THIS POINT-

NEWSLETTER

A PUBLICATION OF THE POINT RICHMOND HISTORY ASSOCIATION

VOL. IV, No. 4

November, 1985

75 cents

A BEAUTIFUL PAINTING
OF THE RICHMOND
SHORELINE IS
FEATURED ON
RICHMOND'S NEW
POSTER
(Black & White
reproduction doesn't
do it justice)

Posters are now available through the Mayor's office — see article in this newsletter, page 16



RICHMOND

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in time

* THISTORY ASSOCIATION MOLLES **



ITALIAN NIGHT

(So you're not Italian? Come anyway – we're an equal opportunity organization!)

AT LINSLEY HALL NOVEMBER 21 7:30 p.m.

So many of the early residents of the Point were Italians, and so many members of those families are living here now, that their special memories and stories of the early days in the Point will be featured at the next History Association Meeting.

Liz McDonald is searching for more members of Italian families who will share their memories — So far, those who have consented to share their stories and memorabilia with us are:

Anita Christensen, Mary Highfill, Luciano Forner, Maria Buziol and Al Frosini.

If you haven't been found yet, a md.if you are from one of the early Italian families here, please call Liz at 234-3936.

Also call if you are willing to bring some good Italian baked goods to share that evening!

INVITE YOUR FRIENDS AND ENJOY THE EVENING!



GET YOUR HISTORICAL POINT RICHMOND CALENDAR FOR 1986!

The beautiful 1912 photograph, plus lots of historic trivia about Point Richmond make the calendar a 'collector's item' that you can afford to have more than one of. At only \$3.00, they make a great little Christmas gift, too.

The local Boy Scouts of Troop 111 are selling the calendars house to house, to make your purchase convenient, and to help help them raise funds for their summer camp expenses.

You can also purchase the calendars at Trannie's store (145 West Richmond) and at the Santa Fe Market from Gracie, as well as at Savoir Faire, Sonrisa and Sherry and Bob's.

A GREAT EVENING ...

Looking for an excuse to have a night out on the town? . . . Looking for a gift for a friend who has everything you could afford to buy? . . . Or just looking for a pleasant evening with congenial people?

The Point Richmond History Association can give you all of the above, while, at the same time you can help us fight inflation, by buying tickets to our benefit evening at any one of Point Richmond's famous restaurants, plus an evening at the Masquers — a wonderful evening of melodrama (You can work off dinner just hissing, booing and applauding).

The Masquers has offered a great fundraiser, which we will use to defray the rising cost of publication, while you enjoy a festive evening with friends at your favorite Point



Richmond restaurant followed by a special presentation of "After Dark", a stirring classic Victorian melodrama with olio acts. An excellent script (written by Dion Boucicault in 1868, perfect for a History Association) brings romance. intrigue, laughter and the oft-painful struggle between good and evil. It's fast paced fun with great scenic effects.

Simply call any of the Board members, if they don't get to you first, and reserve your ticket. Everything else will be taken care of. Dinner even includes wine and the tip. A total evening for \$25, and the warm feeling that you've donated to a worthy (and tax-deductible) cause.

When you make your reservation, stipulate at which restaurant you wish to dine: the Hotel Mac. Point Orient, the Baltic, or Park Place.

Tickets area available from: Donna Roselius, 235-4222; Teresa Albro, 233-6243; Mildred Dornan, 234-5334; Deirdre Cerkanowicz, 235-2945; Muriel Clausen, 233-8904; 233-8904; Pam Wilson, 233-2255; Frankie Greenlaw, (707) 557-1208; Liz McDonald, 234-3936; Sarah Eeles, 233-2641; Mae Mandl, 235-8693, and Jerry Cerkanowicz, 235-1336.

This would be a great Christmas gift for some of your favorite friends - the special evening will be Thursday, January 30 plan ahead!

INDEXING . . .

The new indexing chairman, Jerry Cerkanowicz will soon be calling any members who have noted an interest in assisting in the indexing process. Please let him know if you are interested in working on this important committee. His telephone number is 235-1336.

MEMBERS ...

Pam Wilson, membership chairman, 521 Western Dr. Pt. Richmond, 94801

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

Anna Booth Eleanor & Hamilton Boswell Elton Brombacher The Burman family Laura Carey Judge & Mrs. Geo. D. Carroll Mary Casey Lloyd & Melba Farley Gary Shows Sheila Fostiak Ruth Miller

Anna S. Gaumer Clara Jones Virginia R.Kennedy Zoanna Kille Frank Lopez Mrs. Mae Mandl Frank & Pat Pearson Kay Pinkerton Hazel Salmi Pauline Valenti

And welcome to the following new members:

Raymond Golden Maxine McLemore Carolyn Moskowitz Stan & Ruth Nystrom

Please let us know if we have made any errors in the listings.

INDIAN STATUE PARK UPDATE

A preliminary estimate of the costs involved to create the planned landscaped park area at the tip of the Triangle is approximately \$20,000.

Costs include site preparation, excavation and concrete, repair of sidewalks, irrigation system, electrical installations, perimeter treatment, dirt and plantings.

It is assumed that some of the costs will be lessened by contributions of work. The State grant which the City Recreation and Parks department is responsible for requesting will, if granted, make it possible to complete the financing with local contributions.

At this time, we have approximately \$6,000 in local contributions. At least \$4,000 more will be needed. Please note the contribution form included in this newsletter.

As of this printing, donors of \$200 or more are:

Alko Office Supplies
Anne Anderson
Louisa Banks
George M.Batten
Brickyard Landing
M.H.Carey & W.R.
Stribley families
Muriel & Burt Clausen
Marion Downey
Luciano, Michael, Leo &
Aldo Forner
Barry & Erica T. Goode
Lois & Loraine Haigh

Adele C.Hollander
David & Mary Janney
Donald J.Jardine
Virginia R.Kennedy
Florence C.Morton
Ruth & Stan Nystrom
Barbara A.Olesen
Mulbry & Vera Page,
Helen Roberts,
Lillian McNeff
Greg Solich
Nick & Moses Vaughan
Betty Wirth

partial payments received: Robert Butzbach Camil

Camille Zulpo

A CONVERSATION WITH STANLEY NYSTROM

When we have questions about dates, places and people from Richmond's past, we usually turn to one person who has the patience to deal with us, the ability to find answers, and the willingness to do research if the answer isn't readily available. That person is Stanley Nystrom.

