THIS POINT _____in time

NEWSLETTER

The Point Richmond History Association

www.PointRichmondHistory.org

Vol. XXI No. 3

November, 2002

\$1.50



Gilt Edge Bar, 1908

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Oh My....

Believe it or not Santa Claus is preparing to come to Point Richmond!

Don't miss Santa's arrival and take part in the caroling and other festive activities at the Point Tree Lighting Ceremony.

At the Point Triangle Saturday November 30, 2002 Dusk

By Mid Dornan

The Point Richmond History Museum sparkles after a 'wash-down' during a recent cleaning day at the building. A BIG THANK YOU to Fire Captain DAN COLVIG at the Point Station for his assist of the fire hose, soap bucket, brush and--himself--which made the inside cleaning a Showing up to clean the breeze. cobwebs and dust were Mary Highfill, Ann and Bruce Bartram, Sonja Darling, Mid Dornan and Pat Pearson and her coerced, overnight, college-visitor grandson, Mike Davis. A separate day found Mary Highfill giving attention to the soil and plants around the museum. Stop by.

Contents of this Issue			
From the President	1		
Members	2		
Editor's Notes	3		
A-Mid Trivia	4		
Church News	7		
Centennial Books	11		
Newspaper Clippings	12		
Allan's Point	14		
Sports Memories	16		
How to Carve Turkey	17		
Cards and Letters	20		
Deaths	22		
Birthdays	23		
Calendar	24		

Below is a picture of the Pullman Shops under construction, 1910



Thank you to the following members for renewing your membership:

Rose & Louie Barra
John A. Bailo
Marian Hawkins
Hortense G. McGee
Laverne Rentfro Woolman
David Bradshaw Family
Bernard Bernes
Alyce K. Williamson
Don & Bo Amantite
Evelyn (Neville) MacDonald
Fred Beesley
Kathe Kiehn
Jeff & Barbara Ward
Julio Carrera

And a warm welcome to the following new members:

Barbara Perasso Levenson Elmo Lewis Gerald A. Lewis Nestle Davis



RICHMOND PUBLIC LIBRARY

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THANK YOU! SANTA FE MARKET AND POINT RICHMOND MARKET FOR SELLING 'THIS POINT....IN TIME" FOR US.

Thanks to the Volunteers who open and close our history museum on Thursday and Saturday:

Betty Dornan (Director)
Ann Bartram
Bruce Bartram
Bonnie Jo Cullison
Dody Perry
Anita Christiansen
Sonja Darling

Museum Hours:

7hursday 11:30 am to 2:00 pm Saturday 11:30 am to 2:00 pm

Thank You!

History Makers Sherri Mertle The Corbin Family

Corporate Sponsors: Computing Integrity

History Preservers: Royce Ong Dennis & Ellen Schaefer Kathe Kiehn

Editor's Notes

Gary Shows (510-235-1336)

Thanks to Pat Pearson for bringing over several of Donna Bill's old photos to scan. She has all of her photos back and safe and I can now share them with you. I encourage you to do the same by sharing your Point Richmond historical images.

Mid did so well in her project to publish the book celebrating 100 year history of the Point Methodist church that I fear she will soon be after my TPIT job! Her work on this project is impressive, the Methodist church members should be very proud.

And Josephine, you'd better watch your commercials more carefully, Deidre Cerkanowicz corrects that #5, "You Deserve a Break Today" is a slogan for McDonald's not Pepsi and Linda Newton points out that Ivory Snow is actually 99 and 44/100th percent pure (#7), not 99.9/100% pure, next month I will be giving you a test!

The next issue will be one of the most difficult for us because it's deadline is less than four short weeks away. The Winter Issue is designed to allow all to announce holiday season activities. Good luck.

The deadline for the December/January issue is November 22, 2002

The September/October issue assembly crew.

Jerry Cerkanowicz
Gary Shows
Mid Dornan
Mary Highfill
Pam Wilson
Bruce Bartram
Ann Bartram
Sonja Darling
Betty Dornan





The Cover: A get together in Gilt Edge Bar, 129 Washington Avenue in 1908. From right to left: Bert Jenkins, Lee Stout, Pete Brown, ?????, a man named EAK (meaning oak in Swedish). The bartenders are unknown.

The establishment became Hoovers Saloon in 1914.

AMICI TRIVIA

Mid Dornan (510-234-5334)

Question: We remember the Pilgrims gave us Thanksgiving, but what else do we know about these brave pioneers? Of the 102 passengers, about how many were Pilgrims? And, the Pilgrims arrived at Plymouth a day after what would become which major American holiday?

Answer at the end of A-Mid Trivia.



The Past actually happened but History is only what someone wrote down.

November 26, 1789, George Washington made this a day of national thanksgiving for the adoption of the Unites States Constitution. Thanksgiving did not become an official holiday until nearly a century later.

Tired of so much junk mail? Try writing "Return to Sender" and put it back in the outgoing mail! Junk mail companies don't want to spend money sending to addresses that are going to bounce back. Especially when they have to pay the return fee.

Richmond Fire Chief Joseph Robinson, Battalion Chief James Fajardo, Inspector F, and Firefighter Ron Woods received a standing ovation at the Point Business Association luncheon on September 11th. Firefighter Ron Woods discussed "9/11 Then and Now" and his

experiences on the East Coast near the NYC

disaster at the time of the event.

Jean and John Knox have been honored by Contra Costa College for continued support of the college and their interest in the theater. Its Performing Arts Center has been renamed the "John and Jean Knox Center for the Performing Arts"

Those who missed the former restaurant at the Point San Pablo Yacht Harbor will be interested to know the Galley Cafe is back. You can now enjoy Breakfast and Lunch on the Bay on Wednesday through Sunday, 5:30 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. and on Saturday and Sunday the Brunch menu from 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Need directions? Call 510-233-3224.

Jean Eger Womack is happy to have her son, Captain William Eger, and his family back living in Monterey where he is attending the Naval Postgraduate School. She is hoping to have more visits with her grandchildren now

Wishing Bernie Bernes a special 94th Happy Birthday on November 7th.

Friends and neighbors of Liz McDonald honored her 80th birthday when Rosemary and Doug Corbin hosted a birthday reception in her honor at their home overlooking the Bay. Liz serves as Vice President on the staff of the Point Richmond History Association as well as being a volunteer at the Richmond Museum of History.

