

THIS POINT... in time

NEWSLETTER

The Point Richmond History Association

www.PointRichmondHistory.org

Vol. XXVIII No. 5

April/May, 2010

\$3.00



Now



Then

The Point Richmond History Association's
Annual Meeting

Sunday

May 23rd

Point Richmond Community Center

139 Washington Avenue

Watch for your postcard with times and program
details

From the President

By Mid Dornan

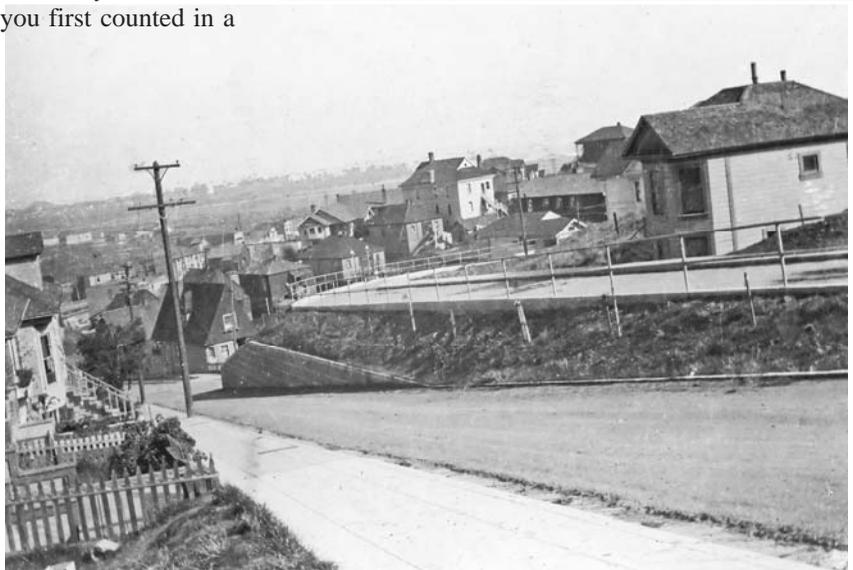
HAVE YOU BEEN COUNTED? It is that time of decade again. Article 1, Section 2 of the U.S. Constitution, calls for an “actual Enumeration” of the population every 10 years in order to determine how many Representatives each state gets in the House. In addition to its role in doling out congressional seats the Census influences the allocation of more than \$400 billion dollars in federal funds that offset the lives of some 300 million Americans. Funds that are distributed to schools, police and fire, libraries, hospitals, transit districts and local governments. Be sure you are counted. The simplified questionnaire has only ten questions, the shortest of any census.

In 1910 Richmond was #4 in population in the East Bay with 6,802 people. Many of these came from San Francisco after the 1906 Earthquake. In 2000, Richmond had grown to 99,216 .

Were you ever a census taker? Do you have any Census stories? We would like you to share them with TPIT. When were you first counted in a census?

“Castro Street in the foreground with West Richmond Avenue in back. The homes built by Mr. Page are located at the location at present, 1912”, caption by Don Church.

*PRHA Photo Archive #00637
-Don Church*



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Thank you members for your renewal:

- David & Carol MacDiarmid Family**
- David B. Smith**
- Brenda M. McKinley**
- Doug & Rosemary Corbin****
- Jack Mormon**
- Simeon J. Burtner**
- Harry & Olga Thomsen**
- Marion Kent**
- Alyce Williamson**
- Sandi Genser-Maack & Lynn Maack****
- Nellie Bisio Pasquini**
- Frank Kenny**
- Maurice A. Doherty**
- Kathe Kiehn****
- Donna Wilson****
- Roger Glafke**
- Transcept Pharmaceuticals, Inc.****
- Dixie Mello**

And a warm welcome to these new members

Deb & Umesh 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:

Thursday 11:30 am to 2:00 pm

Saturday 11:30 am to 2:00 pm

After May 12th:

Wednesday 4:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Thursday 11:30 - 2:00 pm

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

- **Betty Dornan**
- **Bruce and Ann Bartram**
- **Pat Pearson**
- **Mid Dornan**
- **Bonnie Jo Cullison**
- **Susan Brooks**
- **Anita Christiansen**
- **Sonja Darling**
- **Margaret Morkowski**

The Cover:

Lower image is PRHA archive image #0657-DC from our Don Church Collection enhanced by Thomas Mercer-Hursh (we invite our readers to help us date this picture). The upper modern photo by Thomas Mercer-Hursh

Editor's Notes

Gary Shows (510-235-1336)

Here's your Spring TPIT!

My usual thanks to our efficient staff for getting everything to me in a very timely fashion. That made this a very easy issue to assemble.

Thanks to Paul Dunlop of New Zealand for continuing our collection of information on Professor Botts and his flying machine. This keeps up and we are going to be the prime source of information on this subject. I welcome more information or thoughts on the Professor and his activities.

The next issue will be our summer issue and its deadline is May 28th.

Thank to the last issue newsletter assembly crew:

Ann Bartram
Bruce Bartram
Pam Wilson
Mid Dornan
Tom Piazza
Bonnie Jo Cullison
Sonja Darling
Pat Pearson



Thank You! Our Special Supporters!

History Makers

Doug & Rosemary Corbin
Kathe Kiehn
Transcept Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
Christopher Spencer

Corporate Sponsor

Timeworks Inc. Clock Company
Stephanie, Patti & Stephen Kowalski
First Church of Christ, Scientist

History Preservers:

Royce Ong
Edward J. McGarvey
Gilda Markarian
Kevin, Renee & Griffin Knee
Jean & John Knox
Sandi Genser-Maack & Lynn Maack
Thomas Mercer-Hursh & Theresa de Valencé
John & Nancy Mengshol
Donna Wilson
Linda Andrew-Marshall
Margaret Morkowski
Patricia Dornan
Bob & Ellie Strauss
Norm Hantzsche
Maurice A. Doherty



A-Mid Trivia

Mid Dornan (510-234-5334)

Q: What three words, phrases, do Americans consider the most annoying, most grating and detest?

Answer at the of Trivia

Happy birthday Anna Schwarz who is an April Fools Day birthday at 98!

Best Wishes to Lori Nova on her engagement to Michael Endres. Wedding plans will be formulated when they find housing.

Making a special day even more special, children Diana and Jeff and families arrived to help celebrate their Mom, Rosemary Corbin's, special birthday this month. Happy Birthday Rosemary!

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

In 1919 autos were allowed to go 40 miles per hour in daylight on straight strips of highway sparsely settled.

Greetings to Ted and Lorraine Ross now living in Hilo, Hawaii. Ted grew up in the Point. We are expecting some of your memories for TPIT.

Block parties enrich the togetherness of neighbors. How about those nine 'Bishop Alley Kats' seen at a Point restaurant chatting and planning their next luncheon outing.

Who of you noticed the tribute to our George Carroll in the SOUL CORNER section in the comics on Sunday, March 7, 2010? In 1933, George was the first African-American lawyer to practice law in Richmond, first African-American elected to the City Council (1964-1965), first African-American to be Richmond Mayor and

County Supervisor for Contra Costa County. In May 1965, he was appointed Judge to the Contra Costa Municipal Court and in Oct. 2009 the Richmond Courthouse was renamed in his honor.

Should the US Postal Service cease to exist, how would we get all those hundreds of address labels (from charities) that we can't possibly use?

When you run into old friends you express the fact you haven't seen them recently. Then, you learn the reason is because Carol and David MacDiarmid had moved and now live in Elk Grove!

A SMILE IS AN INEXPENSIVE WAY TO IMPROVE YOUR LOOKS!

A special show of Jim DeWitt's paintings and sculptures were presented when Jim celebrated his 80th birthday at the DeWitt Gallery and Framing Shop in the Point. Jim loves sailboats, competitive sailing and dogs. He notes that "Art has always been my first love". Last summer his work was featured in the Eddie Bauer catalog.

Be sure to check out what is under and inside that blue covering next to Hydrangea's on West Richmond Avenue. Something new in the Point.

Time for you to clean out all those the old things around the house you haven't any need for and give for a worthy cause - the Annual Junktique Sale held by the Methodist Church. Do it NOW. Call 510. 236-0527.

