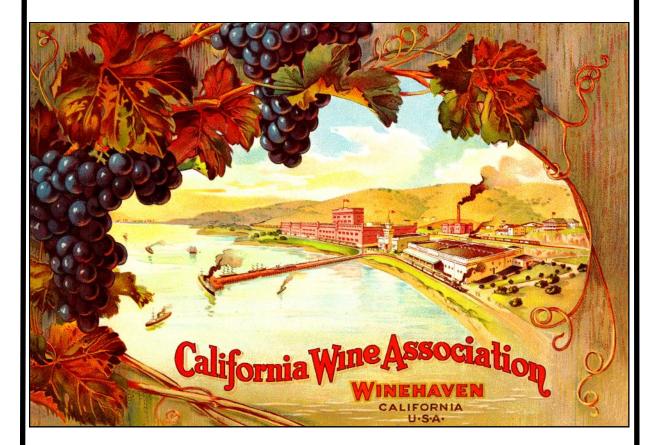
THIS POINT.... in time NEWSLETTER The Point Richmond History Association www.PointRichmondHistory.org

Vol. XXIII No. 4

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\$1.50







MAP SHOWING LOCATION OF CALIFORNIA WINE ASSOCIATION'S MAMMOTH ESTABLISHMENT AT WINE HAVEN, CALIFORNIA, U.S.A.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Mid Dornan

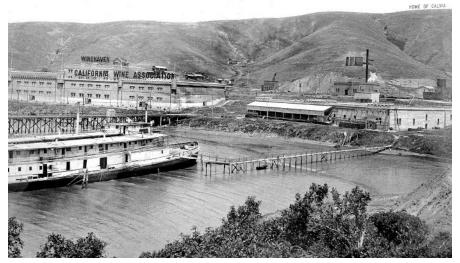
The year 2004 is soon history of which each of us has been a part. What will the world of tomorrow read of us in 2105? A hundred years ago people were beginning to populate this area and by August of 1905, men organized to make Richmond a city.

At the Richmond Library, newspapers from the turn of the century are on microfilm and contain interesting and often informative articles. Is there someone that would commit to peruse these films to write a column entitled YEARS AGO...90 YEARS AGO...or some such title for This Point...in time? We continue to need people to commit to a couple hours a month to staff the History Museum. Let Betty Dornan know which Thursday or Saturday you are available. The first of the year, the Point History will continue researching building information for Plaques of

Identification. And, remember, if your home is historical, you might consider a plaque for it! May your holidays be joyful!

Winehaven just after construction (Photo contributed by Bob Berndt; restoration by Thomas Mercer-Hursh

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This Point.....in time

Thank you members for your membership renewal:

Don Amantite Donna Wilson Norma J. Wallace Dean A. Smith **Bernadette Bisio** Dora M. (Beesley) Feuerhelm S. E. Lewis **G.A Lewis Nestel Padis** Susan Snyder & Richard Neidhardt Family Kathe Keihn (History Maker) **Hellie Bisio Pasquini** Fay & Marian Hawkins **Evelyn Neville Macdonald Rena Nee Cairo Gonsalves** Mid Dornan

And a warm welcome to the following new members:

Maxine Stoddard Fred, Diane & Hannah Frye

Thank You! Santa Fe Market and Point Richmond Market

For selling "THIS POINT.....in time"

Museum Hours: Thursday 11:30 am to 2:00 pm Saturday 11:30 am to 2:00 pm

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

Betty Dornan (Director) Bruce and Ann Bartram Pat Pearson Mid Dornan Bonnie Jo Cullison Dody Perry Anita Christiansen Sonja Darling Margaret Morkowski Alyce Williamson

Thank You! Special Supporters!

History Makers Sherri Mertle Doug & Rosemary Corbin Mohamed & Sheba Warith Linda & Robert Drake

Kathe Kiehn

History Preservers: Royce Ong Edward J. McGarvey Gilda Markarian Kevin, Renee & Griffin Knee Jean & John Knox



Gary Shows (510-235-1336)

Well, how does everyone like the new look of TPIT? Pam said it was "Raising the bar" and making TPIT a "collector's item". Credit for this new look must go to PRHA member, Thomas Mercer-Hursh. He not only prints the issue in his Point Richmond home office overlooking the Bay, but he prepares the pictures so that they print, as you can see, very well.

Thomas's interest has inspired me to get on with my project of scanning all of our photo archives and presenting them on our website. As I scan the pictures, I send them via "ftp" to Thomas who is doing a wonderful job of cataloging them complete with number, description, and donor, he also enhances many of the photos for printed presentation. Our resulting product will be very valuable historical resource to the community. I am grateful for his enthusiastic and professional assistance.

If you have any older Point Richmond photos that might be of interest, now is a good time to get

them to me. If you want them back just let me know, I will scan them, return them and you will get full and permanent credit for the picture.

Thank you to Theresa de Valence for offering to review Masquer's plays for TPIT, a feature in TPIT that I have missed. She reviews "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown" in this issue and does a good job!

The deadline for the February/March issue will be January 21, 2005. Happy Holidays!

The November issue assembly crew was: Jerry Cerkanowicz Gary Shows Betty Dornan Mary Highfill Pam Wilson Mid Dornan Margaret Morkowski Sonja Darling Marcelina Smith

Before

Winehaven, there was the Chinese Shrimp Camp. (Photo contributed by "CC"; restoration by Thomas Mercer -Hursh)



The Cover:

This Image is the cover of a 1908 promotional pamphlet published by The California Wine Association. The pamphlet was donated to the PRHA by Bob Berndt. It inspired the theme of this issue and is available for your viewing at our museum. (Scan restored by Thomas Mercer-Hursh)

A-MD TRIVIA Mid Dornan (510-234-5334)

Question: What is the most popular first name in the world? Answer at end of Trivia

Frustration: Being unable to locate the Christmas cards you bought at half price earlier in the year!

If you are wanting a special Christmas cancellation, the Santa Claus, Indiana post office is offering a pictorial postmark to cancel postage stamps on holiday mail. Each year, as part of a contest, a local high-school art student's postmark design is designated as the cancellations. Those requesting the cancellation should send their mail to Postmaster, Santa Claus Station, Santa Claus, IN. 47579-9998. Allow a 2-inch 4- inch space in the stamp area for the postmark. Postage should be applied to cards or letters before mailing and they should be sent in a sturdy envelope or box. There is no charge for the postmark but there is a limit of 50 per person.