CREST AVENUE is an envied and model neighborhood in which most of us would like to live. This is the fourth year these neighbors, which also includes Belvedere Avenue and Vine Street, held their BLOCK PARTY with 47 attending. Guests contribute finger foods, enjoy neighborliness chatting, and renew friendships while adding new friends at this block party. Unofficial photographer Mary Cosby shares their event with a collage displayed at the Santa Fe Market.

For two weeks in October, it was 'life-in-the-slow-lane' for the Rosemary and Doug Corbin families as they flew to occupy a farm house in Umbria, Italy. This family affair included son Jeff and wife Janette who live in Berkeley and daughter, Diana, San Francisco. The saying, "families that play together stay together" sounds workable to me.

Have you gotten your flu shot?

Enjoying an October vacation out of the country were Jim and Linda Brooks who flew to London where they visited Jim's brother and continued to Southern Ireland to try out the Gaelic they tried to master.

Member and Point Richmond 'Kid', Julio Caceras, Sacramento, is slowly recuperating from major surgery this past summer.

Our Secretary, Jerry Cerkanowicz, fell down his steps and spent over a week in bed.

Attention City Maintenance! Have you checked the gutters on the Point Community Center? It appears lots of TALL WEEDS are a negative attraction.

Good judgment comes from experience, and

experience, well, that comes from bad judgment. Anon

Being welcomed back to the Point after a long absence is Lawrence Gonzales. Some remember him attending the first grade at Washington School.

A speedy recovery is wished Amelia Drake who fell recently.

The Board of the Methodist Church recently approved erecting a 'Peace Pole' in their new Memorial Garden and Labyrinth and is asking the



community and friends to contribute to make it a community peace pole. After enjoying a lunch at Hotel Mac, Lela Amos Estrada, Alamo, cruised the Point and stopped for a visit to catch up on the local scene with former neighbors, Jim and Florence Wilson. (ed: she was lucky to find this traveling twosome home!)

Travel Agencies are getting to be fewer but the Point Richmond Travel has been named as one of the TOP 10 in the Bay Area by the Business Times.

Mixed emotions: watching a deer devour your roses. Not so mixed emotions: watching

the squirrel uproot ALL of your freshly planted planter boxes!

Marian Kent, secretary of the Westside Women's Club, missed their first meeting in September as she was off vacationing.

Dody Perry, volunteer extraordinaire, has undergone more surgery on her hands. Dody is a very uncomplaining lady!

Homebound Oretta Eaton was given a Belated August 87th Birthday Party at an Open House at her home. Her MANY Friends stopped by to chat and wish her well, letting her know she is missed.

Church Anniversaries provide wonderful times to return to see old friends and re-visit the Point. So, when Anita Brougham and son, Greg, came from Santa Cruz to the Our Lady of Mercy's Centennial BBQ they were amazed at the changes in the Point and to learn there were fewer familiar faces. Greg commented that home prices were more here than in Santa Cruz!

By the time you read this the election may be

over but those California legislative and ballot initiatives tossing around monetary quotes of \$13 million and \$873 million projects go beyond the average comprehension.

Thanksgiving morning, relax for a few minutes. Count all the things for which you're thankful. And don't forget to mention frozen turkeys and canned pumpkin.

ANSWER: About 44 were Pilgrims and they arrived on December 26, 1620.



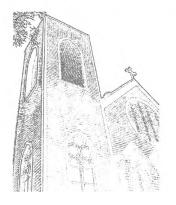
THANK YOU POINT FIREMEN

It may have taken a 9/11 disaster for the rest of the world to appreciate Firemen but we in the Point have always known their helpful qualities.

Most recently, they gave assistance and 'muscle' to the women (Pat Pearson and Mid Dornan) trying to prepare the inside for complete floor refinishing. They volunteered to move boxes, relocate a desk, a display case, chairs, pictures, etc. After the floor was refinished, other firemen helpfully moved all the items back for us. We couldn't have done it without them. They made the day for everyone! Some cookies were dropped by as a token of Thanks

md

Church News



Our Lady of Mercy Church

By Dee Rosier 510-232-1387

Some celebrations are special and some exceptional. Our Centennial celebration fell in the exceptional category. We celebrate 100 years only once. On our exceptional day we attended Mass with the Most Reverend Bishop John S. Cummins as our main celebrant. In his homily he referred to the Gospel reading in speaking about our Parish. The reading referred to vineyards and the work it takes to maintain them (many hands) and the reward of the harvest. He spoke of his father, who worked at Standard Oil, and stated that most of his Pt. Richmond friends were of Italian heritage, yet most of our previous Pastors were of Irish ancestry. Rod Phillips and his bagpipes announced the entrance of the Bishop and the music during the Mass was outstanding. Special guests at the Mass were the family of the church architect. Under the leadership of 15 Pastors and three Administrators many have crossed the church threshold to worship.

All have been welcomed from baptism to our final journey. Our Lady of Mercy has always been there for us and our wish is that she will continue indefinitely. A Papal Blessing was received from the Pope. Kudos go to Nancy Toledo in organizing the Mass and Joni and Rod Phillips who saw to the music portion. Following the Mass our annual BBQ was held. The weather cooperated and it was a lovely day for all to enjoy the steaks and all of the trimmings. Joining us for the BBQ was our loyal supporter, Msgr. Ted Kraus. On leaving the BBQ the Bishop gave those of us at the ticket table a thumbs up. We express our thanks to all of the merchants who assisted in making our BBQ a success and special thanks to Linda Lanning who covered all of the bases for the BBQ. To all of those who helped make the day a special one, thanks does not seem sufficient - we could not have achieved such a successful day without you.

A book titled, "Small Parish Centennial," was written by Parishioner, Stanley Toledo. He devoted an enormous amount of his time in research for the writing of the publication. Again, how do we say thanks for such a gigantic undertaking. It is a keepsake that most parishioners, both past and present would want to have. It covers Our Lady of Mercy's history from inception to date. Copies are available at a cost of \$10.00 and can be obtained from Stanley.

Do we wonder what we will do now that the Centennial is over? There is always something to occupy us in seeing that Our Lady of Mercy is maintained and succeeds and that means that as Parishioners we are all willing to lend a hand and hold the hand of the one next to you. On to the next event!

Our vivacious Anna Schwarz spent a week on an Alaskan cruise. Angie Kirkpatrick and the Siegmund family attended a family wedding in Chicago. Speaking of weddings, several of the Pt. Richmond walkers enjoyed seeing the movie, "My Big Fat Greek Wedding." If you are in need of a laugh, it is recommended.

