THIS POINT-

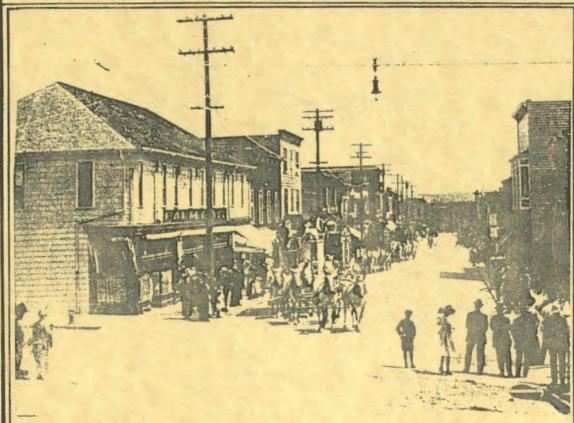
NEWSLETTER

A PUBLICATION OF THE POINT RICHMOND HISTORY ASSOCIATION

Vol. II, No. 8

April, 1984

75 cents



A CIRCUS PARADE ROUNDING THE CORNER OF WASHINGTON AND RICHMOND AVENUES.

THE TENT WAS ERECTED AT MACDONALD AND FIRST STREET, IN A LOT OPPOSITE THE BALL

PARK. THE PARADE STARTED ON MACDONALD AND ENDED IN THE POINT. 1910 -Don Church Coll.

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in time

and HISTORY FESTIVAL

SUNDAY, MAY 20, 1984

Linsley Hall
235 WASHINGTON AVENUE, POINT RICHMOND

beginning at 1:00 P.M.

with a POT LUCK LUNCHEON

followed by
VIVEAD SHKURKIN

authority on
ANTIQUE MAPS
with amphasis on Point Richmond
pluplus

LOCAL AUTHORITIES, TO DO SOME

LC LOCATING & STORY TELLING
(If (Ifuyou're an authority, come prepared,
If off not, come prepared to listen and learn)

PLUS

DISPLAYS OF PHOTOS FROM THE

For Information, call 235-4222

Suggestion for pot-luck participation; If your last name begins with A-H, bring a dessert; If it begins with J-P, bring a main dish; Q-Z, bring a salad. If you are bringing guests who cannot participate, a donation to cover costs will be appreciated (\$3.50)

* THISTORY ASSOCIATION NOTES **

THE MARCH MEETING . . . LIVING HISTORY

California's colorful history came alive at the combined March meeting of the San Pablo, El Cerrito, Richmond and Point Richmond historical groups in Linsley Hall.

Introducing restaurateur Marco Gonzalez of San Pablo to open the evening was Ann Roberts, also of the San Pablo Society, who arranged the entire program.

Gonzalez described his journey into the past, inspired by the television presentation of "Roots", noting his surprise at discovering Indian ancestry in a North Mexico/Arizona tribe that played a part in Mexico's early political and military upheavals of the 1800's. Garbed in a Mexican soldier's uniform, he displayed and described flags of early California and weapons of the era. Little Marco, jr. appeared with his father, and wore a copy of a Mexican child's garment of the period. Gonzalez next introduced members of the New Helvetia group in a cavalcade of living history. Portrayals included roughly dressed and authentically armed Russian and French-Canadian fur traders, hunters and agents who dealt with the famed Hudson's Bay Company; French-Canadian women, much in demand in the early settlements as makers of moccasins (they tanned and cut the leather as well); and beaver-hatted agents and gamblers (occasionally the con-men of the day) of Scottish and other national origins. Each of the figures described his or her part in the daily lives of the early settlers, and pointed out the authentic touches to the reconstructed costumes worn. Weapons carried were antique firearms, collected by group members, who noted that most were shipped to Canada, America and Mexico from France - relics of the Napoleonic wars. The living history program is presented throughout the year in Petaluma, San Juan Bautista, Fort Ross, Sutter's Fort, the State Railroad Museum and other locations. Special presentations for individual groups are also made by the dedicated company of history buffs, most of whom are from the younger generation.

We know members of all four groups involved will join us in our special thanks to Ms. Roberts and Mr. Gonzalez for arranging this fascinating historical program.

-Frankie Greenlaw

MEMBERS

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

Louise Novarini Ruth McKay Victoria Schultz Robert Feyder

And welcome to the following new members: Hope E. Lee

C. O. Bryant

If a red check mark appears here

your membership dues are (or were) due as

To ensure receiving you next issue of "This Point in Time", and to keep it and other worthwhile projects going, please mail in your membership now — Since we are a non-profit organizations, your donations are tax-deductible, and greatly appreciated! Please fill out the form on the last page and send it to Pam Wilson, 521 Western Drive.

LIVING HISTORY SCHEDULE - 1984

April 21 State Railroad Museum
May 26, 27 Petaluma Adobe
June 15,16,17 San Juan Bautista –
living history + fandango

June 23 Fort Ross

August 4,5 Sutter's Fort September 1,2 Fort Ross

October 13 State Railroad Museum

October 21,22 Petaluma Adobe

October 27,28 San Juan Bautista (tentative)

November 10 Sutter's Fort

The portrayals at different dates in one location will not be the same — they will show different periods in the history of that place.

For specific information about the event presented at each place, contact Glen Burch, State Historian II, Northern Regional Headquarters, 3033 Cleveland Avenue, Suite 110, Santa Rosa, 95401, California; or call him at 707 - 576-2314.

ARCHIVES REPORT . . .

Many thanks to Sheila Fostiak and Donna Roselius who showed up for the first indexing session which was held march 16 at the Roselius residence. We worked on the first six newsletters, learning the routine as we progressed through the publications. It is a fun project, providing an excellent opportunity to study Point Richmond history in detail while allowing time to exchange news, both of a historical and more recent nature.

We are planning other indexing get-togethers — the next tentatively planned for April 3, in the afternoon. Would you be interested in joining us? (Call 233-6243, or-235-4222 for details.)

-Teresa Albro

In order to utilize information in the original weekly "Point Counterpoint", we will have to complete our collection. Several missing copies have been located, thanks to those who have kept them over the years, and now the only copies missing from our files are:

Vol. I – No. 11, June 17,1966

Vol. II – No. 47, Feb. 21, 1968

No. 46, Feb. 14, 1968 No. 34, Nov. 24, 1967

Anyone having these newsletters, and willing to contribute them to the Association's collection, please call 235-4222.

THANKS, DUE TO ...