Little Harlan Butt celebrated his FIRST birthday and Baptism at the historic Methodist Church on March 14. Family members helping him celebrate were his parents, Kim and Andrew and sister, Cecelia, Grandparents, Tom and Shirley

Butt, Grandmother Myrna Martin from Fayetteville, Arkansas; Uncle Daniel and Aunt Sara Butt and his 19 days younger cousin, Ryland Thomas Butt. who celebrates his FIRST birthday on March 28.

Norm and Jean Reynolds spent a week in Hawaii enjoying their 30th wedding anniversary. Congrats!

Isn't it annoying? You hang something in your closet for awhile and it shrinks 2 sizes!

And how can a 2 pound box of chocolates make a person gain 5 pounds?

Best Wishes to Jennifer Metz and Matthew Foster on their marriage at the Historic First Methodist Church on Saturday March 20.

ANNUAL JUNKTIQUE SALE and Luncheon, Saturday, May 1st, Historic First Methodist Church, 9:00 - 3:00.

It was a big surprise (not an April Fools prank) when Kathy (Dornan) Barnes entered the cafe in Oxford, Mississippi, to celebrate her April 1st birthday and was greeted by her mother, Mid. Being there for Easter was a bonus.

WHEN YOU PLAN TO GET EVEN WITH SOMEONE, YOU ARE ONLY LETTING THAT PERSON CONTINUE TO HURT YOU.

Our Membership chair Pam Wilson and her Mom, Donna, in May head to London for 5 days before continuing to Europe to beat the summer tourists. Their trip then takes them to Paris, Lucerne, Oberammergau for the Passion Play, Munich, Rhineland, Cologne, ending up in Amsterdam.

Dirk Smit, VP of Exploration technology for Shell Oil is confident that sensors on board a plane will soon be able to detect oil and gas buried deep

below the Earth surface.

Have you considered the enjoyment of staffing our Museum for a couple hours once a month?

Fran Smith and Jean Reynolds will represent the Point Methodist Church when a mission group goes to Luzon, Philippines to help monitor the elections in May.

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL POINT RICHMOND MERCHANTS.

Do people ever fill out and send in those annoying free information postcards found tucked inside magazines?

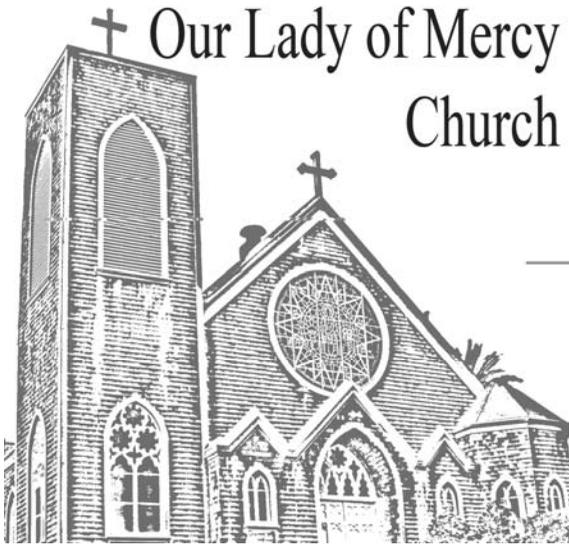
Never is the California Poppy more beautiful in the Point than early April.

Answer: "whatever" is considered the most annoying expression along with "you know", most grating is "it is what it is" and "anyway" they detest !



*PRHA photo archive #140-DM,
enhanced by Thomas Mercer-Hursh*

Church News



Our Lady of Mercy Church

By Dee Rosier
510-232-1387

drosier@sbcglobal.net

We now enter the lovely season of spring, also known as the sneezing season. Along with the change of season comes a time change. Avail yourself of the extra daylight by pulling up all those weeds that grew so proficiently as a result of increased rainfall.

The potluck dinner for the Haitian earthquake, as well as a special collection generated \$1,150.00 and a check was sent to the Catholic Relief Services for Haitian Relief. We are a small parish, but always willing to help those in need. Along the same line, we continue to collect clothes and food for the needy. Our support of the Souper Kitchen is ongoing with a special collection taken on the 5th Sunday of each month. Volunteers are always welcome to participate at the Souper Kitchen – call Edwina Murray 233-7529.

The Parish Council changed hats to become the Finance Committee, and recently reviewed and approved a budget for this year. Thanks are extended to Beth Lewin, Parish Secretary, for her expertise in number calculation. The Council will

begin work on a new parish directory. Our membership has increased and we want everyone included.

Our next big parish maintenance project involves shingles for the two most weather exposed sides of the church. As this is a major expenditure, we are looking for help evaluating the bids and scope of the project, as well as making recommendations for the parish community to review. If you are interested in participating in this ad hoc committee, or have knowledge of someone in the community who would offer assistance, please let us know. Time commitment would consist of meeting three to four times over the course of the next month or so. Please contact Anne Brussok (510-517-9905) or Father David.

The Point Richmond Art Association held their meeting in the church hall and Father David showed his documentary. Father would be a good fit for the Association, since he recently held a class on watercolors. It was such a success, another is pending. If you are interested in the next class, please call Father. You will also need to get a list of needed supplies. Bring a bag lunch. The class will be held on a Saturday from 11-1 in the church hall. Many of our parishioners have artistic ability and some of their work is presently on display in the church hall.

Father has given two talks on the geography of the Holy Land, focusing on villages where Jesus lived and worked. For visual effects, slides and maps were also shown.

The talks are given following Sunday Mass and another is forthcoming. The talks are taken from, "The Land That Jesus Walked," written by Father David. The book was out-of-print and reprinted copies will soon be available.

Since Father has been in residence, we have seen a lot of visible maintenance. It is ongoing work. The Sacristy was recently patched and painted. A dozen new roses were planted, some new additions, others replacements. The yellow climbing roses are now covering the institutional

looking cyclone fence on the side of the rectory. The fig tree in the backyard, that never bore fruit, absorbed more water than it could tolerate and uprooted.

Thanks to the Gateway Foundation for making it possible for our church to literally “light up.” Lights were installed on the church sign as well as the tower.

Aside from his busy schedule here, Father found time to get away to Hawaii for a week. He was there during the earthquake in Chile and via shrieking sirens were alerted that a tsunami wave was approaching. The wave did arrive, but was not as serious as thought.

The daytime Bible Group continues to meet at Dody Perry’s. The evening group has not yet re-established itself. Coffee/donuts continue to be held on the first Sunday of the month.

Thank you to Linda Drake who dressed up the planter outside of the church hall with a jade plant surrounded by succulents.

It seems like yesterday we celebrated Christmas and here comes Easter!

Pancake breakfasts have resumed and we again get to see the familiar faces of those who volunteer their time to satisfy us with such a delicious breakfast. Donations for the raffle are being sought. If you have a clean, reusable white elephant you would like to offer, please call Susan

Brooks – 233-2447.

My apologies for forgetting to offer condolences to the family of Jack Healy.

Condolences to Coleen Shipler and family in the recent death of her husband David Fabun.

Condolences to Nancy Noble and her family in the recent death of her mother, Helen Renaghan.

Dody Perry has experienced some bad days and we wish her well. She was in the hospital a few days, but is now at home. While away, Edwina Murray hosted the daytime Bible Study Group.

Anna Schwarz took another fall and this time required stitches. As usual she is back up and waiting the healing of her bruises. She tripped in her bedroom while getting her accordion in order to sing happy birthday to Linda Drake. Anna will complete another year on April 1 – Happy Birthday – two years away from 100!

Congratulations to Diane Marie who retired at the end of February. She now moves on to the good life and joins her retired husband, Bill Gutierrez.

LIFE IS GOD’S GIFT TO YOU
THE WAY YOU LIVE IT.....
IS YOUR GIFT TO GOD
SEE YOU IN CHURCH

On U.S. Mail

If you were one of the hundreds who signed the petition to keep the Point Post Office from being closed, your efforts worked and the Point Post Office survived.

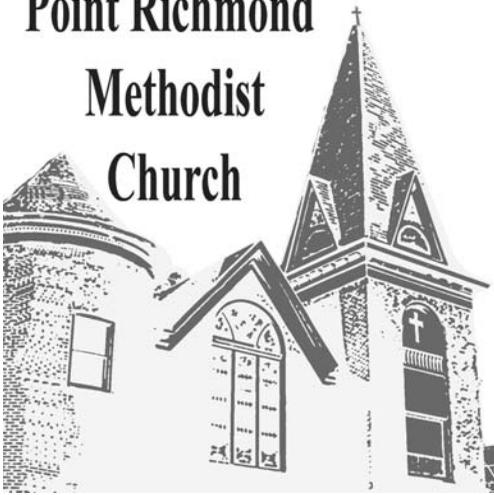
The unofficial motto of the US Postal Service is, “Neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night stays these couriers from the swift completion of their rounds”. On March 2, the Postmaster General announced major cuts, including an end for Saturday service.