Maxine Stoddard was given 'royal' treatment as all her family and many guests honored her 90th birthday at the Claremont Country Club in November. Dressed in red velvet, this ninety-yearold needs to share her secret for not looking the numbers!

How times change! The only requirement in December 1975 by the Civil Aeronautics Board was that all passengers put their names on their luggage, the aim was to speed tracing and returning misdirected baggage. Free ID tags were available at the airports.

Julie (Davis) Simmons, Sacramento, will honor her mother, Pat Pearson, with an open house for her 75th birthday on December 18th. Earlier this year, Julie took her mother to Corsica and Italy.

Is there any of you who remember the The Standard Market, 134 Washington Avenue (1927), G. Gondola, Wholesale and Retail Butcher? The store by 1928 had moved to 147 West Richmond and became the Westside Market. Guiseppe Gondola's son (who states the name is spelled with an 'a' not 'o', Wilson Gandola, has donated several charge slips from the markets, showing back in 1923 bacon was 30¢ and a steak was 50¢ and a beef roast all of 70¢.

Election day may be past, but the precinct board members at the Methodist Church thank voters Bob Peckham, who supplied sour dough baggettes brie cheeses and grapes in the morning and Margarite Clutts for warm homemade apple pie in the afternoon. The long day gets shorter with voters in the Point. And NO, they were only allowed to vote once!

Hurry and get well wishes are sent to Dodi Perry on her most recent hand surgeries. Dodi never seems daunted by her handicap, is one of our most loyal museum staff members, and always has a smile. You are missed!

America is a land where a citizen will cross the ocean to fight for democracy - and won't cross the street to vote in a national election..

**

Get Well Wishes are sent to Dody Perry by the History Association as well as all her many friends for a speedy recovery from all her hand surgeries. We miss her!

Thank you to David Vincent for the beautiful poinsettia that is now on display in our museum.

As Christmas comes this year, let us open ourselves to deeper dimensions of giving and sharing. And with the giving of a Christmas basket or special gifts, let it be accompanied by a prayer that one day there be no more need for Christmas baskets.

Many of you will recall the national newsworthy decision of Richmond High's basketball coach, Ken Carter, to cancel the season of his winning basketball team in 1999 because the team members, including is son Damien, were not achieving academic standards. Good News! A film, "Coach Carter...the Movie" will be showing in theaters Friday, January 14, 2005. A heartwarming story of standards and that sports is not everything! PS. His son then made the honor roll and on graduation was accepted into West Point Academy.

Diane and Gordie Hirano spent Thanksgiving in New York and their children, Jaime and Niko marched in the Thanksgiving parade.

Like to Carol? Why not join the choir and friends of the Methodist Church on Sunday, December 19th. The more voices the more joyful the music. If you wish to have carolers sing for you leave a message at 236-0527

Correction: In the November issue David Vincent's tip on removing dishes from the table was from a cookbook by Jennifer Pearson.

Were you among those recently on the steps of the Plunge shouting to cameramen, "Oprah, help save our Plunge"? The film will be entered a Oprah contest and winners announced at a future date on her show. It COULD be us.

Syd Edwards is compiling a multi-media CD Rom concerning the history of USAAF's 79th Fighter Squadron during WWII. He would like information on Lt. Owen T.Hillyard who was missing in action when his plane caught fire over water six miles west of Dutch Islands, 19 July 1944.Lt. Hillyard was from Richmond.

Ruth Weston Wood Mullen,97, Rossmore, was the oldest living member attending Homecoming Sunday at the Point Methodist church. Ruth joined the church in 1921, 83 years ago. Betty Dornan was honored for her 75 years of membership.

COOKING TIPS: A roast with a bone in it will cook faster than a boneless roast - the bone caries the heat to the inside of the roast quicker. It is important to let a roast sit a little while before carving as much of its goodness will spill out onto the carving board if you carve it too soon.

Say this three times: Theophilus Thistle, the successful thistle-sifter, while sifting a sieve full of unsifted thistles, thrust 3000 thistles through the thick of his thumb. See that thou thrusts not 3000 thistles through the thick of thy thumb.

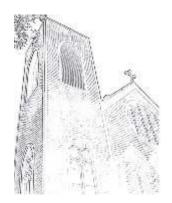
As Tiny Tim said, "God Bless you everyone' and a very Happy holiday season.

ANSWER: Worldwide, the most popular first name is Muhammad



This Point....in time

CHURCH NEWS



Our Lady of Mercy Church

By Dee Rosier 510-232-1387

It's back-to-back articles and time to come up with something new. How did Herb Caen ever do it? In my last article I wrote on the demise of our mail service and not receiving my reminder for the last issue. With concern, Gary called to see if I received this month's reminder, which I did. Although, if there was a delivery the day after Thanksgiving, mine was never delivered.

December, the month of anticipation has arrived and the momentum of our lives shifts into high gear. The weather has a lot to do with our motivation since it is the time for the animals to hibernate and we too tend to want to join them and cozy up in a warm atmosphere.

We continue to celebrate the success of our annual BBQ. Father O'Rourke demonstrated his culinary skills by providing the delicious main course as a reward for the BBQ volunteers. These are the people who can always be counted on to volunteer their time and should not go unrecognized. It was an evening of gaiety, good food and company. .

Thanksgiving is now a memory. During the Mass Fr. O'Rourke blessed bread to be shared at the dinner table. He also prepared dinner for guests and said he was the only one to have lost weight on this day because of his concern that all come together at the same time. He is a man of many talents having just completed a newly published book, "How America's First Settlers Invented Chattel Slavery." He also cemented the plaque dedicated to those who served in the Armed Forces, which was delayed due to rain. Without incident, he also repaired the rope on the flagpole so that the flag can again be flown.

During the month of November All Saints and All Souls Day were celebrated. Envelopes with the names of deceased family members were placed on the altar and remembered in the daily November Masses. Writing their names on the envelopes we remember them in all that they were and what they still are to us.

Advent is the four-week season of preparation for Christmas. In the sanctuary are four candles – three purple and one rose-colored, which represent the four weeks. A candle is lit on each Sunday in anticipation of Christmas. During Advent Fr. O'Rourke will conduct a simple retreat especially oriented to the issues faced by people in their later years of life. It will take place in the church at 11:00 AM on December 6-9. The talks will run about a half hour.

