

THIS POINT

NEWSLETTER

A PUBLICATION OF THE POINT RICHMOND HISTORY ASSOCIATION

VOL. 1, No. 4

NOVEMBER, 1986

75 cents



A WASHINGTON SCHOOL PRESENTATION OF THE STORY OF HIAWATHA IN 1914, BY THE SEVENTH GRADE CLASS. The Canal that still ran through the grounds represented the "shores of Gichi Gumii. Ruth Peterson provided the photo, in which Marion Downey and Muriel Fitzpatrick appear. Recognize anyone else?

HISTORY ASSOCIATION NOTES
IN PURSUIT OF HISTORICAL TRIVIA
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MORE BRICKS - See page 2 and the Centerfold !

in time

❖ HISTORY ASSOCIATION NOTES ❖

MARINERS NIGHT
AT
POINT RICHMOND
HISTORY ASSOCIATION
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20
7:30 P. M.

in the
PROFESSOR R. H. BOTTS ROOM
in LINSLEY HALL
325 Washington Avenue
Point Richmond

Featuring a panel of mariners and
mariners' family members,
including:

Tom Edwards, Luciano Forner,
James Forbes, Sheila Fostiak,
Henry O'Hara, Allan Smith,
Louise Banks and Joseph Riola

The combined adventures of these
seafaring people should make for
a worthwhile evening away from
your television set!

As usual, refreshments will be
served. And, as always, any and
all donations of cookies will be
most welcome.

SEE YOU THERE!!

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 29
HOLIDAY OF LIGHTS FESTIVAL
NOON TO DUSK
BRICK MAKING

Point Richmond Arts Guild Show and Sale
in the Community Center, Friday night
and Saturday, all day

Cookies from the West Side Improvement
Club

Arts and crafts, cakes and cider

AND AT DUSK . . .

CAROLING AND LIGHTING OF THE
BIG SPRUCE TREE !!

Roy Jones will accompany singers
(all of you!)

THE DAY OF THE BRICK – A GREAT SUCCESS!

A great crowd gathered for a great day of festivities on Saturday, October 18. Louis and Tony Bernardi and their sister Theresa Meneghelli unveiled the third brass plaque on the Indian Statue pedestal at noon. Continuous entertainment – a variety of musical and dance performances – unfolded throughout the afternoon on the bandstand. A marvelous array of arts and crafts booths surrounded the park triangle and a peddlers' fair lined a part of Washington avenue, along with an array of foods for sale. An antique car display drew many interested spectators.

Main focus of the festivities, however, was the making of bricks that will one day pave the small park area at the apex of the triangular park surrounding the Indian Statue. Hundreds of people waited in long lines to buy a brick, stamp their names or the names of families or loved ones now gone, and often embellish the brick faces with personalized graphic touches or artwork. (Gross brick sales, to date, stand at about \$7500, which will mean a probable \$5500 in funds for development of the park.)

So enthusiastic was the response to the brick-making, and so successful the personal participation, that another "brick day" will accompany the Holiday Tree Lighting observance on Saturday, November 29 – the weekend after Thanksgiving.

If the weather refuses to cooperate, the bricks will be made in the rear of the fire station and other activities will be moved indoors.

The Point Richmond Art Guild plans to display works by members in fiber, ceramics, sculpture, water colors, collage, photography and other media, in the Community Center.

If you haven't created your own brick, yet, and want to start your holiday season in the best of spirits, read our centerfold, be in the Point November 29, and bring a friend or neighbor with you.

IN SEARCH OF . . .

by Donna Roselius

At some point in time early in 1987, the person who has made these newsletters and many other activities of the History Association (also most of the projects I've enjoyed working on) possible will be leaving Point Richmond. My husband has taken early retirement from Chevron, and will move up the coast to Port Orford, Oregon. And so will I, to make it possible for him to concentrate on his new enterprises.

Difficult as it is to face leaving the Point and the people here who have become family-close, making preparations for that time will at least make it possible.

The small offset press and accompanying equipment that produce our publications should stay here with the Association. To make that possible, I am looking for various ways to fund their acquisition by the History Association.

Also, someone will be needed to take on the monthly responsibility of printing the newsletter, and doing the layout. Dierdre Cerkawicz may be able to do some of this, and I would like to be made aware of any others willing to participate. The longer term goal of our publications is the creation (scheduled for 1992) of a comprehensive book on Point Richmond's past. We are fortunate that Frankie Greenlaw has become managing editor of the newsletter. With her talented writing and knowledge of the Point, the remainder of the work should be (my favorite word) – fun!

Please call me if you have ideas, recommendations, and an interest in helping! The number is 235-4222.

MEMBERS

*Pam Wilson, membership chairman
521 Western Drive
Pt. Richmond, CA 94801*

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

Anne-Therese Ageson	Thelma Harvey
Elizabeth Bronson	Grace A. Howe
Nell C. Brooker	Harold & Florence
Verla Camren	Lucas
Judith Dunning	Elizabeth McDonald
D.R. 'Doc' Edmonds	Alice Nelson
Ed Gingrich	Louise Novarini
Bruna V. Giorgi	Mollie O'Connell
Shoney Gustafson	Louise H. Rogers
Sharon Hardwick	Tom Spencer
Judy Walz	Michael & Glenna
	Yates

And welcome to the following new members:

Stef Aquilino	Evert Diestlorgion
<i>(Winners in the Indian Day drawing)</i>	
Dolores M. Hamamoto*	Mr. & Mrs. B. H.
<i>*History Preserver</i>	Shreeve,

Apologies to Tom and Lucretia Edwards, longtime faithfuls, for listing them as new members last month - they renewed, bless 'em!

