

THIS POINT.... in time

NEWSLETTER

The Point Richmond History Association

www.PointRichmondHistory.org

Vol. XXXI No. 4

February/March, 2013

\$3.00



*Richmond Shipyard No. 3, Point Potrero
Brooks Island is in the background*

HISTORIC PRESERVATION AWARDS, 2013

The Richmond Historic Preservation Advisory Commission invites nominations for the Richmond Historic Presentation Awards. The nomination forms will be available February 1, and must be returned by March 29, 2013.

The purpose of the awards program is to increase public awareness of Richmond's heritage by recognizing individuals, organization, businesses, and agencies whose contributions demonstrate outstanding commitment to excellence in historic preservation, local history or promotion of the heritage of the city. Awards will be presented at a reception in Richmond City Hall t Council Chambers sometime in May, National Preservation Month.

In addition to public and private buildings and structures, historic preservation projects may include media, publications, presentations and exhibits, parks, burial grounds, public art, oral history, theater productions, events and video presentations.

Any individual, group, organization or agency involved in historic preservation or promoting Richmond's heritage is eligible to receive a Richmond Historic Preservation Award.

Nomination forms are available on the City's web site:: www.ce.richmond.ca.us or call HPAC Committee member Pat Pearson at (510) 234 – 1045 or ppearson174@hotmail.com and ask for a PDF copy to be emailed to you. You may also pick up a hard copy at the City Hall or at the Point Richmond History Museum.

Pat Pearson

From the President

By Mid Dornan

It is never too late to wish our members and friends a Joyous 2013 New Year! We are proud of our little Museum that was decorated with colorful lights and holiday decor and praise the volunteers who made it possible. A big thank you to David Vincent for the seasonal poinsettia .

In December, we were contacted by a website visitor from Wisconsin seeking information about a name found in one of our newsletters. This person turned out to be a long-lost -relative who was reunited with the cousin for a Happy Christmas gift! We like being a part of happy endings.

This year we will be addressing our aging historic building which is showing signs of dry rot, our flag is looking a bit faded, and we are in need of a small storage space. We also want more input of memories and stories from you.

Stop by soon to see what's new in our little museum! An exciting new digital photo gift made possible by the Gateway Foundation, matching funds and Memorials will be coming in February.

*319 Washington Avenue.
PRHA Archive Photo
#00837-00*



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Thank you members for your renewal:

Mitzi Kruse

Velma Healy

Wilson & Sonnie Gandola Family

Virginia W. Smith

Donna & Alphonso Diaz

Zoanna Kille Family

Royce Ong**

Bruce & Sandra Beyaert Family

Howard & Jan Arnold Family

Gino Martinucci

Karen Fenton

Dee Rosier

Betty Menzie

Judith Buhlis

Mary Crosby & Tom Piazza Family

Marc Bisio

William A. Smith Family

Evan & Lydia Jahromi Family

John Thiella & Rosa Casazza Family**

Les Crim

A warm welcome to new members:

Floria & Bob Jones*

Chuck & Carolyn Dutrow

*Gift Membership

**Special Member, *Thank You!*



Thank You!

Santa Fe Market

and

Point Richmond Market

For selling

“THIS POINT.....in time”

For us

Winter Museum Hours:

Saturday 11:30 am - 2:00 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

Heinz Lankford

The Cover:

Brooks Island and Richmond Shipyard #3

An Original work of the US Federal Government - public domain

Editor's Notes

Gary Shows (510-235-1336)

Here is your February/March 2013 issue of TPIT newsletter. My usual gratitude to our contributing staff. I am sorry to hear that our correspondent for Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church, Dee Rosier is down with an injury. I wish her a speedy recovery so that she will be back in the next issue. I am also sorry to report that you will also miss Margaret Morkowski's "Out and About Town" section. Margaret does so much for our community that she is overwhelmed and not able to continue her column. I sincerely thank Margaret for her excellent contributions to this newsletter. If there is someone else out there who would like to help us by reporting general news of what is going on in Point Richmond, please email me (gary@alkos.com).

Thank you to the Gateway Foundation for the generous grant. I will use it to install a new big screen in the museum that will show off our historical photo collection. I have a lot of important tasks going on with my business right now, but I hope to get it up by March.

My sincere sympathy goes to Mid Dornan and her family for the sudden, tragic loss of her son-in-law, Richard Barnes. Richard died in an Interstate Highway automobile accident in Arkansas on January 22nd.

The deadline for articles and items for the next issue is March 29, 2013.

Volunteers at our last mailing party:

Mid Dornan
Pam Wilson
Jerry Cerkowicz
Gary Shows
Bonnie Jo Cullison
Kathe Kiehn
Heinz Lankford

Thank You!

Our Special Supporters!

History Makers

Doug & Rosemary Corbin
Kathe Kiehn

Diane & Gordon Hirano
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Umesh & Debra Kurpad
Roberta & Richard Palfini
Rachel Palfini

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Donna Wilson
Margaret Morkowski
Patricia Dornan
Maurice & Margaret Doherty
Paul and Zoe Egger-Mukavtz
Spiro Cakos
Jim & Olivia Jacobs
Burlington Willes
Norm and Jean Reynolds
Linda Newton
H. Abigail Bok

A-Mid Trivia

Mid Dornan (510-234-5334)

QUESTION:

Q: How many airports are there in the United States?

ANSWER at end of Trivia

Pumpkins in Point Richmond? Pretty tasty ones too on Belvedere under the care of Sandra and Bruce Beyaert.

A proud grandmother (me) will be traveling to New York City to see her 17 year old grandson Robert Barnes play trombone at Carnegie Hall. He is a finalist in the 2013 American High School Honors Performance Series. While in New York I will see a Broadway Show and tour the Lincoln Center.

Hotel Mac has been one of Point Richmond's icons for over a century. It was build it 1911 as the Colonial Hotel. When fire gutted the building in 1978, Griff Brazil and Bill Burnett, restored the hotel to retain its rustic ambiance. After 30 years, Griff and Bill are ready for a less stressful life and have sold the landmark to Maureen Na who plans to keep the current staff and menu for the favorite hangout of local businesses and political elites.

Think it doesn't pay to report tax-evasion? Bradley Birkenfeld blew the whistle on the massive tax-evasion scheme at UBS Bank and was awarded \$104 Million by the IRS.

Did you know 400 trees in L.A. had to be removed to fit the space shuttle Endeavor on its route to the California Science Museum?

PRHA founder, Donna Roselius, Port Orford, Oregon, stopped in the Point to visit friends and catch-up on PRHA before heading to Sonora to spend the holidays with family.

How cool is it when a grandmother can treat two granddaughters to lunch when one lives in Washington D.C. and the other is a student at Whitman College , Walla Walla, Washington. Emileigh Williams (D.C.) was on assignment in Glendale, CA, while Rachel Palfini (Washington) was in Irvine, home for the holidays and the grandmother (me) from the Point was in Irvine for dental work. So it happened!