Many people directly or indirectly, are helping the Association to accomplish its purposes. Besides our Board members, all of whom volunteer time to this newsletter besides their 'official' duties, more people are participating. Henry O'Hara, Catherine Burchell and Aileen Conn addressed invitations for the Mayor's reception in February, (by the way, the Association received invitations via the newsletter, since there were not enough printed to cover our membership); indexers who have worked or will work on old publications to make them useable for reference work include Teresa Albro, Sheila Fostiak, Rosemary Corbin, Pam Wilson, Liz McDonald, Clarice Stribley, Bob Peckham, and possibly others; Frankie Greenlaw has begun to record our meetings; and Alexandra Gautraud has offered to conduct interviews for publication.

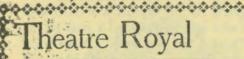
The Richmond Museum Association has been the source of much information and clarification; and particularly because of their informed members like Stan Nystrom, we get answers to questions, and benefit from their research.

REFINERY TOUR . . .

A Chevron Refinery tour can be scheduled for a weekday in May. So far only five people have signed up, however, and although the limit is 45, we are quite sure that the lower limit is something above five. If you are interested, please call 235-4222 and give us your name and preferred day.

Marking our second anniversary, the meeting will begin with a pot luck luncheon, followed by election of the Board of Directors and a short but illuminating program by map publisher and authority, Vlad Shkurkin. A large composite map, that we have been working on, will be ready to display, and it will show what existed in Point Richmond as early as 1916. We will invite some of our knowledgeable members to explain what was going on in town, based on the map. Mark your calendar now!

-Donna Roselius



No. 316 Richmond avenue, Well Warmed and Cosy, THE PLACE TO SPEND

ad from Don Church collection - 1910

THIS EVENING

No. 816 RICHMOND AVENUE

Latest and Best Motion Pictures
Four Recis Each Show
Two Shows Each Evening.
First Show at 7:15—Second at 8:40.
Four Changes Each Week
Sunday, Thesday, Thursday and Saturday.
Ten Cents Admission.

Matinees on Saturdays and Sundays



Points in the Past

Articles that appeared during this month, 70, 60, 50, 40 and 30 years ago, from the Richmond Independent and the Point Richmond Record, courtesy of the Richmond Library.

70 YEARS AGO ...

"Arthur Livingston, who has been manager of the Royal Theatre on the west side for the past few years, last evening tendered his resignation to the owners of that popular showhouse.

"Livingston has accepted a position with the magazine department of the Standard oil works."

-April 13, 1914

Don Church notes that the Royal opened on January 15, 1910 in the Arnold Building at 316 Richmond avenue, after it had been remodeled to suit the purpose. Two men, named "Thompson and Ringer" by the newspaper, and "Button and Ringer" by Don Church, leased the building, and later sold to a man named Cummings.

Don says, "We kids got in for 5cents.
... a girl played the piano, with 'hearts and flowers' for sad scenes and fast music for the Indian and cowboy pictures...

I rewound reels each evening and got to see the show free, and also an occasional 5 cent tip."

"At midnight last night 'The Most Popular West Side Boy Contest' came to a close and . . . Monroe Moore easily walked away with victory. To him the \$50.00 in gold coin will be awarded this morning. Moore's total count was 452,614. Joe Novarini was second with 232,180 and to him \$5.00 in gold coin

will be given. Arthur Cramer was third with 188,025 and will be awarded a pass to the Royal Theatre for one year." Other local youths receiving large numbers of votes were Walter Paasch, Marshall Niedecker, Stanley Pressler, Eliner Conn, Raymond Johnson and Albert Neu.

-April 11, 1914

(How these boys received the number of votes from a total Richmond population of approximately 10 -12,000 may require further searching through the records)

ad from Don Church Collection, 1914

- 0 -

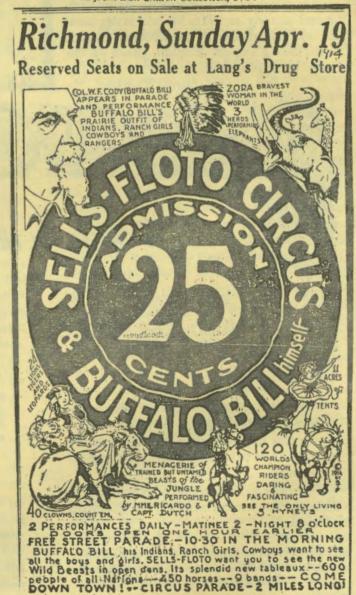
"Buffalo Bill (himself) will lead the circus parade into Richmond tomorrow at 10:30 in the morning. The procession will march from Washington avenue to Twenty Third street. This 'last of his class and kind' Buffalo Bill - famed as a living figure during the sanguinary days of the warpath to these days of the peace council - has now joined his picturesque talents to the Sells-Floto (circus group)."

April 18, 1914

from a 1910 ad for Richmond Light and Power Co., courtesy Richmond Museum



Handy Stove



"The workingmen engaged in boring the municipal tunnel have now reached the 350-foot mark and the work is progressing very satisfactorily, according to the contractors who have the immense task in hand. Yesterday work was started on the west approach to the big hole through the hills and within a few days a bore will be started on the waterfront side of the city."

However, the new bore definitely complicated matters and a few days later it was reported that "Overcome by a rush of gas fumes W.A.Campton, employed in the municipal tunnel, was rescued from possible death by suffocation by a number of fellow workers late yesterday afternoon... (apparently) the exploding of a dynamite blast on the opposite side of the tunnel was responsible for the accident. The blower . . . was not large enough to handle the inrush of gas and in order to prevent a repetition of the incident a larger blower will be installed.

"This is the sixth accident of this kind within the past two days, five men narrowly escaping serious injury when a premature blast threw up a heavy gas Thursday."

-April 17 & 19, 1914

"So that George S. Wall may purchase the old Standard avenue school house and move it to the Harbor Center tract as a site for the city hall after October first next, the council last evening after a half hour's strenuous debate voted to ask the board of education to advertise the old school building for sale.

Mayor Ludewig voted against the measure, feeling "that the council should hold another conference with Wall and urge that the money used in moving the old building and in refitting it be devoted to the erection of a new building."

(Since 1909, the city had rented the ground floor of the 'Nicholl City Hall' at 210 Washington avenue, for \$50 a month.

—April 28, 1914



60 YEARS AGO ...

"The new terminal of the Richmond-San Rafael ferry at Castro Point will be ready for use by the first of June, and the third ferry boat of the company, now under construction at the James Robinson ship yards at Alameda, will be ready by that time it was announced today by Mose Moch, local manager of the ferry company.