In 1785 the Stagecoach company delivered the mail for a brief period. In 1861 the Pony Express had a short 18-month period before closing when the operation became too expensive. Later mail was distributed by locomotive and eventually by airplanes. In 1970 the US Postal Service became an independent agency and in 1982 it was no longer receiving tax dollars. Along came technology giving the postal service more problems. (faster, easy, free), plus the fact 4 out of 5 households with Internet access pay bills online. Do you send handwritten letters or cards? Many can remember when we lost our twice a day delivery. The local post office is a place not only to mail your boxes but to meet your neighbor and chat with those who are new in the Point.

Progress comes with pain. Keep posted on the latest postal news and on mail delivery days

Mid

Point Richmond Methodist Church



By Jean Reynolds

510-235-2988

jeanormr@pacbell.net

People: We received Mary Lee Cole, Barbara Haley, and Doreen Leighton as members on January 24, 2010. On March 14, Harlan Martin Butt was baptized. Harlan's parents are Kim and Andrew Butt. Other family on hand for the baptism included: sister, Cecelia Butt; uncle and aunt, Daniel Butt and Sara Knight; cousin, Ryland Butt; and grandparents, Myrna Martin, and Tom and Shirley Butt. Ryland had fun playing in the courtyard to celebrate! Matthew Foster and Jennifer Metz married on March 20. Matthew is church treasurer and Jennifer is Ad Board Chair. We rejoice with them for the love they share! On March 21, friends and family gathered for a memorial service for Phil Jordan. Father Tom officiated, and Pastor Dan Damon played the prelude. People shared their remembrances of Phil and how knowing Phil changed their lives. Jill Jenice Schirah organized a reception in Friendship Hall following the service. The Rev. Betsy Schwartztraub, previously a pastor at Richmond First UMC during the 1970's, preached on February 28, then stayed after worship for lunch and a program on estate planning.

Tickets for the Sweetheart Dinner on February

11 to honor David Vincent sold out! We packed the Pt. San Pablo Yacht Club hall for a chance to let David know how much we appreciate him. Emcee Tom Butt wore a sandwich board, ala David, with the inscription: "Save the Sweetheart: Buy a Heart." Speakers shared stories from David's family life, the Masquers' Theater, the Point Richmond Business Association, Save the Plunge Trust, the Pt. San Pablo Yacht Club, The Point Bar, and the United Methodist Church. It is clear that David Vincent helps make Point Richmond a place we like to call home.

After our congregation developed a relationship with members of the local Iranian community, Pastor Dan was invited to be one of several speakers at a rally on February 13 at the Civic Center Plaza in San Francisco. People who attended the rally support citizens of Iran and resist oppression of the Iranian people by the government there. Many people in Iran have been killed for having a different political stance than the current leaders, and we acknowledged their sacrifice and prayed for peace.

Bobby Hall and Friends joined for a gospel concert on February 21. This annual event brings together Bobby and Pamella Hall's family and friends, church choirs from as far away as Santa Rosa, and local enthusiasts, for an evening of music and praise. I think the sanctuary keeps vibrating for days afterward with the soulful sounds!

The United Methodist Women's group at our church is rising like a phoenix from the ashes of its demise. Our UMW has not been as active in the last few years. We organized the Call to Prayer Service for Lent at Easter Hill UMC on February 18. An initial meeting at Kristi Johnson's home on February 27 drew about a dozen women and generated enough excitement for another meeting March 27, at Shirley Butt's home. Stand by to see what the women will decide to do next!

Pat Dornan collected fifty pairs of shoes for people in Haiti. REI is sending three shipping containers of shoes to help with earthquake relief efforts. Our church collected hundreds of dollars to send to Haiti, too. We support UMCOR, the United Methodist Committee On Relief. UMCOR was at work in Haiti before the earthquake and some

UMCOR staff lost their lives in the quake. UMCOR will continue to provide assistance in Haiti for the long task of recovery and rebuilding.

Friends, satisfying food, stellar weather, a worthy cause: Twenty-five people participated in Claudia's Walk on March 27, at Miller Knox Park. We walked to remember Claudia LeGué, former Point Richmond resident and church member, who often walked the park. Some of us walked, many came to picnic, some donated to the Ovarian Cancer Research Fund. Juanita Hoffman got the "Came the Longest Distance" prize: she traveled from Dayton, Washington to walk with us. The weather was clear and beautiful as only early spring here can be. The Park Ranger said lovely weather is included in the cost of the reservation.

Fran Smith and Jean Reynolds are going to the Philippines in May to take part in People's International Observers Mission 2010. We will be present during the national elections in the Philippines to witness whether legal voting practices appear to be followed and if all citizens are free to vote.

On the Calendar:

Angel Choir Concert April 11, 5 pm, \$10 Suggested donation. The Angel Choir and Alums will join for a concert of music and dance. Pastor Dan Damon and Christine Silva-Netto direct.

Junktique Sale, Saturday, May 1, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The Lowest Prices since Biblical Times! Support the church and it's programs in the community by buying something wonderful at the Junktique sale on May 1. The kitchen staff will have lunch prepared so you can keep your strength for shopping.

Follow the church activities on the web: <http://www.pointrichmond.com/methodist/index.htm>



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 80th installment.

FEB 5, 1929

The Social League met in M.E. Church parlors with Mrs. J.C. Hill and Mrs. F. H. Prince as hostesses there were 21 members present. The meeting opened by repeating Lord's prayer led by our Pres. Mrs. B Burdick. The minutes of previous meeting were read and approved.

Moved and seconded that \$10 be paid to church fund. Report was given by Mrs. Scofield in regard to Linoleum for Kitchen floor in church, it was moved and seconded that Linoleum be bot (sic) for floor, at cost of \$24.50. Mrs. A.D. Jones was appointed to help Mrs. Scofield purchase lenolium. (sic)

Moved and seconded that we have experienced social each member to earn \$1 before Mar 5.

Report was given by committee in regard to luncheon to be given Feb 2, 1929. Mrs. J. P. Vloebergh and Mrs. D. Jenkins chairman.

Menu of Luncheon

Swiss Steak
Mashed potatoes
Buttered carrots
Cabbage salad
Jelly
Whipped cream cake
and coffee.

Kitchen committee

Mrs. Scofield
Burdick
Prince

(Continued on page 26)

WWIC, Est. 1908

Margaret Morkowski

*Womens Westside Improvement Club
Established 1908*

At the February meeting of Womens' Westside Improvement Club (WWIC,) we hosted Dr. Gloria Contreras, of the Point's own Center for Integrated Wellness. Dr. Gloria, as she likes to be called, spoke to the group of her practice of what she terms a "spiritual chiropractic" which concentrates on the body's natural capacity to heal. Dr. Gloria is the owner of the Center for Integrated Wellness and so she joins our series of speakers of Women Business Owners in Point Richmond.

Linda Newton spoke of the Point Richmond Village's merge with the WWIC's Sunshine Committee. The Point Richmond Village will be taking a hiatus but since its goals of making it easier for seniors to stay in Point Richmond as time goes by, are in many ways similar to those of the WWIC Sunshine Committee, the board members of the Village, (WWIC members) will "expand" the membership of the Sunshine Committee. Ladies of the committee will be visiting our stay-at-home members and dropping off home made desserts after our meetings. Altha Humphrey, also a member of the committee, has graciously been knitting lap-robos/shawls for our long-time members. So far Dody Perry, Anna Schwarz, Amelia Drake, Marion Voight, Avis Blanchette and Sheila Fostiak are proud owners of Altha's lovely gifts.

Connie Lompa, Chair of the Point Richmond Landscape Advisory Committee, brought us up to date on the planting of the 26 new crepe myrtle trees being planted around the Triangle in town. Connie asked for volunteers to call her if they would be willing to water these new trees if needed when the spring and summer weather arrives. Connie is also chair of our Rose Garden Committee.

