club; past president and member of the Richmond Women's City Club; an honorary life member of the Washington School P.T.A.; and was active in the Point Methodist Church.

Friends and members of the Point Methodist Church provided a buffet in Friendship Hall of the church, following funeral services conducted at Schmidt-Dixon Funeral Home, by the Reverend Charles Smith.

GOLDY DOLLY SHREWSBURY died January 26 in a Vallejo hospital at the age of 86. A native of Illinois, she had lived for many years in Point Richmond, starting in 1903, and had returned to live in Richmond for several years before moving to Vallejo to live with her sister Hortense (Gnaga) McGee in Vallejo.

She had been the wife of the late Fred O. Gebhart, a long-time Standard Oil Co. employee. Following his death, she was the wife of Meline Shrewsbury of Philadelphia until his death. She then moved back to Richmond.

The daughter of the late Elizabeth F. Gnaga, a pioneer resident of the Point, Goldy, Fred and daughters Gwen and Frankie, lived at 646 Western Drive for some years.

Goldy was a member of the First United Methodist Church; the West Side Improvement Club; the Point Richmond History Association; the Richmond Museum Association; El Portal Chapter, No. 205, Order of Eastern Star; all of Richmond.

She is survived by her daughter, Frances M. Greenlaw of Richmond; her sister,

Hortense McGee and brother-in-law, Al McGee of Vallejo; five grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

At her request, no services were held.

CAROLINE M. DAVIDSON died in a Pinole hospital at the age of 84. A native of Scotland, she was a resident of Richmond for 70 years.

Caroline was an accountant with Standard Oil Company (now Chevron USA), for many years, until her retirement. She was a member of the Hilltop Community Church; Salvation Army Home League; Chevron Annuitants Association; the West Side Improvement Club; and the Point Richmond History Association;

Caroline lived for many years in the Point and will be missed by many of her long-time friends and neighbors.

She is survived by a nephew, Al Davidson of Martinez, and a niece, Laverne Thompson of Richmond.



