

THIS POINT.... in time

NEWSLETTER

The Point Richmond History Association

www.PointRichmondHistory.org

Vol. XXXI No. 2

September/October, 2012

\$3.00



Our Wig-Wag Returns!

After the arrival of the automobile, wig-wags were installed across the country to warn motorists and pedestrians of oncoming trains. The West Richmond Avenue crossing is special because it was the last automobile crossing before the transcontinental railroad terminated at Ferry Point. While in operation, our wig-wags maintained a perfect safety record, with no major accidents or recorded injuries.

Some wig-wags operated with the flag below the axis (lower quadrant type) and some with the flag above the axis (upper quadrant type). Our two wig-wags are believed to be the last remaining examples of paired upper quadrant wig-wags in the country. I hope they remain a pair. As you know, BNSF wanted to remove them, and they were only saved after a concerted effort by the community.

The wig-wag that fell in the sink hole and has now been restored was the older of the two. It was built in Los Angeles sometime after 1914 by the Magnetic Signal Company.

Above taken from Point Richmond Neighborhood Council's July 2011 "On Point" newsletter written by the late Peter Minkwitz.

Victor Morales, the chair of the Wig-Wag Restoration Committee, has been trying to sort out the legal issues to make the wig-wags operate on special occasions. Victor brings us up to date on this restoration on page 13.

From the President

By Mid Dornan

New faces and new members are adrenaline to our all volunteer Point Richmond History organization. What better way to become a part of the community than to staff the little museum once a month for only a few hours where you meet interesting people as you peruse the materials on file as you relax.

Richmond's assets are being enjoyed by thousands of visitors who come to the newly opened Rosie the Riveter National Park . These same visitors are expected to be drawn to the Point to enjoy our historic treasures where Richmond began in 1905! Currently a new Historic Walking Tour of Point Richmond brochure is being prepared by our archivist Bonnie Jo Cullison and Jan Brown, Richmond Visitors and Convention Bureau. Come see our historic plaques. Come be a part of our community. Join today.

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A sad item..... Our Treasurer, Sonja Darling passed away on September 1st just as this issue was going to press. Sonja will be greatly missed by many people. We offer our deepest sympathy to Joe and the family during this difficult time.

Thank you members for your renewal:

Les Hathaway

Billie B. Shaw*

Norm and Jean Reynolds**

Martha Bielawski

Linda Newton**

Henry & Eva Marchitiello Family

Connie Healy

Simeon J. Burtner

Madeline B. Albright

Connie Tritt

First Church of Christ, Scientist**

Tim & Roberta Montgomery Family

Ilamay Dein

Jane S. Solosabal

John Papadakis

Richard & Charlene Smith Family

Donna (Bill) Hood

A warm welcome to new members:

Shirlee L. Gibbs

(Pacifica Historical Society)

Ann Dunipace*

H. Abigail Bok**

Will Sutton Family

*Gift Membership

**Special Member, *Thank You!*



Thank You!

Santa Fe Market

and

Point Richmond Market

For selling
“THIS POINT.....in time”
For us

Summer Museum Hours:

Wednesday 4:30 pm - 7:00 pm

Thursday 11:30 am-2:00 pm

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

Ann Bartram

Pat Pearson

Mid Dornan

Bonnie Jo Cullison

Susan Brooks

Margaret Morkowski

Dee Rosier

Welcome to new docent
Heinz Lankford

The Cover:

Wig-wag returns photo by Gary Shows, enhanced by Lance Shows

Editor's Notes

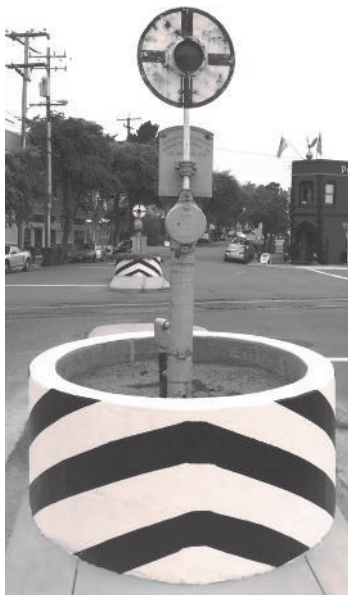
Gary Shows (510-235-1336)

September already!

I split subjects for this issue between the wig-wags and the 1910 fight. It was so nice to see the return of the wig-wag that I immediately decided that that would be our cover. If you find the fight interesting, you can watch a video of the fight by going to our website and clicking the Nelson-Wolgast Fight link, or stop by the museum and ask the volunteer to click the "video" button on our picture viewer's remote. And we do have autographed copies of Arnie Lang's book on the fight for sale in the museum for \$35.

Thank you to all contributors and thank you to my nephew Lance Shows for enhancing my cover photo, the Ukrainian sky looks good over Point Richmond.

The deadline for articles and items for the next issue is November 2, 2012.



Thank You!

Our Special Supporters!

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John A. Thiella & Rosa T. Casazza
Umesh & Debra Kurpad
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Linda Newton
H. Abigail Bok

A-Mid Trivia

Mid Dornan (510-234-5334)

Q: How many Speakers of the House have become president?

ANSWER at end of Trivia

It costs \$235 a year to feed a large dog, says ASPCA, and only \$55 to feed a small dog. That compares to \$115 for cats and \$190 for a rabbit.

One dissenting Richmond City Councilman thinks the Council has “gone to the dogs”. Why? The first reading of an ordinance to replace the word “owner” with “guardian” in reference to a relationship between residents and their pets has passed.

Are you a Gravenstein Apple lover? In the 1940s, dried Gravenstein apples and applesauce were shipped to America troops. There were more than 10,000 acres in production. Today, there are 900 acres with only 15 farmers keeping this rare production alive. Sebastopol’s apple orchards are fast becoming vineyards.

Did you ever think those colorful, try-to-refold -paper road maps would become obsolete and replaced by technology? They are now on the collector’s list.

While still undergoing Radiation, Linda Pereira is looking at travel brochures and hopefully putting all those hospital stays and Chemo treatments behind.

Hawaii, Indiana, Illinois and Ohio have officially dropped handwriting as an educational requirement, with many states currently considering doing the same. One day, extra instruction may be required for students who wish to read historical documents in their original drafts.

Ferry service from Richmond to San Francisco

is in the plans of the S.F. Bay Water Emergency Transportation Authority. The proposed ferry initially accommodates about 300 people and starts out as a commute only service. Richmond Terminal would be at the southern tip of the Ford Peninsula, a few steps away from the Crane Pavilion.

In July, Rosemary Corbin took time to join her school friends in Santa Cruz for golf and whatever else that longtime friends do.

Visiting her brother, Larry Slagle, was Reba Downs and son Colon from Colorado Springs, Colorado. They also took time to go to Russian River to visit grammar school classmate, Kathy Dornan Barnes, also visiting from Oxford, Mississippi. Both saw their daughters being married this summer. Reba’s daughter, Julie, wed in Colorado Springs while Kathy’s daughter, Emileigh, was married among the redwoods near Occidental.

If you do not receive a renewal notice for your license plate sticker on the month printed on your license plate, it is your responsibility to contact the DMV to avoid penalty fees. You can register on www.dmv.ca.gov and put all your vehicles in a personal account so when you log in, it will tell what registrations are coming for renewal, etc.

After months in hospitals at Stanford, Santa Clara and UCSF, Sonja Darling has received a mechanical heart! Literally, it is a metal, U shaped piece of plumbing! It is a long road back to the Point but with Sonja’s cheerful attitude, it can be shortened.

Betty Cecil’s cancer treatments haven’t deterred her spirits as she continues to wait for her head of hair back!