The night before the Centennial, I attended my class reunion. John Swett High School in Crockett had a total school enrollment of 500 students. Most of us were born and raised there and started grade school together and went on to graduate. (sounds like Pt. Richmond) The evening seemed more like a family reunion. Most of us are retired and now enjoying the good The MC for the evening took a measuring tape out and showed us how long we had lived (in inches) which seemed rather long, but then demonstrated that at the end of the inches we had lived, there were not that many left on the other end. It was amazing visual reality.

Dody Perry had hand surgery again and we wish her well. To all who we do not see in Mass regularly, we are thinking of you and look forward to seeing you.

Condolences to the Bisio family in the recent death of one of our Pt. Richmond kids, Claude Bisio. Claude was born and raised in Pt. Richmond and was a devout Catholic. On occasion he would assist the Pastor's at Mass.

Condolences to the Murray family in the death of his brother, Fr. Thomas F. Murray.

Condolences are also offered to the family of Melba Logan.

The new schedule for the last quarter of the year is available at the church entrance. If you are an Acolyte, Lector or Eucharistic Minister, take a copy. Remember that you are responsible for making arrangements to cover any absences you anticipate

Congratulations to Helen and Al Frosini on their 60th wedding anniversary..

Our Small Christian Community groups continue to meet regularly. Both a day group and evening group are ongoing. If you are interested in attending, contact Steve Shaffer.

To those who are contributors to TPIT, isn't it amazing how the reminder note from Gary Shows arrives unexpectedly.

Remember to vote and change your clocks.

My Grandson, Griffin knows that I attend Mass regularly. Recently he and his Mother drove by the church and he said to her, "wave to Ama." Out of the mouths of babes.

See you in church.





POINT RICHMOND METHODIST CHURCH

by Jean Reynolds 510-235-2988

jeanormr@pacbell.net

We celebrated Oretta Eaton's August birthday belatedly with an open house at her home on Sunday, October 13. Oretta has not been able to attend church for the past year, and we are not the same without her. She was a catalyst for positive action, and a stickler for details. She provided recipes, instructions, shopping lists, and moral support for the United Methodist Women as we planned and put on the Annual Country Faire this year. Without her careful record keeping, the project would have been much more of a challenge. Oretta also has kept contact with other UMW chapters over the years and has enlisted their support of our fund-raiser. We are thankful for who she is and all she has done.

Leslie Harrison shared her faith on Sunday,

October 20, or, as she described it, she told about what she did on her summer vacation. Leslie studied yoga and its spiritual practice for several weeks in France at an ashram last summer. She described what daily life was like in the ashram and what insight she gained from her stay there.

Mid Dornan completed a written history of the First United Methodist Church, Point Richmond, spanning the first century, 1900 to 2000, titled Point Faithful. On Sunday, October 20, the book was unveiled! In memory of her husband, Bob Dornan, Mid gave a copy of the book as a gift to anyone who was a member at the time of the centennial celebration and to past pastors. Point Faithful sells for \$12: along with the history, it contains photos and recipe classics, including the famous piecrust recipe used by Oretta Eaton and Helen Valentine.

Pastor Dan has a new CD of solo piano tunes he plays at the Baltic: "Sleepy Time Down South". The United Methodist Women sold copies of it at the Annual Country Faire. If you did not get a copy, you may order one on-line at www.damonstuneshop.com

The Annual Country Faire was October 25 and 26. New this year was a booth of items provided by SERRV, an organization that enlists volunteers to market handcrafts made by women in other countries who have been paid a fair rate for them. Women artisans can earn money to educate their children. Helen Valentine had her usual plethora of pies and bakery items at the bake booth. On Friday, eighteen of Helen's pies sold in about ten minutes. Alma McCartney, who helped sell at the bake booth, said it was a little frightening to be in the crush as the crowd jockeyed for position to get dibs on their favorite pies. Pat Dornan donated wreathes and scarecrows this year. I expect to see a lot of terrified crows on Crest Avenue, as three of the scarecrows went home with neighbors there!

On the Calendar:

November 28: Thanksgiving Feast for the community. Interfaith worship at 11:30 a.m. Feast begins at 12:15 p.m. Food courtesy of Point Richmond merchants and individual donations. Cooked with love by Chuck Wise and crew at the Baltic Restaurant. Delicious, fun and FREE!

December 8: Lessons and Carols concert featuring the Joyful Noise Choir, the Angel Choir and Pastor Dan Damon. Free will offering.

December 24: Christmas Eve Jazz Service, 7:00 p.m. Come early to get a good seat for this much-loved holiday tradition that includes carols, scripture, stories, and The Dan Damon Trio.



Point Methodist Church History

-Mid Dornan

Church history is rich with contributions of women. One church group in the 1920's was the SOCIAL LEAGUE of the first Methodist Episcopal Church whose history is reflected in their minutes printed below and taken from the canvas covered, red leather cornered notebook which cost \$1.15. The minutes are printed as written This is the 58th installment

Jan 4, 1927

Social League met the home of Mrs. Schmidt, Mrs. Stender assisting.

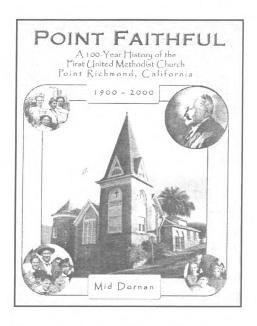
Our president, Mrs. Holbrook presiding. 17 members present. An invitation was read for the League members and friends to attend the 20th anniversary of the Women's Home Missionary Society in the church parlors on Jan 21st. Mrs. Beulah Jones was appointed in charge of the New Year Jinks to be held on the day of our next meeting. Mrs. Jones reported that a committee of 3 was appointed to assist the committees. Names unknown and everything was to be a secret to the members. Everyone asked to make reservations several days ahead.

