

THIS POINT

A PUBLICATION OF THE POINT RICHMOND HISTORY ASSOCIATION

VOL VII NO.6 FEBRUARY, 1989 ONE DOLLAR

BOB YOUNG

1920-1989



BRENT MORIWAKI

1954-1989

NEWSLETTER

A SAD TIME IN THE POINT.....

Thursday January 5, 1989 will be a day that we will long remember. The tragic deaths of Bob Young and Brent Moriwaki and the wounding of Cleothus Clark had put just about everyone in this town into a state of shock and disbelief. The violent events at the Santa Fe Market were so sudden, unexpected, unnecessary, and final that the feeling of loss was overwhelming.

I feel great pride in the passionate, yet dignified way this community has dealt with this tragedy. The heart warming Memorial on January 8th attended by more the six hundred people was a very special event in my life.

I was particularly moved to see the children standing and gazing at the flowers and candles in front of the closed store, obviously confused and hurt by this terrible event.

We will all miss these beloved people no matter how close our association. I didn't know them very well but I will very much miss Bob's smile and wave on so many mornings as I drove past his store on my way to work in Berkeley. I will miss the feeling of admiration that I had for Brent as I watched him put away those huge shipments of groceries received on the sidewalk, he worked so hard, had such energy.

We all know how much Bob Young has done for our community. He was always there for this History Association. If we needed a prize for a raffle or event we knew we only had to ask him and we would get it. We had a place on his meat market counter for many years for us to distribute this newsletter. This issue of THIS POINT is dedicated to Bob's and Brent's memories.

Gary Shows

MEMORIAL EDITION

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History Association Notes

FROM THE PRESIDENT

by Jerry Cerkowicz

Like everyone else I was shocked and saddened by the events of January 5, 1989, but as days passed I became aware of two things. The first is that the Point is a very special place. Not because of its location, its weather, or its history but because of its people. From the first flowers on Thursday to the last candle on Wednesday we grieved, we mourned and we remembered. We went from the numbness on Thursday to the strength of Wednesday night. We knew that Bob and Brent were special people and we showed everyone who saw us on Sunday and Wednesday that we could take this tragedy and grow through it. The specialness of Bob and Brent made us special, it made us stronger and more caring of one another. The shared tears, the hugs of strangers, the coming together of friends from near and far, contributed to making our community special. A very special community indeed, we should all be very proud of ourselves.

The other thing that I became aware of is that Bob and Brent are still with us. We have taken their generosity, helpfulness, thoughtfulness and their goodness and made it our own. They live in all of us now. That's the best memorial they could ever have. They have made us better people and our

town a better place.

The Point Richmond History Association offers to Mrs. Bob Young and Mrs. Brent Moriwaki and their families our sincere condolences. The presence of these two men greatly enhanced life in Point Richmond. They will be remembered for their generosity and thoughtfulness. We will miss them very much.

We would like to wish Cleopheus Clark a speedy and complete recovery.

Two trust funds have been established for Mrs. Moriwaki and her child. They are:

The Brent Moriwaki Family Trust
Alvarado Bank
P.O. Box 351
San Pablo, CA 94806
Contact: Andrea Atkins, 235-9292

The Brent Moriwaki Family Trust
Mechanics Bank
3170 Hilltop Mall Road
Richmond, CA 94806

A fund has also been established to create some kind of memorial. It is:

Santa Fe Market Memorial Fund
Mechanics Bank
9th and Macdonald Avenue
Richmond, CA 94801

This issue is dedicated to our friends Bob Young and Brent Moriwaki. It contains articles and remembrances from their friends and neighbors.

A tribute to One greatly loved~ Bob Young

For 41 years Bob was a family friend. He became a legend in the Point community even though he lived in San Francisco. Skilled as a butcher, Bob was also a keen businessman whose love and compassion for people reached out to all walks of life. His honesty was recognized early as he was trusted with keys to many homes where he delivered groceries, putting perishables in the refrigerator. Bob never refused to support a cause or organization and there were many. Some were the Camp Fire Girls, Girl Scouts, Washington PTA, Westside Improvement Club, Point Richmond History Association, Neighborhood Council and the Point Business Association. When Scout troop 111 planned their first pancake breakfast thirty-five years ago, he advised using the finest quality ham to compliment the made from scratch buttermilk pancakes.... advice that proved wise.

Bob worked long hours to

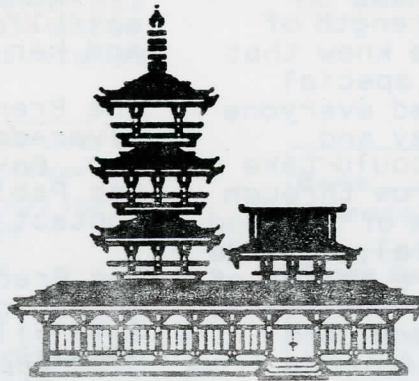
make his store successful and never flaunted how he helped others. Quiet, unassuming, Bob always looked relaxed and described himself as "low key".

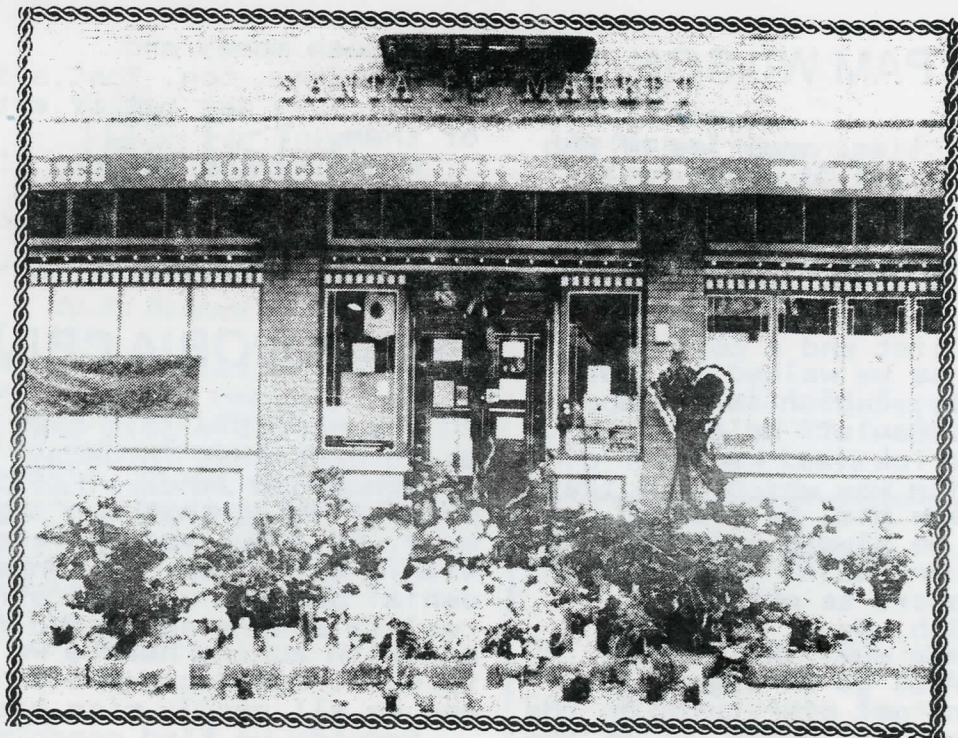
It is difficult to put into words the feelings that are so tearful...sad...painful.