Visitor Burl Welles, Berkeley, and former Point resident as well as PRHA member stopped by the museum and brought us up- to-date on a favorite Travel Agent, Phyllis Skaglund! Leaving us for Patzcuaro, Mexico, to start a Bed and Breakfast a few years ago, Phyllis was so successful with the B&B that she never returned. However, it seems someone else fell in love with her B & B and bought her out?? AND.. Burl says he sends her TPIT to read!. So, Phyllis, drop us a line about what is happening to you. Visit our web site. Do you still travel?

An oldtimer is one who remembers when a Bureau was a chest of drawers.

A doctor has a plan for easing pain that is drug free using static electricity. Go to the hardware store and get an ordinary painter's mitt...plus a one -foot section of PVC pipe about an inch wide. Create an electric charge by rubbing the pipe vigorously with the mitt for one minute. then slowly sweep the pipe over the painful area. Move in a head-to-toe direction about a half inch away from your skin. After 3 or 4 passes, recharge the pipe by rubbing it again with the mitt. Keep repeating the process until pain is gone which is usually within a few minutes. Try it!

I didn't. If it works, lets us know.

Moviegoers who use their non dominant hand

to eat popcorn eat 13% less.

History members, Kenny and Kay Madison from Springfield, Oregon, visited our museum in December.

Wonder if you have bad breath? Lick the inside of your wrist, wait 4 seconds, then smell.

Roman numerals for forty (40) are XL.

CORRECTION: In the last issue I called Point Richmond's Transcept Pharmaceutical's new sleep aid drug *ZzzQuill*. Actually, the new product is called ***Intermezzo***. Look out for new television commercials on the product soon.

The easiest way to find something lost around the house, is to buy a replacement.

ANSWER: There are 19,782 airports in the U.S. The most in the world.



Coming up in the next issue of "THIS POINT....in time" PRHA founder Donna Roselius will tell us about the origins of our current standing Indian Statue.



Corner of Santa Fe and Piedmont

PRHA Photo Archive #0835-00

Church News



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

For 2013 I wish you:

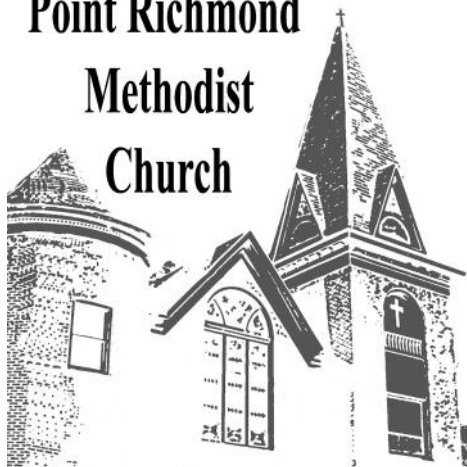
12 months of happiness
52 Weeks of fun
365 Days good health
8,760 Hours of love
525,600 Minutes of blessings
315,300,0 seconds of joy

I am wishing this to everyone from my hospital bed. I am starting off the new year on the left foot! I'll soon be in a Skilled Nursing Facility for healing to hasten the trip back home.

Everything can change in the wink of an eye, but don't worry, God never blinks.

Get well soon Dee.....Gary

Point Richmond Methodist Church



By Jean Reynolds
510-235-2988

jeanormr@pacbell.net

Thanksgiving – For the first time, the entire meal was prepared and served from the church kitchen. Certain features contributed to a successful event: an additional refrigerator the UMW donated; close maintenance of the Wolf Stove prior to Thanksgiving, courtesy of Bill Thompson, Jonathan Swett and Paul Garnett; two new mobile cutting-block storage islands to use for work space (thank you, Methodist women!), pie served from the side table in Friendship Hall to save space in the kitchen, musicians in the side pocket (Sunday school room), and drinks dispensed from behind Door Number Three. Fran Smith coordinated the volunteers, set-up crew, cleanup, and donations. She is a national treasure.

Our generous donors: Café Altura, El Cerrito Natural Food Grocery, Foster Van Lines, Hotel Mac, Pikhana Brazilian Restaurant, Point Richmond Market, Salute E Vita Ristorante, and Santa Fe Market. Please patronize the businesses who supported us, and say,

“thank you,” for their community involvement. Numerous pie providers: Matthew and Jennifer Foster, Molly Smith, Pat Pearson, Julie Simmons, Fran Smith, Jean Reynolds, Mark Ellis, and Terri Fewins-Pittman.

Master chefs Paul Garnett, Tinna Manansala and Shirley Ramirez prepared the dinner with help from a raft of auxiliary volunteers: Jay Sullivan, Terry Cullinane, Doreen Leighton, Deborah Doctor, Matt Foster, Richard Smith, Mid Dornan, Kathe Keihn, Heinz Lankford, Steve Shank, Terri Pittman, and Jean Reynolds.

Serving, setup, ambiance and cleanup: Karen Bianchini and Mark Ellis brought their holiday visitors to help: Mark C. Ellis, Logan Ellis, and Anne Clark. They waited table with great attention to the comfort of our guests, and cleaned the dining area afterward. Kit Eakle and Peggy Geary arrived with smiles and offered to help at noon. Doreen Leighton, Nick Pollutro, Sara Remington, Eric Dowden, Camille Garnett, Deborah Doctor, and Terri Pittman all served ably. Dan Damon, Eileen Johnson, and Tom Belton played piano, bass and drum to add a classy aura to the party. David Reynolds, Kathe Kiehn, Heinz Langford, and Jean Reynolds finished cleanup that day followed by Sandra Kokoruda, Sean Mefford, and Jesse Mefford who hauled everything back to storage.

It is a big production to serve such a delicious sit-down dinner for our community. We could not do it without our generous local businesses, deep support of volunteers and other donors, expertise of our chefs, people willing to come to dinner, and the resource of having this wonderful space, perfect for our use. Thanksgiving really did give us more reasons to be thankful!

Late in November, Tanya Cothran, Executive administrator of non-profit Spirit in Action International (SIA), was our speaker at worship. SIA offers micro-grants and loans to people who aspire to start a business. It serves areas in several countries in Africa.

We sold a wide variety of baked goods and craft items at the Bake Sale December 15 at the Point Richmond Community Center. Next year we hope to have more pies and cakes since those sold out early! Pat Dornan made sure every purchase was wrapped with flair.

Sarah Thompson was home from UC Irvine over the holidays, and led us all in a rowdy version of “Go Where I Send Thee”, complete with all the actions, in worship during the Christmas season. Sarah has her own radio show and can be heard by early risers or insomniacs on Thursday mornings from 4:00 to 6:00 a.m. at www.kuci.org

December 30, we joyfully received new members Debbie Benko and Betty Graham.

Tammara Plankers found an additional way for us to celebrate the Christmas season: she directed a musical pageant to tell the story of Jesus’ birth. She cast several members of the Masquers’ theater group, and recruited seven young angels who sang glad tidings. The All-Star CAST included: Reader, Robert Love; Mary, Sophie Gabel-Scheinbaum; Joseph, Coley Grundman; Gabriel, Kyle Johnson; Angel, Mia Thorp; and Wise Men, Derrick Silva, Gill Stanfield, and LaMont Ridgell. Choir of Angels: Mia Thorp, Zoe Thorp, Riley Landon, Tyrah Weems, Zaynah Weems, Alice Cropsey, and Cecilia Butt. Shepherds: Alice Thompson, Richard Smith, Norm Reynolds and Jean Reynolds. The Joyful Noise Choir sang and Jennifer Metz-Foster played cello. The cast performed the Readers’ Digest version of the pageant on Sunday morning, December 23, and then pulled out all the stops for a performance that evening. The sanctuary was packed and everyone enjoyed the music, action, and elegant costumes.

