

# THIS POINT....in time

## NEWSLETTER

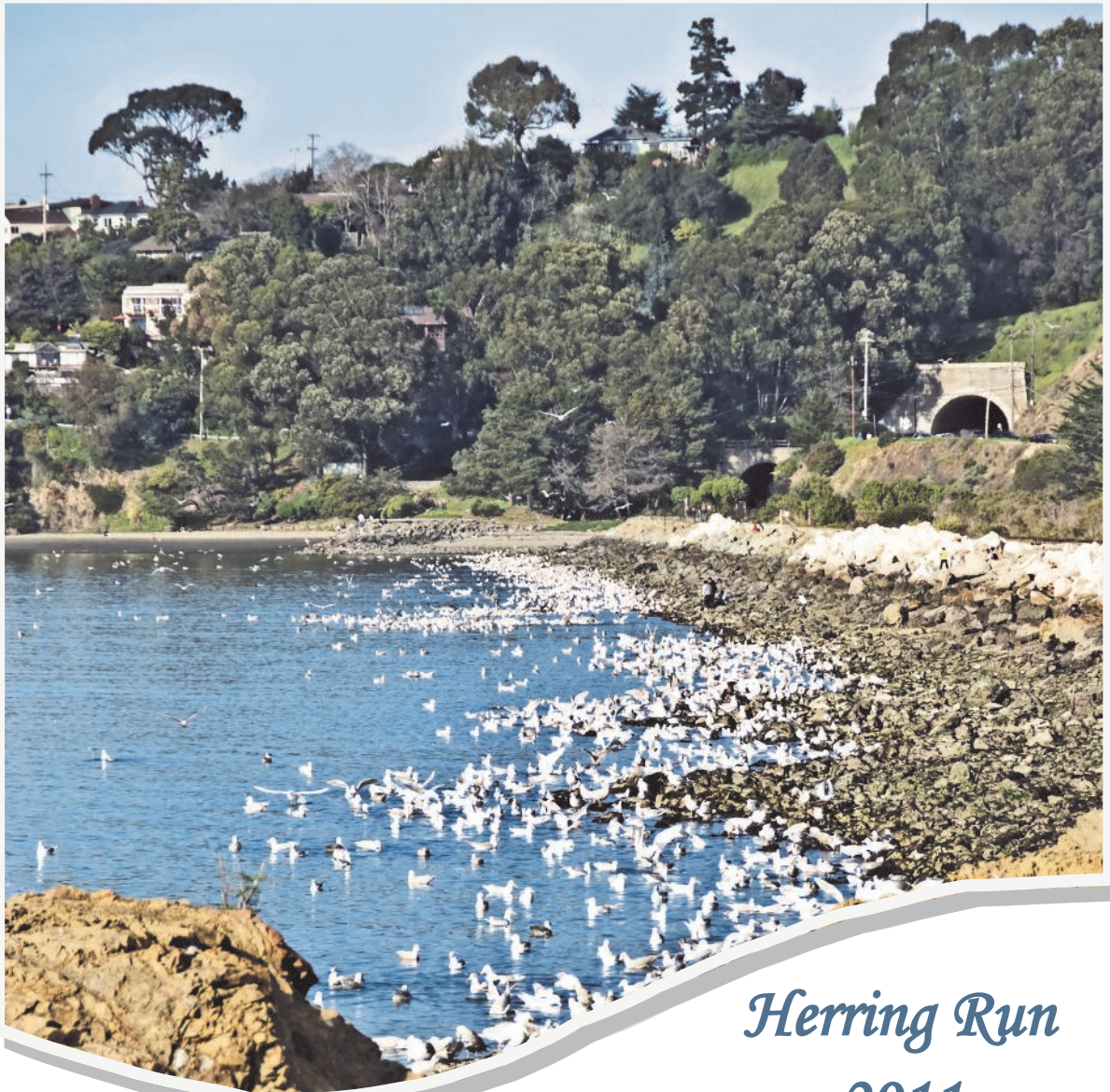
The Point Richmond History Association

[www.PointRichmondHistory.org](http://www.PointRichmondHistory.org)

Vol. XXIX No. 5

April/May, 2011

\$3.00



*Herring Run*  
**2011**

Save the Date!

*May 22, 2011*

PRHA

Annual Meeting  
And Election of Officers

Watch your mailbox or check  
[www.pointrichmondhistory.org](http://www.pointrichmondhistory.org)  
for announcement and program  
details.

*Refreshments will be served*

# From the President

*By Mid Dornan*

When Neighborhood Councils were formed in Richmond it allowed residents in each designated area to define their neighborhood. Point Richmond was on the National Register of Historic Places which made this neighborhood unique. The Point Neighborhood is where Richmond's charter was signed in 1905, it has the first City Hall, the first church, the first Firehouse and Police Station. The diversity of today's residents still want to preserve the historic district. It was with mixed feelings that the residents asked the Richmond City Council to deny the application for a "Formula Restaurant", Subway, in their neighborhood. Subway is the largest food chain in the U.S. with 33,749 listed at the end of last year and over 24,000 in the State. This is more than there are McDonald restaurants. The applicant already was the owner of 36 Subway shops. Point residents appreciate the small-town feel and the mom-and-pop businesses that make the aesthetics of this historical district. There will be a one year moratorium until January 2012 or when the city revises its laws on such eateries.

*PRHA photo archive  
#0042-DC from our  
Don Church Collection.*

*Enhanced by Thomas  
Mercer-Hursh*



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Thank you members for your renewal:

**James Wilson**

**Thomas Mercer-Hursh**

**& Theresa de Valence**

**Donna Wilson\*\***

**Joann Cannon**

**Mary "Julie" Simmons**

**Roger Glafke**

**Marion Kent**

**Lynne Erskine**

**Marilyn Darling**

**Kathe Kiehn\*\***

**Charlotte Birsinger**

**Dixie & Frank Mello**

**Ken & Kay Madison Family**

**Alyce Williamson Family**

**Connie Healy**

**Richard & Charlene Smith Family**

**Brenda McKinley**

**Barbara & Jeff Ward**

**Doug & Rosemary Corbin\*\***

**Harry & Olga Thomsen Family**

**Sandi Genser-Maack & Lynn Maack\*\***

**David B. Smith**

**Frank Kenny**

**Umesh & Debra Kurpad\*\***

\*Gift Membership

\*\*Special Member, *Thank You!*



*Thank You!*

**Santa Fe Market**  
and  
**Point Richmond Market**

*For selling*

***"THIS POINT.....in time"***

*For us*

***Museum Hours:***

***Saturday 11:30-2:00 pm***

***Thursday 11:30-2:00 pm***

*Thanks to the Volunteers who open and  
close our history museum two days each  
week*

**Betty Dornan**

•**Ann Bartram**

•**Pat Pearson**

•**Mid Dornan**

•**Bonnie Jo Cullison**

•**Susan Brooks**

•**Sonja Darling**

•**Margaret Morkowski**

***The Cover:***

*Point Richmond's 2011 herring run brought hundreds  
of birds to feast.*

*Photo by Thomas Mercer-Hursh*



# *Editor's Notes*

***Gary Shows (510-235-1336)***

Here is the Springtime issue. I trust that everyone is enjoying the longer hours of daylight and the sunshine (hopefully, we've had enough rain for awhile).

The Herring Run was probably the most exciting happening here in the Point since the last issue, it was quite a site. That's why I have Thomas' photograph on the cover. If you haven't seen Mike Bukay's "Gulls Gone Wild, Herring Run at Point Richmond, CA February 4th through 14th, 2011" go on your computer to <http://bukaymedia.com/videos/PtRich/Herring/herrun.htm>. It is a very entertaining 6½ minutes. Thank you Michael for it!

More about the herring run from Pat Pearson and George Coles with this issue.

On to my own little personal mission. I think that sometimes in their effort to please all residents, the city gets carried away with traffic signs in Point Richmond. One example is the brake eating dual "Stop" signs at the bottom of the one way section of Castro Street. Police are being encouraged to strictly enforce them. There is no reason for them, and I think they should be replaced with one "Yield" sign. If you to agree with me please call City of Richmond Interim Engineer Edrick Kwan at 307-8091 and let him know.

**The deadline for articles and items for the next issue is May 27, 2011.**

## *Thank You! Our Special Supporters!*

### *History Makers*

Doug & Rosemary Corbin  
Kathe Kiehn  
Transcept Pharmaceuticals, Inc.  
Christopher Spencer  
Diane & Gordon Hirano  
John A. Thiella & Rosa T. Casazza  
Umesh & Debra Kurpad

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Donna Wilson  
Linda Andrew-Marshall  
Margaret Morkowski  
Patricia Dornan  
Bob & Ellie Strauss  
Norm Hantzsche  
Maurice A. Doherty  
Michelle Healy  
Paul and Zoe Mukavtz  
Spiro Cakos  
Jim & Olivia Jacobs

# *A-Mid Trivia*

*Mid Dornan (510-234-5334)*

Q: When was the first coin minted in the U.S.?