A Giving Tree has been set up in the back of the church. The barren tree is hung with starts that have gift requests on them. Parishioners are asked to take a star, purchase the item and return it to the tree. The gifts will be donated to STAND, an organization on domestic violence. The items requested will stock the shelves of the shelter for the coming year. The Giving Tree uses the Jesse Tree as a parish opportunity for sharing. The idea is the root of Jesse and where Christmas comes from.

The Parish Council meets on December 7 at 7:30 PM in the parish hall. We are seeking an additional member to replace Javier Lopez. If you are interested, please join us. By the way, Javier arrived in Charlotte and took time to stop and tour many of the states.

During the Friday 5:00 PM Mass, Fr. O'Rourke is explaining the vestments and sacristy to youngsters in our Parish. They receive their religious instruction from Margaret Morkowski. If interested, please join us. We are never too old to learn something we didn't know before.

Congratulations Bob and Marie Peckham who celebrated 15 years as proprietors of the Santa Fe Market. Remember Bob as the butcher at the market when Bob Young and Dave Lee owned it. Bob's gallery of Pt. Richmond residents continues to grow and before long all will have had their picture gracing the walls and wherever else Bob finds room to hang them.

Add another name to the list of Pt. Richmond Chevron retirees. Robert Drake joined the ranks and begins a new career after 35 years of service. I pass on to you Robert the words spoken to me by Luciano Forner when I retired – "You won't like it because there is no sick time or vacation." Congratulations, Robert. Enjoy each and every day – they are the best.

Dody Perry is at home recuperating after having a finger on each hand amputated. We wish her well and offer our assistance.

If you have occasion to leave the Point between 7:30-8:00 AM, take notice of the

Washington School crossing guard on the corner of Garrard and Cutting. She has a smile and wave for everyone. I have named her, "Happy Lady." What better way to start the day?

It is the time for family and giving thanks. It is a family tradition that the first cousins get together at least once a year. It was a great way to begin the holiday season as 20 of us gathered in Campbell. The senior members of our family become fewer. Will lunch soon with the women alumni of John Swett High School. My daughter, Renee, hosted Thanksgiving and repeated the kind gesture the following week to celebrate my birthday.

We do have a schedule for those that work for God – Acolytes, Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, but one no-show causes us to be flexible. As you enter the church, you never know when you will be called on to fill in. Thanks to all who are always willing to serve.

Remember the homebound and keep them in your thoughts and prayers: Johanna Sumpter, Mary Shipler, Adolph Brossard, Darlene Byers, Phyliss Feyder and Jenny Lanning.

T'is the season. The tree lighting in the square has taken place and most Pt. Richmond business have lights displayed. We are indeed an enchanted little village.

Christmas Mass Schedule: Christmas Eve – 9:00 PM Christmas Day – 9:30 AM

ENJOY A HEALTHY, HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON SURROUNDED BY FRIENDS AND FAMILY





POINT RICHMOND METHODIST CHURCH

by Jean Reynolds 510-235-2988 jeanormr@pacbell.net

Homecoming Sunday is a time to "bury the hatchet" as Pastor Dan describes it. It can also be a time to remember how much you have missed by being somewhere else on Sunday morning. Mid Dornan sent invitations to forty families and individuals who have been important in the life of the church. On November 14, we welcomed back some of our old friends. Russ and Kristi Johnson, Bob and Grace Yank, Joanne Fewins Busby, Sonja Darling, Ruth Mullen, Bob and Becki Wrod, Dee and Kyle Pitta, Dori Valentine, Grace Porter, Nancy Compton, Roger and Nathan Goetsch, Elizabeth, Samantha, and Shelby Miexell, Lillie Thomas, Ivar Elle, Harry and Sharon Hardwick, and Pam Wilson gathered from far and near to be with us that morning. We concluded the worship service with a family-style meal in Friendship Hall. The best part was seeing some of those faces from the past the next Sunday, too.

Carolyn Kirkpatrick, Karen Bianchini, Mark Ellis, Christina deLeon, Juanita Hoffman, Claudia LeGuÈ, Jim Brooks, Karen Merkle, Larry Gonsalves, Bethany, David and Jean Reynolds extended the festivities on Nov. 14. After the Homecoming dinner and cleanup, we met at a local studio to glaze pottery ornaments and other items. It was a peaceful, meditative way to spend the afternoon and a reminder that process is more important than outcome!

On Sunday, November 21, we welcomed new members Ruth and Tom Miller. Carolyn Kirkpatrick, and Christina deLeon. Sarah Thompson and Lillian Karl sang a duet to add a special joy to the celebration. Ruth and Tom Miller started "Mission Possible," a youth group that meets after Sunday worship on alternate Sundays. It will include activities and fun outings for the youth. Mission Possible met for the first time on November 21

Although times change, you can be sure people here will continue to lend a hand when help is needed! The Thanksgiving Feast posed a special challenge this year without The Baltic Restaurant to prepare the turkeys, cook the potatoes and yams, and make the stuffing and gravy. An outpouring of support from local businesses and individuals made the endeavor possible despite the limits of the church kitchen. Claudia LeGuÈ organized the event with help from Juanita Hoffman, Christina deLeon, and others. Russ Johnson came from Martinez to help cook on Wednesday morning, Ronnie Martinez made a special effort to come over from San Rafael to help on Wednesday and Thursday. Fay Hawkins supplied his experience to help those new to the crew. Several people came in the morning to help set up and do last minute preparations before the feast. Others seated guests, served and, most thankfully, cleaned up. Point Richmond businesses contributed generously: Edibles, Hotel Mac, The Santa Fe Market, Vertigo Software, Hydrangea, Starbucks, The Spot and Hidden City. Edibles provided a place for the vam peeling party on Wednesday morning, cooked four turkeys, the yams and the stuffing; they also offered advice and encouragement during the planning phase. Community members donated cooked and uncooked turkeys, oven space to cook turkeys, homemade pies, money for supplies, and other savory additions to the feast. We served about one hundred seventy five meals, and had a lot of food left over to take to the Bay Area Rescue Mission. We are thankful for our Point Richmond community!