Happy January and February Birthdays to Sonja Malaga, Mary Highfill, Altha Humphrey, Sonja Darling, Nancy Burns, Peggy Fowler, Maggie LaForce and Dody Perry.

Our speaker for March was Rich San Vicente who presented an overview and the options of Reverse Mortgage Loans. Rich is member of the Advisory Council of Contra Costa Count Aging and Adult Services, Board member of the Meals on Wheels of Contra Costa County and a Lending Officer with the Bank of America. Rich explained many things but emphasized that with a reverse mortgage, you remain the owner of your home, continue paying property taxes, home insurance, repairs, maintenance, and inclusion of your home in your trust or will. He also explained that you may receive funds in a lump sum, as a month annuity or as a letter-of-credit to draw-on as you wish. Rich also brought the ladies three lovely bouquets of flowers which we all enjoyed. That is a first in many years that a speaker has brought the ladies flowers. It was fun.

At our April meeting we will hold our 2nd annual White Elephant fund raiser. Last year every lady received at least one item from our drawing. In May we will be electing our new Board Members. Their term will begin in September after our Summer Break. Our speaker in May will be Mike Turner of the Pacific Coast Farmers' Market Association who is the new manager of the Point Richmond Farmers' Market held every Wednesday through October on Park Place from 4 pm to 8 pm.

Happy March, April and May Birthdays to Betty Ann Barnett, Linda Drake, Mim Drake, Kathy Kiehn, Avis Blanchette, Anna Schwarz (97), Rosemary Corbin, Sheila Fostiak, Anita Christiansen, Connie Lompa Gilda Markarian, Ilsa Lewis and Norma Wallace.

The ladies meet at 11:30 am, the first Tuesday of every month, September through June (except for January.) The meeting is held at the Methodists Church Friendship Hall with a brown bag lunch followed by a speaker and then the business meeting. We have a lot of fun. You will always be welcome as our guest. For more details please call Margaret Morkowski at 234-4219



Out and About Town



Margaret Morkowski (510) 234-4219

Yea... It's Spring... we are still having a few rain showers but most days are sunny and bright. It's great. Along with the sunny days comes the second year of the opening of the **Point Richmond Farmers' Market and the 21st Annual Point Richmond Stroll**. Again this year the **Point Richmond Business Association (PRBA)** will be hosting both events by combining the Stroll with the Market's Grand Opening and having one huge street party.

So come let's "**Stroll to the Farmers' Market**" on **Wednesday, May 12th from 4:00 pm to 8:00pm.**

For those of you new to the Point, the Business Association's Annual Stroll is a way for the local businesses and non-profits to thank you all for patronizing them. We close the streets and give a big party with food, live music and dancing in the streets. Everyone one "Strolls" from shop to restaurant to booth and say "Hi," sample the goodies, enter the drawings and see what's new. Please don't forget to stop by the **History Museum on Washington Avenue.**

This year the **ribbon cutting for the Farmers' Market will take place at 6:00 pm** at the stage in front of the Indian Statue. **Bill Lindsay, Richmond's City Manager** will do the honors. The live music will include the Point's own Crunchy Frog performing on the stage following the ribbon cutting.



Again this year the PRBA has an agreement with the Pacific Coast Farmers Market Association to operate a certified farmers' market right here in the Point beginning with the **Opening Day, Wednesday May 12th**. This association operates 67 Certified Farmers' Markets in Northern California and has been in business more than 20 years.

Mike Turner, their new Market Manager for the Point, is adding lots of new vendors to the

Market. He's scheduling activities, including kids' days, cooking demonstrations and live music at the **Farmers' Market every Wednesday from 4 pm to 8:00 pm through the end of October.** We close Park Place and have a great time. The members of Business Association and the community would like to give a special thanks to **Margi Cellucci, Marsha Tomassi. Jake Smith and Karen Kittle** for making the Point Richmond Farmers' Market a reality. Thank you all. For more information, please call Margi Cellucci at 510 -237-0101.



First the Spring and then the Summer and that means it's time for **The Point Richmond Summer Concert Series**. Again this year the concerts are going to be awesome. The concerts are always held on the second Friday of the month. This year they will be held on **June 11th, July 9th, August 13th and September 10th**. **The bands play from 5:30 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.** but set aside some time before and after the concerts to visit the stores and restaurants in town. **The Arts of Point Richmond artists will hold an exhibit in the Community Center during the concerts.** Come and enjoy the art and music... "Do a Little Dance, Take a Little Chance and Get Down Tonight." Please call Andrew Butt at 236-7435 for more information.



Other Items:

Thursday, April 22nd, the Washington School PTA International Fair-Fund Raiser at the School – 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm. Please call Becky Jonas, PTA President at 235-0157 for info.

Historic **Our Lady of Mercy Church** hosts a **fundraising Pancake Breakfast the 3rd Sunday of each month** through October. For \$8.00, the menu includes pancakes, eggs, bacon, sausage, juice,

(Continued on page 13)

Bonus Then/Now Comparison Set

From Thomas Mercer-Hursh



Above is PRHA Archive Photo #0105-DC from our Don Church Collection.



Left is a modern photo taken by Thomas Mercer-Hursh



See us at the Point Richmond Stroll
Celebrate the Opening of Our
Farmer's Market
On May 12, 2010
The Farmer's Market will then open every
Wednesday from 4:00 to 8:00 all Summer

(Continued from page 11)

fruit, coffee and tea. **Pancakes are served from 8:00 am to 12 noon.** Please call 232-1843. **Saturday, May 15th.**

PRBA sponsors the **Peckham Fun Run** to benefit the Richmond Police Activities League (PAL.) Please call Marsha Tomassi at 215-6133 for more details.

The Masquers Playhouse Annual Memorial Day Yard Sale, Monday, May 31st. Call David Vincent at 235-4850 for more information.

Need a way to remember an old friend, to commemorate an anniversary or celebrate a birthday? Stop by the **Library and check out their "Wish List"** of books. With the City Library budget cuts, donating a book to the library would be a great idea. Call the Point Richmond/Westside

Branch at 620-6567 for more information.

Reminder to pet owners, don't forget to pick up after your dog.

Check out the programs and activities at the **Point Richmond Community Center.** They may have just what you've been looking for. Call our Center at 233-6881.



For more up-to-date information on what's happening around the Point please check the Point Richmond Online Web Site **http://www.pointrichmond.com.** David Moore is the Point web-site guru and always has information. Thanks David.

Archive Photo Gallery

Historical Photo Restorations by Thomas Mercer-Hursh, Ph.D.



*Across above:
#0609-MD from
our Mid Dornan
Collection*

*Across below:
#0087-DC from
our Don Church
Collection
About 1904 or
1905. A picture
postcard.*

*Above: #0105-DC from
our Don Church
Collection*

*Right: #0573-AS from our
Allan Smith Collection.
The building of the
“Smokey Row” Cottages
Jan. 9, 1901. The
cottages were for railroad
workers and were so
named because of the coal
smoke from the engines.*





The APPLE TREE

at the Masquers

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

Feeling at loose ends? Don't know what to have for dinner? *The Apple Tree* might solve your itch—it's three, seemingly unconnected plays in one. Continuity occurs because the same actors play throughout, time travels from long ago to the present, and the stories are about love and innocence. The publicity flyers for the show differ, stating these plays are about getting what you want and discovering what you really wanted afterward. You'll have to decide.

Music and lyrics of *The Apple Tree* were written by **Jerry Bock** and **Sheldon Harnick**. The first play was based on the writings of **Mark Twain**, the second a short story by **Frank R. Stockton** and the third a story by **Jules Feiffer**. In the Masquers performances, **Robert Love** directs, with music direction by **Pat King**. Music is ably performed by Pat herself, **Ted Bigornia**, **Jo Lusk**, **Jim Ware** and **Barbara Kohler**. The show plays until May 1.

The first play is *The Diary of Adam and Eve*, a sweet comedy, especially for those with a Judeo-Christian background—particularly since it answers so many questions. (Photos by Jerry Telfer).

Arthur Atlas was a benign ticket taker on opening night. With merry eyes and clouds of breezy white hair, he looked like a grandfatherly cherub. In the first play, he becomes grand father of us all as *The Voice*. This is a new rôle for Arthur but, to go by the programme, thoroughly expected.

The beginning of time is beautifully done—the first boy-man, Adam (**Coley Grundman**, photo, left), awakens alone. The scene was created by Set Designer **DC Scarpelli** with help from a large crew and Lighting Designer **Renee Echavez**.