Moved and seconded that we take steps toward starting an organ fund, as the church was badly in need of a new organ. Motion carried.

from bazaar	9.50	
Mrs. Osborne paid	50	
Plate collection	1.70	
total	11.70	
previous balance	20.08 total	
	31.78	

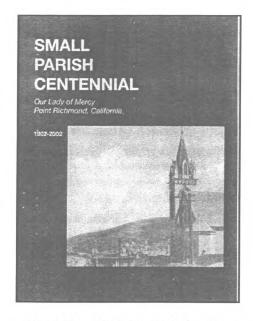
Rose Dingle, Sec

First United Methodist and Our Lady of Mercy Churches Celebrate Centennial with Impressive History Books



Point Methodist Church has a 100 year anniversary book to be proud of, written by Mid Dornan. The book is a history of the 100 year old First United Methodist Church on West Richmond Avenue The book is 7 1/4" X 9" and 190 pages, is a well written history, has lots of pictures, a list of the members and pastors over the last 100 years and lots of recipes.

You can get your copy of the book for \$12.00 from the church or from the PRHA Museum. Call Mid 510-234-5334 if you would like a copy sent, cost for this would be \$15.00



Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church is also celebrating its centennial and has produced its own history book.

Written by Stanley Toledo this book is 8 1/2 x 11 and is 117 pages in length and also has many pictures previous priests and the changes in the church over the years.

This book is available to the general public for \$10.00 and will be for sale at the Parish House and at the PRHA Museum. As of this printing Allan Smith did not know if there was a system for mailing the books, call him at 510-234-5149 if you need a copy sent to you.



Local Newspaper Glippings, Richmond -

I have this ring-binder that is full of yellowed original clippings from old newspapers. The hand inscribed front cover says "Local Newspaper Clippings-Richmond – 1913-1932". It has a documenting problem as that most of the clipped articles do not give credit to the source, most however seem to be from the "Richmond Herald-Record". I do not know who put it together. Allan Smith thinks it's the work of Don Church, he is probably correct. They are, however old, hand dated and interesting reading, spelling errors are not corrected here is installment #9. Gary

ANIVERSARY OF BIG QUAKE TODAY April 18, 1919

Today is the 13th anniversary of the big earthquake and fire in San Francisco. Thirteen years ago this evening the people of Richmond, those of us who were here at that time, stood on Washington Hill and watched while the city of San Francisco burned. They could see the mountains of smoke roll up to the zenith, hear the concussion of the dynamite blasts that were put in the magnificent buildings to stop the progress of the holocaust and discern the outlines of the great doomed buildings. The Call building, Hearst building, Flood building and the Fairmont Hotel were picked out by the watchers as they were attacked by the fire-fiend. It was an awe-inspiring and heart-rending sight.

But little damage was done to Richmond by the earthquake. Some of the buildings along Macdonald avenue were slightly injured, and the walls of the Santa Fe shops fell from the shake. At the Point, where the most of the town was located at that time, there was practically no damage at all to life or property.

Refugees from San Francisco began to arrive in Richmond on the evening of the earthquake, and by nightfall the town was taxed to its limit to provide accommodation.

INSPECTOR RUIZ SUDDENLY RESIGNS POSITION; WILL RAISE ALFALFA NEAR FRESNO

September 12, 1914

Inspector R. Ruiz, connected with the Richmond police department from the time it was first organized, suddenly resigned his position today, shortly after noon. So sudden was his resignation that it was not even known to sergeant McGowan, who was on the day station watch.

That Ruiz had resigned and that the resignation had been accepted was confirmed by Chief of Police Walker this afternoon. He made no comment on the resignation, leaving the questioner to infer that the inspector's resignation was for personal reasons.

Inspector Ruiz said that he resigned because he had decided to devote himself to raising alfalfa on a ranch which he owns near Fresno. He believes, he states that he will be able to make a much larger income on the ranch than is possible on the Richmond police force.

When asked this afternoon if he had decided whom he would recommend to succeed Ruiz, Chief of Police Walker said that he had not yet given the matter consideration. The position pays a salary of \$110 a month.

The two men who are believed to be in line for the appointment are Sergeant McGowan and Sergeant Phil Barry. Both the sergeants have had long training in police work and both are believed to be equally qualified to fill the position. The first named is the senior officer.

The chief of police will make the recommendation for the appointment to the police committee of the city council, consisting of Councilmen Willis, Ludewig and Penry, who will pass upon his selection.

FATHER OF FORMER COP DIED TODAY

October 26, 1914

Former Police Sergeant R.N. Ruiz received word at an early hour this morning that his father had died at his home in San Luis Obispo county.

Immediately upon receipt of the news Ruiz left for Santa Maria where the funeral is to be held. John Ruiz was one of the first settlers in San Luis Obispo county and during his life time made a large number of friends. Several months ago he made a trip to this city and purchased considerable real estate.

Many of the former sergeant's friends here will extend their sympathies to him in his late bereavement, as Ruiz was always one of the best liked officers on the force.

MRS. R.N. RUIZ DIES AT HOME THIS MORNING

March 31, 1916

An overdose of cough medicine taken several weeks ago is thought to have caused the death of Mrs. Theresa Ruiz, wife of R.N. Ruiz, former police officer and employee of the Standard Oil refinery at her home, 125 Hillside

avenue this morning.

The deceased was 46 years of age, a native of California and had resided in this city for 14 years.

The remains have been removed to the Curry undertaking parlors where the funeral services will be held tomorrow.

Mrs. Ruiz was attended following her sudden illness by Dr. H.N. Barney.

FRIENDS SEEK A. LIVINGSTON, THEATRE MAN, WHO MAY HAVE MET FOUL PLAY

July 11, 1916

Strange stories are in circulation about Arthur E. Livingston, former theatrical man' bond vivant and prominent in numerous fraternal orders, who is being sought by the California Development Board of San Francisco.

Friends who Livingston made the acquaintanceship of in the east are desirous to know his whereabouts. They have asked the development board to find him. The development board after and exhaustive search has appealed to the Richmond Industrial Commission.

Livingston was last heard of in Richmond according to his eastern friends.

Livingston, who formerly operated a theater on the west side, made a business trip to Australia. While there he wrote letters to his American friends telling of the British felling toward the American flag which created many unfavorable comments among the English subjects here.

Friends of Livingston fear that he may have met with foul play.

Allen's Point

By Allan Smith

I took a stroll downtown at lunch time to see if I could meet any Point 'old-timers'. The 'old' town's main streets, Park Place and Washington Avenue were actually crowded. The local eating joints were full of customers. The only one from the Point who I ran into was Josephine Matteucci and her dog "Cutie Pie".