Answer at end of Trivia.

\*\*\*

STOP! Before continuing to read this, go to your calendar and mark, SUNDAY, MAY 22, 2:00 pm, Point Richmond Community Center. This is our Annual Meeting. The Program will be announced. We want you to be in attendance. Did you mark your calendar?

\*\*\*

Nothing makes a man so modest about his income as a tax return.

\*\*\*

Sympathy is extended to Bonnie Jo Cullison on the loss of her father in Oregon.

\*\*\*

The more money a person makes the less likely they are to buy lottery tickets.

\*\*\*

The Richmond Art Center celebrated 75 years! Founder Hazel Salmi encouraged creativity telling us in similar words, "If you create a piece of art and no one likes it but you, it is still ART".

\*\*\*

A clear conscience is usually a sign of a bad memory.

\*\*\*

Hallmark and the US Postal Service have teamed up to produce greeting cards that come with bar-coded, postal paid, no-stamp-required envelopes at a minimum cost of \$3.99. No longer do you have an excuse to not send that birthday card, more preferable than an e-mail one.

\*\*\*

The average age at first marriage in 2010 was 26.1 years compared to 1970 when it was 20.8 years.

\*\*\*

Betty Jenkins Moisenko's daughter brought

her back to revisit the Point. Now living in Pleasant Hill, Betty stopped in the Museum to remember how things have changed since she grew up here. The visit included lunch at Hotel Mac.

\*\*\*

Why is it at class reunions you feel younger than everyone looks?

\*\*\*

Terry Wynne is spending a few days with her childhood friend, Wanda Olson and her husband Vern, at their Mesa, AZ winter home. She is looking forward to sunshine at the poolside. They are also celebrating Vern's Birthday.

\*\*\*

Another day to remember is Memorial Day, May 30. It is more than just another day filled with beaches, parades, and picnics. As tradition decrees, it is a day to remember friends and loved ones lost in war, a day to recall their experiences under fire, a day to remember why we have freedom.

\*\*\*

Bumper sticker: If you can read this, thank a teacher; if it is in English, thank a soldier.

\*\*\*

Continuing to enjoy their recent retirement, Pat Dornan and Linda Pereira will spend a week in April in Hawaii.

\*\*\*

The ashes of Richard "Duke" Nissen were taken to sea on Saturday, March 26. Among those attending were two long time Point Richmond friends and former Boy Scouts of Troop 111, Carl Jenkins, Tuscon, Arizona and Gene Clements, Mission Viejo, California.

\*\*\*

After several weeks of hospital and rehab care, 92-year old Betty Dornan is happy to be home and is back enjoying the water at the Natatorium- Plunge!

\*\*\*

Excessive pay and pension benefits of government employees and elective officials have been reported by various news organizations. A bill that would have required the Legislature, statewide officers, cities and counties to report the salaries of elected officials died in the Senate. Bay Area News Group's online salary database contains salaries of 777,280 government officials, representing more than \$40 billion in taxpayer money. For details, go to Contra Costa Times.com/data.

\*\*\*

A sweet old lady spied a seedy and dejected old man slouched on a street corner. Profoundly disturbed, she pressed a dollar into his hand and whispered: "Chin up." The next day, the sad old man stopped the lady on the same corner, slipped \$40 into her hand, and whispered: "Good picking, he paid 9 to 1"

\*\*\*

Five foods said to aid you to sleep are:

1. Cherries, one of the only natural sources of Melatonin, the chemical that controls the body's instrumental clock to regulate sleep. Recommended to eat an hour before bedtime or before a trip when you want to sleep on a plane.

2. Bananas for potassium and magnesium, a

natural muscle relaxant.

3. Toast - it triggers release of tryptophan and serotonin, two brain chemicals that relax you and sends you to sleep.

4. Oatmeal, rich in melatonin which some people take as a sleep aid and 5. Warm milk, a calcium that promotes sleep.

\*\*\*

If your shoes get soaked after walking through the rain or slugging through the snow, stuff them with dry, crushed newspaper and place them on their sides at room temperature so moisture can be absorbed. You may need to replace the stuffing a few times/

\*\*\*

It's a Boy for infamous Tinker Bell and Peter Pan, sheep grazing on the Point hills supported by Tom Butt. It was 4-year old granddaughter, Cecelia, that got to christen the Baby boy Pixie Dust, with Dusty his 'calling' name.

\*\*\*

Are you supporting our downtown businesses?

\*\*\*

Mary Highfill and her daughter were spotted in the Point recently.

\*\*\*

Arbor Day originated in 1872 but in 1969, it became a national observance began by a Presidential Proclamation. In 1953 the Richmond Junior Women's Club planted flowering trees in Point Richmond. Their slogan was, "Plant a Tree in '53 "

\*\*\*

Young at heart, slightly older in other places.

\*\*\*

OKAY! DID YOU REALLY GO MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR MAY 22?

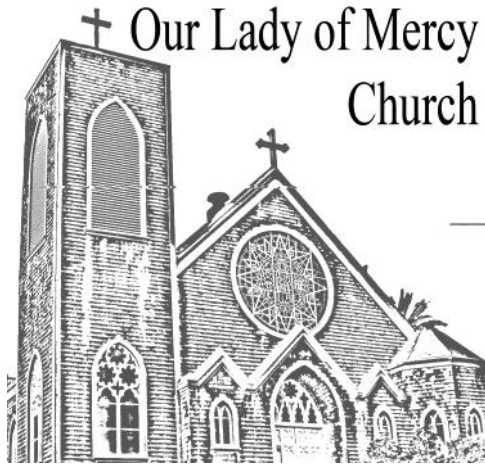
\*\*\*

ANSWER: IT WAS ISSUED IN OCTOBER 15, 1794 AND WAS A SILVER DOLLAR.



*Herring Run Photo by Thomas Mercer-Hursh*

# Church News



*By Dee Rosier*  
510-232-1387  
[drosier@sbcglobal.net](mailto:drosier@sbcglobal.net)

Has this weather been bizarre? The Friday night hail storm brought the kid out on the Idaho Street neighbors as we slouched around on the white paved street. It really played havoc on the vegetation.

The flag pole in the front yard of the rectory has been repainted and other necessary parts replaced. It now flies a beautiful new flag with enhanced lighting showing off Old Glory.

Thanks to the Gateway Foundation for the grant to facilitate the project.

The church parking lot is PRIVATE and for parishioner's use whenever there is an event at the church. With the exception of the rented spaces, all other cars will be tagged and towed.

Visit our online web page to get up-to-date information on the parish – [pointrichmondatholic.org](http://pointrichmondatholic.org).

Aside from the rainy evening, there was a good attendance at the last parish dinner. ABC news reported that church goers weigh more due to all the comfort food consumed!

The 2011 parish directory is complete and was recently distributed. A privacy clause was included, which means exactly that – the information contained is not to be shared. Thanks to the talents of Nicole Cruz who was the graphic designer. It was not an easy task to keep up with the constant changes, but the completion reflects her determination to the finished product.

Families with children of First Communion age who wish to have them prepare for the Sacrament in 2011 should contact Father O'Rourke.

Pancake breakfasts are back in full swing. Eight dollars will buy you a hearty meal and a chance to socialize. Speaking of chance – there is also a raffle with some great prizes. Many are donations made by generous parishioners. Come join us.

The restroom exhaust fans have been properly repaired and electrically are now up to code. A new gate and fence have been installed between the rectory and church. As with all planned repairs, one should always be ready for the unexpected. Such was the case with the installation of the new door on the side of the church when dry rot was discovered and quickly repaired. The alarm system has been updated – thanks to Michael Workman who assisted in this endeavor.

It is the season of Lent. Each year, Operation Rice Bowl invites us to pray with our families and faith communities, fast in solitary with those in hunger, learn more about our global community and the challenges of poverty overseas, and give sacrificial contributions to those in need.

Parish Secretary, Beth Lewin presented a detailed financial report to the Parish Council. The report was approved and now makes it way to the Diocese.

We continue to support the Souper Kitchen, as well as the collection of clothes and food for the needy.

Our ushers all decided not to be present at a recent Mass. Consequently, Brenda McKinley and I broke the barrier and took up the collection. Father was so impressed that he remarked after Mass that he wanted to shout "hooray" from the altar. The daytime bible study class will resume



when facilitator, Vince Kafka, is feeling better.

Our soon-to-be 99 year old Anna Schwarz fell and broke her femur. She is presently in a Greenbrae care facility – get well wishes are sent her way.

Dody Perry celebrated her 93<sup>rd</sup> birthday in March. There was an excellent article on her life in the recent issue of, “Focal Point,” written by Jerry Feagley.

