

# THIS POINT....in time

## NEWSLETTER

The Point Richmond History Association

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

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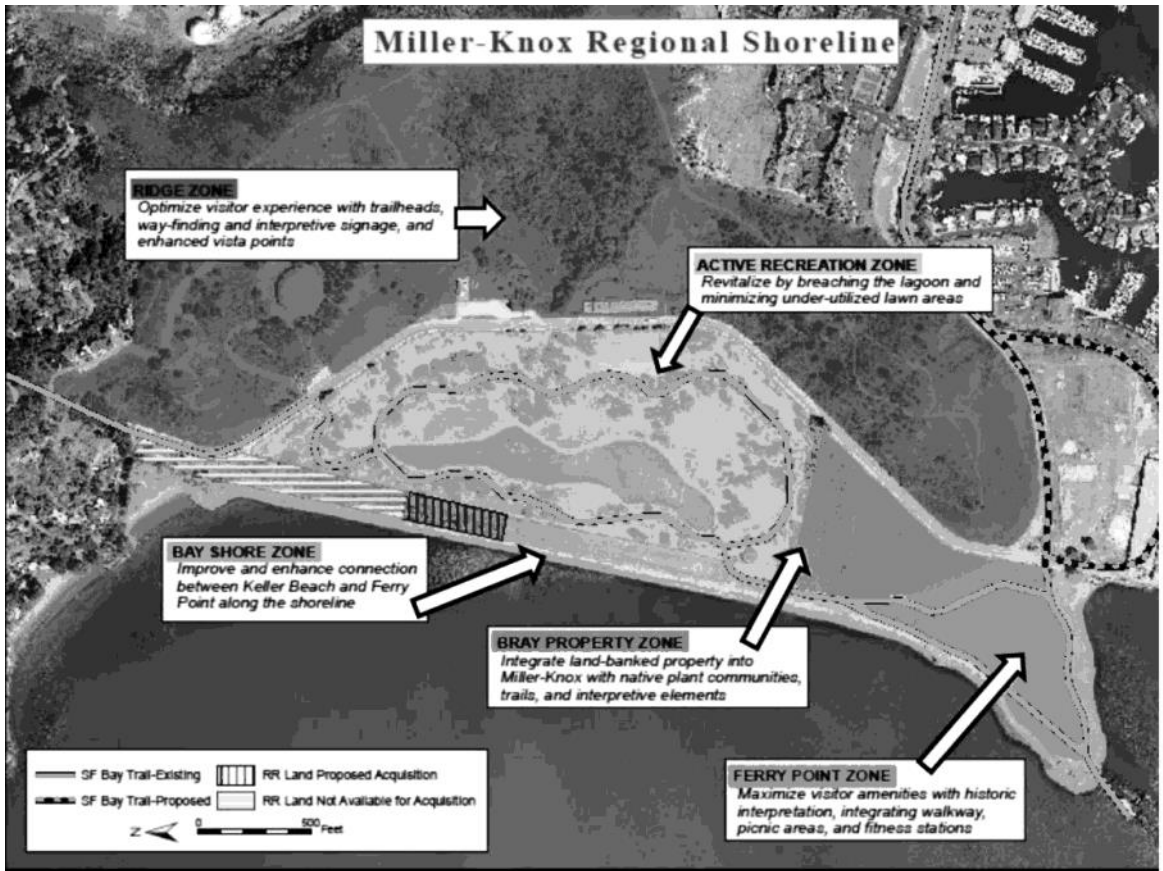
June/July/August, 2013

\$3.00



*In this issue:*

*The 60 Year Saga of Miller/Knox  
Regional Shoreline*



*The above map shows the areas that the East Bay Regional Parks folks plan to “re-vision” Miller/Knox Park*

# *From the President*

*By Mid Dornan*

Seeing members and guests and putting faces to their names at our Annual Point Richmond History Meeting in May makes the event personal. Those attending from out-of-town are especially appreciated.

The Board of Directors for 2013 - 2014 elected at the meeting are:

President, Mid Dornan; 1st Vice President, Pat Pearson; 2nd Vice President, Heinz Lankford; Joint Secretaries, Tom Piazza/Mary Cosby; Treasurer, Kathe Keihn. Membership; Pam Wilson and Archives, Museum Manager and Staff Coordinator, Bonnie Jo Cullison. After our Editor Gary has a chance to experience and enjoy his new retirement from his business ALKO office supply in Berkeley, we expect even more in our great newsletter.

Our knowledgeable Kaiser historian speaker, Steve Gilford, entertained us with his stories about the Richmond shipyards and ships, focusing on the S.S. Stephen Hopkins. Guests chatted with him over refreshments which included a special recipe for 'History Bars' which is to be found elsewhere in this issue.

*After the Annual Meeting a group gathered in our little museum to see our new 42" photo display.*

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Thank you members for your renewal:

**Viola Kennedy**  
**Bonnie Jo Cullison Family**  
**Muriel C. Clausen**  
**Mary Highfill**  
**Marilyn Darling**  
**David B. Smith**  
**Thomas L. Kenny**  
**Don Woodrow\*\***  
**Don Amantite**  
**Arne Lang**  
**Diane Diani (Frosini)**  
**Malcolm Bury**  
**Transcept Pharmaceuticals\*\***  
**Jack Mormon Family**  
**Jack Seuberth**  
**Louise Fender & Ken Blonski\*\***  
**Jeff Lee & Janice Cook Family**  
**George L. Williams**  
**Evelyn S. Thill**  
**Louis Stockdale**  
**Mid Dornan Family**  
**Kate Harps & Dale Roberts Family**  
**Arline Rodini**  
**Sharon Halpern & Victor Morales**  
**Family**  
**Janalee and Howard Arnold Family**  
**Olga Thomsen**  
**Bob Larsen**  
**Ellen & Dennis Schaefer Family**

A warm welcome to new member:

**Kathleen Wimer**  
**Bob Armstrong**  
**Bernie McIntosh**

\*Gift Membership

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



*Thank You!*

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

*For selling*

***“THIS POINT.....in time”***

*For us*

***Summer Museum Hours:***

***Open Thursdays***

***11:30 am-2:00 pm and***

***4:30 pm to 7:00 pm***

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

**Pat Pearson**  
**Mid Dornan**  
**Bonnie Jo Cullison**  
**Heinz Lankford**



***The Cover:***

***Miller/Knox Shoreline Park has  
grown into a very pleasant and a  
stunningly beautiful place!***

***Photo by Gary Shows***

## *Editor's Notes*

*Gary Shows*

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

While deciding just what to do for exercise in my new role as retiree I took a walk through Miller/Knox and was so impressed with it that I will be doing that more often. I decided then and there to make the park this issue's cover story. Little did I know at that time that lots of good things continue to happen there. Thank you very much to Bruce Beyaert for the idea and interesting information that he sent. Next issue more on Keller's Beach and Point Molate and more from Bruce.

With this extra time that I have I intend to spend more time on the website and display of our historic photos. Also it has been my plan to scan all of the old TPIT's. They will be fun to read.

Thanks to staff for all of the good stuff! Hope everyone has a great summer.

The deadline for articles and items for the next issue is August 23, 2013.

Volunteers at our last mailing party:

Pam Wilson  
Jerry Cerkowicz  
Gary Shows  
Kathe Kiehn  
Heinz Lankford  
Pat Pearson  
Bonnie Jo Cullison

**Big THANK YOU to Jean Knox for donating historic photos of Keller's Beach. More about this in the next issue.**

## *Thank You!*

### *Our Special Supporters!*

#### *History Makers*

Doug & Rosemary Corbin

Kathe Kiehn

Diane & Gordon Hirano

John A. Thiella & Rosa T. Casazza

Roberta & Richard Palfini

Rachel Palfini

Patricia Dornan

Donna Wilson

Don Woodrow

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H. Abigail Bok

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Erica Goode

Louise Fender & Ken Blonski

# *A-Mid Trivia*

*Mid Dornan (510-234-5334)*

QUESTION: Which state was the first to require automobile license plates?

ANSWER AT END OF TRIVIA.

\*\*\*

A beautiful new flag waves in front of our museum. Come in for a visit.

\*\*\*

Point Richmond Neighborhood Council President, Margaret Jorden, presided at the celebration of the Dornan Tunnel Mural and tribute to Peter Minkwitz on May 4, 2013. Funded by private donations, Bruce Beyaert was Project Coordinator of the four-year project

\*\*\*

Former Point Resident, Debbie Forbes, lives on the edge of Moore, Oklahoma, but was missed by the horrific tornados that ravaged the area last week.