Adam begins with hints of a five o'clock shadow. Does this foretell that his youth and innocence are not long for this world?

Adam delights in discovering this new world.

Naturally, Eve (**Shay Oglesby-Smith**, photo, right) has a different way of appreciating life. She is lovely, straightforward, and easy to identify with.



Our troubled, modern world would be quite refreshing if the division between the sexes could be as simple as this Garden of Eden.

It's an interesting take on an old muddle: one exhibits a senseless display of crossness while the other is bewildered. One complains that the other always *has* to be right. One invents corny jokes, the other seems humourless. Can you figure out which sex is which? Betcha you can—scenes are hilarious!

The Snake is a breathtaking creation and validates my unjust and completely unreasonable expectations for **DC Scarpelli**, photo, top. Emerging from the darkness in silky, tight pants, he slinks towards Eve. In a manner at once sophisticated and bland, and at others bewitching and urgent, he insinuates ideas into her vision. He envelops her, suffocating her with his closeness—yet he never touches her. Is Eve protected by her innocence?

The dance by which Snake mesmerizes Eve will burn itself into your memory. A mix of tango, quick-step and more, he spins her—he's irresistible.

Eve becomes convinced the apple tree is not what it appears. Is Eve willingly seduced or a victim of fraud? Tossed from the Garden of Eden, Adam and Eve lurch along through various funny mishaps (including parenthood) and compelling songs.

Eve's voice is still with me days later. Adam becomes a man that every woman could love.

As the curtain rises on the second play, *The Lady or the Tiger*, tropical music floats toward us,

and we behold the dancing feet of peasants, soldiers and concubines in a barbaric kingdom long ago. The music quickens and the peasants step lively. The scene devolves into the exaggerated marching of a raucous children's troupe. Everyone sings loudly in time with the stomps.

Into the middle of this juvenile parade prances King Arik (**Larry Schrupp**) in an old bed sheet with a youthful rug of hair. He disposes his Royal Person by draping himself upon the throne in a studiously bored fashion. Then he glares round, giving a perfect impression of a petty tyrant.

The music is drowned out by the audience's wails of laughter. Larry just gets better!

King Arik is joined by his richly dressed daughter, Princess Barbara (**Pamela Drummer-Williams**, *photo, left*). She's a traditional girl—at least as far as a semblance of demureness goes. But, the Princess's



assurance comes from something deeper, because she's in love. This gives her the self-possession to explore flaunting her charms and she sings *I've Got What You Want*. But, she's only at the beginning of this journey, so her gestures are small, inexperienced sexual signals which intimate the richness within.

Captain Sanjar (**Michael O'Brien**, *photo, right*) is a big, handsome warrior with a deep bass voice who's pledged fealty to his king, but he's in a difficult kind of love. Like a huge, dumb ox he's set on doing the bidding of his master—whatever it takes, whichever one it turns out to be.

It does take him quite a while to get there—for our amusement. Through torment and song, he follows his heart and duty with devoted puppy eyes.

Justice comes to a prisoner in King Arik's Court (**Coley Grundman**). A peculiar sentence unfolds.

Nadjira (**Carina Salazar**) is an alluringly disrobed, nubile, young maiden with a sideline in tigers. She succumbs to the charms of a fallen hero; in trying to revive him, another difficulty unravels.

Amazon Guard (**Sue Claire Jones**) sings first soprano. She is a strait-laced, devoted soldier, marching and hauling disorderly prisoners.

Maidens of King Arik's Court (**Michelle Pond**, **Shay Oglesby-Smith**), singing alto and soprano, wander around bedecked in fetching deshabelle.

The Balladeer (**DC Scarpelli**), dressed in a djellaba with a turban of rich gold and sporting a Pharaoh's beard, pops in an out of the performance clasp a fancy harp, which he strums in an alarmingly funny manner. He's sings several songs as an outsider to the play, helping the audience interpret what's going on.

As civilization develops, love becomes complicated by politics—but is it still simple and true?

On a foggy, rainy, city street in modern times, *Passionella*, the third play, opens.

The Narrator (**DC Scarpelli**) is a hot gin fizz—a parody of a nearly forgotten Hollywood Great. In this rôle DC's attitude is more demonstrative than the prior plays, but he's not friendlier. He's more distant, it's a gushing act. He's very funny, but you can see he's taking the mickey out of someone.

Continued next page

Michelle Pond, *photo, centre*, is Ella and Passionella. Ella is a charming char dreaming of being in the movies. She tugs our empathy as she trudges through her job, adding a soupçon of humour.

The officious Mr. Fallible (**Larry Schrupp**) intervenes with a hard dose of reality.

Bad luck sometimes delivers. Ella, by the grace of her dazzling fairy godmother, gets her wish. She is whisked off to the movies and transformed into Passionella. She becomes a bewigged dame squeezed into a glittering dress with alluring bits of flesh popping out. An insular, self-centred woman emerges.

But she has become the darling of Hollywood—Producer **Sue Claire Jones** wants her. Director **Larry Schrupp** wants her. Newsboy **Shay Oglesby-Smith** wants her. Reporter **Michael O'Brien** wants her. Starlet **Carina Salazar** wants to become her. And **Pamela Drummer-Williams** is a fan.

Suddenly, from the darkest reaches of the stage, a colossus materializes into the rock star, Flip (**Coley Grundman**). Coley's grown a beard since the first play. Flip's an outstanding creation, making the audience snicker. He sings the lead of his popular hit *You Are Not Real* with the company singing backup vocals. We break into screams of adoration.

Flip seems too good to be true—the Producer wants him, the Director wants him, the Newsboy wants him, the Reporter wants him, the Starlet wants him, Pamela is a fan and the costumes are ludicrous!

These god-like creatures and the company dash on and off stage in a medley of farcical events. With Michelle playing a glamorous star, one tends to lose sight of the glamour which Michelle brings to a production. And Coley is far too cool to bother being glamorous.

Sadly, I'm unable to think of the allure of Hollywood without thinking of its other side: the



tired out, wasted, shallow world of meaningless patter. Passionella and Flip come to realize this as well. They solve this problem in the most interesting way.

At curtain, the applause was thundering.

Several years ago when I began writing these reviews, I knew less than nothing about theatre. Since then I've had exposure, but do I know more? Sometimes I think so, then come up short. Here's what struck me this time.

New for me is the understanding that actors must *continually* move, else the audience's attention might wander. The audience is never allowed the perspective to consider the play—even seeing the play twice doesn't help—reflection must occur elsewhere. During the play, we are bombarded with action, in order to keep us in the immediate present. To keep us from thinking.

Many times I've read scripts of Masquers plays. Aside from dialogue, the script only moves actors on and off stage. Where does this march of motion come from? The choreographer invents it *all*? Choreographer **Kris Bell** keeps everyone constantly moving with aplomb. The Snake's dance and the barbaric kingdom are but two great pieces in a complex production.

There's no accounting for taste and I have a complaint which might not matter to you. I'm not very fond of com-

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puter generated graphics unless they're works of art or exceedingly clever. As part of a dying breed of traditionally trained visual artists, I mind the lack of hand painted scenery images. I hope the passing of **Dave Wilkerson** doesn't signify that this skill has left Masquers forever.

The trees in the Garden of Eden were amusing because they were interpretive. Sadly, most of the other images left me cold. Many features of the set were fabulous: Adam's perch, the versatility of the middle Kingdom doors, the chimney and more—just not the artwork.

As a cook, I'm familiar with creativity required to throw together an odd juxtaposition of ingredients, but I don't get where Captain Sanjar's streaky makeup came from. I *do* get how his makeup manipulated my understanding of the show. Brilliant!

Some effort has been expended to significantly change each actor's appearance for each play by Costume Designer (**Maria Graham**), Wig Stylist (**Tammara Plankers**), and the makeup coordinator. DC and Coley get hairier, both on top and bottom.



