

# THIS POINT

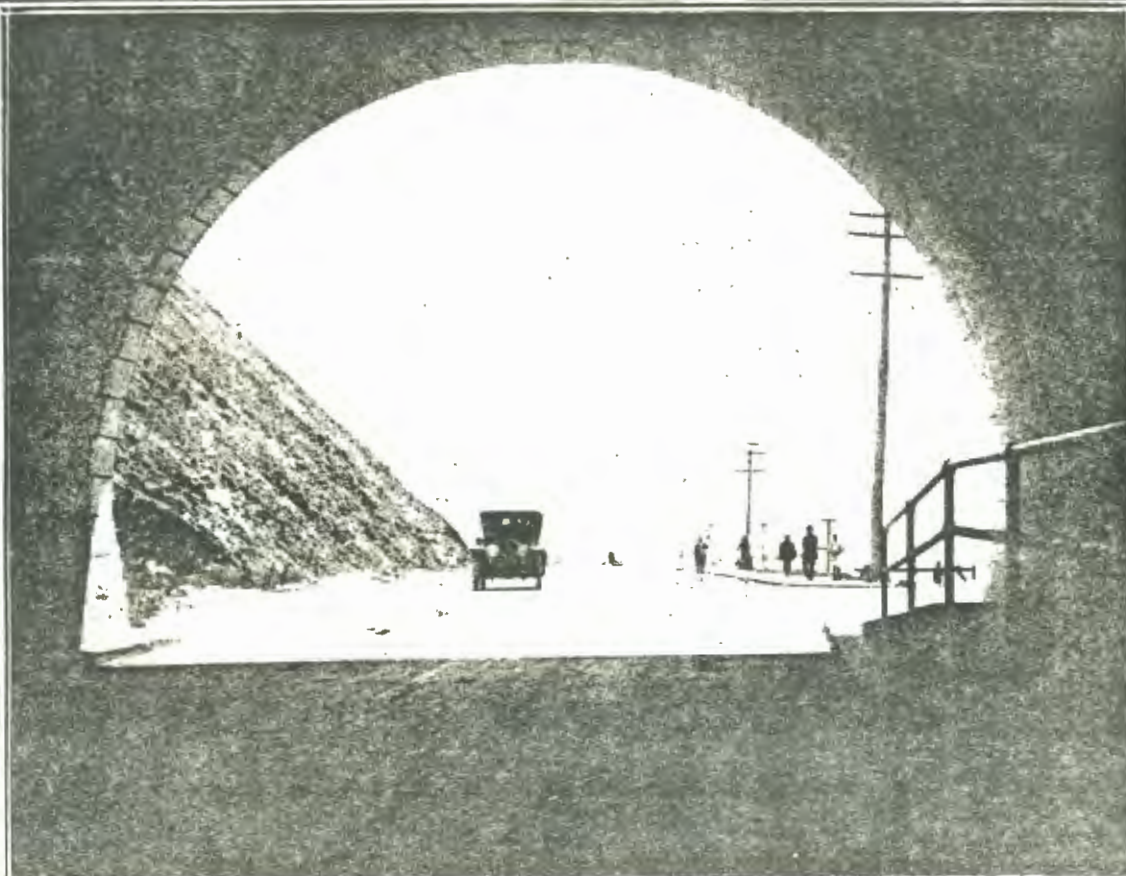
NEWSLETTER

A PUBLICATION OF THE POINT RICHMOND HISTORY ASSOCIATION

Vol III, No. 9

May, 1985

75 cents



A VIEW FROM THE TUNNEL, about 1915 (courtesy Richmond Museum)

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## in time

# HISTORY ASSOCIATION NOTES

**ANNUAL MEETING  
and  
HISTORY FESTIVAL**

**SUNDAY, MAY 19, 1985**

**Linsley Hall**

**235 Washington Avenue, Point Richmond**

**beginning at**

**1:00 P.M.**

**with a**

**POT LUCK LUNCHEON**

**and featuring**

**A VINTAGE FASHION SHOW**

**presented by Lois Boyle**

**and**

**DISPLAYS**

**of historic memorabilia**

**including a**

**SHOW AND TELL AREA**

**Bring your Historic Mementos**

**For information, call 235-4222**

**Suggestion for Pot Luck Participation:**

**If your last name begins with A—H:**

**Bring a main dish**

**If your last name begins with J—P,**

**Bring a dessert**

**If your last name begins with Q—Z,**

**Bring a salad.**

**(Or any of the above) — If you bring  
guests who cannot participate in the  
Pot Luck, a donation to cover costs  
would be appreciated ( \$3.50)**



## INDEXERS . . .

Since your initiation to the indexing process a few months ago, led by Rosemary Corbin, you may have completed the newsletter you were indexing. Teresa Albro will be compiling the indexes this summer, so if it is possible, bring your indexes in by June First to 212 Bishop Alley, or call 235-4222 if you want them picked up. Since this is an ongoing project, your willingness to continue will be greatly appreciated. There is an ample supply of material in need of indexing! The value of available indexes is apparent, once you try to research a particular subject, and spend hours finding bits and pieces of information scattered in various publications, without one.

Some of the people were unable to attend the indexing meeting, and anyone interested in learning how to index may contact us at 235-4222. If others out there already know the indexing procedure and are willing to assist in this important project, please also let us know.

## MEMBERS . . .

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

George M. Batten	Martin & Janis McNair
Mrs. Boysie Day	Roberta & Richard
Oretta Eaton	Palfini
Robert Feyder	Edith Whetstone
Mr. & Mrs. Albert	Pam Wilson
McGee	

*(Please let us know if we have made any errors or omissions in the membership list.)*

## ANNUAL MEETING . . .

Everyone is invited to enjoy the Annual Meeting — Our pot luck luncheon is becoming a tasty tradition. A very special program — a vintage fashion show — will be presented by Richmond Museum President Lois Boyle.

The business meeting will be brief, but important, with the election of the Board of Directors for the coming year. The Nominating committee has nominated the following candidates for the Board:

Teresa Albro	Sara Eeles
Catherine Burchell	Frankie Greenlaw
Dierdre Cerkowicz	Mae Mandl
Muriel Clausen	Liz McDonald
Mid Dorman	Donna Roselius

Ex Officio candidates: Lucretia Edwards, Community Resource; and Trannie Dorman, Honorary member.

## PREPARE FOR A SPECIAL CALIFORNIA MUSIC NIGHT

Local historical societies will join for a festival of California and local music on Thursday, September 26 — the first meeting of the fall, at 7:30 in Linsley Hall.