\*\*\*

A portion of the proceeds from the Farmer's Market Beer Garden on May 30th will be given to the Red Cross to support victims of the Moore, Oklahoma disaster. Cheers!

\*\*\*

Thanks to the energy and enthusiasm of Point Business Association President, David Schoethal, the Farmer's Market is back! So be a volunteer to keep this going.

\*\*\*

David Moore, seen at the Pancake Breakfast at the Methodist Church during the Memorial Day Garage Sale, looks healthy after his recent heart valve replacement surgery.

\*\*\*

With all those people crowding the streets and hills of the Point during the Annual Masquer's Garage Sale benefit one wonders if all roads led to the Point that day. What time did those arrive that found a place to park?

\*\*\*

My favorite of the day: A small, curly haired little boy smilingly waving a small American Flag as he merrily skipped among the crowds. The true spirit and meaning of the holiday!

\*\*\*

The Women's Westside Improvement Club takes time to add 'fun' to their productive meetings. In June, those 'hats of the past' or an unusual hat surface with interesting tales of their origin. Add a salad potluck, desserts of great cooks and it's a memorial day.

\*\*\*

At some pharmacies you can fill your medical prescriptions as well as prescriptions for your animals.

\*\*\*

Why do psychics have to ask you your name?

\*\*\*

After two decades in San Rafael, String Letter Publishing, publishers of Acoustic Guitar and Strings Magazine, is planning to relocate to a suite at 501 Canal Blvd.

\*\*\*

David Reynolds, one of the Methodist Pancake staff, will soon head to Humbolt State College for the next phase of his education.

\*\*\*

In the first American auto race in 1895 the winning car had a speed of 7 miles per hour. Wheeee.

\*\*\*

Mechanic: I couldn't repair your brakes, so I made your horn louder.

\*\*\*

Congratulations to Hannah Frye who graduates in June from San Domenico in San Anselmo and will enter Chapman University in Orange in the fall.

\*\*\*

Rachel Palfini, daughter of Roberta and Richard Palfini, and a Junior at Whitman College, is spending six weeks in Mae Sot, Thailand,

working with Burmese Refugee Women and learning the Burmese culture, a project of Whitman College GlobMed.

\*\*\*

How many teeth does a mosquito have? They have 47 but do not use them to bite, however. Instead, they have proboscis which is a tubular appendage.

\*\*\*

It is summer and you want to avoid commercial pesticides. Many stores sell "all-natural" products but try some tried-and-true methods. ANTS: Spread cinnamon, bay leaves, cayenne pepper, salted cucumber peels or leaves from mint tea bags near their point of entry or along baseboards. MICE: Place cotton dipped in peppermint oil, or used kitty litter near problem areas. MOSQUITOES: When you barbecue, throw some sage or rosemary onto the coals.

\*\*\*

A lightning bug is brilliant  
But, he hasn't any mind.  
He flutters through existence  
With his headlight on behind.

\*\*\*

Teeth whitening products aren't cheap. Apples and celery, crunch fruits and veggies are great for cleaning away plaque and polishing the teeth and gums.

Strawberries produce an enzyme called malic acid which is said to keep teeth white!

\*\*\*

A toothpick is the object most often choked on by Americans.

\*\*\*

Attending our Annual Meeting from out-of-town included Gary Elliot, Hayward; Louis Stockdale, Antioch; Thomas Kenny, Pinole; Marjorie Hill, Rodeo; and Kenneth and Katherine Madison, Eugene, Oregon.

\*\*\*

When the postal department disclosed they might stop Saturday mail, it brought forth these comments. 'Gives me another day to say, "Checks in the mail."'

"So your junk mail will have to wait until

Monday."

Yard dogs can celebrate a small victory!  
'People still send mail?'

\*\*\*

GOOD NEWS! In the April/May 2013 issue in the A-mid column was an inquiry wanting to know if anyone still was around that remembered Luigi Damasio who came from Italy to Point Richmond in 1923. How fortunate that 96-year-old Theresa Parella who lives in El Cerrito read this item. She is the first cousin of the late Luigi and provides her phone number (510.525-4534) and looks forward to a call. (Be sure to keep us informed as we'd like happy endings.)

\*\*\*

Tom Piazza and Mary Cosby are stopping in Germany to visit friends since they are in the 'neighborhood' after Tom's meeting in Italy.

\*\*\*

Does anyone today wear an apron? Do kids know what a Home EC class is?

Grandma used to protect the dress underneath because it was easier to wash an apron than a dress and an apron used less material. In Home EC classes you learned about foods, cooking as well as sewing and design.

\*\*\*

(1927 humor)

Mae: "How are you going to vote?"

Irene: "Oh, in my blue suit, it is so becoming."

\*\*\*

ANSWER: April 25, 1901, New York became the first state to require automobile license plates.

### TRIANGLE PARK

A number of neighbors showed to help clear up the little Triangle Park garden at Washington and Crest Avenue. They weeded, pruned, mulched and turned a weedy patch back into a lovely garden. They were so successful that donations were collected to purchase plants, mulch and anything needed as the summer continues.

*Jane Diokas*

# Church News



**By Dee Rosier**  
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Once again the rectory roses are exhibiting their splash of color. What a bright welcome to see all the glorious colors. As normal roses go, some age and need to be replaced annually. Should you venture into the patio area, you will notice that any container that holds soil, has a healthy plant inside.

Needless to say, Father David's thumb is green.

A first was achieved when Archbishop Brunett celebrated mass at Our Lady of Mercy. Richmond Branch 154 of the Italian Catholic Federation hosted the event. It is a spiritual event held annually at various parishes with the County. Assisting Archbishop Brunett were Fr. Nick Reina, Fr. Larry Young and Msgr. Cardella. Attendees later enjoyed dinner at the Galileo Club. We are indeed indebted to the Branch since they were responsible for the construction and installation of the hood over the stove. Since they are an orphan branch and not connected to a parish, perhaps they will again honor us with one of their spiritual events.

The Sunday brunch consisting of pancakes with all the trimmings is ongoing. Due to the generosity of a parishioner and their donation of the meats, we have been able to retain the \$8.00 cost. God Bless those who are so generous. Everyone is welcome and your presence is valued.

It is a standing joke that once you undertake a

duty at the church, your only out is death. After the retirement of Amelia Drake and Shirley Gerk the next generation has taken over and so it has remained. During my recent absence, Brenda McKinley is the sole benefactor of the Sunday coffee/donuts. Recently her son had surgery on a Friday and Brenda had the duty on Sunday. Blessed be Brenda since she found time to pick up the donuts, deliver them and scoot off to be with her son in Walnut Creek. My original installation into the coffee/donuts was at the request of Bob Peckham who asked for a one-time favor, which has yet to expire.

A concert was held on a Sunday afternoon featuring Julia Padilla with viola and piano who performed from the mezzo repertory. Due to the acoustics, it is a delight to enjoy the music inside of the church. As a result of the concert, Father is seeking additional accompanists to enhance Sunday Mass music. Unfortunately no one has stepped up to the plate to take ownership of the Sunday religious program that once existed for the youngsters of the Parish. Should no one volunteer, the program will be done away with.

As things go, the aged heating system has displayed its age. After 30 years of use, we are looking to replace it with a more energy efficient unit.

Families who wish to have their children receive the Sacraments in this Parish, are required to establish a concrete record of participation in parish life and support for the parish. Forms are available at the entry of the church should you wish to register as a parishioner. There has been growth within our Parish and we welcome all new attendees.

It is with a heavy heart that we will soon say farewell to one of our favorite priests. Father Nick Reina has been transferred to a Salesian high school in Southern California. We wish him success and thank him for always being available to celebrate Mass when Father David was away.



In early April, Penny Crowe hosted an informal concert in her home, featuring Pawel Wlerowski. Pawel is a musician/singer from Poland who is a member of the Parish. He plays the cello and piano at Sunday Masses. Pawel performed several cello compositions. His pieces ranged from Bach to Brazilian jazz to Tango and Mambo. His performance has definitely sparked interest in his jazz group, who currently appear at several San Francisco venues.

The Daytime Bible Study group continues to meet in the church hall on the third Thursday of the month at 1:00PM. All are welcome to attend. For more information call: 233-7529.