Mr. Nystrom also provides us with corrections, as in last month's newsletter — we assumed the undertaking parlor in the photo provided by Tom Kenny was in the Triangle. Stan recognized it as being the building which is now the Baltic. At the time, it was Bert Curry's undertaking parlor at 37 Park Place. The date of the picture? 1920.

Last month's question, about when the Colonial Hotel became the Hotel Mac was also solved by Stan - 1937.

This month, he thought up a trivia question for us:

What Richmond Mayor was a member of a royal family????

The answer will be in next month's newsletter.

If the name Nystrom sounds familiar, it's not coincidental. Stanley's great-grand-father arrived in this area long before the name Richmond was on the maps.

Johan Richard Nystrom left Finland in 1867, a year of famine. Once in California he went into the construction business. He worked at Ellis Landing, becoming manager there, and bought a ranch in the area now partially occupied by Nystrom School. He married the 'girl next door' (at what is now Fifteenth and Ohio).

As Richmond developed, the land became more valuable, and when it was divided it brought Nystrom a comfortable income.

Stanley's father was raised on the ranch with nine brothers and sisters. He went to work as a fireman for Santa Fe, and then ran the locomotive at Blake Brothers' Quarry. He went to work for Standard Oil, running the trolley out to the Longwharf, and later worked in one of their experimental labs.



He, as the other sons, was given a home on the Nystrom tract. Stanley was born there, and attended Nystrom and Roosevelt schools, graduating from high school in 1937.

Making his living during the depression days with an extensive paper route for the Oakland Tribune and later for the Examiner. Stanley got well acquainted with a great portion of Richmond, from the southern area to the Mira Vista hills.

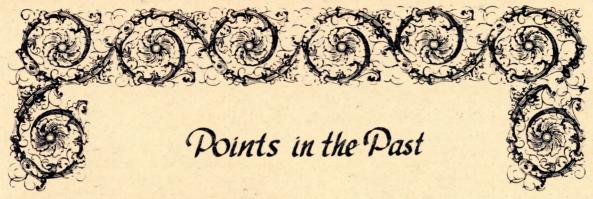
He later became an electrician's apprentice at Mare Island, and when the Second World War started, he went into the Navy, only to find himself back at Mare Island, after his initial training in Faragut, Idaho. For a while during the war, he worked at a Landing Craft facility that took over the

area covered by Golden Gate Fields. The photos of the extensive field of Landing Craft there are impressive, with thousands of them covering what was before and after the war a race track. Later, Stanley went back to Mare Island, and as an electrician went into 'non-destructive testing', with ultra sound and other techniques. He retired from the Navy in 1979, and has since then contributed greatly to the Richmond Museum as a volunteer.

Stanley met his wife, Ruth, in 1948. She is the twin sister of Fay Hawkins, who is a well known Point resident. Stan and Ruth have been married since 1952, and live in a pleasant home in Richmond that contains an impressive 'research facility' on Richmond history.



1910 photo from the Don Church Collection, showing the Standard Oil Refinery in the background; Identified are: the Vecchio Winery, foreground – building with porches around it on both floors; Farther back, to the right of the road: The Grand Hotel, behind it the "Mug' saloon, and the Golden Gate Hotel,



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 ...

by Deirdre Cerkanowicz

SANTA FE FREIGHT TRAIN
COLLIDES WITH
ROCK CRUSHER...

"A rock train of the street railway was struck by a Santa Fe freight train this morning at the Fortieth street crossing. No one was injured but the motor car of the rock train was completely demolished. The motor was in charge of Motorman Graden and Conductor Nicholson. The accident occurred shortly after nine o'clock. Graden was in charge of the rock train which several months ago collided with a motor truck near the county line."

-November 3, 1915

SHIPYARDS MAY COME TO INNER HARBOR . . .

"Four small shipyards located around the bay and whose names are being kept secret by Senator J.C. Owens are negotiating with him for a location to accommodate the consolidation of the yards into one big plant.

"The concern, if it comes would be a valuable addition to the local industrial colony."

-November 6, 1915

DYING HORSE
SPILLS DRIVER . . .

"J. Patterson, driver for the Richmond Bakery, 1 Park Place, narrowly escaped injury last night when his horse fell during a late delivery trip on Idaho street. Patterson went to a telephone to summon help from the bakery and when he returned to the scene of the accident found the horse dead. The animal died presumably from breaking a blood vessel."

—November 6, 1915

ed. comment: Looking back on old maps of Point Richmond, I frequently noticed roads that were marked "Impassable for Teams". Some of these roads probably aren't in much better shape today, in terms of the traffic they're expected to take — witness seeing heavy trucks try to make it up Tewksbury, or down Santa Fe.

BOULEVARD PAVING TO BE FINISHED TOMORROW...

- "'We will finish the job tomorrow', said Manager Henry Wahl of the Municipal Improvement company in discussing the paving of Cutting boulevard from Ashland avenue to Tenth street.
- "... This is one of the biggest paving jobs ever placed in Richmond... \$221,929.30 for the whole job." $_{-November\ 11,\ 1915}$

CITY HALL PLANS. EXAMINED BY NICHOLL...

"Plans for the proposed new city hall in Burg Brothers tract are being examined by John H. Nicholl, the donor of the site and \$25,000 for the building and it is expected that they will be ready for submission to the council for its approval on next Monday evening.

-November 11, 1915

Note: There is (from November 12 to November 22) an exhibit of photos, memorabilia. sculptures and paintings. of the Pacific Panamerican International Exposition at the Transamerica Pyramid in San Francisco.

KIDDIES DAY AT EXPOSITION . . .

"Organization of the committee to handle the details of the free trip to the exposition to be given on November 20th to the kiddies under 12 years of age who have not yet seen the big fair was effected at the office of Senator James C. Owens at which Mrs. John G. Gerlach was named as chairman.

"It is planned to take the little ones over, the Key System having agreed to furnish the transportation, Senator James C. Owens to secure the admission tickets and the funds being raised to be used to secure lunches for those who do not bring their own and also to pay their way into the 'Panama Canal' and one or two other high class attractions on the Zone."

-November 12, 1915

SMOKERS BEWARE ON FERRY: UNCLE SAMUEL IS BUSY...