Besides performances of some nostalgic (and some whacky) old music by the Point Richmond Madrigal Singers and other soloists and groups, there will be a sing-along. Anyone interested in participating is asked to call Ann Roberts (222-3529) or Donna Roselius (235-4222). There will be one or two meetings at the end of summer to prepare the program.



A LADIES' RACE AT A 1904 PICNIC at 'Long Beach', later to become Yard No. 3. A favorite picnic spot. The hay bales in the background were on John Nicholl's property.  
from the Don Church Collection



## LIBERTY MARKET

In Japanese supermarkets robots stock the shelves at night. During the store hours, daily specials cruise along aisles to assault customers with their products.

In the United States specially equipped check-out stands read the price of all grocery items. The corner grocery store provides supermarket baskets for easy shelf selection by the customer.

Fifty years ago, customers read their lists to the grocery clerk, who made the dust fly behind the counter.

"We ran our feet off getting cans for an order," recalls Louise Banks, longtime clerk at Liberty Market. "We itemized the lists for our credit customers, too."

Customers never referred to the Liberty Market as a convenience store, but convenience and service were the Grosso's hallmark. From 1933 until the mid 1950's the Liberty Market filled Point Richmond's food needs



(At one time, the Liberty Market)

— meats, vegetables, canned foods, dairy products, breads, ice cream, candy and liquor.

As you entered the store, a large display of vegetables welcomed the customer. Mickey Giovannetti tended the fruits and vegetables with a special eye for freshness. On the left, the butcher, Donald Singer, selected the best cuts and ground hamburger meat to order. Canned goods lined the other walls with a counter in front.

Stacks of Kirkpatrick's, Wonder Bread and tangy French Bread lined the counters. Clerks scooped ladles of strawberry, vanilla, or chocolate ice cream into white quart containers. Children selected candies from the display near the cash register.

The busiest times of all came on Friday nights during World War II. Friday was payday at the Kaiser Shipyards. Every clerk plus extra help filled orders and cashed checks. The shipyard workers lined up for grocery items and could be counted on to buy up all the liquor on the shelf behind the cash register.

Hectic Friday nights were not the only wartime change at the Liberty Market. Beginning on May 4, 1942, under the Emergency Price Control Act, consumers registered for rationing. Louise Banks was PTA president at Washington School that year and she remembers the process of distributing the rationing books at the school.

Sugar was the first product brought under control and soon coffee, processed foods, meats, fats and certain dairy products followed in close order. Rationing covered roughly one-third of all civilian food distribution.

In this system of point rationing, a consumer used red stamps for meat, butter, fats, cheese, canned milk and canned fish purchases. Blue stamps covered all canned fruits and vegetables. To further complicate the



system, stamps were valid for stated periods of time. So the ration coupons became a type of currency which the market passed on to the wholesaler to the producer to the ration authority.

Although this added record keeping burdened the staff, special attention for regular customers continued through the war years. Telephone orders were always welcomed and Mickey delivered the groceries around the Point. Customers could have items set aside to pick up, such as hard to find cigarette brands which still sold for \$1.10 a carton.

Louise Banks recalls the comraderie of working together during the war years. Behind the counters and at the cash register were Mrs. Grosso, her daughter Rose Bozzo, and Louise Banks. Mr. Grosso took charge of the stocking, ordering and storage areas of the shop.

Extra help for Friday nights even included the police chief, who came from the station to help cash checks. As part time assistants, Marie Conaty and Virginia Birchfield worked in the market during these years.

Every Christmas the Grossos held a Christmas party at the old Hotel Mac. Good feelings and warm memories span the years that Louise Banks worked at the Liberty Market.

"Some evenings after work we would meet in El Cerrito at 'Six Bells' and have dinner," Louise said. "Good friends and nice memories from the Liberty Market."

If you would like to revisit the past, the Richmond Museum's latest exhibit in the Seaver Room, entitled "Just a Matter of Business" will be on display through May 19. Although the Liberty Market is not represented, this exhibit contains memorabilia from other early businesses in the Point plus a collection of old photos.

—Alexandra Gautraud



THIS PICTURE (In color) APPEARS ON A NEW POST CARD, AVAILABLE THROUGH THE POINT RICHMOND HISTORY ASSOCIATION. Cards will be on sale at the Annual Meeting. Picture courtesy of the sculptor, Kirk St. Maur



## AREA HISTORY AND MUSEUM NOTES

### RICHMOND MUSEUM...

The Museum Association is developing a California History Unit, which will provide a traveling exhibit available to Richmond Unified School District's fourth grade classes to enhance the mandated California history studies at that grade level. Jeanne Urquhart is coordinating the project, and is looking for volunteers willing to make presentations, and for sturdy suitcases, easels, etc., which will make transport of the artifacts possible. If you are interested, and especially if you have old -time craft skills, please leave a message for Jeanne at the Museum Office -235-7387.

-o-

The California Heritage Quilt Project, a statewide effort to search for and register quilts brought to California before 1945, is underway. All quilts of the period will be welcome for registration. Even quite simple quilts can reveal valuable historic information. An eventual book and two major museum shows are planned.

Over fifty 'Quilt Days' are being scheduled, and it is hoped one will be in the Richmond area. For further information, contact:

California Heritage Quilt Project  
P.O. Box 270  
Mill Valley, California 94902

-o-

The Richmond Museum is doing research on quilts, which will culminate in an exhibit at the Museum this year. They are hoping to display quilts which will represent every period of Richmond's history.

If you have a quilt or know of quilts—regardless of condition — which would enhance the story of the City of Richmond, call Rosemary Corbin at 235-5779, or the Museum at 235-7387.

-o-

The Museum is trying to get in touch with relatives of the following Richmond Pioneers. We know some of them are members or friends of members of the Point Richmond History Association. If you are among that group, please call the museum at 235-7387 between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Thursday.

The pioneers they are asking about are:

H.C. Cutting	Wm. S. Rheem
E. Garrard	W. Stairley
A.S. Macdonald	H. V. Alvarado
G. Barrett	G. Wall
J.M. Tewksbury	H.W. Wernse
D.W. McLaughlin	J. Lucas
F. Castro	W.H. McBryde
R. Stege	J. Emeric
Wm. Belding	W. T. Helms
H. Ells	A. Rumrill
J.H. Adams	J. Nicholl
B. Schmidt	

Or, if you wish, send the name, address and telephone number of the relative to us, and we will send the information on to the Museum so they can contact the relative.  
(212 Bishop Alley, Pt. Richmond CA 94801).

### SAN PABLO...

April was an important month in San Pablo. It was on April 15, 1823 that Francisco Castro applied for his land grant, Rancho San Pablo; and on April 27, 1948, San Pablo was incorporated.

