

# THIS POINT.... in time

## NEWSLETTER

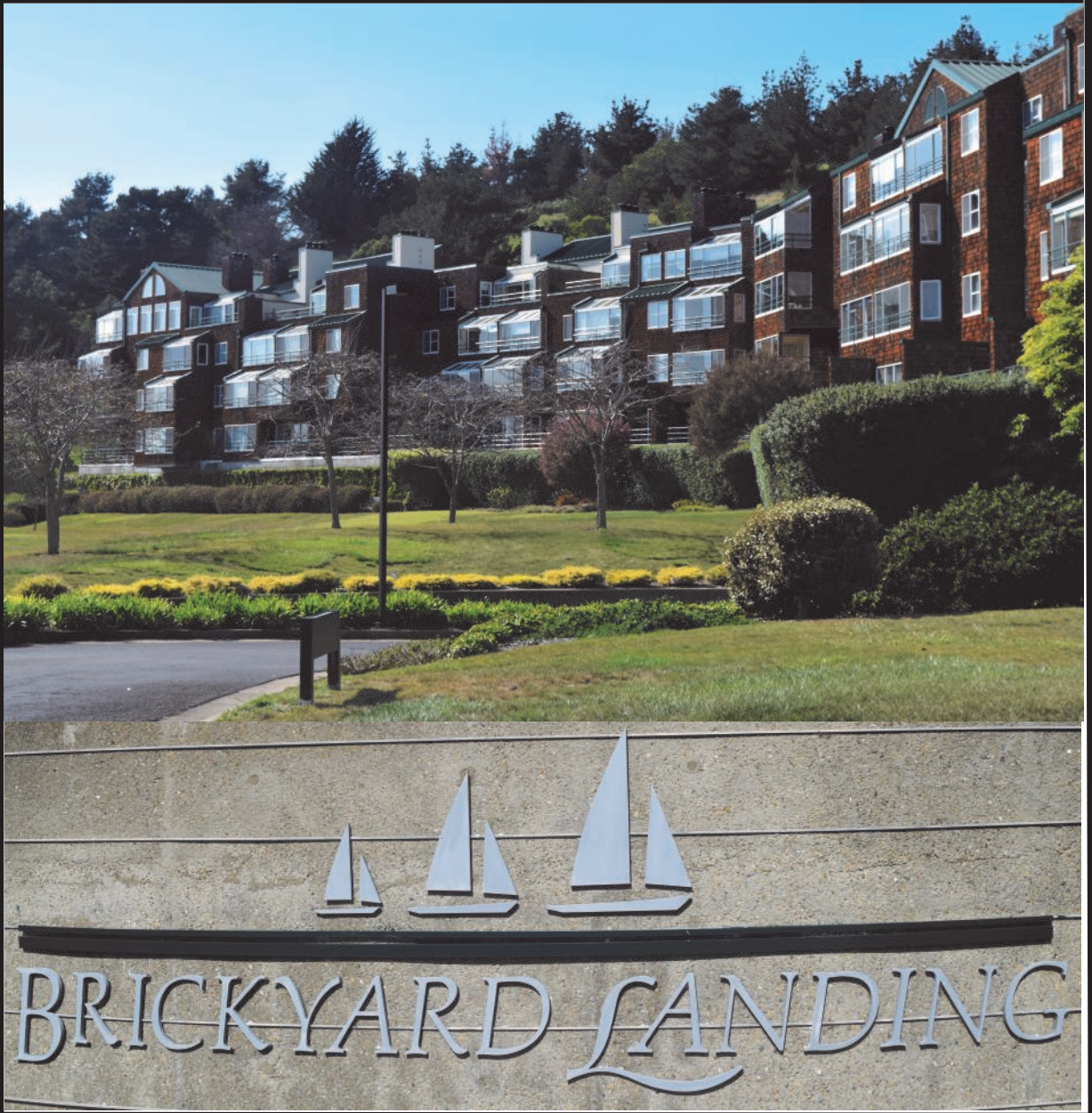
The Point Richmond History Association

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

Vol. XXXIII No. 5

April/May, 2015

\$3.00



*Mark Your Calendar for May 17, 2015 at 2 PM  
Point Richmond Community Center  
139 Washington Avenue*

*The Point Richmond History Association  
General Membership Meeting  
And Election of Officers*

*After the meeting we will be joined by  
National Park Service Ranger Raphael Allen who's  
lecture will be*

*“Making Rosie Stop: Winding Down  
the War-Jobs Campaign”*

*Should be Very Interesting*

*Refreshments will be Served*

*All are Invited*

# *From the President*

*By Mid Dornan*

## WE LOVE OUR VISITORS

It is always interesting to take a look at where our little museum visitors come from. Recent visitors came from:

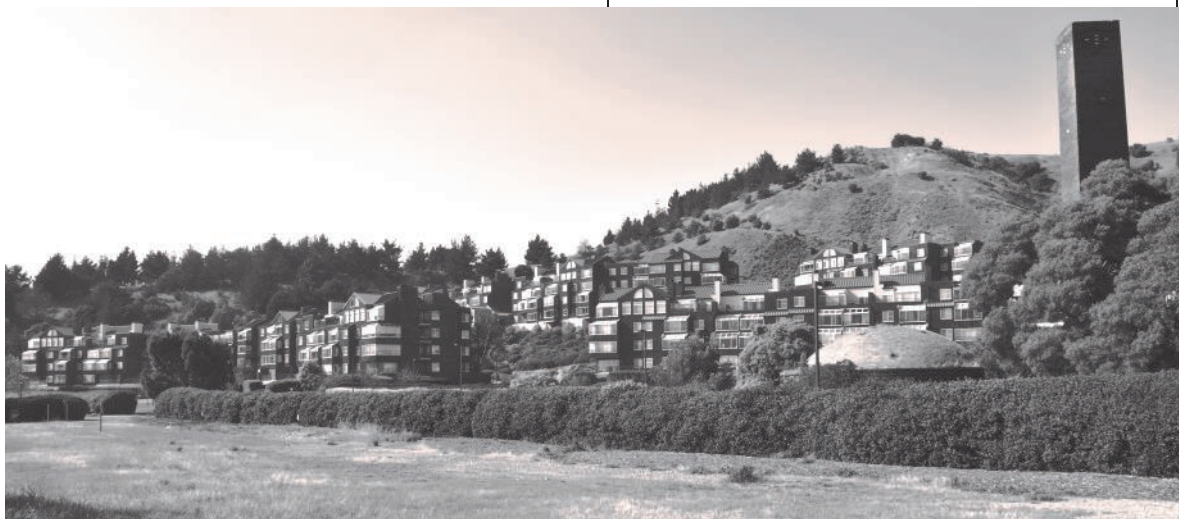
California: Sausalito, Pleasant Hill, Napa, Concord, Fresno, Watsonville, El Cerrito, Boonville, Woodland, Stockton, Tarzana, Fortuna, Lafayette, Dutch Flat, Yountville, Trinidad, Marina Bay, Berkeley, Red Bluff, El Sobrante, Pinole, Piedmont, San Rafael, San Jose, Mill Valley, San Francisco, Oakland, Vacaville, Long Beach, Half Moon Bay, San Mateo, Vallejo, San Leandro, San Ramon, Hayward, San Anselmo, Martinez, Salinas, South Lake Tahoe

Other states: Pennsylvania, New York, Washington, Hawaii, Wisconsin and Minnesota.

Other countries: Australia, Mexico, Sweden.

## Contents of this Issue

From the President	1
Members	2
Editor's Notes	3
A-Mid Trivia	4
Church News	6
WWIC News	10
Stop and Stay Awhile	12
Sweethearts	12
Farewell to George Coles	14
This Old House	16
Early WWIC Minutes	19
Chinese Shrimpers	21
Points to the Past	23
At the Masquers	24
Birthdays	25
Memorials	26
90's Club	27
Calendar	28



Thank you members for your renewal:

**Fred Beesley\*\***

**Evan & Lydia Jahromi**

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

**Frank & Kristine Lazaro**

**Alicia Kae Miller**

**Patricia Dornan\*\***

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

**Margaret Doherty**

**Margaret Jordan**

**Ken & Kay Madison**

**Joan Glover Carter**

**Grace & Jerry Cerkowicz, Sr.**

**Thomas R. Williams**

**Karen & Michael Shaw Family**

**Richard & Roberta Palfini\*\***

**Dee Rosier**

A warm welcome to new members:

**Deborah Wilkinson**

**Scottie Chapman & Family**

\*Gift Membership

\*\*Special Supporter, *Thank You!*



*Thank You! To*

## **Santa Fe Market**

*For selling*

*“THIS POINT.....in time”*

*Support our local retailers*

*Museum Hours:*

*Open Thursdays*

*11:30 am-2:00 pm*

*Open Saturdays*

*11:30 am-2:00 pm*



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

Mid Dornan

Pat Pearson

Bonnie Jo Cullison

Heinz Lankford

Gary Shows

Lori Kauth

*The Cover:*

*Brickyard Landing*

*Photo by Gary Shows*

## *Editor's Notes*

*Gary Shows*

*garyshows@gmail.com*

Springtime is my favorite time of the year. In spite of the serious drought Spring puts on its display of renewal with golden poppies, nasturtiums, flowering trees and more, love it.

With this issue, I once again ask our readers to contribute to TPIT. Got something going on in your neighborhood? Let me know and I will announce it in the newsletter. Have pictures, especially historical pictures, let me know and I will scan them and print them.