Dai Meagher and family were recent visitors at Sunday Mass. Dai was an active participant on the Parish Council and now resides in Grass Valley.

Condolences to the Doherty family in the recent death of one of our favorite parishioners, Maurice Doherty. He was a bright light to many of us.

Condolences are extended to Michael Schultz in the recent loss of his mother.

The recent rains did not keep many from travel. Stanley Toledo was in Hawaii to visit his brother. (Don’t we all wish we had a brother in Hawaii)? Tom and NaNa Boone visited family in Japan and were fortunate enough to be home prior to the earthquake.

Javier and Christine Lopez were in New York to attend a Carnegie Hall concert. Their niece earned the honor of playing her flute in the Youth Orchestra. Grandson Griffin and his family enjoyed Giant’s spring training in Scottsdale, Arizona.

The celebration of the first birthday of the year in our kindergarten group (she shows us the way) brought my friends to Pt. Richmond. We enjoyed lunch, a walking tour of the Point and endless conversation.

Continue to remember in your prayers: Al Frosini, John Gerk, Frankie Mello, Katherine Workman, Dody Perry, Bill Smith, and Anna Schwarz.

At one time there was a gray striped cat that frequented Sunday Mass. He always arrived late, walked down the center aisle, then sat on the altar. His is a story with a happy ending. “Pete” was recently adopted by the local fire station and now walks “The Triangle” sporting a great collar with his name.

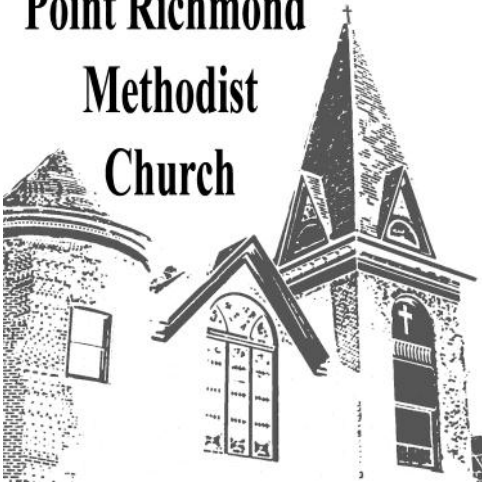
HONK IF YOU LOVE JESUS  
TEXT WHILE DRIVING IF  
YOU WANT TO MEET HIM

See you in church.



*Herring Run photo by Thomas Mercer-Hursh*

# Point Richmond Methodist Church



**It By Jean Reynolds**

510-235-2988

jeanormr@pacbell.net

The Sweetheart Dinner on February 18, allowed us to toast (and roast) the accomplishments and personality of Robert Love, Managing Director of the Masquers' Theater. In the galley of the Point San Pablo Yacht Club, Ingrid procured a new recipe for a tender chicken dish; after they worked to prepared it, her all-volunteer kitchen staff declared they would never exert as much effort again. That menu just became only a savory memory. The program careened between poignant and outrageous. Bob Goshay, Chair of the Masquers' Board, was the Master of Ceremonies; Fran Smith, the ringleader; Mid Dornan, Kris Bell, Coley Grundman, and Pastor Dan Damon, spoke or sang meaningful songs to express their love, respect, and appreciation of Robert. David Vincent, 2010 Sweetheart, passed the scepter. Surprise guests DC Scarpelli and Peter Budinger channeled Robert's grandmother and her companion, respectively, for some of the best laughs of the evening. Robert got a chance to respond to the charges made: he told how much he cares for the Point Richmond community and feels grateful to be part of such a neighborly place. The Joyful Noise Choir sang "The Lord Bless You and

Keep You" for a finale.

Bobby and Pamella Hall's "Bobby Hall and Friends" gospel concert took place on February 20. Bobby comes from a large musical family. He and Pamella bring their music to others: at Green Pastures Church in North Richmond, the Bay Area Rescue Mission, and the prison. Guests from the Fulton Pentecostal Church and other church choirs gathered to rock the roof. As always, it was an uplifting event! Bobby and Pamella recently moved from Richmond to Santa Rosa after their retirement from the U.S. Postal Service. We wish them success in their new community and future endeavors.

Two guests filled the pulpit in February. On February 20, Michelle McGoon, member of El Sobrante UMC, gave us some perspective on what she, as a young adult, needs for church to be relevant in her life. Tracy Barnowe preached on February 27, and shared some of the ideas from her thesis about metaphor in the Bible. Both speakers addressed the idea that mainline churches need to change in order to stay meaningful.

Dee Pitta, Helen Valentine's daughter, held a Women-Helping-Women fund-raiser in Benicia to benefit the church and in remembrance of Helen. Dee's friends sold cosmetics, cooking supplies, health supplements, vintage jewelry and other items, with a portion of the sales going to the church. All who attended got a new appreciation of how far Dee has to drive on Sunday morning when she comes to worship! We are grateful for people who support our church even from such a distance!

Two memorial services took place at the church recently. We celebrated the life of Asa Williams on March 6. People shared stories and poems to highlight parts of Asa's life that only his closest family and friends knew. Asa's generous spirit, creativity, and love for the quirkiness in life were well illustrated. On March 19, a service to remember Mary Murphy Plankers filled the sanctuary to capacity. We knew Mary best as Tammara's mother and MaryAlice's grandmother, but she was a wonderful person in her own right. After the service, people attended a reception at

the Hotel Mac to continue telling their memories of Mary and to support her close family and friends.

Some of the United Methodist Women read Marcus Borg's book "Meeting Jesus Again for the First Time", and had two meetings to discuss it. The women plan to get new chairs to make Friendship Hall more welcoming. They prepared and served dinner for more than sixty people at the GRIP shelter on February 2.

The Point Richmond Acoustic Music Concert Series continues: Songwriter/satirist Roy Zimmermann performed on February 11, Claudia Russell and the Folk Unlimited Orchestra performed March 4, and by the time you read this, the Laurie Lewis and Tom Rozum concert on April 1 will be history. In the Jazz genre, Kurt Ribak Trio played on March 6, with vocals by Shelianni Alix. Kurt and members of his trio play at our Jazz Christmas Eve service, June Jazz, and have recorded with Pastor Dan Damon.

To acknowledge the season of Lent, we met with other United Methodists at St. Luke's UMC on Ash Wednesday, March 9. On March 10, the United Methodist Women met at Good Shepherd UMC to contemplate the work done by retired missionaries and deaconesses.

#### On the Calendar:

Good Friday, April 22, 7:30 p.m. at El Sobrante UMC: A service of music with combined choirs.

Easter, April 24, Worship in the Garden 8:00 a.m.; Breakfast, 9:00 a.m.; Sunday school for all ages, 10:00 a.m.; Traditional Worship, 11:00 a.m.; Easter Egg Hunt follows. Come for any or all!

Fri. April 29, 8 pm - Steve Meckfessel and Chris Kokesh - continuing the Point Richmond Acoustic Concert Series - read more at [www.folkunlimited.com](http://www.folkunlimited.com).

Matt Eakle Band in concert, Saturday, April 30, 8:00 p.m. Hear Point Richmond native Matt Eakle on flute, Jack Dorsey on drums, Alex Baum on bass and Joey Edelman on piano. Discover what flute-fired fusion is all about! Matt joined the David Grisman Quintet in 1989, and is the first wind player to share their front line. He is featured on 14 Acoustic Disc CDs and counting, with the DGQ, Jerry Garcia, Enrique Coria, and as the leader of his own jazz trio. Matt takes people's preconceived notions of what a flute can do and blows them inside out. See: [www.matteakle.com](http://www.matteakle.com) for more info.

Junktique Sale, Saturday, May 7: 9:00 to 3:00. Recycled furniture, electronics, household items, books, toys, and one-of-a-kind finds. Stay for a delicious lunch of soup, chili, hot dogs, and pie-by-the-slice. For donations, the Church basement will be open the 1st and 3rd Tuesday and every Sat. in March and April, from 10 am to 1 pm, for drop offs.

Fri. May 20, 8 pm - Misner and Smith - final show of the spring season of the Point Richmond Acoustic Concert Series - see details at [www.folkunlimited.com](http://www.folkunlimited.com)



*Snow capped Mount Tam, photo by Thomas Mercer-Hursh*

## POINT METHODIST CHURCH HISTORY

*Mid Dornan*

Church history is rich with contributions of women. One church group in the 1920s was the SOCIAL LEAGUE of the First Methodist Episcopal Church whose history is reflected in their minutes printed below and taken from the canvass covered, red leather cornered notebook which cost \$1.15. The minutes are printed as written, this is the 70th installment.

APRIL 16, 1929

The Social League met in the Church parlors April 16th with Mrs. Shaw and Mrs. Hill hostesses for the afternoon. Meeting opened by repeating the Lords Prayer. Minutes of previous meeting were read and approved. Fifteen members answered the roll call. A call meeting to be held after Church Sunday to make final arrangements for the Fellowship dinner May 2nd.