Feelings of outrage and emptiness. One only needed to see the faces of the Point youth to know how much he and Brent meant to them. To those youth seeking a proper memorial, a true, living memorial will be how you now live your lives. Let your lives be positive results of all our tears, the true spirit of them both.

Bob spoke fondly of his understanding wife, Katy, his children Robin and Keith and the beloved new grandchild. Bob was a happy man whose life was fulfilled. To lose a friend in a senseless tragedy is hard to accept. He will be missed more than we realize.

Mid Dornan





A Town Called Bob

In 1966, at the second weekly issue of the primitive newsletter "Point Counterpoint", a tribute was written to Bob Dornan. He was one of the best known and loved men in Point Richmond.

In 1981, the town grieved in disbelief at the death of Bob Dornan, Jr., one of the best known and loved men in Point Richmond.

In 1989, grief and disbelief totally beyond words again afflict Point Richmond. Bob Young, one of the best known and loved men was killed.

One of the "truisms" I've always tried to believe, but have now discarded as a truism

is "No one is indispensable".

None of the Bob's who are gone have been or will be replaced. Troop 111 has suffered from Bob Dornan's untimely death, and there is no one with his dedication to the Point and its young people to replace him.

No one can replace Bob (Mr. Point Richmond) Young. It wouldn't "make sense" for anyone to want to replace him. It probably wouldn't even be "good business" to do so. So he will be an irreplaceable legend in the minds and hearts of those fortunate enough to have known him. Like the king---Bob is dead---Long live Bob!

Donna Reselius

FROM PAM WILSON

My earliest memories of Bob Young go back to about 1955 when I was four years old. We lived on Nicholl Avenue then, and my mother would send my twin sister, Paula, and me down to Santa Fe Market with a grocery list and a coin purse. As soon as we walked in, Bob would say, "which is Pam and which is Paula?" We'd always try to trick him. He never did know which was which. The last time I saw him, he greeted me the way he always greeted me—"Pam or Paula?" When we went to the store as children, either Bob, Dave, or Dixie would take our list and our coin purse, go through the store and get everything on the list, take the money out of the purse, put the change back in, and Bob would give us a raw hot dog. Whenever I go into Santa Fe, that's what I remember, those raw hot dogs. Then we'd get sent back up the hill.

The main thing I remember about Bob is that he was a giving person who had the art of listening. I don't think he liked talking about himself or his success. I remember in March, 1984, I was interviewing business people in Point Richmond for "This Point in Time" newsletter. I asked Bob how long he'd been in business and why he chose Pt. Richmond as the location for his business. He told me they had been in business since the beginning of 1949. Dave happened to be there and they both agreed it just seemed like the right spot at that particular time, and it could

have been money and availability, too. That's about all I could get out of either of them.

Whatever the reason, I'm glad Bob was there—he was an institution in Pt. Richmond and will be missed.

FROM GLORIA CRIM

The horrible jolt that hit us so hard that Thursday afternoon in January has left a painful sting that won't go away. An awful void hovers within all of us. No longer can denial protect us. The stark reality sobers our dazed minds and with aching hearts we try to cope. Bob Young isn't here and we all really miss him!!

Somehow we find consolation in the fond recollections we treasure...Bob was a very special friend to so many!

My sister, Floria, and I were reminiscing as we stood amidst the candles and flowers so beautifully laid out in tribute along the Santa Fe Market front walk. "How long had we known Bob?" Neither of us could ever remember without him. Our parents had moved to Point Richmond in the fall of 1944 when Floria and I were just infants. Bob began his business in 1949 so, we realized, we had virtually known him all our lives.

"What do you remember most about Bob?" I asked Floria. Her reply left me astonished...as if she could read the answer I had in mind! (Twins and E.S.P.; maybe so!) Bob was always struggling to tell us apart and hardly EVER guessed right. One

day the two of us stood by the register-counter with our Mother and younger brother, Les. Bob smiled sheepishly as he proudly, announced, "Now I can tell you apart...that's Les in the middle!" I think that was the only time he got it right on the first try!

A few years later Bob came up with his sure fire "Tell the twins apart" axiom. Floria had begun to wear glasses when we were in the seventh grade. With his keen observation and his quick wit Bob quipped, "G stands for classes but that's not Gloria! It worked like a charm until I had to get glasses two years later!!

Frustrated but determined Bob had to come up with something. He was sure he would get it right someday, and that he did! Whenever he saw either one of us from then on he used his Never Fail greeting.

"Gloria-Floria" or "Floria-Gloira", he'd say confidently, running both names together as if they were one.

At last, he didn't have to guess anymore. The 50/50 chance he had always risked before was now 100% foolproof!

And so our memories last. We love you, Bob! Thank you for touching our lives and giving us so much to remember you by.

FROM ELEANOR HURLEY

The tragic events at the Santa Fe Market has left a feeling of sadness and frustration to many who have traded there even before Bob

Young and Brent Moriwaki took over. This was not just a market, but a friendly meeting place to see and talk to friends. Bob was always kind and helpful and doing favors. Children remember him as the "Cookie Man" and friend. He will be greatly missed.