A crowd came to the Christmas Eve Jazz Service. The angels from the pageant the previous day sang the first verse of “Silent Night”. Other guest vocalists that evening: Dave Tattershall; Sara Remington; Gill Stanfield on lead with back up vocals by Alice Thompson, Richard Smith, Norm Reynolds and Dan Damon; Paula Helene;

Bethany Reynolds; and Sheilani Alix. Heather Damon read and sang the words to the “Friendly Beasts” illustrated book for children. Liam Thompson read the Christmas story from Luke. Members of the band: Dan Damon, piano, Kurt Ribak, keyboard bass, Lincoln Adler, sax, Randy Odell, drums. It was a special treat to see Jamela Smith Folds, with daughters Irish, Haven and their newest baby sister Clover.

On the Calendar:

Acoustic Concert Series, Friday, **February 8**, 8:00 p.m.: Point Richmond’s own resident folk diva, **Claudia Russell**, brings her eclectic blend of folk, blues and pop. Russell performs with **The Folk Unlimited Orchestra**, featuring Bruce Kaplan on guitar and mandolin and Tom Tally on viola and violin. Songwriter **Monica Pasqual** of the San Francisco based band, Blame Sally, opens the show. Tickets are \$15.

March 8, 8:00 p.m., **Laurie Lewis**, Queen of Bluegrass: See details at the website: www.pointacoustic.org <<http://www.pointacoustic.org/>>

Saturday, **February 9**, **Gardening** at Pat Dornan and Linda Pereira’s, 9 am to noon: We

will weed, prune and rake to help them spruce for spring. RSVP to Barbara Haley: (510) 232-5358 or bahecats@sbcglobal.net. Rain postpones.

To recognize the start of Lent: Thursday, February 14, 6:30 p.m. Call to Prayer and Self Denial service and supper. The women of Easter Hill United Methodist Church, 3911 Cutting Boulevard, Richmond, will host. Richmond First UMC presents the program. All are invited.

Easter Sunday, March 31, 2013: We will celebrate all morning, so people can join for their favorite parts. “Sunrise” Worship in the garden, 8:00 a.m.; Breakfast, 9:00 a.m.; Sunday school for all ages, 10:00 a.m.; Formal worship in the sanctuary, 11:00 a.m.; Easter Egg hunt for elementary ages and below at approx. 12:15 p.m. Special music is guaranteed at both services. Walk the labyrinth in the garden at 8:00 a.m. or later on your own.

Sweetheart Dinner: On a date still to be determined in March. We will have a grand dinner celebration to honor someone we all love. Check the website below for details mid-February.

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



ON TRAC...

This 14th New Year Report by TRAC, the Trails for Richmond Action Committee, highlights 2012 achievements and describes plans for completing the San Francisco Bay Trail in Richmond. Starting in January 2000, these reports centered on a map showing the 30 miles of Bay Trail to be built. This report presents a new format because the 10.8 miles of gaps remaining are focused in only three areas, i.e. the Ferry Point Loop, Point Pinole Regional Shoreline and between the Plunge & Point San Pablo. Richmond now has more than 31 miles of Bay Trail in place -- exceeding all other cities on this planned 500-mile hiking and biking route encircling San Francisco and San Pablo Bays. 2012 was marked locally by solid progress across all phases of work required to close gaps. This included obtaining trail easements, planning alignments, preparing environmental impact reports, designing trail sections, building new rails and celebrating their completion. Last but not least, \$2,074,000 in new funding was obtained to conduct the above work.

Mid

WWIC, Est. 1908

Kathleen Wimer

News from the Women's Westside Improvement Club

Women's Westside Improvement Club members not only enjoyed camaraderie and food together at our brown bag luncheon in November and in December at our annual gala holiday luncheon. (Calvert Barrows, Mary Lee Cole, and Linda Newton hosted the earlier; Kathy Branstetter, Susan Brooks, and Diane Marie the latter.) We also learned a lot about housing options for seniors from Mary K Stegner, a psychology professor and clinician who heads The Stegner Registry Elder Referral Service.

Ms. Stegner, speaking at our November meeting, encourages that seniors remain flexible and open in considering housing options, rather than insisting "never," particularly regarding nursing homes. Instead, Ms. Stegner emphasizes that seniors and their families concentrate consideration of care and housing choices on three primary needs and wants: safety, psychological/medical, and social. Then, in consideration of these needs and wants, one of three available options may serve most suitably. These options include:

Independent living within a sheltered environment where residents may have assistance with activities of daily living, when warranted, which is provided by care givers who come into residents' homes from outside the facility. Usually such in-home visits mean a minimum of four hours of care per visit at a cost of from \$20 to \$25 an hour. Medicare pays for some in-home health care.

Assisted care facilities where residents need help with more activities of daily living. Such facilities are licensed and staffed with people who have a minimum of 48 hours of training. Assisted care provides socialization options not always available at home.

Nursing homes are licensed to provide care to

people with skilled nursing needs. There are approximately five conditions that require nursing home rather than assisted care. Medicare covers nursing home costs, but not all nursing homes accept Medicare payments. On average, the majority of people stay in skilled nursing facilities for about six months and benefit from family members or others providing strong advocacy on their behalf.

Ms. Stegner also mentioned several other resources available to support senior living. Senior centers, she says, are life savers for those who can get out and go. Fifty-five years of age is generally the optimal time for purchasing a long term care insurance policy. It generally covers assisted care, nursing homes, or in-home care. Hospice care can be supplied in one's home, in a nursing home, or an assisted care community that has a hospice waiver.

In closing, Ms. Stegner passed on a hot tip: Every elderly person should have an emergency medical button. Vital Link uses a sliding income scale in charging for the emergency medical buttons it sells.

Ms. Stegner may be reached at (510) 664-4427 or at mkstegner@aol.com. Her web site is www.stegnerregistry.com.

We also learned about something else – Nextdoor Point Richmond, a web-based social network available exclusively to Point Richmond residents. According to a Nextdoor press release, the "free online platform [is] designed to foster neighbor-to-neighbor communication." On this private website neighbors "can ask questions, get to know one another and exchange local advice and recommendations." Point Richmond residents may join the site at <https://ptrichmond.nextdoor.com>.

We learned from Mari Sanger, Margaret

Morkowski's guest at the November meeting and a Mary Kay Cosmetics representative, that the Bay Area Rescue Mission has 325 beds, 100 or more of them most often used by women. Ms. Sanger committed Mary Kay Cosmetics in the region to delivering 100 skin care and cosmetics bags – each worth \$100 – to the women who use the Rescue Mission and then to teaching them how to use the products. Ms. Sanger sought corporate and individual donations to help pay for the bags.

What else did we learn? Aha. First, the bad news: Altha Humphrey gave up coordination of Knit 'n' Such. The good news: Teri Phillips began coordinating Knit 'n' Such January 9, 2013. Knit 'n' Such meets every first Wednesday at the Point Richmond Community Center from 12:30 to 2:30 pm.