I look forward to seeing you at the May 17th meeting, National Park Service Ranger Raphael's talk on "Making Rosie Stop: Winding Down the War-Jobs Campaign" sounds very interesting. See the inside front cover of this issue for details.

Deadline for the next issue is May 22, 2015.

Thanks to the volunteers at our last mailing party at Mid's home:

Mid Dornan  
Jerry Cerkowicz  
Gary Shows  
Pat Pearson  
Mary Simmons  
Lori Kauth  
Tom Piazza  
Heinz Lankford  
Kathe Kiehn  
Pam Wilson



### *Thank You!*

#### *Our Special Supporters!*

##### *History Makers*

Doug & Rosemary Corbin  
Kathe Kiehn  
Diane & Gordon Hirano  
John A. Thiella & Rosa T. Casazza  
Roberta & Richard Palfini  
Patricia Dornan  
Donna Wilson  
Norm and Jean Reynolds  
Fernando & Becky Garcia  
David Janes  
The Bartram Family  
Erica & Barry Goode  
Burl Willes

##### *History Preservers*

Royce Ong  
Kevin, Renee & Griffin Knee  
Jean & John Knox  
Sandi Genser-Maack & Lynn Maack  
Margaret Morkowski  
Maurice & Margaret Doherty  
Zoe Egger  
Linda Newton  
H. Abigail Bok & David Gotlieb  
Tom & Shirley Butt  
Louise Fender & Ken Blonski  
Dolberg Family  
Bill Eger  
Bernie McIntosh  
Don & Ingrid Lindemann  
Roberta & Jim Montgomery  
Mary Crosby & Tom Piazza  
Karen Buchanan Engbretson  
Fred Beesley

# A-Mid Trivia

Mid Dornan (510-234-5334)

**TPIT**  
**Exclusive**  
**since 1984**

Question: Whereas, the City of Richmond was Incorporated August 7, 1905. How long was it before the City received its Charter from the state?

ANSWER: At end of A-Mid Trivia

\*\*\*

Get outside every day. Miracles are waiting everywhere.

\*\*\*

Pancake breakfasts begin the third Sunday of the month on the Red Oak Victory Ship. April 19th at 9:00 a.m. the season starts.!

\*\*\*

The vibrant, colorful native California Poppies everywhere is Nature's gift for everyone to enjoy.

\*\*\*

Research-backed oil remedies state that if you want to sleep better use lavenders that increase brain alpha waves associated with relaxation and deep sleep. The do-it-all scent may also be alleviate PMS symptoms and reduce pain.

\*\*\*

Marie Peckham, from Elk Grove, visiting her many Point Richmond friends, was seen with the Knit 'n Such group in the Point Community center amid all the yarns, knitting needles and projects. Marie is the former owner with her late husband, Bob Peckham, of the Santa Fe Market.

\*\*\*

A reminder from Alpha Humphrey that everyone is invited the first Wednesday of the month at the Community Center 1:00 - 3:30 for crafts, mending, chatting, knitting or just listening.

\*\*\*

Have you marked you calendar for the Point Richmond History Annual Meeting? If not, go mark Sunday, May 17th, 2:00 P.M. at the Point Community Center on Washington Avenue. A speaker from the Rosie the Riveter Center will discuss one of the events available at the center.

Everyone is invited.

\*\*\*

We hope member , Louis Stockade of Antioch plans to join us at our annual meting as he comes the farthest each meeting, which we appreciate.

\*\*\*

Is he Lonesome  
Or just Blind  
This guy who drives  
So close Behind.  
.....Burma Shave

\*\*\*

To get the smell of garlic off your fingers, turn on the cold water tap and rub your fingers on a stainless steel teaspoon under the running water.

OR

Squirt a little toothpaste into a damp cloth and lather up. toothpaste is engineered to eliminate such odors.

\*\*\*

THE IRS

Like the sign says, it's all THEIRS!

\*\*\*

Is it fate that Janice Cook spells her name as JanICE and not JanIS? After noting her accomplishments in the last issue, it is learned she earned her Gold Metal in Ice Dancing by passing the Adult Gold Ice Dance Test, meaning she passed 23 ice lessons, never having to repeat, with her dance partner doing lifts, spins and creative choreography. In April Janice is competing in the Adult National Figure Skating Championship in Salt Lake City in the Masters Artistic Event and the Sliver Ladies Freeskate. This is when she reconnects with other adult skaters.

In 2000, the last time she participated, was at Lake Placid where she earned a Silver Medal in Freeskate and Bronze in Artistic. Can you now imagine, that Janice has accomplished all this after taking time out to have a hip replacement as well

as two knee replacements!

\*\*\*

Crest Avenue in the Point has had a model neighborhood camaraderie over the past years with their neighborhood parties and helping each other. In the Spirit of Saint Patrick Doug and Rosemary Corbin were hosts to their neighbors as they continue friendships.

\*\*\*

After three months in rehab from a fall that fractured her leg, Goethe Tedrick is looking toward to returning home to continue her recovery.

\*\*\*

The Arts of Point Richmond invite you to enjoy (purchase) displays in the windows of the Point Richmond Post Office. This month Virginia Ridgley is featured with her art talents.

\*\*\*

Jan Burdick is cheerful in her recovery after major surgery.

\*\*\*

The Point Richmond Neighborhood Council is a group of local people who discuss and vote on what they want their neighborhood to be. While many organizations find it difficult to find leaders, the PRNC isn't finding that too difficult. Election of Officers is in April and already extremely qualified volunteers become transparent. Margaret

Jordan has assumed the Presidency for the last two years. Thank you.

\*\*\*

The City of Richmond's Smart Lighting Coalition has installed new street lighting in Point Richmond. The new LED lights make the Downtown more welcoming and brighter while less costly to the taxpayer. Yea!

\*\*\*

The Annual Junktique Sale at the Methodist Church is May 2nd, the first Saturday in May. Items are now being accepted on Wednesday and Saturday mornings 10:00 - 12:00. For pickup email Jonathan at jnscoms@comcast.net or Bill at abthompson2@comcast.net. Soup and chili, pies, hot dogs, at lunch with LADY BUG to entertain the kids. Don't miss the bargains and homemade food at this popular once-a-year event.

ANSWER: 1909. Per Assembly concurrent resolution No.11, approving the Charter of the City of Richmond, State of California, voted for and ratified by the qualified voters of said city at a special municipal election held therein for that purpose on the 9th day of February, 1909. Adopted in Assembly, February 17, 1909.

Adopted in Senate, February 25, 1909.

## PONDERISM

*Les Hathaway*

- \* *Can You cry under water?*
- \* *Why do you have to "put your two cents worth in but...it is only a "penny for your thoughts"?"*
- \* *Where is the extra penny going to?*
- \* *Why does a round pizza come in a square box?*
- \* *What disease did a cured ham actually have?*
- \* *How is it we put a man on the moon before we figured out it would be a good idea to put wheels on a luggage?*

- \* *Why are you IN a movie but ON TY?*
- \* *Did you ever notice that when you blow in a dog's face, he gets mad but when you take him for a car ride he sticks his head out the window?*
- \* *Can a Hearse carrying a corpse drive in the carpool lane?*
- \* *If corn oil is made from corn and vegetable oil is made from vegetables, what is baby oil made from?*
- \* *Why does the ALPHABET song AND TWINKLE TWINKLE LITTLE STAR have the same tunes?*
- \* *Why diid you just try singing the two songs above?*

# Church News



**By Dee Rosier**

510-232-1387

drosier@sbcglobal.net

A few weeks back the first article of the year's deadline was issued, well to prove that time does indeed fly, here we are with the second article of the year!

At the last Parish Council meeting, Father announced that daily Mass would be held on Wednesday's only. During the meeting, the Council changed hats and became the Financial Committee. Beth Lewins, parish secretary presented the figures for the budget which were reviewed and approved by the Council. Although a small parish, there were a lot of figures to approve and thanks is extended to Beth for her accuracy and retention of significant figures. Father also announced that the Bishop has accepted an invitation to visit our parish, which will occur sometime in the fall. At this time, a celebration will be held and several notable parish members will be honored as well as recognizing the 112<sup>th</sup> year of the Parish.

For those who dislike message machines, prepare yourself since the rectory phone has joined the ranks of voice messaging which will be regularly monitored. Closed circuit TV cameras have been donated and will be installed on the outside corner of the rectory, covering the intersection of West Richmond and Santa Fe.

Welcome Diane Diani, Gabrielle Bay and Brenda Grayson who will soon be commissioned as Eucharistic Ministers. Taking part in the liturgies as readers, ministers, and servers is a traditional role for parish members. During the meaningful rites, the readers are presented with the lectionary, the Eucharistic ministers with the chalice, and the acolytes and ushers with the keys to the church.

The rectory garden is one of Father's greatest joys. As most gardens go, it needs constant tending with the addition of new plantings and old ones and removal of old ones. A drip system has been installed and before long the roses will be in colorful bloom and bid us welcome.

Preparations for First Holy Communion will be forthcoming and dates scheduled. If you have a child and are interested, please contact Father.

DVD's of Midnight Mass are still available. The price originally quoted was incorrect and the correct one is \$10. The price increase was due to extensive editing.

Father was extremely delighted during his last flight to Hawaii when he was upgraded to first class. Everyone should experience first class at least once – the way to go!

The season of Lent is almost over. On the night prior to Holy Thursday, April 1 at 7PM, an hour of quiet music will be performed. It is to be a time of rest and reflection. The performers will be Michael McCarty and Peter Chase on piano and violin/viola.