Old Balance	\$30.08
Dues paid-Mrs Dingle	.60
Plate collection	1.60
	\$31.88
Elizabeth Gray	Sec'y

## Chinese Numerology and Feng Shui for 2011

This year we are going to experience four unusual dates:

1/1/11, 1/11/11, 11/1/11, 11/11/11

and that's not all;

Take the last two digits of the year you were born and the age you will be this year and the result will add up to 111 for everyone!!!!

This is the year of MONEY.

Also, this year, October will have 5 Sundays, 5 Mondays & 5 Saturdays. This happens only once every 823 years. These particular years are known as Moneybag years. The proverb goes that if you send this to eight good friends, money will appear in the next four days, as is explained in the Chinese feng shui. Those who don't continue the chain, won't receive. It's a mystery, but it's worth a try. Good luck to you.

*Mid*



PRHA photo  
archive #0040-  
DC from our  
Don Church  
Collection.

Enhanced by  
Thomas  
Mercer-Hursh



# WWIC, Est. 1908

Jane Vandenburg

## *News from the Women's Westside Improvement Club*

Our February get-together, the first of the new year, was a business meeting, chaired by Connie Lompa. We discussed our on-going projects, which include a recipe book, the new map for the spot next to the fire station, the crepe myrtle trees for the town square.

We had a wide ranging discussion about recruiting new members and our future direction, specifically defining what Women's Westside has taken in as its mission in the past, and what might be our direction in the future. Several members discussed the imperative, given these hard economic times, for our members to have the opportunity to participate in service.

On the first of March, and continuing with this theme, Connie invited two speakers to address the club on their organizations. The first was Nathan Trivers, chef/owner of the Point's own Up & Under rugby pub, who calls himself a soldier in the war against hunger. In the City of Richmond it is estimated that one fifth – that is, 20 percent of its population goes to bed at night hungry. This is to say one out of five, including our city's elderly and its children.

He introduced us to the organization his parents have started in Paradise, which is on the outskirts of Chico, about a hundred miles north of Sacramento where the soup kitchen currently feeds approximately 800 households using 10,000 tons of food

Much of this food comes by way on individual donations of nonperishable items, including canned goods and boxes of cereal. Their organization distributes its own distinctively lime green Green Bags, to be filled and collected by volunteers, and asks for no grants from federal, state or country sources. nonperishable foods, canned and boxes

It's called A Simple Gesture: the concept couldn't be more simple, a community feeding its own, using teams to collect bags at homes or designated pick-up spots.

Toward that end the Up & Under held a St Patrick's Day kick-off. For more information on how you might be involved, contact Nathan at the Pub.

We also heard from Deb Dyer, head of the National Institute for Art and Disabilities at 551 23<sup>rd</sup> Street, in Richmond. More information on this center, which provides studio art opportunities for our disabled adults, can be found on the NIAD Facebook page and at [www.niadart.org](http://www.niadart.org).



*PRHA photo archive #0038-DC  
from our Don Church Collection*

*Enhanced by Thomas Mercer-  
Hursh*

# On This Date in KP History

*Steve Gilford*

## **Rosie, the Riveter” Part one**

Ever since Kaiser Permanente’s beginnings in the seven Kaiser shipyards of San Francisco Bay and along the Columbia River, its history has been bound up tightly with the image of “Rosie the Riveter”. Of the four hundred thousand or so workers who passed through the Kaiser yards, at times up to 25% of the workforce there were women. In one yard, the number peaked at 60%!

Today the Rosie image is an inclusive one. She no longer represents only riveters, or even just women. In a way, she has come to stand for all the Home Front workers but still especially the six million women who were a vital part of the wartime labor force. During that time, almost all workers, men and women, in the Kaiser shipyards took advantage of their opportunity to become members of the Permanente Medical Care Program. It was their satisfaction with their care that encouraged pioneer Permanente physicians including Doctors Garfield, Cutting, Collen and Saward to keep the program going by opening it to the public.

Originally, of course, “Rosie the Riveter” had represented solely the women on the Home Front doing jobs that until then had been thought of as “men’s work”. Their on the job experience has had an impact on our society that continues down to the present. The Rosie image continues to resonate with women today because she represents not just a historical period but also a contemporary “We can do it!” spirit. That makes it all the more amazing that although she was destined to become a folk figure, familiar in every part of the nation, her birth was almost accidental.

## **The Search for the “Real” Rosie the Riveter:**

For most people, the phrase “Rosie the Riveter” calls up the familiar “We can do it” image of a physically strong, mentally confident,

attractive working woman; hair bound in a red bandana, one hand rolling up the sleeve on her flexed arm. But it turns out that there were many images representing the millions of real-life Rosies. The almost immediate public affection for the term, “Rosie the Riveter” came about because it expressed a combination of a goal and a reality. The enthusiasm of the media for the phrase has led to confusion as to whether or not there ever was a “real” Rosie and if so, who she might be. The search for her is a very interesting one, with a few surprises.

To begin with, though, it would be useful to know a little about riveting, what it is and how it’s done. It is a fastening technique. A rivet is a short metal rod with a head at one end. It’s heated until it’s red hot. Then it’s driven through specially cut holes in the two pieces that are to be joined. While the rivet’s still hot, the other end is hammered so it spreads over the hole, holding the two parts together. Sybil Lewis, an African-American wartime riveter for Lockheed Aircraft in Los Angeles described the process this way:

“The women worked in pairs. I was the riveter and this big, strong, white girl from a cotton farm in Arkansas worked as the ‘bucker’. The riveter used a gun to shoot rivets through the metal and fasten it together. The buckner used a bucking bar on the other side of the metal to smooth out the rivets. Bucking was harder than shooting rivets; it required more muscle. Riveting required more skill.”

## **A record-breaking Rosie:**

On June 8, 1943, at a Tarrytown, NY aircraft factory, a riveter named Rose “Rosie” Bonavita and her buckner, Jennie Fiorito, set a production record. In one shift, they drove an astonishing 3,345 rivets into the tail assembly of an Avenger torpedo bomber. For this, Rose Bonavita was immediately dubbed “Rosie the Riveter” by

the press and she received a personal letter of commendation from President Roosevelt.

Although she isn't well known to the general public, the late Ms. Bonavita has had some lasting fame due to her achievement. In a list compiled five years ago at Holy Cross College in Worcester, Massachusetts, she was named as one of 100 outstanding Italian American women along with actress Pier Angeli, politician Geraldine Ferraro, singer Liza Minelli, athlete Jennifer Capriatti and even the saint, Mother Cabrini.

More than 60 years later, Rosie Bonavita's achievement still inspires. In her honor, her hometown baseball team of Cortland (NY) has chosen to call itself, "The Riveters".

### **The familiar Rosie**

Rosie Bonavita was not the first "Rosie the Riveter" though. Before she and her buckler set a riveting record, the Rosie that most people today associate with the name was already a face familiar to millions of Americans.

The "We Can Do It" Rosie was the creation of J. Howard Miller, a graphic artist at the Westinghouse Corporation. At the time, the federal government was encouraging industries to recruit women. This poster was Westinghouse's contribution. Created in 1942, this Rosie image might rightfully lay claim to being the original except that strangely enough, when it was produced it had nothing to do with either Rosies or Riveting. That connection would be made later. (I'll get to how that happened in a follow-up article.) However, if this woman was not Rosie, who was she?

In the poster, she was an originally an anonymous woman doing a nonspecific job. Her purpose was to encourage women to go out and take jobs in the war industries. There was a serious labor shortage as more and more able-bodied men were being siphoned out of the labor force and into the military. Even before the poster came out, some women were already filling those jobs. One of them was Ethel Kelly

Early in World War Two, nineteen-year-old Ethel Kelly, like so many other small town women of that time, got on a bus and headed west. She found a

job at

Lockheed Aviation in Burbank, CA, working on the swing shift.

Sixty years later, Mrs. Kelly was traveling again. She

was touring with the Smithsonian Institution/ Humanities

Councils wartime exhibit, "Produce for Victory" though small towns in Mississippi as the woman who had inspired J Howard Miller's famous poster. A local paper asked rhetorically, "Who would have thought that a young, newly married woman from Delhi, LA whose husband was serving in Europe, would hop a bus to Burbank, CA to work the swing shift in a plant for the war effort would wind up being one of the most recognizable faces from the era?" By an odd coincidence, Ethel Kelly had worked as a riveter at Lockheed.