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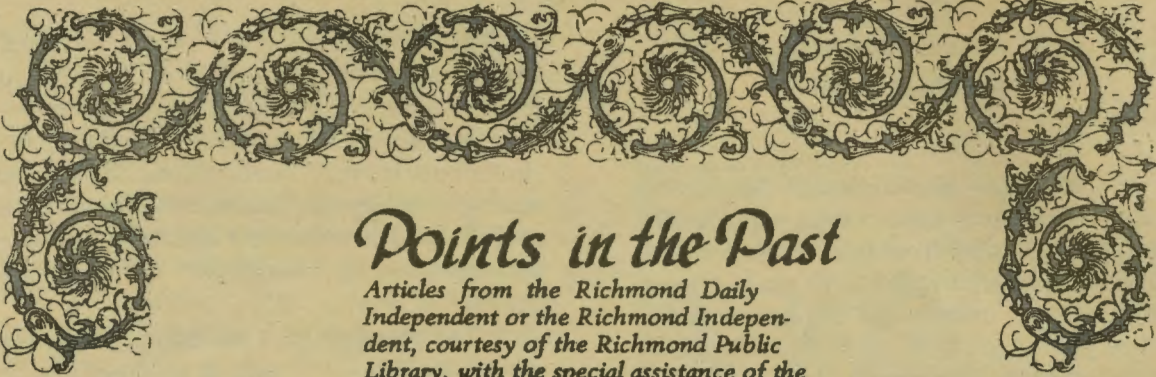
In their newsletter, the Society noted a new, informal organization of Bancroft users who meet monthly to discuss historical research. Anyone interested could call Anna Gaumer at 234-7518 for information.

-o-

The San Pablo Museum Society's first membership tea will be held on May 9 from 4 to 6:00 p.m. in the Alvarado Adobe Patio.

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## Points in the Past

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

### 70 YEARS AGO . . .

#### HENRICH SELLS RICHMOND BAKERY . . .

"Negotiations were completed yesterday for the sale of the Richmond Bakery at 1 Park Place. The bakery was sold by R. Henrich, who has conducted it for the past eight years and was purchased by Paul Eigenberger and Karl Kopp, two pioneer bakers of Oakland."

"'Mr. Kopp and I intend to conduct an up to date bakery,' said Eigenberger last night. 'All of our business will be done with local merchants. Our place of business will be conducted in a sanitary manner and we will do our best to satisfy our patrons.'"

—May 1, 1915

#### DISTINGUISHED VISITORS TOUR RICHMOND . . .

"Surprise at the many manufactories in Richmond; pleasure at the reception tendered them; twenty one honorary commercial representatives of the Republic of China, with a number of members of the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce were the guests of Richmond and Winehaven yesterday. Promptly at noon the party arrived. Low tide made it impossible for them to dock at Winehaven and it was necessary to land at Point Orient. All of the machines which had been gathered to receive the visitors had gathered at Winehaven and a merry rush was

on to be on time to meet the visitors when they stepped from the boat at Point Orient.

After a tour of the California Wine Association plant, a luncheon was served at the Winehaven Hotel. "At the conclusion of the luncheon, an automobile ride through the Standard Oil plant was taken. . . The water-front was visited and its advantages explained to the guests. Following a ride through the principal streets of the city, the party boarded their boat at Point Orient . . . and left for San Francisco."

—May 6, 1915

#### RAIN THREATENS KILNS . . .

"It was 3 o'clock a.m. and all was still. The pitter patter of the drops of rain as they descended was the only sign of life. The town was fast asleep, save for the morning newspaper men, grinding out news of trials and tribulations of the day before. At the homes of the employees of the Los Angeles Pressed Brick company all was calm and serene. Then a knock resounded on the door of an employee of the company. The knock was heard at all of the doors. The kilns at the yards were being flooded by the down-pour, they were told and hastily garbing themselves, the employees of the company dashed through the cold night air and falling aqua to rescue the flooding kilns.

"No damage was done and at 4 o'clock all was calm and serene again."

—May 6, 1915



## TUNNEL MOVING TOWARD COMPLETION . . .

"Yesterday marked the completion of the sidewalks in the new municipal tunnel. . . . Paving of the roadway at both eastern and western approaches and the interior is being done by the Warswick company, sub-contractors, will soon be completed, weather conditions permitting."

—May 9, 1915

## METHODISTS WILL BUILD PARSONAGE . . .

"At the quarterly conference of the board of trustees of the First Methodist Church last night, it was decided to erect a parsonage next to the church on the west side. The parsonage with one exception will be the only Protestant parsonage in the city. Work on the structure will commence immediately. The church officials have arranged for a loan of \$1,600 from the Bank of Richmond. The church has a quantity of material for the new building which was secured when the old chapel was torn down."

—May 12, 1915

## RISKS LIFE TO SAVE TOTS . . .

"In order to avoid striking a number of small children playing in the street, Mrs. J. H. Gibb, 1109 Macdonald avenue, drove her five passenger car into a telegraph pole yesterday afternoon. The near accident occurred on Tunnel avenue near Nicholl avenue. The front wheel fender was badly bent by the impact but no other damage was done."

—May 16, 1915

## VETERAN OF THE SEA CALLED BY DEATH . . .

"The funeral of Captain John O. Stenmark, for twenty years a keeper at Brother's lighthouse off the Standard Oil docks at Point Orient will be held tomorrow morning . . . Stenmark was stricken with an attack of heart trouble early yesterday morning while

on the steamer City of Topeka and died soon afterwards. . . . He was a native of Stockholm, Sweden and was fifty-one years of age.

"He was a veteran seaman. As a reward for bravery in the saving of the life of Assistant Lighthouse Inspector William Perry, he was placed in charge of New Year's island light off Santa Cruz. He was later transferred to Brother's lighthouse."

—May 18, 1915

## GRAND OPERA AT THE POINT THIS EVE . . .

"The much anticipated appearance of the Mignon Grand Opera company will be held this evening at 8 o'clock at the Point Richmond Opera House, on Standard avenue near Washington avenue. The principals of the company have all gained country wide recognition and opera lovers of Richmond can consider themselves fortunate that the company has placed Richmond on its itinerary. Signora Bresonier, and Signors Poggi Rivera, De Biasi and Giuliani comprise the principals of the company."

—May 24, 1915

## SANTA FE LAND VALUES . . .

"Thirty eight hundred dollars per acre is the value placed by the Santa Fe railway company upon its waterfront and hillside land west of the municipal tunnel and the city of Richmond is to be asked to pay \$38,000 for ten acres taken by the city for its harbor improvements."

"I think the company wants to deal fairly with the city, but some one has given it inflated ideas of values here. We will arbitrate and get down that price, I am sure," said City Attorney D.J. Hall."