Continued support of the Souper Kitchen is ongoing. There is also a container at the church entrance for food donations. Used clothing and toiletries are also accepted.

It is with deep sorrow to announce the death of Father Seamus Genovese. We may never have met him, but we all knew of him through his mother Kathleen who was a member of our parish. He was parish priest at Our Lady of Lourdes in Oakland.

Congratulations to Stanley Toledo who retired after 35 years with the Federal Government. May

all of his future days be healthy and happy.

It is with heavy hearts that farewell is bid to Javier and Christine Lopez, who have chosen to relocate in North Carolina. The Toledo's hosted a farewell party for them. Javier was a major player in our parish and he will be greatly missed.

Chinese New Years was recently celebrated, but going back to the days of Bob Young (Santa Fe Market) and Dave Lee (Point Orient), we celebrated with our own dragon and fireworks. The original Pt. Richmonder's will all remember and everyone knew what Gung Hay Fat Choy meant.

The timing was right at the Mechanics Bank when in walked Michael Schultz. Michael works for the bank and sends his greetings to all the parishioners.

Family from Texas was here to witness the baptism of Katherine Abigale Huie.

Next in line for baptism will be Amelia Kathleen Bleckinger who arrived on the date predicted for her birth – February 28, 2015. She joins older brother, Henry.

Take a ride up Tunnel Avenue as the flowering trees do their annual show.

Senior at Salesian Preparatory, Shawn Diaz is the male lead in Pirates of Penzance, which will be presented on April 24-25, 2015. Shawn is a Eucharistic Minister and grandson of Cynthia Young.

Memorial Services were recently held for Lynne Erskine and Amy Berner. Condolences are extended to their families.

Richard Matthew Smith was a Pt. Richmond native who died on March 22, 2015. Richard was a volunteer at the pancake breakfasts, as well as those held on the Red Oak. He was a member of the infamous Smith family who lived on Oregon Street. Condolences to the family.

Noa and Mica, granddaughters of Diane Diani joined us at Mass recently. The girls live in San Francisco. Since their grandmother now resides in the Point, we may see more of them.

You never know when or how a tale of

Point Richmond will present itself. A call to a local garage door business generated the following. John Connors was from a family of 13 and lived in El Cerrito. In the early 20's, the brothers found a gopher snake and walked with it from San Pablo Avenue to the Point where they allowed it to join the swimmers in the Plunge. They then retreated back to El Cerrito. A policeman enters the local Point Starbucks in plain clothes and one of the Baristas says to him, "are you undercover today?" and he replies, "well, if I was, I'm not anymore." It generated a lot of early morning laughter – great way to start the day.

Get well wishes are sent to: John Gerk, Bill Smith, Dixie and Frankie Mello, and Gino Martinucci.

The Italian Catholic Federation will sponsor a scholarship fundraiser at St. Jerome's, El Cerrito on

April 18, 2015. Polenta/chicken/sausage, wine, coffee, dessert will be served. Adults - \$22, children = \$6. Reservations – Dee Yonke: 232-0689. Social hour: 6PM, Dinner: 7PM.

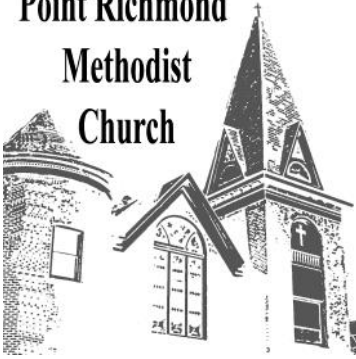
## SEE YOU IN CHURCH

DUE TO CURRENT ECONOMIC CONDITIONS,

THE LIGHT AT THE END OF THE TUNNEL HAS BEEN TURNED OFF



## Point Richmond Methodist Church



**Jean Reynolds**

510-734-3942

sweetheart05@mac.com

Sweetheart Dinner: Scores of admirers of our 2015 Sweethearts, Heinz Lankford and Kathe Kiehn, met at the Pt. San Pablo Yacht Club on March 14 to celebrate them and their many-splendored accomplishments. Kathe and Heinz are two people whose presence in our community makes it a place we all want to live. Both are valued members of Point Richmond History Association, The Masquers Theater, Mira Vista UCC, and more. They give generously of their time and many skills. Kathe has a knack for numbers and keeps non-profits' finances organized; Heinz has a sixth sense for essential tasks, and he willingly does them without delay. We love when they add their voices to our choir. Fran Smith coordinated the dinner plans from Accommodations to Zest. Russ and Kristi Johnson greeted us at the door. Robert Love emceed and his beguiling tales transported us to a fantastical Irish past where, even without the magic of leprechauns and four-leafed clovers, Kathe and Heinz fell in love, married and took on new identities. Bob Goshay expressed thanks to Heinz and Kathe for their service and membership with the Masquers. Jean Reynolds said she is willing to sing all Handel all the time if it would entice Heinz and Kathe to sing with the Joyful Noise Choir. Karen Gagner, Kathe's daughter, recalled memories of her parents and the values she

continues to learn from them. Bill Thompson spoke from the heart and needed no notes to tell how much he appreciates Heinz; he first noted Heinz dashing past the church basement on his morning runs and later worked with him on several projects. Pastor Dan Damon shared a fractured retelling of the famed "swinging-door spring" legend and of Heinz's role obtaining and installing said spring – most of it really happened. Coley Grundman brightly parodied the theme song from "The Patty Duke Show" – his version starred Kathe and Heinz as "Sweethearts." Tammara Plankers bestowed the Heart Scepter to the newly reigning sweethearts with a pledge – spontaneously spawned on the spot from Tammara's fertile imagination. Tammara shared the events of her past year as the 2014 Sweetheart: kissing babies, launching ships, cutting ribbons, and dedicating bridges. She became engaged this year, surely a direct result of her sweetheart-hood. Kathe and Heinz can expect so many benefits! Manuel Navidad, Jonathan Mason, and Michael Weeks, cadets from the Fairfield Public Safety Academy, served our dinner with style and grace. Scott McLean and Frank Plasco helped serve, set up, and clean up. Darryl and Nancy Struck kindly sponsored us at the Yacht Club. Pat Dornan provided decorations for the tables. Ingrid Hogan and her team of yacht club volunteers made a delicious banquet meal for us – this time preparing chicken piccata with colorful vegetables. The salad even included heart-shaped beet slices. Pastor Dan Damon, the Joyful Noise Choir and Friends joined to sing "The Lord Bless You and Keep You," and may it be so.

Journey Farthest Out sponsored a one-day spiritual retreat at Richmond First United Methodist Church, March 7, Saturday. People came from as far away as Mt. Shasta, Lake Tahoe, and Southern California to attend. Francesca Fillmore spoke about the origins of her faith and her faith journey. John-David Webster, long-time JFO camp musician and speaker, was in town for the Saturday retreat. He delivered the sermon for our regular worship on Sunday, March 8. Participants in the non-denominational JFO group

organize three one-week camps in California throughout the year: Summer family camps at Mount Lassen and Pacific Redwoods, and Autumn Camp at Lake Tahoe for adults. Through sharing, meditation, music, movement, art, play, and prayer, campers have an opportunity to take their faith experience to a deeper level. Look for information about the camps at [jfocamps.com](http://jfocamps.com).

Pastor Dan Damon led a music-filled worship at the Patterson Federated Church on Sunday, March 15. Jean Reynolds led worship here and shared a message titled "Committed to Community." The choir sang an anthem composed by George Peter Tingley: "Gracious God Whose Word Brought Forth." Our dueling composers, Pastor Dan Damon and George Tingley, have achieved new heights as they encourage and critique each other to create meaningful, evocative pieces the choir loves to sing.

We heard special music by Pamella and Bobby Hall at worship on February 22. They were in town for a funeral, visiting from Kissimmee, Florida, where they settled at few years ago after retirement. Before they left Richmond, Bobby and Pamella organized a Black History Month concert here every February with choirs from various congregations and Bobby's family. It broadened our world!

Lauren's Love Light Celebration, to honor and remember the life of Lauren McLeod, is scheduled at the church on **May 21**, the anniversary of her birthday. Lauren had a Feldenkrais practice in Point Richmond. She taught group lessons (for a time, in our Friendship Hall) and private sessions. Lauren was especially committed to her young clients; she enabled students of all ages to learn new ways to move and offered an alternative for people who sought non-surgical solutions to ease-of-motion constraints. Lauren passed away March 21 at her sister's home in Georgia. We will all miss her radiant smile, positive energy and healing spirit.

Other people in the news: David Calfee, supporter and past member of our church, died on February 6, 2015 in Meadow Vista, CA. He lived

in Richmond from childhood until 1985, except for time in college and as a member of the Marine Corps. He kept in contact with friends here and cherished his Richmond connection.

#### **On The Calendar:**

**Junktique** – Mammoth Yard Sale, **Saturday May 2 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.** First United Methodist Church, 201 Martina Street at West Richmond Ave, Point Richmond. Lunch served from 11:30 a.m.: Chili, Minestrone, Meat or Veggie Hot Dogs, & Pie by the slice.

We welcome donations of your still usable furniture, toys, books, electronics, appliances and other household items as we prepare for our biggest fundraiser. (Please, no clothing, shoes, hide-a-beds, exercise equipment, metal frame recliners, or particleboard furniture.) Volunteers at the church basement door facing West Richmond Ave. will accept your donations until the day of the sale on: Wednesdays and Saturdays 10 AM to 12 PM and Thursdays 6:30 PM to 8 PM.