There are times when we cannot let go of our ambitions, even though we get consumed by them. Father is once again embarking on another documentary which he thought to be impossible, but after some research finds it possible. The subject will be William Everson, a leading poet in San Francisco Renaissance (50's, 60's), who was a brother in the Dominican Order for ten years, using the name Brother Antoninus. He was well known for his public readings of his poetry.

Easter is when traditionally from Roman times converts entered the church. In keeping with the tradition, a young man was baptized on Easter Sunday. Entry into the church is by receiving the three Sacraments – Baptism, Holy Communion, and Confirmation. The church itself was SRO, which means everyone was out to do their Easter duty.

Thanks to the Gateway Foundation, we have again been endowed money to erect a new fence on the rectory side of the church. The old industrial metal one will be replaced with a more attractive wrought iron fence. Thanks is also extended to the Westside Improvement Club who donated funds for the fence.

As soon as the gentleman who shingled the church returns from Europe, the plan is that the rectory will be shingled. With the new fence and shingles, the rectory will take on a new appearance.

Memorial Day was celebrated with a parish

potluck, as well as an unexpected ceremony. Father had requested a family flag – one given to a family member at the burial of a serviceman. Nancy Noble came forward with a family flag with history. Nancy's godfather was a sailor on the Enterprise when it was hit by a kamikaze in 1945. The flag was presented to Nancy at his funeral. Tom Boone raised the flag in memory of all those we knew and remembered, then lowered it to half in honor of Memorial Day.

Diane Marie and Bill Guitierrez returned from a trip to the Tetons and whatever sites of interest they ran into along the way. Speaking of Bill, he recently assisted in the Sunday Mass collection and on his way back was stopped by a youngster who gave him the thumbs up and told him he had done a great job.

Penny Crowe and daughter are also on a travel adventure.

We welcome back to our community, Cynthia Young who was living in Alaska. She now rejoins the Eucharistic Ministers, along with her grandson, Sean Diaz.

There's nothing that brightens ones day than the smiling face and waves one receives from Washington School crossing guard, Maxine. She is presently sporting a splint on a finger, as well as a wrist brace. The injuries occurred when she had to quickly jump to the curb as the result of a car that came close to hitting her – People Behaving Badly. We wish her prompt healing.

Get well wishes to Michael McKinley who recently had a complete hip replacement.

Remember in your prayers: Al Frosini, John Gerk, Bill Smith, Linda Drake, Frank and Dixie Mello.

Henry Hagel, grandson of Nancy and Stan Toledo was recently featured in the food section of our local newspaper dining out.

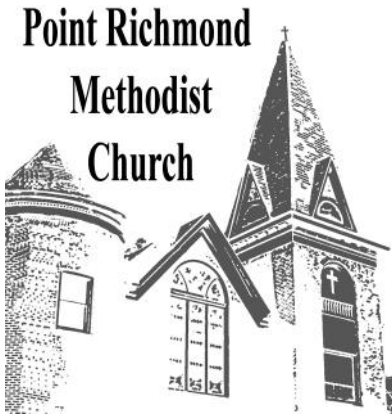
Enjoy a happy summer and all the pleasures the sunshine offers.

A SMILE IS A SIGN OF JOY

A HUG IS A SIGN OF LOVE

A LAUGH IS A SIGN OF HAPPINESS

SEE YOU IN CHURCH



## Point Richmond Methodist Church

*By Jean Reynolds*

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*jeanormr@pacbell.net*

El Cerrito UMC, Richmond First UMC, El Sobrante UMC, Good Shepherd UMC and St. Luke's UMC joined Pinole UMC in Pinole for a Good Friday Service on March 29. Pastor Dan Damon directed the joint choir. Easter Sunday, Steve Shank set up chairs the garden for the early service, but light rain brought the service indoors. We got to dance in the aisle before the end of the celebration! We ate breakfast prepared by Deby McFadyen, Linda Andrew-Marshall and Norm and Jean Reynolds. At the 11 a.m. worship, the Angel Choir sang the Love Round, The Joyful Noise Choir sang Handel's *Hallelujah* Chorus and Pastor Dan's four part setting of "Ain't No Grave (Gonna Hold This Body Down.)" Linda Pereira organized the Easter-Egg hunt for the young ones after worship.

A dozen people took the docent-led tour at the Marine Mammal Center in Sausalito on Sunday, April 28. Debbie Benko organized the fascinating tour, arranged for perfect weather, and took photos for a memory book now on display in Friendship Hall.

**ANNUAL JUNKTIQUE SALE:** May 4 we all embodied the Gospel of Junktique. The sun shone down on happy shoppers. Generous

neighbors and friends donated lots of treasures to sell. Barbara Haley, Mary Lee Cole, Pastor Dan and David Moore promoted the event in various ways. David Valentine, Kim Valentine and wee Elizabeth barbequed hot dogs and entertained chickens; others feasted on JoAnn Bray's famous chili, Florence Wilson's what's-the-secret-ingredient minestrone, and pie by the slice courtesy of Pat Pearson, Julie Simmons, Molly Smith, Jennifer Foster, Fran Smith, and the Point Business Women. Betty Graham X3! She did it all to make the sale a success! We would clone her if it were legal! Jonathan Swett, Bill Thompson, and Liam Thompson picked up donations. Pat Dornan priced jewelry. Fran Smith organized the work teams and coordinated the sales. Additional sales and kitchen help included Helen Wysham, Pat Newton, Doreen Leighton, Mid Dornan, Matt Foster, Debbie Benko, Mary Lee Cole, Lorraine Parmer, Terri Fewins-Pittman, Vivienne Scott, Tom Baynes, Linda Andrew-Marshall, Gill Stanfield, Andrew Butt, Richard Smith, Sean Mefford, Jessie Mefford, Ryan Cline, Chris Rucker, Nick Pollutro, Linda Pereira and Sandra Kokoruda. Junktique provides the ultimate recycling opportunity for the community: we celebrate working together for a common goal, have great deals for shoppers, and with luck, make our budget.

**Masquers All Point Richmond Memorial Day Yard Sale:** Sales centered in the church basement. Betty Graham was absent, but her hard work was still evident in how well organized the items were. Sellers included Tom Baynes, Fran Smith, Ryan Cline, Sandra Kokoruda, Vivienne Scott, Bill Thompson, Liam Thompson, and Sean Thompson. Upstairs, we sold "Famous World's Fair Recipe" pancakes. Norm Reynolds, David Reynolds, Karen Bianchini, and Jean Reynolds greeted, cooked and served. Doreen Leighton helped ready the tables after she had the first serving of pancakes. Fran Smith and Sandra Kokoruda set the tables the night before – the dining room was lovely. Bill Thompson regularly monitors the pilot lights on the stove: we credit him for the steady griddle heat that kept the cakes

nicely brown on the outside and thoroughly cooked in the middle.

Molly Smith was baptized and joined the church on May 19. She played the flute and brought refreshments that day, too. We are glad she chose to make it official! She is a gifted musician, linguist, baker and thoughtful friend.

On June 2, we shared our pastor with the wider fellowship of hymn writers: he taught workshops at Garrett Evangelical Seminary in Evanston, Il., and celebrated the retirement of Ruth Duck, another famous hymn writer and theologian.

Concerts: Pastor Dan performed a solo piano concert on April 20. He also played Native American Flute and guitar, but saved the accordion for another day! We heard some of Dan's favorite arrangements and compositions and got to sing along on a few. Kit Eakle and his FiddleJazz Quintet performed the first of a series of concerts on May 31 to sample from the history of jazz violin from 1900 to the present. More than sixty people reveled in the rich history and music Kit and the other musicians shared. The next installment is October 25.

Drawing on her expertise in education and using a model tested elsewhere, Mary Lee Cole founded Writer Coach Connection in the East Bay to help students learn to write better with one-on-one help from an adult volunteer. Richmond High just completed its first year with the program, and expects to grow to include more classes of students this fall. Volunteers commit to two hours about twice a month, as available. Coaches learn effective techniques to aid students at two training sessions before the season starts. If you would like to participate, learn more, or donate, call Shelli Fried 510-530-7600, email [sfried0530@gmail.com](mailto:sfried0530@gmail.com), or see the website <http://www.writercoachconnection.org/> After a year as a writer-coach, I admire the organization and its worth to students. I witnessed students who felt more motivated to write since they knew someone other than their teacher would be there in person to read and critique it. I enjoyed the chance to meet teachers, students, and other writer-coaches at Richmond High.