"Acting under instructions from the federal authorities, Manager Moch of the Richmond-San Rafael ferry has announced that he will refuse future accommodations to auto owners who violate the federal regulations regarding transporting of autos.

"Smoking on the lower decks where the cars are stored, lighting up cars before the ferry docks, etc. are included in the lists of 'Dont's'." (Lighting up cars??)

-November 17, 1915

CATHOLIC FAIR ON WEST SIDE ENDS SATURDAY...

"The fair for the benefit of Our Lady of Mercy church which has been under way in the church hall in Richmond avenue for the past ten days will come to a close on next Saturday evening when the various prizes will be awarded.

"The disposal of turkeys for Thanksgiving is proving one of the popular attractions at the affair. There will be special attractions at the bazaar this evening."

-November 16, 1915

EMERSON GARRARD DIES SUDDENLY...

"Emerson Garrard, one of the best known young men in Richmond, died ... today of typhoid fever. He had been ill for three weeks and was making a good fight against the disease. but when the crisis in the fever came today he was unable to meet it..."

—November 16, 1915

STATE AUTO LICENSE IS ANNOUNCED...

"Auto license fees for 1916, under California's new motor vehicle act, will be computed at the rate of 40 cents for each horse-power... Thus on a machine of 22 horse-power (Fords) the license fee will be \$8.80; on a machine of 24 horsepower \$9.60 and so on.

"The new system of computing fees will mean a reduction in the license fee to owners of autos of 2 to 25 horsepower, 30 to 38 horsepower, 40 to 49 horsepower, and an increase for others.

"The Ford fee will be \$8.80; Dodge

\$9.60; Maxwell from \$5.20 to \$16.40; Buick, \$6.40 to \$16.00; Overland, \$8.80 to \$11.60."

-November 20, 1915

PHOTOS TELL STORY OF ADVANCEMENT BEING MADE IN RICHMOND...

"That Richmond is advancing is indicated by the latest photos of some of the largest development here... The boulevardwork is completed; the tunnel is ready and the work on the wharf is progressing rapidly."

-November 22, 1915

TO ENFORCE OLD RED LIGHT LAWS...

"Acting under instruction of the police committee of the city council, Chief of Police Charels H. Walker held a conference with District Attorney T.D. Johnston last evening and this afternoon swore to complaints against the seven women 'managers' of houses of ill fame in this city. The arrests are to be made this afternoon. The prosecution will not be under the new red light abatement law but under the old law.

"The arrested women are all in Railroad avenue except Mrs. Gene Martin, whose address is in North Seventh street. The accused were released on \$25 bail."

-November 23, 1915

HUNKY SHAW IS SUING FOR COIN . . .

"Hunky Shaw, former local baseball star has a new law suit. The last one cost Hunky several hundred simoleons when he got mad and threw a baseball at a spectator.

"Now in Portland he is suing CalEwing, baseball magnate for his alleged canning of Hunky three years ago."

-November 23, 1915

LOTTERIES TRY SMALLER CITIES . . .

"Driven out of San Francisco by persis-

tent raids under the direction of Chief of Police White and the action of police judges of that city, representatives of a half dozen lottery companies are trying to fasten themselves on this and a number of other smaller cities of the State. . ."

—November 24, 1915

WEST SIDE TO HAVE CELEBRATION...

"A big celebration in honor of the completion of the paving of Cutting boulevard and of the municipal tunnel is planned by the West Side commercial club. The whole city and the eastern bay section will be invited to participate. Julius Stiefvater, C.S. Downing, Mayor E.J. Garrard, Harry Wernse and W.S. McRacken will meet during the week and gather for submission to the club at its meeting next Tuesday evening plans and suggestions for the noise making."

-November 24, 1915



photo from the Don Church Collection: "Quitting time at the Standard Oil Refinery, 1917

TO TURN BROOKS ISLAND INTO A HOG PEN...

"West side residents are up in arms over the report that the Pacific Improvement company has leased Brooks Island to be used for an immense pig pen. As the story goes the lease goes into effect on the first of the month — Wednesday — and that on Thursday the first shipment of 2,000 pigs will be brought to the island to be raised for the market.

"It is also reported that the animals will be fed by swill brought by a special boat from San Francisco. West side people have approached Dr. Charles R. Blake, city health commissioner to prevent the plan being carried out as a violation of the city health laws. It is feared that the stench from the big island which is located just south east of the Santa Fe pier will be so obnoxious on days when the winds carry the smell from the pig sties to the west side residential district." (sentence stops here. . .)

—November 29, 1915

(Recently, Brooks Island is being prepared for a regional park — its past history has been at least colorful.)

BOTH SIDES OF CITY TO MAKE MERRY...

"At a meeting of the Richmond Merchants association last night in the offices of Attorney Wilbur Pierce, steps were taken to cooperate with the West Side Commercial Club for a New Year's celebration over the completion of Cutting Boulevard.

"At first the west side club had planned for a celebration at an earlier date but decided to postpone the event until New Years. The Merchants Association voted to work with them... It is planned to make this one of the biggest celebrations held in Richmond in years with dancing, fire works, and a barbecue."

-November 30, 1915

Note: Last year's pollution of the Russian River, 70 years later, makes it apparent that history repeats, if nothing is learned . . .

RUSSIAN RIVER NOT DUMP PLACE . . .

"The towns of Ukiah, Guerneville and Cloverdale must stop dumping sewage in the Russian River and its tributaries, the state board of health decided today. This river is the main stream in an ideal camping section of California and the state board will keep it from being polluted."

-November 16, 1915

60 YEARS AGO ...

bu Pam Wilson

WEST SIDE AGREES ON PARK SITE...

"Residents of the West Side. at a mass meeting under the auspices of the West Side Progressive Association, in the Point Masonic Hall last night gave unanimous approval of a site adjacent to the Washington School property for the West Side park.

"The site chosen lays between the school property, Cutting Boulevard, Garrard Boulevard and Wine Street and will contain approximately four acres. The Mintzer estate will transfer the property to the city for \$16,000. The city has \$7800 in its funds for the park. The raising of the additional money will be taken up by the park commission and city officials."

—November 3, 1925

BOY SCOUTS BEAUTIFY CUTTING BOULEVARD...