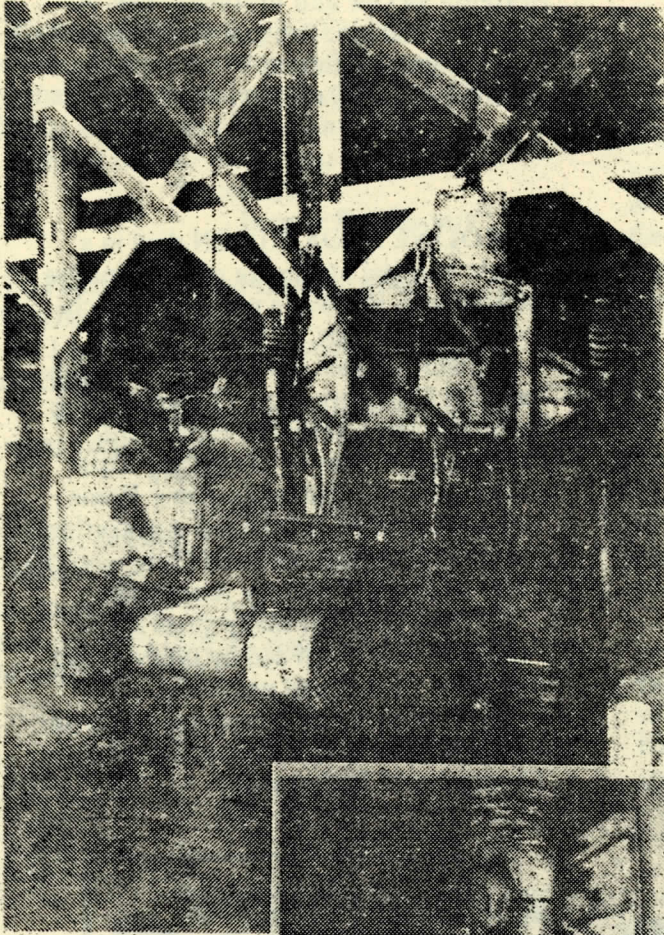
Checkered Front LIVERY STABLE

S. R. CURRY, Prop.

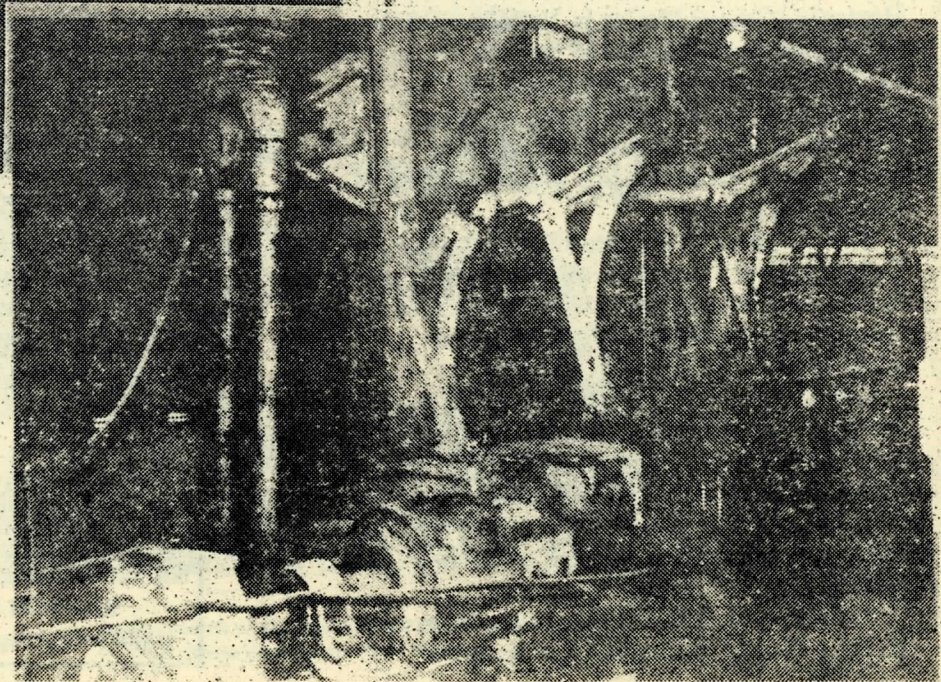
Outfits are new and stylish. I
buy and sell on commission.

BRANCH MORGUE

Undertaking supplies in stock.