"Work on the new slips is progressing rapidly. A pile driver is at work, with two crews and already the pier and slips are beginning to take form. The ferry company has taken out a permit for a terminal station, rest rooms and office building, to be erected at the slips . . . (and) more than an acre of parking space for automobiles is provided . . . The street car company has prepared a roadbed to the new terminal, and has ties and rails on the ground. It is now preparing to put up the poles for the trolley line.

"The new ferry boat will be named the City of San Rafael it has been decided. It will be the largest of the three boats operated by the company, and this boat will permit 20 minute service on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays and faster service on other days. Seven minutes each way is cut off the running time of the boats by the location of the new slips.

"The ferry company is spending approximately half a million dollars on the new terminal and ferry boat."

(Ferry service began to San Rafael in 1916, with the first ferry, Charles Van Damme, launched on May 4, 1916.) —April 11, 1924 "Acting on a tip that rum-runners were anchored back of the Municipal Wharf, the shot-gun squad of the Richmond police scared three San Francisco fishermen into jumping into the bay.

"The squad arrived at the wharf at four o'clock this morning, and at their appearance a motor launch hastily shoved off. The police called to the men in the launch to stop, but they kept going. The police then fired across the bow of the boat with a shot gun and revolver. That was evidently something the men had not expected. They were so anxious to show that they would come back that they didn't take any chances 'sticking'em up'. They stopped their motor and jumped overboard and towed their boat to shore behind the wharf, wading through deep mud.

"The men were not held nor were their names ascertained, because a thorough search of the little craft failed to reveal anything but fish . . . Some of the fish were in bad condition though, the police said, who thought the circumstances surrounding the presence of the boat off shore here rather suspicious." (or fishy?)

-April 16, 1924

50 YEARS AGO ...

"Pete Boljat, operator of a beer parlor at 219 Standard avenue, on the West Side is in Cottage hospital suffering from first and second degree burns, cuts and bruises, following an explosion of a 50-gallon barrel of alleged illicit whiskey in the cellar back of his establishment this forenoon. Fire broke out in the cellar after the explosion, which blew Boljat through the window...

"Police claim that Boljat stuck an electric needle into the barrel of whiskey in an attempt to age the liquor. Fumes of the whiskey were exploded by the electric spark . . . Investigation of the cellar after the fire,

police said, revealed another 50-gallon barrel of alleged bootleg whiskey and more than 1000 gallons of wine, which police assert also is illegal."

-April 5, 1934

"Residents of the West Side, 221 in number, last night petitioned the city council for a new fire truck for Station No. 1. It was asserted that the present apparatus is old and inadequate and that a conflagration at Point Richmond could not be properly controlled...

"It was pointed out that the present engine has great difficulty in negotiating the hills on the West Side when fire alarms are turned in. Chief W.P.Cooper admitted that the engine is old but said the equipment is all that is now available. He said he had given orders for the truck to take the hills in low gear, feeling it was better that it should arrive late than not at all."

-April 24, 1934

- Teresa Albro

40 YEARS AGO ...

IN THE SWIM

"Richmond's youth this week greeted announcement of the opening of the municipal Natatorium with hearty approval and promptly filled the pool from opening to closing time. It is expected that this year the pool will break all records for attendance. Operated by the city of Richmond, the pool is open every day of the week with the exception of Monday."

—April 6, 1944

IN THE LEAD

"Standard Oil Company of California today has announced the creation of a new petroleum research company whose purpose is to 'improve present products used by the Army and Navy and to devise new weapons and processes.' For the future, it was also

disclosed, Standard plans the new company, California Research, as a bridge to reconversion from wartime to peacetime operations.

"Standard of California has confidence in this nation, this state, and its future. While we are still engaged in a life and death struggle with the end not yet nearly in sight, the company creates a new firm to give our fighting men and women the benefit of any new products and processes that might make their planes fly a little faster or a little farther; that will insure more efficient operation of submarine, truck, tank and airplane engines.

"The new company has a big field in which to carry out its work and program.

"But with the past records of Standard Oil Company of California, this field will, undoubtedly, produce some startling innovations for the war as well as for peace time."

-April 9, 1944

30 YEARS AGO ...

NOTES FROM CITY COUNCIL MEETING

"Two buildings will be offered to the highest bidder next Monday, under the hammer of Mayor Ed J.J.McKeegan. The public auction will be held at 8 p.m. in the council chamber.

"One building is the former West Side Branch Library at 109 Washington Avenue.

"... The Council referred to city manager to obtain reports of survey of Point Richmond residents on relocation of Key System buses in lieu of installing traffic signals at the intersection of Washington and Standard Avenues."

-April 6, 1954

NEW PARK SITE AT BRIDGE IS UNDER STUDY

"First study of a park proposed to be

located between the Richmond-San Rafael bridge approach and the ferry slip is scheduled tonight by the Recreation Advisory Board.

"A sketch of the suggested 103-acre beach park is also to be viewed by the city council during its Monday afternoon session at 2 o'clock.

"The drawing was prepared by the city planning division.

"The location of the park would give it a 180-degree sweep of the entire San Francisco bay area. From a scenic viewpoint visitors also will be able to look down at the bridge, according to the sketch.

"Facilities suggested include a children's playground area, beaches, numerous parking areas, a restaurant and one area set aside for a monument.

"Most of the land proposed for the park site is owned by the Blake Brothers quarry firm." -April 8, 1954

from Richmond Light & Power Ca, ad, courtesy Richmond



Milk Warmer for Baby

20 YEARS AGO ...

SWIMMING LESSONS

"More than 100 fourth grade students from Nystrom, Washington and Lincoln schools took part in the first session of 'Operation Waterproof, a pilot project for beginning swimmers, at the Richmond Plunge. The schools, PTA, and Red Cross are cosponsors."

-April 9, 1964

CITY TO REVOKE MARINA LICENSE

"Richmond City Councilmen have launched a two-pronged action aimed at revoking a dumping license now held by the operators of the Red Rock Marina and filing a \$4,000 claim against a bonding company to correct alleged violations of the license's provisions.

"With a 5 to 3 vote, Councilmen George Carroll, David Pierce and Milton Spinner dissenting, the council asked the Planning Commission to revoke the license and directed the city attorney's office to file the claim.

"The permit was issued to allow the marina developer, E.N.Kettenhofen, to dump construction materials and housing debris incidental to the development of a parking lot which would service a planned boat harbor...