"Boy Scouts of seven Richmond troops planted eighty pounds of poppy seeds in the center parkways of Cutting Boulevard, a big job when you consider that the seeds were planted in 36 squares extending two and a half miles. The boys intend to weed

the soil and keep it in good condition so the avenue will be a blaze of color next spring.

"The planting was done under the supervision of R. Tcherassy, Superintendent of Streets (formerly owner of the Point Theater). The scouts will hold a tag day on November 14 to raise the money to pay for the seeds."

-November 4, 1925

MABEL STOUT EXPECTED HOME...

"After having completed the fall term of teaching at Fish Camp in the Sierras, Miss Mabel Stout, well known West Side girl, is expected home this week end. Fish Camp is 50 miles above Yosemite and has its school sessions in two sections; in the fall and in the spring, on account of the heavy snow."

November 9, 1925

SURPRISE SHOWER ON ALLYN BABY...

"A baby shower was given at the Allyn home at 22 Idaho for infant daughter Elizabeth Dianne Allyn. The affair was a complete surprise to the Allyn household and was given by members of Richmond Parlor, Native Daughters."

November 10, 1925

WEST SIDE PARK QUESTION BEFORE BOARDS...

"The park and playground commission and the city council will meet jointly at the city hall... The main purpose of the meeting will be to thrash out a solution to the park problem of the West Side. The West Side Progressive Association favors a park site near the municipal bathhouse, but the council only has available \$7800 for the park. The two and one half acre site adjacent the Washington School is favored by the Association, but the \$6000 will not purchase the property.

"The Council has set aside the \$7800

for the West Side park until the residents agree on the site."

JANICE PARK REVIVED ...

"Richmond has a park that few residents know existed. It is known as Janice Park and is located at Nicholl and Washington avenues.

"Inasmuch as the site of 50 by 100 feet is owned by the city, Councilwoman Mrs. Marie Ogborn last night suggested that it be improved for the residents of the West Side.

"Replanting of shrubs and trees is necessary but it was said the park could be put into shape with comparatively little expense. The matter will be placed in the hands of R. Tcherassy, city superintendent of parks and playgrounds."

-November 10, 1925

MARRIED WAGE EARNERS . . .

"The women of the future, so far as physically able, will be helping their husbands support their families, according to the predictions of Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt. made in a recent address at Milwaukee. She felt that the standards of expense and the level of prices will continue to rise, making it necessary for the women to take hold and help their husbands.

"The women of twenty years ago would have grouned at such a prospect. Not merely were most of them unable to do anything to help support their families, but a very great number required help to do their own housework.

"Probably the housework of the ordinary home is not more than half what it was 25 years ago, owing to new inventions and customs. The modern woman is full of energy, and if she can get more of the benefits of the world by taking on some activities outside the home, she will not hesitate to do so."

—November 17, 1925

SOCIAL, LODGE, CHURCH events . . .

"Plans for holiday charity work among the sick and destitute were made yesterday at the meeting of the Catholic Women's Aid Society..."

"Between the strains of the Welsh melodies which composed the program of the Club Mendelssohn yesterday, members of the organization found time to make plans for the guest day meeting... Yesterday's meeting, which was held at the home of Mrs. A.D. Jones. 201 Cottage avenue, was favored with many selections by talented artists..."

"'Those Husbands of Ours",a cleverly produced skit, was presented last night at the Point Masonic hall when the Worthy Matrons and Worthy Patrons of the East Bay region were entertained by Point Chapter, Order of Eastern Star."

-November 20, 1925

50 YEARS AGO ...

TWINS BORN TO

"Twins, a boy and a girl, were born this morning to Mr. and Mrs. Leslie E. Turley of Bishop street, West Side. The babies, who tipped the scales at 4½ pounds each, arrived at Richmond Cottage Hospital, where mother and children are doing nicely under the care of Dr. W.S. Lucas."

- November 8, 1935

WHISTFUL
WEST SIDE . . .

"Tonight is the time of the monster turkey whist given for the benefit of Our Lady of Mercy parish. The first shift will start at 7 p.m. Both the Masonic hall and the church parish hall will be used to accommodate the crowds of players. The second shift will start at 9 p.m."

"The turkey whist sponsored by Point

Richmond Grove and Circle of Druids on Tuesday evening at Trinity Guild hall was well attended . . . "

"The whist sponsored by the Washington P.T.A. on Wednesday evening was attended by a fair sized crowd..."

-November 15, 1935

POINT BAPTISTS TO CELEBRATE 34th YEAR...

"Rev. W.A. Chapman will preach from the subject: 'The Consummation of God's Creation' at the thirty-fourth anniversary of the Point Baptist church Sunday morning. . . Rev. Chapman organized the church in November, 1901. He will have many interesting remarks to make concerning the early period as well as encouragement for the future. . .

"An interesting feature of the program will be the reading of the minutes of the first meeting by Mrs. Paul Dunlap, who took those minutes."

-November 16, 1935

40 YEARS AGO ...

by Sarah Eeles

HERE AND THERE IN RICHMOND . . .

"Announcement has been made of the appointment of Mrs. Margaret Allyn as Deputy Grand Matron of District no. 26 Order of Eastern Star. A member of Point Chapter, no. 394, her district includes Thousand Oaks, Albany, and the four Richmond chapters, Point, Miramar, Acantha and Beacon."

—November 5, 1945

WASHINGTON PTA STARTS RAG DRIVE . . .

"A rag drive is being held by the Washington school PTA at the school starting yesterday and continuing for one week.

". . . At the regular meeting Thursday a program was presented following the short business meeting. Coit Coolidge, city librarian, addressed the group on the Civic Center

Bond issue . . .

"A program followed given by the kindergarten orchestra and several selections were sung by the Washington school glee club. . . "

November , 1945

NO INCREASE IN PRICES OF TURKEYS . . .

"Turkeys for Thanksgiving dinner tables will be priced at the same levels established in July, according to C.A. McAllister, San Francisco District OPA food chief...

"The supply of turkeys for consumers is plentiful due partly to the greatly-decreased needs of the military . . . "

-November . 1945

30 YEARS AGO ...

BOAT RAMP COSTS TO BE GIVEN COUNCIL . . .

"Costs of constructing a double ramp at Brickyard Cove for small boat enthusiasts will be given the city council November 14.

