

# THIS POINT.... in time

## NEWSLETTER

The Point Richmond History Association

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

Vol. XXXIV No. 1

June/July/August, 2015

\$3.00

### PRHA May Meeting Report





## PRHA Plans for Kiosk Downtown

We have the funds to begin a long standing plan to create an informational/historical kiosk on the Point Richmond Downtown Triangle. The favored location of this kiosk is the corner of West Richmond and Washington Avenues. We anticipate this kiosk to be a central point of community notices and communications and to display historical information on Point Richmond.

# *From the President*

*By Mid Dornan*

A Speaker, Rafael Allen, a Ranger at Rosie the Riveter, World War II Homefront National Park here in Richmond, followed the election of Officers for 2015-2016 at the 34th Annual Meeting of the Point Richmond History Association which was held at the Methodist Church as the Community Center was in repairs. His talk about women's transition after the war from working back to the home and how it has affected our history enabled some in attendance, with special stories, being invited to meet with him later.

The following officers were elected for the coming year. President, Mid Dornan, 1st Vice-President, Pat Pearson, 2nd Vice-President, Heinz Langford, Secretary, Tom Piazza and Mary Crosby, Treasurer, Kathe Kiehn. Completing the Board are Pam Wilson, Membership, Bonnie Jo Cullison, Archivist and Museum Coordinator, and our biggest asset, Editor Gary Shows.

We thank our members and those who purchase our newsletter as you enable us to continue with our work. Visit us on our website provided by our Editor and please send us your memories and stories as they are a part of history too.

*Rosie Agnes Moore talking  
with PRHA Secretary Tom  
Piazza after our Annual  
Meeting.*



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Thank you members for your renewal:

**Marie Peckham\***

**John & Margaret Papadakis Family**

**Stephanie Pearson & David Allred  
Family**

**Louis Stockdale**

**Norma Wallace\*\***

**Bernie McIntosh\*\***

**Virginia W. Smith**

**Howard & Jan Arnold Family**

**Richard Giordano Family**

**Martha Bielawski**

**Marcelina Smith**

**Dolberg Family\*\***

**Connie Tritt**

**Patti, Stephanie & Stephen Kowalski\*\***

**Jeanne Pritchard**

**Joe Pritchard**

**Gary Darling Family**

**Olga Thomson**

**Lisa Hire & Thomas Young Family**

A warm welcome to new members:

**Garry & Maryn Hurlbut\*\***

**Deborah Haley**

**Linda Mertle**

\*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:***

*PRHA General Meeting guest Speaker Ranger  
Raphael Allen makes a point on selling of the war  
effort to women.*

*Photo by Gary Shows*

# *Editor's Notes*

**Gary Shows**

***[garyshows@gmail.com](mailto:garyshows@gmail.com)***

Here is your Summer 2015 edition of This Point in time, I hope you find it interesting and informative.

I want to take my space this time to invite your participation in TPIT. I am always open to new items, like stories about you're your experiences in Point Richmond, interesting items about your old house, pictures you find of old Point Richmond, interesting things that your family, group or club is doing. Mail them or drop them in my mailbox at 229 Golden Gate Avenue, 94801. Our you can email them the my address above. Are you someone who gets around the Point and likes to write? I am always looking for someone to do a regular current news of Point Richmond column.

In the mean time, everybody have a nice Summer. Next issue is September/October, 2015.

Deadline for the next issue is August 24, 2015.

Thanks to the volunteers at our last mailing party at Mid's home: And thank you Mid for allowing us to use your home for our staple/folding party and meeting.

Jerry Cerkowicz  
Gary Shows  
Pat Pearson  
Tom Piazza  
Heinz Lankford  
Kathe Keihn  
Pam Wilson  
Bonnie Jo Cullison

## *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  
Garry & Maryn Hurlbut  
Jeanne Pritchard  
Joe Pritchard

#### *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  
Norma Wallace  
Patti, Stephanie & Stephen Kowalski





# A-Mid Trivia

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

**Mid Dornan (510-234-5334)**

Question: In 1990, one million people worldwide owned a mobile phone. Today, how many are there?

Answer at end of Trivia

\*\*\*

With summer on the way, it will soon be too hot to eat chocolates. Better do it now.

\*\*\*

Our Editor, Gary and Jerry took time to return to their former home in San Antonio, Texas visiting with family and friends but returning in time for our Annual Meeting.