Need items picked up or want to volunteer to help in other ways? Contact Jonathan [jnscons@comcast.net](mailto:jnscons@comcast.net), Bill [abthompson2@comcast.net](mailto:abthompson2@comcast.net), or Betty [bettygraeham@gmail.com](mailto:bettygraeham@gmail.com).

**Junktique 2** - All Point Richmond Yard Sale Day, Monday, May 25, 9:00 AM to 3 PM 10% of our sales benefits the Masquers Theater. Pancake Breakfast from 8 AM to 11 AM. Real buttermilk pancakes, sausage, juice, and coffee or tea.

Point Richmond Acoustic: **Laurie Lewis and the Right Hands Concert: Friday, April 10, 7:30 PM.** With special guest Richard Brandenburg. Tickets: purchase online [pointacoustic.org](http://pointacoustic.org) \$20 before the concert/\$25 at the door. **Claudia Russell and Bruce Kaplan in Concert: Friday, May 8, 7:30 PM** With special guests Jill Freeman and Joel Wachbrit. \$15 at [pointacoustic.org](http://pointacoustic.org) or pay \$20 at the door. This last concert of the season features local singer-songwriters and concert production talent.

Point Richmond Jazz: **Enion Pelter-Tiller**

*(Continued on page 13)*

# WWIC Est. 1908

*News from the Womens Westside Improvement Club*

*by Norma Wallace*

February

WWIC members were welcomed to the February lunch meeting at the usual FUMC location with a festive setting of large red wreath "heart" table toppers surrounded by heart-shaped candies. Members greeted each other and welcomed a number of guests who were invited through the online Nextdoor community for Point Richmond.

**Norma Wallace** opened the business meeting with a request for a volunteer to take minutes, due to Secretary **Lori Kauth**'s absence. New resident and guest **Karen Engbretson** offered to pitch in as secretary for the day when the request for a volunteer was made, and immediately announced she would join WWIC, as did **Toula Siacotos**, **Deborah Haley**, **Deborah Wilkinson**, **Gail Eierweiss**. **Norma** offered to pen the article for TPIT.

Guests were invited to introduce themselves. These included: **Judy Portis**, a new arrival from Boston (could it be the weather??), **Karen** invited by **Norma**, **Gail** invited by **Mary Lee Cole**, and **Toula**, **Deborah** and **Deborah** who saw the Nextdoor posting online.

**Norma** expressed thanks on behalf of WWIC to a number of members for keeping key tasks moving forward. These include: the ever busy **Kim Hampton** for emailing meeting notices; the also every busy **Altha Humphrey** for coordination of beverages and treats and for calling offline members; **Diane Hirano** for creative and colorful décor and, with **Norma**, setting up the tables and chairs in advance of the meeting; **Altha**, **Helen Wysham** and **Barbara Robertson** for providing coffee, tea and homemade cake and cookies this month, TPIT correspondent duties shared, to date this term by **Pat Pearson** and **Linda Newton**; and back to **Kim Hampton** for applying for a Gateway Foundation grant. Her pro-

posal was funded and will be applied to new equipment for Janis Playlot, which playground being the first WWIC project ever.

**Norma** led Announcements with a reminder that March brown bag meeting guest speaker is Milo Foundation founder **Lynne Tingle**. **Altha** announced Knit 'n Such the following day at the Community Center, plus card playing Tuesday and Thursday afternoons!, and the 2/26 Arts of Point Richmond reception; guest **Nancy Malone** reminded us of affordably priced Adult Swim lessons (\$15 for 6 lessons!!) at the Plunge; **Mary Lee Cole** announced the return of Lunafest Film Festival and an upcoming fundraiser for same in Berkeley cosponsored by Zonta of which she is a member; **Kathleen Wimer** regarding the 2/28 RPA community meeting; and **Kathe Kiehn** for the Masquers' production of, "There Goes the Bride." **Cathy O'Brien** announced the Pre-Oscar fundraiser for the former soon to be revived Magick Lantern Theater on 2/21.

On a less celebratory note, **Linda** confirmed that longstanding, highly regarded neighbor and member **Susan Brooks** left California 1/7 for parts east. We miss our dear friend greatly. **Linda** alerted us that member **Grethe Tedrick** is recuperating from a really bad fall at Greenridge in El Sobrante, encouraging members to call or visit **Grethe**. We then acknowledged the elephant in the room – our love for dear member **Pat Pearson**, not in attendance, for the passing of her beloved partner and outstanding community member and historian **George Coles**. **Karen** offered the opportunity to close a meeting of the Golden Gate Bridge District in honor of **Coles**, and members will be providing information to her for this purpose.

On a lighter note, we celebrated birthdays of member **Gail** (2/18) and **Altha** (1/9).

**Linda Newton** pointed to design drawings

she had brought to the meeting showing the proposed plants for the Community Map Garden. All plants will be drought-tolerant; most will be California natives.

The serious matter of distribution of funds was handled swiftly with members agreeing to award four local groups \$250 each, including Magick Lantern, art of Point Richmond, Janis Playlot and Masquers Playhouse School Outreach.

### March

The Ladies of WWIC gathered March 3 for a St. Paddy's Day warm-up celebration. Member **Diane Hirano** had strewn our lunch tables with lucky green clovers over festive white and green tablecloths, after she and **Norma Wallace** set the tables up that morning. **Mid Dornan** was the most suitably attired member present, in all her green St. Pat's Day glory.

As president, Norma called the meeting to order with a question to members – who might volunteer as Secretary? As St. Pat's Day luck would have it, first-time guest and new neighbor *and* member **Karen Engbretson** offered her talents. Grateful for the offer, the members accepted **Karen's** offer, and the meeting proceeded. **Norma** thanked **Kim Hampton** in absentia for managing email addresses and notices; **Altha Humphrey** for coordinating beverages, desserts and member reminder calls, **Diane** for setup, **Altha**, **Helen Wysham** and **Barbara Robertson** for taking responsibility for providing beverages and homemade desserts through the June meeting. She thanked herself for taking TPIT notes for the February meeting. Saving the most exciting for last, thanks went to **Linda Newton** for spearheading work on the Community Map Garden.

Guest speaker **Lynne Tingle** described the heartwarming genesis of Milo Foundation resulting in more than 25,000 animals being placed in forever homes since 1994, the 283-acre sanctuary near Willits, and the road that led to Point Richmond. When asked the key takeaway for mem-

bers from her talk, **Lynne** immediately replied: plan for your own animals (in the event you become unable to care for them). Good point. (See [www.milofoundation.org/](http://www.milofoundation.org/) to learn how to help or adopt.) New member **Deborah Wilkinson** pointed out that local resident, WWIC and PRHA member **Pat Pearson** adopted **Suzi**, a recent rescue dog whom **Deborah** had fostered! I am so proud of WWIC members helping animals! Here's the story in **Deborah's** words, posted on Nextdoor the same day: *Thank you to Milo for providing Suzi's health care, and guidance as she was fostered. She has come a long way from the frightened pup running for 3 1/2 months in Marina Bay. She was officially adopted yesterday, and has found her forever home in Point Richmond. Thank you to everyone who helped rescue this sweet girl. Warmly, Deborah*

Announcements from members involved in the community followed: **Altha** organizing Knit 'n Such 3/4, 1-3pm, Community Center, and Arts of Point Richmond's Artful Conversation 3/12, 7-8:30 (same place); FUMC Sweetheart Dinner 2/14 recognizing WWIC member **Kathe Kiehn** and her husband **Heinz Langford**; **Kathe's** announcing the Masquer's production of The Women starting 3/27 and **Karen's** announcing a pre-Luna Fest reception 3/21.

Birthdays announced and celebrated include: **Deborah Haley** (3). **Kathe** (12), and guest **Lynne Tingle** (26). **Linda** announced the Guns of August as WWIC's Book Club featured read, with the upcoming meeting hosted by member **Doris Mitchell** on 3/21. **Linda** then encouraged members to participate in Garden Day at the Community Map on 3/14. Coffee, water and sweets provided. Thanks to the **Gateway Foundation** for the grant for this project. Check for poppies, the first of many native plants to be featured as our garden grows.



# *Stop and Stay a While*

## *What's Happening at our Little Museum*

*By Heinz Lankford*

### *Is It, Or Is It Not?*

It was Saturday, January 31st, ten minutes before closing time for the museum and I was about to experience an education about Point Richmond.

Although I have lived in the Point since 1983 I had little knowledge of the history of Point Richmond. About 2 years ago I joined the Point Richmond History Association and my historical education began in earnest and with each passing month I learn more about our little hidden city.

Ten minutes before 2 pm and two elderly ladies, dressed immaculately, entered the museum. We engaged in a conversation and I noticed that one of the ladies had a large book under her arm with the name Julia Morgan in large print above a photograph of a building.

"Are you aware that Point Richmond has a Julia Morgan building" she said. "No," I replied. She then opened up her book and within the last few pages was a list of buildings Julia Morgan had designed, and there it was, 235 Washington, built in 1904.

I had very little knowledge of the history of Julia Morgan. I had toured the San Simeon Castle, overlooking the Pacific Ocean and attended concerts at the Berkeley City Club, both Julia Morgan creations. That was the extent of my Julia Morgan experience.

I decided to research the history of this amazing woman. I drove to the main Richmond Public Library and requested help from the librarian who searched on the library computer for Julia Morgan material. To his surprise and mine the Richmond Library had no books on Julia Morgan.