On the Calendar:

Second Saturday Thrift Shop: The church basement will be open from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on December 11. Shop for the perfect item to enhance your holidays. Do you have good usable items to donate? We have IRS receipts and we will accept donated items during the Saturday sale, OR call Jean Reynolds, 235-2988, if you need to arrange a pick-up. (No old sofas, beds, televisions or other electronic equipment, please!)

The Sliding Scale, a singing and writing group, meets on alternate Friday evenings (December 3 and 17) from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Contact Megan Timberlake for more information: (510) 234-6171.

Interactive Resources is the place to be on Saturday, December 18, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., for the third annual holiday bake sale sponsored by the church. Need a special gift for a neighbor or dessert to bring to a holiday gathering? You will surely find something lovely and delectable at the bake sale. All profits benefit the church general fund.

Christmas Caroling: On December 19, join us for chili at the church at 5:00 p.m. Caroling in the church neighborhood will follow. Call Jean Reynolds (235-2988) for information.

Jazz Christmas Eve: December 24, 7:00 p.m. Sing Christmas Carols, hear the Christmas story and some special jazz offerings with the Dan Damon Trio. Enjoy the festive lights, flowers and bright dÈcor in the sanctuary. Come early to get a good seat!

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 66th installment.

August 16, 1927

The meeting of the Social League was called to order in the Church Parlors by the President. Mrs. Griffin and Mrs. Redman entertained fourteen members and two guests for the afternoon.

The Lord's Prayer was repeated in unison by the members of the "League". The matter of the Luncheon to be held in the church parlors, Tuesday, August 11 was brought before the Ladies of the League for further discussion, and the following committees were appointed. Kitchen -Table - Decorations.

Moved and seconded that the following bills be paid.

\$5.90 - for kettles 8.25 - for dishes \$17.40 Balance \$43.70 Collection 1.90 \$44.60 17.40—checks drawn \$27.20 - Totals

No further business, the meeting adjourned. Bess Osborne, Secy

Charlie Brown at the Masquers

A Review by Theresa de Valence

Unlike Kyle Johnson (who plays Charlie Brown), I have always thought of Charlie Brown as a rather pathetic character. Yet (much to my surprise), I felt warmly towards Charlie early in the show.

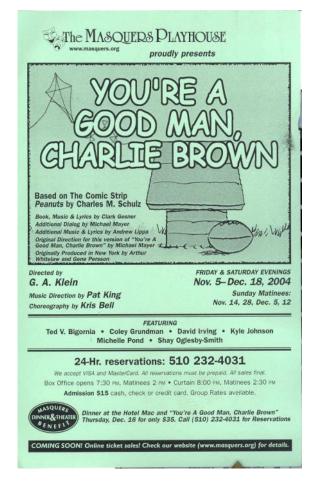
Of course, they are all crazy characters. Moreover, they break into song and dance at the slightest provocation. The show causes a joyful uplifting of spirit, quite appropriate for the season. It is a perfect show for kids. Adults, too.

The unanimous winner of the show (there were two of us voting) is David Irving (as Snoopy) who successfully makes the shift from a man into a dog. Snoopy is enchanting and very funny, particularly while scratching (like a dog). Dealing with anything other than kibble, Snoopy's expressions of boredom are absolutely side-splitting.

Lucy (played by Michelle Pond) is a sexy 6 year old, engaging and determined, who provides a crisp interpretation of bossiness. Her performance as a gorgeous princess is a charming reminder of a great many little girls.

Coley Grundman is enjoyable to watch. As Shroeder, his hands demand a lot of attention, very delicately making movements, such as playing the piano. To say nothing of his highly mobile feet!

I never really understood the relationship between the characters in the Charlie Brown



comic strip, but I know now that Sally (played by Shay Oglesby-Smith) is the world's bestest younger sister. Everybody ought to have a younger sister as dense, careless, loyal and affectionate.

Ted Bigornia adds insight into the character of Linus. Linus (and his blanket) have all the determination of a much abused younger brother, wildly taking on defense of self, older siblings, and the world.

Thank you all for a great show. Definitely 'tis "Good for a good laugh. Very enjoyable."



For many years, the only visitors were the Indians making seasonal visits to gather shellfish. In 1871 there came the Chinese shrimp fishermen with their camp, mostly South of the Point (see photo on page 5). As a result of declining production and legislative controls the camp gradually reduced until it was abandoned in 1912. But, by far the most enduring and memorable impact on the Point Molate area came as a result of the San Francisco earthquake of 1906, which destroyed the buildings of the California Wine Association.

The California Wine Association was formed in 1901 as a cooperative among seven wineries. Their Calwa brands were a major force in California wine-making for a number of years. In 1907 they purchased 48 acres on the north side of Point Molate and began construction of what would become the largest winery in the world until the advent of Prohibition in 1920.

At an expense of over one million dollars they constructed a major red brick winery building reminiscent of Rhineland castles with its crenellated parapets and towers along with secondary shipping buildings, power generation, a hotel for workers and eventually cottages and a school. The location was seen as ideal because a quarry near Point Castro had resulted in a railroad connection to the Richmond Belt Railway in 1909, thus connecting to the rest of the country to the East, in addition to deep water access for shipping around the world and river access for shipping up the Sacramento River.

The winery's shipping capacity was 500,000 gallons a month and could crush 25,000 tons of grapes in a single crushing. They had cooperage for 10,000,000 gallons of wine and over 3,000 vats for initial aging. The largest of these were 58 feet in diameter and had a capacity of 25,000 gallons. For reference, some of my favorite Sonoma wineries have an annual production of less than 10,000 gallons (3,000 cases is a little more than 7,000

gallons). The Winehaven warehouse could hold 8,000,000 gallons and more than 15,000,000 bottles were kept on hand for restocking.

The winery produced wines using 67 different varieties of grapes from over 40 vineyards, including dry wines, sweet wines, and brandy. Sweet wine production was about 2/3 of the amount of the dry wine production..

After construction was completed, there were more than 120 employees full time and over 400 during seasonal peaks. There were 29 rooms in the hotel for the construction crew and later the bachelor employees. Additional early housing was provided by the City of Stockton, a riverboat anchored in the cove (at left in the photo on page 1). Later, a number of cottages were constructed.