FROM PAT DORNAN

My earlist memory of Bob is standing in front of the meat counter and his handing over the top a slice of bologna or a hot dog. However, Bob was very fond of sharing his first encounter with me. Just two weeks before his death Bob recounted a March 17, 1950 event when I fell through the skylight onto the storeroom floor. For 38 years his periodic sharing of that story assured me that I could call Bob my friend.

FROM BEVERLY PRICE

I met Bob Young for the first time when I was fifteen years old in March of 1958. At first Bob seemed to me to be a stern, serious man. I didn't really know him well until 1962 after I married, and I began to think of Bob as part of my family.

He always kidded me because when I was young I would not eat steak, only cubesteak. He always insisted that he cut me a T-bone which he called a "real steak".

When I ordered groceries Bob

would bring them to my house. Always included with the deliveries were treats for the boys...sugar cookies or candy for Michael and meat and cheese ends for Dennis. Bob would often cook lunch and many times would send or bring us some of the lunch. I also made my homemade chili and took it to Bob and the crew at the store.

Bob was a father figure to me. In my early years of marriage he spent many hours showing me how to cook different cuts of meat, special roasts, chickens, etc. When I had Anne in 1969 Bob would carry her all over the store showing her off and spoiling her with treats.

He was a generous kind hearted man. Once we needed \$200.00 to sand blast our house. He gladly loaned us the money, with no interest. I bought rolls and hot dogs from him for Scouts, Campfire, P.T.A., etc., always at cost. He gave all of the bags, cups, mustard, catsup, relish, chips, etc. at the Washington School hot dog sales. He also sold to me for functions at Downer Jr. High School and later Ellis High school.

Bob and I were always on a diet and we would tell each other daily how much more weight one of us lost than the other. Then he would hold the hot french bread under my nose. Together, we must have lost and gained back 5000 pounds!

When we caught large amounts of fish or abalone Bob would keep it in his freezer or cooler for weeks at a time. In return we would give him fish or abalone, or cook him a dinner. Several times he cut

and pounded the abalone for us, a few times he even cooked it for us!

Several years ago Bob started started giving out cookies to all of the kid's and soon became known as "Cookie Bob". He loved to tease Becky and would tell her that she should be like him and not like Nana, he always told her to take two cookies and be sure not to share them with me, that I was to big of a kid.

When I was ill and in the hospital for 1 1/2 years, Bob called me several times to say he loved me and was praying for me and my family and was saving my french bread. When I returned home he would bring me egg rolls, pork buns, etc. from Chinatown. He said that he had watched over Anne when I was ill.

One Saturday in November of 1988 while I worked at the flower shop Bob came in and we visited for over two hours. We reminisced about all the crazy fun times we had had. He said he was hoping to retire soon, he was tired of working so much, life seemed so short and that he still had a lot of things that he wanted to see and do. I thought is was really cute when Bob gave Becky \$1.50 from his pocket and told her to go get a soda, ice cream and candy at Santa Fe. She was so excited and Bob was really pleased.

We loved Bob and thought of him as a part of our family. He was a warm, sensitive, loving, caring person who will be greatly missed...but we have the good memories forever. Someday we will meet again in a beautiful, wonderful, peaceful

place where there is nothing
but love.....IN MEMORY

FROM STANDARD OIL

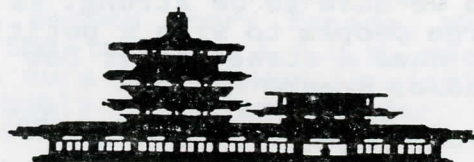
FROM FRANK ANDREWS

Bob Young and Brent Moriwaki were both good and dear friends, to say that I miss them would be the greatest understatement of all. They were both kind and thoughtful men and a I go to the store once or twice a day their faces and past memories will be with me for a long time.

My deepest sympathy to Katie, Robin, and Keith Young and to Kim and Craig Moriwaki.

Bob's and Brent's memories will be with them always but may their grief and sorrow be not forever lasting.

We were shocked to hear of the shooting incident at the Santa Fe Market last week. The market has always been a good neighbor to the employees of Chevron in Richmond, and we are saddened by the community's loss. There have been three trust funds established to provide aid to the Moriwaki family, and to establish a Bob Young Memorial. Won't you reach into your pocket and help?
(See page one for addresses.)



☆ THE KIDS REMEMBER ☆

REMARKS MADE BY POINT YOUNG
FOLKS AT THE JANUARY 8th
MEMORIAL

ON BOB.....

I remember Bob as more than just a store owner. He was a good friend who would always help you.

When I was young, Bob would always give me cookies. When I got older, I got interested in collecting coins and bottles.

Bob saved old coins for me. I just had to pay a nickel for a nickel, or a dime for a dime. He gave me old soda bottles from the back of his store.

These were just a couple of ways that Bob Young has helped me. I will always miss him.
James Cheshareck

I remember Bob for always helping people. I remember when I was younger, he would give out cookies or other things. Also he would give bones to dogs and he would let some dogs come right in and he'd give them a bone.

Also I remember I could go down there on my birthday or Christmas to cash a check or on Halloween, I could go down there and get free candy that they normally sell.

Daniel Butt

ON BRENT.....

Brent was like a pal to most of us. You could tease him or talk about sports. He gave me a lot of advice. When you wanted something, when you didn't have enough money, he would let you go. I remember one day when he showed me the picture of his little boy, he looked so happy and proud.

Brent was like a brother. We would always talk for a long time. He always invited me for a bike ride. I hope his child will be OK, and I hope his wife will be OK too. I know everybody wishes they were still alive but they are not, so we have to be strong. We urge people to sign a petition to name a street after Bob and/or Brent.

Max

I remember when I would buy something and I would not have the right change so he would let me go without paying 4 cents.

Jeff

I remember Brent as a friend and a necessity to the Santa Fe Market. He was always proud of his child and was liked by all of the regular customers of Santa Fe Market.

I saw him nearly everyday after school when I went in for my daily Coca Cola. He will always be remembered by me.

James Cheshareck

I remember when I was five years old, I would walk with my Grandma to the store and Bob would give me cookies and he would also give my dog stuff. I really miss him. He was the nicest man I ever knew.