After learning that we have a Julia Morgan building in the Point I walked to the location and took a few exterior pictures. As luck would have it a woman exited from the side yard and I asked her if she was aware that this is a Julia Morgan building. She was not. She asked if I would like to see the interior of the building and I replied absolutely.

The building is now owned by a Buddhist group, the Dakini Temple. The sanctuary of the former church is shaped like the upside down hull of a ship made of redwood with a number of trestles crossing from side to side; a beautiful sight after 110 years.

The church had stained glass window which were removed, date unknown, but they are stored in wooden crates in the basement for safe keeping. I was informed that periodically the Point Richmond History Association checks on the status of the stored glass.

Rather than write about the history of Julia Morgan I would urge people to go on the internet and read about this amazing woman.

On December 12, 20014 the American Institute of Architects Board of Directors posthumously awarded the AIA Gold Medal to Julia Morgan. Morgan is the first woman to ever be given the AIA Gold Medal.



## *Kathe Kiehn and Heinz Lankford are Sweethearts*

*Two of our Point Richmond History Board members have been honored as "Sweethearts 2015"*

*Since 1998, the historic First United Methodist Church each year has recognized outstanding individuals who give back to the Community. Kathe Kiehn and Heinz Lankford were the well deserved recipients honored in March at the Point San Pablo Yacht Club with a dinner and a roast! The Point Richmond History benefits from the many tasks of Kathe, Treasurer, and Heinz, Vice President, docent, Building Superintendent, etc. as they contribute to preserve our history.*



*(Continued from page 9)*

*Methodist News*

**and Taarka, Friday, April 24, 7:30 PM.** Sample their music and read their bios at [prjazz.org](http://prjazz.org). **Mads Tolling, Friday, May 28, 7:30 PM** Catch the

return of this super artist. Online tickets sell for \$15 before the show date, \$20 at the door. [Prjazz.org](http://Prjazz.org)

**For updates to the calendar, see the church website:** <http://www.pointrichmondmethodist.org>

# Farewell to a Friend

*by Indra Coles*

Point Richmond has lost a friend, advisor and staunch advocate for its environmental and social integrity. At home in the Point, surrounded by loved ones, George Coles died on Tuesday, January 20th.

George Coles first moved to Point Richmond with his wife Corinne and two children Scott and Debbie (Shane) in the mid 1950s to teach at Contra Costa Community College which was then located nearby on the harbor. Here, he discovered the “ideal community” as he often said at council and planning commission meetings, and around the dining room table. A community of artists, intellectuals as well as craftsmen— people who knew how to really \*make\* things. (I think George was most fascinated by learning to make things—kayaks, poker rooms and the like—from these friends.)

George, with a strong sense of service and responsibility, would eventually serve on councils and committees, museum boards and in docencies. When he first arrived, he served as psych professor and guidance councilor to the young Richmond residents at the community college nearby. As Contra Costa College (CCC) planned its move to San Pablo, George made himself a part of the planning and design. Shortly after, he took sabbatical to earn himself a second Masters in Anthropology at UC Berkeley, returning to CCC to add various anthropology courses to his curriculum, and started an archaeological crew of young students who began work right off the coast of Richmond at Brooks Island. Eventually, this crew worked sites across the greater Bay Area. Many of this crew of young people became archaeologists and anthropologists themselves, teaching and

working throughout the country.

Once he'd retired from instruction (1983), George continued to work in the anthro lab and curate the museum at CCC, until they were closed down by the administration to make room for other classrooms. He and his materials moved on to San Francisco State University, where he taught as an emeritus professor and shared in the curation of his materials. As that chapter closed, George spent years trying to get an exhibit at Richmond Museum, where he'd joined the board, of the Brooks Island's materials—his life's work. Thanks to a change in administration, though too late for George to see, the materials and interpretations from that important local site will



*George Coles with companion Patricia Pearson*

be available for all to see at the Richmond Museum.

In the years of working with the Richmond Museum, George found himself a member of a new crew: The Red Oak Victory. The Red Oak is a victory ship built in the Richmond Ship Harbors in World War II. George, as a veteran of that war's pacific theater, a historian, and as one knowledgeable in the basics of engineering, was a good fit for a docent of this ship and spent the last decade as an advocate, a docent, favorite tour guide and masterful pourer of mimosas on pancake Sundays.

Though George called Point Richmond the "ideal community", indeed, George was the ideal member of it. He shared his convictions, his knowledge, his time, his tools (literal and figurative) wit and kindness readily with student, neighbor and

community at large. From speeches for the community in front of councils and commissions, to his membership at the Richmond Museum, his docency on the Red Oak Victory. He spent the next sixty years sharing and learning within this community, raising two generations of children (and entertaining a third), living over the years with three beloved women. His pocket was always full of dog biscuits for a friend (even for those 30 years he had no dog of his own); his backyard was and is the gathering spot for impromptu gatherings over a drink. He has told me, his granddaughter, that I have to keep loaning people his tools—that this is how you create community, this is how you support one another and this is how you learn from each other.

Dog treats were given out at George's Memorial Party.

Each had a tag attached containing the following note:



*George with canine friend*

"When going through George's clothes after his passing, dog biscuits for his canine friends were found in almost all of his pockets. In memory of George, give this bone to a dog you love."

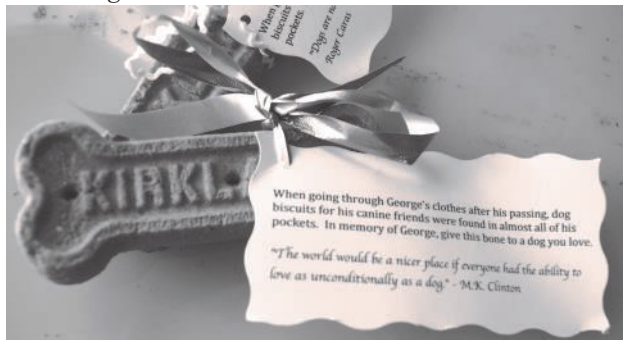
Followed by various quotes:

*"The world would be a nicer place if everyone had the ability to love unconditionally as a dog" -M.K. Clinton*

*"Dogs are better than human beings because they know but do not talk" -Emily Dickinson*

*"If there are no dogs in Heaven, then when I die I want to go where they went." -Will Rogers*

*"Dogs are not our whole life, but they make our lives whole" -Roger Caras*



## ***TPIT Reprint***

***Beginning in the summer of 1992 Muriel C. Clausen wrote an excellent series of articles about the old houses in Point Richmond. In the last twenty-two years we have many new owners of old houses that we treasure here in Point Richmond. For that reason we thought it would be appropriate to reprint her report. Thank you Muriel!***

# **This Old House**

***By Muriel C. Clausen***

***As you read this, keep in mind that it was originally written in the Summer of 1992***

### **Chapter III Tents Part I**

The very first “houses” in Point Richmond were tents until they were rain-washed and/or blown away, which happened very quickly. A tent is a raw place; a place for basic survival, a temporary shelter. Tents have not roots. Tents have the advantage of being raised quickly and taken down quickly. They have a ‘suddenness’; a sudden appearance and a sudden disappearance. In today’s language you might say tents are “biodegradable”.

Before tents there were even more primitive structures; caves, lean-to’s, earthen shelters, pit structures; any kind of overhead cover. As much as 35,000 to 40,000 years ago cave paintings made at the time depicted shelters in the cooler parts of Europe of wooly mammoth fur covering a structure made of mammoth bone. Tomb painting in the warmer Mediterranean cultures depicted reed and daub shelters.

Marco Polo described what we call “yurts” which were made of felted material. Animal hair was heated, wetted and pressed to form a felt “cloth” which was then placed over a vertical wood post framing set up in a round shape with a convex felt covered top. Shepherds tenting sheep still use this form of shelter in the arid countries of the Mediterranean and the Near East.

A quixotic tent variation is the umbrella which was invented by the Chinese. This “portable tent” continues to be used as a functional personal accessory and is certainly often used in ceremonial processions. Much like the umbrella in concept is the garden arbor, a scant wood-supported open framing upon which plants may be trained to grow for shade and shelter in garden areas, or reeds and grasses may be placed. Neither of these protect one from the wind and cold but nevertheless could be called tents. When more headroom space and permanency was desired than was offered by a simple tent a dome-shaped structure was devised even before the Roman arch was conceived. This was constructed by continuous corbelling and is exemplified in the catacombs and in Eskimo igloo structures

George Washington had a form of tent at Valley Forge that was fairly complex; a rectangle

of canvas with a scalloped edge gable shaped top cover canvas. This proved to be so lacking in protection from the cold and so unsatisfactory to the Army Generals that the log cabin, a much more sheltered structure, replaced such tents. The simplest form of tent was used in the American Civil War. This was the single wedge-shape one-man army tent. More than likely this was the first kind of tent used in Point Richmond in its beginning.

Circus tents, mostly popular from the 1820's to 1956, and continuing into the present, provide spaces that can house many people for entertainment. The largest tent in history was 4.32 acres: 188 square feet, erected at the Brussels Exposition in 1958. There is still the thrill of excitement when the "circus comes to town" today. The annual visit of the Cirque de Soleil from Canada is a delightful example of this when it comes in the summer to San Francisco with its BIG yellow and blue tent.

Returning to other temporary shelters of early newcomers to California, the "tent" of the Gold Rush were a great step backwards in tent history. They were erected quickly in any makeshift shape and manner of any substance available and covered with any old scrap of cloth, wood, or paper. These were truly temporary and hardly satisfactory cover. The early tents of Point Richmond were made of somewhat more substantial stuff.