\*\*\*

Critical Stage 4 drought has set a community-wide goal to reduce water use 20% compared to 2013 striving for 35 gallons per person per day indoors and mandatory outdoor use rules.

\*\*\*

The graduating class of 2015 is the most indebted in history, owing a total of \$56 billion in student loans. About 71 percent of college students graduating this year took out loans, at an average of \$35,051 each. In 1996, just 58 percent of students took out loans, owing less than \$20,000 each at graduation.

\*\*\*

Judy Forbes has traveled to US for her medical school reunion and to receive a humanitarian award for all her work in emerging nations throughout the world. This Memorial weekend the Forbes Girls, Judy (new Zealand) Debbie (Oklahoma) Cindy (Truckee) and Kathi (Crockett) are gathering for the first time in years. They will be joined by Brenda and Michael McKinley, Barbara Quein and other special friends.

\*\*\*

Sitting next to Architect, Stanley Nielsen, at the PRNC imagine my surprise when I learned he is the nephew of Al Franco, who grew up in the Point, who was in my wedding and a best friend of my late husband, Bob. Now, I may get to have lunch with his mother, Delphina, 97, whom I haven't seen in many years.

\*\*\*

Has the Tatoo Parlor left the Point?

\*\*\*

Rachael Palfini received her Degree in Asian Studies from Whitman College in Walla Walla, WA. There to help her celebrate were her parents, Roberta and Richard Palfini, Irvine, CA.; brother Robert, UCSB Santa Barbara, Grandmothers Millie Palfini, Pinole, Mid Dornan, Point Richmond, Aunt Pat Dornan, San Pablo, Aunt Kathy Barnes and cousin Molly Barnes, Carbondale, IL, cousin Clay Barnes, Oxford, Mississippi and friend John Hu, Southern California.

\*\*\*

For the best in sun protection, wear sunscreen and eat plenty of foods rich in lycopene and polyphenols! The color pigments and nutrients that guard plants from the sun's harmful rays also fortify us with sun protection. Lycopene, a carotenoid found in tomatoes, watermelon, and red bell peppers, helps reduce your skin's sensitivity to UV light - decreasing the chance of sunburn. Fill up on tea, onions, apples, or soy foods and you'll take in polyphenols, plant compounds that protect your skin from UV radiation.

\*\*\*

I should never had more children than I had car windows. - *Erma Brombek*

\*\*\*

Jane and Mike Carnall, traveling through Iowa, were evacuated to a tornado shelter which fortunately, did not happen.. How scary is that!

\*\*\*

Chocolate makes a better gift than those little porcelain knick-knacks. Chocolate never needs dusting.

\*\*\*

Why you don't see Janice Cook in the Point very often. With more news that she earned 2 silver medals in Figure Skating Championships in Salt Lake City, she's headed for Lake Tahoe at the end of May for Adult Skate Camp taking tests in lifts, spins and footwork. Then returns for

challenges at the Oakland Ice Center to work on Pairs skating and more athletic challenges. Did I mention she did ballet during her teenage years? Can't keep both her feet on the ground! Best wishes.

\*\*\*

A reminder for the Pancake Breakfasts aboard the Red Oak. Mark your calendars.

\$9:00 adults, \$5:00 children 8 and under.

9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

JUNE 21st - Father's Day - Sunday

JULY -No breakfast - July 3rd Barbecue

AUGUST - 9th - Sunday

SEPTEMBER - 13th - Sunday

OCTOBER - 11th- Sunday

\*\*\*

If you can't fall asleep, count your blessings.

\*\*\*

Reach for celery after you drink red wine. The texture of celery scours away stains like a toothbrush.

\*\*\*

VETERANS!

WE HONOR YOUR COURAGE AND  
COMMITMENT TO FREEDOM.

\*\*\*

ANSWER: Today there are between 5 and 6 Billion mobile phones in circulation!

**The 7.8 magnitude earthquake that devastated Nepal, made Mt. Everest, the world's tallest mountain, sink "about 1 inch." Mid**

## THE GIFT OF A TRIP

It was a chilling sight of France's Normandy Coast where thousands and thousands of marble cross markers lie row on row on row, reflecting the sacrifice thousands of young soldiers from America, Canada and Great Britain who gave their lives against Hitler's armies that we no longer seem to remember their cause, our Freedom. The famous Omaha and Utah Beaches were so named after asking two soldiers where they were from.