So. I went home just in time to receive a phone call from Chico, California. It was Elmo Lewis who was raised in the Point in our era of the early 1930's. His brother Garry (sic) lives in Brentwood. Elmo and I had a long conversation which was like a reunion of "old timers from the Point". He promised to attend our next reunion and also to join the Point Richmond History Association. During World War 2 the Lewis brothers were in the Air Force and one of them flew the indomitable P-38 Lightning fighter aircraft and was stationed in Panama. The Lewis brothers lived in the Point area we called 'Nanny-Goat Hill', which was located in North Point Richmond on the other side of the tracks. The new 'Nanny-Goat Hill' is now in the eastern slope of Nicholl Nob and there are live goats there. They are owned by a local politician who exhibits them occasionally which is an original way to gather votes at coming elections.

Am I the only one who grew up reading the newspaper as follows: during pre-teen years I'd first open the paper to the comic section to read "Lil Abner", "Little Orphan Annie", "Skeesix (sic) and "Out Our Way", among others. I was lucky because I delivered the *Chronicle*, the *Examiner*, the *Richmond Independent*, the *Call Bulletin*, *S.F. News* for the Andrews news Agency in the Point and read all the comics. Incidentally, I delivered these papers morning and night for \$10.00 per month. Then, after the comics craze I first opened the sports section. I got all the national and world news through the *Weekly Reader* that was available

at school. High school followed with the sports section and the headlines. Then, later in life, the business section was top dog with the few investments we had. Now, at this age, the obituary column has the priority. Some wise gug, when we were talking about the obit column, said "what if your name were in there one day?

Talking about the obituary columns, I saw the name of CARL CRISLER printed. I went to high school with Carl and I remember him as a friendly and likable schoolmate. I can say that he was a baseball pitcher whose fast ball could equal any of the guvs pitching today. I don't know if Carl played professional baseball or not as our paths never crowed in all these past years, even though we were both members of the Elks Club in Richmond Carl Crisler, Gedge Peterson and Leonard Smith, who all pitched for the Richmond High School baseball team and had equal fast balls. Peterson and Smith played professional Carl Crisler's brother, Hal, played professional football with the Green Bay Packers. Someone kindly correct me if I am wrong.

Also, in the obituary column recently was the name of Melba Ghieri Logan. Melba was a Point Richmond gal I went through the Richmond School system with, Washington, Rooselelt and Richmond High. To know Melba was to love her, very friendly and charismatic. I used to see her very often at the blood pressure clinic at Brookside Hospital, where she volunteered, at the Standard Oil Cafeteria and later when she joined the Chevron Tree Planting group, not to mention each year of the Point Reunion.

The obituary column also revealed the name of CLAUDE BISIO. Claude passed away recently and he was a native Point Richmonder. Claude lived on our side of the tracks on Idaho Street and we were close boyhood friends until the family moved to the city when Claude was young.

Roaming the Point Richmond hills and helping ourselves to the homes that had fruit trees, swimming at the Bath House and Keller's Beach were some of the many memories we shared in our early youth. Claude Bisio's father was one of the first tailors in Point Richmond, if not the first. The tailor shop was in the vicinity of the Point Richmond Market before moving to Macdonald Avenue in Richmond. Claude worked at his dad's shop but did not follow the trade. He served in the United States Coast Guard during World War 2 and was in Alaska when the Japanese made their attack. He later became associated with the Elk Horn Lodge on Cutting Boulevard.

Claude never forgot his Point Richmond friends and always attended our reunion. He always had a nickname for his friends, he used to call me "Hey Smit, how's things?). During the last ten years, Claude was seen very frequently at his former church, Our Lady of Mercy, in Point Richmond. He was a good friend with the former Pastor of the church, Rev. Jim Clift. Claude would assist him during special occasions. I used to kid Claude about being an Alter Boy once again. He did look good in his white vestment. I met Bernadette Bisio again after our recent church centennial. She and Claude were married for 60 years.



Words of Wisdom from an Anonymous Teacher

I for one, am sick and tired of those high paid teachers. Their hefty salaries are driving up taxes, and they only work nine or ten months a year! It's time we put thinks in perspective and pay them for what they do, baby sit! We can get that for less than minimum wage. right....I would give the \$3.00 and hours and only they worked, not any of that silly planning time. That would be \$15.00 a day. Each parent should pay \$15.00 a day for these teachers to baby sit their children. Now, how many do they teach in a day....maybe 25. Then that's \$15 X \$25 = \$375.00 a day. But remember they only work 180 days a year! I'm not going to pay them for any vacations either. Let's see....that's $375 \times 180 = \$67,500.00$ (Hold on, my calculator must need batteries!)

What about those special teachers or the ones with masters degrees? Well, we could pay them minimum wage just to be fair. Let's round it off to \$6.00 an hour. That would be \$6 times 5 hours times 25 children times 180 days = \$135,000.00 per year. Wait a minute, there is something wrong here!! There sure is, huh???

In Allan Smith's column in September/ October issue:

- The barber's name was Bill Cooper
- The Japanese shoemaker was Unji Sonoda.

Betty Dornan

Herbie Bill and Andy Cakos, circa 1935

Thanks to Donna Bill Hood and Pat Pearson

Sports Memories

By Allan Smith

August 26, 1939 was the date of the first major baseball game to be televised. The game was televised at Ebbets Field in Brooklyn, it was between the Cincinnati Reds and the Brooklyn Dodgers.

In 1947, Brooklyn's Dan Bankhead was the first black baseball pitcher to play in the major leagues. Earlier in the same year, Jackie Robinson was the first black player to perform in the big leagues. He also played for Brooklyn. The 2002 baseball season is over and by the time you read this you will know who the World Series champion is, and it will be a team from California. It will be either Anaheim or San Francisco. Naturally, I favor "Frisco". I only saw two games at their park this year and that was enough after having that big "Coke" bottle in right field staring at me in the face. Barry Bonds did hit one out pretty good. They are claiming he will be noted as the greatest

baseball player of all time. But don't forget the "Babe"! Babe Ruth was a great pitcher before he started hitting home runs and Bonds has only played in the outfield position. No doubt he can hit though! Our son Bryan played against him during an American Legion game many years ago during a tournament. Bonds played well then, 16 years old and hitting a home run. I heard a radio announcer say the other day that Barry Bonds is greater than the "Babe" because Babe Ruth never played against negro baseball players. Now what's going on? Ridiculous!