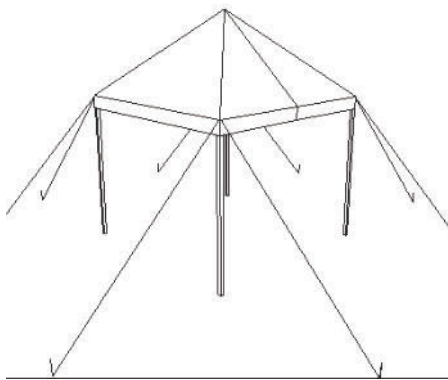
Today we have many continued uses for tents. Some forms of tents will probably never be outdated. Vacationers and campers use them. Lawn parties are protected from the elements by tents. Ground-breaking ceremonies, cornerstone layings, revivals, county fairs, outdoor wedding receptions and numerous other events make use of tents. Shepherds still use tents. Early residents

lived in these most basic tent structures until more permanence was sought.

As long as 10,000 years ago tents were replaced by more permanent structures; homes, temples, tombs and palaces, using sturdier materials for fire and weather protection. Yet the tent persists until now as the single person's small, first housing solution until more permanency can be obtained.

With all of these tent styles we find most distinctly different structures in the "tents" used by the Indians of the Americas. We call these "tents" tepees, wickiups, and/or wigwams. These are not exactly temporary shelters, being built more permanently for shelter from the cold, rain and wind than the tents of the early Point Richmond residents. The Indians were semi-nomads and built their tepee shelters to last and to come home to. The simple tepee is basically a conical shaped shelter, framed up with sturdy reeds forming a large circle on the ground, and brought together at the top, leaving a small hole. They are covered with grass and brush or skins of animals in the colder areas. The Indian's only tools were those made of shipped obsidian from which they formed sharp knives and scrapers, and animal bones sharpened to form needles and pikes. They used leather thongs made of deer hide for ties for their structures. With this little basic tool knowledge they were able to make good strong tepees, boats, ceremonial housing and stockades that lasted well through all weather and for many years. They had all the shelter they needed for their kind of living and could want for no more.

The early settlers of Point Richmond who came and eventually formed a town here were preceded, long before the Mexican landowners from whom they obtained their land, by the Coast



Miwok Indians (the Pomo Indians settled to the North and East of the Coast Miwoks. They two groups occasionally interacted). About 3,500 years ago, a number of small gatherings forming communal societies of Coast Miwok Indians were living up and down this area of the coast. (This was c. 1500 B.C.) They had a very comfortable lifestyle as food and materials were abundant: salmon, clams, seeds, acorns, berries, black-tailed deer, and elk were everywhere they turned. They burned grasslands to provide a rich grazing land to attract the migrating tule elk for hunting. The grizzly bear, fox, otter, rabbit, coyote, mountain lion, seal, and sea lion also filled their hunting needs, providing skins and furs for covering structures and themselves in colder weather. Skin tanning using the bark of the redwood tree was a customary procedure the Indians used in their living pattern. They needed no sophisticated tools, for they were successful with bow and sharp obsidian arrow and sharp elk bones needle and pike. Tule grass was abundant along the coast and because of its strength, was used by the Indians for clothing, tepee coverings, boats, masks baskets, and head coverings. Their dress was very skimpy as the weather was moderate most of the year. However, when it was cool, fur capes were abundantly available.

The Indian women wore a skirt like garment wrapped about their hips made of tule grasses. The Coast Miwok Indians were distinguished by their elaborate and decorative accessories; necklaces or clam shells head dressings of tules and feathers (some with great eagle feathers for their chieftains), deer capes with deer head intact for camouflage when hunting deer, and sun visors of tule rushes. They painted their faces for ceremonies and wore their hair in varied elaborate bunched patterns with banded and feathered tule encirclements. As part of their simple communal living, music and dance was important in their lives. They wove elaborate shell decorated baskets of tight tule that held water and food. Few of these baskets remain, but a good collection is found in The Hermitage in Russia, collected by Russian Fur traders who made contact all up and

down the coast from 1812 to the 1840's with the Indian inhabitants from their fort at what we now know as Fort Ross.

To return to the subject at hand; the Coast Miwoks' living structures and tents or tepees houses. Their communal "village consisted of several types of structures. The grand "round house" or ceremonial center was the dominant feature of the "village". It was a big tepee shaped tent like structure. Here the chieftain would call together his people for meetings, ceremonies, teachings praying and dances. Our first documented record of this large central structure was in Francis Drake's records (as were descriptions of their other structures<sup>0</sup>). This large structure was erected over a deep scooped-out hole in the ground. Large tree branches were laid together outside around the large circle in the tepee fashion to cover it over, and tied together in the center at the top with deer hide thongs, leaving an open smoke hole. This frame was covered with tightly woven tule grasses and mud to keep out the weather. It was entered by a long, low, downward sloping tule and mud covered passageway. Other structures in the communal compound, besides the living quarters of the small family groups, included granaries, which were constructed in much the same but smaller manner to store acorns. Arbors consisting of a single central bared tree trunk topped about ten feet up and outward arbor-like spreading branches of leaves provided a shady outdoor work and dance area.

Another structure, the "sweat house", was a most ingenious concept. This structure was dug out shallowly down in the ground in a long octagonal oval and covered over dome-like with tule reeds and tightly packed earth with a hole deep in the far end for a fire. This too was entered through a long, low, sloping tule and mud covered passageway. In the "sweat house" the men would sweat by the hot fire to cleanse away their human scent in preparation for hunting.



# Early Minutes of the Women's Westside Improvement Club

*It's amazing what's in the WWIC minutes! They date back to July 1908 when the Club started. The ladies met weekly. In the first six months they set projects in motion that we enjoy to this day: a statue a Washington and Park Place, a large drinking fountain, a park next to the Baptist Church, and the establishment of a reading room where the city hall had been in Mr. Crichton's place. Even the names are historical. These minutes are a priceless treasure of Point Richmond's history. Thank you, Gary, for preparing them for publication.*

*-Norma Wallace, President*

## FIRST MEETING

July 7, 1908

The ladies of Point Richmond met in Currys Hall for the purpose of organizing a club for the improvement of our town.

Mrs. Topping stated the purpose of the meeting and called for the nomination of a temporary chairman.

Mrs. Lee Adams was nominated and elected as temporary Chairman.

Mrs. Topping was nominated and elected temporary Secretary.

The names of 47 were enrolled as members. The motion was made that we should accept the invitation to join the Improvement Club of the Eastside.

A general discussion of the subject followed and it was voted that we should form an independent club.

The following officers were unanimously elected:

President                      Mrs.              Lee              Adams

Vice President  
Secretary  
Treasurer

Mrs.              Sam              Curry  
Mrs.              Geo.              Topping  
Mrs. Wm. Lucas

A motion was made and carried that the committee to form the Constitution and By Laws should be elected from the floor.

The following names were nominated; Mrs. Dimick, Mrs. Neidecker, Mrs. Arnold, Mrs. Windrem, Mrs. Delp, Mrs. Bly, Mrs. Mae Erskine, Mrs. Curry, Mrs. Lang, Mrs. Josselyn, Mrs. Marsh, Mrs. Hopkins, Mrs. McWay, Mrs. Stiefrater.

The ones receiving the largest number of votes were Mrs. Curry, Mrs. Windrem, Mrs. Arnold, Mrs. Neidecker, Mrs. Dimick and were elected as the Committee to draft the Constitution and By Laws.

The motion was made and carried that we should meet on Tuesday at 2 p.m. in Currys Hall.

Mrs. Curry stated that Mr. Curry offered the use of the hall free of charge providing we would have it put in order after meetings.

*(Continued on page 20)*

(Continued from page 19)

The offer was accepted and a vote of thanks given Mr. Curry.

Discussion as to what name the Club should be known by followed and it was decided the subject should be laid over until we could get legal advice about it.

Mrs. Schram and Smallwood were present from East Richmond Improvement Club and each gave us a talk which was well received and much appreciated.

The ladies received a vote of thanks for their help and good wishes.