—May 24, 1915

## KOZY KOVE WILL OPEN SOON . . .

"Kozy Kove, Richmond's famous beach



resort which recently closed its door will be reopened June 5th under a new management. The ninety acres of waterfront land have been purchased by E.F. Jansing and B. Benson, and they now have a force of men installing new equipment. The beach resort was as clean as the proverbial cupboard to which Mrs. Hubbard went to get her dog a bone, the place having been stripped of every vestige of furniture, bathing suits, decorations and other material in order to satisfy creditors."

—May 25, 1915

#### **CITY HALL CONTROVERSY CONTINUES ...and Continues ...**

"An injunction forbidding the city council of Richmond to move into the new city hall in the Wall Harbor Center tract was issued today by Judge Latimer. Another writ was sworn out demanding that the council place on the ballot at a special election the question of accepting the plans for the building.

"Both orders are returnable to court for argument on next Thursday."

—May 26, 1915

#### **TERRIBLE FIRE DESTROYS HOME ...**

"Crackling of raging flames at 3 o'clock this morning awoke F.H. Carter, 234 Bishop street near the bay shore on the west side in time to prevent his being burned alive and also in time to save the life of Antone Filacino living in the Carter double house.

"The building was totally destroyed and practically none of its contents were saved by Fire Company Number One which arrived in quick time but found the water pressure very poor in that section. The firemen saved the residence of B. Parella in the rear of 228 Bishop street and occupied by M. Galla."

—May 27, 1915

#### **DEDICATION OF NEW CITY HALL ...**

"With a banquet served in the engineer's

rooms to a party of about forty city officials and invited guests and a dansant in which nearly 500 people joined the new city hall building erected by George S. Wall under an agreement with the city was dedicated last evening."

—May 19, 1915

#### **60 YEARS AGO ...**

##### **CHILD HURT IN FALL ...**

"Margaret Pope, 3 year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Pope, 50 Washington avenue, West side, miraculously escaped serious injury when she fell into an open sidewalk elevator shaft yesterday (in San Francisco).

"The child was playing outside a novelty shop . . . while her mother and father were doing some shopping inside. The bars were erect on the open shaft, but the girl was small enough to fall under them."

—May 8, 1925

##### **NATATORIUM UPDATE ...**

"Good progress is being made in construction of the municipal natatorium at Richmond and Garrard boulevard. The excavating work has been completed, as well as as all the forms and reinforcements for the side walls has been done. Seventy-five per cent of the floor beams have been put in.

"The deep well pump has also been installed . . . The bathhouse will be completed by September, it is believed."

—May 15, 1925

##### **LOCAL RECORD SHOWS 1915 STILL AHEAD ...**

"Despite the fact that 2.58 inches of rain have fallen this May up to 1 o'clock this afternoon, considerable more precipitation must be recorded before the 1915 May record of 4.50 inches of moisture is broken, according to R.J. Lavery, Standard Oil weather man. The rainfall for May in 1915 broke all records for 75 years previous."

—May 19, 1925



*J. STIEFVATER, PIONEER,  
DIES IN MODESTO*

"In the death of Julius Stiefvater in Modesto this morning, another of the men who pioneered Richmond has passed. Stiefvater was one of the first merchants in Richmond, having established a grocery store when the town numbered only a few houses, and a few hundred inhabitants.

"Stiefvater witnessed the remarkable growth of Richmond from almost the very beginning, and was identified with much of the early progress of the city.

"He retired from the grocery business here about three years ago, and two years ago moved to Modesto.

"Death was due to high blood pressure . . . Stiefvater was about 50 years of age, and is survived by his widow, Mrs. Nellie Stiefvater, and a sister, Mrs. Belle Tuller, of Richmond." —May 26, 1925

*CHARLES RIEGERT DIES IN S.F. . . .*

"The West Side has lost another of its staunch pioneers, in the death last evening of Charles Riegert, proprietor of the Santa Fe meat market.

"Charlie Riegert . . . was born in Stuttgart, Germany, about 73 years ago. He settled in Richmond, on the West Side, some twenty years ago, and has ever since resided there. Before establishing his own market, he was employed by Otto Ludewig, Richmond butcher, who conducted a shop on the West Side in the early days."

—May 26, 1925

**50 YEARS AGO . . .**

*CHURCH CENSUS TO BEGIN  
ON WEST SIDE . . .*

"A Point Richmond religious census begins Saturday, May 4, and will continue through Monday and Tuesday . . . The census will be taken by J.E. Harold Nelson and

Arthur F. Loveridge of the Point Baptist Church.

"Although the primary purpose of the census is to secure the names of those desiring Baptist affiliation, the names of those desiring other denominational affiliation will be given to the respective churches at Point Richmond." —May 3, 1935

*FORMER CITY OFFICIAL DIES . . .*

"Death yesterday afternoon claimed Robert Gill Stitt, 78, former Richmond city recorder and retired farmer.

"A native of Rimbonda, New South Wales, Australia, Stitt came to the United States more than 50 years ago. Arriving in Richmond from Madera, Cal., he entered the cigar business in Point Richmond and was one of the freeholders who aided in drawing up the present city charter.

"From 1905 to 1906 he served as city recorder.

"Deceased left Richmond in 1908 to operate a ranch near Yuma, Ariz., later taking over a ranch near Bard, Cal., where he resided until his retirement three years ago."

—May 4, 1935

*REPORT FROM THE  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE . . .*

"Better bus service to the Richmond-San Rafael ferry will be advocated by the Richmond Chamber of Commerce, according to decision at today's meeting of the board of directors. The present bus service provided by the Key System takes passengers only as far as the Standard Oil plant, beyond which pedestrians must walk several blocks to connect with the ferry.

"A.S. Macdonald, Richmond pioneer real estate man and holder of extensive acreage on the western waterfront, was a guest of the chamber at the directors' luncheon. He said he had never lost faith in Richmond

continued on page 12



# add your name

## DO IT IN BRONZE ...

A THIRD PLAQUE WILL BE PLACED ON THE INDIAN STATUE PEDESTAL. DONORS OF \$200 OR MORE WILL HAVE THEIR NAMES ON A BRONZE PLAQUE ATTACHED TO THE GRANITE BASE OF THE STATUE. FUNDS DONATED WILL CREATE A PARK AREA SURROUNDING THE STATUE.

Donations should be sent to the Point Richmond History Association, c/o Mae Mandl, 808 Western Drive, Point Richmond, CA 94801

Donations are tax deductible.

When making your donation, please specify clearly how you wish the name printed on the plaque. Smaller donations are also welcome and your name will be added to our roll call.