Jeff

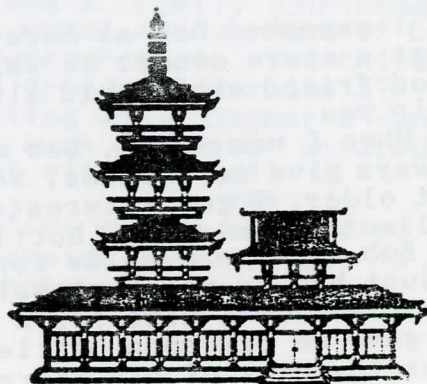
Bob Young was a friend to everyone. He cared for many people. He knew all the kids. He knew what they wanted to become when they grew up. He would ask what college you wanted to go to or how do you like school. He would always give us meat for the dogs. One time when I had a seagull and I had no food, he gave me some chicken liver for the bird. He cared a lot for a lot of people.

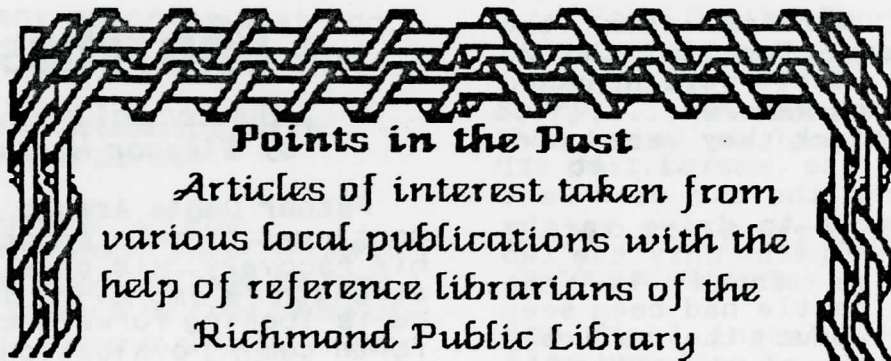
John Behrens

I remember when I was little, I would always go down the street to get groceries at the Santa Fe Market and Bob was so kind to me. He would give me cookies and allow my dog to come into the store with me. He would always have a nice juicy bone ready for Sadie and cookies for the kids.

Bob would save all the two dollar bills and silver dollars in a leather wallet he kept, and you could go down to the market and trade your two dollars for a two dollar bill or one dollar for a silver dollar. Also he would always be willing to give credit if you didn't have enough money. I think everyone should try to be more like Bob Young.

Andrew





Points in the Past

Articles of interest taken from
various local publications with the
help of reference librarians of the
Richmond Public Library

70 YEARS AGO...

by Deirdre Cerkawicz

STANDARD OIL TO USE DISABLED SOLDIERS

The soldier who comes back disabled from the war will not need to worry about his job if he was employed at the Standard Oil company. The rule of the company that all men who left their jobs to go to war will still be carried out even if the soldier should have suffered injuries or loss of arms or legs in the war.

This is the statement today of Superintendent Joseph F. Brooks when asked what the company intended to do about the use of disabled men.

"It makes no difference whether the man is disabled or uninjured," said Superintendent Brooks today. "If he left his job here to go to war he will have it back again."

It is not known yet just how many of the boys from the Standard Oil have been injured in the fight. None of those who have returned so far have been seriously disabled.

February 13, 1919
PUBLIC HEALTH ORDER No. 12

"I, CHARLES R. BLAKE,
Commissioner of Health of the

City of Richmond, State of California, do hereby order, direct, and require, that on and after Monday morning, January 13th, 1919, on account of the prevalence of Spanish Influenza in the said City of Richmond, and until further order, every person within said City, shall be and is hereby ordered, required and directed to wear gauze mask covering the nose and mouth. Said mask to be satisfactory to me as said Commissioner of Health as aforesaid."

January 11, 1919

21 CATTLE GONE FROM YARDS OF SANTA FE

Are the days of the cattle rustlers being repeated right here in Richmond? This is the question which Santa Fe authorities are asking following the disappearance of 20 cows and a steer from the railroad corral at the local depot. Between dawn yesterday and 11 o'clock of the same morning 21 cattle out of a heard of 23 disappeared as by magic.

The cattle were all blooded stock received from a Sonoma ranch and due for transport to Dr. R. C. Jenkins, cattle fancier at Stockton. When the stock car was received here

yesterday morning from the Northwestern Pacific, the 20 cows and 3 steers were unloaded to be fed and watered.

At 6 o'clock they were known to be in the corral. At 11 o'clock when the car crew went to the corral to drive in the stock for shipment only the two steers were found in the corral. No cattle had been seen wandering about the railroad yards and none of the thirty or forty yard hands, all working nearby, had seen the cattle removed.

The cowboy which was sent with the shipment of cattle is also missing, having jumped his horse and gone in search of the missing cattle.

January 10, 1919

RICHMOND AVENUE PAYING SUIT IS WON BY H. C. CUTTING

The apparently endless litigation over the paving of Richmond Avenue four years has taken a new lease of life with the Supreme Court ordering the Superior Court of this city to try the suit brought by H.C. Cutting, Pt. Richmond Land and Canal Company and others against the City of Richmond to secure an injunction forbidding the city to sell land owned by the Cutting interests for unpaid street assessments.

Cutting was non-suited in the Contra Costa courts. There are five or six other suits concerning various phases of this work.

January 2, 1919

THE "COZY"

Candy and . . .
Ice Cream Parlors

148 Washington Ave. Pt. Richmond

Churches

Our Lady of Mercy
by Eleanor Hurley

Father Denis Araujo continues to make progress in his recovery. His physical strength is improving daily and he is looking forward to a forth coming evaluation by the Oakland Diocese Office.

The Parishioners were saddened by the sudden death of Henry O'Hara. Although he had been residing at the Family Manor in San Pablo, he was up and around, enjoying dinner with friends on Christmas Day. Death came peacefully early the following Monday morning.

We had a beautiful Christmas celebration. Midnight mass was especially well attended, carols were sung at 11:30 and mass was celebrated at midnight. The altar was beautifully lit and decorated with pointsettias and calendelabras with the crib on the side. It made for a very religious setting for the mass. Children are especially fascinated by the crib. It helps to show them the real meaning of Christmas Day.