The Women's Westside Improvement Club made history in December. For the first time in our more than one hundred year history, members agreed unanimously to endorse a policy issue on the Richmond City Council agenda. We agreed to support a resolution requesting that city staff write an ordinance for Council consideration. If adopted, the ordinance would supply the option to limit formula restaurants in the city's designated neighborhood commercial districts, such as Point Richmond's. Close observers will recall the suggestion for such an ordinance arose from discussion within the Point Richmond Neighborhood Council in response to a proposed Subway sandwich shop. The resolution passed City Council. Now we await the city staff's draft of the proposed ordinance getting introduced to the Council for action.

We had a great time at our December Holiday Party with the help of Pastor Dan of the United Methodist Church who entertained and accompanied us on the piano. Marion Kent supplied the lyrics for caroling. Connie Lompa's collection of stuffed felt ornaments graced the tables. At one or the other of our December or November meetings, we enjoyed the additional camaraderie of several guests: Sharon Bouticci, Carla Bowman, Kathryn Dienst, Margaret Jordan, and Barbara Robertson.

Now, as we enter 2013, we look forward to a couple of exciting events. At our February 5 brown bag luncheon, we will determine recipients of this year's donations. We always look forward to encouraging the improvements to Point Richmond which our funds can support. And our Past President, Margaret Morkowski, has been shepherding a long-awaited and very exciting project toward completion. We plan an unveiling of the new Point Richmond map which will replace the one currently at the corner of Park Place and East Richmond.



Connie Lompa's stuffed felt ornaments

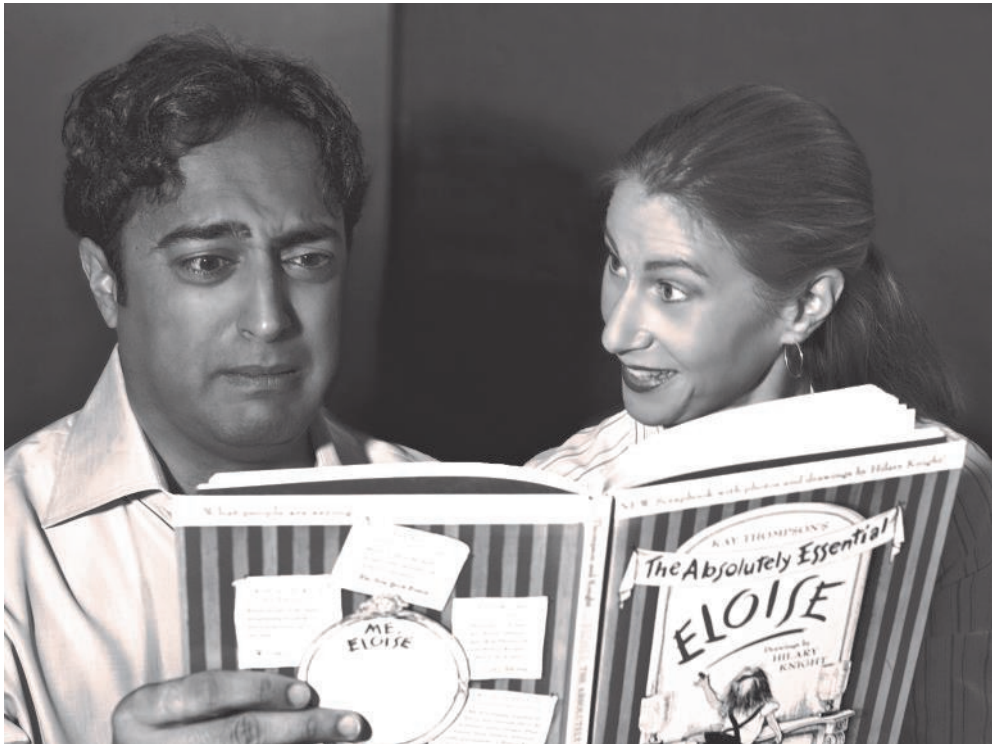
at the Masquers

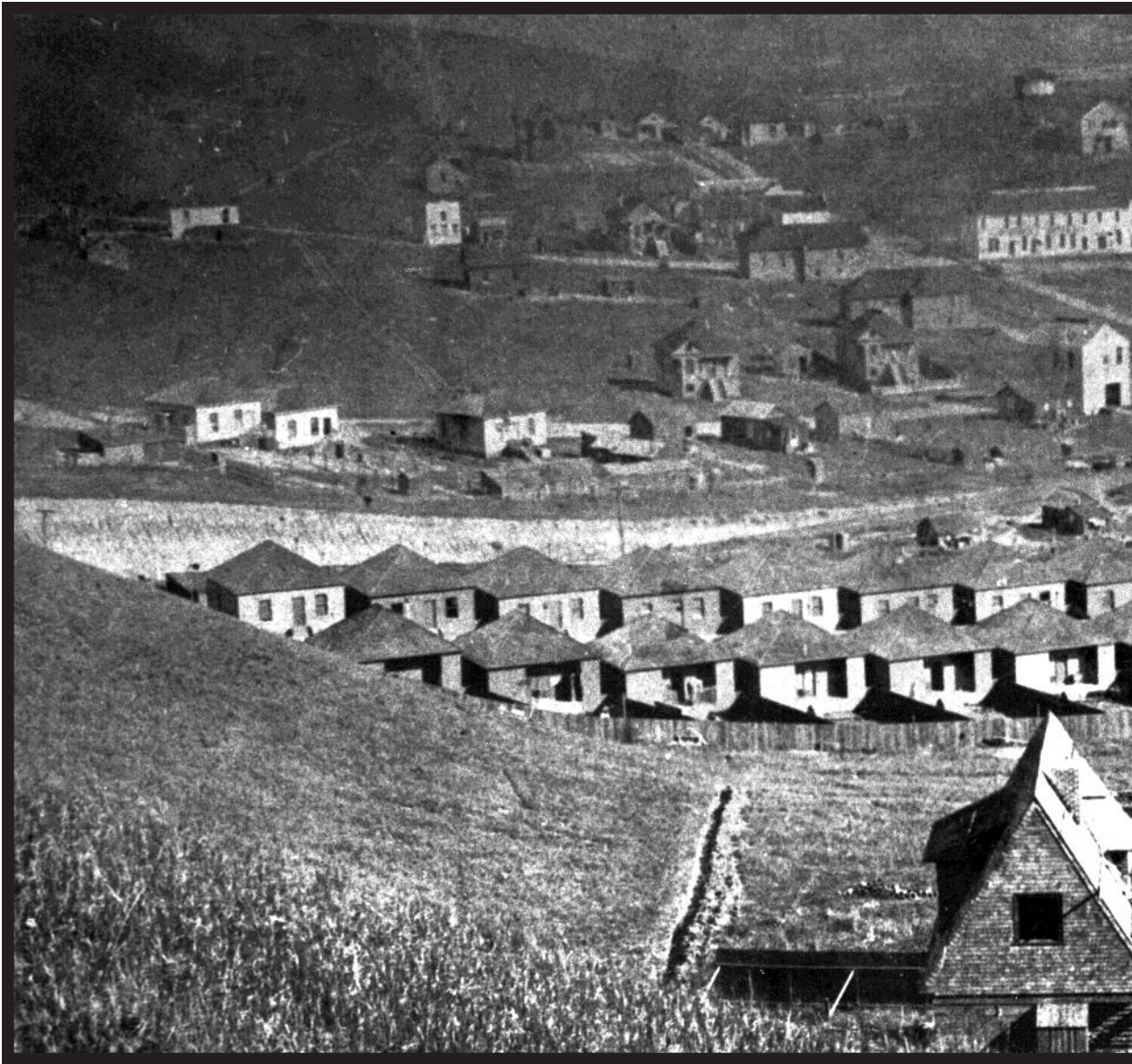
Expecting Isabel

Expecting Isabel, the 1998 play by award-winning playwright Lisa Loomer, opens January 18 at Masquers Playhouse in Point Richmond. This savvy comedy tells of a young couple's difficulties in conceiving, and their funny and heart-breaking adventures — and the broadly comic characters they encounter along the way — in the fertility trade, the adoption industry, and in their own outrageous families.