"Public Works Director, Richard Lovejoy, claimed last night that the developer has failed to erect an adequate barrier around the dumping area to retain the fill material and that additional rip rap is needed. He estimated the cost of improvement at \$4,000.

"Councilmen W.A.Cannon and Clarence Erickson supported the action the council took on the matter following several minutes of heated discussion. Cannon claimed the permit should be revoked because the site is in '... one heck of a mess' and '... the developer has failed to live up to his agreements.'

"Councilman Pierce said he favored the claim against the bonding company but did not favor the revocation of the permir. He maintained Kettenhofen was working on a project which '... benefits the general public' by providing parking spaces for fishermen and boaters.

"Pierce added that Richmond has too few recreational facilities of the type now in operation at the marina. He claimed the city should encourage such an operation and not hamper it with the revocation of the permit.

"City Attorney James P. O'Drain advised the council that it should move toward the revocation of the permit and the filing of the claim against the bonding company or drop the matter altogether. He said by allowing the permit to continue in effect and then filing the claim for the money the council would be committing legal folly.

"O'Drain concluded that by such an action the bonding company might be able to prove in court that the city supported that type of dumping while it was seeking money to correct problems resulting from it.

"The marina is located north of Point Castro and the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge at the old ferry slips."

-April 7, 1964

PT. RICHMOND MAN GETS ALCOHOL FINE

"The state department of alcoholic beverage control announced it has accepted payment of \$250 from John C. McCulley, 2 West Richmond Ave., Pt. Richmond, in lieu of a suspension of his on-sale beer license.

"The licensee had been charged on Jan. 22 with six counts of sales to minors and permitting minors to consume."

-April 3, 1964

-Pam Wilson

Frank Dietrich

Leading Jeweler

WATCH INSPECTOR FOR SANTA FE R. R.

140 Washington Ave.

Point Richmond, Cal.

from 1910 Independent, courtesy Richmond Museum

STATE OF THE STATUE

In a March 2 letter from Susan Pontious, Executive Director of Inter Arts of Marin, an updated version of the financial status was reported, showing that approximately \$300 remains to complete the project in bonded bronze (\$10,000, if real bronze is used). A major and unexpected cost is the \$3,000 necessary to move the base and install it in the Triangle site. This cost could be significantly reduced if some of the labor and equipment could be donated. If anyone knows of a contractor who might do this, please ask them or contact Susan at 457-9744.

The total projected cost is \$19,375.50, including moving and installing the base. The estimated cost of the bronze plaque is \$500.

Donors of \$200 or more, as of March 2 are:

Donna & Tom Powers
Women's West Side
Improvement Club
Chevron U.S. A.
Charlotte Woods
Bernard Bernes
The Mechanics Bank
Richmond Sanitary
Service
Chevron Research
Company
Santa Fe Market
Point Richmond
History Association
Richmond Museum

Other donors include:

Association

Goldy Shrewsbury

Pamela Wilson

Bay & River Navigation Cooper and Clark John Saunders Maritime Properties Point Orient Restaurant Van Pac Carriers

Edgar & Nell Brooker Elise Spinola Frieda Antonino Margaret Schilling Richmond Firefighters, Local 188 Boysie & Constance Day Mrs. Thomas Ryan George Batten Mr. & Mrs J. G. Fleming Robert & Bernice Stone Al and Gayle Kaufman Hotel Mac Restaurant Point Richmond Business Association Sailors Union of

Alan W. Bourke
Richmond Women's
City Club
El Cerrito Historical
Society
Tom & Lucretia Edwards

the Pacific

Maxine Mayer Bernard & Marie Dietz Albert & Ann Silva Leonard Brant, M.D.



artist Kirk St. Maur and the statue model from a West County Times photo

THE FUTURE OF BROOKS ISLAND

After being mined and quarried, sold, sought after and fought over; after being the scene of bizarre tragedies, fine archeological discoveries and zoological experiments, Isla de Carmen, Sheep Island or Brooks Island is in public ownership. And, it is about to be decided how the public should use their island.

The East Bay Regional Park District staff is beginning work on the Land Use-Development Plan for Brooks Island Regional Shoreline in Richmond. Anyone wishing to be included on the public hearing mailing list or to make suggestions conerning use use of the island may write to:

Karen Parsons Planning and Design Department East Bay Regional Park District Oakland, CA 94619

CHURCHES

This is the fourteenth and last installment of the minutes as recorded in the first record book of the First Methodist Church in the Point, dated 1900. It began with the Rev. Leak, first minister, and followed with the popular Rev. David Calfee's assignment. These minutes reflect the problems that developed and ways they dealt with the building of the church. Further records are being sought to continue the series on the church's history.

Point Richmond June 19'07

The meeting was opened by singing and prayer. The pastor stated the object of the meeting to find the sence (sic) of the members and contributors to the church, whether to proceed with the new church or not. 13 present.

Bro. Odell made the following motion. Moved that we authorize the board of trustees to mortgage lots 7 & 8 of block 4, amended map No. 1 of town of Richmond, for the purpose of securing money with which to proceed with the erection of the new church.

The motion was seconded and carried.

A bill for sewer was presented. It was moved and carried that we appoint a committee to solicit funds for paying this bill. The committee appointed were I. Lester, S.R. Pritchard and O.J.Dahl.

Adjourned M.E.Pritchard, <u>Sec'y</u> -Mid Dornan





10 Mr. A. Odell.

Mrs. A. Odeli.

MR. A. ODELL.

If there is a conecting link between the Richmend of 1900 and that of 1910, to Mr. A. Odell belongs that honor. To him we turn for records unpresented, for data unwritten. Mr. Odell is so much a part of historic Richmond that her people have come to look upon him as a sort of landmark

Mr. Odell was born in Indiana in 1836. By the death of his father he was left at an early age, to acquire an 'education as best he could. Much, of this he obtained by home study, later finishing a course in the Du Pau University at Greencastle, Ind. At the close of his college work, he chose teaching as his profession.

In 1862 he married Julia Archer and in 1888 came with his family from Terre Haute, Indiana, to California, locating at Salinas. When the Santa Fe began extending its lines toward the bay, Mr. Odell moved to San Pahlo to watch the development of what he felt would become a good business center. But he soon discovered that Richmond was to be the center of future activities in the production of a great manufacturing and commercial seaport.