Reputedly, when France's wine production was destroyed by phylloxera, Winehaven shipped an "emergency 18,000,000 gallons of "French style" wine to help tide them over, as well as providing rootstock for the replanting.

This somewhat amazing enterprise was brought to a halt by the Volstead Act which imposed prohibition effective in 1920. The winery was caught with full warehouses and no way to sell their stock. There was fear of wine getting in the hands of bootleggers, in response to which, the story is told, nearly 250,000 gallons of wine was dumped in the Bay. Supposedly one could simply grab fish by hand for a while after that!

The winery attempted to keep going by producing grape juice, but ultimately the Association dissolved its assets beginning in 1926, but not completing until 1941. The property was then acquired by the Navy for fuel storage and refueling.

Thomas Mercer-Hursh

Thanks to J.A. Vincent, George Collier, and Lucretia Edwards who wrote material I read to prepare this article and to Bruce Beyaert, who provided me with those materials.

William L. Thompson, M.D. Memories of Pioneer Point Richmond Residents



Dr. Thompson was born in Point Richmond on February 17, 1909. He grew up in the Point, attended Washington Elementary School and graduated from Richmond High School in 1926, attended U.C. Berkeley and in 1929 at the age of 20 was admitted to the UCSF Medical School. He completed his medical school in 1933 and interned at Highland Hospital before joining the Civilian Conservation Corp. as a contract surgeon for the Army. Dr. Thompson practiced medicine for 39 years in Richmond, we are lucky to be the recipient of his written memories of his life in Point Richmond. This is a reprint of his gift to all of us. We will reprint his entire series. Thank you Dr. Thompson! Enjoy!

Part Two

Next to the Davidsons on the east lived the Janke's. They were an elderly couple with two grown sons, one of whom worked for the Standard Oil Company on Bahrain Island in the Persian Gulf for several years. Across the lower end of Glen Avenue from the Janke's the Gilmore family built a home. Mrs. Gilmore was a native Hawaiian. This home was later taken over by the Clinger family who had two daughters.

There had been originally a home on upper Scenic Avenue next to the Morrison home. I do not recall the name of the people who first had it but recall that the wife died of Typhoid Fever. Some time later this house was taken over by the Cibattari family when they arrived from Michigan, probably about

1919. Soon this house caught fire and burned completely. A neighboring side of the Morrison house also was partly burned. Across upper Glen Avenue and above Scenic was a small house which I think was originally built by Al Mason who worked at the S.O. Co. It was later inhabited by several other families. Below the Masons and across Scenic was an old structure with a rather large vegetable garden around it. This belonged to Charlie Richardson, a bachelor who worked around the water, mostly on the dredgers and other marine structures. Near the upper end of Montana Street was the home of George Lee with one daughter, Virginia. Mr. Lee was in the Real Estate and Insurance business. This home was later occupied by the Williams family and the Ken Koht family.

On the lower end of Montana were the Wilson family. They originally had a small simple home on the rear of the property but later built a modern home in front. A son, Jim, still lives in the area and is quite active in Point Richmond affairs.

The Garvin family lived for many years in a house on Buena Vista between Idaho and Oregon Streets. It was later taken over by others including the Henry Frances. Just below on Idaho was the home of the Bernes family who ran a French laundry in town. They had two sons, August, usually called Al and the younger, Bernard. These two were known by their age group as Big Frenchie and Little Frenchie. They were a fine family. Al became prominent as an administrator in the Richmond School District and Bernard lives in Southern California in the San Diego region.

On Buena Vista Avenue lived the Beck family. They were also a fine family. Mr. Beck was a Captain on the Richmond - San Rafael Ferry for years and piloted boats across until the bridge was built. A daughter, Elsine, was married and moved to St. Helena where she taught school for many years. The son, Theodore or Ted, taught science, mostly physics, at the El Cerrito High School for many years and did an outstanding job in organizing and maintaining the East Bay Science Fair. He still has an office in the Lawrence Hall of Science where he works with the Science Fair and a group which encourages science projects in high school and the younger college students.

One of the most prominent Point Richmond families was that of Gust Allyn who

lived for many years on Idaho Street. While visiting him one time in his later years he told me his story and a remarkable story it was. He was born and raised in Greece. While he was still a child, his father emigrated to America. I presume he helped finance his family from here. As a teenaged young man, Gust decided to come to America and find his father. He was able to get passage on a ship to New York and worked there for several months saving his money to come west. He had last heard from his father from Richmond where. I think, he was working for the Standard Oil Company. Gust was finally able to come west, I believe, in about 1913 and arrived at the old 16th Street Southern Pacific station. He was completely lost. He didn't know where he was or where next to go. He spoke very little English and had no idea of how to locate his father. He noted a crew at work on the railroad tracks nearby and tried to make himself understood. By the greatest of good fortune one of the laborers was Greek and spoke the language. Better still, the man knew of his father and directed Gust to Point Richmond. He was told to wait at the Kenny Saloon at Washington and Standard Avenue as his father came there occasionally. He stayed around and eventually met his father. They lived together and Gust worked for a time at the Standard Oil Company but later developed a fine dry goods business in Point Richmond on Washington Avenue. He married Margaret Diffin and they had four children, all of whom have been remarkably successful. Gust eventually became a member of the Richmond City Council, the Mayor of Richmond and at last, the Postmaster of the town. Quite a conquest for a poor emigrant boy.

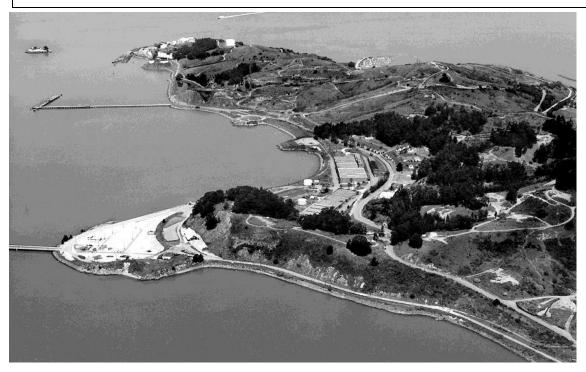
Dr. Thompson's Son in law Gab Togner wrote a touching eulogy to Dr. Thompson at his memorial in 1998, you can read it at http://www.alkos.com/prha/thompson.html.