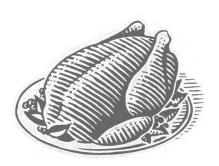
I finally found out what a 'walk-off' means in baseball. That is when your team loses the game by a home run in the last inning and your losing team just "walks off". They say Dennis Eckersly coined the phrase. He was a pitcher and it happened to him more than just a few times.



Stewart Saunders, Rudy Stark, Frank Moscrop, Treff Ross, Merle Myers, in front Keith Hienz Photo thanks to Donna Bill Hood and Pat Pearson

TURKEY CARVING

- Cut through the piece of crispy skin that joins the thigh and breast.
- 2. Continue cutting down, pulling thigh away from turkey with a fork, until you reach the joint where the thigh meets the breast. Cut through joint and remove the leg.
- 3. Place the leg on a cutting board and cut apart thigh and drumstick.
- 4. Slice the dark meat off the thigh and transfer it to a platter.
- 5. Make a slight diagonal cut in the turkey just above the wing to allow breast meat slices to come away as you carve he breast.
 - 6.Slice breast meat.
- 7. Continue slicing until reaching the carcass. When the wing joint becomes visible, insert knife into the joint and remove the wing.





proudly presents the musical comedy...



ased on the memoirs of famed burlesque queen Gypsy Rose Lee, this Tony Award winning musical relates the story of Gypsy and her "mother-of-all-stage-mothers" Mama Rose, as they struggle to make it in vaudeville in the '20's and '30's. Jule Styne's scintillating score includes such favorites as "Some People," "Funny," "You'll Never Get Away From Me," "Everything's Coming Up Roses" and many others.

Directed by Michael Manley Music Direction by Janet Oliphant Choreography by Kris Bell FRIDAY & SATURDAY EVENINGS
Nov. 1- Dec. 14, 2002
Sunday Matinees:
Nov. 10, 17, Dec. 1, 8

THE CAST

Angel Almeida, Ann Armour, John Crebbin-Coates, Rebecça Crebbin-Coates, Carol DeChaine, Erica Gardner, Tibby Gordon, Vincent Graham, Don Hansen, Paulette Herring, Bally Hopkins, Elizabeth Hopkins, Şçott Kiskaddon, Michael Maniey, Charles Miller, Todd Miller, Heather Morrison, Haleigh Murphy, Perrin Murphy, Mike Nebeker, Julia Nelson, Heather Spain, Emily Trumble, Eric Urbach, Kelli Valle, Jessica Werren, Kelsey Wunderle, & Perry Young

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We accept VISA and MasterCard. All reservations must be prepaid. All sales final.

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Admission \$14 cash, check or credit card. Group Rates available.



Dinner at the Hotel Mac and "Gypsy", Thursday, December 12 for only \$28. Call (510) 236-4988 for Reservations



WWIG Activities

Alyce Williamson

The WWIC met on September 10, 2002 at the Point Richmond Methodist Church. The theme for the day was "New Year." The Incoming officers were the hostesses. Gunda Boonstopple and Margaret Morkowski donated a beautiful and festive cake to celebrate the beginning of our new year. We enjoyed 45 minutes to an hour for lunch an socializing.

The meeting was called to order at 12:15 pm by President Anita Christiansen. She welcomed us back from the summer break and is looking forward to a "Festive Year" for the WWIC.

The clubs newest member, Jean Hayes and two guests, Wendy Nelson and Melody Hastings were welcomed.

The officers for the year 2002-2003 were introduced. President, Anita Christiansen; 1st Vice President, Margaret Morkowski; 2nd Vice President, Gunda Boonstopple; Secretary, Marion Kent; Treasurer, Sonja Darling. 1st & 2nd Vice Presidents will be program chairmans. Alyce Williamson, Corresponding Secretary. Marion Kent was absent and Margaret Morkowski served

as Secretary.

In the absence of the secretary Alyce Williamson read her article from "This Point....in time" newsletter which was a summary of the last meeting.

Anita reported that Mary Forbes had passed away last June and will be missed. Amelia Drake is still recovering from her injuries and is unable to attend meetings.

New Business: Alyce Williamson's mother, Bonnie Kirkman, one of our honorary members celebrated here 100th birthday. The West County Times reported on the grand event.

The President brought to our attention that we need to start thinking of ideas for the WWIC"S 100th Anniversary which will be in 2008 recognizing Point Richmond as a "Unique" place to live.

October meeting we will discuss plans for the Christmas Luncheon and budget for donations. Gunda Boostopple provided the inspirational thought for the day.

WISH BERNIE A VERY HAPPY BIRHTDAY BY EMAIL AT BBERNES@AOL.COM

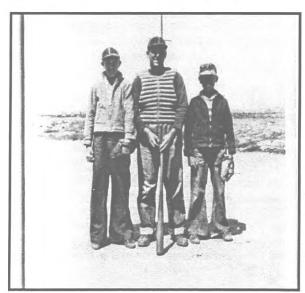
YES HE IS A 94 YEAR OLD CYBER SPACE KID!

ASK HIM TO PUT YOU ON HIS JOKE LIST, ITS GREAT.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY BERNIE!

S.S. Red Oak victory Restoration Progress Report by Tom Bottemley (reprinted from the S.S. Red Oak Victory Newsletter)

- The upper level (tween deck) of #4 hold, just aft of the deck house has been completely painted with a white epoxy, using a pressure spray apparatus manned by a pair of Jeremiah O'Brien crew members. This space will serve as both a conference center and marine museum until the #3 upper tween deck just forward of the deck house is prepared. Fluorescent lighting will be installed, as well as stairway access from the hatch.
- All five of the ship's hatches are now served by operating winches, as work was completed on the two on the forecastle. The forecastle hatch has been cleared of its tarpaper seal, and the two spare anchors and anchor chain on the forecastle deck have been lowered into the #1 hold.
- Chipping and painting of the deck house has been completed on the starboard side, leaving a small patch on its rear side to be done. All the fire main piping along side it and the #5 hatch just forward of it were removed, rusted out sections have been replaced, and the fire main system, with renovated valves and fittings, will soon be ready for re-installation. The stern anchor, chocked against the after deckhouse, was hoisted clear for cleaning and painting, and has been restored to its position.
- Deck painting is proceeding at the cabin and the boat deck levels. The starboard ships gangway has been removed, and its upper platform has been disassembled for refinishing.
- Engine department volunteers have cleared all tank vents at the deck level, and are working on the big bunker fuel intake valves and lines.
- Gyro compass repeaters have been installed on the bridge wings; and the 1950s era radar is now operational, with its antenna rotating on its mast.
- All interior doors at the cabin and boat deck levels have been refinished, and most of the cabin interior woodwork and bulkheads revarnished or repainted.