IN PURSUIT OF HISTORICAL TRIVIA

courtesy of Stan Nystrom

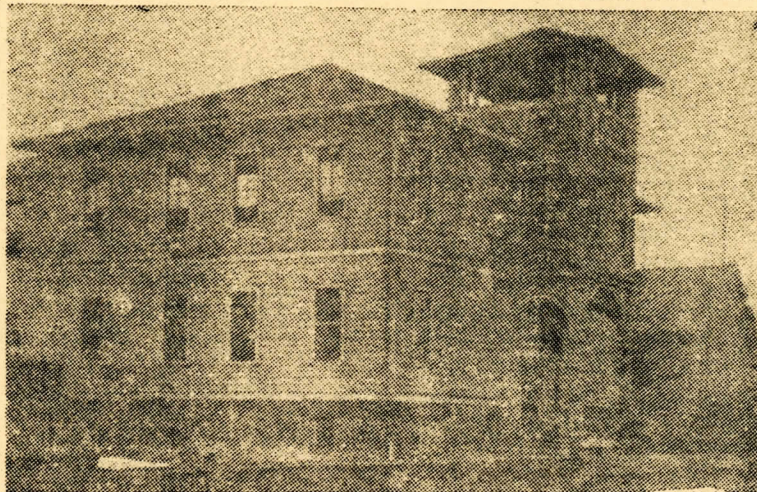
ANSWER:

To answer last month's question regarding the number of bars (or saloons as they were known in those days) in Richmond in 1914, we refer to an excerpt from a copy of the "Richmond Record" of that era, wherein Editor John Hulaniski colorfully commented that "... H. J. Heinz offers 57 varieties of pickling, but Richmond even outdoes that by 10 in having 67 saloons in which to get pickled."

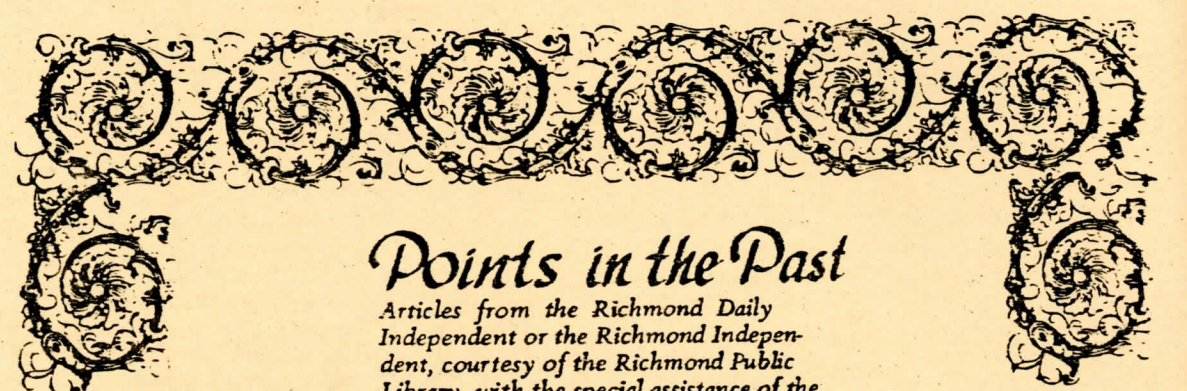
Those who guessed '80' shouldn't feel too bad, as the number of saloons in Richmond reached that figure just a few years later.

QUESTION:

At the time of this writing, election to political office seems to dominate the news. There is no election for council members in Richmond, now, although there is in nearby San Pablo. Our question concerns women council members other than the two we have at present, i.e. Rosemary Corbin and LaVonne Nicholls: Have there been any other women council members in Richmond's past?



*Point Richmond's second schoolhouse, located on Standard Avenue.
(from the Don Church Collection, courtesy Chevron USA)*



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

by Dierdre Cerkanowicz

"Winter is a' cummen in." The advertisements are for stove black, stove fuel and stoves - just in time for cold weather.

There's a last ditch effort for the elections - and then they're over, with nary a result published. We can only assume that prohibition has been staved off for a little longer.

The boys of Company "B" (where is the bugle boy?) are back in town.

Now, we start seeing ads for turkey and all the fixin's, as well as reminders about Christmas.

YARA YARA CLUB DANCE SATURDAY . . .

"The Yara Yara Club dance will take place at Kozy Kove Saturday evening November 4th. Tickets for gentlemen will cost seventy-five cents and ladies will be complimentary. Invitations were issued for a dance to take place on September 30th but owing to rain at that time, it was postponed. . . Miss Rose Woods, Miss Edith Woolridge, Miss Irene Grunhart, Herbert Turner and Martin Geso constitute the committee making arrangements . . ."

—November 2, 1916

HARBOR DREDGING BEGINS NEXT WEEK . . .

"Dredging the inner harbor of Richmond will begin during the coming week. Arrangement has been made with Bay Counties Land Company whereby the material removed in dredging a certain portion of the canal may be placed on the Company's property and a price of 2 cents per cubic yard will be paid the city of Richmond . . ."

—November 2, 1916

WINEHAVEN'S RICHMOND FRIENDS FIGHTING DRY VOTE

"A movement has been started in Richmond to protect Winehaven, one of Richmond's most famous industries, during the coming election when the prohibition amendments numbers 1 and 2 come up. . .

Millions have been invested in Winehaven. Through it the wine industry of California is to a large degree centered in Richmond. . . the California Wine Association had begun to centralize its grape crushing here, this year trainloads of grapes being shipped in over the Richmond Belt Railway. . . so the friends of Winehaven and of Richmond industries are becoming alarmed. . . what the vote will be in this city on the prohibition

amendments. . . will be watched with keen interest. . .

—November 4, 1916

HUGHES, 5743; WILSON, 6091; CONTRA COSTA

(Special To The Independent)

Martinez, Nov. 9

"So close is the vote on the presidential race, the Martinez Daily Standard received a wire this morning asking that the count on the Hughes-Wilson race be checked up and wired in.

". . . Every county in the state has been asked to check up their figures."

—November 9, 1916

RICHMOND INVITES CALIFORNIA TO NEW YEAR'S HARBOR FETE

"A meeting of the special committee of seven . . . appointed to formulate plans for the New Years Celebration of the completion of the Tunnel and Municipal Wharf met yesterday afternoon at the Elks Club. Mayor Garrard presided. . . (and) was elected permanent chairman and Sec'y of the Chamber of Commerce, J. A. Long was made permanent secretary. Other members appointed. . . were H. S. Coyer, S. W. Barnes and I. S. Hulse.

Richmond has something . . . to display—the completion of her municipal wharf, the first unit of the great Inner Harbor Plan that is destined to make Richmond one of the greatest Shipping points on the Pacific Coast, also, the Municipal Tunnel, and splendid new boulevard leading to the Water Front. These are the pride of every citizen of Richmond and the wonder of all visitors."

—November 13, 1916

CAR SHORTAGE BECOMING SERIOUS

"That the car shortage is becoming very serious is indicated by the fact that cement is being shipped to local contractors on flat instead of box cars.

Even the Standard Oil company is finding it difficult to secure enough cars to keep its **output** moving. In the north many large plants have had to close down on account of the shortage. . . occasioned by. . . hundreds of thousands of loaded cars containing foodstuff and war munitions tied up on the various wharves awaiting ships to carry their loads to Europe."