### On the Calendar:

Saturday, June 8: Come for a **Victorian Tea** presented by the United Methodist Women. Two seatings: 11:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. Contact Doreen Leighton to reserve your seat [d3leighton@icloud.com](mailto:d3leighton@icloud.com) or (510) 307-4561. Tickets are \$20 for adults, children under 12, \$10. Dress elegantly or come casual, but don't miss the tea!

Sunday, June 9, 4:00 p.m.: **Katherine Parker is back after five years in Cambodia** with a mission to improve water quality, sanitation and hygiene. Working with local church groups and others in the community, she developed small businesses and cooperatives to raise pigs, chickens, ducks, rice and vegetables. Katherine will share slides and stories of her adventures. Her next endeavor will be in Nepal.

Sunday, June 16: **Fathers' Day Jazz** 11:00 a.m. The Dan Damon quartet performs for your listening pleasure in this service-without-a-sermon. Several musical guests will sing along with the band.

**Vacation Bible School: August 5 – 9, Daily 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.** Make new friends and join others for games, stories, drama, art, snacks, and songs geared especially for children age three to sixth grade. Call Jean Reynolds to sign up or ask questions: (510) 235-2988.

Check the church website: [pointrichmond.com/methodist/](http://pointrichmond.com/methodist/) for updates.



# WWIC, Est. 1908

Kathleen Wimer

## News from the Women's Westside Improvement Club

We're hoping for improvements at Miller-Knox Regional Seashore. The Westside Women's Improvement Club, at our May meeting, endorsed the idea of sponsoring a community work party to help groom and improve the ramp connecting the park's lagoon area with Dornan Drive. As you can see from the then and now photographs here, things along that important pedestrian entrance to the park have deteriorated significantly since 2010. Scott Possin, East Bay Regional Park District Supervisor, met with some of us, including president, Norma Wallace, and Linda Newton, both also members of the California Native Plant Society. We decided together to hold a community work party Saturday, August 24 when it's hoped the sun won't be too bright nor the temperature too hot. The parks people will supply gloves, tools, waivers, safety instruction, and direction. WWIC will recruit volunteers and supply refreshments. We look

forward – following the clean up – to working with the park people to assess what kinds of new plants, with an emphasis on natives, might enhance the ramp's landscape. We anticipate, especially, eliminating the Himalaya berry vines, which Bruce Beyaert from TRAC tells us are unlawful under Richmond's Weed & Rubbish Abatement Ordinance. So, see you Saturday, August 24 at the Miller-Knox Regional Seashore for that community work party!

In the near term, we're excited about our Tuesday, June 4 "hat day" at 11:30 in the United Methodist Church Community Room. That's our final fundraiser for the season and our salad pot luck luncheon - \$5 with a dish, \$15 without. We wear hats – the more outrageous the better – and tell its story, truth or fiction.

Some members told stories at our April white elephant exchange. Janice Cooke said the five-sided picture frame she brought had been a



May, 2010



Same scene, May 2013



wedding gift from her Oakland skating coach. One evening, Janice and her husband, Jeff Lee, contemplated the picture frame on the coffee table in their living room where it sat for the past 13 years loaded with pictures of the two of them. Simultaneously, they decided to pitch it. Althea Humphrey explained the decorative vase she brought to the exchange no longer fit her décor, because she's redecorating. Mid Dornan told some long, touching story about the lace handkerchief she brought – made over a hundred years ago by a favorite great aunt, who ruined her eyes doing such fine handiwork before the advent of electricity, etc., etc. - all invented on the spot for our amusement. Between the silent auction and the raffle for chances on some of the not-as-special white elephants, we raised over a hundred bucks!

Some of the bucks we gave away in December warranted the thank you note Norma read at our May meeting. Mari Stainbrook's thanked us for the New Beginning Bag of Mary Kay health and beauty products we contributed to the women at Bay Area Rescue Mission. Mari said, in fact, that Point Richmond contributed fifty such bags. For our part, WWIC members can get a free facial and make over with twenty percent (20%) off our entire first purchase of any Mary Kay products. Contact Mari at [maristainbrook@marykay.com](mailto:maristainbrook@marykay.com).

In other news, officers elected to one-year terms at our May meeting include Norma Wallace, President; Marion Kent, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President; Kathe Kiehn, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President; Treasurer, Diane Hirano; Secretary, Linda Newton, and This Point in Time Correspondent, Kathleen Wimer. Thanks to the Nominating Committee which included Janice Cooke, Altha Humphrey, and – representing the WWIC Board – Diane Hirano.

Our on-going projects continue toward completion. Margaret Morkowski, past president, gave the pictures, narrative, recipes, and everything for the cook book to Norma. Marion Kent and Diane Marie volunteered to help put it together and see to its printing. The new and beautiful street map – which will replace the deteriorated one at the corner of Park Place and West Richmond by the fire house – arrived from the fabricator and is at Shigoto

Ya where its frame will be designed and constructed. Margaret says we can't quite yet predict when the map will get installed. Something about getting permission from the city to dig, probably post holes for the frame. Once we have some idea of when the map can get installed, believe you me, we are going to have a dedication to which everyone is invited. Diane Marie, our Landscape Committee Chair, says landscape efforts at the Indian Statue Park at the intersection of Park Place and Washington in downtown Pt. Richmond, is on the city's list for installation of a drip water system; that's according to Lisa Graves from the city, who works with us on this.

Hostesses treating us to a spring theme in April included Barbara Robertson, who made crème puffs for dessert. Altha Humphrey, the team leader, made pineapple upside down cake. Lori Endres and Alice Zeier helped serve. April birthdays included Carla Bowman on April 3<sup>rd</sup>, Connie Lompa on the 23<sup>rd</sup> and Jane Vandenburg on the 20<sup>th</sup>. Margaret Jordan, President of the Point Richmond Neighborhood Council, attended as Linda Newton's guest. Margaret contributed a sweet frog statuette holding a rain gauge to the white elephant exchange. I got it with one of my raffle tickets. Now, all we need is some rain.

We heard that Alice Duvernell, a former WWIC member and Point resident, was seen passing through town; also that Sonya Malaga, promoted from the Point Richmond Mechanics Bank, will run the Moraga Branch after April 5. In addition, we heard reminders about the annual Junktique at the United Methodist Church, about the May 4 Arts of Point Richmond Exhibit and Sale at the Community Center, the resumption of Sunday pancake breakfasts on the Red Oak Victory Ship on April 14, Mothers' Day, and about the eagerly anticipated re-opening of Aky's Café in its new location on Tewksbury.

Diane Hirano, leader of the May team of hostesses, put together inventive and attractive center pieces using glass bricks. (see picture) Team members Susan Brooks and Linda Newton, who also baked a vegetarian German apple cake, supplied flowers. Carla Bowman made great gluten

free brownies, and Janice Cooke helped clean up. Norma's is the only May birthday, on the 20<sup>th</sup>. Helen Wysham also pointed out that May 7, the date of our meeting, marked the 183<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of Johannes Brahm's birth.

A couple members mentioned following up on the recommendation Mary K. Stegner (a psychology professor and clinician who heads The Stegner Registry Elder Referral Service) made about Vital Link at our November, 2012 meeting. They found Vital Link helpful and cheaper than Lifeline. Mid Dornan thanked everyone for participating in Junktique. She announced the annual Memorial Day breakfast to be held at the United Methodist Church, the same day as the 20<sup>th</sup> Point Richmond Masquers Playhouse Point Richmond-wide garage sale. Mid also announced the Point Richmond History Association annual meeting May 19. Altha Humphrey reminded us of Knit and Such (first Wednesday every month, 12:30 – 2:00, Point Richmond Community Center). Altha also announced the schedule for the Arts of Point Richmond Art Walks the third Thursdays of the month, which coincide with the hours Arts of Point Richmond will be at the Farmers' Market every Thursday from 4 to 7 p.m. Pat Pearson told us about the event planned for Memorial Day at the Red Oak Victory Ship on the tarmac, so requiring no gang plank walk. Marion Kent added that the Blue Star Marker Garden installed a year ago by the El Cerrito Garden Club, of which Marion is a member, would

be re-dedicated at the Ship on Memorial Day. Marion also mentioned that Lois Boyle, former head of the Point Richmond History Association, currently devotes her full energies to the Ship. Lois received a Richmond Historic Commission award May 17 for her work. Saturday, June 8, 10 a.m. the East Bay Regional Park District invites people to Miller-Knox Regional Shoreline to envision "future uses of relatively recent acquisitions that remain unplanned and deteriorated, as well as older portions needing renovation."