In this time of ever increasing gas prices, needless idling burns your hard earned dollars through your exhausts pipe. Excessive idling can damage your engine components. Every gallon of gas you use produces about 19 pounds of carbon dioxide.

Richmond City Council voted to join the Marine Energy Authority (MEA), giving residents the choice of either being automatically enrolled in the energy authority or remain a customer of Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E). MEA electricity rates for customers will be an average of \$2 a month more but in time could be reduced. To join the renewable energy using power is expected to become available to Richmond in the Spring of 1913. Richmond is the first city outside Marin County to join MEA.

Isn't it nice that wrinkles don't hurt.

Councilman Jeff Ritterman has been seen pulling a small wagon carrying a water jug filled with 40 pounds of sugar, the amount he says the average child consumes from sugar-sweetened beverages each year. Dr. Ritterman has proposed a 1-cent-per-ounce tax on the November ballot in Richmond. Don't like the tax? Simple. Don't buy the unhealthy sugar beverages.

Your waist size is a good indicator of how much visceral fat you have. The danger zone for women is a waist that's 35 inches or larger; for

men it's 40 inches or larger. Measure around your bare abdomen just above your hip bone. Exhale, then measure.

Munch celery for cleaner teeth. Its' roughness helps scrub away food particles.

It was a busy summer! Granddaughter, Emileigh Barnes, daughter of Kathy (Dornan) & Richard Barnes, Mississippi, was wed among the beautiful redwoods outside Occidental. Her husband, Matthew Williams, England, brought many guests from the UK including his parents, sister, brother, groomsmen and other guests. Add Emileigh's brother from NY, sister Molly, Mississippi and college friends, my family of Pat and Linda, Roberta and family from Irvine, and Emileigh's Barnes relatives from Texas, life wasn't dull. Long time family friend, the Rev. Darrell Thomas, retired, performed the ceremony and had also married Emilleigh's parents as well as baptized her.

Use packing peanuts instead of gravel in the bottom of flower pots to provide drainage and make the container lighter.

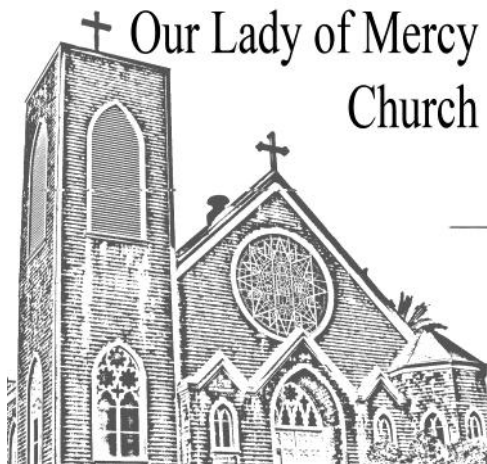
We don't need anyone to remind us this is an Election year!

ANSWER: One. James K. Polk was elected as a dark horse candidate in 1844, he served one term.

It was accepted practice in Babylon 4,000 years ago that for a month after the wedding, the bride's father would supply his son-in-law with all the mead he could drink. Mead is a honey beer and because their calendar was lunar based, this period was called the honey month, which we know today as the honeymoon.

From Ellen Schaefer

Church News



By Dee Rosier

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Fifty (50) a memorable, golden number now associated with Father O'Rourke who on June 9 celebrated his Golden Jubilee as a priest. Ten of those years spent with us at Our Lady of Mercy. He has served as parish priest at many local churches and remains active in several positions in the Diocese. He celebrated by spending time in the Swiss Alps, which is where he learned to ski.

Parishioners Martin Lopez and Michael Workman reworked the lighting in the sanctuary. What was accomplished was actually taking ordinary lighting and creating theatre lighting. The lights are now on eight separate switches providing a large number of options. We now have the ability to highlight and accentuate each of the elements in any way we want, and they point out what a treasure we have. It was done while Father was away and was a wonderful surprise for him.

Pancake breakfasts are held on the third Sunday of the month. If you haven't yet enjoyed one, best hurry, the last one will be held in October. We appreciate the time and effort that Susan Brooks and her helpers put into making the breakfasts such a

success.

The Souper Kitchen is in need of old, unused towels as well as single and double bed sheets. If you have some to donate, please place your donation in the church hall.

Coffee and donuts are held on the first Sunday of the month and everyone is invited. The donut ladies thank Michael Workman for picking up and delivering donuts last month.

Father's computer was recently hacked and has had to make changes to his email address. Not even he is immune to such disturbances.

The Parish Council has approved the final copy of the financial report and it has been sent off to the diocese. Thanks to Beth, the parish secretary for her expertise in compiling the report.

The Station of the Cross that fell and broke and beautifully repaired by Tom Sindicich was recently picked up by a professional art restorer. She restored the statues in St. Cornelius after the fire. She is actually going to go beneath the current paint to see what the original colors were.

Michael Workman has accepted the task of Project Manager and will be doing research regarding the cost, etc., for a new roof. We refer to the fund as the roof fund, but always find other means with which to spend the money for other needed improvements.

Point Richmond art walks are held on the third Thursday of the month. Enjoy local art, complimentary refreshments and live music from 4-9PM.

Father is working on improving the parish webpage by focusing on our historic church, as well as Pt. Richmond. He was recently in Connecticut for the baptism of his nephew's newest grandchild.

Having recently rescued a dog, you quickly learn the responsibility of ownership. One of those is picking up after them, which is not always done by those using the grassy area on the side of the church parking lot. It is a real health hazard for the person who mows the lawn. Let's practice

thoughtfulness. As a parent, I always carried a tissue for my children's use, then put it on hold, until grandchildren came into my life. I now never leave home without a doggie bag in my pocket.

For new parishioners interested in the history of our church, copies of the outstanding publication, "Small Parish Centennial," written by parishioner Stanley Toledo are available upon request. Recently a parishioner asked when and who did the fleur de lis behind the altar. It took a little digging, but thanks to Brenda McKinley who had a copy of the program celebrating the church's 85th anniversary, which told of the painting. The article in the program was written by local historian and previous Church News contributor, Alan Smith.

A memorial service was held for parishioner, Dody Perry who came to Pt. Richmond in 1945 and remained a stalwart member of the community. She will be missed. The church appreciates her final donation. She and many others, now deceased were the senior members of our parish. Little, by little they have left us and in doing so, how quickly we were elevated to their position as senior members of our Christian community.

Congratulations to former parishioner Steve Shaffer in his recent marriage in Sacramento. Wishing you and Jana the best.

The bible study group continues to meet on the third Thursday at 1:30PM in the church hall. All are welcome to attend.

When Dawn Diaz is seen with her sons, she always has an arm around them and a smile on their face – both were recently gone while the boys enjoyed premium time with their grandmother Cynthia Young in Alaska. When last seen, Dawn was again smiling.

Get well wishes to Zoe Kille who recently had a procedure done on her leg.

It is grand to have Betty Sindicich return to Sunday Mass after a bout with pneumonia. Father O'Rourke referred to her as frail, but tough – so well stated.

It was also good to see Fred and Diane Siegmund return to a Sunday Mass. Fred's progress is slow, but continues.

Our Idaho Street friend and long-time neighbor, Ann Dunipace, has left us to reside in her hometown of Bowling Green, Ohio. She and her dog, Poppy, leave a void never to be filled. Ann is now the third Idaho Street resident to move to Ohio – Tony Beckersley (Little Louies) left us for Ohio, as well as the couple residing at 25 Idaho Street. What is it about Ohio?????