—November 13, 1916

BAY CITIES SEEK NAVAL BASE SITE

"San Francisco boosters and officials want the naval base committee to select Hunters dry dock as the site for the proposed naval station on this coast. The committee composed of navy officers lead by Rear Admiral J. M. Helm will arrive in San Francisco November 26th after visiting Southern California sites.

In addition to the Richmond-Albany sites, San Leandro bay, California City in Marin county and San Francisco are seeking the proposed station."

—November 13, 1916

(In a second item on November 15, it was noted that the commission would not be in San Francisco until December 1st and would not have a very long time to hear presentations.)

COMPANY "B" SOLDIERS HERE TOMORROW

Bulletin

"Mayor E. J. Garrard and Pres. Owens of the Chamber of Commerce this afternoon issued an appeal to the merchants of Richmond to close their stores at 5 o'clock instead of 6 o'clock tomorrow so that all may assemble to greet Company "B".

E. H. Harlow, prominent Elk, has received definite word that Company "B" will arrive via the Santa Fe tomorrow evening at 5:15."

—November 15, 1916

(A front-page editorial next day accompanied an article describing a parade, band concert, welcome by city officials, etc. Following are excerpts.)

"Richmond's own soldier boys will be home this evening. At the time that the Independent reaches its readers the boys will be disembarking from their train and given the glad hand.

... But there is a tomorrow. Every member of the company gave up a job to go away ... (believing) that it would be mighty lucky if they all came back whole and sound ...

It had not ought to be hard to find places in Richmond for at least sixty boys who are not afraid to respond to the Call of Their Country."

—November 16, 1916

CUTTING WINS BIG VERDICT OVER SANTA FE R. R. COMPANY

"Five years of litigation ended today when the appellate court handed down a decision affirming the Superior Court of Contra Costa county in favor of the Richmond Dredging company against the Santa Fe railway company for \$22,952 and

costs and interest from May 19, 1911, making the total award to date a little over \$32,000.

"The dredging company secured a contract from the railroad company to fill in certain mud flats in the vicinity of Ohio street, Ashland avenue and Cutting blvd. The immense fill covered a great deal of the Santa Fe lands and also ... parts of the Canal Subdivision (adjoining) the railroad properties.

"... The Richmond Dredging company is controlled by H. C. Cutting and H. W. Wernse of Richmond."

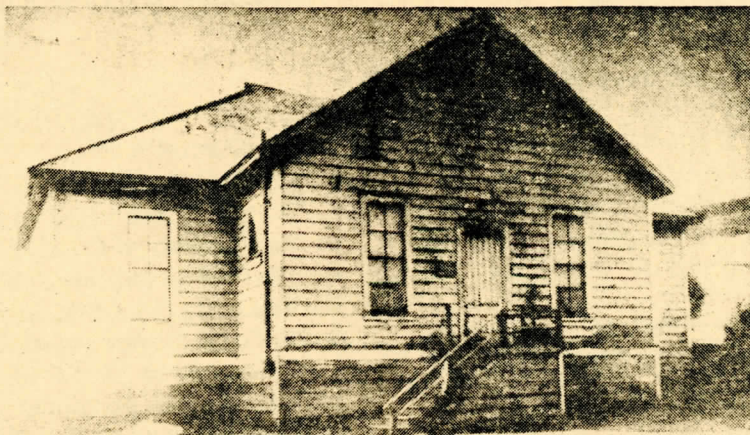
—November 16, 1916

FOUNTAIN GIVEN CITY BY PORCELAIN COMPANY

"Through the public spiritedness of the Pacific Porcelain Ware company a handsome porcelain fountain which is to be presented to the Richmond Chamber of Commerce is to be installed in Tenth street in front to the Chamber headquarters.

It will be one of the most attractive fountains to be found in any of the cities of the bay ..."

—November 16, 1916



Richmond's first schoolhouse, Standard Avenue, 1901.

Richmond's first schoolhouse, located on Standard Avenue in 1901. It was built with funds from the San Pablo School District. (from the Don Church collection, courtesy Chevron USA)

ANNUAL BAZAAR OF WEST SIDE CHURCH OPENS TOMORROW NIGHT

"Schwartz orchestra has been engaged for the musical program which will feature each evening of the annual fair of Our Lady of Mercy church in Richmond avenue. The fair opens tomorrow evening and will be continued until Saturday evening . . .

The church hall has been elaborately decorated . . . booths loaded with pretty and useful Christmas gifts . . . to be sold at reasonable prices."

—November 19, 1916

LEAGUE AND SALOONMEN COOPERATE IN CLEANUP

"Local saloonmen have been promised the co-operation of Alvin Gerlach, president of the Young Men's Law Enforcement League in a plan to clean up the roadhouses of Contra Costa county, especially in the district surrounding the city of Richmond. Gerlach has been a leader in the fight on the roadhouses, having prosecuted several of them on various charges of infringing county liquor and gambling ordinances."

—November 25, 1916

TO HOLD FOOD SALE

"Tomorrow at ten o'clock, the Ladies Aid of the First Baptist (church) will hold a cooked food and fancy needlework sale at 120 Washington avenue. During the afternoon a reception will be held for the patrons and visitors and tea will be served. Those in charge are Mrs. Paul Dunlap, Mrs. C. E. Bennett and Mrs. Robert Lee."

—November 28, 1916

27 DAYS UNTIL CHRISTMAS!

"Never before has the slogan of "Shop Early" been as appropriate as this year when prices of every article is going higher day by day. The wise Richmondite will get busy and buy their presents at once.

Photographs promise to be largely used

as presents this year and to those who intend having pictures taken, the time is very short. The weather is ideal now for pictures too."

—November 28, 1916

50 YEARS AGO . . .

by Sarah Eeles

PRECINCT ON WEST SIDE IS MOVED

"Precinct number 4, on the West Side, will be moved from 158 Washington avenue to 108 Washington avenue, corner of Cottage avenue, tomorrow, it was announced today. The building at the former address is being wrecked."

—November 2, 1936

LOCAL LADIES' PISTOL TEAM WINS TROPHY

"The Richmond Rifle and Revolver Club was represented in the revolver matches sponsored by the Oak Park Pistol Club and held on their range at Stockton, Sunday.