Frank Moscrop, Treff Ross and Merle Myers.

Photo courtesy Donna Bill Hood and Pat Pearson

Cards and Letters

Dear Pam,

I talked to Allan Smith about your publication TPIT. Enclosed is a check for three senior memberships.

We lived from 1927 to 1934 at 303 Golden Gate Ave., attended Washington School, Roosevelt and Richmond Hi. While at high school I learned that the kids from North Richmond called us the nanny goat hill gang. One thing for sure we were a gang and Al Frosini was the leader.

Each summer we had some special interest or game we played at some special place. One year at Kozy Cove the next at the other end, the quarry, one summer was baseball, the next rubber band gun fights and dry grass sledding on the hills.

One summer that stands out in my mind was paddle ball tennis. We all made our paddles from drift wood and went each morning to the courts behind the plunge. One day, walking home as a group we were attacked by some hornets. We took exception to that and started to fight back with our paddles, more fun that tennis. We found the nest and stirred them up to keep the game going.

That worked for a while but they stopped coming out to play. Al came back the next day with a shovel and dug them out. We made a circle around the digger, paddles at the ready to protect him as he worked.

That nest provided us with at least a week of interesting diversions, after bees, bees after us, paddles swinging, bees falling, bees stinging and kids screaming. It is hard to say why but those few days are among the most vivid of my many fond memories.

The Point at that time was a wonderful place to grow up, I'm sure it is today!

Lewis

Chico, CA

Dear Allan,

Thank you for the copy of "This Point".

Growing up in the "Point" was wonderful. I

loved Washington School, the Natatorium, Our Lady of Mercy, Keller's Beach, Cozy Cove, etc. While attending U.C. I became a play ground director at Washington School. Arline (Rodini) Hartmon came and taught puppetry. I remember Val Frosini coming to play there and my brother David. Later I did my student teaching in Ruby Simmon's first grade. She was my first grade teacher and also had my brother.

My Friends and Ipalyed all over the hills, hiked to Pt. Molate, rode the ferry all day for 25 cents and played and swam at Keller's Beach. It was a friendly and safe area to grow up. All of our neighbors knew each other well. I'm glad Point Richmond is doing so well.

Sincerely, Barbara Levenson San Rafael, CA



Dear Pam:

I read the TP....it from cover to cover and enjoy every page. So I would say everyone is doing a very good job. I take a ride through th Point every week or so to see the changes. I enjoy the ride!

A couple of years ago (?) Allan Smith and I delivered papers for Andrews News Agency.

Fred Beesley Richmond



Dear Gary:

The Sept./Oct. 2002 issue has prompted me to write. First, I too was concerned when I saw that Hydrangea had stuccoed over the signs painted on wood. I thought that exterior was being restored. Isn't that what the PRNC minutes stated? (I even wish there were still a shoemaker there. I am on

record, at least at home, for saying the only service the Point doesn't have but needs is a shoemaker.)

Second, here's a piece of trivia to pass on to Josephine Palenchar re: commercials: #7 should be 99 and 44/100% pure for Ivory Snow.

Finally, I have a request. If anyone has information or photos pertaining to 212 and 214-218 Washington Avenue, I would greatly appreciate it. I know that 214-218 was built in 1910 by a doctor (I've forgotten his name), that the upstairs was his residence and his practice was downstairs. I wonder what the original exterior was made of, when the large windows in front were installed, what the downstairs interior was like, and when the garage was built, for example. I'm also curious about the family. The lot at 212 once had a house on it; I saw a photo of it in town but can't find it again. I wonder when it was built, when, why and where it was moved, when the garden was planted and what it looked like, etc.

I loved the street scene on the cover. It sure fooled me!

Thank you for your help.
Sincerely,
Linda M. Newton
Richmond



Hi Mr. Shows,

My name is David Roth, and I've been doing some research on the Pullman Company Shops on Pullman (now Carlson) Ave. I've been trying to find people that worked there to fill in some of the gaps. The ships closed on December 31, 1959. I have located a few, and have the names of some Point Richmond residents on the list. I could use some help finding any others that may still be in the area.

Betty Dornan gave me Anne Bartram's name. Her father, John Vloeberghs worked at Pullman to the mid 1940's. Mrs. Bartram remembered that Sam Guisti carpooled with her dad to work.

Anita Christensen's brother George worked there. She suggested I talk to Al Frosini.

Al went to his phone book and got George "Chic" Albert on the phone right there. George had worked there part time in the late 1930's.

Al also knew another Pullman worker I had just met. Peter Noe worked there 1926-1952. He's 95 and sharp as a tack. He's been my best source of information so far.

Theodore Ciabattari worked there, Peter says he thought that the Ciabattari that ran the coffee house might have also. I understand one of the Ciabattari's still lives in the Point.

George Kellegan worked there in the late 1930's also. I ran into his daughter Diane at the Contra Costa Historical Society in Martinez. She says Mid Dornan now lives in the house she grew up in.

That's what I have so far. Any help would be appreciated.

Dave Roth 303 Washington Avenue Point Richmond, CA 94801 510-215-9905

p.s. In case you're wondering why I'm interested in this, I rebuild 1950's passenger cars for private and charter use. After I moved to the Point, I had driven by the shops (now Tradeway Carpets) not knowing what they were. When a friend told me, I thought I might go down to the museum and find out a little more. Unfortunately the museum has very little. I was surprised that there was so little on what was at one time the third largest employer in Richmond. I started digging around and it has kind of snowballed.

Dave

I hope this gets you some information. Would appreciate it if you would keep us informed. I would love to print your findings. Gary



(Continued on page 22)

Deaths

CLAUDE BISIO died on September 1, 2002, age 81. Born June 18, 1921 in Point Richmond above the old firehouse to Giacomo and Yvonne Bisio, Claude grew up in the Point and was one of the regular "Kids" at the Point Richmond History Reunions. He helped his father in his Bisio Tailor and Clothing Store in the Point and is remembered as an Altar Boy at Our Lady of Mercy Church, recently assisting Father Clift. Claude was active in the St. Cornelius Catholic Church, a life member of the Elks Club, Richmond Rod and Gun Club and Galileo Club, Point Richmond History Association and was honored at and a member of numerous other organizations.