MASQUERS PLAYHOUSE PRESENTS
A trio of wheat musical comedies about getting what we want, and discovering what we really want, afterward. It includes *The Diary of Adam and Eve*, *The Lady or the Tiger?* and *Passionella*. A musical gem from 1966.

the APPLE Tree

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PAMELA DUNHAM WILLIAMS
COLEY GRUBMAN
SUE CLAIRE JONES
MICHEL O'BRIEN
SHAY COLLEBY SMITH
MICHELLE POND
CARINA SALAZAR
DUSCHPELLI
LARRY SCHRIPP

MASQUERS GARAGE SALE FUNDRAISER

19th year of Memorial Day Garage sales in Point Richmond where owners donate a percentage of their profits to the Masquers. Over 100 locations participate including in front of the Masquers Playhouse on 105 Park Place.

FIDDLE FESTIVAL IN THE PARK

4th fine festival in Indian Statue Park, with fiddle music, from 8am-4 pm, not amplified, for the listening pleasure of all. It's been dubbed the "Spouse Park", as many spouse are left there while their spouses et al go garage sale crawling. Like to participate? Want maps? Message (510) 232-3888

Clothing styles range from deceptively simple home-spun to glitzy nightclub ostentatiousness. There's a charm to the series.

For average persons, a large quest in life is finding a way of being ourselves. For an actor, the quest must be in becoming someone else for a short while—I remember a sad Japanese opera where the star couldn't enjoy the accolades following the show because he was too ingrained in his character to smile. What must be required to become three different characters all on one night, some of whom are changing during the course of the play?

Larry goes from the preposterous to the staid and back again; Shay falls from the pinnacle of sweetness to a brazen showgirl in a chorus; Coley changes from a silly boy, to a sweetheart, to something barely human; DC morphs from seductive evil, to chaste village elder, to frenetic shallow showboy. These are impressive transformations.

This show is a feat of many. So much, I want follow these folks around, peppering each with questions, peering inside them so see how they arrived at the decisions which become the show's magic.

Wondering about the thread holding these plays together, I believe the answer rests in the innocence of human beings—how, despite what happens, every one remains innocent.

This show is something to see. Years from now, I'm sure we'll still be talking about it.

Reviews by Theresa de Valencé of SF Bay area community theatre performances are also published at <http://www.ReviewsByTdeV.com>. Join the mailing list by sending an email to Theresa@ReviewsByTdeV.com, subject: "subscribe."

William L. Thompson, M.D.

Little Memories of Old Point Richmond

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, then put it all together in a single publication. Thank you Dr. Thompson!

Little Memories of Old Point Richmond Installment #1

My father and mother moved to Point Richmond in 1902 from Sacramento. I was born in the Point in 1909 and my brother Chet in 1910. I can recall things back to about 1912 or 1915.

The first modern settlements in the west Contra Costa area was the Spanish rancharo of the Castro's and the Alvarado's. There were only a few squatters in the area before the Santa Fe built its terminal here before 1900. Because of the railroad, much open land, and a water front, the Standard Oil Company built its western refinery here about 1900. The Santa Fe also built the first residential community for its employees. This was East Yard. There is a mistaken opinion that this was Point Richmond. According to my father East Yard was just south of the Santa Fe in the area where Atchison Village was built during the Second World War. This had easy access to the plant for employees.

I seem to recall that the first street car line into Point Richmond came down the South side of the Santa Tracks. The street car lines from Oakland had to make a wide circle to get to Point Richmond because of the extensive marshes and the large area of Santa Fe property. There was no Ashland Avenue (now Garrard Boulevard) at that time for the car line.

A peculiar little memory is of the jitney busses. After automobiles had gotten a start, some of the car owners tried to make a little money by supplying transportation. They would drive their cars along the street car lines before the street cars and pick up passengers and drive them on for a nickel. A nickel was called a jitney in those days so they were called jitney buses. They were not taxis, they only ran along the car lines.

There used to be many parades in Richmond and Point Richmond. I have told you of many during the First World War. Also there were parades at most holidays. However, there was a peculiar one that occurred on New Year's eve that I vaguely remember. It was called "The Horribles". My mother said that it was present also in Sacramento when they lived there. The parades usually went down MacDonald Avenue, then Garrard Blvd. and into Washington the Park Place. This peculiar horrible parade consisted of people walking, riding in wagons and dancing. Paraders were in outlandish costumes. I was very small at the time and don't remember very well. However one I did remember was a man dressed in a black skin-tight costume with a big top knot. He was supposed to resemble a south sea cannibal and danced around in a threatening manner waving a black spear. He terrorized the kids.

There was another parade that I recall when I

was about in junior high school. I think it was the Fourth of July. The unusual feature was that the KKK marched. The city said that they could march but could not wear masks. There usually were Memorial Day parades and meeting at Sunset View Cemetery were Spanish American War veterans fired three volleys. My father, a Spanish America War Veteran, was usually among them. Also around Memorial Day, members of the GAR (Grand Army of the Republic) often visited the schools and spoke on patriotic subjects. These were Civil War veterans.

Another old memory that was exterminated by the radio was the extra papers. When some important event occurred the newspapers put out a hurried extra edition which sold on the streets for 5 or 10 cents. Newsboys were sent out to sell them and even the residential areas were shaken by the sounds of “wuxtry papaw”.

There were two ferries that left from Ferry Point, one was the Santa Fe and the other was an auto ferry. The auto ferry was a great help for people driving from the valley to San Francisco by saving miles of downtown driving thru Oakland. Also Point Richmond residents who worked in San Francisco or went to school there could walk down to the ferry and read the paper or study for fifty five minutes on the boat. The Richmond-San

Rafael Bridge put an end to this ferry.

Another ferry system that is not often recalled now was the air ferry. These were hydroplanes that landed and took off on the water. Their San Francisco terminal was at the south end of the Ferry Building. In the East Bay they landed in Alameda. If the conditions were not right they had difficulty. I saw one that had to travel on the water almost half way to the Golden Gate Bridge before it could take off. There must have been more than one plane and I don't know what the fare was or how many passengers a plane carried.

In the old days on the flat lands of the Point we had flocks of mosquitoes due to stagnant water pools. When the Inner Harbor was dredged the mud was used to make the base for Cutting Boulevard and also to make cross streets in the canal area so that homes could be constructed there. However only two houses were ever made there and they didn't last long. The low areas in the quadrangles between these streets fill with water in the winter and were great breeding grounds for mosquitoes covering these with ail was not a good idea so they planted tiny stickleback fish in them to destroy the mosquito larva. As kids we used to go down and collect the fish in cans for pets.

To be continued



Paper Boys PRHA
Archive #278-DC
from our Don Church
Collection

Facts about Professor Botts' Machine

Dr. William Thompson's articles on Professor Botts were reprinted in TPIT April/May issue.

James W. Hayes taught us more about the man. Now learn details on the machine that this fascinating maverick brought to Point Richmond with the intention of flying from the top of Nichol Nob. Unfortunately a wind storm toppled and destroyed the machine.

*Thank you to oddball early aircraft enthusiast **Paul Dunlop** of New Zealand for pointing this out and supplying us with this 1904 article.*

Prof. Bott's Flying Machine

By **j. Mayne Baltimore**

Prof. R.H. Botts, who for nearly twenty years has carefully studied the great problem of aerial navigation, is the inventor and constructor of a new kind of flying machine. His invention represents the results of his long and scientific study, investigations and experiments.

The Botts plan involves the combination of a perfectly circular-shaped aeroplane together with two propellers that work on a horizontal plane. The aeroplane is 62 feet in circumference—a fraction more than 20 feet in diameter.

There are two hoops to which the aeroplane is attached, an outer one of light, strong steel tubing, and a smaller one of flexible wood. The diameter of the latter is about 6½ feet. The aeroplane is made of parachute cloth—light and very strong. By means of aluminum wire and strong hempen cords, the cloth is stretched as tight as a drumhead.

In the center is placed a circular frame composed of bamboo, wood and aluminum. The frame composed the car, where the operator sits; also contains the boiler, two engines and the beveled gearing, by means of which the system of propellers is operated. By means of wires and cords, the frame, car, etc., is very securely lashed to the aeroplane and the propellers, shafting, etc.

Above the aeroplane are placed two propellers working horizontally. These two propellers are

neutralizing—that is, they run in opposite directions, but the vanes are so placed as to apply the power in one given direction—upward. These two propellers are the “up-lifters”, supplementing the aeroplane in ascending or descending.

The upper propeller is smaller— five feet and 1 inch in diameter. The lower wheel is a 6 feet and 2 inches in diameter. Fore and aft are placed a propeller working vertically at the end of the shaft)) - each being 6 feet and 2 inches in diameter. Like the other propellers, they are neutralizing, moving in opposite directions—one pushing and the other pulling. These constitute the driving power—also operating in conjunction with the aeroplane.