Mid Dornan says the WWIC has met since 1908 and is concerned that all the meeting minute archives be maintained. Susan Brooks remembered supplying all the minutes she kept for three years to Margaret Morkowski. Diane Marie said she typed minutes directly into Margaret's computer during the time she served as secretary. Kim Hampton suggested maybe all the minutes should get scanned. Linda Newton agreed to be our new secretary specifically because she wants to work with Mid and Kim on archiving the historic minutes.

Norma wants the WWIC, in addition, to consider a membership drive. As she says, "We are a real happening group. We make things happen." Diane Hirano, Diane Marie, and Linda Newton all agreed to work on a drive.

Between our various specific and general funds, the WWIC has a total of \$7,341.33 says Treasurer, Diane Hirano.

## POINTS OF ETIQUETTE in 1915

(For those desiring personal answers must enclose a two-cent stamp.)

Sit erect at the table--not too stiff, nor lounging. The arms and elbows should never be placed on the table. Do not sit too near the table as it throws out the elbows, while sitting too far away gives the body a swaying motion when passing food to the mouth. About six or eight inches is the correct distance one should sit from the table.

The spoon should never be allowed to remain in the coffee, tea, or bouillon cup while drinking from it. To stir the beverage once or twice, sip a spoonful to taste the temperature, is quite sufficient. The remainder drink directly from the cup.

*Mid*

*at the Masquers*

## Closer Than Ever

Masquers Playhouse presents *Closer Than Ever*, music by David Shire, lyrics by Richard Maltby, Jr.

*Closer Than Ever*, the hit musical revue by David Shire and Richard Maltby, Jr., opens May 31 at Masquers Playhouse in Point Richmond. *Closer Than Ever* was originally produced Off-Broadway in 1990. The production at Masquers is the West Coast premiere of the revised script, which debuted in a revival Off-Broadway at the York Theatre in 2012. Intimate, heartfelt and funny as hell, *Closer Than Ever* is an evening of song that celebrates personal triumphs and acknowledges the anxieties, the loss and “the lingering regrets connected to the point in life when it is too late to start over.” (New York Times) It’s about growing up and growing older, getting lost, gaining love and getting loopy. The cast includes Coley Grundman, Shay Oglesby-Smith, Michelle Pond, LaMont Ridgell, Jennifer Stark and J. Scott Stewart. Directed by Peter Budinger and DC Scarpelli, Music Direction by Pat King, Choreography by Anjee Norgaard.



Performances are Fridays and Saturdays at 8 pm with Sunday matinees at 2:00 pm on June 9, 16 and 30.

The show plays through July 6.

Tickets are \$22 and all seats are general admission.

Tickets can be purchased online at <http://www.masquers.org> or by calling (510) 232-4031.

The playhouse is located off of Highway 580 (Richmond Parkway exit) at 105 Park Place, Point Richmond, across from the Hotel Mac.

# The 60-year Saga of Miller/Knox Shoreline

*Prepared by Bruce Beyaert based for early years upon files of Lucretia Edwards before they were given to the Point Richmond History Association for safe keeping*



Miller/Knox  
park before fill.  
PRHA photo  
archive #089-  
DC from our  
Don Church  
Collection

YEAR	EVENT
1950's	Thomas E. Edwards, a docking pilot for Standard Oil, sells all his stocks and bonds to buy the western half of Nicholl Knob's summit for \$23,000 because his wife, Lucretia, was heartbroken when she discovered that housing was planned there.
1964	Contra Costa County residents vote to join East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD). Contra Costa Shoreline Parks Committee and Save The Bay launch a campaign for shoreline access at a time when public land represents only 64 feet of Richmond's 32-mile shoreline.
1966	EBRPD General Manager William Penn Mott writes "The place for a hillside shoreline park in Contra Costa County is at Point Richmond." ERMUD cancels plans for a water tank on the top of Nicholl Knob.



- 1967 City of Richmond establishes Keller Beach park.
- 1968 “Picnic In The Point Park Cookbook” published by Contra Costa Shoreline Parks Committee “to promote a regional park on a section of our shoreline and the hills above it, including Nicholl Knob.”
- 1970 Lucretia and Tom Edwards sell EBRPD their protected 371’ elevation southern summit of Nichol Knob for their original purchase cost.
- 1970-72 EBRPD acquires lands from Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railroad (AT&SF) and others.
- 1972 Miller/Knox lands dedicated for public park uses.
- 1975 Miller/Knox Regional Shoreline established, including Keller Beach.
- 1983 Miller/Knox Regional Shoreline Land Use-Development Plan and EIR.
- 1988-92 EBRPD purchases 28 acres of Ferry Point land (18 subtidal) from AT&SF
- 1995 Ferry Point Amendment to Land Use-Development Plan.
- 1996 EBRPD buys Crest Avenue site of AT&SF steam engine water reservoir in response to neighborhood request and donations.
- 1997 Capping a 5-year effort of Point Richmond Neighborhood Council (PRHC), EBMUD completes underground water reservoir to replace old leaking tank on inland side of Nicholl Knob.
- 1999 EBRPD purchases 7-acre Bray Oil Company property.
- 2002 Ferry Point park land and improvements dedicated
- 2003 Nicholl Knob park facilities dedicated after City of Richmond consolidates and undergrounds regional emergency telecommunication facilities. This completes a PRNC project launched in 1994 when cell phone facilities were proposed on and around Nicholl Knob.
- 2004 Voters approve Measure CC with \$1.222 million for capital improvements to “Remove tracks, fencing, and re-grade railroad right of way to provide public access from park to the bay and to Keller Beach” plus a major renovation of meadow areas.
- 2013 EBRPD begins update of Miller/Knox Land Use Plan.

## “A Walk in the Park”

Saturday, June 8, 2013

*Article and Photos by Gary Shows*

Even though it is a star in my mind, changes are coming to Miller/Knox Regional Shoreline Park that will make it even better. On Saturday, June 8th the East Bay Regional Park District conducted a public meeting in the park. They are looking to “re-vision” the park, form a new Land Use Plan Amendment and CEQA document and are asking for public input. One of the main goals is to make the



*Michelle Julene Got Things Started*

shoreline park flow as a continuous enjoyable park from Keller's Beach to Ferry Point.

They called this meeting “A Walk in the Park”. I took the walk through the Bay Shore Zone, the Bray Property Zone and the Ferry Point Zone. The hike was led by Park Planner Michelle Julene and attended by several dozen citizens. After coffee and pastry, we walked the entire perimeter of the park from Keller's Beach to Ferry Point. Michelle with the help of several of her fellow EBRPD employees



*John Knox on scooter, with wife Jean*



*Bruce Beyaert was there*

made the walk/meeting very informative and enjoyable. I think they got lots of feedback and ideas from the public, many took home survey forms to send in later.

Everyone was happy to see John Knox himself in his scooter being assisted by wife Jean. Nice to see Bruce Beyaert of TRAC fame, Bruce has also contributed to this issue of TPIT.

I did not stay for the Ridge Zone hike but I am sure it was just as interesting and I plan to do it later.

You can learn more and take part in the re-visioning of our jewel of a park by navigating your computer to:

[http://www.ebparks.org/parks/miller\\_knox](http://www.ebparks.org/parks/miller_knox)



*Above Michelle talking to us about the future of the railroad tracks and water access.*



*Left interpretive stop at lagoon.*

*Below interpretive stop at Ferry Point.*







# Brooks Island II

by George Coles

I hope that my previous article did not convince you that all archaeological research is a form of vandalism, but it is important that responsibilities be part of the picture.

Back in 1959 before the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) which enabled the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) the traces of past inhabitants had no protection except the speed, skill and resources of those trying to protect them. Archaeological research of this time was, in large part, in the hands of major universities with the nature of their research being primarily determined by the training needed by their students.

The Native Americans were very concerned but had very little political power to bring to site protection. Their sincere motives were usually totally ignored or misunderstood by both land “developers” and archaeologists.

When a major project plan appeared in the newspapers, no mention of evidence of past inhabitants was part of the plan. Those concerned needed to keep themselves informed.

We knew there were village remains on Brooks Island from the work of N. C. Nelson as far back as 1906. When I read in the paper a plan for leveling the island for fill or possibly for an airport, I was concerned.