The Choir, which was augmented by some members of St Cornelius Church, added much to the over all ceremony. Incidentally, the crib frame was planned and built by Henry O'Hara in sections and has been put together annually by the men of the Parish for many years. The figurines, animals, etc. were obtained in San Francisco when the structure was finished. For many of the Parishioners, the crib brings

back many memories that go
back as far as school days.

Point Methodist Church by Mid Dornan

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 35th installment.

June 1913

Meeting of the Home Missionary Soc. met at Mrs. Gibbons in meeting for election of officers. The following officers were elected.

Pres.	Mrs. Gibbons
V. Pres.	Mrs. Horner
Treas.	Mrs. Wood
Cor Sec.	Mrs. Gover
Sec.	Mrs. Bradley
Mite Boxes	Mrs. I. Lester

Mrs. Horner reviewed the third chapter of Mormon Book showing map whereon they location (sic) throughout U.S. is worked.

Moved and carried that order be drawn on treas for money for ticking & quilt lining. The following paid toward delegates expenses. Mrs. Horner 10 ct, Mrs. Pritchard 10 ct. Mrs Bradley 10 ct. Mrs. Lester, Mrs. Gibbons 0.

Adjourned,
Mrs. C. Bradley Sec

July 1913

No regular meeting. A called one however in which we voted to send box of clothes to Indians and \$2 dollars toward fixing parsonage at Upper Lake.

Mrs. Bradley, Sec

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Point Baptist Church
by Roy Jones

Sorry.....no report from Roy in this issue. We look forward to his next column.

CAMP FIRE MEMORIES

courtesy of Mid Dornan

The final installemnt of Camp Fire Memories from Maude Wood's scrapbook will not appear this month but look for it in the next issue of THIS POINT.

FOUNDERS DAY AT WASHINGTON SCHOOL

March 10th is Founders Day at Washington School. Sponsored by the Washington School PTA, Festivities are between 6pm and 8pm and all parents are asked to donate baked goods or refreshments. Bring them to the auditorium between 5:30 and 6:00 pm.

The Founder's Day program will highlight "The Achievements of the Past", "Our Present Program". and "The Challenges of the Future".

P.T.A. President Mary Ruiz is hoping to see all past presidents and members at the affair.

On March 4th there will be a Bob Young Memorial "Walk-a-thon". The entire community and school are welcome to join. All proceeds will be donated to the Bob Young Memorial. Forms will be available at the school office after February 13th. Contact Mary Ruiz or Sandy Christopher at 232-1961.

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Sports

memories
by Ailan Smith

Point Richmond can claim several young men who were outstanding football players during their high school and college careers. Here is my recollecton of a few of them.

The late ROBERT "BOB" HARTNYK, SR. was the Connecticut State Amateur Heavyweight Boxing Champion. He told me that he had played a few games as a professional football player in New England before World War II. Bob played football at St. Mary's College for the legendary coach "Slip" Madigan.

Later also at St. Mary's College FRANK SHOCK, of Shock's Variety store played under coach Madigan. I personally believe that Frank was the best all-around athlete to ever reside in Pt. Richmond. Every sport he played, football, basketball, baseball, bowling and golf he excelled in. He bowled several 300 perfect games during his career.

In the late 1920's BOB PAASCH also played football for St. Mary's College, as well as ANDY CAKOS. While at Richmond High School Andy played both offensive and defensive lineman and received the honors of All County and All State Lineman. He still lives in the Point.

High School players from the Point were J.D. VINCENT, who, while attending Marin Junior College was known as a one-man track team. SILVIA "CHIP" CECCHI, only 5' 6" but a solid

200 lb. running back for Richmond High. Joining him at Richmond High were other great players such as JIM WILSON and JIM and BOB McAFFE of the Hotel Mac family, just to name a few.

One Pt. Richmond resident played in the Rose Bowl game while attending UCLA. He was LARRY SLAGLE, who was a superb lineman and would have been a professional star if he didn't suffer an unfortunate injury that ended his football career. He can be seen these days at Washington Grammar School instructing hopeful grammar school football players. I recall that he recovered a fumble to score a touchdown in that Rose Bowl game.

The LEO and RAY GIACOMELLI families leave a sports record that will never equaled in the Point. Leo's two sons LEO, JR. and RAY and Ray's four son's JOHN, MARK, DAVID, and RAY, JR. all played football at Richmond's Salesian High School. MARK played for Cal Poly in San Luis Obispo, DAVID and Ray, JR. played at Oregon State. They both are being considered by professional football's Kansas City Chiefs.

STEVE EGGER of Oregon Street in the Point played great football at Chico State.

JOHN BASH was a great star at Harry Ells High School as a lineman.

BRYAN and ALLAN SMITH, JR. played football at St. Mary's High. BRYAN was a quarterback and ALLAN was a lineman.

In the 1920's and 1930's, a Pt. Richmond resident was the leading sports coach and figure for the Richmond schools. He was "MAJ" HILL. More about him in a later issue.

➡ IN PURSUIT OF ◀ HISTORICAL TRIVIA

courtesy of Stan Nystrom

ANSWER

In the November issue, the historical trivia question asked about how much further a ship from Honolulu would travel if it went to the Port of Richmond instead of going to the Port of Los Angeles. If you had guessed any amount of additional miles, you would have been wrong. All San Francisco Bay Area ports are closer to Hawaii than Los Angeles ports by approximately 150 miles. The three dimensional curvature of the earth and the extreme easterly setback of the Southern California shoreline are the explanations. A look at a map will reveal that the Port of Los Angeles is actually east of Reno, by at least 85 miles! (My thanks to our editor for improving an interim answer for last month's issue. I was vacationing in Florida at the deadline date for copy submittal.)

QUESTION

The historical trivia for this month is about the genesis of our city. The usual response of a Richmonder when asked about where Richmond began would be: "In Point Richmond". That is the generally accepted answer. However, in technical and official sense, it is a little more involved than that; and different than a lot of Richmonders realize. (Please note the qualifying phrase).

The beginning was in a community called Point

Richmond, but that first recorded use of the name "Point Richmond" to designate a proposed townsite was for a location other than where Point Richmond is now.