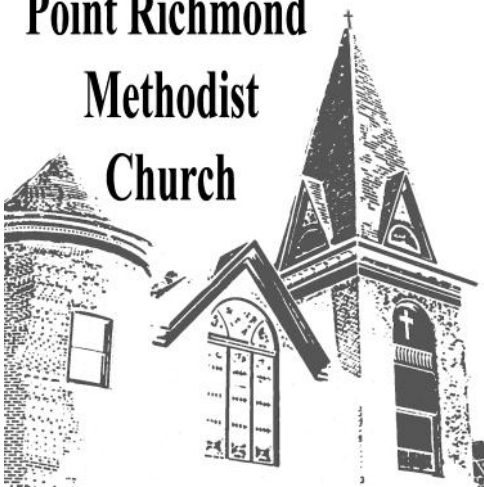
Continue to pray for those unable to attend Mass on a regular basis: John Gerck, Frankie and Dixie Mello, Bill Smith and Al Frosini.

A SMILE IS A LIGHT ON YOUR FACE
THAT LET'S PEOPLE KNOW YOUR
HEART IS HOME

See you in church



Point Richmond Methodist Church



By Jean Reynolds

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jeanormr@pacbell.net

Ten children came to Vacation Bible School the week of August 6. We mimed Bible stories about love, joy, peace, patience and kindness: some of the fruits of the spirit. We made and painted masks, used pastels, crafted colorful placemats and crepe paper flowers and crystallized our own ice cream in a zip-lock bag. We played blob-tag, Bear-Trout-Mosquito, and had a corn-shuck relay. Kids made their own store with a task for everyone, and wrote and delivered mail to each other. Jane Carnall, Norma Wallace, Mary Lee Cole, and Jennifer Metz-Foster brought snacks; Pastor Dan played piano; Terri Pittman, Bill Thompson, Sarah Thompson, David Reynolds, Bethany Reynolds and Norm Reynolds helped make the fun. Jonathan Swett and Hermán cut particleboard to make mobile desks for our art projects. Apparently everyone harvested the fruit of the spirit: those qualities abounded daily!

While Pastor Dan recharged with a few weeks of vacation, Diane Frary, Jamela Smith Folds, and Jacqueline Corl-Seidel were our guest preachers. Diane and Jamela are members of our congregation: they each shared powerful life stories and reflected on their faith. Jacqueline, a

member at El Sobrante UMC, performed two dances for us and explained how her passion for dance is her spiritual gift and practice.

On August 18 the United Methodist Women converged at Mid Dornan's Russian River watermelon-themed cabin. After a potluck feast that included surprisingly tasty watermelon lemonade, a meeting ensued on the tree-canopied deck. We elected Barbara Haley as president/secretary, and Doreen Leighton as treasurer. The women served dinner for families at the GRIP shelter on August 15. They are collecting items for school supply packs for students.

We mourn the loss of Jean Eakle, who graced our community with her penetrating questions and loving insights. Jean was a former teacher at Washington School, musician, artist, gardener, philosopher and friend. Jean's memorial service will be at the church October 20, the 90th anniversary of her birth. We sorely miss Dr. Warren Winkelstein, affable member of the book group. Warren was known internationally for his epidemiological research: we appreciated all of his accomplishments and additionally loved his warm, thoughtful, and humorous ways. Devoted companions in recent years, Jean and Warren passed away in July just four days apart.

Nona Howe's memorial was August 25, in Brownsville, CA, near where she and Paul retired two decades ago. Nona directed the church choir, sang soprano, retired from Social Security office in Richmond, and along with Paul, reared sons Clifford and John at First UMC. Some of us have lasting memories of cutting Christmas trees at Paul and Nona's and of Christmas caroling with her up and down hills in Point Richmond.

The sanctuary has its patina back thanks to volunteers who cleaned and polished in August under the expert direction of Richard Smith. The pews and other woodwork really took on a deep shine with all of the tender care! The trustees have been tirelessly improving our building: they painted the kitchen and Friendship Hall, finished the floors in the basement, and repaired the stove again.

The Persian community is still following

events in Iraq as their family and friends are moved from Ashraf City to “Camp Liberty” – a detention facility intended to be a processing center for them to be relocated to other countries. Pinole UMC hosted a dinner and information event with a Persian meal on August 25 to help people understand the history and politics of the situation. We pray for the safety of the people there who are threatened by political persecution.

On the Calendar:

Internationally acclaimed Cellist Rebecca Rust performs in concert **September 23 at 5:00 p.m.** With bassoonist Friedrich Edelmann and pianist Vera Breheda, the three are the **SF Munich Trio**. Tickets at \$10 are a bargain here.

Joyful Noise Choir rehearsal resumes in September on Wednesday nights at 7:30. **Sunday School for all ages** meets at 10:00 starting September 9.

Angel choir plans are not firm yet for fall. Call Pastor Dan (510) 232-1102 if your child would like to sing.

GRIP, the Greater Richmond Interfaith Program, will hold its **Harmony Walk to End Hunger** on October 20. It is the main fundraiser for GRIP, which serves homeless families and

hungry people in a variety of ways, and has improved our community throughout its existence. This year there will also be a 5K run to add another dimension to the event. If you want to participate as a walker, runner, donor or volunteer, call Kia Croom 510-233-2141 X 304 or email kcroom@gripcommunity.org.

Annual Art Auction: Saturday, October 20, 4:00 p.m. at Point San Pablo Yacht Club. Plans are underway to couple this event with Jean Eakle’s memorial celebration. Jean donated several of her watercolor paintings to the auction, and it is in-keeping with her love for art and her eye for beauty to remember her through the auction. Several people have been fervently creating new pieces to contribute, so the selection is sure to be the best yet.

Change the World, Sept 29, Saturday 10-5:00 pm, Pinole UMC

Will it really change the world to provide a free carwash, free BBQ tri-tip meal, a day of live music, healthcare screening and fun? We join with Pinole UMC and other United Methodist churches in the area to find out the answer! Come to Pinole September 29 and see for yourself.

For updates to the calendar see the website: pointrichmond.com/methodist/



Thank you to Joan Glover for sending us several pictures for our photo archives. Here is one of her home at 100 Pacific Avenue (which I think is now 273 Bishop).

PRHA photo archive #0799-Joan Glover.

First Church of Christ, Scientist

Steven Blair



In 1904, two separate small groups of people were meeting in private homes in Richmond and here in Point Richmond to read the Christian Science Weekly Bible Lesson-Sermon. On January 17, 1909, the first local public Christian Science service was held in two second floor rooms in a building at Seventh Street and Macdonald Avenue.

Increased interest and attendance resulted in the erection of a small building on Sixteenth Street near Bissell Avenue where church services and Reading Room activities took place. The organization of the Christian Science Society of Richmond followed on May 5, 1909, with 16 members.

During this time, on April 10, 1911, a second group of Christian Scientists became the Christian Society of Stege (a portion of Richmond) with 24 members. In 1912, the Stege Society became Second Church of Christ, Scientist, Richmond (Stege). In 1916, Second Church disbanded, and their members came to First Richmond.

On June 12, 1912, the Richmond Society disbanded, and First Church of Christ, Scientist, was established with 29 charter members.

They met in several locations until 1922, when they built a church at Twelfth Street and Nevin Avenue. In 1958 a new church was built at 24th and Barrett, across from City Hall. In February, 2004, we moved here to Point Richmond at 112 and 114 Washington Avenue.

So here we are 100 years since the establishment of Christian Science in Richmond. To celebrate this occasion, church members and friends joined together to hold a celebration on Sunday, July 15, in the church.

We opened the celebration with readings from our Pastor. In Christian Science, our Pastor consists of two books. They are the Bible, and *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*, by Mary Baker Eddy. She wrote *Science and Health* as our textbook, with the Bible as her sole guide and source.