This fact diary is, a book of headlines and interesting events in Early Point Richmond was compiled by Don Church and is one of the items left for us by Allan Smith. I think it is interesting, as long as readers seem to agree, I will keep it up......Gary

Items of Interest Point Richmond, 1911

- 1-3 Butts home dedicated in San Pablo Lillian Parks weds Joseph Gibbs
 Mrs. L.L. Baker librarian of Santa Fe goes to Seligman Library. Neidecker Drug Store was in Price Bldg. Marathon Candy Store bet. 5 & 6 on McD.
- 1-6 John Garvin weds Mrs. Knight sister of John Hartnett. Steam roller rolling gravel lower end of Richmond Ave. for paving Neidecker to move to Dr. Lucas home vacated at cor. Martina and Cottage. Theaters inn town; Majestic in old opera house, Royal 316 Rich. Ave. and the Central on McDonald.
- 1-7 Bird men fly at Tanforan SF.Richmond makes 1st application for place at 1915 Fair.
- 1-8 Aviation meet.
- 1-12 Rainy weather bad for aviators Repsold arrest and Margaret Raab.
- 1-13 McCracken sale.
- 1-17 6 tons of fish caught off Redondo pier
- 1-19 SOCo. Getting pipe for 2nd line in valley, SF to Bkrsfld.
- 1-20 Big holdup at Brasch saloon
- 1-21 Joe Baker sells produce mkt and starts tuning pianos.
- 1-22 Smallpox at SOCo stable. Man put in tent on hill
- 2-19 Sign on barge nearly completed by Spiersch Bros.
- 2-23 Lang Drug moves to new location Pierce Bldg from old store. Free collection of garbage to discontinue on March 1st.
- 3-1 German Manner Choir formed here.
- 3-2 Abe Ruef goes to San Quentin
- 3-4 Earl Scofield weds Marian Troy.

- 3-7 Pillow Bros. warehouse is destroyed by fire, on 2nd street Stievater basement flooded.
- 3-8 Mrs. Emma Schupbach mother of bill dies, 30 years old. Heavy storms in Bay Area
- 3-9 Will improve Janice Part, corner Nicholl and Washington.
- 3-10 Limit placed on number of saloons.
- 3-12 Gus Green buys lot corner Cutting and Ashland for two story brick.
- 3-14 Council asks for free mail delivery
 Dick Fer of Calistoga will open gents store when Rich. Light and Power moves to Richmond. He will take over the remaining stock of John Moyle. Moyle store bldg will be moved toward Std. Ave.
 A tunnel and wharf are needed says Garrard.
 Voinea the tailor bldg being moved from Wash Ave (near Moyles) to next door to the French laundry on Std. Ave.
 Rev. Riddle is pastor at 1st Baptist Church.
- 3-16 Hill near Carpenter Shop being moved to Marsh for new Asphalt Plant.



Point Molate and Winehaven (From Redevelopment Agency; restored by Thomas Mercer-Hursh) This Point....in time

WWIC ACTIVITIES

Alyce Williamson 510-234-4219

Happy Thanksgiving past to everyone! Now that Thanksgiving has come and gone it is time to prepare for the hustle and bustle of Christmas and before you know it a New Year will be here.

The Women's Westside Improvement Club met on November 9, 2004 at the Pt. Richmond Methodist Church. There were 23 members and one guest present. The theme for the day was, of course, Thanksgiving and the tables were beautifully decorated with festive Thanksgiving decorations by Hostesses Janice Cook, Jane Diokas and Susan Brooks. Everyone enjoyed their "bring along" lunch and an assortment of cookies served by the Hostesses.

The speaker for the day was Marsha Tomassi of The Inner cook Marsha was named as Richmond's Volunteer of the year recently, is President of the Board for NIAD and is currently the Vice-president of the Point Richmond Business Association plus many other activities in addition to her "day job". Marsha cooks with all natural and organic foods. The Inner Cook tries to inspire people to create healthy food that also tastes great. They do private cooking and consulting for dietary transitions and people recovering from surgical procedure and cancer related treatments. Marsha explained to us how to shop Farmer's markets or any market for organic foods. She touched on how to prepare some of these foods. Marsha in collaboration with Rebecca Katz & Mat Edelson has written a book "One Bite at a Time" of nourishing recipes for people with cancer, survivors and their caregivers.

All in all it was a very interesting and informative lecture. She left us with recipes "Carrot Ginger with Cashew Cream", "Garlicky Leafy Greens and Dark Leafy Greens with Caramelized Onions, Raisins and Pine Nuts". Marsha autographed her book for those who purchased a book.

President, Margaret Morkowski introduced our guest, Bernice Riodan, and new members Judy Kafka and Muriel Bluhon. Welcome aboard ladies.

Results of the voting for Christmas Luncheon Dec. 7, was announced and the majority voted for a "Catered Luncheon" here in the hall. Marsha Tomassi has agreed to cater the luncheon for \$15.00 per person. There will be a choice of three entrees. Members will be called as to their choice of menu and reservation. Do invite guests. Husbands and male friends are welcome.

Happy November Birthday to Betty Doran, Dextra Christensen, Alice Zeier, Janice Cook and Muriel Bluhon. May you enjoy many more.

It was announced that the Messiah will be presented by the Methodist Church at 7 p.m. Sunday, December 5, 2004.

The meeting was adjourned with Inspirational thought by Anita Christensen. We do not meet in January. The next regular business meeting will be February 1, 2005.

See you at the Christmas Luncheon, December 7, 2004. Bring a guest and or a new member.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO EVERYONE!!



Winehaven from Point Orient. (Photo contributed by Don Church, restored by Thomas Mercer Hursh)

This and That from the Members

How Did We Survive?