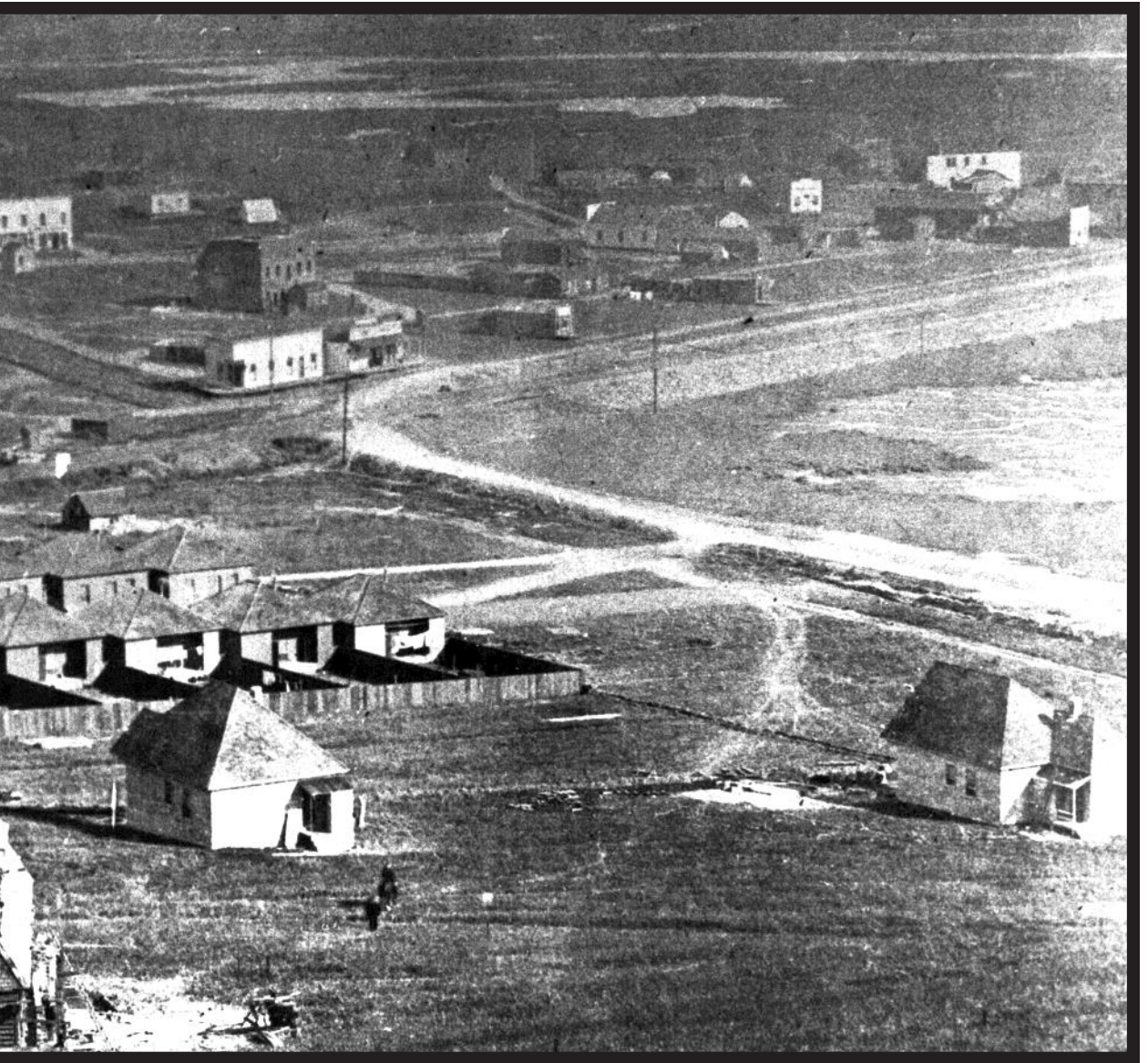
The cast includes Richard Friedlander, David Irving, Rachel Kaplan, Abhi Katyal, Katina Letheule, Shay Oglesby-Smith, Lorelee Windsor and Vicki Zabarte. Directed by Michael Sally. Performances are Fridays and Saturdays at 8 pm with Sunday Matinees at 2:00 pm on January 27 and February 3. The show plays through February 23. Tickets are \$22 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, February 17 at 2 pm. Dinner is at the Hotel Mac and tickets for this performance are \$50.





*This summer of 1901 photo from our Don Church Collection is one of our earliest
which buildings are the oldest in town. 150 Washington
This photo #0071-DC was enhanced*



*Best images of Point Richmond. Smokey Row is in the foreground. You can see
on Avenue is next to the later destroyed Critchett Hotel.
enced by Thomas Mercer-Hursh.*

Brooks Island

by George Coles

It is probably time that the residents of “Isla de Nuestra Senoa de Guadalupe”, now known as Point Richmond and its surroundings, know what has been happening on neighboring “Isla de Carmen”, otherwise known as “Sheep Island”, “Rocky Island”, “Gargaravich’s Island” and “Brooks Island”.

Describing these happenings is complicated by the fact that they have involved our fellow humans for about 2000 years. This is particularly confused by the meddling of the past fifty years which was dedicated to increasing our understanding of Brooks Island past.

People lived on the island for a long time without significant depletion of the generous subsistence resources. I have been investigating the past, along with 12 other sites, for fifty years or so, attempting to meet certain responsibilities for various people and things; so this article is primarily oriented toward responsibilities.

The first of these is to concerned Native Americans who view what we are doing as digging up their ancestors. Traditional archeologists practically ignored this factor in the past. They thought they should be thanked for telling the world of a peoples past. As far as the Native Americans were concerned, they knew their past and what were we doing digging up grandma.

We, in the early times of excavation did not meet this responsibility at all. Later, much of what happened in the archaeological community to bring about awareness and laws protecting the rights of Native American people came from what we were doing on this island. (This deserves another article if you would enjoy it.)