Mr. Odell was quick to see the many advantages Richmond offers. Her position on the mainland, her miles of deep water that skirt her shores, her splendid shipping facilities—
The family was one of the first to locate here and to them is due the credit of founding many of the things now enjoyed.

Mrs. Odell has been a teacher of English for a number of years and many of our foreign residents owe their fluency in English to the instruction of Mrs. Odell.

A daughter, Mrs. Stella Odell— Logan was the first music teacher, while many other pioneer features belong to this early family.

FINISH UP YOUR BUSINESS

THE BUSINESS ASSOCIATION — NEW LEADERS AND NEW BUSINESS...

A new board of directors for 1984 was elected by the Point Richmond Business Association membership at the regular March meeting. The seven directors and their business affiliations are:

Claudia Beale Pt.Rich.Printing
Griff Brazil Hotel Mac

Tom Butt Interactive Res.Inc.
Betty Cadwalader D.Rosenthal, Atty.

Patrick Hart Attorney
David Vincent Attorney

Herb Wimmer Chevron Research

At a subsequent meeting of the new Board of Directors, the following officers were elected:

David Vincent President
Griff Brazil Vice-President
Betty Cadwalader Secretary
Claudia Beale Treasurer

All except Griff Brazil are incumbents being returned for unprecedented second terms, a solid vote of confidence for their dedication and performance during the past year.

David Vincent also agreed to serve as coordinating chairman for the Indian Statue dedication scheduled for October 20, 1984. The Board agreed that the event would be important for the image of Point Richmond and voted to support the planning and implementation with the full resources of the Association and its membership.

HOFFMAN FREEWAY ...

Larry Loder, Public Works Director, and Dick Danker, Traffic Engineer, presented proposed changes to the Castro Street interchange that the City is trying to get Caltrans to adopt. The intent of the changes would be to alleviate congestion at the interchange. The effects would include enlargement of the interchange and abandonment of the Marine Street ramps in favor of the larger Castro Street interchange. Discussion included concern about the grade levels of the ramps and the acoustical impacts. Jeanne Eger expressed an opinion that she was being discriminated against as a single woman because her home would be purchased by the State to make room for the freeway. The City staff members suggested they would welcome any input about landscaping that the Association could offer.

PARKING DISTRICT ...

Dick Danker will return to the April Business Association meeting to receive comments regarding parking limits on the Railroad Avenue parking lot.

NEW BUSINESS...

Side by side rehabilitation is proceeding at the intersection of Railroad Avenue and West Richmond. The Point Bar closed on March 22 and will reopen this coming summer in the former Dorothy's Corner, which was purchased by co-owner Jay Ward. Meanwhile, next door, the familiar stone front has been removed from The Mandarin and a complete new facade is under construction.

MEDIA . . .

In Point Richmond's "Media Center" at 125 West Richmond Avenue, New Front Films is celebraring the selection of their film "Wildrose" to be shown at the San Francisco Film Festival on April 15, 1984. The film is about women workers in the iron mines of Minnesota. Owners of the business are Sandra Schulberg and John Hansen.

Travelvision, a company that produces hotel and resort video advertising, has also taken space at 125 West Richmond.

POINT RICHMOND NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

The Neighborhood Council will hold its first Annual Meeting on April 11, 1984, at 7:30 p.m. at the Point Richmond Community Center.

A variety of issues will be discussed, including community crime prevention, Petromark, the selection of area representatives, and the Richmond Library's literacy program.

Membership dues of \$3.00 per person or \$5.00 per couple can be paid at the meeting. Anyone unable to pay dues can arrange through the Executive Board to contribute time to Neighborhood Council projects instead.

A special Neighborhood Council meeting has been scheduled for April 18, at 7:30 p.m. at the Point Richmond Community Center. City staff will discuss the Hoffman Freeway and the City's proposed toxic waste ordinance. These are issues that directly affect the Point Richmond Community.

-Jan Lyons Herrero

THE HUB

POINT RICHMOND

CLOTHING HATS GENTS' FURNISHINGS SHOES

Point Richmond's Largest and Best Store for Men

Courtesy Richmon! Museum

RICHMOND MUSEUM ASSOCIATION –

The Association's Second Annual Dinner, celebrating the group's Thirtieth Anniversary, will be held at Viking Hall, 248 Marina Way, Richmond. No host cocktails will be served at 6:30, and the dinner begins at 7:00 p.m. Tickets are available from the Board of Directors members, or by calling the Museum office at 235-7387.

The museum has gathered a collection of artifacts commemorating Richmond's colorful past, and consistently creates interesting temporary exhibits. The community should support this valuable resource and a good time to become a member and thank the volunteers is at this dinner.

SAN PABLO -

A dinner at Gonzales Restaurant, 12955 San Pablo Avenue, Richmond, although not an historical society function, features Ann Roberts of the San Pablo Historical Society speaking about Rancho San Pablo. The dinner is sponsored by the San Pablo - Manzanilla Sister City Committee. For reservations to the April 19 event call 234-6441 or 237-1069.



Bread Toaster

SHIPYARD WORKERS REUNION

A one day reunion of Shipyard workers to be held in early May at Grace Lutheran Church is currently being planned by the Richmond Museum, the Richmond Public Library and Grace Lutheran Church. Richmond's pre-war population grew at a tremendous rate as thousands came from all over the country to find work in the Richmond Shipyards. Friendships that were made during this time may have faded, but the memories of these days will be the focus of the reunion.

The program will consist of entertainment, an exhibit of shippard related memorabilia, a show and tell by former workers, and lots of time to get reacquainted. Parts of the program will be taped for historical use.

Volunteers are needed to help with this event. For more information call Marvin Johnson, Grace Lutheran Church at 235-3858 or Kathleen Rupley, Richmond Museum at 235-7387.

WEST SIDE BRANCH LIBRARY

Don't be deceived by our small size. Remember, "Good things come in little packages". Although the physical dimensions of West Side Branch are static, the collection is not. Books are borrowed on a regular basis from the Main Library for periods of 2 to 6 months. In addition, individual requests by patrons are often filled on an interlibrary loan basis from libraries throughout the state.

Each month a particular subject area is highlighted. If you missed the cookbooks in March, you may want to satisfy your esthetic taste by sampling from a smorgasbord of poetic works which will be on display in April.