Looking back, it's hard to believe that we have lived as long as we have. As children, we would ride in cars with no seat belts or air bags. Riding in the back of a pick-up truck on a warm day was a special treat. Our baby cribs were covered with bright colored lead-based paint There were no childproof lids on medicine bottles, door, or cabinets. We rode our bikes without helmets and hitched rides we spent hours building go-carts out of scraps and then rode down the hill, only to find out we forgot the brakes. After running into the bushes a few time we learned to solve the problem. We ate cupcakes, bread and butter, drank sugar soda but were never overweight--we were always playing outside. Little League had tryouts and not everyone made the team. Those who didn't had to learn to deal with disappointment. Some students weren't as smart as others so they failed a grade and were held back to repeat the same grade. We left home in the morning and played all day. No one could reach us, there were no cell phones. That generation produced some of the best risk-takers and problem solvers. We had freedom, failure, success and responsibility, and we learned how to deal with it. AND, YOU'RE ONE OF THEM, *Les Hathaway*

Peanut Roll

Frank Pursell promised, after a short rest, to undertake the arduous task of rolling a peanut from the top of Washington Avenue to Railroad Avenue. He wishes to postpone paying the debt until Sunday afternoon as he is loath to desecrate the Sabbath and will try to make possible arrangements. Richmond's brass band will lead the procession with a funeral march at the expense of Mr. Pursell. *Richmond Record 11-7-1902*

Justice??

In the late 40s, Wilson Gandola was pulled over by Mel Toponse for speeding across McDonald Avenue in Richmond. Without his parents knowledge, he was excused from Richmond High to plea his case in front of Judge Marcolo who was presiding in the Point Richmond Court. When he went before the Judge, he was asked if he was 'guilty or not guilty 'and was told, \$25 or 30 days. Even though Wilson had saved \$25 he felt the ticket was unfair to begin with so he said, "30 days". The judged pointed and told him to "go sit over there". Judge Marcolo, being a friend of Wilson's parents, knew Wilson should be in school so he asked him later if he would go to driver training school for six weeks at night instead of the 30 days. So, he chose that as his punishment.

Main Winehaven building about 1908. (Photo contributed by Don Church; restored by Thomas Mercer-Hursh)



This Point.....in time

FROM THE PHOTO ARCHIVES



Tall Ships off Winehaven Pier (Photo contributed by "CC"; restored by Thomas Mercer-Hursh)



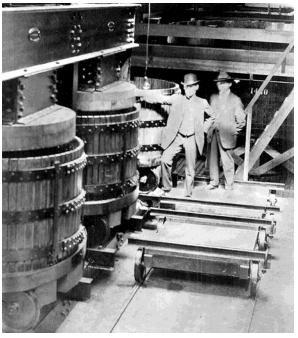
Nearly completed main building (Photo contributed by Bob Berndt; restored by Thomas Mercer-Hursh)



"Small" dinner on the shipping dock (Photo contributed by Bob Berndt; restored by Thomas Mercer-Hursh)



Above: Shipping room; Right: Crushers (Photos contributed by Bob Berndt; restored by Thomas Mercer-Hursh)



This Point.....in time

CARDS, LETTERS & E-MAIL

Dear Gary,

You asked for more, so here goes. We had our own chickens for meat and eggs, grew our own tomatoes and some vegetables and lots of flowers. On special occasions mostly in the summertime, we would go to the Point to a grocery store. I don't remember the name of the store, but Tony Mazza was the owner's name, I believe. There, we would get bread for 10 cents a loaf. Of course it was unsliced, so my mother would put the loaf in a device which enabled her to make even slices with her bread knife. We had to ice box or refrigerator, just a cooler, so a pot roast would feed a crowd along with a huge salad with the grand ending of a huge watermelon. I remember the price for the watermelon was $1 \frac{1}{2}$ cents a pound and Tony would plug it for you to make sure it was sweet.

We would have relatives coming from Vallejo and San Francisco and have a wonderful day, all arranged by mail, had no phones. We had fresh milk once a week & canned or powdered the rest of the week, till it was time to hit the Point again.

When we were old enough to go to school, we were going to move to the Point and attend Washington School, but because of Standard Oil Company, we didn't. There was a very nice house above and to the left of the tunnel. It was a two story red with white trim and when we went to see it early one morning, the milkman had already delivered the milk to the occupants and it was covered with soot already. An ill wind blew the wrong way I guess. My mother would not be able to hang out her laundry!

My father bought a lot in the Richmond Annex and had a house built.

I remember the hills around the Point were covered with California poppies in the spring

time.

I learned to swim at the Natatorium. Once a year, there was a big herring run, and we would go to Keller's Dock with a big basket make of chicken wire and pull up hundres of herring. We had a five gallon crock or two, cut off heads, tails and fins, scale them and split them in half along the back and pickle them with bay leaves, peppercorns and vinigar. Sorry I don't have the exact recipe, but they were delicious with boiled eggs for a fin Danish breakfast.

I have a photograph at home of Viola Lola's birthday party, a real class act. She invited every kid in the Point and we had our picture taken at the old bandstand and then she gave us each a photo.

I also remember a 4th of July party there where we all sang "In the Good Ole Summertime".

Dr. Lucas was a very dedicated man. After we moved to Richmond Annex, my sister got pneumonia and he came to our house and stayed with her until she was past a crisis stage and he felt it was okay to leave her.

The new color photos are wonderful, congratulations!

I hope I've covered some of the things you wanted to hear...and probably more than you bargained for.

> Thanks for Listening, Inez Pestana Modesto, CA

Exactly what I was hoping for! I know everyone enjoyed your letter and I hope it will inspire other older Point Richmond folks to do the same. Thanks a lot Inez, Gary Hi Gary, Jerry and all Point Richmond friends,

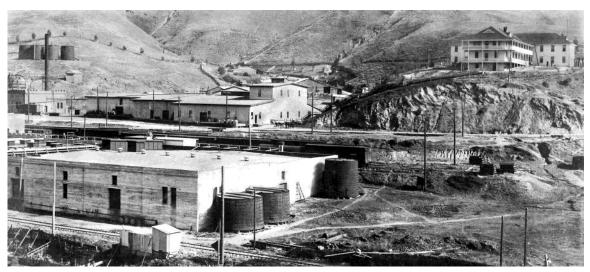
Loved the November TPIT! Very handsome, indeed, I wish I'd known about the statue anniversary being celebrated in this issue, I have, somewhere, a picture I took on the dedication day. Clear, blue sky overhead and colorful balloons flanking the statue. (And it was the real deal sky!). Should I ever uncover it, I'll send it along.

We always think of the tree lighting ceremony in the Point at this time of year and miss the luminaries and merrymaking neighbors, among other things. Eugene, OR may be a tad larger than the Point, but it still has a small town, very friendly feel which is a comfort after the many years with you all down yonder.