A solo followed. The title was *The Lord's Prayer*. A long time member then read the history of the church, which is briefly mentioned above. Then some fun. A member sang songs of the early 1900's, and he also led the congregation in a sing-along of more songs of the era.

We ended our celebration with refreshments in the Reading Room.

As one member said, the celebration was also a commencement of the next 100 years. So we invite you to join us at our services, and to drop in at the Reading Room to find out more about Christian Science.

Our church services are Sundays at 10:00 AM, with a Sunday School at the same time for students up to the age of 20 years; and a Wednesday Evening Testimony Meeting at 7:00 PM.

NEW CITIZENS

Taking the oath of U.S. Citizenship in July in Oakland were 2030 immigrants from 107 nations. The top five countries of origin in the group:

1. Mexico - 307
2. China - 275
3. Philippines - 254
4. Vietnam - 178
5. India - 177

Mid

Out and About Town

Margaret Morkowski (510) 234-4219

You sure can tell the “Lazy Days of Summer” are over... things are hopping.



The **3rd Annual Picnic in the Park** will be held on Saturday, **September 8th** from 12 noon until 6 PM in the Judge Carroll Park which is located next to Washington School. The **Point Richmond Business Association** and the **PTA** join efforts for this event to raise funds for various PTA projects at Washington School. Special thanks go to Nate Trivers of the **Up-and-Under Pub** and the **PTA's Dad's Club** for their efforts which ensure that the Picnic is well organized and a lot of fun. A thank you also goes to the **Point Richmond Neighborhood Council** who always makes arrangements for the free use of the Park. The PTA families and PRBA members provide food, games, face-painting, a dunk-tank, foot races, a Jumpy House, music and a lot more activities to make this “old fashion” picnic a great success. Entrance is free with food and game tickets available. For details on discount tickets or more information, please call Becky Jonas at 235-0157.



The **Richmond Swims' (RS)** Masters adult team and children's **Richmond Sailfish** team have been improving their techniques and enjoying their practices at the **Richmond Plunge**. The Membership in both groups has been growing and the Richmond Swims, Inc. board has been working with the city to provide additional children's swimming lessons. The RS Masters' Team is hosting their **3rd Annual Open Water Swim** at

Keller Beach on Sunday, September 30th as a fund raiser for the kids' **Sailfish Team** scholarship program. Come and swim in the bay and/or to cheer-on the adults and children as they reach the finish-line. For more details on the year-round programs for both groups or to sign-up for the Keller Beach event, please check out the Richmond Swims, Inc. web page at RichmondSwims.org or call 356-8801.



The **Point Richmond Summer Concert Series** will have two more concerts this summer. They will take place on **Friday nights, September 14th and September 28th** from **5:30 pm – 8:00 PM** on Park Place. “Thanks and congratulations” go to **The Point is Music** for organizing this amazing music series every summer. This is truly an asset to the entire Richmond Community. Please call Andrew Butt at 236-7435 for more information.



The Arts of Point Richmond is planning two great events. The first event is scheduled from 6 PM to 9 PM on **Thursday, September 20th** and will be part of the **monthly Point Richmond Art Walk**. The second event is the **Holiday Fest** and it is scheduled for **Saturday, December 8th** from 1 PM to 5 PM. Both events will be held in the Point Richmond Community Center. To join the Arts of Point Richmond or for more details, please call Altha at 232-2934.



We still have a few more weeks to enjoy the PRBA hosted **Point Richmond Farmers'**

Market. Come, gather your items, enjoy the pastries and listen to the music every Wednesday **through September 26th**. **The Market** is located on Park Place and is held from **4 PM - 8 PM**. Please call Margi Cellucci at 237-0101 for more information. Don't forget to stop by the **PRHA Museum** during the market. We are open from 4:30 PM to 7:00 PM.



The **Many Hands Project** will be hosting their **Annual Fundraiser in October**. **Many Hands** provides each of the teachers at Washington School with a mini-grant for classroom materials and coordinates the school-wide children's Spirit of Leadership program. If you'd like to meet the teachers from **Washington School** and join others from the community in an informal and fun event or if you would like to learn more about the Project, please call Margaret Morkowski at 234-4219.



Point Richmond's Historic **Our Lady of Mercy Church** will be hosting two more monthly **Pancake Breakfast** fund raisers this year. If you enjoy pancakes, eggs, sausages, bacon, fruit, coffee, tea and juice, please stop by the Church Hall on the third Sunday of the month. The last two breakfast dates are **Sundays, September 16th and October 21st**. The donation is \$8.00 and we serve breakfast from **8:30 AM to 12 noon**. The food is great and we always have a lot of fun. We thank Susan Brooks and her faithful group for organizing these fun events. Please call 232-1843 for more information.



Don't forget **The Point Richmond Neighborhood Council (PRNC)** meets the last Wednesday of every month from **7:30PM to 9:00PM** in the Community Center. Various issues or standing agenda items are usually updated at the PRNC meetings and include the Police Report, Safety Committee, PRNC-President's report and Land Use/Design Review Committee. You'll also get updates from the PRBA, WWIC, Richmond Tennis, Arts of Point Richmond, PRHA, the Red Oak Victory Ship and other non-profit groups in the Point. For more information or to become a member, please call the PRNC Membership Chair, Sue Rosenof at 599-1197.



The **Knit-and-Such** group meets on the first Wednesday of every month in the Point Richmond Community Center from **12:30 PM until 2:30 PM**. Altha Humphrey welcomes all of us who knit, crochet, craft and/or who just like getting together. Please call Altha at 232-2934 for more details.



Search **PointRichmond.com** for more up-to-date information on what is "Out and About" in Point Richmond.



Slow But Sure Progress On Point Richmond Wig Wag Restoration

Victor Morales

Preservation of two historic Pt. Richmond magnetic flagmen, a.k.a. wig wags, has reached the final stage of a long delayed restoration project. Theirs has not been an uneventful story following installation in the 1920's. In 1993 they faced the prospect of being removed and scrapped when the BNR railroad adopted modern railroad crossing signals for their successors.

Strong community support for preservation of the wig wags ensued and took the form of a protest demonstration by up to a hundred residents, successful legal action by the City to secure title, and the raising of \$3,000 in citizen contributions for a restoration fund administered by the Point Richmond Neighborhood Council,

Just prior to entering the current final phase of restoration endeavors the easternmost wig wag was undermined and swallowed whole by a massive sink hole caused by a catastrophic water main break in July 2011. EBMUD subsequently arranged for site restoration and remounting of the wig wag.

So the two wig wags will remain in their accustomed place to provide a touch of the past for residents and visitors to the Point, already a designated historical district of the City of Richmond. Current restoration planning entails making the wig wags fully operational for use on special ceremonial occasions.

Current restoration efforts guided by the Point Richmond Neighborhood Council involve repair of the two antique wig wag interior mechanisms and their electrical components, exterior rust removal and repainting, and

connection of batteries as a replacement power supply. This work has been hindered by the absence of schematic plans for the antique devices and rarity of spare parts. By a stroke of good fortune it has been learned the Golden Gate Model Railroad Museum is engaged in the restoration of a similar wig wag acquired in Emeryville. The museum's membership is supportive of plans for the restoration of the Point's wig wags. Their restoration project is now advanced and should prove a helpful guide for the Point's ongoing work.

Upon finalization of restoration a descriptive historical monument or other form of signage will be installed adjacent the wig wag sites. This should prove informative to the general public but not to the large number of railroad buffs who maintain web pages and blogs devoted to the arcane subject of wig wags. The Point Richmond wig wags have been cataloged, pictures displayed, and often discussed by wig wag fans. Two fully functional wig wags should prove quite a draw for those enthusiasts. They already are for Point Richmond denizens.