California prehistory was not the focus of my interest in anthropology. In addition archeological fields work takes time and money. The time element on this was not known and no funds were

available except my monthly paycheck from the college.

Urged on by my students, thinking I could do this in a few months, I gained permission to excavate on sites CA CCO 290 and 291, the major sites on Brooks island, for one year. We had no equipment, so students and I started making shaker screens and collecting shovels, trowels, dental picks, and other equipment and reading past research.

By Spring of 1960 we were ready to leap into action. Students were the planned labor force - volunteers of course. I had no idea how much interest would be aroused. Supervision was to be in my hands though I had worked on only one site in my life.

Fortunately, my students didn't just follow.



*Crew working on site CCO 290*



They found equipment, studied past research in the area and urged us on. Most noticeable in the group were John Waller (a 17 year old with insatiable curiosity and great energy, now an artist in Roseburg Or.) Luis Kemnitzer (later went to SFSU and then to a PhD at Penn and became chairman of the Anthro Dept at SFSU) and a non student, David Fredrickson, then a cab driver and president of the Berkeley Nude Models League. As a result of his work at Brooks Island, he went back to school at U. C. Davis for his PhD and later became chairman of the Anthro Dept. at Sonoma State. Dave had more site work than the others, and we brought in his wife, Vera Mae, who was a major resource. Dave's memorial in the Ford Plant auditorium early this year was attended by hundreds

Our first forays onto the island were in kayaks, but we soon acquired a rather limited craft. A dory previously used on the Rogue River Tours was located by my students though it had a large leak in the right side – from a trailer tire. We patched the leak with Jack Knox bumper stickers ( with Jack's permission) and cautioned people to lean to the left when underway. We cleared the sites, did topographic survey, and by September 1960 we were under way. This was not the most organized beginning a site can have.

Bay Area sites are essentially shell mounds. Their content is the debris of habitation (midden) . This material left over from living can pile up over centuries to ten or fifteen foot depths over several acres. The contents in ash from cooking, the bones and shells of food sources, the tools and objects they used and the debris from making the tools, the ceremonial and decorative materials, the layers which form the levels and the floors of the houses and the buried bones of the people themselves.

This is all to be recovered, analyzed, and interpreted. We had more help than I had anticipated. Famous archaeologists from U. C. such as J. Desmond Clark and Al Elsasser along with Aden Traganza from SFSU., Clem Meighan from UCLA and others from U C Davis and Sacramento State began requesting that their students be allowed to come to our site. This was

because we were the “only game in town” but they were very helpful.

I soon realized that I didn't know enough to lead this project; so I applied for, and was granted a National Science Foundation Faculty Fellowship. I chose U. C. Berkeley as the locale and spent a rigorous full year plus two summer sessions at what was probably the best Anthro graduate institution in the world. It also gave me access to U C resources for future years.

How does one interpret what is found? some things are rather easy. Ash suggests fire which suggests cooking. Stones around where a fire was are much like our own campfires. But cooking stones are another level. We don't drop rocks into our soups. So we do what we call ethnographic analogy. That is, we know from people living in a similar way and having similar objects that they cooked by putting hot rocks in a basket with the food to be cooked. This isn't new information gained by archaeology but it is handy to know. Much of what we consider is based on ethnographic analogy.

You are dealing with clues which are not always obvious. You can make a good guess if the object is within your experience. A fish hook, a decorative pendant or beads, but a surprising amount of what you find requires ethnographic analogy beyond just comparison with your way of life. Experimental archaeology or guess work! Watch out for toys or objects of great religious significance. That really means we don't have any good idea of what people did with them.

For example “charmstones”; Charmstones are a category of well worked stones of various sizes shaped sort of like an avocado with about the same size range though the shape does vary (I just thought of the avocado description after years of other descriptions.) If found at Ellis Landing about two blocks from Brooks Island sites they usually have a hole in them as if they had been suspended from a cord. None of the ones from Brooks have the hole though they are otherwise quite similar. They confound us further not only because we

*(Continued on page 20)*

*(Continued from page 19)*

have no” charmstones” in our world but because both sites stopped making them about 700 years ago – and they had been making them for more than 1000 years.

Even obvious isn’t so obvious. We came upon



*View of face of the site.  
The square blocks are midden.*

a unique object which, to me, seemed to be a small frog effigy with the rows of spots on a frog’s skin. A student turned it on end, in my view, and it became a robust human female torso with tattoo marks of which we were aware through ethnographic analogy.

Our areas of interpretation include the midden (habitation debris) itself. The shells, bones etc, tell us not only of food items but, since we know something of creature habits, also where they hunted or traded to acquire them. This is true for crystals, stones, and other materials.

Artifacts – anything modified by man for his

use, plus some things modified by particular kinds of use tell us of the local technology and possibly of trade. If you find obsidian blades and no flaking waste as would come from their manufacture the blades may be objects not made locally.

The human burials provide a major resource. They reveal the general size and build of the people; injuries, medical treatment or modification, disease, even some cultural phenomena. There was one group in the Sacramento Valley in which the left forearms and left facial bones of women showed evidence of having been broken more than one would expect. This was interpreted as damage to women by right handed men beating them. The left forearm would be held up in defense and be hit and the left facial bones would also be damaged in that form of attack. I haven’t seen such damage, but one is sensitized to look for such things I sure our Brooks people were more considerate as were most California people.

Additional interpretation comes from different textures in the midden. One can detect house floors from the impacted midden- sweeping out gets rid of the large shell fragments leaving the fine ones which impact and are quite obvious sometimes in a kind of bowl shape as much as six inches thick and seven to nine feet across. The post holes are sometime evident.

ENOUGH !!!, Come back next time for more interpretation. I’ll try to tie it all together and then tell you where you can see all of the materials and come to your own interpretations.



**A soldier who survived mustard gas and  
pepper spray is now a seasoned veteran**

**Thanks to Pat Pearson for keeping the local markets stocked with TPIT!**

## Teresa Meneghelli's History Bar Recipe

This recipe is from Theresa Bernardi Meneghelli, a member of a pioneer Italian family who arrived here in the early 1900s living in the Point in the white house on Dornan Drive across from the Regional Park. Theresa brought it to one of our annual meetings.

1 1/3 cup packed brown sugar  
1 cup unsalted butter  
3/4 cup light corn syrup  
5 1/3 cup quick oats  
2 teas vanilla

Beat butter/sugar until fluffy. Stir in rest of ingredients w/wooden spoon. Butter hand to pack into pan. Bake in middle of oven, 350 - 26 minutes. Cool until lukewarm. Spread w/glaze and cool completely before cutting.

### GLAZE:

12 oz chocolate chips  
1 cup creamy peanut butter  
Stir over low heat until smooth and creamy.  
(9 x 13 greased pan)

## MUSEUM VISITORS

A big THANK YOU to our docents for the hours they volunteer at our unique Museum each month.

It is also rewarding to see who has visited our site. They came from Sweden, as well as Louisiana, Indiana, Oregon, Arkansas, Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona and Washington. Also, an increasing number of school children and local residents have spent time learning about the history of the Point area. Visitors came from Palo Alto, Sausalito, Elk Grove, El Cerrito, Forestville, Berkeley, Palm Desert, Alameda, San Pablo, Orinda, North Shore, Albany, Sacramento, Jackson, Hawthorne, Piedmont, Petaluma, Monterey, Walnut Creek, Rodeo, Clayton, Larkspur, Sonoma, Vallejo, Fairfield, Oakland, Novato, and Cupertino. We greeted the Editor of the California Historian and the Director of the Martinez Museum.

Our 'Walking Tour of Point Richmond' is our most requested brochure. And, we deeply appreciate the grant from the Gateway Foundation that has enabled us to purchase the new Digital Picture Frame.