Prof. Botts claims that one great advantage of using these neutralizing propellers is that it prevents the entire machine from moving sidewise, or, in a circular direction; that the neutralizing forces held it on a steady course. He says long study and repeated experimenting has documented this principle.

These propellers are constructed on the bicycle principle, but having an inner and outer rim (wooden) between which are fastened strong aluminum blades or vanes arranged in groups of eight in the larger, and of four in the smaller wheels.

The combined weight of the four propellers is only 43 pounds. By means of the gearing, they are capable of making over 500 revolutions per minute. However, this very high rate of speed will

be unnecessary.

The propellers are also placed in linear sections. So when in motion they will cut or pass over different air currents at the same time, thus affording the results of several wheels combined in one.

The aeroplane is so rigged that, like a sail, it may be partly or entirely reefed, in case of very high wind or for other reasons. It may serve the secondary purpose of a parachute in making descents, or in the event of an accident to the machinery while in flight.

In setting sail, the neutralizing, lifting, and advancing propellers, with the aeroplane tilted upward at a marked angle, enable the machine to glide, or sail through the air, since the latter contains more than one square foot for every pound of weight carried.

In the Botts machine the boiler is placed in front of the operator's seat, affording a complete

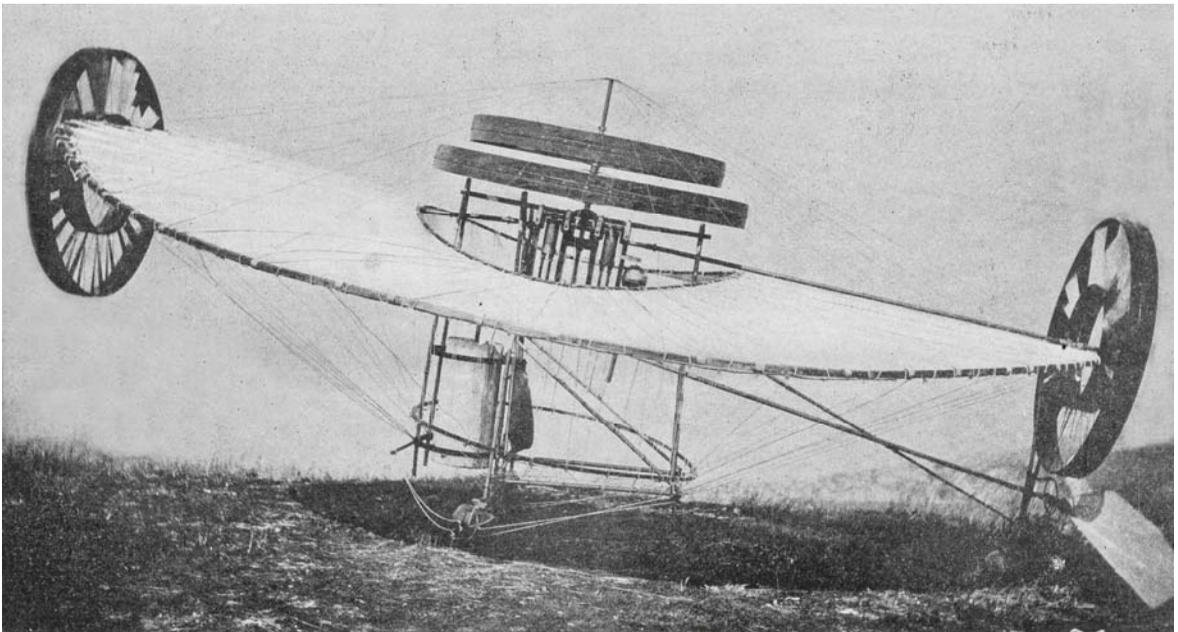
balancing of the entire machine. It would be almost impossible for it to capsize.

There are two engines each of 6-inch stroke and 3-1/8 inch cylinder diameter. Total weight of the two engines is 23 pounds. This boiler has 60 feet of fire surface. Steam will be the motive power. The total weight of the machine, including the operator, is about 214 pounds.

The rudder is made of strong cloth—somewhat fin-shaped. It is so pivoted that by moving a lever it can be thrown at any desired angle, vertically or horizontally. The neutralizing propellers avoid the use of a large rudder to prevent the machine from twisting in the air. Prof. Botts has entered for the prize at the World's Fair, and expects soon to start for St. Louis with his invention.

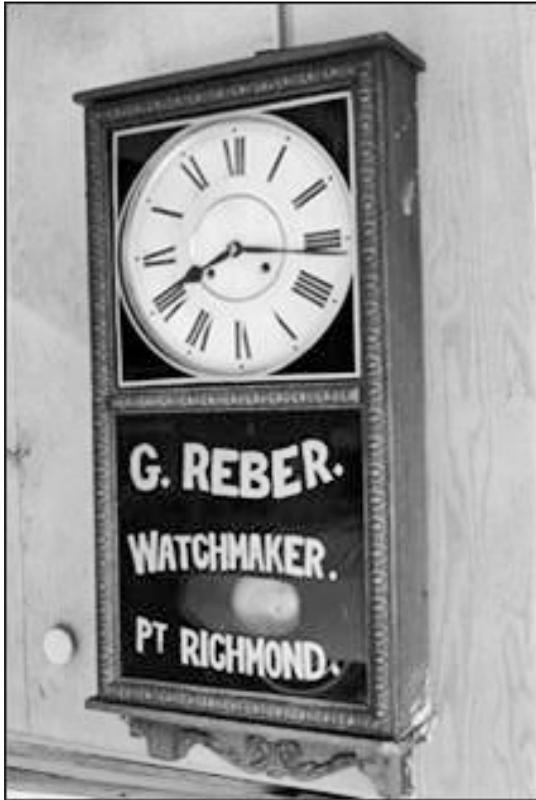
*Reprinted from Scientific American
September 10, 1904*

*The image below was taken from the Scientific
American magazine article, September 10, 1904*



Oscar in the Point

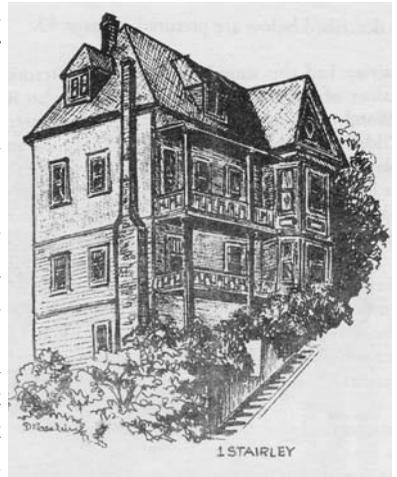
Taken with Permission From Tom Butt's E-Forum



Clock collector Richard Rago wonders who was the maker of this clock..

We're curious too..

If you know please call Gary at
510-235-1336.



Pete and Amanda Docter moved to Richmond with Pixar, where Pete started working at age 21, Pixar's 10th employee. They bought the "old Stairley place" in Point Richmond, fixed it up and lived there, almost across the street from Pixar, until Pixar moved to

Emeryville. The Docter family were fixtures at Hidden City for years, and Pete even put Hidden City in the film "Monsters, Inc."

I don't think Pete ever missed a morning walking up to Nichol Knob with his dog alongside and his son Nicholas on his shoulders.

On Sunday [March 7th] Pete accepted the Academy Award for **Best Animated Film**, Pixar's "UP". Pete had racked up a half-dozen nominations in his career, including for his screenplay work on 2008's "WALL-E" and for making 2001's "Monsters, Inc" but Sunday the Oscar was finally his.

Despite only two hours sleep the night before, Pete and Amanda had friends and neighbors over last night, and we had a chance to help celebrate with them, including an opportunity to hold the actual Oscar.

Ironically, we attended a local Oscar Party on Sunday night, a fundraiser for the Point Richmond Business Association, in Pixar's former digs, hosted by a successful and expanding Richmond technology business, Vertigo Software.