So - the trivia question is: "Where was the community of Point Richmond before it was where it is now?"

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Now, a second question: not trivia, but research; and one which I am hoping some reader can enlighten me with the answer.

In a 1912 panoramic picture of downtown Richmond, a building at 6th and Macdonald is labeled "A.O.U.W. HALL" on the second story facade. What do the initials A.O.U.W. mean? I'm sure the answer is simple probably "Ancient Order of something", but I don't know and haven't been able to successfully research.

\*\*\*\*\*



## THE MASQUERS

Playhouse, Inc.

105 Park Place, Point Richmond

PROUDLY PRESENTS



By Daphne Du Maurier

Directed by Jo Camp

A haunting tale by a master story-teller, 'Rebecca' is a romantic drama of mystery and suspense told in an atmosphere of growing tension which shadows the love story unfolding at Manderley . . . .

Friday & Saturday evenings - January 20 - March 4, 1989

Sunday Matinees - January 29, Feb. 12, Feb. 26

RESERVATIONS: 232-4031 (24 hours)



## A-MID TRIVIA

by Mid Dornan (234-5334)

Q: Why does February have only 28 days? A: Because Julius and Augustus Caesar each took one day from it to add to July and August, the months named for them.

\*\*\*

It was a trip of love and respect for Bob Young that Donna & Rosy Roselius made. Closing their Whale's Cove restaurant in Port Orford, Oregon at 2:00 a.m. they then arose at 4:00 a.m. to begin their long drive to the Point. They arrived only minutes after the memorial services at Washington School auditorium had ended! They cared.

\*\*\*

Betty Wirth planned to see the Rose Parade in Pasadena when she went to visit her daughter after Christmas. What she didn't plan was to see it from a hospital bed. While in Southern California, Betty suffered a heart attack and was hospitalized. She is now at her Western Drive home resting.

\*\*\*

Jean Eger tells us her son Billy is now a first year student at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y. and will study electrical engineering. Billy served in the army for almost three years before applying to West Point, then attended a cram school for one year prior to his first year at West Point.

\*\*\*

It has been almost a year since the 842 decorative lights, placed in the trusses and cables of the SF-Jakland Bay

Bridge to celebrate the span's 50th birthday. To date, none has burned out. The manufacturers estimate their life of 10,000 hours is equal to about 2 1/2 years of use!

\*\*\*

Spending the Christmas holiday with the Joe Darlings were Sonja's sister, Judy Flesche, her husband Donald and son, Troy, from North Dakota.

\*\*\*

ENGAGED: Melissa Allyn, daughter of Jean and Henry Allyn of the Point, and Kevin Driscoll, son of Reta and Michael Driscoll of Richmond. Both are employees of a police department.

\*\*\*

ENGAGED: Christine Darling, daughter of Joe and Sonja Darling of Cottage Avenue and David Bradshaw, son of Jack Bradshaw. They are owners of the Famous Foam Factory in Berkeley.

\*\*\*

Rand McNally is the world's largest independant map maker. The new 1989 Road Atlases are now available. This 65th edition contains 18,116 changes from last year's edition, including modification of roadways, towns and points of interest.

\*\*\*

It was a "family" Christmas at the Crest Avenue home of Dagmar & Henry Francis. The children and grandchildren did all the cooking while Dagmar & Henry sat back and later enjoyed the meal with them all.

\*\*\*

Pauline Horner spent time in Brookside Hospital but is now at home.

\*\*\*



1989 is the Chinese year of the Serpent. If you were born in 1905, 1917, 1929, 1941, 1953, 1965, 1977 or this year, it is your sign. "Snake" people have more than their share of the world's gifts, including basic wisdom. They are likely to be handsome, well informed men and graceful, beautiful women.

\*\*\*

The Richmond High School class of 1938 celebrated its 50th anniversary on January 14th at the Mira Vista Country Club in El Cerrito.

Members of from Point Richmond included Melba Gheri, Mary Wilkins, Terry Downey with his wife Phyllis Busby, Melvin Hitch and Allan Smith.

Among the former teachers in attendance were Margaret Broberg from the Point and P.E. coach Phil Hempler.

\*\*\*

Teenagers, don't forget about the dance at Eva's on February 11th from 8:00-12:00 PM.

\*\*\*

BORN: BRIAN TROY BELLEGAURDE on December 21, 1988 to Catherine & Ed Bellegauarde. He is the grandson of John and Peggy Banks, and the great grandson of Louisa Banks and the late Captain Stephen Banks. Louisa is a long time Point resident who has raised her family here. Brian is also welcomed by brother Michael Edward.

\*\*\*

MARRIED: JON HEALY, son of Velma Healy, on January 3rd in Hawaii to Nan Abo in a Mormon ceremony. Velma attended the wedding in Honolulu. She left Hawaii in 86 degree temperature only to arrive home in a pouring rain at a cold 38 degrees.

After her return home, Velma was on the telephone to Hawaii when another son, Dr. Craig Healy, walked into her home, told her to tell the caller he and his "fiance" Pamela Poletti (San Francisco) were planning to visit Hawaii soon. Thus Velma learned of the engagement that had taken place just 15 minutes earlier.

Velma is off on a cruise to Alaska in February, so the wedding plans have to be planned ahead!

\*\*\*

It's hearts and flowers month! For the young, there is the 3rd Annual Valentine Making at the community center on Saturday, February 11th from 12:00 to 4:00 PM.

\*\*\*

Ralph and Marion Voight celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on January 28th at the Mariners Bay Boat House. Friends and relatives came from as far as Dinuba and San Diego to join in the celebration. Also in attendance was a 94 year old aunt who came up from Santa Cruz.

\*\*\*

About 40 members and guests enjoyed the festive Christmas luncheon served by the committee of the Westside Improvement Club in the social hall of Our Lady of Mercy Church in December. Frankie Greenlaw even came from Hayward. What a wealth of live history is represented in this group!