He leaves his wife of 60 years, Bernadette, and a son Marc and is survived by 4 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren. Claude was the brother of Nellie Pasquini.

MELBA LOGAN died on October 10, 2002. Age 82. Born in Point Richmond, Melba was one of the Point Richmond 'Kids''. Melba retired as Head Cook at Standard Oil after 15 years. She was a member of St. Cornelius Church, Fratellanza and Galileo Club in Richmond, Point Richmond History Association, Doctor's Hospital Service League and the Senior Centers of Richmond, Pinole and San Pablo. Melba is survived by a son James Logan of New Hampshire and a sister Edna Lewis of Sonoma.0

AILEEN CONN died on August 27th. Aileen was born in San Francisco, went to school and college there and became a high school teacher there. She served as a lieutenant in the Navy during WWII and married Lee Conn in 1946. Aileen was a charter member of the Richmond Yacht Club and was active in all their activities. She wrote the "Clubhouse Mouse" column for the Storm Jib in its early days. She is survived by her husband Lee and her daughter, Janet.



(Continued from page 21)

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,
In August, I sent you the attached letter
inquiring about a house designed by Elizabeth
Witkin for Russell Ryan, which might or might not
have been built. Mrs. Dornan was so kind to
respond and told me of a house built for Rupert
Ryan at 387 Western Drive. As I followed up on
this lead I found that William W. Wurster, a noted
architect and professor of architecture at UC

Berkeley designed the original and very small house at 387 Western Drive. Thus I am still looking for Russell Ryan and turning to you with a request for help.

Sincerely, Inge S. Horton 2363 44th Avenue San Francisco, CA 94116 415-681-7591 ingehor@pacbell.net

Birthdaysi

November

Heinz Lankford
Ann Greiner
Paul Cort
Jason McGill
Lynn Rendler
Betty Dornan
Jack Elle
Mary Ann Gaspard
Shirley Butt
Chris Bradshaw
Clare Doherty
Craig Seaborg
Bo Amantite
Dennis Dornan

Kenny Paasch
Lance Rotting
Joe Savile
Fay Hawkins
Shane Thomas
Liam Thompson
Linda Feyder
Nicole Vargo
Spiro Cakos
Bethany Reynolds
Matthew Berman
Marj Bellatti
James Cheshareck, Sr.
Aubyn Eakles

James Cheshareck, Jr.
Audrey Edwards
Ida Giacomelli
Bobbies Boziki
Linda Chesareck
May Cotton
Claudia LeGue
Katrina MacDiarmid
Albert Kollar
Pauline Horner
Bernard Bernes (94)
Viola Kennedy
David Dolberg
Gary Shows

Mae Mandl
Pina Barbieri
Ruth Wood
Mark M. Gebhart
Bernard Bernes
Anna Schwartz

Dorothy Hayes Lipp

Jean Moyle Spiersch
Thelma Hecker Harvey
Alice Helseth
Clara Christopher Loux
Rena Cairo Gonsalves
Jay Vincent
Lupe Padilla Lopez

Exclusive - Over 90 Club

Dulcie Johnson Anne Hanzlik Romilda Burress Bonnie Kirkman

(This list gets more impressive each month, have we missed anyone? Let us know.)





GOLDEN STATE MODEL RAILROAD MUSEUM AND EAST BAY MODEL ENGINEERS SOCIETY

900 Dornan Drive, Miller/Knox Regional Park. Interested in Museum Membership? Museum is open to the public Saturdays and Sundays and July 4th and Labor Day noon to 5 pm. Business Meetings and Workshop on Friday's 7-10 PM. 510-234-4884.

MASQUERS PLAYHOUSE

"Gypsy" Fridays and Saturdays at 8 pm, November 1 through December 14. Sunday Matinees at 2 pm on November 10, 17, December 1 and 8. Tickets are \$14, cash check or credit card. Reservations 510-232-4031.

Dinner at the Hotel Mac and "Gypsy" on Thursday, December 12th for only \$28. Call 510-236-4988 for more information or reservations

POINT RICHMOND ASSOCIATON OF MOTHERS (PRAM)

Mondays at 7 PM, Methodist Church, 201 Martina Street. Information on meetings call 273-9959.

POINT RICHMOND BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

Meets 2nd Wednesday each month, Hotel Mac Banquet Room, 12-1:30, Lunch Reservations \$11. Contact: Paula Aasmus, O.D. 510-235-5228.

POINT RICHMOND COMMUNITY CENTER/FIELD HOUSE & PLUNGE

Info: 233-6881

POINT RICHMOND HISTORY ASSOCIATION

Museum at 139½ Washington Avenue, open Thursday's and Saturday's, 11:30 to 2:00 The deadline for the December/January issue of TPIT is Friday November 22, 2002.

POINT RICHMOND NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

Meets last Wednesday each month, Pt Richmond Community Center; 7:30 P.M Contact: Rod Satre, President, 232 5059.

RICHMOND ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENSE FUND

The REDF is a non-profit corporation dedicated to ensuring that future development here is well-planned, sensitive to the environment and in compliance with city, state and federal laws. Citizen support is encouraged. Further information, call 510-215-6100. General membership public meetings are held monthly. Details of current meetings are available by calling 510-232-0405.

WASHINGTON SCHOOL

Contact: Miss Jones, Secretary 510-232-1436.

WOMEN'S WESTSIDE IMPROVEMENT CLUB

Contact: Anita Christensen, President at 233-3343

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Address:		
Phone: Type of membership (check one):		
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> 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.

Main Contributors to this Issue:

Gary Shows	Editor
Mid Dornan	Various Articles
Don Church/Allan Smith	Historic Photos
Jerry Cerkanowicz	Proof/Photos
Pam Wilson	Membership Info
Allan Smith	Articles
Jean Reynolds	Article
Dee Rosier	Article
Alyce Williamson	Article
Pat Pearson	Photos
Donna Bill	Photos

Articles for each issue are due on or before the deadline printed in the calendar section. Please mail articles and items of interest to:

Gary Shows 229 Golden Gate Avenue Point Richmond, CA 94801

fax 510-644-1286

email: gary@alkos.com

"This Point...in time" is a publication of the Point Richmond History Association, a nonprofit organization at:

139 1/2 Washington Avenue Point Richmond, CA 94801

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