The trophy for the ladies' slow fire team match was won by the Richmond Club. . . Algie Spaite of the local club shot high score. . . Next Sunday a small bore rifle shoot will be held on the Municipal range at Point Richmond."

—November 2, 1936

40 YEARS AGO . . .

by Pam Wilson

INVENTION PROVED DURING WAR TO BE BUILT IN RICHMOND

"An invention tested and proved during the war will be manufactured and assembled in Richmond early in 1947 by the Magic Wand Manufacturing company.

The firm's product will be a welding rod holder which it is claimed eliminates waste from banding and peeling of the rod (and) will result in a savings of at least 10 percent in welding costs . . .

The product was devised by J. Opge-north, Alameda, a professional inventor, who is a partner in the Magic Wand firm

Sunday Trips--



ONE FARE

*"There and
Back" ...
Between
many
points
at
Figures
ranging
from
50c
to
\$5
This means
1-2 Fare
for your
Sunday
Outing*

Ad from 1916

with Nicholas Horvath, Jr. . .

The firm will occupy a building . . .
in Point Richmond."

—November 26, 1946

14TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATED

"Miss Joanne Louise Smith was honored at a birthday party given by her sister Mrs. Richard Ellis, and her mother, Mrs. Edna Smith, at her home, 509 Golden Gate avenue, on her 14th birthday. Guests were Misses Mary Alice Chason, Joanne McCown, Sharon Imlach and Lottie Mae Sanders; and Bob Cheyne, Charles denny, Riley Byrd, Ben Woodson and Robert Galau. A scavenger hunt opened the party."

—November 26, 1946

30 YEARS AGO

by Pam Wilson

486,615 CARS CROSS NEW BRIDGE

"Traffic on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge during the first two months of operation just missed the half million mark, it was announced today. A total of 486,615 vehicles traveled over the span during the period ended at midnight last night. . . . Only one minor accident has been recorded in the two-month period."

—November 1, 1956

'THE FRONT PAGE' CLOSES RUN

"Local theatre goers are reminded that this week end will be their last opportunity to see "The Front Page", the Richmond Community Theatre's season opening presentation which has been enjoying considerable box office success at the Village Playhouse in Point Richmond."

—November 1, 1956

FIERY STICK INJURES GIRL

"Eleven-year-old Connie Beddo, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Warren Beddo, 76 Scenic avenue, today was being treated for an eye injury received when an exploding stick burning in an incinerator blew hot

cinders into her eye.

Several pieces of wood were removed from her right eye at the Kaiser Foundation Medical Center . . . but doctors at the county hospital in Martinez said today the girl's sight would not be impaired."

—November 2, 1956

'DISASTER' AVERTED IN 'QUAKE' — CIVIL DEFENSE RESPONDS

"Civil defense volunteers swung into action last night to cope with the effects of a mock earthquake that caused havoc throughout Richmond.

The test, "Operation Quiver", brought approximately 50 municipal department heads, their aides, utility company employees, Red Cross workers and members of clubs to their stations in the civil defense control center in the basement of the city hall.

D. F. Dissmeyer, coordinator of the Richmond Civil Defense and Disaster council, said at the end of the test there was no doubt in his mind that the civil defense service chiefs would be compe-

tent to handle any large-scale disaster that might arise. . .

At 6 p.m., the volunteers were given a situation report of the quake that was supposed to have hit one hour earlier. All streets but one in the central business district were closed, store windows shattered and some looting was reported.

Very severe damage was suffered by homes and hotels in the Point Richmond area, panic was spreading and a number of persons were trapped in fallen buildings in that section. About 250 families were homeless there; about 1000 persons homeless in the central business area of Richmond, and 200 homeless in North Richmond.

. . . Last night was only a test and the chiefs were relaxed and informal and unhurried. But, as the civil defense coordinator commented, they've got this test under their belts and they will be in good shape to handle the real thing—if it comes."

—November 9, 1956



Point Richmond Third Graders, 1905

Top Row —

1. Fern Schraff

2. Varda Dimmick

3.

4. Emma Davis

Second Row —

1. Press Adams

2. Walter Berndt

3.

Third Row —

1.

2.

3. Lela Redding

4. Lena Grant

5. Martha Sykes

6. Gus Axelson

7. Miss Ridale

Fourth Row —

1. Merle Jenkins

2. Lloyd Pearson

3.

4. Augusta Pennington

5.

6.

Front Row —

1. Ruth Barlow

2. Helen Huntsinger

3. Clyde Baker

4.

5. Alice Greathouse

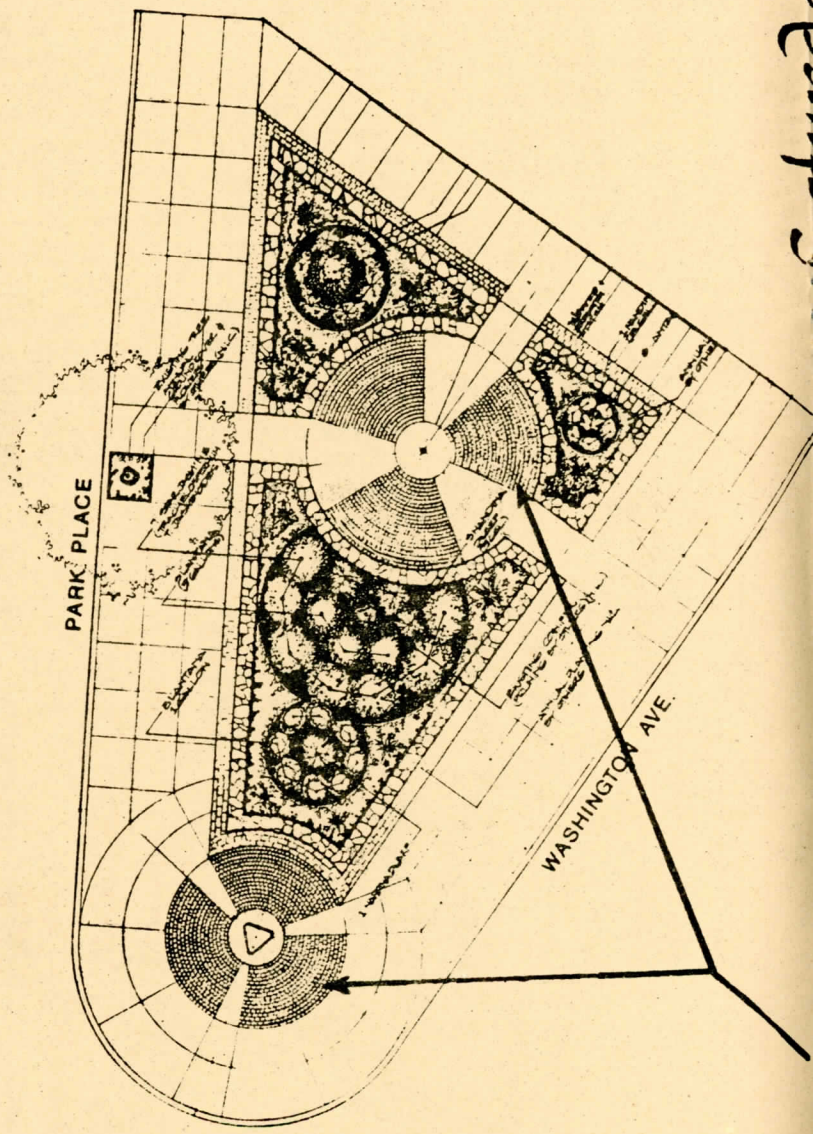
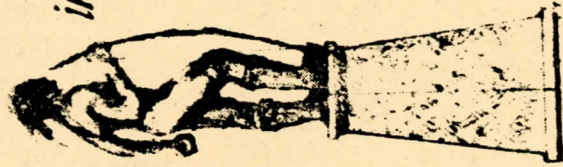
6. Eddie McLaughlin