This began the a journey, for pleasure , that turned out to be a first hand history lesson, too. It was a trip provided by a daughter and son-in-law who took their mothers on a journey neither mother thought they could make. They are 93 and 85 years of age! But they did.

The history of Budapest, Vienna, Salsburg, Bratislava, Melk, along the Danube Coast, and Prague, stories of the Russian Communist Regime told by the native Guides whose early memories of the horrors of war tell the story of their city. It is important to be knowledgeable of the changing boundaries of countries in recent the years that reflect in their cultures. The good news is that the tourists dollars are making jobs for the people and they are restoring the priceless buildings damaged by wars and time. You are never too old to travel but when all you have to do is "be there" it works.

*Mid*



# Church News



**By Dee Rosier**

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As we enter the month of June – six months of the year has passed! We must be having fun since the time has flown. This is the third 2015 issue and time for our summer hiatus. It would be delightful to enjoy some summer weather.

Holy Week was celebrated with outstanding music. On Wednesday we had a lovely concert of “quiet music,” featuring the piano and violin. The church was filled with wonderful sounds, as it continued into the remainder of the week with glorious and inspirational music. This year Father remembered to order Palm Sunday palms.

There were no Easter bonnets, but there was standing room only inside.

To show his gratitude, Father hosted a dinner for the musicians. He noted that they were a good group to spend time with, active, interesting and have all been around a lot in their very varied backgrounds.

You will note that we have two very impressive chandeliers in the choir loft. They are two of the original four that were in the church around the time of World War II. They have been lying in some state of disrepair in a closet. Parishioner Martin Lopez has, with much care and equal hard work, restored them to use.

No matter how often Father refers to the Building and Maintenance Fund, to us, it will always remain, “The Roof Fund”. One cannot go years saving and referring to it without it becoming

imbedded in one’s mind. The next maintenance undertaking was the church hall floor. A commercial floor buffer, along with the heavy brushes and scrubbing and polishing pads was used to clean the floor while removing layers of wax and dirt. After days of repeated cleaning, by maintenance worker, Louis Fitzgerald, it is now down to the original tile which now appears to be clean and bright. We may be money ahead in this recent endeavor, since quotes for replacement were on the high end. Your comments will be appreciated.

The books and scores used by the musicians have been moved to a lovely old bookcase in the sacristy. It makes them easily available, the lighting is better and there is place for them to sort through what we have for their needs. The bookcase was donated by Robert and Linda Drake. On his wish list, Father would like to have a simple copier (black/white) in order to copy a score when more than one is needed.

Msgr. Theodore Kraus, once our parish priest died on April 13, at the age of 76. He left us with good memories of an outstanding priest and great storyteller. He came to our parish with his cats and on Sundays with three lady friends who had adopted him – “The Golden Girls”. He introduced us to bible study and the formation of Small Christian Communities where weekly study of the following Sunday’s readings were discussed. On Sunday, when Msgr. stood in the center aisle to deliver his homily, we were all on the same page. While here, we had a formal dinner/dance at the Mira Vista County Club, as well as Saturday night movies in the church hall. He left us for Santa Maria’s in Orinda. We would occasionally surprise him and attend Mass there. He retired in residence at St. Mary’s, Walnut Creek. During a benefit musical performance there, we again enjoyed his company, as well as dinner along with the two remaining Golden Girls. His memory will be everlasting.

The OLM website has been re-tooled and will now offer the weekly bulletin online. Clifton Noble (Nancy Noble’s son) is the webmaster. Having access to the bulletin will be a benefit for those not able to attend a particular weekend liturgy and stay



informed.

The budget reports for 2015 were submitted to the Diocese prior to the deadline. Thanks are extended the Parish Finance Committee and Beth Lewin, Secretary, for their timely efforts and review.

In 1860 the Dominicans started a small mission for the families of the surrounding ranchos. However, the Catholic faith flourished with the building of the first parish church, St. Paul's in San Pablo in 1869. A book on the history of the parish is available through the parish office.

In the weekly bulletin, Father signs off, "fr. David." When asked why, he explained that it was tradition that the fr. Is not father, it is frere, or frater, which is Latin, and the first rather than family name indicates membership in a mendicant order Franciscan or Dominican.