Sunken Wig Wag, July 16, 2011, photo by Gary Shows

High/Pacific Streets, who can date this aerial photo



o from Frank Pearson? (PRHA archive photo # 0664-FP)



at the Masquers

All My Sons

by Arthur Miller
directed by Dennis Lickteig

Arthur Miller's classic drama *All My Sons* tells the story of a family's dark secret amidst fleeting hopes that a son missing in action will come home. It plays in Point Richmond at Masquers Playhouse August 24 through September 29.

Winner of the New York Drama Critics' Circle Award for Best New Play in 1947, *All My Sons* established Arthur Miller as a leading voice in the American theater. This tragic drama won the Tony Award for Best Direction (Elia Kazan) and a special Tony Award for the author. Based on a true story, it tells of ordinary people destroyed by lies and betrayal, with criticism of the American Dream lying at the heart of the play.

The inspiration for the play came from a wartime anecdote Miller heard about a woman who had turned her father in for delivering defective equipment to the U.S. military. From this Miller shaped a drama not about war, but about a topic he knew better: family.

Directed by Dennis Lickteig, the cast includes Reuben Alvear II, Jacqui Herrera, Joseph Hirsch, Marilyn Hughes, David Irving, Steph Peek, Carina Lastimosa Salazar and Louis Schilling.

Performances are Fridays and Saturdays at 8 pm with Sunday Matinees at 2:00 pm on



September 9 and 16. Weekend performances through September 29. Tickets are \$20 and all seats are general admission. Tickets can be purchased on line at www.masquers.org or by calling (510) 232-4031. The playhouse is located off of Highway 580 (Richmond Parkway exit) at 105 Park Place, Point Richmond across from the Hotel Mac.

A dinner benefit performance will be held on Sunday September 23 at 2 pm. Dinner is at the Hotel Mac and tickets for this performance are \$45.

Tammara Plankers



A major boxing event occurred in Point Richmond on February 22, 1910. That event was attended by more than 15,000 spectators, and is to this day is touted as one of the greatest fights of all time.

While Arne Lang was writing this book on the fight, he visited the Point to get a feel for the scene. He contacted me to get permission to use one of our archive photos and asked if I knew where the site of the event was. I have always guessed that it was approximately where Garrard and I580 intersect (see page21). Here is large part of the first chapter of Mr. Lang's new book, I skipped over some because of space limitations. We do have copies of this book for sale in our museum (\$35). Mr. Lang, who lives in Nevada, was kind enough to autograph them while on a short visit to the Point in August.

Gary

The Nelson-Wolgast Fight and the San Francisco Boxing Scene, 1900-1914

By Arne K. Lang

Chapter 1

Off to the Battle

February 22, 1910, a Tuesday, dawned like so many days in and around San Francisco. The sky was gray; the air was damp. Here and there, rain drops fell out of the mist.

San Francisco was known for this kind of weather. In a normal year, the city had more rainy days than New Orleans while receiving considerably less rainfall. If umbrellas were indispensable, the same couldn't be said of galoshes. But on this day, the early-morning drip simply wouldn't go away, strengthening into a steadier drizzle that showed little sign of slackening.

The weather was especially discouraging on this particular Tuesday as it was Washington's

Birthday, one of only five federal holidays. Across America, merchants and manufacturers shut down their shops in lockstep with banks and government agencies. The holiday would come to be identified with shoppers foraging for bargains in the cluttered aisles of department stores, but this tie-in remained in the future.

In 1910, Washington's Birthday was more closely braided to the world of sports. This was especially so in places like San Francisco, where harsh winters were an abstraction, begetting organized outdoor activities of the sort that would be consigned to the warmer months in other locales.

In the Bay Area, the holiday sports docket contained several rugby matches. There was a track meet at Golden Gate Park, an event sponsored by the all-important Olympic Club. At the Emeryville oval, normally dark on Tuesdays, eight horses were entered in the featured race, the California Derby. But these competitions were small potatoes compared to the grand prizefight, Battling Nelson vs. Adolphus "Ad" Wolgast, a Sid Hester promotion, forty-five rounds or less for the lightweight championship of the world.

Braving the elements, approximately 15,000

people descended on the battleground at Point Richmond. Measured against some other kinds of sporting attractions, this was not an especially large turnout, but those other attractions, whatever they may be, were far more affordable. (The top-priced seats in the fight sold for \$15, roughly two days' wages for a skilled worker.) Moreover, no other type of sporting attraction produced comparable off-site crowds. In downtown San Francisco, streets were blocked off around newspaper plants where thousands of people stood elbow-to-elbow for round-by-round reports telegraphed from ringside. In Salt Lake City, a crowd pegged at 1,500 stood shivering in a snowstorm outside the Tribune building.

Battling Nelson, the lightweight champ, was the lightning rod. Among fighters active the previous year, only Jack Johnson, the black heavyweight, was more talked-about. Imprinted with a good nickname, "the Durable Dane," he was more commonly referenced as simply "the Battler."

Nelson had achieved the status of a national sports personality. As such, he had more than name recognition, he had a persona. The mere mention of his name evoked the image of an indomitable warrior, a man with a cast-iron constitution and a bottomless well of grit. It would be written of him that he could have been the world's greatest marathon runner.

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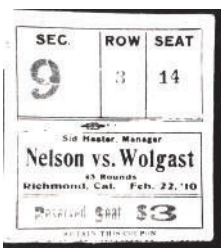
Ad Wolgast, barely twenty-two years old, was far less renowned. The profiles drawn of him in the newspapers were riddled with inconsistencies. His persona, as such, was undeveloped, a work in process.

Wolgast hailed from Cadillac, Michigan, but was frequently typed a son of Milwaukee, the city where he had grown from a preliminary boy into

a headliner. Reports were fond of calling him "the Dutchman" or the "little Dutchman," but he was of German descent. The nickname that stuck to him - "Michigan Wildcat" - hadn't grabbed a firm hold. Some reporters were partial to "Michigan Bearcat," an older appellation.

Skipped text.....

Hester [ed. *Sid Hester was the fight promoter*] hoped to anchor his big show in Colma where there was a precedent for permitting bouts of forty-five rounds. A hamlet that bordered San Francisco (Colma would soon break into two communities, the northern extension taking the name Daly City), Colma was serviced by several rail lines. Getting there from anywhere in San Francisco by trolley cost only five cents. But Colma was Sunny Jim Coffroth's territory, and Coffroth saw to it that interlopers weren't welcome. The authorities there



"This picture was taken from the roof of the Colombo Hotel, it had rained for several days and the area was flooded. Note the ticket offices on the right and the lines in front of them.

PRHA Archive Photo #0241-DC



Nelson on the left and Wolgast on the right

were slow to act on Hester's application for the required fight permit and ultimately shot him down. By the time they were finally done hemming a hawing, Hester had only two weeks to bring his show home to roost on his appointed date.

By then, Hester had gone in search of helpmates in other places. Across the estuary, he found supporters in the East Bay communities of Alameda and Albany. First Alameda and then Albany were attested to be virtual locks to host the fight, but neither panned out. Hester's allies in Alameda were unable to override the opposition of the police chief, who raised the specter of a lawless mob overwhelming his thin detachment. In Albany, the obstrucuter was the mayor, who felt it was his Christian duty to prevent the 'scourge'.

Further up the coastline in Contra Costa County lay Point Richmond, a fast-growing industrial city that was home to about 7,000 permanent residents. There was opposition there too, but insufficient to rein in a group of influential businessmen who were so keen on corraling the fight that they were willing to defray the cost of

building the arena. Hester seized their lifeline.