End of part one of *A Search for the "real" Rosie the Riveter*



*Ethel Kelly -2002 recreating the famous pose*

*Ahead: Hollywood finds a real Rosie; The WINKS; The Rosie of Richmond; the role of copyright, and an interview with a woman with a rightful claim to being the original Rosie*

© 2004 Steve Gilford Sageprod@aya.yale.edu

# Thomas' Photo Gallery



*Left PRHA archive  
Rentfro, Right PRH  
#0603-DC, Lower l  
photo #0604-DC an  
PRHA archive phot*

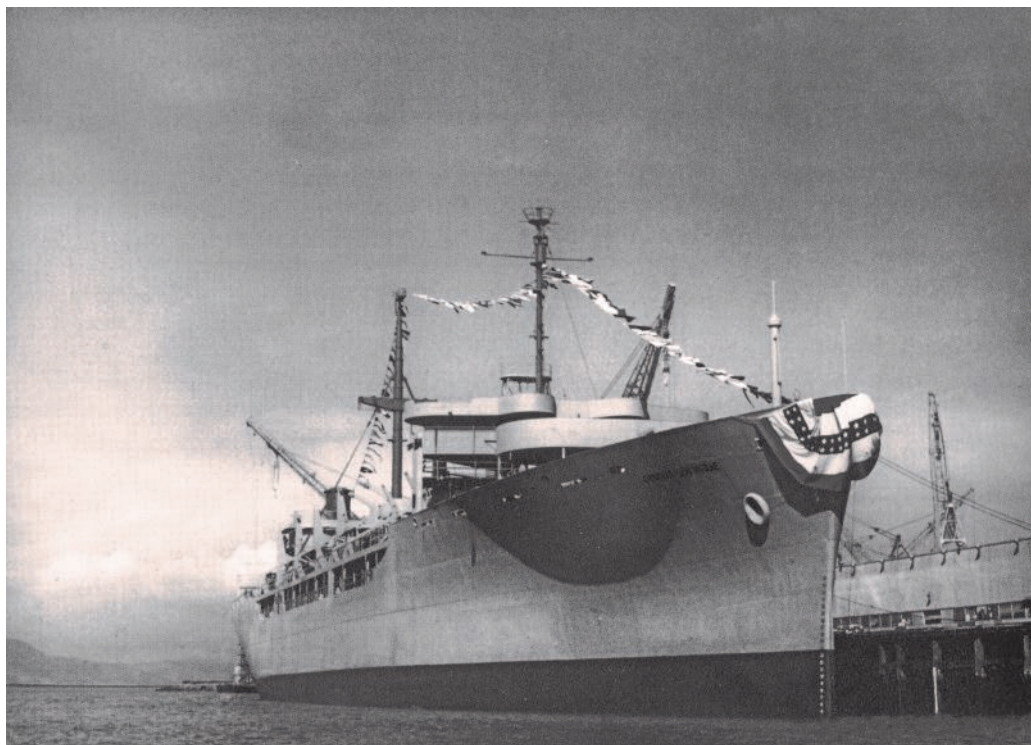
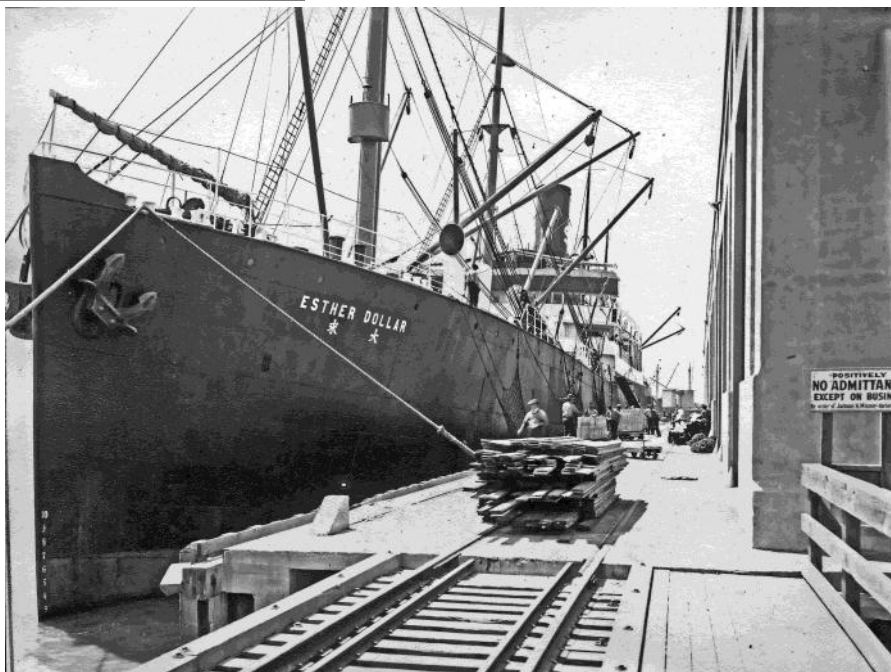
*All photos have bee  
Thomas Mercer-Hu*





photo #0691-  
PRHA archive photo  
left PRHA archive  
and lower right is  
photo #0692-Rentfro.

enhanced by  
Marsh



# The Marriage of Bette & Boo

## *at the Masquers*

*A review by Theresa de Valencé, TdeV@bstw.com*

This is the stuff of which nightmares are made: bad memories and worse imaginings from childhood, pretending to be funny. *The Marriage of Bette and Boo* is directed by **DC Scarpelli** and **Peter Budinger**. Written by **Christopher Durang**, the show draws close parallels to his own troubled youth. For many, parts of the story are all too true—an upbringing immersed in Catholicism, eccentric relatives, and friends with crazy families.

Lots of *Masquers*' royalty is involved with this production which is evident everywhere.

Set Designer **DC Scarpelli** and crew did a beautiful job. Before the play opens, we sense the bridal theme. Set changes and mood are simply, cleverly created. The show is presented as a series of snapshots from the photo album of the characters' lives. I never notice lighting, here Designer **Rob Bradshaw** accomplishes wonderful effects.

Costuming (Designer **Maria Graham**, Construction **Bella Scarpelli**, Makeup **Robert Love**) is a perfect mix of simplicity and sophistication. Surprisingly, nearly everyone is a redhead.

**Jerry Telfer**, father of the groom, has found a superlative rôle as Karl, curmudgeon. Karl looks

bored by others' entrenched following of religious dogma. He takes out his frustration by violating social customs of polite behaviour. He enjoys breaking these rules! Jerry wins my award for Actor Most Enjoying Himself and has a smashing tie.

Soot (**Nancy Sale**) has found a way to tolerate her husband Karl's verbal abuse by emotionally withdrawing. Soot retains what's important: she is very gracious. How anyone could respond to Karl's viciousness with giggling playfulness is beyond belief. Perhaps it helps her survive, but it does nothing for those needing to rely on her.

Paul (**David Weiner**), father of the bride, has recently had a stroke. It is irrelevant that he's unable to speak clearly, because no one is listening to him anyway. Funnily enough, in David's second speech-impaired rôle, I understood him well. He is an ineffectual member of the family dynamic. Could Paul have chosen a more positive rôle in this family?

Margaret (**Ellen Brooks**), mother of the bride, is a gorgeous matriarch in exciting dress. I wonder if everyone likes dressing Ellen? Margaret openly states her priorities: given the choice between healthy successful children living at a distance and emotionally crippled children living near home, she would and has chosen the latter. Did she form them or did they choose to be who they are? She hustles her misfit chicks around, lecturing them to "play nice" through thick and thin and holiday dinners.

Emily (**Vicki Zabarte**), sister of the bride, takes Catholic devotion to a new low. In spite of perpetual confession, she never expiates her guilt. She's prone to histrionic outbursts. Having to go to confession because of her cello is laugh-out-loud funny. She does a beautiful sympathetic birth delivery. She is the only family member who makes any attempt to relate to her nephew Matt, but even this is inadequate.

Joan (**Anne Collins**), sister of the bride, illustrates that teen siblings generally hate each other and some people never grow up. Although a minor character, Joan conveys meaning with every twitch of the eyebrow. And she clearly knows a great deal about what it's like to be pregnant. She has good reason to be angry, but has chosen to let anger dominate her life.



*L to R: Michelle Pond, Robert Love, Craig Eychner.  
Photos by Jerry Telfer, Adam Telfer..*

**Robert Love** plays Father Donnally and the Doctor with amusingly rapid costume changes. The Doctor offends us once or twice, then is gone. From Father Donnally, one might expect some comfort, but it never arrives—just another added lunacy. Father is passionate but wholly ineffective, though not unaware of his deficiencies. On some level I can't believe that anyone who had a religious upbringing could get so little value from it, so I find Durang's Father Donnally vicious.

Bette (**Michelle Pond**) is a self-centred bitch. In the beginning—for a few seconds—Bette is lovely and sweet, as all brides are, but then her self-absorption takes over. She's preoccupied with her husband's drinking even though she may be driving him to it. She is obsessed with babies even when she shouldn't be. There's not much room in her life for anything else, including her son when he is no longer a baby. Considering her mother, Bette's attitudes are not so surprising, but at what point does a person become responsible for her own life?