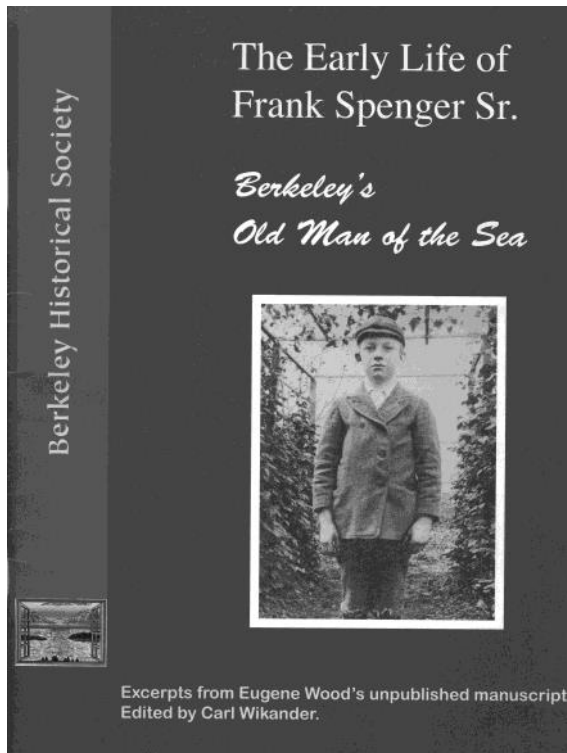
It has been a good year.

*Mid*

*Miller/Knox Park Below*



Thanks to PRHA member Burl Willes for a copy of the Berkeley Historical Society's publication about the early life of Frank Spenger Sr., of the legendary Spenger's Grotto restaurant. I thought our readers might enjoy this. This chapter takes up when very young Frank runs away from his Berkeley home to his aunt in Point Richmond. When he finds that the aunt has moved away he befriends locals that include a blacksmith and a "cathouse madam."



came around and took him away, and I never saw him again."

This was when she gave Frank the money and asked him to buy the muslin. A prostitute she may have been, but in her maidenly bosom beat a loyal heart. Sometimes in her room she cried quietly to herself when the nostalgic memories of her family home in the little Indiana town overwhelmed her. The 4th of July recalled to her the best of times, with remembrances of family picnics, starched white dresses with bows, music, parades, speeches in the park, and innocent flirtations with the farm boys. Since she wouldn't be allowed outside Madam Sally's to attend this year's celebration, she was at least going to make herself a red, white, and blue shirtwaist with stars sewn on the big collar.

Lillian's shirtwaist was finished by the end of June, and she showed it to Frank one morning in the kitchen. He thought that it was real pretty and that Lillian sure could sew. Actually, it was quite rudimentary, having just been sewn over another shirtwaist. However, it was a figure in quite a hassle in the whorehouse that night. It seemed that Jack London, no less, and a group of his rowdy friends paid a call on Sally. They arrived about nine o'clock.

"Hi Sally," said the tallest one. "Meet my friend from Oakland, Jack London."

"Pleased to meetcha, Mr. London. Welcome."

The party sat themselves in the parlor and asked for whiskey. Sally said she only served wine, but for such gentlemen she thought she might be able to find a bottle she had in her baggage for traveling purposes. The girls were in the parlor, too, trying their best to put on a genteel front for that well-dressed and obviously well-educated guests. Jack London asked, "Miss Sally, are you going to hang a little bunting and regalia

"Whereabouts?", asked Frank.  
"In a little town in Indiana near South Bend."  
"Golly, I'm glad I don't live in an orphanage."  
"I just escaped it myself," she told Frank. "I was nearly seventeen when our parents were killed in a fire, and the county put all the kids in a home. After a few months I ran away and finally reached San Francisco."

"You used to play the piano at home then. You play good."

"I really don't play good, Frankie. I wish I could play ragtime like the professor did in the last place I worked in Oakland. He was going to teach me, but something happened to him. The police



out from in honor of the glorious 4th?"

"Oh, Mr. London, you're a kidder, aren't you. We try to stay as invisible as possible so as not to arouse the neighbors."

"Well, I think you should really make some effort to celebrate Independence Day. Maybe have red, white and blue striped sheets or something."

This caused lots of laughter. Everybody was loosening up with the drinks, even Carmen, who was taking occasional sips out of the whiskey bottle in the kitchen when Sally wasn't looking. Carmen preferred whiskey to wine. She firmly believed in the adage that liquor is quicker.

"Mr. London, I made myself a shirtwaist that is red, white and blue," Lillian pipes up.

"You did?" replied London, feigning polite interest. "That must be something."

Lillian didn't reply, but silently stole off upstairs and donned her patriotic garment. Her arrival back in the parlor caused quite a stir. One of London's companions sat down at the piano and played a few bars of "Yankee Doodle," while two others did the limping drummer boy bit with the bandaged head around the room. Just then, Carmen, who had been sneaking another nip in the kitchen, came back into the parlor. The sight of Lillian preening in the decorated shirtwaist seem to thoroughly enrage her. She strode over, grabbed a handful at the neckline, and tore it off the surprised girl, probably making her the first topless entertainer in Point Richmond.

"Those aren't the colors of California. The true ones are red, green, and white, the colors of Mexico. My grandfather fought the Yankees at San Pasqual, and I spit on your damn shirtwaist." And she did. Then she grabbed a double handful of Lillian's hair and jerked. In one moment, the pleasant party degenerated into a brawl. The madam jumped on Carmen's back and locked a chokehold around her neck. The fiery Mexican was made of stern stuff, though, and wouldn't let go. With much screaming and yelling, they all went down in a heap, displaying lots of cotton covered rumps and bosoms, with dashes of red garters and ribbons for color. The other girls and the men finally separated them. No one had ever

seen Sally so mad. She screamed at Carmen.

"God damn you, you trouble making pepper belly. Beat it! Out! I won't have you in my house another night. Get out! Get your things together and leave. Right now, do you hear?"

"I wouldn't stay in your crummy dump another night," yelled Carmen. "You call yourselves women! You're not fit to be around men with guts. You should all be milking cows somewhere." With that, she stalked off with as much dignity as she could muster, holding her town camisole over one bosom, and one leg of her drawers hanging down. She cut quite a figure.

"Get you stuff together. I'll call the buggy. I want you out of here now, slut," said Sally, pointing up the stairway at the departing Carmen.

Frank, who was outside under his tree, couldn't see what was happening, as the portieres were pulled, but he could hear. He had sneaked up close to the window when the fracas started and listened. When he heard Sally say she would call for a buggy, he slipped around the back door and knocked. Sally, still red in the face, opened up.

"I heard some yelling as I was passing. Do you need anything?" asked Frank innocently.

Probably under more normal circumstances Sally would have been a trifle suspicious of Frank's timely arrival, but she was so wrought up over Carmen that it didn't cross her mind.

"Oh, it's you Frankie. Yes. Go on up to the livery stable and get Fred and the buggy. Tell them to hurry."



*Enjoying this little story?*

*Call the Berkeley Historical Society at 510-848-0181 to get a copy of this book.*

*Visit [berkeleyhistoricalsociety.org](http://berkeleyhistoricalsociety.org) for more information on the Berkeley Historical Society.*

*Conclusion of this chapter in the next issue.....*

## *Cards, Letters & E-Mails*

Dear Pam,

I noticed Roger Glafke's name in the last edition of "This Point in Time". Roger and I went to Grammar School , Jr. High School and High School together for many years. I've lost contact with almost all of our former classmates. So, I hope Roger will contact me.

Will you address the enclosed envelope and send it to him. Feel free to read my message and send it to him.

Thanks very much,  
Jack N. Seuberth  
Sonoma, CA

*I mailed Roger's letter on May 28th, Pam*

Hi Mid,

Thanks for letting us know about our reelection. We're happy to do what we can.

At the moment we are in Cologne, Germany. I am at a meeting here, but we have had plenty of opportunity to do sightseeing around town. It is really a very picturesque place. But we leave on Sunday, to return home. So we will be seeing you all soon.