"The request . . . was asked . . . on behalf of the 75 club members (Richmond Outboard Boating Club) who have no adequate site in Richmond."

-November 1, 1955

'SCREAM' FOR ELEVATED FREEWAY, CITY URGED...

"A blunt warning that now is the time for all good Richmonders to 'scream' on behalf of an elevated structure for the proposed Hoffman Freeway was given to the city council yesterday . . . "

"... Albert C. White, assistant public works director, pointed out the 5.3 mile stretch of freeway as shown in three large maps ... White summarized details of the principal interchanges and railroad underpasses on the route from the Richmond - El Cerrito city limits to Castro Street."

- November 8, 1955

picture caption . . . LAST LINK

"The last link in the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge, tying together Contra Costa and Marin counties, will soon be hoisted into place . . . the east cantilever span. . . was closed on September 14 . . . the bridge (is) now more than 80 percent completed."

—November 11, 1955

BROOKS ISLE PARK NEED TOLD STATE...

"Richmond officials hailed the interest shown today by the state park commission in developing Brooks Island as a regional park.

"Brooks Island is the only park proposed in the county's master shoreline recreational plan. Four other park sites were recommended for yacht harbors.

"The park commission instructed its staff to continue a review of the proposed site with Richmond and county planners.

"... the Brooks Island site covers 72 acres of land and 196 acres of surrounding water."

-November 18, 1955



from a 1915 ad, courtesy Richmond Library

POINT RICHMOND NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

by Lucretia Edwards

FROGTOWN

The quarterly meeting of the Point Richmond Neighborhood Council was held on October 10, 1985. There was much interest in the Frogtown situation, but as no one was there who could speak for either the immediate neighborhood (Point Richmond Area no. 1) or for "Wellspring Developers". many questions were left unanswered. It was decided that Mr. Ron Anderson of Wellspring Developers should be invited to the next Neighborhood Council meeting on November 14 at 8 p.m., in the Community Center, and to bring his plans and ideas to share with interested Point Richmond people.

NEIGHBORHOOD-WATCH

Adele Hollander of Area no. 7 reported on a successful Block Party which launched a Neighborhood Watch for her area. She recommends that all areas consider this idea seriously as a mutual protection plan. For information about Neighborhood Watch call Mrs. Hollander at 233-7788, or the Crime Prevention Division of the Police Department at 620-6634, and ask for the officer in charge of the program.

TISCORNIA-SHEAHAN PROPERTY

Marc Peppard, Area 3, reviewed the progress that has been made by Sheila Brady of Wagstaff and Brady, the consultants hired to prepare an E.I.R. and specific plan on the Tiscornia property. A moratorium has been imposed on development of this beautiful seven acre water-facing hillsite to permit careful planning.

The Advisory Committee, made up of Neighborhood Council and property owner representatives, is greatly impressed and pleased with the thoroughness, integrity and skill which the consultant has brought to the special study and E.I.R. Many meetings have been held at the request of the Advisory Committee, and while this had delayed the original schedule, Mrs. Brady will have the completed E.I.R. and specific plan ready for presentation in the near future.

V

17

INDIAN STATUE DAY

A puzzling aspect of the Point Richmond Business Association's report on the Indian Statue Day was that it had not been as well attended this year as it was last year, despite the fact that all those involved had worked very hard and that it was a very pleasant occasion. Suggestions were made that this is perhaps not a suitable annual event, that the date on which it was held was the day before pay-day, and that two other big picnics were scheduled for that same day. No report was available concerning the amount raised for the mini-park renovation adjacent to the Indian Statue, and for the Masquers Theater.

CLARENCE STREET

Mildred Dornan, Area 9, requested a hearing on a problem concerning a Right of Way Vacation for a Public Easement which will adversely affect her property. In 1978. after much controversy, Phillip Erickson had been granted vacation of a portion of Clarence Street, but the entire 61' by 140' portion was reserved as a utility easement. At the October 3, 1985 Planning Commission meeting, Mr. Erickson requested that the 60' utilities easement be reduced to 10' in width at vacated Clarence Street so he can build on his property, which is from Golden Gate down to Morgan and Clarence Streets. Mrs. Dornan. who lives below his property on Clarence, opposes this proposal, and succeeded in having the agenda item postponed until the November 7 Planning

Commission meeting.

The original easement in 1978 was a compromise, agreed upon after much controversy, and stipulated by the City Council to grant the vacation of the street, but reserve the entire width of the street for the public utilities easement. This condition would prevent the placement of any building on the lot.

If the requested easement reduction is granted, Mr. Erickson, who has possession of the entire vacated portion of Clarence Street, as well as the adjoining properties, would now be able to place several units on the site, thus nullifying the 'good faith' compromise arrived at by the City Council in 1978.

After discussion, the motion was made to send the Planning Department and Planning Commission a letter from the Point Neighborhood Council stating that this is a neighborhood concern that needs more consideration and study, and requesting that no action be taken, and a continuation of the agenda item be granted for 90 days.

This matter will also be discussed at the November 14 Neighborhood Council meeting.

ZONING

Allen Romano, Area 4, is chairing a Point Richmond zoning study committee, and will welcome volunteers. His number is 235-4130.

RICHMOND WORKS AT THE ART CENTER

Featured at the Richmond Art Center from November 10 to December 1 are the fine arts and crafts selected from the Art Center's faculty and students.

The gallery hours are Tuesday to Friday from 10 to 4:30, and Saturday and Sunday from 12 to 4:30.

POINT RICHMOND BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

Indian Statue Day was reviewed at the October 9 meeting of the Business Association. Although the day was not as financially successful as last year's unveiling festival had been, it was a festive festival, and was enjoyed by those who attended.

Because this year's festival was prepared in only six weeks, it was generally conceded that several month's preparation would result in a more successful day next year.

Next year's festival will center around the completed Indian Statue Park, and will emphasize "Historic Point Richmond", and will take place on a date (probably in October) when there is less competition from other local events.

A more specific discussion of the festival will continue at the November 13 meeting, at 12 noon at the Hotel Mac.

Representatives of Marin General Hospital wish to find out what sort of medical services are wanted by people in this area, that could conveniently be obtained from Marin General, since it is geographically so near us.