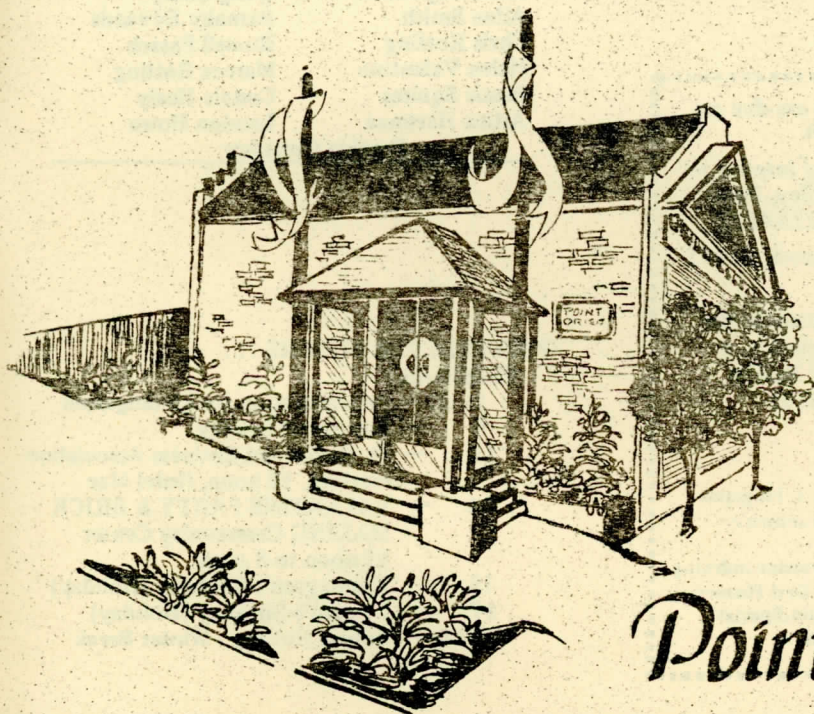
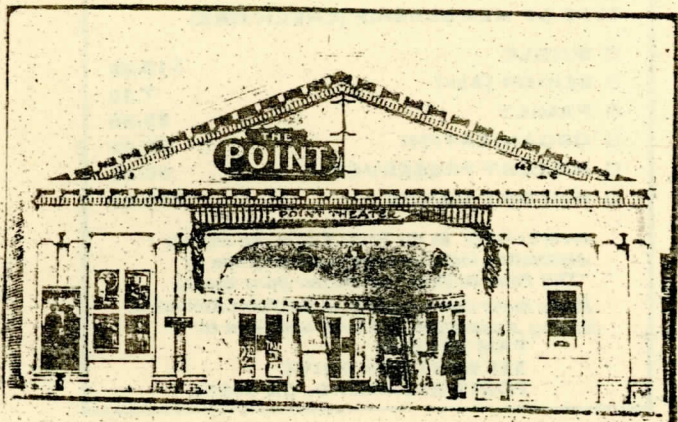
And they called it the "Birth of the Bricks"
(Brick-making for Indian Statue Park)



HAPPY 74TH AND 20TH ANNIVERSARY

On February 15, 1913, the Point Theater had its grand opening.

Fifty four years later the Point Orient Restaurant had its grand opening in the renovated movie theater building.



Point Orient

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)

- | | |
|--|---------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> SINGLE | \$15.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SENIOR (65+) | 7.50 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FAMILY | 25.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ORGANIZATION | 35.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> HISTORY PRESERVER | 50.00 |
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Articles for each month's issue are due on the 20th of the previous month.

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.

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GUNG HAY FAT CHOY - Year of the Hare. Born in 1903, 1915, 1927, 1939, 1951, 1963, 1975, of 1987, you are blessed with extraordinary good fortune and inevitable financial success. This luck of yours not only extends to your business interests, but also to games of chance. (So now's the time for all you Hares to buy some lottery tickets, eh?)

POINTS IN THE PAST...

FEBRUARY:

- 1, 1790 - U.S. Supreme Court held its first session
- 4, 1956 - First portable electric typewriter went on sale
- 7, 1926 - Average pay for laborer in U.S. is 54 cents an hour
- 9, 1870 - U.S. Weather Bureau established
- 10, 1964 - House of Representatives passed Civil Rights Act
- 16, 1937 - Dr. Wallace H. Carothers received a patent for nylon

HAPPY FEBRUARY BIRTHDAY...

Casie Espinosa	Shelley Virgo
Bill Williamson	Frank Pearson
Dixie Copeland	Doug Busby
Allan Smith	Barnaby Edwards
Chris Rotting	Russell Paasch
Helen Valentine	Marcos Rotting
Bessie Squires	Connie Healy
Arline Hartman	Landon Howe
Frankie Greenlaw	

POINTS IN THE FUTURE...

FEBRUARY:

- 2 - 27 - Preregistration for kindergarten
- 8 - Boy Scout Sunday
- 11 - Pt. Richmond Business Association meeting, 12 noon, Hotel Mac
- 14 - VALENTINE PARTY & BRICK MAKING Community Center 12 noon to 8 p. m.
- 16 - Washington's Birthday (Holiday)
- 17 - Lincoln's Birthday (Holiday)
- 16-20 - School Holiday - Winter Break