The next area of responsibility is to my students. Around 650 of my Contra College Students plus around 50 outside archaeologists and interested neighbors participated in our various

excavations and associated activities. My effort, in field work, was to help the students think into the objectives of our research and achieve a sort of colleague status with me and visiting archaeologists. I think this worked as many students became professionals in anthropology, of which prehistoric archaeology is an aspect. Several students became anthropology department chairmen in major universities. One of my freshman students being well advised, made the initial motion in the Southwestern Anthropological Association which led to the formation of the Society for California Archeology. This is now an organization of about 1000 people and recognized internationally. I was on the founding committee my students participated in the organizing, and this organization provided the base of action from which communication and understanding of the role of the Native Americans could influence the work of all archaeologists in California. It became a model for other states as well. It also provided a political base which led to joining archaeologists and Native Americans in the formation of the California Native American Heritage Commission. The Bill for this was introduced by our assemblyman, John T. Knox. The content was written by three Native Americans and three archeologists. I had the honor of being one of the archeologists and Dave Fredrickson, one of our crew, was one. After 43 years it is still functioning in defense of Native American rights. The bill required that all sites have a Native American Observer. It also addresses burial care, museum, and participation in excavation decisions. Increased site protection also came from N E P A and C E Q A.

What about the integrity of sites? Once a site is excavated, that portion is no longer available as an information resource. Our records are accurate,



Looking west across the beachfront of Brooks Island. The Midden is on the left, the form of a shellmound rather lens like but eroded on the bay side - excavation is at vertical surfaces. People in picture are students,

materials are retained and portions to be given to Native American controlled museums and other museums as designated. The site has become part of the archeological literature..

And what about information for the community? The Richmond Museum of History has agreed to house and curate all of the materials from our sites. This will mean the only total Richmond prehistoric exhibit anywhere will be here in Richmond where it can be readily viewed and used in explaining aspects of the past to local adults and children..

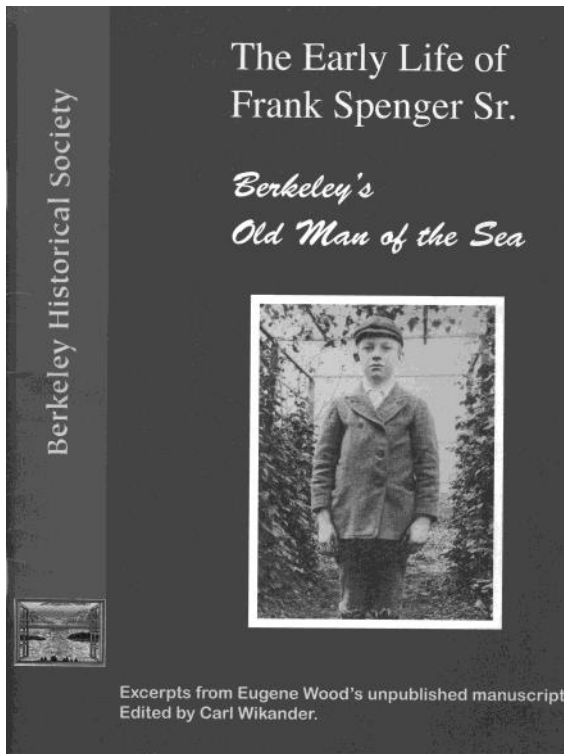
But what about the implication of the sites? Yes, I will need another article to report to you as much detail as I can about the way of life of the

people of two villages of our nearby island.

But what about operations? We followed the rules but we had a lot of problems and often much fun. Yes, we were joined by Bing Crosby and Trader Vic who hunted the birds they brought to the island. We used up several boats, risked student lives in storms, had so many alliances among our crew members that I had myself ordained by the Universal Life Church so I could perform weddings. I think I've done 42 weddings and only 2 have ended in divorce.

As you have probably determined by now, I have only begun to tell you of your neighborhood island and its people. If you would like a series, it can be arranged.

Thanks to PRHA member Burl Wiles for a copy of the Berkeley Historical Society's publication about the early life of Frank Spenger Sr., of the legendary Spenger's Grotto restaurant. I thought our readers might enjoy this. This chapter takes up when very young Frank runs away from his Berkeley home to his aunt in Point Richmond. When he finds that the aunt has moved away he befriends locals that include a blacksmith and a "cathouse madam."



Frank settled into a comfortable routine after his first few days in Point Richmond. He hadn't planned it that way, but his movements from morning until night fitted into a loose pattern that seemed to repeat itself. He was a more skillful fisherman than many adults, having absorbed much knowledge and technique from the fishermen who supplied his father's store and who worked around the net yards in Berkeley. He had been taken out in the fishing dories many times on holidays and weekends and knew the shoreline of San Pablo Bay as few other boys did. He knew the phases of the moon, the tides, and the general weather conditions that made for good fishing.

At first, the adults with whom he came in contact were quite surprised at the size of some of Frank's catches, and some questioned him rather closely as to the type of equipment he used, the size of hook, the depth of water fished in, and especially, the bait. Jim, the foreman of the dairy, after becoming one of Frank's best fish customers, was always questioning him about some phase of fishing. Jim had a big family and soon found that feeding them fish two or three times a week relieved the pressure on his skimpy pocketbook. Sometimes he gave Frank a little cash in return for the never-ending supply of bass, perch, halibut, flounder, and other species he brought to the dairy, but mostly he traded him cheese, milk, and cream in return.

After Frank had slept in the piano box for about ten days, he told him that he was staying over on the other side of the Point with an elderly aunt and uncle in their little shack. He said that he had to sleep on the floor with just an old coat over him and threw in some other heart-rending details dredged up from his imagination. He let Jim get the impression that the aunt and uncle would be quite happy if he could find some other place to stay. This was how Frank finally came to stay in the dairy storeroom on nice clean hay with a heavy old horse blanket to keep him warm. IN his fish trading with Jim, he acquired a few extra clothes, such as some bib overalls, a spare shirt, some underwear that Jim's wife sent over from the large supply used by her eleven kids. Probably the biggest advantage of his friendship with Him was that when he had especially good fishing luck he was able to store the unsold fish under refrigeration at the dairy. Dan Edgertown, the driver of the big perchersons, became a good customer, as did Mr. Sullivan, the blacksmith. Several times during his first weeks in Point Richmond, big Dan had let him

take the reins and drive his beautiful pair of matched draft horses all the way to San Pablo Avenue. Frank thought that, next to being a locomotive engineer, being a teamster on a heavy dray was probably the best way to earn a living.

On his way back from his first trip driving the horses, he passed a small house with a good-sized yard that was entirely devoted to growing vegetables. An elderly couple was watering and hoeing in the garden. They were Italian.

"Hello," said Frank, leaning on the fence. The man waved and rested on the hoe handle.

"Mister, I work for some fishermen down on the bay. Sometimes we have extra fish left over. How would you like to trade vegetables for some fresh perch and halibut and stuff?"

The little old man looked at Frank for a moment, moping his forehead with a red bandana. "Sure, a-why not. I gotta lotsa vegetables. Where's a fish, kid?"

"I'll come by tomorrow morning, mister, early, Bye."

Frank took off and headed for the waterfront. He figured that the mid-morning conditions would make good fishing, and with the number of people he was now supplying – Jim, big Dan, Mr.s Sullivan, and now the Italian family - a couple of fishing sessions a day would be necessary.