Note: T-shirts commemorating the Indian Statue are still available at the Masquers office.



from the Don Church Collection

THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE AT LINSLEY HALL

by Shirley Moore

This year, for the third time, there will be an Ecumenical Worship Service on the evening before Thanksgiving, Wednesday, November 27, at 7:30 p.m.

It will be held in the old church portion of Linsley Hall. Refreshments will be served downstairs after the service.

The music will be led by Mike Mirabella, well known in musical circles in the Bay Area. The Rev. Russ Moore, interim pastor at St. Alban's Episcopal Church, Albany, will officiate, assisted by Rev. Charles Smith, of the Point Methodist Church, Father Denis Araujo of Our Lady of Mercy Church, and Rev. Richard Knott, the new pastor at the Point Baptist Church.

Everyone is cordially invited to attend this service of Thanksgiving.

CHURCHES

POINT BAPTIST CHURCH . . .

by Pam Wilson

Welcome to Point Richmond -

Reverend Richard Knott and his wife, Natalie. Rev. Knott is the new minister of the Point Richmond Baptist Church. He is a recent graduate of the American Baptist Seminary of the West in Berkeley. Natalie, a graduate of U.C. Berkeley and San Francisco State, is employed as an itinerant teacher of the visually impaired by the Richmond Unified School District. Rev. Knott will be preaching Sunday mornings at 11:00 a.m., conducting Bible Studies on Sunday and Wednesday evenings, and doing visitations in and around Point Richmond. He is also available at the church two days a week.

OUR LADY OF MERCY CATHOLIC CHURCH

by Marion Downey

Recently married were Alfred Robert Roth and Joanne Zoldos Bacci.

Joseph Keenan Leary, son of Michael and Elizabeth Traina Leary was baptized, and also Melissa Ruth D'Morias, daughter of Jeremy Lawrence and Linet Rose Williams D'Morias.

Special prayers are requested for the recovery of Henry O'Hara, who broke his shoulder, and for Herbert Bill.

Over 70 bags of free groceries are given to needy families each week by the church.

Recently Bishop Peter Chenaparampil of India was a week-long guest of Father Denis Araujo and our Diocese. A collection was taken, and given to the Bishop for his diocese of Alleppey, India.

POINT METHODIST CHURCH

by Mid Dornan

Methodist Church School children, kindergarten through sixth grade, attended a Halloween party on Saturday, October 26. The junior and senior high schoolers had a Halloween Dance at El Sobrante Methodist Church and reported having a 'frightfully' good time.

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

Point Richmond, Calif. January 21, 1908

The Home Missionary Society met at the home of Mrs. L.J.Pritchards. The meeting was opened by Mrs. Younglove by reading a no. of pasages (sic) of scripture and a song, "Jesus Shal Raign". (sic) Then we had the resignation of our President Mrs. Conry which was read and accepted. Following was election of a new President, Mrs. N.J. Pritchard was elected as president.

It was moved and carried that the Society extend their courtesy to Mrs. Conry our retiring President and ask her to accompany them to San Francisco to the Missionary Conference. Dues was then received.

Mrs. Younglove paid dues \$1.10 Mrs. L.C.Pritchard " 1.10

Mrs. Butterfield " " 1.00 (\$.60 on last year, \$.40 credited on new

year.)

Mrs. Stokes paid 1.10 Mrs. Conry paid .75

The program was then given which was very interesting and much enjoyed by all. The motion is to adjourn.

Refreshments were served for which the receipts were 90 cts.

L.C.Pritchard, Sect.

WEST SIDE LIBRARY

by Jan Burdick

October's subject theme (the mysterious and the occult) proved to be very popular. If any of you have a subject area you'd like to see featured, please let me know.

November will focus on the New England states, both in a contemporary and historical sense.

New titles added to West Side's permanent collection make for varied reading:

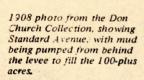
With a Daughter's Eye, a memoir of Margaret Mead and Gregory Bateson;

The Chip how two Americans invented the microchip and launched a revolution;

The Postnatal Exercise Book, a six-month fitness program for new mothers:

The Silver Palate Good Times Cookbook, and

The New Our Bodies Our Selves, a book by and for women.





WEST CONTRA COSTA BAYSHORE COUNCIL

Excerpts from the Council's October journal.

RICHMOND'S POSTER . . .

The winning entry in the city-sponsored poster design competition shows a gull's eye view of Castro Point, with the Richmond bridge on the right and tanks dotting the hills. A sailboat, with a billowing orange and white sail, is the central focus.

The poster has now been printed for distribution, and 500 copies, signed and numbered by the artist, are available for \$25 each. Another 2,500 unsigned copies will be sold at \$5 each. Community groups may purchase posters at a discount, in lots of one dozen, and resell them as fundraisers.

All proceeds from the sale of the posters will go into Richmond arts programs, possibly next year's Richmond Festival, according to Peggy Young, who coordinated the competition on the poster.

For information aboaut the posters call Peggy Young in the Richmond Mayor's Office, 620-6503.

NEW ROAD TO CHEVRON ROD & GUN . . .

After many years of traveling through the refinery to arrive at Chevron's Rod and Gun Club, this year the refinery decided to build a new entrance road.

Chevron improved an existing tank farm service road and christened it Drowley Drive in honor of Dee Drowley, the refinery's manager of technical services, who retired last year. The road branches off Western Drive at Gate 34, just past the Point Molate Navy Fuel Depot. The new road provided an added benefit for visitors, who are now treated to a sweeping view of San Pablo

Bay and the Rod and Gun Club area as they drive over the crest of the hill.

CITY CLEANUP PLAN . . .

City Manager Jim Fales is working on implementation of his Richmond Beautification and Cleanup Plan. The legislative program is well underway with the new Public Nuisance ordinance already adopted and being used. Leveron Bryant, who is presently coordinating the programs, cited two recent examples where the ordinance had been used as a lever to secure abatement of buildings being used as bases for drug use. Other ordinances working their way through City Council approval include Building Abatement, Abandoned Automobile Abatement. Sign Control, Site Plan and Architectural Approval, and Weed and Rubbish Abatement.

Organizing and fixing responsibility for the ordinances will be a major task once the legislation is passed. But Mr. Fales emphasized the immediate importance of the City Council passing the legislative package.