\*\*\*

From the City Auditor's Annual Report, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1933 WEST SIDE BRANCH LIBRARY:



|                   |          |
|-------------------|----------|
| Fuel              | 37.00    |
| Lights            | 34.97    |
| Rent              | 285.00   |
| Salary, Librarian | 1,040.00 |
| Scavenger Service | 1.00     |
| Telephone         | 8.50     |
| Water             | 8.10     |
| Fire Insurance    | 24.38    |
|                   | -----    |
|                   | 1,450.99 |

This was for the ENTIRE year!!

\*\*\*

Plan now to do something special for someone special on Valentine's Day. Maybe a phone call...or a visit...some flowers from your garden...a cookie you've baked. Make someone know your remember.

\*\*\*

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY TO YOU!!

\*\*\*

## ■ ON MANNERS ■

The 16th century philosopher and educator Erasmus of Rotterdam wrote a book in 1530 on etiquette for children. It includes this dictum on table manners:

"If you cannot swallow a piece of food, turn around discreetly and throw it somewhere."

□ □ □ □

## A BIT OF NOSTOLGIA

*submitted by Elenor Hurley*

Taken from the Richmond Independent of February 18, 1918

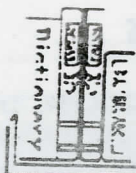
Pupils of Washington school in their efforts for the Junior Red Cross will put on a fine benefit performance at the school auditorium on Thursday night. Both in the character of the program and the well known talent of those who are taking part, it promises to be a

distinct success. The program is as follows: Violin solo, Charles Bennett, accompanied by Miss Idele Whitehead. Flag Drill: Gertrude Carey, Holly Gebhardt, Ellen Burton, Karin Peterson, Mary Camerlo, Angelina Bernardi, Palma Campbell, Agnes Kearny, Teresa Verneti, Bertha Fisher, Vera Nee, Corrine Ward, Eleanor Summers, Gladys O'Hara, Dorothea Hayes, Ruth Weston, Thelma Stanford, Henrietta McCandless, Adeline Irving, Lucy Valenti. "Tenting Tonight," Agnes Hounsell, Albert Peterson, Gottfred Lindquist, Charles Boutelle, Fred Childs, Harold Johnson, Frank Ehlert, Louise Ryan, Mark Gebhardt, Carrie Ellsworth, Edith Ketelhut, Reno Cairo, Violet Miller. Story of Our Country, Sailors: Francis Ziem, Mark Gebhardt, Gilbert Coward, Thomas Bagley, Alfred Peterson, Ernest Blount, Timothy Morley. Soldiers: James Clark, Sidney Gnaga, Alec Morrison, James Hadley, Claude Gibbons, Arthur Cramer, Argyle Adams, Warren Brown, James Cornell, Ralph Lee, Louis Shawl, Charles Henry, Marshall Niedecker, Robert Paash. Bugler: Thomas Davidson. Columbia: Janice Curry. Red Cross Nurses: Miriam Garrard, Carol Ford, Irene Carey, Lois Wood, Virgil Fenner, Arietta Kuhn, Margherita Pucci, Clarice Carey, Hazel Bagley, Edna Hall, Serena Bowen, Isabel McGregor, Mildred Wollet, Holly Gebhardt.

The Ford autos operated by the police, fire and street departments will bear lettering on the doors of the machines stating to which department they are attached.

#####





## For Your Information

### WEST SIDE LIBRARY

*by Jan Burdick*

If time is of the minimum, magazine articles may be the answer to your reading needs.

The collection of periodical titles represents a variety of interests. Those subscribed to by the library are as follows:

American Health  
Americas  
Atlantic  
Consumer Reports  
Cosmopolitan  
Ebony  
Esquire  
Freestylin'  
G Q  
Glamour  
Gourmet  
Handyman  
Harpers  
H G  
Kid City  
Life  
Money  
Motor Trend  
Ms.  
New Yorker  
Newsweek  
People  
Popular Science  
Psychology Today  
Rolling Stone  
Scientific American  
Sesame Street  
Seventeen  
Sports Illustrated  
Vogue

In addition the following titles are received as gifts, sometimes slightly delayed:

Audubon  
California  
National Geographic  
National Wildlife  
New York Times Magazine  
Readers Digest  
San Francisco Focus  
Smithsonian  
Time  
Traveler

The check out period for magazines is one week.

#####

### In the Next Issue.....

Our MEMORIES OF GROWING UP IN THE POINT IN THE 20'S AND 30'S continues! Thanks to an article sent by Ed Garrard, memories of this "red hot community" as Ed puts it, will continue. I know you will all enjoy reading his memories. Maybe you will recall some of your's. Send them, this is living history!

### MEMBERS

Pam Wilson, Membership  
Chairwoman  
521 Western Drive  
Point Richmond, CA 94801

Thank you to following members who have renewed their memberships:

Maxine Mayer  
Sonja M. Darling  
Paula Ferguson

A warm welcome to new member:  
Carol Nelson

## EDITOR'S NOTES

By Gary Shows

### THE QUIET HEROS

It's time to recognize some people who's name you don't read often in this newsletter. One is Amy Rotting, Amy is our Assistant Editor and is an important part of the Association. She pastes up the newsletter, picked out the pictures in our 1989 calendar, and is supportive in many other ways.

Another is Mae Mandl our treasurer. Mae keeps us all in line, she can seem overly precise and sometimes even a little cantankerous but we couldn't ask for a better friend, treasurer and "keeper of the books".

There's Muriel Clausen, our Secretary. And what a Secretary she is, she is also always there when she is needed.

How about Liz McDonald our Director of Programs, we're not real sure what her "official" job is, but Liz is always there with suggestions and ideas. She is also one heck of a good worker!

Pam Wilson keeps track of all of our members (as her title of Membership Chairwomen suggests). Pam is professional and thorough. I hope that you are in Pam's card file.

Anne Hanzlik is our thoughtful and "let's get the job done" Director of Special Programs. We owe the successful completion of the Indian Statue Park to Anne and her husband, Joe, enough said.

We all know Jerry, Mid, Deirdre and Margarita, the other directors. It is a joy working with you nice people.



## DEATHS.....

KIRK RANDOLPH WEIRICH, 34, in Point Richmond on January 13th. Born at Albany Hospital on November 8th. Kirk lived in the Point area most of his life. He attended Washington School and later was recognized a National Champion in the Kung Fu arts. He is survived by his wife, Jennifer, a son, Thomas, and daughter, Jennifer, of Fairfield; a brother, Richard, of the Point, and grandmother, Pearl Pemberton.