Donors, as of April 1, 1985 are:

Anne Anderson  
Louisa Banks

George M. Batten  
Donald J. Jardine  
Betty Wirth

Virginia Kennedy  
The Silver Club

The park committee is planning to present the landscape architect's drawing at the second annual October celebration in Point Richmond. Please call 235-4222 if you wish to be a member of the committee. Its next meeting is at 5 p.m. at The Point Restaurant, April 10, 1985.

Members of the park committee are:

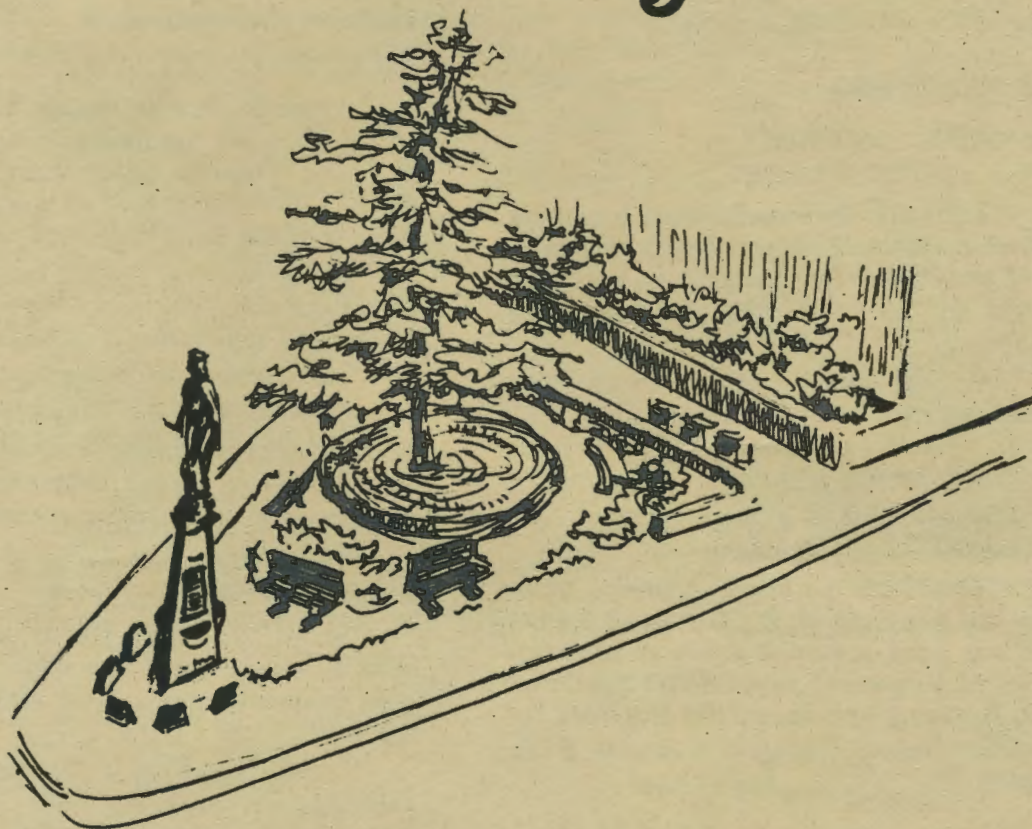
Patricia Behrens  
Catherine Burchell  
Tom Butt

Sarah Eeles  
Kathe Kiehn  
David Vincent  
Lucretia Edwards, Advisor

Jay Ward  
Peggy Young  
Donna Roselius



# to history!



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## DONOR'S PLEDGE

I (we) \_\_\_\_\_ pledge \$ \_\_\_\_\_

to be used on the design and creation of the Indian Statue Park. I (we) understand that this is an amount due by September 15, 1985, and that it is a tax-exempt donation.

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_ Donor's signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

send to: Pt. Richmond History Association, 808 Western Drive, Pt. Richmond CA 94801



after more than thirty years of intimate contact with the community, and that in his opinion no city in the West has such opportunities for future development, nor such a well situated harbor."

—May 22, 1935

—Teresa Albro

## 40 YEARS AGO . . .

### WASHINGTON WHIST FOR A NEW LIBRARY . . .

"Plans for the benefit whist tomorrow were discussed [at last week's meeting]. The project for the coming year, which the whist will aid is starting a library at the school.

"A V-E day (Victory in Europe) program was held during the meeting."

—May 14, 1945

### REV. MAURICE HAMM INTERIM PASTOR AT PT. BAPTIST CHURCH . . .

"Tomorrow marks the beginning of an interim pastorate at Pt. Richmond Baptist Church until a regular minister has been selected to succeed Rev. Chester Northrop. Mr. Northrop and family left this week for the First Baptist Church of Hoquiam, Washington."

—May 19, 1945

## 30 YEARS AGO . . .

### U.S.S. PRES. JEFFERSON CONVERSION . . .

"The USS President Jefferson, which will be converted into a U.S. Navy transport at Richmond's Shipyard 3, will be towed here from Hunter's Point sometime today . . . Albert Engel, president of the Triple A Machine Shops which successfully bid on the \$360,000 contract . . . said operations of the yard would begin immediately. Triple A is leasing a portion of Shipyard 3.

"Engel said that approximately 350 men

appeared at the yard yesterday looking for work as the result of the announcement in Saturday's Independent that the company had won the big contract."

—May 10, 1955

## Question Mark Column . . .

### RICHMOND'S FIFTIETH . . .

"A bare five months remain before Richmond will mark her founding 50 years ago. It will be a once in a lifetime for most residents, since very few of us will be around when our fair hamlet becomes a centenarian.

"That's the point. Now is the time to do something commensurate with Richmond's stature and achievements of half a century.

"Plans being cooked up for the festivities are elaborate but public spirit is going to need a shot in the arm to put them over."

### PINKERTON AND HALEY IN INTERNATIONAL EXHIBIT . . .

"Three Richmond artists are wearing broad smiles these days.

"Seems they have placed paintings in what is considered the second largest and most eminent international art exhibit in the world.

"Emiko Nakano, a local artist, Clayton Pinkerton, Richmond Art Center staff member, and John Haley, University of California professor who resides here had selections picked from thousands of entries the world over.

"The exhibition will open June 29 in Sao Paulo, Brazil, and include representation of art from almost every region of the earth. Prizes totaling \$12,000 will be awarded for the outstanding work.

"Incidentally, 24 out of 37 northern California artists whose work was picked for the big show, have displayed paintings at the local center, which shows Richmond is on somebody's map as an art town."

—May 2, 1955



## 20 YEARS AGO . . .

### BRICKYARD COVE HOUSING SOUGHT . . .

"A plan for filling in part of Brickyard Cove and the development of a marine-residential project will come before two commissions for study this week.