Hours open:

Monday Tuesday 12 to 8:00

Wednesday 10 to 4:00 Thursday Telephone: 232-7169 — Jan Burdick PEOPLE 'ROUND THE POINT

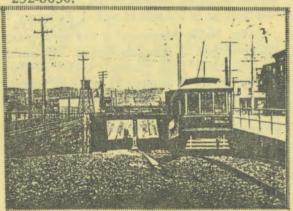
Mark Saturday, May 19, on your calendar - that's the date of the Annual Boy Scout Pancake Breakfast at the Methodist Church.

-0-

Martin and Bea Kenoyer are now 'new Oregonians', having made it their home base for almost a year now. Noting they are the only mobile home to have a wood stove, they said they are able to find enough wood for it. The Willamette River is only a mile or so 'up river' from where they live, and they are looking forward to 'launching' there soon.

Best Wishes to Henry Francis and his new bride, Dagmar, who were married on Saturday, March 24, in the Rio Vista Congregational Church.

Help! Somewhere in Point Richmond, a book, Maps of the Mind, by C.H. Turner, disappeared. It may have been found in the street, looking as if it had been thrown away, but it wasn't, and Arline Hartman really needs the book to continue her studies. If you happened to find it please call her, at 232-8650.



Macdonald Subway Under Southern Pacific Tracks. 1910 Independent, courtesy Richmond Museum

Louis and Tony Bernardi are now well adjusted in their new home at Family Manor on Salesian Avenue. They go for long walks every day and have been meeting many retired people on their walks who were old friends and schoolmates.

-0-

If Hope Lee has a bigger than usual smile it is because she has recovered from her eye surgery — and has her new driver's license!

Recuperating after back surgery is Carl Paasch...Caroline Davidson is recuperating in Brookvue Convalescent Home from her recent surgery... Stan Casey is hospitalized after a leg amputation...Ida Mae Jones was hospitalized with the flu, but is now at home... Jean Creed spent ten days in bed with the flu... Lucky (or healthy!) you,if you haven't been felled by the current flu bugs!

-0-

Nursery Notes . . .

Andrew Wilson Verhines arrived March 9, weighing 8 lbs., 5 oz. Son of Patrice and Bob Verhines, Andrew was greeted by his sister, Summer, and brother, Dustin. Grandparents are Donna and Richard Wilson on Western Drive.

It's a girl — Carrie Elizabeth — first child for Karen (Wickman) and Philip Dorn III, on Santa Fe Avenue in the Point. Carrie was born at Brookside Hospital, Feburary 9.

Mrs. Nellie Matteucci is the great-great grandmother of Amanda Renee, first child of Chris and Julie (Cabral) Oxley of San Pablo. Born February 11 at Alta Bates, Amanda has four grandparents and four great-grandparents as well as three great-great-granparents!

-0-

Guests at the March History Association included former Point residents Mrs. Evelyn Harlow, David Bain and Mary Harlow-Rudolph.

Have you received your Smog Check notice from the Department of Motor Vehicles? Autos with registration number (motor) ending in even digits must get the tests in even years; either 1984 or 1986. Cars with numbers ending in odd digits must get the check in 1985. Vehicle owners must pay \$6 to get the smog certificate itself. In addition, smog stations and garages can charge up to \$50 to make repairs and adjustments. You have 45 days after receiving the notice to complete the tests — just watned to alert you! Happy motoring!

On Saturday, March 4, Mary Casey was one of the people on hand to celebrate the eightieth birthday of Edna Neu, on Arhington Boulevard. Also attending were Don and Kathy Berger.

-0-

Recent visitors at Mary Casey's home on Golden Gate Avenue included high school classmate Irene Woods (now 93 years old), and Alma Accornero. Irene's family name was given to Woods Elementary School, since the land belonged to her family before it was sold to the School District. Irene now lives in Martinez.

-0-

An update on Stan Casey – he is home, after spending three weeks in the hospital, and his leg is healing well.

-0-

Many thanks to the residents of Tunnel Avenue, who have provided the Point with a delightful spring display of flowering crabapple trees along the street.

-0-

Fame is fleeting, so it is worth mentioning the current heroes of Bishop Avenue — Vicky Gutierrez and Chris Eitzen. Popular because they are clearing a lot of unwanted Eucalyptus trees, and bringing back to their uphill neighbors the treasured view of the water; and brave for tackling those giants.

YOUR POINT OF VIEW

How long have you lived in Point Richmond, and what is the biggest change you have seen since moving here?

Charlotte Woods: Since 1929, 55 years. I guess I'd say all the buildings.

George Martin: Since 1964, 20 years. The biggest change came when the Tiscornia land got sold and the new houses were built. All you can see now are the front porches of a lot of houses. Before that, you had a view.

Karen Fenton: Since 1968, 16 years. The population has become more of a bedroom community. The Point used to have more families that lived here all their lives. Young ones would grow up here and stay. There are more single people living here now without children. There's not as much social involvement as there used to be. There used to be a more liberal population where everyone got involved in the community, and I think that is because there were more children. The business section is changing. I've seen Judges and Spares sell several times, and it looks like now it's taking hold. There are a lot more eating places now ... you can have a successful business now by just selling lunches. Another big change in the Point is the traffic - it has increased.

Aileen Conn: Since 1946, 38 years. I don't know what I'd call the biggest. There are lots more houses. When we moved here, there were only four houses on the block. Now the whole block is filled in. There used to be vacant lots — now there are none.

Maude Alexander: Since 1937, 47 years. The whole business area changed a whole lot. Santa Fe Market was there back then. Of course I was working, so I didn't see a lot until I retired in 1970. Then I joined the West Side Improvement Club and met a lot more people. The changes have been gradual so you don't notice too much. But I think

the biggest change is that there are more people. For a while, everyone was moving away from the Point, and now everyone wants to come back.

-Pam Wilson



THE MASQUERS

Something's Afoot, a musical spoof of Agatha Christie Mysteries, opens at the Masquers Playhouse, 105 Park Place, on Friday evening April 6, at 8:30 p.m. Performances will continue Friday and Saturday evenings through May 12. There will be two Sunday matinees, April 29 and May 6 at 2:30 p.m.

This murderously funny musical was written by James McDonald, David Vos and Robert Gerlach. The play is directed by Pat Siekert of Concord. Admission is \$5.00 for evening performances and \$4.50 for matinees. For reservations, call 526-1038.

AUDITIONS

Auditions for the British comedy, Bedroom Farce, are set for Sunday, April 8 and Monday, April 9 at 7:30 p.m. at the Masquers Playhouse. There are roles for 4 men and 4 women. The play was written by Alan Ayckbourne, who is considered the British Neil Simon.

Performances will be Friday and Saturday evenings from June 15 through July 21. For further information call director Doug Ham at 707 745-4929.