HENRY "HANK" O'HARA, 77, in San Pablo on January 2nd. Hank was born and lived his entire life in the Point. He retired as a marine personnel supervisor with Chevron shipping after 40 years. He was a member of the Point Richmond History Association, a 50-year member of the Elks Lodge #1251, 50-year member of the Knights of Columbus #2741 of Richmond and as a devoted member of Our Lady of Mercy Church in the Point. He was considered "Mr. Catholic". A handsome man, tall of stature, he had a ready smile and always time for a friendly hello. He left no immediate relatives. A special person, Henry represented the pioneer spirit of the Point.

JOSEPH PATRICK SPINOLA on December 10, 1988 in Richmond. Joe lived in the Point most of his 73 years and was active in community service groups. He was a member of the Pinole Masonic Lodge, Point Chapter of Eastern Star, Shiloah White Shrine, Scottish Rite Temple, and the Plumbers and Steamfitters Local union. He helped with Boy Scout Troop 111 of the Point and was with the U.S. Coast Guard during WWII. He is survived by his wife, Elsie; sons, Don and Joel; four grandchildren: sisters, Charlotte Gimple, Lucille Peterson, Eleanor Meghini, Bernadette McCabe and brothers, Manuel and Jim. The Rev. Richard Knott of the Point Baptist Church and the Point Pinole Lodge of Masons conducted the services.



## CALENDAR

### Ground Hog's Day

See his shadow and 6 more weeks of winter

>February 2

### Boy Scout Sunday

Observed at the Methodist Church

11:00 AM

>February 5

### Neighborhood Council Meeting

>February 7

### Ash Wednesday

>February 8

### Point Business Assoc. Luncheon

Hotel Mac

>February 8

### Dance at Eva's

8:00-12:00 PM

> February 11

### Make your Valentine

Community Center

12:00-4:00 25 cents

> February 11

### Lincoln's Birthday

>February 12

### Valentine's Day

Only 254 days until Christmas!

> February 14

### Articles due in for TPIT

>February 15

### PRESIDENTS DAY

> February 20

School Holidays, Winter Break

>February 20 thru 25

### Neighborhood Council Meeting

>March 7

### Point Business Assoc. Luncheon

>March 8

### Easter Egg Dying

Community Center

> March 25

### EASTER

> March 26



### Birthdays

#### February

Bill Williamson

Dixie Copeland

Allan Smith

Chris Rotting

Helen Valentine

Bessie Squires

Arlene Hartman

Frankie Greenlaw

BOY SCOUTS

Wallace MacMillan

Ethel MacMillan

Rowene MacMillan

Shelly Virgo

Frank Pearson

Doug Busby

Barnaby Edwards

Marcos Rotting

Connie Healy

Landow Howe

Father Denis Araujo

Pearlie Westman

Mitzi Kruse

AN EARLY LETTER  
FROM NELL COWARD BROOKER

*We printed this letter in  
May of 1983.....*

I have enjoyed your publication immensely and am sending a check for renewed membership and donation for Indian restoration.

My parents came to Richmond in October, 1910, when I was two years old and Richmond (Point) was home to us for the next 30 or 40 years (60 Terrace Ave.)

During the First World War, there was a big train wreck at or near the old depot. All the kids skipped school to go look. My brother Gilbert was one of them, and he was heartbroken when the teacher took away his job of taking children's money to bank for war savings stamps

as a disciplinary action. What kid wouldn't go to see a trainwreck of such magnitude? Billy Wing was the engineer killed here. His wife Brownie later married Al Stromberg and they lived in Point Richmond many, many years.

Someday I hope to write more of my memories of Point Richmond. It will always be dear to my heart.

The Indian was one of the favorite gathering places for young people, along with the Library.

Our house is next door to Stiefvater's at 60 Terrace Avenue. Keep up the good work. I visit the Point every time I have a chance to come North from here.

Sincerely,  
Nell Coward Brooker  
Thousand Oaks, CA

Articles for each month's issue are due on the 15th of the previous month. Please mail articles and items of interest to Gary Shows  
229 Golden Gate Avenue  
Pt. Richmond, CA 94801  
Phone 235-1336

This Point in Time is a publication of the Point Richmond History Association, a non-profit corporation at 229 Golden Gate Avenue, Point Richmond, CA 94801

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Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_

Type of membership (check one)

- |                                            |         |
|--------------------------------------------|---------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Single            | \$15.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Senior (65+)      | 10.00   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family            | 25.00   |
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membership in the Point Richmond History Association includes a year's subscription to "This Point in Time" newsletter (nine issues). Please make check payable to the Point Richmond History Association and mail to

PAM WILSON

521 WESTERN DRIVE  
POINT RICHMOND, CA 94801

If you would like to have birthdays noted in the newsletter, please include names and months.



# In Loving Memory of NELL COWARD BROOKER

## BORN

May 5, 1908  
LaFayette, Colorado

## PASSED AWAY

November 26, 1988  
Simi Valley, California

## FUNERAL SERVICE

Thursday, December 1, 1988  
Thousand Oaks, California

## OFFICIANTS

The Reverend Father George Calvert

## ENTOMBMENT

Private  
Pierce Brothers Valley Oaks Memorial Park  
Westlake Village, California

Nell Coward Brooker grew up in Point Richmond. You will remember that we used a sketch drawn by Nell on the cover of our Summer issue of TPIT. We took that sketch from her 1925 "School-Fellow Days Memory Book" which she had donated to us, we sent a copy of that newsletter to her. We are told that she was so excited that she did an audio tape about her memories of the Point. So far we have not received this tape but her family is trying to get it to us to share with our readers.

Her family says that she loved getting TPIT and when she visited Richmond the first place she wanted to go was her school days home on Terrace Avenue.

We would like to express our sincere sympathy with her family. We are proud to have Nell Coward to remember as a part of the history of Point Richmond.

We would like to also gratefully acknowledge gifts sent to the  
History Association in the name of Mr. Edgar Brooker & Family  
in her memory from:

DOROTHY COWARD

THE MAXWELLS

CHARLOTTE WOODS