The Point Richmond organizers viewed the event as an opportunity to showcase and publicize their community to spur blooming Macdonald Avenue, a roadway meant to curve all the way to Oakland. Civic leaders, seeking to capitalize on the burgeoning hobby of recreational driving, touted it as the smoothest street in all of California.

The drawback to Point Richmond was that it was a long way from San Francisco, a 35-minute trip by ferry if the winds were favorable. The mitigation was that Point Richmond was a transportation hub. It was to San Francisco what Jersey City was to the city of New York: a place where trains disgorged transcontinental travelers. The Overland Limited, famous for its amenities, made the trip from Chicago in sixty-four hours. The ads appearing in the papers along the route made no mention of Point

Richmond, making it seem like the train went all the way to San Francisco, "gateway to the Orient," but passenger possessed of this notion hadn't done his homework. If a person arriving in Point Richmond cared to rest up before completing his journey, there were twelve lodging houses within walking distance of the terminal.

There was no contingency plan in the event of nasty weather. A mid-week show heavily patronized by out-of-towners wasn't something that could be pushed back a day or two without massive refunds. The thought of it must have weighed heavily on Hester, who had invested countless hours attending to all the little details. Bringing off a major prizefight is a complicated undertaking in the best of circumstances.

At 11:00 A.M., when the gates to the arena were opened, things looked grim. The rain held steady, and the cold wind blowing off the bay suggested that conditions were likely to worsen. A swift cloudburst curing a contest wasn't so bad, but a steady drizzle accompanied by dark skies was devastating as it spoiled the clarity of the motion pictures. Ancillary income from fight films had

become an important piece of the revenue pie. (An unexpurgated version of a fight film - as opposed to the abridged bits that ran in nickelodeons - was about more than what happened inside the ropes. It was a broader documentary with footage of the fighters at their training camps and cut-ins of famous people visiting the camps and sitting at ringside.)

As the fight-goers filtered into the stadium, holding tight to their umbrellas, Hester prayed that the gods of fate would be kind. It was touch-and-go until 2:00 P.M. when the clouds parted and the sun burst out to a rousing cheer. By coincidence, the under card bout was scheduled to go at 2:00 P.M.. It pitted Abe Label, a local man, against Ad Wolgast's chief sparing partner, Hobo Dougherty.

The march was called off when Label fell into police custody, having been pinched outside the enclosure for scalping tickets. That was the version of events given to ringside reporters, news

that filtered through the crowd. Although the preliminary match had no great appeal, serving merely as a diversion, the scuttling of it made Hester's aides uneasy. The patrons had purchased a meal with an appetizer. Withholding the appetizer, whatever the circumstance, wasn't quite fair. It wasn't smart to short-change a man who was big on the sport of prizefighting, particularly on this day with all its attendant aggravations.

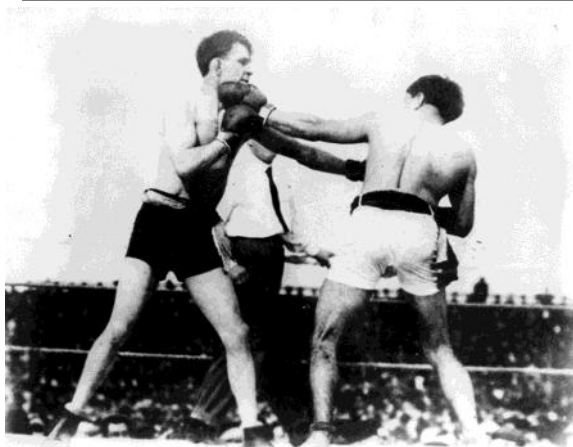
The ferry boats that left San Francisco were not as commodious as advertised. They lost speed with their heavy loads. The streetcars from the wharf were correspondingly over-stuffed. Some riders rode on the roof and others disdained the free shuttle in favor of hoofing it, a very bad idea as the arena was situated in a bog and the surrounding marshland had become a veritable quagmire. Walking toward the arena, *San Francisco Bulletin* scribe E.D. Burrows had the feeling that he was advancing toward a fortress surrounding by a moat.

Burrows managed the walk without incident. Others were not so fortunate. One poor soul showed up without his shoes; they were submerged somewhere in the muck. Bill Foley, a young attorney from San Jose, lost his footing while navigating a ditch on a wooden plank and was soaked to his waist. He did not turn back.

Despite the discomfitures, the crown remained in good spirits. A gatecrasher, a young boy, was helpful in this regard. A policeman spied him sneaking over the fence, begetting a merry chase that zigzagged across the full breadth of the arena. Collared by his pursuer, the boy was marched out of the stadium as his capturer was showered with a loud chorus of good-natured boos.

It mattered greatly that the fight was being filmed. The motion picture director, wise to the importance of keeping the crowd occupied, had his cameramen pan the audience each time the skies hinted at a break in the weather. On cue, the fight-goers waved their hats or umbrellas. Scattered about were clusters of people who arrived as





a group. Some wore badges or other insignia identifying the town from which they came. These folks were especially enthused about the prospect of appearing in a motion picture, if only for a fleeting second.

Ring announcer Billy Jordan, hale and hardy at the age seventy-eight, was an old hand at improvising byplay to lift a crowd during periods of dead time. A stocky man with a hefty handle-bar moustache, the picturesque Jordan had a commanding presence leavened by a friendly disposition that made him everybody's favorite uncle.

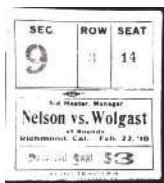
Ad Wolgast and his handlers entered the ring at 2:54 P.M. Fifteen minutes later, the Battler made his appearance. Wearing a red flannel shirt, he was trucked down the aisle in the fashion of a maharaja, riding the shoulders of a factotum, a fellow called "Abdul the Turk."

Following the introductions, the fighters faced off for the photographers and then retreated to their corners. For a tense moment the air was still as Billy Jordan, now positioned on the ring apron, lifted his right hand high and paused for dramatic effect, the silent clarion to his signature battle cry.

"Let'er go," he thundered, and the timekeeper hit the gong almost before the words were out of his mouth.



Question: The Location of the Big Fight?



HELP! I would like to know exactly where the Nelson-Wolgast fight occurred, where the arena was constructed. Here is the full description of archive photo 0241-DC from Don Church. Maybe it will provide some clues to some of our old-timers who might remember what they were told.

Gary
510-235-1336

This picture was taken from the roof of the Colombo Hotel which was owned by Ben Brignone, father of Mildred. It had rained for several days and the area was flooded. Note the ticket offices on the right and the lines in front of them. The People's Water Co. buildings can be seen over the top of the arena. In the right distance the homes of Santa Fe employees and the old hotel run by the Lehman's can be seen. The Holmes Supply Store was located in one of the cottages. Wolgast won the fight in the 32nd round. It was stopped as Nelson was in bad shape.

The Red Oak Victory Ship Needs More Volunteers

George Coles

Did you ever consider becoming a Docent on our ship the Red Oak Victory? All it requires is the ability to climb the equivalent of a seven or eight story building about once an hour while telling the story of a ship, of our area, WWII era and a city for a day or two or three or four each week.

Docents attempt to serve the public need for history of the World War II era. The variety of crew give various tours on the ship and guide visitors through an on board museum. Our docents and greeters have an age range from 15 – 90 years and include both men and women. Each docent has a different approach; two tours with different docents is two varied experiences.



The scenery is great, the company is usually reasonably sane and those to whom you are speaking often very interesting. Between tours you may find yourself emptying trash and cleaning heads or polishing brass.

There is a great opportunity for creativity. Some of us never tell the same story twice and the adjoining bird population also provides considerable entertainment.