"Brickyard Cove Properties is asking that the area adjacent to and east of the new Richmond Yacht Club be rezoned from heavy industry to other uses.

"W.B. Clausen and R.H. Elliott Jr., of the firm which is planning the development, are asking that it be rezoned to single family, multiple family and high rise, general commercial and light industrial.

"Filling in of 40 acres of the total of 129 would be necessary to provide an area for marine services and for building lots with water access. A system of waterways will connect the proposed fill areas.

"Four acres are assigned for commercial and marine usage, 23 for single family and 13 for multiple residential, controlled development.

"Several obstacles for the developers are readily foreseen. Only last Monday the City Council adopted a resolution in support of State Senator Eugene McAteer's bill to halt indiscriminate filling of the bay. The bill is still in legislature.

"Secondly, Richmond's report called 'Resources for Leisure' specifies this area as a prime site for a public marina. Both the planning commission and recreation and parks commission have adopted the report."

—May 4, 1965

### RED ROCK MARINA PLANS EXPANSION . . .

"The construction of 112 berths for small boats will be underway soon at Red Rock Marina a building permit issued by the

city indicated, today.

"Owner R.J. Naylor estimated the cost of the facility at \$25,000. Red Rock Marina is at the former terminal of the Richmond-San Rafael ferry.

"Installation of the berths will be along three piers just north of the Richmond San Rafael bridge."

—May 12, 1965

— Pam Wilson.

### POINTS IN HISTORY . . .

#### MAY:

- 5, 1847 — The American Medical Association founded in Philadelphia
- 7, 1945 — Nazi Germany surrendered on the 2075th day of World War II
- 8, 1879 — First automobile patent filed
- 17, 1792 — 24 stockbrokers under a buttonwood tree in New York City, and formed the stock market.
- 20, 1963 — Supreme Court legalized sit-in demonstrations.
- 26, 1952 — First Amendment, (Freedom of speech & press) extended to the motion picture industry (& now abused?)
- 28, 1934 — Birth of Dionne quints in Canada
- 31, 1790 — First U.S. copyright passed.

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### SENIOR INFORMATION DAY

The annual Senior Information Day will be held at the Richmond Auditorium on Wednesday, May 8 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Tickets are available at senior centers, nutrition sites, and the Richmond Recreation and Parks Department. The box lunch and drawing are only \$1.50. The day will feature free blood pressure testing, and advice booth with medical professionals and social security people, para-legal professionals and safety and security people. Call 620-6794 for further information.





UNCOVERED — A VINTAGE COCALCOLA ADVERTISEMENT  
At the Spot Liquor Store, 1 Washington Avenue.  
Photo by Dierdre Clirkanowicz, before the ad was repainted.

## CHURCHES

### THE POINT METHODIST CHURCH. . .

*Church history is rich with contributions of women. One of the church groups in the early 1900's was the Home Missionary Society of the First Methodist Church, whose history is reflected in their minutes, printed below and taken from the stiff cardboard covered book purchased from 'Schoen's Pharmacy in the Point'. This is the eighth installment.*

October 15, 1907      Point Richmond, Calif.

The Home Missionary Society met at the church. Our President Mrs. Conry being present the meeting was opened by singing hymn No 160 and reading 13th chap of 1st Cor then singing Gloria Patri.

The roll was called with responses of Scripture and giving of the Mite boxes. The report for the Mite Boxes opened was \$8.94.

Received an (sic) donation for the children. Bill from Mrs. Schram 50 ¢. Also from Mrs. Erskin 25 ¢.



The Corresponding Secretary read her report from the district President. We then had a song by Mrs. Adams and Prayer followed by the Lord's Prayer in concert. Received from Mrs. R.L. Adams for dues 30¢.

For refreshments 80 ¢. It was moved and seconded that Mrs. Gnaga pay the bill for the children. Adjournment

L.C. Pritchard

The next meeting to be at Mrs. Butterfields.

—Mid Dornan

### OUR LADY OF MERCY CATHOLIC CHURCH — Rev. Denis Araujo, pastor

After Mass on April 28, a breakfast was held in the Church Hall. Ellie Strauss was in charge, and it was an especially nice meal; proceeds from which will be donated to the young adults who received their confirmation to be used to purchase visual aids for the C.C.D.

Adolph and Addie Broussard were honored by the Diocese and Bishops on the Twentieth of April for their services to the Parish.

Due to the continuing donated garden expertise of Gertrude Rondon, with the extra monetary and physical help of some of the congregation, the gardens of the church property are looking well kept and beautiful.

Recent newlyweds are William Embody and Betty Rettig; and William Fulwiler and Frances Maahs. Baptisms were given to Loretta, daughter of Ralph and Julie Robinson, and Gabriele whose parents, Norbert and Nelly Richert are visiting from Germany.

The Rev. Charles Smith of the First Methodist Church was a welcome guest at the 9 o'clock Mass on April 18. His family was present at the church breakfast.

—Marion Downey

## POINT RICHMOND NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

A well attended Candidates' Night was held to meet City Council candidates; and a special meeting was held to get information about the proposed "Frogtown" development (the area bordered by Wine Street, Cutting Boulevard and Canal Boulevard. Since the area is zoned residential, medium density, but the General Plan calls for a lower density, this difference should be resolved. Also, on Thursday, May 2, the Planning Commission will consider the proposal of a controlled development overlay for the parcel. The tentative plan by the developers calls for an apartment complex.

The next General Meeting of the Neighborhood Council will be Thursday, July 11.

If any members have sent in membership dues, and checks have not been cashed, please notify Jan Lyons at 235-5705. Some delays have occurred in receiving checks via the Richmond Plunge.

—□—

## A POINT RICHMOND ARTISTS' COOPERATIVE?

Several artist-craftspeople have voiced an interest in forming an artists' cooperative and a preliminary meeting was held in April to discuss the goals of such an organization and what it would involve.

Attending the meeting were Teresa Albro, Jim DeWitt, Marilyn Schutzky, Gina Green, Jonel Johnson, Bonnie Yuill-Thornton and Donna Roselius. A second meeting, which will be called for the purpose of finding the number of persons willing to participate, will be held on May 15, at the home of Marilyn Schutzky in Brickyard Cove. If you are interested, please call either 236-4318 or 235-4222.



## WEST SIDE BRANCH LIBRARY

New library hours are in full operation. Now that the weather is pleasant, the door is usually open — Mondays through Fridays — so stop in.

Several new titles have been added to West Side's permanent collection: *Do Lord Remember Me* by Julius Lester, and *Seeing Earth: Literary Responses to Space Exploration*, by Ronald Weber. For the children, there are two easy books by Tana Hoban, *I Read Signs* and *I Read Symbols*, plus a new title from another favorite author, Beverly It's called *Lucky Chuck*, and could be considered a primer for any youngster learning about motorcycles.