MESSAGE FROM THE NATIONAL SAFETY COUNCIL

Citizen Tear Gas Training classes will be conducted from now until mid—March at the Oakland Red Cross, 2111 E. 14th Street, at Albany High, room 207, 603 Key Route Boulevard, and at Pinole Valley High, room 306, 2900 Pinole Valley Road.

Classes take only two hours, and at the end of each class, state-approved tear gas devices will be available for purchase.

Groups of 25 or more may also arrange to have a class at a time and place selected by the group.

To enroll or obtain further information, call 524-5065.

A-MID TRIVIA

by Mid Dornan (234-5334)

It is a well known fact that there are a number of unique types inhabiting this area. Aside from the human residents, there are rare species of wildflowers and butterflies on the hills above Miller-Knox Park, a small group of beautiful red foxes who paid frequent visits to select friends, and even some imported pheasants (courtesy of the late Bing Crosby) who have caused some excitement with their low-flying maneuvers.

It now seems apparent that a new kind of possum has evolved in Point Richmond — one who lives by the truism that 'everyone returns to the Point'. At one house, when it became necessary to trap and export the rat-like nocturnal creatures to keep themfrom further damaging the walls, the little invaders began to look familiar after the first six or seven. Now, after repeating the exportation process seventeen times, we have come to the conclusion that these are 'homing possums'.

We hesitate to tell the Animal Control people about our unique possums, fearing that their passive "They can be bothersome" response will turn to an active protection of a possibly endangered species!

JoAnn Walz and Darrin Mayberry were married in Richmond on September 30. Their outdoor reception at Miller-Knox Park was dampened by the unseasonal rain, so the party concluded at the Walz home on Scenic Avenue. JoAnn is the daughter of Judy and Rudy Walz, and the granddaughter of Verla Camren of Western Drive.

Fred Hart, retiring Scoutmaster of Troop 111, will be honored with a potluck lasagne dinner at 6:00 on November 18 in the Friendship Hall of the Point Methodist Church. A S3.00 Scout donation is requested. Fred is an Eagle Scout from Troop 111, and even though he has no children, he assumed the duties of Scoutmaster in the summer of 1981 to keep the troop active when they lost their leader of thirty years. Ben Woodson, also an Eagle Scout from this troop, and George Mohr assisted Fred, and the troop has grown and continued activities related to scouting and good citizenship.

Anyone wishing to join in the tribute to Fred Hart should call Karen Fenton at 236-8460.

Lloyd and Melba Farley have returned to their Ocean Avenue home after a month in Spain, enjoying especially "that beautiful Eastern coastal area of Spain that is protected by the mountains," said Lloyd. Their daughter Judy was able to join them during part of their stay.

Away from the Point for only a week was Jack Elle who visited his brother in San Diego recently.

-0-

Lisa Michelle Smith arrived on August 29 — first grandchild for Sara Warren of Tremont in the Point. Born to daughter Sara Jean and husband Larry Smith, Lisa also has a proud uncle, Scott Warren.

-0-

The animosity between residents of the area and applicants filing for a Morgan Avenue closure remained in the City Council chambers, after the Council upheld the Planning Commission's denial of the closure.

What is a 'fixed income'?...
... It's what's left of your income after
the plumbing is fixed... the car is fixed..
. the furnace is fixed.....

The Comet is coming! Halley's Comet is coming next year, to be seen by the naked eye for the first time since 1910.

Since there are people around who saw the Comet's last appearance in 1910, a special place could be arranged for a meeting of "Comet Re-Viewers"—a Comet Reunion. Let us know if you are one of the 1910 Comet viewers, and perhaps a group viewing can be arranged!

-0-

You may think you've heard of every possible kind of party, but the women working on the Methodist Church Annual Country Faire came up with a new one. In discussing baked goods, raisins were mentioned fairly often, and one of the members consistently responded with a vocal "yuck" at every mention of raisins. A pro-raisin coalition formed, and they decided to have a surprise party for the anti-raisin leader.

From invitations containing raisins to desserts - raisin pie, cake, pudding, etc. the evening was filled with raisins, and laughter. Everyone brought the raisin-hater a gift sure to displease - a raisin tree, raisin necklaces, rings, pictures, shower cap, raisin bran (for 'picky' people), chocolate, peanut butter, yogurt covered raisins, raisin gorp - no raisin resource remained untapped. A Tshirt reading Raisins are Yuck expressed the minority viewpoint, represented by Cathy Smith and Amy Rotting. Among the raisin lovers present were Nona Howe. Florence Wilson, JoAnn Bray, Oretta Eaton, Genevieve Smith, Pat Dornan, Linda Periera, Christine Dennis, Sookhi Hart, Frances Smith, Dagmar Francis. Marian Hawkins. Stacey Espinosa. Helen Valentine. Bessie Squires, Jean Reynolds, Jean Creed, Betty Dornan, Trannie Dornan and Gertrude Paasch.

-0-

Carol Moskowitz is nearing her Master's Degree in educational psychology at Hayward State University, where she has made a permanent impression — There is a mural on campus which she created!

Bea and Martin Kenoyer recently spent a few days in the Point visiting friends and some of their old haunts. They now live near Portland, Oregon, and do a lot of traveling. As they drove away, it was noticed that the license plate on the back of their van read, "C N ISLE".

-0-

Elsie and Joseph Spinola celebrated their Fifty-First Wedding Anniversary on September 12, and, as Elsie says, "Isn't that wonderful?" Joseph is now confined to his nome, with Parkinson's 'condition'.

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If you save coupons to save a few cents, you can save time (and distress) at the check-out counter by highlighting their expiration dates with one of those yellow Hi-liter markers.

-0-

The Annual Country Faire at the Point Methodist Church was again a great success, for everyone. Old friends gathered, new ones got acquainted, and all found delightful bargains.

-0

Don't forget that the Scouts of Scout Troop 111 will be giving you a chance to buy one (or more) of those Historic Point Richmond 1986 Calendars, while helping themselves earn their way to next summer's Scout Camp! (They make great gifts.)

-0-

THIRD ANNUAL TINKERS AND PEDDLERS CHRISTMAS FAIR

For one day, Saturday, December 7, Linsley Hall will be the site of the annual Tinkers and Peddlers Christmas Fair. The hall will be open from 12 noon to 7 p.m., with arts and crafts of all kinds to enjoy and purchase.

Craftspeople interested in obtaining a booth should call 235-7338.