COME TO THE SHIP AND APPLY !
TUESDAY, THURSDAY, SATURDAY
or SUNDAY.

← Restored cabin on the Red Oak
Victory Ship

Many years ago in England, pub frequenters had a whistle baked into the rim, or handle of their ceramic cups. When they needed a refill, they used the whistle to get some service. "Wet your whistle" is the phrase.



In English pubs, ale is ordered by pints and quarts. So in old England when customers got unruly, the bartender would yell at them "Mind your pints and quarts, and settle down!"

It's where we get the phrase 'mind your P's and Q's'

Ellen Schaefer



Bill Hughes and Don Church at Kozy Kove in 1917.

PRHA photo archive #0327 from Don Church. Was enhanced by Thomas Mercer-Hursh

PRESIDENTIAL FIRSTS

1. Who were the only presidents to be arrested together?

PRESIDENTS: Thomas Jefferson and James Madison.

One afternoon in the spring of 1791, future presidents Jefferson and Madison were riding a carriage through the Virginia countryside when a rural sheriff pulled them over and arrested them on the spot. Their crime: riding in a carriage on Sunday.

2. What president bet (and lost) White House china in poker games?

PRESIDENT: Warren G. Harding.

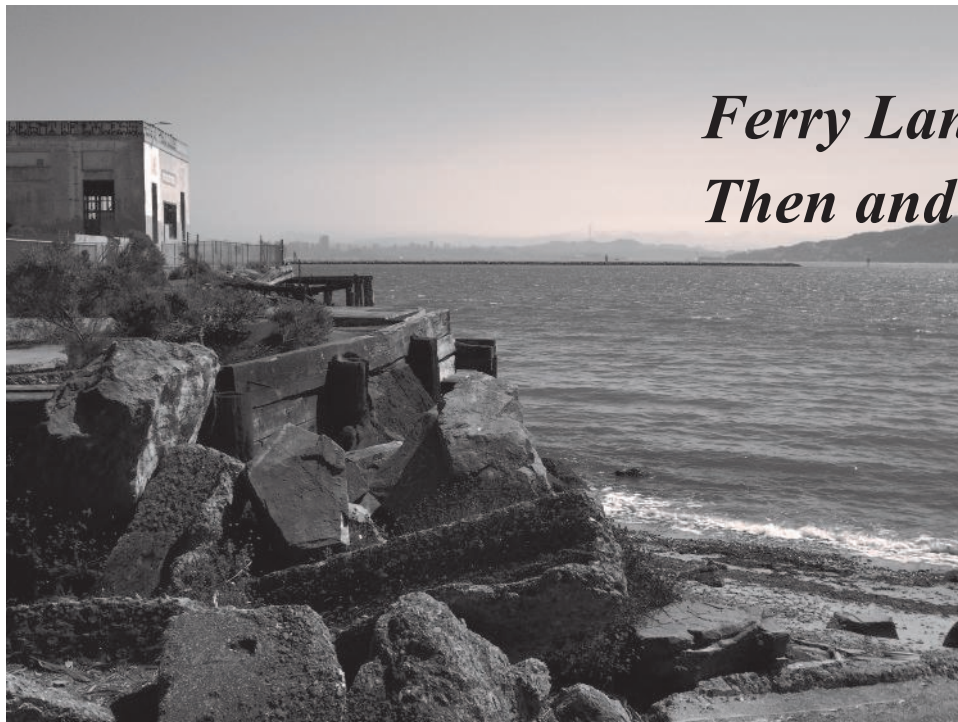
Harding was an enthusiastic poker player but unfortunately, he wasn't very good at it and was often short of cash. During poker games with his buddies when he was low on cash, he used individual pieces of fine White House china for poker chips. It is not known how many pieces of the china were lost this way.

3. Who was first president to throw out the first pitch of the baseball season?

PRESIDENT: William Howard Taft.

Taft was our heaviest president weighing over 330 pounds making his handlers fear his girth might make him weak. Taft rejected the idea he begin playing a sport to prove he still had vigor but agreed to throw out the first ball of the 1910 baseball season. He waddled out to the pitchers mound at Griffith Stadium in Washington, D. C. and the crowd went wild. Continuing the tradition, by 1929, rather than actually pitch the ball, most presidents just throw it onto the field from their seat in the stands.

From Mid



Ferry Landing Then and Now

Photo by Gary
Shows



PRHA photo
archive #0360
from Don
Church

Birthdays

September

Joan Gatten	Emileigh Anne William	John Hadreas	June Kunkle Blackburn
Sofia Warith	Al Frosini	David Reynolds	Lorin Buhler
Susan Armstrong	Frank Christopher	Donna Roselius	Isosbel Shaw
Marie Peckham	Linda Newton	John T. Knox	Aubrey Lee Rentfro
Ivar Elle	Roberta Wilson	Jerry Cerkowicz	Diane Diani
Daniel Butt	Nadia Warith	Kenneth Dolan	Don Diani
Sara Warren Smith	Bernard Dietz	Theresa Daniel	Gene Smith
Sonja Gandola	Stephen Berman	Jan Feagley	Elisa DeLaTorre

October

Terry Wynne	Jodi Bagley	Charlie Dutrow	Maria Inchauspe Smith
Kate Lord	Jeff Ward	Chris Ward	Marc Bisio
Florence Wilson	Todd Cort	Helen Frosini	Abigail Munoz Rivera
Maria Shaw	McKinley Bradshaw	Chad Feagley	Toni Cannizzaro
Anne M Gondola	Karen Fenton	Isobel 'Boo' Shaw	Jan Burdick
Marguerite Clutts	Marian Tedrick	Jerry Daniel	Leo Matteucci
Linda Pereira	Brian Tedrick	Grace Cerkowicz	
Rosy Roselius	Rich Weirick	Otto Barni	
Timothy Doherty	Dean Smith	Jerry Daniel	

EXCLUSIVE OVER 90 CLUB

Lupe Padilla Lopez - 98
Shoney Gustafson - 96
Jerry Cerkowicz, Sr. - 92
Steve Wyrick - 95
Roger Wiese - 97
Madelilne Bellando Albright - 95
Mid Dornan - 91
Reva Ward 98
Al Frosini - 93
Bernard Dietz - 97
Harry Gondola - 92
Charlotte Kermabon Birsinger - 95
Edna Hathaway - 93
Gretchen Van Tassel Shaw - 93
Viola Lala Kennedy- 93
Lee Christian - 93

Delphina Franco Tawney - 93
Eunice Ruth Hursh - 95
Mark Gebhart - 97
George Coles - 90
George Leroy Williams - 90
Billie Bonham Shaw - 90

2012 OVER 100 CLUB

Rena Cairo Gonsalves- 100

Age is not a number, it is an attitude.

**Please send corrections and additions to
“Over 90 Club” to midornan@sbcglobal.net
or call 510-234-5334**

Cards, Letters & E-Mails

Dear Friends,

This morning I received an e-mail copy of your newsletter, Dated July, August, September 2011, and I was so impressed. Enclosed is my personal check to subscribe to your newsletter for the next six copies.

I'm a former president of the Pacifica Historical Society and a member of the board of directors. Our Society has been in existence for about 40 years. We do not currently print a newsletter but just a quarterly bulletin.

Our City Pacifica, is comparatively new, just incorporated in 1957, although we have the earliest coast side history, dating back to 1769.

We are in the process of creating a history museum/event center, in a former church building that was built in 1910. Volunteers have worked on this project for seven years. Historical preservation grant funding seems non-existent, although we keep trying. Fund raising is on going and we complete the restoration in phases as the funds become available.

Undoubtedly your organization has the same financial problem paying for the maintenance of your building. Our City does not have a commercial base or large corporations to contribute funds.