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RECENT HISTORY – THE MILLER-KNOX REGIONAL SHORELINE PARK

PARTIX

While the local, highly politicized squabble over the relative economic merits of industrial versus residential development was raging, the planners at the East Bay Regional Park District serenely pursued their task of land-use planning for the 263.4 acres of the park.

There are a number of plots within this total parkland area still in private or agency possession, including the Richmond Ramblers (motorcyclists) parcel, a series of contiguous parcels owned by the East Bay Municipal Utility District, and a number owned by the City of Richmond. Approximately 55 to 60 acres are in the Bay.

The surrounding ownership pattern is complex, comprising a mixture of private owners — Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe, Bray Oil Company, Brickyard Cove Harbors, Innisfree, Clausen, P.G.&E., Middletown Enterprises, Atlantic Richfield and Union Oil Company — and public ownership. The publicly owned lands consist of various parcels owned by the City of Richmond, many of which are leased to industrial operators.

It will be recalled from earlier chapters of this history that when Contra Costa joined Alameda in the Park District in 1964, a West Contra Costa County shoreline park was one of the stipulations agreed upon. The first choice for this park was the Point Pinole area, but when negotiations for sale of this land (formerly owned by a gunpowder company) to Bethlehem Steel were unexpectedly agreed upon, the second choice was the Point Richmond hill and flat land area. In 1969 the Park District purchased the first

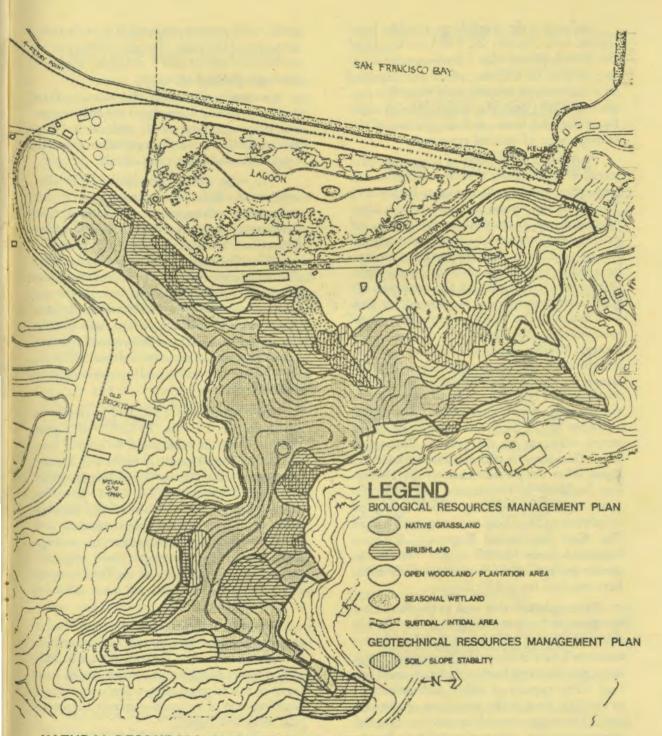
of many acquisitions that now make up the George Miller Jr.-John Knox Regional Shoreline Park.

In 1971, the District contracted for a resource analysis and land use study on the land it owned, and in 1972 the area was formally dedicated by the District. A master plan study in 1973 recommended further acquisition of land on the hills above and behind the shoreline park to fulfill the innovative concept of an 'urban threshold park.'

This goal was slowly, sometimes painfully, but surely pursued during the decade between 1970 and 1980. In 1980 former assemblyman John T. Knox successfully sponsored State Assembly Bill 990, which provided the District with \$2,000,000 in funds for the acquisition of major portions of the parkland. These funds made possible the hillside acquisitions which, between 1981 and 1983, allowed completion of the park. Because these land acquisitions significantly changed the scope of the original plans for the Miller-Knox Park, it became necessary to re-think the land use planning for the park.

In the Park District's master plan (p. 29) policies are set forth regarding requirements for public involvement in the planning process; specifically, that opportunities must be provided for the public to express opinions about the resource analysis, which would then be considered in the formulation of the Land Use Development Plan. Following completion of this plan and prior to approval by the Board, opportunity for additional public review and comment must be provided for use in the final plan.

Notice of a Public Workshop to be held at the local elementary school on August 11, 1983, was sent to residents in neighborhoods adjacent to the park and to other interested persons and agencies. The Resource Analysis was presented at that meeting, and a number of individuals and representatives voiced their ideas and hopes.



NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT PLAN-Miller-Knox Regional Shoreline East Bay Regional Park District

Following the workshop, a public hearing was held October 26, 1983, on the Land Use Development Plan / Environmental Impact Report for the area, which encompassed an evaluation of existing uses, ideas for possible new land uses, the designation of significant natural areas, and an outline of the management of natural resources.

Plans for development of long-range projects for Miller-Knox Park were approved in December, 1983 by the Regional Park Board. The plans incorporated many of the ideas proposed and supported by the public. Of primary importance was the continuing desire of park users that the park continue to be a place for people to walk on the hills, and to picnic and play on the flatlands. No additional development is planned for Keller's Beach or the 'Action Recreation Zone' (surrounding the lagoon). In that area the Georgia Pacific warehouse will be dismantled although its foundation slab will be retained for use in informal court games, concerts, art and craft fairs, and special events, or for parking. A new pedestrian crossing and entrance to the park on the east side of the street, adjacent to the present Thompson Paint Company, is planned as a Park Center Zone. When the present lease on the Thompson building is terminated, the park proposes to use the huilding, which is in good condition, as its offices and corporation yard. The East Bay Model Engineers' Railroad hopes to lease 10,000 square feet in the center section of the building for its members use, and for public display.

To emphasize this area as the Park Center Zone, it has been suggested that the old Bernardi house (purchased by the District and now a part of the park) be moved to this spot, restored and landscaped as a small cottage farm, typical of many such structures in the Bay Area in the early part of the century. The house would be used as a general information and coordination center for the

park, with rooms restored in a style representative of the time of original construction, with a permanent and a changing display of photographs and artifacts.

In connection with the 'cottage farm', it was proposed that a pasture and/or community garden be created, with outbuildings and gardens around the perimeter, providing a practical and visual experience.

The ridge would comprise another zone, with trails, four interpretive vista points, and natural management areas. Park users have urged that everything in the Miller-Knox Park be kept as simple and natural as possible. The trails should provide comfortable and easy access to the superlative views provided from the hills; the interpretive displays at vista points should be simple, weatherproof and vandal resistant, with emphasis on the associations between the unique visual panorama and the cultural (historic, social and economic) and natural resources of the park.