Boo (**Craig Eychner**) is a boor. I wanted to like him in spite of his early appearance as a vacuous young man—I thought perhaps, like all men in love, he just *looked* silly.

For some reason, we all want to choose sides in an argument—early on, I wanted to defend Boo's first drink. Soon enough, though, he's had too much. Boo's devotion to his wife takes no more notice of who she is than she does of him. Eventually, he becomes a maudlin old soak with reddened eyes. And never along that path does he connect with his son.

Matt (**Peter Budinger**), son of Bette and Boo, is trying to understand his life, often in relation to literature, usually unsuccessfully. Like everyone else, he wants relationships which may not be possible. Matt looks for guidance (in all the wrong places); we watch him play up to his mother, ignore the priest, and his father. He is the only character for whom we feel any warmth, but he, too, is wrapped in his own world. It's not clear that he could accept nurturing should he succeed in finding it. He's continually making half-hearted attempts to relate to his family, failing, and abandoning them.

These characters are sharp and brilliantly drawn. Not one of them is admirable, some of them



quite savage. But they are all too believable. The *story* didn't make sense to me because I couldn't understand why anyone would voluntarily spend time here. I found very little of the play funny.

But—I was clearly in the minority—the audience screeched with laughter. Directors DC and Peter wrote “No one exposes the cruelties and indignities of life with the same level of hilarity as Durang. The desperate and completely thwarted needs of his characters—as well as their total inability to communicate—translates into laughter of the highest stakes kind: the kind born of desperate pain.”

The audience clearly agreed with them. Maybe you will too.

*This is the 8th season Theresa de Valencé has reviewed Masquers performances. All her reviews can be found at [www.ReviewsByTdeV.com](http://www.ReviewsByTdeV.com). Subscription to the electronic list is free, send an email with “subscribe” in the subject to [Theresa@ReviewsByTdeV.com](mailto:Theresa@ReviewsByTdeV.com).*





# *Early Days, History of the City of Richmond*

*By Bill Foster*

***Apparently this was written by Mr. Foster in 1954. I would like to know more about Bill Foster and will share any information with our TPIT readers. Gary.***

## ***Installment #3***

The people of the town had fear in their hearts at all times. First the Powder Works would blow up and shake the town from Pinole. Then one would go off at Giant which would rock the town and to top it off about every month an agitator would blow her top at the Refinery and out went most of the windows in the town. Then came the big shake, the 1906 Earthquake; hills rolled, chimneys came down and the Santa Fe round house folded up and a lot of brick work at the Refinery collapsed, especially chimneys. The refugees came pouring into the town which was another busy place tents went up on every lot in town with people cooking in the streets and sleeping here and there.

It was a sight for sore eyes as the town went on and on and got bigger. Then the 2<sup>nd</sup> City Hall went up on Washington Avenue in 1909. It was a two story building and regular councilmen were elected and seated. Dr. Abbott's house on the corner of Santa Fe and Cottage was used as a hospital until he built the first hospital in town across the street from the Catholic Church. They had bad fires at the oil plant and the ben were

burned bad and the hospital did big business from there on. The town shook off the name of East Yards to the name of Point Richmond after the city was in the hands of a City Council. The water in the town was vile, tasting like rotten eggs and very hard. Sickness was on the go from the water (dead cats were found in it). Water came from wells in San Pablo before they got good drinking water piped from Oakland.

Then the big time came in 1910. Pat Dean got the Nelson and Walgast fight for Point Richmond. They built a big outdoor ring seating 20,000 persons. It rained hard the night before the fight and kids came over from San Francisco selling newspapers to sit on for 25¢ each. The fight was on and in the middle of it, it poured again. They fought forty two rounds in the rain. Wolgast won and after the fight he ran to the dressing room back of Pat Dean's saloon, mud from head to toes. Lots of cars came from the city of San Francisco and Oakland and when the fight was over, they went for their cars and all were down to the floor boards in mud. George Dimmick, the express man, was all the next day pulling autos out to dry land with his horses. It was a big day for him. The town jumped from a couple of thousand to 20,000 on that day. It was a banner day for the saloons. I saw every round from a nearby telephone pole looking down on the fighters. Wolgast never got over that fight. He took an awful beating from Nelson and he died in a crazy house in Southern California. Just lately, Nelson died in Chicago penniless in a cheap room. He was 70 years old.



He also was an old age pensioner. Wine, women and song took him for his role and he had plenty. When he was fighting he once owned a big ranch at Livermore.

Point Richmond grew and grew and the Standard Oil Company built a big factory out at Point Orient and the Santa Fe and SP hauled the workers out there on what was called the Belt Line. Over 200 girls worked there. Then the biggest winery went up out there called Winehaven with free wine and eats. They ran excursion boats to it weekly from San Francisco. A large shrimp cam run by Chinese was located near Winehaven. It was quite a Chinatown. They hauled tons of shrimps from Red Rock and dried them and sent them to China.

A big rock quarry started up next to the shrimp camp. Then the oil company put in a Long Wharf for the shipment of oil by tanker. Then the Richmond Brick Yard popped up next to the ferry and they made the best bricks on the coast. (It was at the location of the present police rifle range.) By 1900 there were three brickyards going, the Central at the site of the present Standard Oil Company Rod and Gun Club, the Richmond mentioned above and the Union located in the Terrace area of the Point. San Pablo was a bigger town than the Point at the time. Billie Belding ran a store, grocery, etc. at San Pablo and used to deliver groceries twice a week at the Point. Julius Stievater was the grocery at the Point on Richmond Avenue, near the tunnel. His store was three stories and the Mason's Lodge met over his store. Belding quit making deliveries after he was shut out by the Point's stores. Tony Silva was the only barber in town (Wise came later), 15 ¢ shaves and 15¢ haircuts. Later he moved to Richmond proper and took up undertaking under Bert Curry.

Mr. Bly and Tom Conn were early day settlers

on top of the hill district. You could stand on the hilltops and look over present Richmond. It was a vast swamp with a tent here and a house there. Until the big day came in the future Richmond could not decide where the main street should go. The Southern Pacific dumped the passengers off at Barrett Street. Then the people thought Barrett Avenue was it. At the time it was called Richmond Blvd so a little bunch of houses popped up and was known as A, B and C streets and they called it the "Old Town. A big hotel went up to start it off call the Golden West Hotel. Santa Fe employees put up there and then Ohio Street sprang up. Maple Hall was built at 3<sup>rd</sup> and Ohio. Then came Dr. Blake with the Post Office and drug store and a bakery at 7<sup>th</sup> and Ohio.

Then the old Santa Fe hotel was put up and they built a board walk from it to the Santa Fe shops across the marshes, diagonal from 1<sup>st</sup> and Ohio to the depot. This walk was covered up when they dredged the inner harbor and pumped the mud into the area from 1<sup>st</sup> and McDonald to Ohio and up to what is now Garrard Avenue. Also there was a laundry back of the hotel. Then McEwen started the first water works back of Florida Street for the town again. The people thought Ohio was it for sure. It went that way for a few years until one day the Santa Fe took down the fences in front of the depot and Dooling Brothers scraped a little road down as far as 6<sup>th</sup> Street. I rode the grader the day McDonald Avenue came to life. Then business houses started along McDonald Avenue.

*I am typing this as written, I don't understand some of the last paragraph either....Gary*

*To be continued in the next issue.....*



# Herds of Herring

*by George Coles and Pat Pearson*

*Technical aid from Bruce and Sandra Beyaert*

And you thought it was just another “fish story”!

We moderately aged fogies have been telling you for years of the herring runs of the fifties and sixties but you didn’t believe them.

Now, if you looked at the bay this February we are restored to our credibility. So, I’ll tell you of the good old days again.

Early on a February morning the shout would go out all over the neighborhood:

THE HERRING ARE RUNNING !!! THE HERRING ARE RUNNING !!!

In various states of attire and ignoring the sometimes cold February weather, Point Richmonders emerged and charged to the shorelines particularly to Kozy Kove.

Ted Fostiak, Walter Horn, Leland (Punk) Vaughn, Andy Anderson, Chuck Reynolds, Frank Pearson, and others would show up with their jars and whatever for massive pickling. Rodney Payne’s bagpipes could be heard all over the area. Vail Hammond and

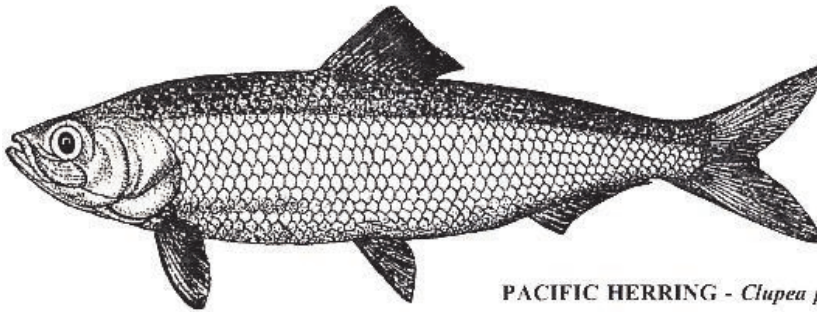
Maury Barusch dragged out the barbeques. Jack Knox rushed down with the charcoal and thousands of herring doomed to be barbequed

All the women entered into the fray, many dreading the fish strewn debris and trying to herd the various human offspring into reasonably safe behavior in spite of the excitement.