7.

from a picture in Edith Bill's PTA Scrapbook.

NAME YOUR BRICK

in the INDIAN STATUE PARK..



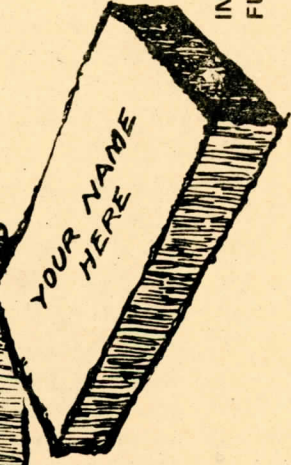
*Saturday,
November 29
during the
"Holiday of Lights"*



COMPANY NAME
(up to 32 letters) —\$100



INDIVIDUAL NAME, HALF-BRICK
(up to 11 letters) — \$20



INDIVIDUAL OR FAMILY NAME,
FULL BRICK (up to 22 letters) — \$35

OR
USE THE FORM BELOW
TO ORDER YOUR
PERSONALIZED BRICK

JOIN THE GRASS ROOTS MOVEMENT TO CREATE A PARK BY PEOPLE, FOR PEOPLE. For additional information, call 235-4222.

Send this form to the Point Richmond History Association, P.O.Box 364, Point Richmond, California 94807

Enclosed is _____, for Brick(s) inscribed as follows:

- (for \$20)
- (for \$35)
- (for \$100)

name _____ address _____ tel.no. _____

POINT RICHMOND NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

by Linda Andrew

At the Quarterly General Public Meeting October 9, the Council heard the following reports on subjects of general interest to the Point community:

HOLIDAY LIGHTS

Treasurer Jay Ward reported a total of \$420 donated to date for Holiday Lights to decorate the Triangle Park tree on Saturday, November 29. West Side Improvement club has agreed to donate cookies for the celebration. Roy Jones will play Christmas carols on piano or organ during the festivities.

DANCE CLASSES

Ms. Pepsi Taylor, a recent arrival from Marin County to the Point, has invited those interested in dancing classes, physical fitness classes, etc. to contact her at 456-4033, as she is eager to teach and to meet Point residents.

WASHINGTON FIELDHOUSE

Sharon Avril of the Park and Recreation department described a "Twilight in the Park" program to be sponsored by the City at Washington Fieldhouse three evenings per week (Monday, Wednesday and Thursday) from 6 to 9 p.m. Darren Vigil is working at the Fieldhouse these evenings. A letter is to be sent to the City Manager, with a copy to the Mayor, requesting the installation of floodlights outside the Fieldhouse to ensure the safety of children and employees using the facility. Questions regarding the program should be directed to the Park and Recreation department at 620-6843.

MOSQUITO ABATEMENT

Sandra Beyaert, Richmond representative on the Contra Costa County Mosquito Abatement District, announced residents can request help in eliminating mosquito

problems in homes and businesses. The toll free number to call is 800-331-8321. The District, resurrected since Proposition 13 was passed, regularly treats catch basins and sewers in the area. Beyaert suggests that residents collect 'critters', dead or alive, in jars and have them picked up by the District (or call Sandra at 235-2835, and she'll come pick them up.) This activity is crucial in determining the many varieties of mosquitos in the area. Residents owning fish ponds are welcome to call and ask for free 'mosquito fish' as these are helpful in reducing mosquito populations. (Be warned, however, that raccoons consider the Gambusia a tasty treat!)

POST OFFICE BOX

Gratitude was expressed by the Council to Bertha May McCloskey, for donating P.O. Box No. 386, 94807, at the Point Station, to the Council, giving it a permanent address for the first time. The gift is doubly generous in that there is a waiting list for the boxes at the Point Station.

TAX INCREASE MEASURE

Tom Koch, part-time aide to Supervisor Tom Powers and West County Coordinator for Measure C on the November ballot. He discussed the importance of the increase of ½% to pay for specific highway improvements and new construction. Discussion ensued regarding the placement of on and off ramps for the Knox Freeway interchange and its effect on the Point.

SHORELINE DEVELOPMENT

Tom Butt outlined issues, goals and analysis of the Shoreline Conservation and Development Strategy Committee of which he is a member. The 29-member group has been provided with a list of general issues, as follows: Real Estate and Port of Richmond, Image, Employment, Parks, Open Space and Public Access, Environment and Conservation, Transportation and Railroad

Needs. Target areas are Point Isabel area, Marina Bay area, Santa Fe channel, Ferry Point, San Pablo Peninsula and the North Richmond area, all of which comprise the Richmond Shoreline Area. Tom said the possibility of tearing down the Ford Plant has been raised and some discussion initiated addressing historic preservation plans needed for Point Richmond development. The Council expressed hope that a presentation can be made at the next meeting regarding the North Richmond bypass.

NEW AREA REPRESENTATIVE

Lucretia Edwards was welcomed back to active duty as Area Three representative, replacing Susan Barry-Russell, who has resigned.

THE MASQUERS

In a recent report to the Point Richmond Business Association, Bill Goldsmith reported that attendance at the playhouse is up 40%. He also said that new lighting has been installed with financial assistance from Chevron Corporation.