MUSICAL AT THE MASOUERS

"Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat", a rollicking musical based on the biblical story of Joseph and his brethren. opens Friday, November 1 at the Masquers Playhouse at 105 Park Place.

The authors of "Jesus Christ Superstar" have made this ancient tale into a musical pastiche of vaudeville turns, country and western, rock and calvpso that will set your feet to tapping.

Directed by Pat Siekert with music arranged and directed by Joe Cravotto, this happy musical will play Friday and Saturday rights at 8:30, with Sunday matinees at 2:30 p.m. on November 10 and 24 and December 8 and 15.

The Masquers are also offering Thursday night performances for groups wishing to purchase the 99 seat theater for fund raising efforts.

If you haven't visited this delightful, intimate theater in Point Richmond, now's the time. Treat the family to an evening of pure entertainment.

Tickets are \$5.00 each and for groups of 25 or more are offered at reduced rates. For reservations call 526-1038.

HAPPY NOVEMBER BIRTHDAY ...

Elsie Spinola Jack Elle Clare Doherty Kevin Fong Margaret Doherty Betty Dornan Dennis Dornan Paul Cort Kirk Weirick Mary Ann Gaspard Lynn Darling Ann Greiner Iason McGill Craig Seaborg

Chris Darling Gertrude Paasch Bo Amantite Adeline Miller Kenny Paasch Hal Marshall Dorothy McCutcheon Ian Overholtzer Marianne Forbes Lance Rotting Mike Price Joe Savill Shane Thomas Les Crim

NOTES FROM WASHINGTON SCHOOL

by Omera Johnson

The next PTA meeting will be November 12 at 7 p.m. in Washington School Auditorium. Child care is provided, and refresh-

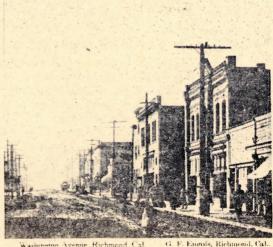
The Carnival on Indian Statue Day was lots of fun and made a profit for our PTA of \$629.30. This money will be used to purchase a video camera, thanks to all the volunteers who made it a success.

This year the PTA has co-presidents. Nancy Grimm and Carol Vallejo. Other officers for this year are Georgia Haley, Linda Mitchell, Nino Petroni, Linda Drake, Omera Johnson and Judy Jarvis Kimes.

POINT ARTS GUILD CHRISTMAS SHOW

The Point Arts Guild will present a pre-Christmas show and sale at Brickyard Landing, with a reception Friday, December 6, in the evening, and an exhibit and sale on Saturday and Sunday, December 7 and 8.

The public is invited to attend.



Washington Avenue, Richmond, Cal.

from the Don Church collection

Please fill out and return this form to renew your membership, or to become a member of the Point Richmond History Association, a non-profit corporation. Your support is greatly appreciated!

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d History tion to issues).
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Articles for each month's issue are due on the 20th of the previous month.

Please mail articles and items of interest to: Donna Roselius, 212 Bishop Alley, Point Richmond, C.A 94801. or call 235-4222.

Items may also be left with Trannie at 145 W. Richmond Avenue.

This Point in Time is a publication of the Point Richmond History Association, a non-profit corporation, at 212 Bishop Alley, Point Richmond, CA 94801

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Jerry Cerkanowicz,
indexing

Trannie Dornan, hist-

orical resource

NOVEMBER AHEAD

- 5 West Side Improvement Club meeting at Our Lady of Mercy Church hall, 12 noon.
- 5 Election Day. Vote on a City Mayor and School Board members
- 11 Veterans Day Legal Holiday
- 12 PTA meeting, 7 p.m., Washington School Auditorium
- 13 Point Richmond Business Association meeting, 12 noon, Hotel Mac
- 14 Neighborhood Council Meeting 8 p.m. Community Center, Point Richmond
- 21 POINT RICHMOND HISTORY ASSOCIATION MEETING 7:30, Linsley Hall It's Italian Night! everyone invited!
- 27 Ecumenical Thanksgiving Eve Service at Linsley Hall, 7:30. Everyone invited.
- 28 THANKSGIVING DAY legal holiday
- 29 School Holiday

DECEMBER -

- 7 Annual Tinkers and Peddlers Faire, Linsley Hall, 12 to 7.
- 8 Annual Art Center Bazaar, Richmond Art Center
- 7 and 8 First exhibit and show of the Point Arts Guild, Brickyard Landing, reception room. Friday, December 5, in the evening, a preview and reception.

NOVEMBER PAST ...

- 9, 1911 George Claude of Paris applied for the patent on the first neon tube for advertising signs
- 11, 1933 The first of the great dust storms of the 1930's swept over North Dakota
- 13, 1805 A Viennese butcher, Johann Georg Lahner, concocted a reci, e for a new kind of sausage which he called the "frankfurter"
- 20, 1979 Iran freed 13 of the American hostages being held at the U.S. Embassy in Teheran
- 24, 1869 Women from 2, states met in Cleveland to draw up plans for the organization of the American Women Suffrage Association

add your name to history!

DO IT IN BRONZE ...

A THIRD PLAQUE WILL BE ADDED TO THE INDIAN STATUE PEDESTAL

DONORS OF \$200 OR MORE WILL HAVE THEIR NAMES ON A BRONZE PLAQUE ATTACHED TO THE GRANITE STATUE BASE.

FUNDS DONATED WILL CREATE A PARK AREA SURROUNDING THE STATUE.

Donations may be sent to the Point Richmond History Association, 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 welcomed, and names will be added to the roll call.

PLEASE MAKE YOUR DONATION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. SO THAT FINAL PARK PLANS WILL MATCH THE FUNDS. ALL DONATIONS MUST BE COLLECTED BY AUGUST 15, 1986.



INDIAN STATUE PARK

Park Committee: Patricia Behrens, Catherine Burchell, Tom Butt, Sarah Eeles, Kathe Kiehn, Donna Roselius, David Vincent, Jay Ward, For Further Information, call 235-4222

	DONOR'S FORM
I (we),	donate/pledge \$
to be used for the desi	gn and creation of the Indian Statue Park. I (we) understand that fore August 15, 1986, and that it is a tax-exempt donation.
Dated	_ Donor's signature
Address:	
nscription on plaque:	
	and History Association, 808 Western Dr., Pt. Richmond, CA 94801