The herring came in in quantities unbelievable. If you wore boots into the water they would fill with fish. Though generally the female population of the town had too many children to allow major liberated participation, I recall one woman handing her baby to Sheila Fostiak and jumping fully clothed into the water at Hammond’s. She emerged jubilantly with herring wiggling in the top of her bra and one fish in each hand.

The Fish and Game Warden showed up a couple of times to harvest this bonanza of unlicensed fishing folks, but gave up in the face of this frantic mobile mob.

This February the Pacific Herring descended upon Point Richmond shores in quantities as in our historic past. They had been offshore in deeper waters maturing, and when ready to spawn they came to the shallows from Ferry Point to Long Wharf. Whenever a suitable substrata such as eel grass, rocks or algae were available, the males released milt in the shallow waters and this triggers spawning by the females causing exuding of the adhesive eggs.



**PACIFIC HERRING - *Clupea pallasii***

The fish are not the only life involved. Gulls scream as they find roe washing ashore, and the sea lions come in barking along with the harbor seals. These 8 - 16 inch fish are too good to resist.

Diving ducks, such as scoters, scaup, ruddy ducks and buffleheads gobble up eggs, a fresh change from their usual worms, snails and clams. Dabbling ducks such as mallards and wigeons, unable to dive, grab eggs from fragments of the eel grass broken off by the dabbling ducks.

As spawning is going on we hear the barking of the sea mammals. This stops when the herring cease the spawning, but the elated birds remain as long as they can find eggs.

The gestation period is usually between ten and nineteen days and this leads to another flurry of feasting by the birds with some return of the sea mammals to feast on the newly hatched.

Beginning in 1973, major commercial fishing in the bay harvested as much as 12,000 tons of herring per year to obtain the eggs. Under

this impact the herring runs became almost not noticeable. Last year there was a moratorium on commercial herring fishing, and this year (2011) fishing was halted on January 28 when the fleet caught their quota in less than a month.

Though Point Richmond humans seem for now to have lost all but their visual interest in herring runs, it is great to have the herring back. If they continue to run next year, we may provide some competition for the sea mammals and avian feasters!!!

## More on our 2010 Herring Run.....

A video of the recent herring run in the Point was forwarded to several former Point Residents. Below are comments from two former Boy Scouts.

“I remember when I was growing up my father used to bring home herring. He would put them in a barrel and cover them with salt. I didn't like them and never ate them but my parents loved them.”

-Gene Clements, (Mission Viejo)

“Thanks so very much. It brings back many memories! As a kid, I used to haunt the area around the AT&SF ferry and the area around the old Parr Terminal. Where the tunnel road ended, there used to be a small wharf on the right side, just past an even smaller diner. I used to fish there a LOT and the areas around and under the piers. I met a man there once, and he had a big, square net that he was putting in the water. I asked why? He answered, for the herring. Sure enough, after a few minutes in the water, he hauled it out, and I had to help him as it was loaded with those silvery fish. He then proceeded to put them into

lined boxes and salt them down. I recall two or maybe three more years when the herring were in, and I went to the same place and helped the same guy!

Thanks for the memories!”  
Les Hathaway, Jackson, CA

-Mid



*Herring Run photo  
by  
Thomas Mercer-  
Hursh*



# Gateway Foundation Award

The Point Richmond History Association has received a grant from The Point Richmond Gateway Foundation to fund the “Windows On The Past”. This program will display historic photos and narrative information in the windows of many of the historic buildings in downtown Point Richmond.

The Gateway Foundation was established as a non-profit corporation which owns the Trainmaster Building, now occupied by the Mechanics Bank. The Foundation grants are awarded for projects in Point Richmond. The Point Richmond History Association has received grants for projects for the last three years.

This Project, “Windows on the Past” will have small plaques mounted on foam board that will be displayed in the windows of historic buildings in Point Richmond. There will be a short history of the building and a picture of either the property as it was originally built, or a historic street view from the property. We hope to have some plaques in place for the month of May, Historic Preservation Month, and the month for the annual meeting of the Point Richmond History Association. The History Association sincerely thanks the Gateway Foundation for their generous grants.

-Pat Pearson



## ***Barn Stormers***

***Following World War I, at times, individual aviators took passengers for open cockpit airplane rides (for \$5 or \$10 fee) from the pasture area between Richmond and Point Richmond (where shipyard workers were later housed during World War II).***

***Harold Shawl***

# *Birthdays*

## *April*

LOOF LIRPA  
Kathy Barnes  
Roberta Palfini  
Karilu Crain  
Tara Kaufman  
Ruth Wilson  
Paula Israeli  
Robert J. Palfini  
Pam Wilson

Don Amantite  
Joel Peterson  
Lori Meister  
Charlotte Knox  
Anna Schwartz  
Monica Doherty  
Eric Hoiland  
Melissa Allyln Delio  
Alison Lord

John Maxwell  
Sherri Mertle  
Taylor Bradshaw  
Carol MacDiarmid  
Rosemary Corbin  
Darian Peckham  
Terry Downey  
David Bradshaw  
Sharon Mertle

Charline Barni  
Cynthia Wilson Quist  
David Roth  
Joni Loux Emerson  
Donna Diaz  
Gloria Groff Smith  
Charlene Smith

## *May*

Douglas Corbin  
Diana Corbin  
Diana Spinola  
Patricia Dornan  
Richard Mattuecci  
Becky Horn  
Jon Doellstedt  
Sara Eeles  
Vern Doellstedt  
Rena Gonsalves  
Lyle Fisher

Sandra Loux Fuller  
Maurice Doherty  
Muriel Clausen  
Ruth Beardsley  
Nell Brooker  
Julian Smith  
Anne-Catherine Hadreas  
Marg Miller  
Roger Glafke  
Shoney Gustafso  
Winifred Boziki

Jackson Bradshaw  
Gene Bielawski  
Norm Reynolds  
Charles Palenchar  
Adolph Higuera  
Jack Murray  
John Knox, Jr.  
Diana McIntosh  
Dale Huffstetter  
Mary L. Roth  
John Granado

Sophia Dolberg  
Tonita Avila Granado  
Mark Healy  
Michelle Healy  
Norma Jean Wallace  
Lauren McClead  
Julina Smith



# EXCLUSIVE OVER 90 CLUB

*An impressive list that grows each month.*

Gretchen Van Tassel Shaw - 93

Anna Schwarz - 99

Al Frosini - 93

Shoney Gustafson 96

Madelilne Bellando Albright - 94

Charlotte Kermabon Birsinger - 94

Lupe Padilla Lopez - 97

Steve Wyrick - 95

Bernard Dietz - 95

Avis Blanchette - 97

Roger Wiese - 95

Eunice Ruth Hursh - 94

Dody Perry - 94

Betty Dornan - 92

Edna Hathaway - 92

Jerry Cerkowicz, Sr. - 91

Mark Gebhart - 97

Delphina Franco Tawney -93

Harry Gondola - 91

Anne M. Gondola - 98

## MORE EXCLUSIVE OVER 100 CLUB

Rena Cairo Gonsalves- 100

*Age is not a number, it is an attitude.*

**Please send corrections and additions to “Over 90 Club” to [midornan@sbcglobal.net](mailto:midornan@sbcglobal.net) or call 510-234-5334**



## TEST YOUR COIN AND STAMP KNOWLEDGE

1. What does the “S” mint mark on coins mean?
2. What was the first coin to feature the motto “In God We Trust”.
3. Who has appeared on more stamp designs than anyone else?
4. Who is the only woman to be featured on a State Quarter?
5. Which country issued the 8-reales (“pieces of eight”) coin that inspired the U.S. dollar coin.
6. What was the final year in which gold coins were issued for circulation?

*Answers on the next page.*

*-Mid*

# *Deaths.....*

**Maurice A. Doherty** died at home on March 7, 2011. Age 81. Maurice was born in Glasgow, Scotland, and moved to the Point in 1969. He was a long time member of Our Lady of Mercy Parish. Maurice enjoyed participating in a variety of sports especially tennis, soccer, sailing, walking and lawn bowling. He was a student and supporter of the Arts and a founding member of Arts of Point Richmond. He was a major force in helping create the four mini parks along the Point Waterfront; completing the work started by Lucretia Edwards. Maurice left a legacy of Love, Learning, Laughter and Life. He is survived by his wife, Margaret, children Clare, Monica Murphy, Terence, Timothy and seven grandchildren. The Funeral Mass was on March 10 at Holy Spirit Newman, Berkeley, where Maurice was active in the Loaves and Fishes program. The Point Richmond Neighborhood Council closed their meeting on Wednesday in his memory and another mini park bench will be built.