Many people availed themselves of the tax forms and especially the extension forms during the period up to April 15. West Side will continue to have the basic forms and schedules plus the Master File for late filers.

Spring is supplying us with an abundance of blossoms. The Library can supply you with an abundance of books about them, on the display table for May.

—Jan Burdick

## NEWS FROM WASHINGTON SCHOOL

### BOOK FAIR —

#### BRING BOOKS: BUY BOOKS!

We have a good selection of books, but more are needed. If you have some books that are getting dusty, please bring them to the Washington School office right away!

The Used Book Bonanza will begin Wednesday, May 1 at 6:00 p.m., in Room 4 at Washington School. Subsequent schedules are as follows:

Thursday, May 2 — 12 to 12:30 p.m.  
Friday, May 3 — 12 to 12:30 p.m.  
Monday, May 6 — 12 to 12:30 p.m.  
Tuesday, May 7 — 12 to 12:30 p.m.  
Wednesday, May 8 — 12 to 12:30 p.m.  
Thursday, May 9 — 12 to 12:30 p.m.  
Friday, May 10 — 12 to 12:30 p.m.

For information, call Debbie Alley at 236-7227.

### LECTURE AND PUBLIC FORUM on STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT . . .

On Wednesday, May 22 at 7:00 p.m. a most interesting lecture and public forum concerning student achievement will be led by Mr. Curtis Vaughn, roving psychologist for a number of schools in the district.

The importance of test scores, the effect of feeling competent on a student's later success; the concepts of public vs. private schools, etc., will be discussed.

Refreshments will be served during the discussion period. Babysitting is provided.

—Debbie Alley





## A-MID TRIVIA

Artichokes are one of the welcome signs that spring has arrived in California. Did you know that it takes an artichoke 130 days to grow to maturity?

-o-

While Coca Cola is creating a national stir by changing its famous secret formula, locally The Spot Liquor Store is creating a stir by uncovering and restoring an 'antique' Coca Cola advertisement on the Washington Avenue side of the building. The expert called in to do the job was even featured on evening TV news.

-o-

Chairmen of Washington PTA Founders Day were truly sensitive to community affairs when they changed the original date of the celebration after finding that the Point Richmond History Association and the Boy Scouts of Troop 111 both had meetings on that date. It meant creating and mailing a new invitation, and at the new postage rate, it was a costly change, but a congenial and cooperative gesture not unusual among people in the Point.

-o-

Emma Fuglesten from Buxton, North Dakota, has been visiting her daughter, Sonja Darling and her family for three weeks.

-o-

A surprise potluck - baby shower was given by members of the Point Methodist Church after services on Sunday, April 22, for Amy and Marcos Rotting. Guests were asked to 'think pink' since the new family member, expected sometime in May, will be joining three brothers, Phillip, Lance and Christopher.

-o-

Jennifer Barnett and Jack de la Fontejine will be married in the historic Methodist Church on Saturday, May 28, after which they will move to Rotterdam, Holland, where Jack is employed by SeaLand.

The couple met while Jennifer was attending a Dallas high school to which Jack came as an exchange student. During her brief residence here, Jennifer has attended U.C., Berkeley, studying Art History. She will be graduating in May.

-o-

Did you arrive before automation? - You did if you were born before 1952! - At least the word automation didn't appear in a dictionary until that year.

-o-

For those of us who have been around long enough to see the 'little kids' at Washington School now become the parents in charge of Founders Day, it was rewarding to see people like Omera Essary Johnson, Wanda Bash and Amy Fletcher Rotting filling the roles that made the event so successful. Cleaning up afterwards, Omera sighed, "I didn't appreciate all the work my mother was doing!"

-o-

According to statistics, one out of five school children live with only one parent. The National Committee for Citizens in Education (NCCE) has established a toll-free hotline for parents and teachers interested in information about the special needs of a single-parent family. Call 800-638-9675 for more information.

-o-

## MOM FACTS...

According to the Census Bureau, the months with most births are July and August.

To raise a child today in a Western city would cost \$62,836, according to the following breakdown: Food at home, \$15,020; Food away from home, \$1,350; Clothing, \$4,146; Housing, \$20,036; Medical care, \$4,248; Education (not college), \$360; Transportation, \$4,146; and all other - \$7,132.

The annual dollar-value of a non-working mother's work is \$40,823. broken down



by category and number of hours performed weekly. Some of the categories are food-buyer, nurse, tutor, seamstress, laundress, chauffeur, gardener, cleaning woman, errand runner, interior decorator, bookkeeper, budget manager, child psychologist, public relations woman and hostess.

-O-

After many years, and numerous bruised shins, Washington Auditorium finally has a light switch just inside the door. Since anyone can remember, it was on the wall of the stage area, making it necessary to find the stairs to the stage, get back of the curtain and feel along the wall for a switch to light your way.

-O-

Flowers in barrels and window boxes on West Richmond Avenue add beauty and charm to the Point and enjoyment for everyone; so it is deplorable that someone, oblivious to beauty, has destroyed many of the flowers.

-O-

The street banner advertising the Annual Boy Scout Pancake Breakfast is a dramatic testimony to the dedication of some of the parents who did the tedious work required to create the banner. Designed and sewed by Roz Bury, and lettered by Bob Maske, the banner will be there to remind you of this fine traditional event.

-O-

William (Billy) Burl Eger, son of Jean Eger of Point Richmond, started basic training with the U.S. Army at Fort Dix, New Jersey, in April. Billy will receive advanced training in computer operations at Fort Benjamin Harrison, Indiana.

-O-

-ooo-

SEE YOU AT TROOP 111's BOY SCOUT  
PANCAKE BREAKFAST!

-ooo-

## DEATHS : . .

Although some of us knew Lawrence Thole was in the hospital, few of us considered his death a probability, supposing that, if a person can be alert and healthy at the age of 104, he might be able to live indefinitely. Thus all who knew him are saddened and surprised that Lawrence Thole died on April 22.

Born in Belle Plain, Minnesota in 1880, Mr. Thole moved to Richmond in 1901. He at first lived in a tent, but soon built his own home. First employed by Santa Fe, he went into business for himself as a carpenter and builder, and later as a realtor. Both World I and II were fought during Mr. Thole's adult life, but he missed service in the first because he had four children, and he was sixty years old by the Second World War, but he worked on the Liberty Ships.