*A Donation was made to the
Point Richmond History Association
in memory of*

Elizabeth MacDonald

By

Doug and Rosemary Corbin

Thank You

Birthdays

April

Kathy Dornan Barnes	Pam Wilson	John Maxwell	Donna Diaz
Roberta Dornan Palfini	Don Amantite	Sherri Mertle	Joni Loux Emerson
Bruce Bartram	Joel Peterson	Taylor Bradshaw	David Roth
Gordon Miller	Lori Meister	Carol MacDiarmid	Theresa de Valence
Robert Palfini	Charlotte Knox	Rosemary Corbin	Rose Fenton
Karilu Elle Crain	Anna Schwarz	Darian Peckham	Andy Fenton
Dori Freitas	Monica Doherty	Terry Downey	Hannah Frye
Tara Kaufman	Eric Hoiland	David Bradshaw	Charlene Smith
Ruth Wilson	Melissa Allyn Delio	Charline Barni	Gloria Smith Groff
Paula Israeli	Alison Lord	Cynthia Wilson Quist	

May

Douglas Corbin	Lyle Fisher	Jackson Bradshaw	Sophia Dolberg
Patricia Dornan	Sandra Loux Fuller	Nancy Noble	Mark Healy
Diana Corbin	Muriel Clausen	Norm Reynolds	Tonita Avila Granado
Diana Spinola	Wini Jones	Adolph Higuera	Michelle Healy
Richard Mattuecci	Julian Smith	Jack Murray	Norma Wallace
Becky Horn	Marge Miller	John Knox, Jr.	Ann Hathaway Kissling
Jon Doellstedt	Ann Hanzlik	Diana McIntosh	Eva Marchitiello
Sara Eeles	Shoney Gustafson	Mary L. Roth	
Vern Doellstedt	Winifred Boziki	Dale Huffstetter	
Rena Gonsalves	David MacDiarmid	John Granado	

EXCLUSIVE OVER 90 CLUB

An impressive list that grows each month.

Mark Gebhart - 93
Gretchen Van Tassel Shaw - 92
Ed Squires - 93
Anna Schwarz - 98
Viola Lala Kennedy
Al Frosini - 92
Lee Christian - 93
Shoney Gustafson -94
Jean Moyle Spiersch - 95
Madelilne Bellando Albright -92
Charlotte Kermabon Birsinger-92

Jerome Vloebergh - 93
Lupe Padilla Lopez - 95
Goldie Mobley-97
Delphina Franco - 93
Reva Ward - 94
Steve Wyrick - 94
Bernard Dietz 95
Avis Blanchette - 95
Roger Wiese - 93
Ann Hanzlik - 96
Thelma Mae Harvey - 93
Eunice Ruth Hursh - 93
Dody Perry - 93

Betty Dornan - 91
Edna Hathaway - 91
Mary Tom Coe - 90
Jerry Cerkanowicz, Sr. - 90

100 Year Club
Rena Cairo Gonsalves - 100

Please send corrections and additions to "Over 90 Club" to midornan@sbcglobal.net



(Methodist Church History Continued from page 9)

Jenkins
Alexander

Table Committee

Mrs. Oehne - chairman
Mrs. C.B. Jones
Mrs. J.J. Meece
Dingle
W. Kitto
Robbins
G. Shaw

Candy Committee

Mrs. Brothers, all members are requested to bring candy.

Dessert Committee

Mrs. Redman. All members are expected to help at luncheon on Wednesday afternoon and Thursday morning,

Election of officers to be held Feb 19, 1929.

Mrs. Brothers	.60 for dues
Old Bal.	18.37
Church fund	10.00
	8.37
Dues	.60
Plate offering	2.05
New Bal.	11.02

Mrs. G. Shaw, Sec

Cards, Letters & E-Mails

Dear Gary,

What a fine issue of TPIT (Feb./Mar. 2010)--so many articles. I hope there will be an ongoing series of interviews with long time residents like Anna Schwartz.

On the cover were two photos of Washington Avenue taken from Scenic. The upper one was misdated as circa 1915. Absent from that photo is Dr. Lucas's home which was built in 1910 and listed in the phone directory in 1911. Therefore, the photo predates 1910. Along that line, the fact diary let by Allan Smith says "10-2-1910 Dr. Lucas to build new home and office next to Runyons." (see TPIT, Vol. XXIII, No. 3 date Nov. 2004 among others). I wonder if anyone has information about where that was--the white house on the corner of Nicholl where the Curtin Apartments were built, or the dark roofed building next to the City Hall? Any information on "Runyons" and about the dark roofed building (such as when it was built, by whom, and then removed from 212 Washington) would be greatly appreciated.

Something else to note in the old photo is the "storm drain" system at Nicholl. There have been no improvements to it since 1900-1910. Come take a look.

Keep up the good work!

Sincerely,
Linda Newton
Point Richmond

Thank you Linda, I thought it was a pretty good issue too and thank you for correcting the date of the cover photo, probably circa 1905. We have created a list of older Point folks that we plan to try to interview for future issues. Anna's story might be hard to beat though. I had already taken pictures of the "ancient" storm drain.

Deaths.....

Barbara “Bobbie” Gallegos-Cordova-Coles died January 31, 2010. Barbara graduated from Richmond High in 1951 and married Wilfred Gallegos (deceased) in 1952 and in 1956 - 1980 was married to Joseph Cordova. She graduated from Contra Costa College in 1969 where she was a student of George Coles whom she married in 2002. Barbara traveled to all continents except Antarctica. She is survived by her husband, George, daughter Danna Cordova, El Sobrante, brothers Peter and David Cooke of New York and one granddaughter. Memorial services were held at Dakini Temple (Linsley Hall) on February 27.

Walt Fauerso passed away Saturday, March 13, 2010 in Bend, Oregon, age 90. Age 90 in Bend, Oregon. Walt was one of the founders of the Richmond Friends of Recreation as well as the Save the Richmond Plunge Trust. He was a community leader serving as a member of the Richmond School Board, Richmond Planning Commission and the Neighborhood House. After 30 years he retired from Chevron and founded the Chevron Retirees Tree Planting Program. After the death of his wife, Esther, he moved to Oregon to be close to his daughters. He is survived by his three children, Paul Fauerso of San Antonio, Texas Janet Fauerso of Bend, Oregon and Karen Baganariol of Modesto, California as well as grandchildren and one great grandson. Memorial service will be held in early June in Bend, Oregon.

Gordon Miller died Tuesday, March 9 after a short illness at a hospital in Berkeley, age 101. Gordon Stevens Miller was born in Santa Cruz in 1908 and moved with his family to Berkeley when he was 8 years old. With his wife of 65 years Margaret Atwood Miller, and their two sons Steve Miller of Castro Valley and Fred Miller of Discovery Bay, Miller built, sailed and raced boats on the bay for more than 75 years and in the process became a permanent fixture on the Point Richmond waterfront. Over the years, he sailed a Snipe, El Toros, Zephyr, Cal 25, Ericson 27 and, in retirement, model sailboats. Miller remained an active member and sailed regularly with the so-called “Geritol Group”. Miller who remained licensed to drive, demonstrated his skill for handling high speed vehicles on land and water when he turned 100 two years ago. In front of friends and family and television news crews, Miller marked his birthday by driving a car 104 mph and drove a 36-foot catamaran powered by two 1000 hp engines 130 mph on a stretch of calm water on the San Joaquin River. He is survived by daughter-in-law Beth Miller, Discovery Bay; grandson Jason Miller and his wife, Amy, Discovery Bay; granddaughter Erin Miller Doherty and her husband, Jon Doherty, Oakley; and great-grandchildren Marissa, Ashley, Lexy and Corbin. He is also survived by numerous nieces and nephews representing three generations and many friends.



CALENDAR/DIRECTORY

ARTS OF POINT RICHMOND

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: Margaret Morkowski, 510-234-4219.

POINT RICHMOND COMMUNITY CENTER

Info: 233-6881

POINT RICHMOND HISTORY ASSOCIATION

Museum is at 139½ Washington Avenue, and open Thursday's 11:30 to 2:00 and Saturday 11:30 to 2:00 and as of May 12th, 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 28, 2010. Info call Pres. 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 510-595-5566

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

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

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Type of membership (check one):

<input type="checkbox"/>	Single	\$20.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Senior (65+)	15.00
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Membership in the Point Richmond History Association includes a one year subscription to "THIS POINT...in time" newsletter (five issues). Please make your check payable to the Point Richmond History Association and mail it to:

Pam Wilson
521 Western Drive
Point Richmond, CA 94801

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

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

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PointRichmondHistory.org

Thanks ALKO office supply for hosting our site

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