A quick visit with Marie and Bob Peckham many months back when they were visiting their daughter and her family was a total joy for us. Someday, we'll zip on down and surprise you. Stick around for the hugs!

With our best wishes for a happy holiday season, Ellen (and Dennis) Schaefer & The Silly Kitty Girls Eugene, OR

The Crest Avenue Triangle Project is progressing very nicely. As mentioned previously it is a nice Oasis at the entrance of Crest Avenue and Vine. The sprinkler system has been installed. There was a Saturday planting day and those who wished brought a plant to be put in. The trees and plants are now in and flourishing. The stone bench is a lovely place to sit and relax and enjoy the garden and view. A Pelican sculpture has been erected atop a concrete pillar (compliments of Manny). It adds a certain flair to the little park. The rock garden has not been completed but that is the next step. The area has been unofficially named Crest Avenue Triangle Park. Any other suggestions?



Shipping and outbuildings at Winehaven (Photo contributed by Don Church; restored by Thomas Mercer-Hursh)

DEATHS.....



Shannon McGowan, 61 died of lung cancer on November 7, 2004 at her Point Richmond home. Shannon had previously survived cervical cancer and went on to help found a groundbreaking center that offered emotional support to cancer patients. Born in Los Angeles, attended California State University Northridge, and became a kindergarten teacher and interior designer. She taught yoga in her neighborhood in the 1970's and insisted on feeding her children health food. She earned a master's degree in psychotherapy and became the Wellness Community's program director. She was always known among her friends as an empathetic listener, a skill that served her well when she began helping cancer patients. She was dedicated to her clients to a fault, often taking their calls when she was on vacation. Ms. McGowan was married and divorced three times. She is survived by children Liz Behrens of Berkeley and John Behrens of San Francisco and stepchildren Greg McGowan of San Luis Obispo and Lisa Henley of Concord. A memorial service and wake was held on November 20, 2004 at the Richmond Yacht Club.

Harvey O. Kent, 76,died in his Point Richmond home on October 10, 2004. Harvey was born in Hinsdale, Ill, educated in San Francisco, served as an officer in Korea, was a 3rd Degree Mason and Past Commodore of the Richmond Yacht Club. He retired as a supervisor in Housing Conservation for the City of Oakland, Harvey is survived by his wife, Marian, children Nancy Kent-Berge, David Kent, Karen Hoffman and four grandchildren. A Memorial Service was held at the Richmond Yacht Club on November 6, 2004.

Dean "Bud" Beesley, 79, long time resident of Richmond, died at his home on October 25, 2004. Dean was born in Provo, Utah, but soon moved to California. Dean was a US Navy Veteran of WWII and served with the armedGuard until the end of the war. He worked for V.G. Electric for 45 years. Dean had nine brothers and sisters and is survived by Dolly, his wife of 61 years, a son Dennis Dean and daughter, Donna Rose as well as 6 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren. Private services were held.

Darlene Mary Byers, age 79, on November 29, 2004, after a lengthy battle with cancer. Born in Iowa, she was the youngest of three brothers and two sisters. Darlene was a remarkable mother, wife, volunteer and loved to cook, read and spend weekends at their Tomales Bay Home. Darlene was a participant in Pillsbury Bake-Off competitions. and often baked the desserts on their Hotel Mac menu. For 10 years she volunteered at Stege Elementary School in Richmond. Darlene is survived by her husband, Jim and daughters Karen Byers Mays of San Diego and Judy Byers Salvestrin of Petaluma, and six grandchildren. Memorial serves were held December 4, 2004 at Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church in the Point



December

Jean Allyn Seth Fenton Hazel Paasch Cris Creed Edna Hathaway Patricia Pearson Debbie Seaburg Fern Eastman Christine Hayes Marian Hawkins Jeff Corbin Mike Turner Lauren Nason Marilyn Darling Linda Mertle Michael Cheshareck Eric Turner Teresa Meneghelli

January

Henry Allyn Donna Buhler Cindy Rosier Tom Brennan Sonja Darling Linda Marshal Bryan Smith Doug Greiner Jeff Quist Ed Paasch Ruth Wood Mullen Jim Wilson Robert McIntosh Mary Highfill Lupe Morris Ann Bartram Saryl Weinstein John Cutler Diana Kaffan Marilu Fox Elaine Harris Kristina Hollbrook Louis Cunan Les Hathaway Richard Palfini Bena Bowles Diana Mertle McHenry Richard Barnes Christina Nagatani` Thomas Mercer Hursh Jerry Feagley Inez A. Pestana Fred Frye

Brad Feagley Marian Sauer Sparta Chiozza Alphonso Diaz Mitchell Daniel Heckmann



Exclusive - Over 90 Club

An impressive list! And it grows	Al McGee (92)	Laura Kurtz (90)
each month!	Thelma Mae Harvey	Lloyd Farley (90)
	Reva Ward	Lee Christian (90)
Ruth Wood Mullen (98)	Maxine Stoddard	Otto Barni (90)
Anna Schwarz (92)	Mark Gebhart	Avis Blanchette
Romilda Burress	Jim Kenny	
Jay Vincent (91)	Alice Helseth (94)	
Jean Moyle Spiersch	Goldie Mobley (91)	An even more exclusive club!
Rena Cairo Gonsalves (94)	Dulcie Johnson (91)	Our 100 YEAR CLUB:
Anne Hanzlik (95)	Anita Brougham	Bonnie Kirkman (102)
Lupe Padilla Lopez	Dorothy Rudnick (91)	Have we missed anyone?
Louise Hammond (91)	Ethel Schumacher (94)	-



GOLDEN STATE MODEL RAILROAD MUSEUM AND EAST BAY MODEL ENGINEERS SOCIETY

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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 139¹/₂ Washington Avenue, open Thursday's and Saturday's, 11:30 to 2:00 The deadline for the February/March, 2005 issue of TPIT is Friday January 21, 2005.

POINT RICHMOND NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

Meets last Wednesday each month, Pt Richmond Community Center; 7:30 P.M Contact: Don Woodrow, President, 234-3107.

RICHMOND ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENSE FUND

The REDF is a non-profit corporation dedicated to ensuring that future development here is wellplanned, 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: Anita Vasarhely, Secretary 510-232-1436.

WOMEN'S WESTSIDE IMPROVEMENT CLUB

Contact: Margaret Morkowski, President. 510-234-4219

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