Currently being presented by The Masquers is "A Funny Thing Happened On the Way to the Forum", a zany comedy set in pre-Christian Rome, with lyrics and music by Stephen Sondheim. The piece directed here by Rhoda Plymack, with music direction by Virginia Cherniak.

A special dinner-theatre benefit is slated for Thursday, November 20, offering dinner at Hotel Mac and a ticket to "Forum" for only \$21. A special "angel" will donate \$10 to the Masquers' building fund for each ticket sold. To make reservations for this special event, call 232-3888.

Regular performances are set for Friday and Saturday evenings, November 7 and December 20, and Sunday matinees on November 16 and 23 and December 7 and 14. Call 526-1038 for reservations for these events. For group rates, call 524-1038.

RICHMOND MUSEUM ASSOCIATION

A brief reminder to get your donations to Sheila Fostiak, 234-5598, or to the Museum in time for the annual "Collector's Treasure and Junk Fair", Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 8th and 9th. Be there, too, on those days — you might find more desirable replacements for your stuff — who knows? The Fair will include a raffle and home baked goods. Hours on Saturday will be 10 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and on Sunday, 12 noon to 4.

CHURCHES

POINT BAPTIST CHURCH

Quotes and Comments

by Roy Jones

In the last issue of TPIT we began to give you the names of all the pastors that have served here. As mentioned, there was Rev. W. A. Chapman, our first pastor, who served from our beginning as a church until November of 1904. He was followed by Rev. A. C. Austin who left in 1909. You will remember we were then known as the First Baptist Church of Richmond, California. Also, be advised that in preparing this list there seems to be no one particular document or record that shows the exact date each pastor served. From old letters, receipts, bills, minutes of church meetings and various reports, we have determined the order in which these pastors served our church — and if I miss anyone — let me know.

Following the Rev. A. C. Austin was Rev. W. M. Riddle who began his ministry in January, 1910. Here is a receipt from The American Baptist Home Mission Society, dated March 25, 1910, made to Rev. W. M. Riddle, Pastor, and in the amount of nineteen dollars. An here — a type-written letter dated Jan. 11, 1911, to Rev. W. M. Riddle, Pastor, which acknowledges

receipt of check for \$250.00 "being in full of our contract with your church for assembly chairs, etc." After Rev. Riddle left at the close of 1911, comes a certain Rev. Frank Horn in January, 1912. Let me quote from the Richmond Independent an item about him:

REV. HORN EXONERATED

"Richmond, Nov. 12, 1912 - To the First Baptist Church: Whereas, there has been a report that charges against Brother Frank Horn had been preferred by the church at King City,

Therefore, in the interest of the cause of Christ and fair play, we, the undersigned have examined letters, receipts, bills and other evidence presented by Brother Horn. Along with the charge presented, which was unsigned by the committee or an officer of the church and therefore illegal. However presuming they were made in good faith, yet the evidence fully vindicates Brother Horn, therefore be it resolved that we vindicate him of any blame or guilt or sin as charged and a copy of this resolution sent to the King City Baptist Church."

All that bit of intrigue was signed by the following members at our church: Mrs. Paul Dunlap, treasurer; Mary A. Church, clerk; Mrs. Estelle Winner, organist; Paul Dunlap, deacon; T. F. Stewart, deacon; and J. F. Winner, deacon.

Rev. Horn's signature also appears on a Memorandum of Agreement "made and entered into this the third day of January, 1913, between A. A. Shelby of San Francisco, California party of the first part, and the First Baptist Church of Richmond, parties of the second part." This was for 300 church directories.

So, we have mentioned the first four of fourteen or fifteen pastors of our past. More to follow, and I realize they are only names to most readers - but who knows?

Don't underestimate the circulation of "This Point in Time". Someone out there may have known these preachers, or have heard their parents mention these names - or maybe some of their descendants are among our readers.

Our present pastor, the Rev. Mr. Richard Knott, together with Beverly Milam, have been deeply involved with obtaining insurance for our old building. I cannot resist quoting from our insurance papers as recent as October 20, 1949. From F. E. Forbes Company the coverage was \$9,500 on the church and \$2,000 on the furniture - amount insured \$11,500 - and the premium - \$164.45!

POINT METHODIST CHURCH

by Mid Dorman

As always, the annual "Country Faire" at Point Methodist brought out the usual crowd of 'old' members and friends as well as local and present supporters. On hand were a pair of the oldest and best Point citizens - Mary Casey, first arrival for lunch, and Trannie Dorman, in charge of her own gift booth. Also in the hustle of lunchers and shoppers were Grace Westman Howe, one-time church youth group leader and long-time Point resident, with her niece, Beverly Bartram. Entertaining those waiting to be seated was TPIT's Baptist church reporter, Roy Jones, who produced a mini-sing-along of old hymns. Time and space limits mention of many others present, but suffice it to say that the whole affair was a rousing success - good food, lot's of remember-when's, great variety for early Christmas shopping, home-baked goodies galore - and proceeds enough to cover the cost of the new commercial range for the church kitchen. All thanks to a loyal and hard-working group of churchwomen.

-o-

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 "Shoen's Pharmacy in the Point". This is the eighteenth installment.

"Dec. 16; 1908 Point Richmond, Calif

The Home Missionary Society of the M. E. church met at the home of Mrs. C. E. Adams. The meeting was opened by the President Mrs. Totten. All repeating the 23rd Psalm.

The first in order was the discussion of different topics of work for the interest of the society. \$1.50 was voted to be paid out for work done. Mrs. Robert Wood paid dues \$1.00. Mrs. Totten and Mrs. Wood was appointed to carry clothing to a lady at Stege. The next meeting on 20 Jan 1909 at the home of the sect.

Mrs. Wood was appointed chairman of Program. L. C. Pritchard sec/s"

"Feb 17-1909 Point Richmond, Calif

The Home Missionary Society of the M.E. Church met at the church. The meeting was opened by the President Mrs. Totten by reading the 12 chapter of Romans. Mrs. Younglove lead in prayer.

Reported having recieved literature for the coming year.

Mrs. Garrard read report of District Corresponding Secretary Mrs. Leening in regards to holding district convention. Mrs. Butterfield was appointed chairman of com committee to make arrangements for refreshments, the corresponding secretary to notify distict cor. sec (sic). We will entertain 27th April. New business first. Election of officers.

Mrs. Bradley was elected President.