Father had successful cataract surgery, now has 20/20 vision and is able to see the color blue which was filtered by cataracts. One of the few benefits of aging – no glasses!

The recent baptism of John Gerk's great granddaughter leads us to believe that our parish will never be without a Gerk family member. Years ago, when John and Shirley walked into church with their family, they occupied two pews. God love the Gerks and keep them coming.

Congratulations to Shawn Diaz, a recent Salesian graduate. He spent a week in Louisiana with Habitat for Humanity and will soon leave us to continue his education at UCLA – way to go Shawn!

Get well wishes to Valerie (Frosini) Guitterez adjusting to a new hip and Dean Smith, who recently had a stroke, but is doing well in recovery.

During the year, several essential members of our faith community have relocated. The latest being Stan and Nancy Toledo. Both were generous leaders who were always available when needed. Stanley is responsible for the research, text and publication of the book commemorating the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Our Lady of Mercy – "Small Parish Centennial". Nancy was Parish Council Secretary for many

years and kept precise, accurate records, as well as archiving previous ones. She also led us through our Seder dinners and was responsible for the annual Giving Tree. Stan and Nancy were married by Msgr. Kraus at our Lady of Mercy. They will now enjoy retirement and become permanent residents in their alternate home in Rio Vista. We wish them well as their loss is someone else's gain.

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

Condolences to the Michael Workman family in the recent death of his father, Russell.

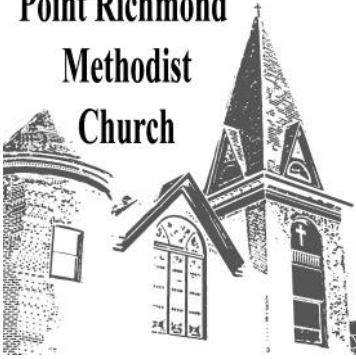
For ten years, Ann Dunipace and her dog Poppy, resided on Idaho Street. They were both very popular and well known in the Point. Two years ago, Ann made the decision to relocate to her family home in Bowling Green, Ohio. She continued to keep in touch via the phone and Facebook. A family member informed us of Ann's death on April 16, 2015.

Perhaps the third time is a charm, since I have yet to receive a copy of TPIT this year – mine must be in the dead letter office??????

SEE YOU IN CHURCH

DON'T EVER GIVE UP –  
FOR THE FIRST TIME IN 50 YEARS,  
A MALE WAS NAMED PRINCIPAL  
OF CARONDELET, AN ALL GIRLS  
SCHOOL

## Point Richmond Methodist Church



**Jean Reynolds**

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sweetheart05@mac.com

Easter, April 5, leaky clouds dampened worshippers at the 8:00 AM service in the garden. Festivities moved to the sanctuary so the guitar and hymnals did not warp due to wet weather. Friendship Hall offered a cozy place to enjoy a hot breakfast of Methodist Eggs, sausage, muffins, grits, fruit, cereal, and yogurt. Joyful Noise Choir did its best to channel Johnny Cash and sang “Ain’t No Grave” at the 11:00 service. The rain abated in time for Debbie and Bill Benko and Manuel Navidad to hide eggs for the Easter egg hunt. Sudden showers scattered the gathering in the garden after children found and examined the contents of all of the plastic, treat-filled eggs. Daniel Butt remembered when the Easter Bunny hid hen’s eggs; jellybeans and chocolate (read: sugar) were more judiciously limited. Now, hard-cooked eggs hidden in the grass are considered a health hazard, and the E. Bunny is in the candy business.

On Mothers’ Day, mothers received a chrysanthemum and special harp music performed by Diana Stork entranced us all. Diana is a member of the Triskela Celtic Harp Trio and teaches harp to youth in the Bay Area Youth Harp Ensemble and the Mission Harp Ensemble. The Triskela Celtic Harp Trio and Youth Harp Ensemble performed their ethereal tunes May 24 in the sanctuary.