Auf Wiedersehen  
Tom and Mary

*Mid Dornan informed vacationing Mary Crosby and Tom Piazza of their reelection to the PRHA board.*

Thanks to Kathe Kiehn and Heinz Lankford for mailing the April/May issue of TPIT

## EXCLUSIVE OVER 90 CLUB

Lupe Padilla Lopez - 99  
Elfriede Morris - 94  
Shoney Gustafson - 97  
Jerry Cerkanowicz, Sr. - 93  
Grace Cerkanowicz - 90  
Steve Wyrick - 97  
Madelilne Bellando Albright - 96  
Mid Dornan - 92  
Reva Ward 100  
Al Frosini - 94  
Bernard Dietz - 98  
Charlotte Kermabon Birsinger - 95  
Gretchen Van Tassel Shaw - 93  
Viola Lala Kennedy- 95  
Lee Christian - 93  
Delphina Franco Tawney - 94

Eunice Ruth Hursh - 97  
George Coles - 91  
George Leroy Williams - 90  
Billie Bonham Shaw - 90  
Mark Gebhart - 98  
Jean Stark - 98

***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. Thank you to those who  
update these numbers.**

# *Birthdays*

## *June*

Alissa Bagley	Stacey Spinola	Suzanne Unser	Lee Christian
Phyllis Downey	Gill Stanfield	Tom Kenny	Lillian Karl
William Shea	John H. Knox	Bill Smith	Luke Karl
Emeric H. Baxter	Alice Baxter	Aaron Marshall	Steve Wyrick
Andrew Butt	Wilson Gandola	Michael Marshall	June Solosbal
Joanne Lansing	Rosemary Giacomelli	Marcelina Smith	Phyllis Bogue
Cathe Brazil	Daniel Buhler	Gerry Higuera	Doreen Minkwitz
Brian Rotting	Dianne Primaver	Judy Travis	

## *July*

Francis Smith	Richard Smith	MacMillan	Alyce Williamson
Amy Rotting	Diedre Cerkowicz	Loretta 'Mertle' Lease	Martha Bielawski
Richard Tapp	Allen Anderson	Madeline Bellando	Madison Bradshaw
Mrs. Chas Baldwin	Roger Elle	Albright	Dixie L. Mello
Dan Damon	Trace Smith	Jean Reynolds	Frank Matteucci
Julius Matteucci	Alice McMahon	Regan Bradshaw	Lea Smith
Bea Read	Hilary Lord	Jon Healy	
Mary L.Knox	Clifford (Lou)	Golda Pettycord Howard	

## *August*

Donna Wilson	Linda DeLaTorre	Bonnie Ritzenthaler	Bob Armstrong
Mid Dornan	Zoanna Kille	Wilson	Bernie McIntosch
Kevin Pryne	Mary Knox	Dean Beesley	
Molly Kate Barnes	Karla Peterson	R.Clayton Barnes	<i><b>You share your</b></i>
Joe Darling	Alia Smyke	Tony Bernabich	<i><b>birthday with 9</b></i>
Marlene Smith	Terrence Doherty	Michael Shaw	<i><b>million other people in</b></i>
Barbara Ward	Lisa Smith	Roy Henry Glover	<i><b>the world!</b></i>
Connee Fisher	Kelly von York	Beatrice Beesley Casey	
Alice Thompson	Rose Barra	Jim Healy	

Thank you Kathryn Pruitt Alves for donating some wonderful historic photos. They are now part of our archives, you will see them later in TPIT.

# TPIT Editor Retires from Office Supply Business

*Mid Dornan*

Gary Shows moved to Point Richmond with his life partner Jerry Cerkowicz in 1972. Gary worked at ALKO Office Supply in downtown Berkeley for 41 years, his being the American success story of dedication and hard work. He started as the company's buyer and, fifteen years later was able to purchase the business and became its president. In 2001 he purchased the building that housed the business at 2225 Shattuck Avenue. When the company's success faded, he decided it was time to retire.

Gary has been editor of TPIT since 1987. At that time Jerry was a member of the Point Richmond History Association board when the then editor, Frances Greenlaw, became ill and was unable to produce the past due magazine. Gary, who had taken an interest in the new desktop publishing being done on computers offered to try to do this one issue. We all know what happens next! Now, over a hundred editions later he is still producing our popular "THIS POINT....in time" newsletter.

With more available time, Gary expects to

produce a better quality newsletter and work on a few other PRHA projects, like the website and historic photo collection. The Board is grateful Gary didn't retire from the PRHA.



*Photograph by Thomas Mercer-Hursh*

## AMERICA'S CUP

All eyes of the world are on San Francisco and the Bay Area this summer with the trials of the America's Cup Race. This race is about the fastest boats, the best sailors, and gamesmanship!

New Zealand is the latest entrant into the race launching their 72-foot Catamaran and are the ONLY entry without billionaire backing and the only team made up almost entirely of native countrymen. Primary funding is by the New Zealand government

After their first win in 1995, grown men attending sailing functions aren't considered properly dressed unless they wear 'lucky' red socks, a homage to former team director Sir Peter Drake. For lack of money, their budget is one-half of Oracle's, they feel they can "outthink" the competition!

Look for World's Cup people around the Richmond Yacht Club.

*Mid*



**Broken pencils are pointless.**



# *Deaths.....*

**Catherine Burchell** passed away in Sebastopol on March 25, 2013. Age 92. Born in Mill Valley, she moved to the Point when she married Robert Burchell in 1950. Catherine took a year off college to volunteer for the US Army and was assigned to the Allied Forces in Algiers and Italy where she worked as a radio Operator during WW II. A lifelong educator, she taught Algebra in the RUSD for 20 years and retired to Santa Rosa to be near her family. She is survived by her sons, Bob of Crescent City, and Tom, Sebastopol and her brother, Robert, of Ashland, OR. No services were held per her request.

**Richard E. Wood** died March 23, 2013. Age 64. Rick Wood was born in Ottawa, Canada, raised in Boston and after graduating from Boston University, he embarked on a life-long career in the yachting industry. In 1981 he arrived and settled in Point Richmond where he and his partner, Alfie Sanford founded Sanford-Wood Marine, a Bay Area institution. He was the proud owner of many classic yachts, an active member of many yacht clubs and a Lifetime member of Point San Pablo Yacht Club. He is survived by his daughter, Isabella; his sisters Wendy and Robin; and his brother Michael.

**Marilyn Eloise Grafft** died peacefully on Saturday, June 16th following a stroke and further complications. Marilyn was born in Richmond, California and grew up with her brother Russell and sister Patricia, in Point Richmond. Her father and mother were Don and Marian Church. Don Church's historical chronicles and photos are a great asset of the PRHA. She attended UC Berkeley where she met Bill Grafft. They were married June 16, 1951. They settled in Orinda, CA in 1957 and had two children. She and her husband were founding members of the Moraga Valley Presbyterian Church. They moved to Santa Clara in 1979, where she served in the office at Sunnyvale Presbyterian Church. She is survived by her husband of 61 years, Bill Grafft, daughter Kate Freeman, son-in-law Dean Freeman, their children Eric and Ali, son Paul Grafft, daughter-in-law Susan Grafft, and their children Caroline, Gordon and Kingsley Frazier and her husband Lt. Grant Frazier.

**William "Bill" La Force** died peacefully on April 15, 2013 with his wife, Maggie, at his bedside. Bill was born August 6, 1923 in Cleveland. He will be missed by his family, including his daughter, Kathryn "Kitty" Anne, and son Jeffrey Robertson, sister Annabel, grandchildren, William Hastings, Erin, Charles, Zachary and great grandchildren Wyatt, Augie and Evelyn.

# *CALENDAR/DIRECTORY*

## **ARTS OF POINT RICHMOND**

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

## **CHRISTIAN SCIENCE READING ROOM**

114 Washington Avenue, Point Richmond, 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 pm. Tickets are \$22. Dinner Theater Benefit one Sunday matinee during each run provides a show followed by dinner at the Hotel Mac for only \$50  
Call 510-232-4031 for information or 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, Contact, 510-235-0157

## **POINT RICHMOND BUSINESS ASSOCIATION**

Contact: Andrew Butt, 510-236-7445

## **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 August 23, 2013. 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: Sue Rosenof at 599-1197

## **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

## **RICHMOND SWIMS**

The Children and teens "Sail Fish" and Masters swim teams at the Richmond Plunge.

Contact: Coach John Schonder, 510-504-0330

September 25, 2011 open water bay swim raises money for coaching, equipment, pool fees and swimming scholarships for inner-city youth throughout Richmond. More info at <http://www.richmondswims.org/> or call (415) 892-0771

## **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: Norma Wallace , President. 510-236-6968

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
<input type="checkbox"/>	Family	25.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	History Preserver	50.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Corporate Sponsor	75.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	History Maker	100.00

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](mailto:gary@alkos.com)**

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

**139 ½ Washington Avenue**  
**Point Richmond, CA 94801**

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### **Board of Directors:**

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*Bonnie Jo Cullison, Museum Manager/Staff Coordinator*

### **Main Contributors to this Issue:**

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Pam Wilson	Membership Info
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Dee Rosier	Article
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Burl Willes	Information
Berkeley Historical Society	Article
Bill Grafft	Information
Bruce Beyaert	Information
Theresa Bernardi Meneghelli,	Recipe

### **Phone Numbers**

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Visit our website

**PointRichmondHistory.org**

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Red Oak Victory Information	510-235-7387
Rosie the Riveter Park	510-232-5050



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