The District has \$382,648 available for development. Of this, \$142,317 is a grant (matched by an additional \$47,439) from the State Department of Parks and Recreation, under the Urban Grant Program (SB 174) dated November 10, 1982. The District has committed \$192,872 for development. This is for capital improvements and does not include maintenance or management costs. The grant agreement originally called for completion of performance by June 30, 1984. This date has been extended to June, 1985.

Planning and design studies will lead to the preparation of contract documents in the next month; then there will be a bidding and contract negotiation period which must result in selection of contractor(s) and Board confirmation of a signed contract before actual work will begin.

AN INTIMATE BOOK — IMAGES OF POINT RICHMOND

The book, Point Richmond, San Francisco Bay, by Gordon Cook, contains 29 images of Point Richmond drawn on stones and combines, in its making, hand lithography, cold type printing, and hand bookbinding. The book is an exhaustive investigation of a single landmark.

The compound title of the book, Point Richmond, San Francisco Bay, conveys the artist's view of the image as an encompassing subject. The image holds land, water, sky and something man made; all the elements of this life. Their interconnectedness has touched the artist deeply. He draws the image as though its components were one thing, the details neither abstracted nor stiffly literal. Cook's drawings register all the fine cuts of visual variation, of presence and moment, that gather through the play of light and the manipulations of the miles of air between Point Richmond and the artist in San Francisco.

The successive treatments of Point Richmond proceed, as one moves through the pages, not as a chronology, but as a sequence of insights, privileged views of a place made special by the artist's persistent attention.

The artist sought a binding material... that would shimmer and disperse light like the Bay itself...he discovered an irridescent silk taffeta usually used in dressmaking.

The artist hand-set the lead type . . . The cover and spine are gold leaf stamped.

The edition consists of one hundred copies of the book, each signed and numbered by the artist.

The book is available from Limestone Press at a price of \$500.00.

The book may be seen in San Francisco at: Limestone Press, 357 Tehama St., 777-2214; Glastonbury Gallery, 370 Hayes St., and Charles Campbell Gallery, 647 Chestnut Street. Hank Hine, publisher

Hank Hine, publisher Limestone Press

There will be a gala boat trip to view the area drawn by the artist, in May. The focal point of the drawings is the natural gas tank near Brickyard Cove.

SENIOR CHORE SERVICE AVAILABLE

For seniors 60 and over, who need help to remain in and maintain their homes, the Senior Chore Service, funded by the Area Agency on Aging, provides people to assist. The Agency also needs men and women 18 years and older for home work assignments. In Richmond, the office is located at 428 Wilson Street, upstairs; or call 234-6337, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

HAPPY APRIL BIRTHDAY . . .

UIRPA LOOP
Michael Horn
Kathy Barnes
Sydney Clutts
Helen Kocher
Roberta Palfini
Melissa Allyn
Eric Hoiland
William Kretzmer
Kari Elle
Tara Kaufman
Verla Camren
W. C. Fields
Winston Churchill

Paula Fergusen
Judy Walz
Mabel Edwards
Don Amantite
Joel Peterson
Peter Horn
Lisa Ogles
Monica Doherty
Bruce Bartram
Dori Freitas
Ruth Wilson
Pam Wilson
Haris Christian Ande

Haris Christian Andersen Charlie Chaplin

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WHY is April 1 April Fools'Day?

According to Poor Robin's Almanack, for 1760: "The first of April, some do say, is set apart for All Fools' Day, But why the people call it so, Nor I nor they themselves do know."

WHAT is Arbor Day?

Tree planting day, first observed in Nebraska on April 10, 1872.

APRIL is National Humor Month – a month to promote, expand and encourage the American sense of humor by making neighbors, friends and family laugh.

SPECIAL DAYS IN APRIL

1 - April Fools' Day

3 - Public Schools' Open House-Junior High Schools

5 - Public Schools' Open House - High Schools

10 - Property Taxes Due - County

12 - Public Schools' Open House-Elementary Schools

15 – INCOME TAX REPORT DUE (it's Sunday you have an extra day)

15 - Palm Sunday

17 - Passover begins

19 - Arbor Day

20 - Good Friday

22 - EASTER

28 - Daylight Savings Time - Go Ahead!

APRIL IN HISTORY . . .

2, 1792 - First U.S.Mint opened in Philadelphia 9, 1833 - First Public Library in nation founded

founded by Peterborough, N.H. towns-people.

10, 1894 – The indispensable Safety Pin, patented by Walter Hunt

17, 1521 - Martin Luther excommunicated from Holy Roman Church

18, 1906 - San Francisco struck by the worst Earthquake ever to hit the U.S.

24, 1704 - First American Newspaper, Boston Newsletter, began publication.

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Association includes a subscription				
newsletter.				
Please send membership forms to:				
PAM WILSON				

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POINTS IN THE FUTURE

APRIL 3— West Side Improvement Club— 12 noon, Our Lady of Mercy Church

APRIL 6 to May 12 - "Something's Afoot" at the Masquers, Fri. & Sat. eve.

APRIL 11 - Point Richmond Business Association, 12 noon, Hotel Mac

APRIL 11 – Point Richmond Neighborhood
Council meeting - 7'30, Community Center.

APRIL 18 - Special Neighborhood Council meeting on Hoffman Freeway, 7:30 at Community Center

APRIL 19 - San Pablo-Manzanilla Sister city dinner - 6:30

APRIL 26 - Richmond Museum Association Annual Dinner, Viking Hall, 6:30. -30th Anniversary

MAY 1 – West Side Improvement Club 12 noon, Our Lady of Mercy Church

MAY 12 - ANNUAL PANCAKE BREAK-FAST - Boy Scouts, at Point Methodist Church.

MAY 20 - POINT RICHMOND HISTORY
ASSOCIATION ANNUAL
MEETING - 1 p.m. Linsley
Hall

"This Point In Time" is published by the Point Richmond History Association, 212 Bishop Alley, Point Richmond, CA 94801.

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ARTICLES FOR EACH MONTH'S ISSUE ARE DUE ON THE 20TH OF THE PREVIOUS MONTH.

Please mail articles and items of interest to: 212 Bishop Alley, Point Richmond, CA 94801. Questions? Call 235-4222.

Items may also be dropped off at Richmond Supply Co., 145 W. Richmond Avenue.