The following members paid their admission fee of 50 cents:

Mrs. Windrem	.50
Mrs. Greathouse	.50
Mrs. Wolf	.50
Mrs. Eaton	.50
Mrs. Steifrater	.50
Mrs. Shram	.50
Mrs. Geo. Jones	.50
Mrs. J.H. Coleman	.50
Mrs. Elsie	.50
Mrs. Lucas	.50
Mrs. Adair	.50
Mrs. Jaune	.50
Mrs. Mcway	.50
Mrs. Grover	.50
Mrs. Butterfield	.50
Mrs. Fitzpatrick	.50
Mrs. Runyou	.50

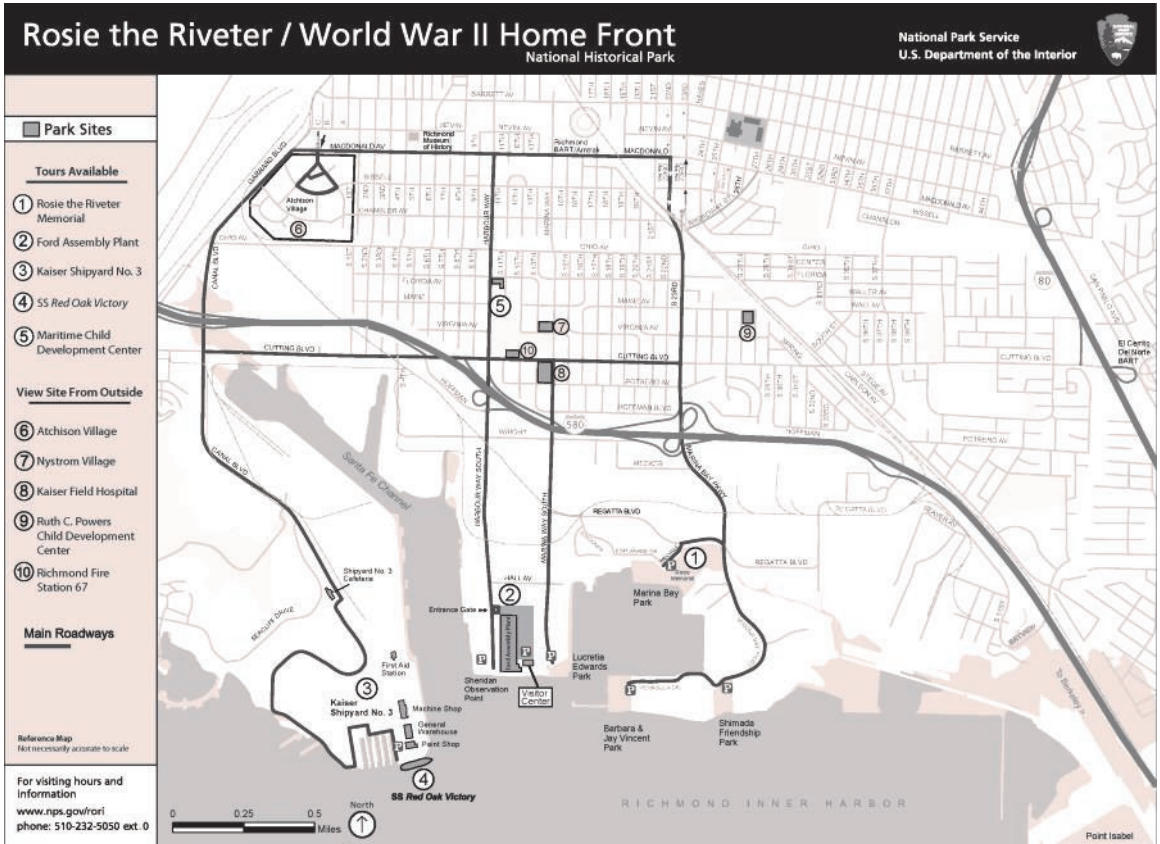
Mrs. Dimmick	.50
Mrs. Gibbons	.50
Mrs. R. Spierch	.50
Mrs. Kinny	.50
Mrs. A. Eriskine	.50
Mrs. Arnold	.50
Mrs. Ellis	.50
Mrs. Marsh	.50
Mrs. Silva	.50
Mrs. Bly	.50
Mrs. Kohloff	.50
Mrs. Peard	.50
Mrs. Lang	.50
Mrs. A. Erskine	.50
Mrs. Niedecker	.50
Mrs. Hopkins	.50
Mrs. Laurence	.50
Mrs. Holt	.50
Mrs. Delp	.50
Mrs. Curry	.50
Mrs. Stokes	.50
Mrs. Trautvetter	.50
Mrs. Jones	.50
Mrs. Lester	.50

Receipts \$20.50

There being no further business to come before the Club the meeting adjourned to meet July 14, 1908.

(signed) Mrs. Geo. W. Topping, Sec.





**Terrific Tuesday**  
**FILM SERIES**  
**Women on the Home Front and beyond...**

Heroic women play the leading roles in these films, all made or set during WWII. Films will be

■ **Force of Arms (1951)**  
April 14 at 7pm  
William Holden, a soldier, and Nancy Olson, a nurse, find love during war.

■ **The Josephine Baker Story (1991)**  
May 12 at 7pm  
Ingenuous and ex-pat Josephine Baker stays in France during WWII and helps Jews escape the Nazis. This film is rated R; no one under 17 will be admitted without a parent.

**Shipyard No. 3, 1337 Canal Blvd., Berth 6A, Richmond, CA**

For info: 510-237-2933    Boarding at 6:30 pm

Directions: Canal Blvd. exit off I-680 West. Left on Canal Blvd. Drive south to Shipyard No. 3 (Port of Richmond). Parking is in front of ship.

Please note: This site is not accessible to people in wheelchairs. You must be able to climb the gangplank (40 feet of stairs with railings) and navigate the steep steps once aboard. Inclement weather may force the ship staff to cancel this program for safety reasons. When it rains, please call the ship at 510-237-2933 by 5:30 PM on the day of the screening to find out whether the show will go on.

*Enjoy and support  
our National  
Historical Park*

# The Point Richmond History Association

## PURPOSES

Programs and activities in progress and planned for the future:

1. To acquire, arrange, describe and preserve written and printed information (manuscripts, records, books, pamphlets, newspapers, photographs, etc.) and historically related objects which are pertinent to the establishment and growth of Point Richmond.
2. To develop a community oral history program as a means of preserving the stories and voices of local pioneers.
3. To research and publish historical information about Point Richmond and the surrounding areas which have contributed to the development of Point Richmond.
4. To establish a local research facility in which to store recorded materials and significant objects donated to the Point Richmond History Association and to provide an area ifor interested persons to study these items.
5. To work in cooperation with local businesses, public agencies, community groups and interested individuals in disseminating historic information about Point Richmond by conducting tours, creating historical exhibits, providing published materials, etc.

Specific Purposes for the formation of the Point Richmond History Association as a non-profit organization:

1. To collect and preserve recorded materials and significant objects which are relevant to the understanding of the history of Point Richmond.
2. To publish information relating to the history of Point Richmond.
3. To make local historical information available to the public.

*This is from a "fact diary", a book of headlines and interesting events in Early Point Richmond. It was compiled by Don Church from the "Richmond Independent" "Point Richmond News" and "Richmond Herald Record". It is one of the many items left for us by Allan Smith.*

## Items of Interest Point Richmond, 1912

### ***Point Richmond News***

- 01-02-1912 Baptists to build church on Bissell Avenue
- 01-03-1912 Mass Meeting this Friday re. Point Richmond Cos site opposite Montana on Richmond for new school.  
Mrs. J.F. Hutton winner of auto will sell the machine. Her family does not care to assume the burden of such a luxury!!!
- 01-06-1912 Site of Washington school was accepted by Council from Wernse for \$8,000. It is 305x200x170. He will also fill in the swamp for \$3,000.
- 01-13-1912 4" gas mains are being laid on Park Place. All of the Point should have gas within a few months.
- 01-17-1912 Drillers of Nicholl oil well down 290 feet.
- 01-20-1912 Big Dock Co. buys lands between Ferry Point and Point San Pablo, 600 acres about 2 miles long. Immense system of docks planned.
- 01-23-1912 Richmond has lowest tax rate in State, \$2.07 per \$100.
- 02-03-1912 J.P. Arnold, police chief refuses \$250 reward for capture of Heckman's assailants. Gives it to Heckman.
- 02-04-1912 Drillers making slow progress at oil well, only down 400 feet.
- 02-06-1912 A.B. Keaton of Independent Market buys the Santa Fe Market from Chas. Redgart who will retire and move to St. Helena. A.W. Redderson will remain in charge.
- 02-14-1912 Lang Drug will expand store by taking 2/3 of P.O. space.
- 02-17-1912 Judge Lindsey faints in court from overwork.
- 03-01-1912 The Richmond Leader closes out this a.m. and jouns the Record for the Record Herald, a morning paper.
- 03-07-1912 Number of voters in Richmond will probably double due to women, 4000 expected.
- 03-15-1912 Measles epidemic in Point. 1/3 of Standard Avenue School has had them. 100 home out of 300.
- 03-27-1912 Oyster Loaf restaurant at #4 Washington Avenue closed, business poor. (Pat Dean's old place).
- 03-30-1912 Chief Arnold gets to San Jose in 1 hour and 20 minutes on his motorcycle.
- 04-05-1912 Nicholl well down 500 feet, no oil or gas yet but 250,000 gallons of water daily; all from above 100 feet.