"Idle hands make mischief," they say. On that basis, Frank had to be the least mischievous boy in Point Richmond. He would get up early, generally before dawn, and start fishing. If his luck was good he continued until he had more than he would need. On the way back his first stop was generally in the alley at the madam's back door. It might seem strange to many people that she would be up at this time, but actually, Madam Sally, like many of her opposite numbers who ran cat houses throught the country, was a very hard working gal. For one thing, riding heard on a group of young tarts who were confined for weeks at a time as though they were in jail wasn't the easiest thing in the world. As ion all situations such as this, personalities of divergent types soon grated on one another.

This was one of the main reasons for the fairly

rapid turnover of personnel in the average house. Then again, there was the type of customers they catered to. Very few came from the more sober, settled part of the community. Certain men would sooner have been found dead than coming out of a whorehouse. Understandably, most of the people who frequented these dives were single, youngish, generally drinkers, some odd balls, and a few older characters for whom this had become a way of life since their youth. The latter group generally caused the most trouble.

Another reason the Madam Sally was generally up this early was that some of the girls had entertained men all night. These were generally the so-called high rollers, single men with better incomes, or patrons who had come to town from elsewhere for a touch of nightlife until their bankrolls ran out. Their types generally had to be awakened and gotten out of the house as early as possible, and as quietly. Getting some of the more bleary eyed ones up after a night of carousing wasn't the easiest thing in the world.

Strange to say, this was where Frank began to make some of the better tips of his new career. He would knock quietly on the back door, and sometimes instead of inspecting his catch, Sally would hustle him off to Mr. Sullivan's livery stable to wake old Fred up and tell him to bring the rig to the back door. Frank would drop his catch by the back door and hurry past Mac's Hotel to the blacksmith's ship. There he would bang on the little door that was cut into the big sliding door of the smithy that was [ulled back during the day. Most of the time Fred was hard to arouse, but it could be done if one pounded loud enough. He would get the message, but it would take the better part of a half hour to get on his feat, harness the mare, open the big door, and get down to Sally's back door.

Here some half-drunk type would be helped out to the buggy as quietly as possible so as not to arouse the neighbors. However, many of them were up and around anyway, and the activities at Sally's back door were often the source of much entertainment and comment. In Sally's business, as in most legitimate enterprises, about 10 percent

of the customers caused about 90 percent of the trouble. With her type of troublemaker, it was a tossup as to whether it was better to have a scene at the front door in the evening when they sought admittance or to derive some revenue from them and take a chance on a peaceful departure during the night or the next day at dawn.

Certainly one to be included in that 10 percent was a fellow who came around about once a month. He as of British origin, obviously had a better than average education, and was employed in the Mare Island Navy yard in the town of Vallejo. When the urge was upon him, he would travel the intervening twenty miles to Sally's by train, no doubt preferring a town distant from where he worked for his montly excursions. When fairly sober, he was an asset to the fun and frivolity of the whorehouse, being able to play the piano well and having a good voice and fairly large repertoire.

Sometime on a weekend, Sally's parlor took on quite a festive atmosphere, with several customers waiting for the services of a favorite girl as she became disengaged from duties upstairs. Sally peddled quite a volume of wine to them, at two bits a glass. Some arrived, of course, with quite a gallorage of other beverages inside them already. If too drunk, they weren't admitted. The Duke, as the Britisher was nicknamed, generally arrived a little high and preferred to postpone the amorous part of the night's activities until the wee hours of the morning, when it was his custom to utilize the charms of the hot-eyed Carmen for the remaining hours of his visit. This is not to imply that the Duke had a sexual appetite of satyr-like proportions. His physical encounters with the amply proportioned Carmen never lasted more than ten or fifteen minutes at the most. The rest of the night they snored noisily, side by side, until aroused by the vigilant Sally at dawn.

The Duke's visits were looked forward to a great deal by the girls as a welcome break in their otherwise monotonous lives. As was the custom in those days, people enjoyed singing the tear-jerking ballads so popular at the turn of the century: "She Was Only a Bird in a Gilded Cage", "Father, Dear

Father, Come Home to Us Now," "The Face on the Bar Room Floor," and similar chromos. The Duke sang and played them with great feeling and finesse, joined in by the maudlin patrons sitting around on the Victorian furniture of the parlor. Frank's familiarity with those old songs probably stemmed from those days, when he sat out front under the tree listening to the sounds of merriment issuing from within.

As the evening wore on, the action in the parlor took on the volume and emotion of a Billy Sunday revival meeting. As he nipped from his private whiskey flask and sipped a little from the endless glasses of wine bought for him by the other patrons for his musical contributions to the festivities, the Duke's accent became more British, with Shakespearean overtones. All the girls became "wenches," Sally he called "Lady Guinevere", and Carmen became his "Gypsy Ballerina".

Luckily for Carmen, she elected to remain in a field where she knew she could make a dollar. Had she ever had to depend on her performance as a dancer for her daily bread, she would have become slim indeed. Like all girls of Latin origin, she had attempted the fiery dances of Spain as a child, mostly when no one was around. In between her customers, the Duke would sometimes play excerpts from the opera Carmen, and she would strike a brave flamenco stance and click her heels noisily on the floor. This she would follow with galumphings around the room, landing on the balls of her peasant feet with all of her 155 pounds, shaking the wooden house to its foundations.

Sally put up with a certain amount of this, but only if it didn't interfere with the main purpose of her bawdy establishment. Carmen gave her the most trouble on this score and was a very difficult woman to deal with, especially since she assumed the attitude that the Duke came to Sally's solely for her companionship. It generally took a day or two after one of Duke's visits for Carmen to come down out of cloud nine and quit trying to ramrod the other girls.

continued in the next issue.....

Richmond Chiefs of Police:

Although James P. Arnold was the first Chief of Police appointed under the charter, he certainly wasn't the last.

Once he took office on July 6,, 1909, the Richmond Police Department was officially “born”. The department has produced a distinguished list of proud and accomplished law enforcement leaders.

- 1. James P. Arnold: July 1909 to July 1914**
- 2. Charles H. Walker: July 1914 to August 1919**
- 3. W. H. Wood: August 1919 to Spring 1924**
- 4. Dan Cox: Spring 1924 to May 1933**
- 5. Lewis Emmett Jones: May 1933 to 1947**
- 6. Wymann W. Vernon: December 1948 to October 1949**
- 7. Ernest F. Phipps: October 1949 to June 1955**
- 8. Charles E. Brown: June 1955 to February 1968**
- 9. Robert B. Murphy: May 1968 to April 1971**
- 10. Lourn G. Phelps: May 1971 to August 1974**
- 11. Leo C. Garfield: November 1974 to September 1983**
- 12. Earnest R. Clements: September 1983 to December 1993**
- 13. William M. Lansdowne: June 1994 to August 1998**
- 14. Edward Duncan: August 1998 to August 1999 (Interim)**
- 15. Joseph Samuels Jr: Sep 1999 to August 2003**
- 16. Charles Bennett: August 2003 to December 2004 (Interim)**
- 17. Terry Hudson: January 2005 to January 2006 (Interim)**
- 18. Christopher J. Magnus: January 2006 to present**



*Chief James P. Arnold
PRHA Archive Photo #0290 is from
our Don Church Collection*

Linguistic Quips

**I used to be a bank but,
then I lost interest.**

**They told me I had type-A
but, it was a Type-O**

**I stayed up all night to see
where the sun went,
and then it dawned on me.**

**I'm reading a book on anti-gravity.
I just can't put it down.**

**Broken pencils
are pointless.**



Velcro - what a rip-off!