Two main events a year, tours of a local castle, and a twice a year rummage sale, are our on going source of revenue.

Thank you for adding me to your mailing list.

Sincerely,
Shirlee L. Gibbs
Pacifica, CA

Enclosed is a bank check for my membership. This Point just keeps getting better and better.

Best Regards,

Simeon Burtner
El Paso, TX

Dear Pam,

Please send "This Point in Time" to Ann Dunipace who has moved back to Ohio to live with one of her sisters who lives in the family house.

I hope TPIT will remind her of all her friends in California. We'll miss her very much!

Sincerely,
Z. Kille
Point Richmond

To June,

I am so sorry to read of Neal's death. He was a good friend to me when I really needed one. Please extend my sympathy to your brothers.

Pat "Bill" Pearson

The aerial photograph featured in your most recent issue was definitely pre 1959, because my house is not in the picture. Also, I think after 1928 because my next-door neighbor's house IS in it.

H. Abigail Bok

Deaths.....

Doris (Dody) Marie Perry died at her Western Drive home on June 25, 2012. Age 94. A Registered Nurse Dody met her late husband, George, while serving in the Navy during WW II. She specialized in diets for diabetics, heart patients and others with special dietary needs. Dody loved cooking and shared her talents as a volunteer in Art, created beautiful needlepoint, knitting, copper work pieces as well as sewing.

Her many hand surgeries never deterred Dody from helping others and was actively involved in the Oakland Children's Hospital, Art Center Auxiliary, Richmond Hospital Auxiliary, Women's Westside Improvement Club, Point Richmond History Association, and Our Lady of Mercy Church. She volunteered at the Live Oak Thrift Shop and the Masquers honored her with a lifetime membership. Dody is survived by her sister, Lois Amos in Florida and several nieces and nephews. Funeral Mass was held July 12 at Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church.

Christopher Spencer was born May 5, 1963 and moved to Point Richmond in 2004 to a home on Morgan Street. In 2010 he moved to his home on Western Drive where he met with a tragic accident that ended his life on July 4, 2012. Chris grew up in Los Angeles in Atwater Village. He graduated from Pater Noster High School in Glendale California in 1981, studied Art at the Art Center of Design in Pasadena then moved to the Bay Area in 1991 where he attended Holy Names College in Oakland and earned his BA and MA Degrees. Ultimately Chris found his way to Point Richmond in 2004 where he immediately found a sense of community and contentment.

Chris worked for Bio Tech for many years, when his interest in his job waned; Chris became interested in senior advocacy, serving as an ombudsman for the County of Contra Costa. He then chose to participate in activities in Point Richmond. He served on the board and was business manager to help Linda Newton and Martha Bielawski in the formation of the Point Richmond Village. He became 1st Vice President and Membership Chairman of the Point Richmond Neighborhood Council. With his personality and charm and dedication to the task he tripled the paid membership of the PRNC. He also established the PRNC website.

He helped the community by joining with the local police, the Point Richmond Business Association and the Women's Westside Improvement Club in a project to curb panhandling downtown. He enthusiastically joined a group to clean up the Point Beaches after an oil spill at the Bay Bridge. For many years he also had his table outside setup with articles for sale not only to help the Masquers but also to visit with the neighbors on Memorial Day Weekends. Chris thoroughly enjoyed entertaining and opening his home to friends and family for all sorts of festivities. He had a designer's eye for color and texture both inside his home and outside in the garden. He used this talent to design and landscape, with Bonnie Daley Satre, the pocket park at the intersection of Western Drive and Grandview Court. He loved his collection of cats and the neighborhood cats. Most of all he loved people, particularly his partner of 12 years, Mark Mantelle and his family and friends and neighbors who will always remember him with a fondness and love.

CALENDAR/DIRECTORY

ARTS OF POINT RICHMOND

Meets third Tuesday of each month 7-9 at the Pt. Community Center, Contact: Linda Drake, 510672-0793

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE READING ROOM

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

GOLDEN STATE MODEL RAILROAD MUSEUM AND EAST BAY MODEL ENGINEERS SOCIETY

900 Dornan Drive, Miller/Knox Regional Park. Sunday 12:00 to 5:00. Special openings on Saturdays and Holidays.
510-234-4884 for details.

MANY HANDS PROJECT TO SUPPORT WASHINGTON SCHOOL

Contact, Margaret Morkowski, 510-234-4219

MASQUERS PLAYHOUSE

Quality productions, Fridays and Saturdays at 8 pm, Sunday Matinees at 2:30 pm. Tickets are \$18-\$20. Dinner at the Hotel Mac and the play on Thursday, for only \$50. Call 510-232-4031 for reservations.

PARENTS, RESOURCES AND MORE (PRAM)

A volunteer, nonprofit organization serving families with children 5 or under. Playgroups, social events, educational opportunities, Information go to <http://www.PRAM.net> or call 510-215-1734.

PARENT, TEACHER ASSOCIATION

Becky Jonas, Contact, 510-235-0157

POINT RICHMOND BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

Contact: Andrew Butt, 510-236-7445

POINT RICHMOND COMMUNITY CENTER

Info: 233-6881

POINT RICHMOND HISTORY ASSOCIATION

Museum is at 139½ Washington Avenue, and open Winter, Thursday's 11:30 to 2:00 and Saturday 11:30 to 2:00 and Summer, Wednesday 4:30 to 7:00 and Thursday's 11:30 to 2:00. The deadline for the next issue of TPIT is Friday November 2, 2012. Info call President Mildred Dornan at 510-234-5334.

POINT RICHMOND NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

Meets last Wednesday each month, Point Richmond Community Center; 7:30 P.M Contact: Sue Rosenof at 599-1197

POINT RICHMOND/WEST SIDE BRANCH LIBRARY

Information call 510-620-6567

RED OAK VICTORY

Open Saturday, Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday 10am - 3pm. \$5 donation for adults, \$4 seniors, \$2 children.
Sunday Breakfast September 10th and October 12th, 9 am - 1 pm, \$6 adults children FREE

RICHMOND SWIMS

The Children and teens "Sail Fish" and Masters swim teams at the Richmond Plunge.

Contact: Coach John Schonder, 510-504-0330

September 25, 2011 open water bay swim raises money for coaching, equipment, pool fees and swimming scholarships for inner-city youth throughout Richmond. More info at <http://www.richmondswims.org/> or call (415) 892-0771

WASHINGTON SCHOOL

Washington School at 565 Wine Street offers traditional and Spanish dual immersion curriculum, K - 6th grade. Contact principal Lisa Levi at 231-1417 for more information.

WOMEN'S WESTSIDE IMPROVEMENT CLUB (established 1908)

Richmond's longest standing women's club. Contact: Connie Lompa, President. 510-237-7888

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

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Type of membership (check one):

<input type="checkbox"/>	Single	\$20.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Senior (65+)	15.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Family	25.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	History Preserver	50.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Corporate Sponsor	75.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	History Maker	100.00

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

Pam Wilson
521 Western Drive
Point Richmond, CA 94801

If you would like to have birthdays noted in the newsletter, please include names and months.

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

Please mail articles and items of interest to:

Gary Shows
229 Golden Gate Avenue
Point Richmond, CA 94801

or
email: gary@alkos.com

"This Point...in time" is a publication of the Point Richmond History Association, a non-profit organization at:
139 ½ Washington Avenue
Point Richmond, CA 94801

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Main Contributors to this Issue:

Gary Shows	Editor
Mid Dornan	Various Articles and Information
Don Church/Allan Smith	Historic Photos
Jerry Cerknowicz	Proof/Information
Pam Wilson	Membership Info
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