# MASQUERS PLAYHOUSE

## *April and May at the Masquer's Playhouse*

### **Now Playing...**

*"The Women" by Clare Boothe Luce*

*Directed by Peter Budinger & DC Scarpelli*

*Through April 25*

*Fridays and Saturdays at 8pm*

*Sundays April 5, 12, 19 at 2pm*

*Before there was "Sex and the City"... Before there were "Real Housewives"... there were "The Women". Best known for its classic film version starring Joan Crawford and Rosalind Russell, this play combines high style and screwball comedy in an exceptionally witty, quotable script lampooning the social mores of the 1930s. "The Women" is smart, dangerous, delicious fun.*

*featuring Annika Bergman, Ellen Brooks, Jayme Catalano, Anne Collins, Rebecca Davis, Jax Franks, Robyn Grahn, Rebecca Grayce, Jetta Martin, Rose Matthews, Shawn Oda, Michelle Pond, Christine Sheppard, Alicia von Kugelgen, Lorealee Windsor, Judy Zimola*

### **Next Up...**

*"Photograph 51" by Anna Ziegler*

*Directed by Simon Patton*

*Friday, May 1 at 8pm*

*Saturday, May 2 at 2pm and 8pm*

*Sunday, May 3 at 2pm*

*A funny and moving portrait of the unrequited life of Rosalind Franklin, one of the great female scientists of the twentieth century, and her fervid drive to map the contours of the DNA molecule. A chorus of physicists relives the chase, revealing the unsung achievements of this trail-blazing, fiercely independent woman. A play about ambition, isolation, and the race for greatness.*

*featuring Richard Friedlander, Burl Lampert, Sam Leeper, Shay Oglesby-Smith, Graham Shepard, Carl Smith*

*(Continued on page 25)*

# *Birthdays*

## *April*

LOOF LIRPA	Marjorie Roque Hill	Alison Lord	Sharon Mertle
Kathy Barnes	Pam Wilson	John Maxwell	Charline Barni
Billie Bonham Shaw	Don Amantite	Sherri Mertle	Louis Stockdale
Roberta Palfini	Joel Peterson	Taylor Bradshaw	Joni Loux Emerson
Karilu Crain	Lori Meister	Rosemary Corbin	Donna Diaz
Charlene Smith	Charlotte Knox	Gloria Smith	David Roth
Tara Kaufman	Monica Doherty	Robert J.Palfini	
Ruth Wilson	Eric Hoiland	Terry Downey	
Paula Israeli	Melissa Allyn Delio	David Bradshaw	

## *May*

Douglas Corbin	Sara Eeles	Julina Smith	Norm Reynolds
Patricia Beth Dornan	Vern Doellstedt	Anne-Catherine Hadreas	Charles Palenchar
Diana Corbin	Rena Gonsalves	Roger Glafke	Patrice Verhines
Diana Spinola	Sandra Loux Fuller	Henry Marchitiello	Mark Healy
Eva Marchitiello	Muriel Clausen	Shoney Gustafson	Karen Brougham
Richard Mattuecci	Sophia Dolberg	Winifred Boziki	
Jon Doellstedt	Nell Brooker	Jackson Bradshaw	

*(at the Masquers, Continued from page 24)*

**Then...**

***Farragut North by Beau Willimon***

***Directed by James Nelson***

***May 29 - June 27***

***Fridays and Saturdays at 8pm***

***Sundays June 7, 14, 21 at 2pm***

***From the creator of the taut, critically-acclaimed TV hit House of Cards, Farragut North is a whip-smart drama that takes us into the spin, intrigue, and backstabbing on the campaign trail. Whether you loathe government or live for punditry, it's a gripping tale about the lust for power and the cost of achieving it.***

***featuring Enrico Banson, Max Minton, Alana Samuels, Cameron Dodd, Charles Isen, Jayme Catalano, Carl Smith***

## Memorials.....

**Lauren McLeod** (5/21/56 - 3/21/15) - Lauren, a Georgia native lived in the Point for many years and then in Richmond. She passed away at her sister Jean's home in Georgia. Lauren's Feldenkrais movement-therapy business was in Point Richmond for many years and she held classes & seminars all over the Bay Area. She is survived by her loving companion, Bryan Kelly of Richmond, three sisters, four nieces, two great-nieces and one great nephew in Georgia, and many loving friends here and all over the world. Services were held at Baker Funeral Home in Moultrie, GA on March 28, 2015. Donations may be made to Pruitt Health Hospice, 407 Cowart Ave., Valdosta, GA 31602. A local Celebration of Lauren's Life will be held on her birthday, May 21, 2015, at 1 p.m., at the First United Methodist Church, 201 Martina Street, Point Richmond.

**Richard Matthew Smith** passed away on Sunday, March, 22, 2015 at the age of 79-1/2. A native son of the Point who graduated from Richmond High School and received an AA degree from Contra Costa College. He proudly served in the US Army from 1956 to 1962. He had a rewarding career at Chevron as Head Supervisor in the Richmond Refinery, prior to retiring after 48 years. He was a dedicated volunteer for the WWII ships SS Jeremiah O'Brian in San Francisco and the SS Red Oak Victory in Point Richmond, member of Point Richmond History Association. He also enjoyed spending his free time with his loving family and working on his boats. Richard was a life long parishioner of St David's and Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church in Richmond.

He is survived by his wife, Charlene, of 56 years and children, Michael, Raymond and Gene of Richmond, Marlene of San Francisco and Linda Smith DeLaTorre of American Canyon and 4 grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his beloved son, Donald Smith. He is the brother of William, Dean and Frank Smith, all of Richmond and was preceded in death by his siblings John Leonard, Allan, Loren and Gloria Groff.



## Another Milestone for Bay Area Trail

The Bay Area Toll Authority Oversight Committee voted unanimously to authorize an agreement with Caltrans and \$4.65 million for final design of the I-580 Access Improvement Project. This project includes the Point Molate Bay Trail section between Marine Street and the bridge as part of providing an



eastbound third motor vehicle travel lane across the Richmond/San Rafael Bridge from Sir Francis Drake Blvd. in Marin to Marine Street in Richmond. It also includes a 10-foot wide, moveable barrier separated, bi-directional bicycle and pedestrian Bay Trail on the upper deck of the bridge to connect Contra Costa and Marin Counties.

# EXCLUSIVE OVER 90 CLUB

*Our oldest known birthday*

Lupe Padilla Lopez - 101

Delphina Franco Tawney - 96

Billie Bonham Shaw - 92

Elfriede Morris - 95

Martha Bielawski - 92

Shoney Gustafson - 97

Jerry Cerkowicz, Sr. - 95

Grace Cerkowicz - 92

Beatrice Beesley Casey - 97

Madelilne Bellando Albright - 97

Mid Dornan - 93

Charlotte Kermabon Birsinger - 96

Viola Lala Kennedy- 97

Lee Christian - 93

Mark Gebhart - 98

Mary Highfill - 91

Muriel Clausen - 90

Tom Kenny - 90

June Beesley Sosabal - 91

Helen Wysham - 90


Jim Wilson - 90

***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.  
It would be nice for us to know the month as well.**

**BLOSSOMS & THORNS**  
A COMMUNITY UPROOTED



A POWERFUL NEW DOCUMENTARY FILM BY KEN KOKKA,  
ABOUT THE WWII EXPERIENCES OF JAPANESE AMERICANS  
FLOWER GROWERS IN RICHMOND

**THURSDAYS**

**JANUARY 8TH THROUGH JUNE 25, 2015**

**Time:** 2:00pm  
**Location:** Rosie the Riveter Visitor Education Center  
**Duration:** 45 minute program: 20 minute movie followed by talk and questions/answers.  
**Presenters:** Representative from the Japanese American Citizens League and NPS Ranger.  
**Program:** Overview of the experience of Richmond's Japanese American citizens who were incarcerated during the Second World War.

1414 Harbour Way South, Suite 3000, Richmond, CA @Harbour Way South Exit off 580) Phone: 510-232-5050 X0

# CALENDAR/DIRECTORY

## ARTS OF POINT RICHMOND

*Art is for everyone. The artist. The Point is art. The viewer.* Meets at 139 Washington Avenue. Contact: Irene Hightower, irene1328@comcast.net More info: <http://www.artsofpointrichmond.com/index.html>

## 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.

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

Joanna Mina, Contact, 510-235-0157

## POINT RICHMOND BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

Contact: Andrew Butt, 510-236-7445

## POINT RICHMOND COMMUNITY CENTER

Info: 620-6905

## 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. The deadline for the next issue of TPIT is Friday May 22, 2015. 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: Margret Jordon 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.

Pancake Breakfasts one Sunday a month, April thru October. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., \$7 adults, children under 5, free

For more information call the ship directly at 510-237-2933 or Richmond Museum of History 510-235-7387

## 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

## ROSIE THE RIVETER WWII HOME FRONT NATIONAL HISTORIC PARK

Visitor Center is located 1414 Harbour Way South next to the Craneway Pavilion. The visitor center is open from 10:00am to 5:00pm, seven days per week, excluding three holidays. For more information call 510-232-5050 Ext. 0

## 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: \_\_\_\_\_

E Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

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: garyshows@gmail.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**

All rights reserved. Reproduction in whole or in part of any article or image without written permission of the Point Richmond History Association is prohibited.

### **Board of Directors:**

**Mid Dornan, President**

**Pat Pearson, 1st Vice President**

**Heinz Lankford, 2nd Vice President**

**Tom Piazza/Mary Crosby, Joint Secretaries**

**Kathe Kiehn, Treasurer**

**Pam Willson, Membership**

**Gary Shows, Newsletter Editor**

**Bonnie Jo Cullison, Museum Manager/Staff Coordinator**

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

Gary Shows	Editor/Uncredited Photos
Mid Dornan	Various Articles and Information
Don Church/Allan Smith	Historic Photos
Jerry Cerkanowicz	Proof/Information
Pam Wilson	Membership Info
Jean Reynolds	Article
Dee Rosier	Article
Donna Roselius	Line Drawings/article
Norma Wallace	Article
Muriel C. Clausen	Article
Pat Dornan	Article
Heinz Lankford	Article
Les Hathaway	Article
Indra Coles	Article

### **Phone Numbers**

Mid Dornan 510-234-5334

Visit our website

**PointRichmondHistory.org**

Join our Facebook Group

**<https://www.facebook.com/groups/prhafan/>**

Richmond Museum of History	510-235-7387
Red Oak Victory Information	510-235-7387
Rosie the Riveter Park	510-232-5050

*The Point Richmond History Association is registered with the IRS as a 501 (c) (3) organization. Contributions to the PRHA are deductible under section 170 of the code.*

Point Richmond History Association  
139½ Washington Avenue  
Point Richmond, CA 94801

**Dated Material**  
**Please Expedite**

NON-PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
RICHMOND, CA  
PERMIT NO. 301