Mrs. Conry elected 1st Vise(sic) President. Mrs. Wood was elected 2nd Vise president and Mrs. Younglove corresponding secretary. Mrs. Totten was elected as Treasurer. Mrs. Conry paid dues 25 cts.

Adjournment

L. C. Pritchard, sec/s"

"Mrch 17, 1909

The Woman's Home Missionary Society met at the home of Mrs. C. E. Adams. The meeting was opened by reading of Scripture and Prayer by President of society.

Business was then considered chief of which was the comeing(sic) of the District Convention of the W.H.M.S. to held here in April. It was decided to give Luncheon in connection with Aid Society at that time and dividing the receipts. The clothing on hand was considered and left over untill (sic) next meeting.

The Program for the meeting was the Orientals in our midst was then proceeded with in leaflets with questions and answers.

The meeting adjourned to meet the third Wednesday in April.

Secretary protem
Mrs. Clifton Bradley
/s"

OUR LADY OF MERCY CATHOLIC CHURCH

by Marion Downey

On October 4, Geethamma Mathai Thoonkuhyzy was married to Timothy Mayo Burseson.

Anna Schwarz has received news of the death of her sister, Elfriede Scherze, in Germany on September 12.

At a meeting following Mass on October 12, the following subjects were discussed: a ramp for the church building, catechumenate, school of religion, and the good of the community.

Each Thursday, the church distributes free bags of groceries to the needy.

On October 18 at 5:00 p.m. Mass, Desmond John Lim, who grew up in Singapore as a Catholic but was never baptized, received baptism, Holy Communion and Confirmation.

by Mid Dornan

**"May 5, 1933 Basketball Game &
Hi-Y Program**

Printed by the kind permission of
me P.S. in other words KOKOKOHO/s"

Easter morning dawned bright and cold. We were all waiting for Miss Wood who is always late. About a half an hour later up drove Miss Wood as if we had just gotten

Submitted,
Wapo Moma/s"



*Botchie Dutrow, Gene Downey, James Hounsell,
Emmitte McLaughlin and Gardner "Greeney"
Oliphant at Kozy Kove in 1915.
(from the Don Chuech Collection, courtesy
Chevron USA)*

A-MID TRIVIA

by Mid Dornan (234-5334)

The traditional yellow pencil is being written off by a growing number of people. The new pencil choice is automatic, comes in a rainbow of colors, has interchangeable types of lead, has a removable eraser and never needs sharpening.

As a concerned American wanting to preserve our yellow No. 2's, you are reminded what makes the traditional yellow pencil so irreplaceable:

- you can use it to comb your hair
- you can use it to scratch your foot without removing your shoe
- you can use it to loosen knots in the drawstrings of your sweat pants
- you can use it to conduct music on your car radio
- you can use it in an emergency medical situation that requires you to apply a tourniquet to a small, wounded animal

You can chew it. In fact, you can eat a lead pencil every day because it contains no lead whatsoever - and you get at least part of your daily requirement for fiber!

-o-

Former Point Molate resident, Sharon Jones, was in the Point for several days revisiting friends and favorite eating spots. "Food was as good as remembered," she said, and was impressed when the help at Edie's Cafe on Tewksbury even remembered her after several years' absence. Sharon is now living in Orlando, Florida, with her 20-month-old daughter, Nancy.

-o-

The tables were turned on Genevieve Smith when 34 friends surprised her with a birthday dinner at Gonzalez Restaurant. One of her gifts was a hand-made cat coin purse which mysteriously disappeared the same evening; a happening that often occurs when a cat bag or purse surfaces. So valuable(?) was this purse, Genevieve la-

ter received an extortion "ransom" note. Genevieve has falsely accused a person attending the party of taking the purse. She also involved her cute granddaughter, Casie Espinosa, by having her appear in an officer-of-the-law uniform (One-of-a-Kind shop in the Point was conveniently handy for rental of same) to arrest said falsely accused person in the midst of the Indian Statue Day celebration and and continued to search and try to seize the purse. Because the "officer" failed to find said cat purse, the suspect issued a subpoena to the P.R.A.C.B. (Point Richmond Association for the Preservation of Cat Bags), to Genevieve and Casie Espinosa and other Big Shots to appear in Superior Cat Court No. 1, to show cause for many charges. And, so goes the ongoing saga of the cat bags/purses connected with Point Methodist Women.

-o-

Indian Statue Day continues to bring back former residents who this year came to help the community. One only has to check the bricks to learn who is loyal to the Point. Among them were Sharon and Harry Hardwick from San Leandro, who come each year to the celebration.

-o-

It seemed appropriate and natural seeing the old timers at the festivities, recalling past Point history. The Bernardi brothers, Louis and Tony, with their sister, Theresa (Mrs. Art Meneghelli) . . . Trannie Dornan . . . Henry O'Hara, who is hoping to leave the rest home soon for his own home on Washington avenue . . . Goldy Gnaga Shrewsbury and her sister Hortense Gnaga McGee, who reside in Vallejo.

-o-

There was a "turkish" invasion of sorts in the Point. Three grown men were seen stroking a turkey in front of Jumbo's as the bird wandered down the street, obli-

ous to the fact that National Turkey Day was but a month away. We have since learned that this turkey belongs to Roy Jones, who said he acquired it when it weighed only a matter of ounces.

-O-

Dean Rackeley left October 14 for San Diego, where he will spend eleven weeks in boot camp as a member of the United States Marine Corps.

-O-

Looking for a fun, relaxing and cost-free Sunday evening? Try the "Roy Jones Sing-alongs" on the second Sunday of every month, 7 - 8 p.m., at either the Methodist or Baptist churches. We guarantee you a family night out you won't forget. And then there is the fellowship of meeting people afterward over refreshments. Such a deal!

-O-

Gloria Crim-White, who grew up in the Point and now teaches at Belding Elementary school in Richmond, recently brought her goats, Tucker and Sophie and Sophie's two kids to school with her (shades of Mary and her lamb!) Gloria says she keeps goats because they are friendly pets and good watchdogs. The kids are a 4-H project for her daughter, as well.

-O-

Good news for those readers who may have attended the Methodist Women's "Country Faire" and heard that former Point resident June (Kunkel) Blackburn had died in Minnesota where she has lived for many years. No one seems to know where the rumor started (possibly at a recent reunion of her Richmond High classmates) but June, herself, responded to a letter written to her family address by Marion (George) Hawkins with a giggling telephone call to deny her reported demise. We're relieved and happy to hear she's still alive - and giggling!