He was the husband of the late Mae Thole, and lived with his daughter, Maxine Mayer, on Crest Avenue. Besides Maxine, he is survived by one other daughter and two sons, eight grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

The man who entertained neighbors with his guitar and harmonica playing, and played the piano for dancers at his birthday parties will live on in the memories of those fortunate enough to have known him.

-O-

Another local legend, Jerry Solich, died in his home on Delfino Avenue at the age of 84. Known as 'Smokey', Mr. Solich was well known around the Point. His nickname came from the 'Smokey the Bear' hat he always wore. His voice was as distinctive as his hat, and he could tell stories about the early days in the Point that were unknown to many of the ladies in the community. A native of Yugoslavia, he lived in the Point for 81 years, retiring after 40 years as an engineer for Santa Fe. He was a member of



Our Lady of Mercy Church. He is survived by his niece, Helene Frosini, and nephews Al Raffanelli and Greg Solich.

-O-

Jacob M. Brakstad died April 9 in Antioch, at the age of 90. A native of Norway, Jacob lived for many years at the corner of Santa Fe and Piedmont in the Point. He was a member of Painters' Union 560. He is survived by daughters Avis Lau, Marlys Petta, Shirley Kinkle, Barbara Rebischke, Carol Andreani, Nancy Loss and Diane Civello. Four children, Harold, Stanley, Jerome, and Beverly Milde and his wife preceded him in

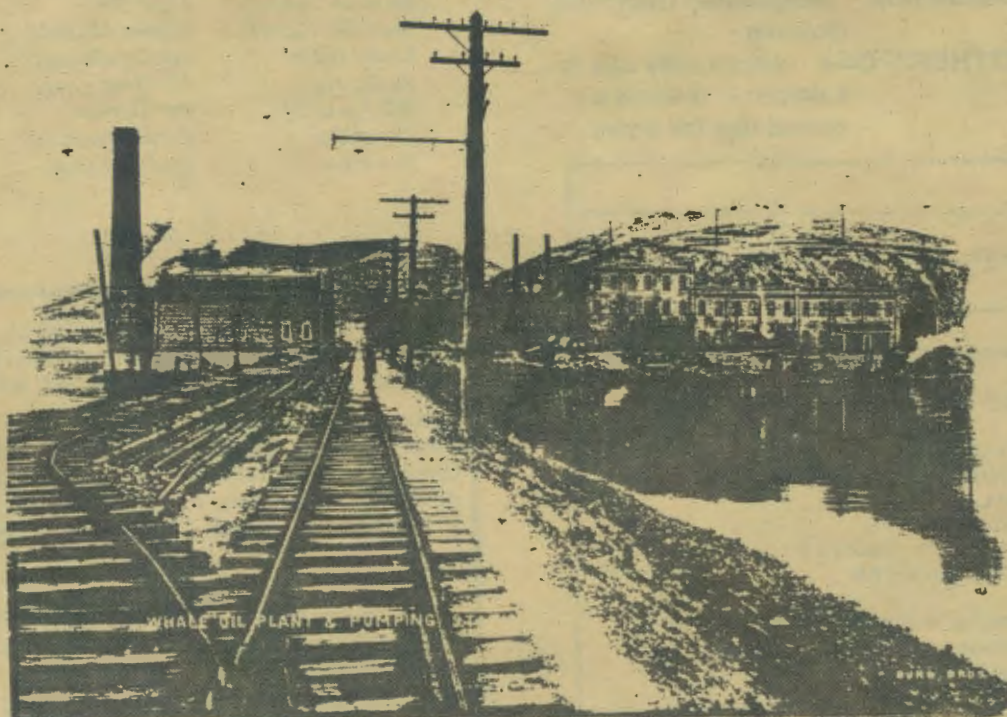
death. Thirty-six grandchildren and 25 great-grandchildren also survive Mr. Brakstad.

-O-

Joseph C. Mainini died April 3 in Mendocino County while alone fishing. He was 73 years old. A native of Italy, he was brought to Point Richmond at the age of 2 and lived here many years at 212 Bishop Avenue. A retired Standard Oil employee, Joe is survived by his wife Irma and two sons, Leroy and Robert, both of El Sobranite, and three grandsons.

-OO-

—Mid Dornan (234-5334)



EARLY PICTURE OF THE WHALE OIL PLANT AND PUMPING STATION



## POINTS IN THE FUTURE

### MAY . . .

- 1 — May Day — a day to take flowers to anyone special.
- 2 thru 10 — Book Fair at Washington School.
- 7 — West Side Improvement Club meets at noon, Our Lady of Mercy Church.
- 8 — Senior Information day at Richmond Auditorium, 9 to 12.
- 8 — Point Richmond Business Association, 12 noon, Hotel Mac.
- 11 — ANNUAL BOY SCOUT PANCAKE BREAKFAST, 6 to 12 noon; Point Methodist Church. Only Troop 111 fund raiser for camp.
- 12 — Museum Day — reception at Richmond Museum
- 12 — MOTHER'S DAY - there's only one to a person — make it a special day for yours.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

#### TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP (CHECK ONE)

- |  |         |
|--|---------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> SINGLE                | \$10.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SENIOR CITIZEN (65 +) | 5.00    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FAMILY                | 20.00   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ORGANIZATION          | 25.00   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> HISTORY-PRESERVER     | 30.00   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> HISTORY-MAKER         | 100.00  |

Membership in the Point Richmond History Association includes a subscription to this newsletter.

Please send membership forms to:

PAM WILSON  
521 WESTERN DRIVE  
POINT RICHMOND, CA 94801

- 19 — Last day, Richmond Museum's exhibit, "Just a matter of business"
- 19 — POINT RICHMOND HISTORY ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING  
1 p.m., Linsley Hall,  
Pot Luck Luncheon,  
Vintage fashion show, etc.
- 22 — Washington PTA , 7 p.m. , Curtis Vaughn, speaker.
- 27 — Legal Holiday
- 30 — Memorial Day (old)

### HAPPY MAY BIRTHDAY . . .

Lucretia Edwards	Anne Price
Vern Doeslstedt	John Knox, Jr.
Richard Matteucci	Bob Feyder
Diana Spinola	Christine Dennis
Maurice Doherty	Dave Bray
Marcello Caceres	Uldine Nickola
Cindy Quist	Jon Doelstedt
Becky Horn	Winifred Jones
Bill Kretzmer	Pat Dornan
Lloyd Darley	Ruth Beardsley
Bev Price	Evelyn Essary

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

#### Editorial Staff (Board members):

Donna Roselius, Teresa Albro, Michelle Brown, Dierdre Cerkanowicz, Mid Dornan, Lucretia Edwards, Paula Ferguson, Frankie Greenlaw, Liz McDonald, Pam Wilson: Trannie Dornan, advisor

#### 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.