**Asa Williams** died on Feb. 19, 2011. Age 86. A longtime resident of Point Richmond, Asa was a Tax Assessor for Contra Costa County and enjoyed traveling. Asa was a colorful Point legend. He is survived by his brother Robinson; daughters Casada and Lisa; and son Geoffrey. Memorial services were held at the Point First United Methodist Church.

**David Macdiarmid** died on February 15, 2011 in Elk Grove. Age 68. A Point Richmond resident, David served on the Richmond City Council and many years on the Contra Costa College District Board. When he retired he and his wife Carol, moved to El Grove in 2009 to be near their daughter, Karolyn and granddaughter Katrina MacDiarmid. Memorial services are pending in West Contra Costa.

**Avis Blanchette** died February 15, 2011. Age 94. Avis was a police officer in Kaiser Shipyard #3 during WWII and moved to Point Richmond in 1946. In 1989 she retired from Pro Audio in Oakland. She was married to Ward Blanchette for 64 years before his passing in 1998. She was a long time member of the Women's Westside Improvement Club and is survived by her nieces and nephews.

**David William King** died March 24, 2011, age 61. He was 4th generation of the Petaluma King family, descended from John J. King (Coelho), who immigrated from the Azores. David grew up in the Penngrove-Petaluma area. David was always a great salesman and used this talent throughout his adult life, working in many different settings wherever he was living. For over the past ten years he was an office manager and salesman in Point Richmond. He will be remembered for his hearty laugh and great sense of humor. A memorial mass was held on April 2nd at Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church.

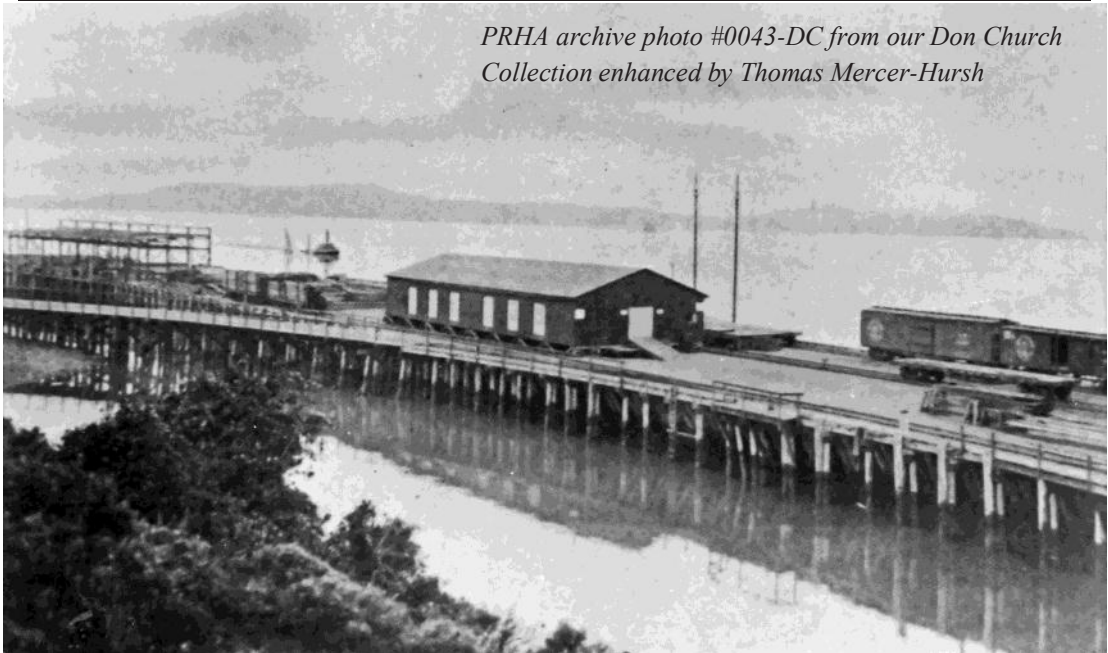


## ANSWERS TO COIN AND STAMP QUIZ

1. The coin was struck at the U.S. mint in San Francisco
2. Two-cent (1864)
3. George Washington
4. Helen Keller, on the 2003 Alabama coin.
5. Spain. It was struck in its New World territories such as Mexico.

*Mid*

*PRHA archive photo #0043-DC from our Don Church  
Collection enhanced by Thomas Mercer-Hursh*



### ***Deaths.....***

**Phyllis Partridge** died peacefully in her sleep at home January 29, 2011. A former City of Berkeley Head Librarian and avid researcher, Phyllis was passionately curious about people and the world. Phyllis grew up in Chicago Illinois during the “Great Depression”. At the age 19, Phyllis married the love of her life, freshman English professor Alfred Partridge. Later Phyllis received a MS at UCB in Library Science. Phyllis instilled the belief that it is important to lead a principled life and to continue to learn at all ages. She is survived by her brothers John and Tom Bottomley and their wives Anne and Peg; her children Julia, John and Dan Partridge and her grandchildren Noah, Owen, Chris, Ben and Tamisen.

# *CALENDAR/DIRECTORY*

## **ARTS OF POINT RICHMOND**

Meets third Wednesday of each month 7-9 at the Pt. Community Center, Contact: Linda Drake, 510672-0793

## **CHRISTIAN SCIENCE READING ROOM**

510-223-0487

## **GOLDEN STATE MODEL RAILROAD MUSEUM AND EAST BAY MODEL ENGINEERS SOCIETY**

900 Dornan Drive, Miller/Knox Regional Park. Sunday 12:00 to 5:00. Special openings on Saturdays and Holidays. 510-234-4884 for details.

## **MANY HANDS PROJECT TO SUPPORT WASHINGTON SCHOOL**

Contact, Margaret Morkowski, 510-234-4219

## **MASQUERS PLAYHOUSE**

Quality productions, Fridays and Saturdays at 8 pm, Sunday Matinees at 2:30 pm. Tickets are \$18-\$20. Dinner at the Hotel Mac and the play on Thursday, for only \$50. Call 510-232-4031 for reservations.

## **PARENTS, RESOURCES AND MORE (PRAM)**

A volunteer, nonprofit organization serving families with children 5 or under. Playgroups, social events, educational opportunities, Information go to <http://www.PRAM.net> or call 510-215-1734.

## **PARENT, TEACHER ASSOCIATION**

Becky Jonas, President, 510-235-0157

## **POINT RICHMOND BUSINESS ASSOCIATION**

Meets 2nd Wednesday each month, Hotel Mac, 12-1:30, Contact: Jake Smith, 510-231-4787.

## **POINT RICHMOND COMMUNITY CENTER**

Info: 233-6881

## **POINT RICHMOND HISTORY ASSOCIATION**

Museum is at 139½ Washington Avenue, and open Winter, Thursday's 11:30 to 2:00 and Saturday 11:30 to 2:00 and Summer, Wednesday 4:30 to 7:00 and Thursday's 11:30 to 2:00. The deadline for the next issue of TPIT is Friday May 27, 2011. Info call President Mildred Dornan at 510-234-5334.

## **POINT RICHMOND NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**

Meets last Wednesday each month, Point Richmond Community Center; 7:30 P.M Contact: Peter Minkwitz, President, 510-232-3663

## **POINT RICHMOND VILLAGE**

"Helping You Help Yourself" Contact: Linda Newton, Chairman 510-235-0081

## **POINT RICHMOND/WEST SIDE BRANCH LIBRARY**

Information call 510-620-6567

## **RED OAK VICTORY**

Open Saturday, Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday 10am - 3pm. \$5 donation for adults, \$4 seniors, \$2 children. Sunday Breakfast September 10th and October 12th, 9 am - 1 pm, \$6 adults children FREE

## **SAVE THE PLUNGE TRUST**

Contact: Rosemary Corbin, 510-235-5779

## **WASHINGTON SCHOOL**

Washington School at 565 Wine Street offers traditional and Spanish dual immersion curriculum, K - 6th grade. Contact principal Lisa Levi at 231-1417 for more information.

## **WOMEN'S WESTSIDE IMPROVEMENT CLUB (established 1908)**

Richmond's longest standing women's club. Contact: Connie Lompa , President. 510-237-7888

I would like to join the P.R.H.A.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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**521 Western Drive**  
**Point Richmond, CA 94801**

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

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**

or  
**email: [gary@alkos.com](mailto:gary@alkos.com)**

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