Thanks to PBD

Q. If you were to spell out numbers, how far would you have to go until you would find the letter 'A'?

A. One Thousand

EXCLUSIVE OVER 90 CLUB

Lupe Padilla Lopez - 99
Shoney Gustafson - 95
Jerry Cerkowicz, Sr. - 92
Grace Cerkowicz - 90
Steve Wyrick - 95
Roger Wiese - 97
Madelilne Bellando Albright - 94
Mid Dornan - 91
Reva Ward 98
Al Frosini - 93
Bernard Dietz - 97
Charlotte Kermabon Birsinger - 95
Edna Hathaway - 94
Gretchen Van Tassel Shaw - 93
Viola Lala Kennedy- 93
Lee Christian - 93

Delphina Franco Tawney - 94
Eunice Ruth Hursh - 94
Mark Gebhart - 99
George Coles - 90
George Leroy Williams - 90
Billie Bonham Shaw - 90

***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. Thank you to those who
update these numbers.**

Birthdays

February

BOY SCOUTS OF
AMERICA

Mark Gebhart

Sarah Wilson

Steven Mertle

Fred Beesley

Billy Bob Karl

James P. Kenny

Chris Rotting

Walter MacMillan-

Connie Healy

Marcos Rotting

Arlene Rodini

Barnaby Edwards

Landow Howe

Rowene MacMillan-

Ethel MacMillan

Kim Ward

Velma Healy

Anne Brussok Roth

Jared Bigard

Lupe Padilla Lopez

Allegra Fenton

Kay Mayfield Madison

Artrese Morrison

Adele Bruno Waymire

Anne Roth

Gretchen Van Tassel

Shaw

Mitzi Kruse

Brenda McKinley

Frank Smith

Leonard Smith

Mary Shur

March

GIRL SCOUTS

CAMP FIRE GIRLS

Dale Hawkins

Karolyn Macdiarmid

Carol Paasch

JoAnn Bray

Carol Darling

Claire E. Crowson

Dolly Frosini

Reba Downs

Kathe Kiehn

Ben Bray

Janice Jones

Jean Knox

Lavinia Karl

Brian Richardson

Mary Valenzano

Isobel Folsom

Rachel Palfini

Myron Pestana

Delphina Franco Tawney

Mike Smith

Lorna Huffstetter

George LeRoy Williams

Lucile Cottingham

Meyer

Henry Marchitello

Evan Jahromi

Kenneth Madison

Kara Piantidosi

Michael Smith

Tom Butt

Harlan Butt

Ryland Thomas Butt

Thanks to a grant from the Gateway
Foundation the little PRHA
museum will be getting a big screen
television to show off our historic
photo collection!

Thanks to Pat Pearson for keeping
the local markets stocked with
TPIT!

Thanks to Mary Crosby and Tom
Piazza for mailing the last issue of
TPIT!

Most boat owners name their boats.
What is the most popular boat name
requested?

“Obsession”

Thank you James W. Hayes for finding this newspaper article on Robert Henry Botts printed in the Albuquerque Daily Citizen dated June 1, 1898, Volume 12, Number 193, Page 2.

ALBUQUERQUE FLYING MACHINE

R. H. BOTTS INVENTS A SHIP THAT WILL FLY THROUGH THE AIR

It may remain for an Albuquerque man to make possible one of the predictions of the famous prophecy of Mother Shipman, namely, fly through the air.

The many flying machines that have thus far been brought out, having failed in their successful realization of their inventors, the public is beginning to look upon the air-ship man as kin to the perpetual motion advocate.

The surprise will be all the greater to the people and the victory more sweet to R.H. Botts, the inventor of the latest flying machine, a representation of the model of which can be seen in Berry's First street drug store.

If Mr. Botts' machine fails to come up to expectations, more than he will be disappointed, as everyone who see the kite-shaped affair feels the inventor has hit upon the true solution of sailing through the air at last.

The miniature model is called "Cuba". As stated, the craft will be in the form of a huge kite, probably 50 feet across. The propulsion paddles are placed above the kite attached to a mast which extends below it. Ropes are attached to the bottom of this mast which extends and supports the side of the kite.

The propelling paddles are 16 feet wide, and their motion will be regulated by a smaller system of paddles at the end of the kite, where is also placed the rudder.

Directly under the kite is the basket, where the operator will take his place. From here he can operate a small gasoline engine, which will furnish the means of locomotion for the machine.

Mr. Botts is confident that he has learned the secret of regulating the machine's course in the air, a point in which other inventors have had their chief failure. Mr. Botts believes that his ship will carry about 600 pounds.

Mr. Botts eventually brought his flying machine to Point Richmond where it was unfortunately destroyed on Nichol Nob in a late winter windstorm. He never rebuilt it. For more on Botts flying machine see James W. Hayes article in TPIT issue XXVIII-4.

*You can find it online at
<http://www.alkos.com/prha/newsletters/XXVIII-4.pdf>*

Deaths.....

Betty Frances (Jenkins) Moisenco

March 20, 1922 – November 13, 2012

Former resident of Point Richmond, Betty (Jenkins) Moisenco, died peacefully November 13, 2012, in Sebastopol, California at the age of 90. She was preceded in death by her sister, Roberta Jenkins Smith of Richmond, and husband of 64 years, Alexander Moisenco. Betty is survived by son and daughter-in-law Doug and Sandy Moisenco of Saratoga, daughter Christine Moisenco of Sebastopol, grandchildren Sequa Randall, Cameron Moisenco, Kiejah Thomas, Sam Moisenco, and four great-grandchildren. Betty was born and raised in Point Richmond. Her father, Robert “Bert” Jenkins, worked for Standard Oil. Betty attended U.C. Berkeley and graduated with a B.A. in Political Science and worked as an administrative assistant in the engineering department at Kaiser’s Richmond Shipyards before marrying Alexander in 1945. A private internment will be held at the Madronia Cemetery in Saratoga.



Now at the museum we have redesigned and reprinted walking tour brochures. Thanks to our board member Bonnie Jo Cullison for editing and expanding it. Also thanks to Jan Brown of Spokewise for doing a totally awesome job of designing it and to Richard Lompa for printing it for us gratis and to the Richmond Visitors and Convention Bureau for supporting the project.

Drop by for a copy and take the walking tour yourself.

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 March 29, 2013. 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: Norma Wallace , President. 510-236-6968

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:
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Point Richmond, CA 94801

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Jerry Cerknowicz	Proof/Information
Pam Wilson	Membership Info
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Burl Willes	Information
Berkeley Historical Society	Article
Bonnie Jo Cullison	Information

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Visit our website
PointRichmondHistory.org

***Thanks ALKO office supply for
hosting our website***

Richmond Museum of History 510-235-7387
Red Oak Victory Information 510-235-7387
Rosie the Riveter Park 510-232-5050



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