-O-

WEST SIDE LIBRARY

by Jan Burdick

To celebrate National Children's Book Week, "Annie the Clown" will visit West Side Branch on November 20. Her performance will start at 3:30 and last approximately 45 minutes. From all reports, she appeals to the child in all of us, so don't let age keep you away.

West Side does have an active circulation in children's books. For the pre-schooler to third grader, the following new titles would be fun to read:

"Harry McClary" - Lynley Dodd

"Cat Goes Fiddle-I-Fee" - Paul Galdone

"Mary Wore Her Red Dress" - Merle Peek

"House That Jack Built" - Rodney Peppe

For the older child, try these:

"How to Draw Star Wars Heroes, Creatures
Spaceships and Other Fantastic Things" -

Lee Ames

"Baby Sister" - Marilyn Sachs

"Ballet Steps" - Antony Dufort

"Agony of Alice" - Phyllis Naylor

Story Time is available for pre-schoolers from 10 - 10:30 on Thursday morning. On alternate Thursdays at 3:30, story-telling is presented for school-age kids. Call 620-6567 to check for the appropriate day.

HAPPY NOVEMBER BIRTHDAY . . .

Ann Greiner

Jason McGill

Betty Dornan

Jack Elle

Elsie Spinola

Clare Doherty

Kevin Fong

Margaret Doherty

Dennis Dornan

Paul Cort

Kirk Weirick

Mary Ann Gaspard

Lynn Darling

Chris Darling

Craig Seaborg

Bo Amantite

Adeline Miller

Gertrude Paasch

Kenny Paasch

Hal Marshall

Dorothy McCutcheon

Jan Overholtzer

Marianne Forbes

Lance Rotting

Mike Price

Joe Savill

Shane Thomas

Les Crim

Bethany Reynolds(1 year)

Nichole Vargo(1 year)

LOVE THOSE LETTERS . . .

"Enjoy 'This Point' — brings forth a lot of happy memories such as when I started my first day at school in the Washington School — home was on Nevada street — understand it is still there.

Keep up the good work.

Love,

Thelma Harvey/s
(Orinda, CA)"

"... I enjoy the little magazine as it takes me back to the years I lived in Point Richmond (1908). The picture of the firehouse on this issue was just a short way down the street from our bakery at 1 Park Place. Mr. Arnold, who was fire chief, I know very well. His daughter and I have been friends all these years. Her name was Ila Arnold, now Mrs. Deimer.

Sincerely,
Louise(Henrich)
Rogers/s"

(The following note was attached to an order for a brick from Barbara Middemas.)

"This is for my aunt, the former Mary Santini, who graduated from Richmond High in 1920. She now lives in Darien, CT, and has for decades. We'd love to hear from anyone who remembers her. Her parents ran the Columbo Hotel."

(We do appreciate the letters we receive—especially those that mention other names and familiar places. It would help our readers a lot if the ladies would include their maiden names as Mrs. Rogers did, as well as their present name.)

DEATHS

FREMONT F. FENTON died October 22, 1986, at a San Pablo hospital at the age of 89. A native of Mill Valley, CA, he lived in the Point for about 50 years. Fremont, j after 40 years' service, retired from Santa Fe Railway as a railroad engineer.

He is survived by his wife, Florence, and a sister, Lois. A daughter, Fern, preceded him in death some years ago. Fern's widower, Bob Sargent, later married Fremont's "adopted" daughter, Pauline, continuing the close family relationship. The Sargents also survive Fremont.

Saddened local residents recall that whenever Florence and Fremont were seen on walks about the Point, they were always holding hands. Visitors to their home recall seeing "Fremont loves Florence" written on a stone or a board or a piece of cardboard, wherever the mood struck him. inside or outside the home.

Family services were held on October 24, 1986.

CLAIRE B. FRIEND died October 27, 1986, in a Fremont hospital at the age of 83. A native of Oakland, she was a longtime resident of the Point.

Claire was retired from the business investment field. She and her late husband, Bob, were well-known to many in the Point.

She is survived by a nephew, Syd B. Hall of Laguna Hills.

At her request no services were held. Her ashes were scattered in San Francisco bay, a beloved view from the Friend's hilltop home.

PURSELL'S TRANSFER.

Freight and Baggage Promptly Hauled. Piano and Furniture Moving.

Furniture Moved from S. F. and Oakland. TELEPHONE BLACK 251 Office at National Cigar Store.

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!

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone No. _____

TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP (CHECK ONE)

- | | |
|--|---------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> SINGLE | \$15.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SENIOR (65+) | 7.50 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FAMILY | 25.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ORGANIZATION | 35.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> HISTORY PRESERVER | 50.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> HISTORY MAKER | 100.00 |

membership in the Point Richmond History Association includes a year's subscription to "This Point in Time" newsletter (nine issues).

Please send membership forms to:

PAM WILSON
521 WESTERN DRIVE
POINT RICHMOND, CA 94801

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, CA 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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POINTS IN THE PAST . . .

NOVEMBER:

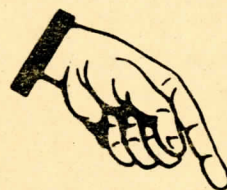
9, 1965 - Most of the northeastern United States and parts of Canada crippled by a black out

11, 1919 - First Armistice Day celebrated

15, 1907 - Comic strip 'Mutt and Jeff' first appears

24, 1971 - D. B. Cooper hijacked an airplane, parachuted into a thunderstorm near Woodland, WA, with 10,000 \$20 bills, and was never seen, again

29, 1942 - In World War II, rationing of coffee went into effect in U.S.



POINTS IN THE FUTURE -

NOVEMBER:

4 - Election Day - voting for governor, U. S. Senator, Representative, State Supreme Court justices, 13 initiatives and lots more

4 - West Side Improvement Club meeting 12 noon, Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church hall

5 - Report cards to students in elementary grades

6 - Elementary Conference Day, school holiday for students, teachers work

10 - Veterans Day - legal holiday

11 - Actual Armistice Day

12 - Point Richmond Business Association meeting, 12 noon, Hotel Mac

14 - Report cards to students, secondary grades

20 - Pt. Richmond History Association meeting, 7:30 p.m., Linsley Hall "Mariners Night"

27 - Thanksgiving Day - legal holiday

28 - School holiday

29 - "Holiday of Lights" - Pt. Richmond Community Center and Triangle Park