We celebrated the music, talent and personage of George Peter Tingley on May 17, dubbed “Tingley Day!” George is our “Composer

In Residence” and he is renowned worldwide for his arrangements written for piano students. George played a dozen of his compositions on piano aided by musicians Jennifer Metz Foster, cello; Molly Smith, flute; Wendy Reid, violin; and Raphael Gold, viola. The congregation sang along on some pieces, and the choir sang “After Darkness, Light.” Pastor Dan read an excerpt from Robert W. Norris’ novel *Looking For The Summer*. Mr. Norris described the life lessons he learned from Mr. Tingley in Paris during the 1970’s when they were both young composers: George, composer of music; Robert, composer of prose. [The book is available as a free download online.] George P. Tingley studied under organist Dr. Kenneth Mansfield, Baroque specialist Laurette Goldberg, and studied composition under Mlle. Nadia Boulanger in Paris. His early violin teacher was Dr. Alexander Manke, who studied under opera composer Englebert Humperdinck, Richard Strauss, Gruetzmacher, and Becker, and played cello to accompany Russian ballerina Pavlova on tour in South America. George dedicated the day’s music in memory of his mother Frances who passed away a year ago. Among other experiences, Frances was a Rosie the Riveter, joined the Women’s Army Corps, and traveled to every continent during her life.

A rich sharing of stories, Lauren’s artwork, music and photos highlighted Lauren McLeod’s Love and Light celebration on May 21, Lauren’s birthday. The mother of one of Lauren’s clients, now five years old, who faced congenital physical challenges, told one of my favorite stories. Unlike the people in her infant son’s medical community, Lauren treated him with acceptance and hope in her Feldenkrais practice, and offered unique support to his parents through her loving, positive outlook. Lauren could heal through her practice of Feldenkrais, but also through her optimism. By the end of the day, Lauren’s friend and colleague Jennifer Lee, exclaimed several times: “Oh, now I see! Church is about community!” Our community is heart-sore to lose Lauren: may we remember her and practice our own version of Lauren’s propensity to foster hope.

We again embarked on the massive recycling/repurposing project fondly called “Junktique” on Saturday, May 2. Lots of people donated treasures in the preceding weeks until the

basement bulged. Forty volunteers worked the day of the sale, so you know it was a cause that people support. Betty Graham, Jonathan Swett, Bill Thompson, Julio Osegueda, David Tung, David Allred, and Heinz Lankford worked on the days before and during the sale. Barbara Haley, Mid Dornan, Debbie Benko and Linda Andrew-Marshall cashiered. Professional movers from Foster Van Lines lifted the heaviest items out in the morning and returned those that did not sell in the afternoon. (Many sold!) Manuel Navidad, Jonathan Mason, and Michael Weeks, cadets from the Fairfield Public Safety Academy, marketed toys, children's furniture and baskets. Yulia Solovieva, Terri Fewins-Pittman, Debra McFadyen. Kristi Johnson and Jenn Foster sold jewelry, dishes, glassware, art, and fine china upstairs. Alice Thompson, Sarah Remington Pollutro, Diane Frary, Nick Pollutro, Gill Stanfield, and Sean Mefford sold books, videos, electronics, appliances, lamps and more from the basement. Karen Bianchini, Juanita Hoffman, Valerie Kleinfeld, and Stephanie Pearson sold kitchenware, linens, and such on the sidewalk. Will Larson, Ryan Cline, David Allred, Sean Mefford, Jessy Mefford, Julio Osegueda, Matt Foster, Danny Matheson and Ryan Austin (two of Liam Thompson's friends) sold furniture outside. In the kitchen, Doreen Leighton supervised assembly of the minestrone after Florence Wilson shared her secrets to sumptuous soup. Vivian Sobarzo, Mim Drake, Rachel Herrin, and Jean Reynolds chopped vegetables. Russ Johnson crafted the chili. Together, Mid Dornan, Pat Pearson, Jennifer Metz Foster, Doreen Leighton, Fran Smith, Diane Frary, and Jean Reynolds donated twenty-seven pies. Helen Wysham sliced them. Steve Shank and Scott McLean washed dishes. A steady stream of hungry shoppers literally relished David Valentine's expertly grilled hot dogs of various size and content and shared laughter over the grill. Pastor Dan proclaimed it was the "Happiest Sale In History," and volunteer-organizer Fran Smith and basement boss Betty Graham breathed a collective sigh of relief.

We rallied again to join the fun of the Masquers' Community Yard Sale on Memorial Day, May 25. (We call it Junktique 2.) Norm Reynolds had the griddle piping hot, and plates of

still-steaming pancakes poured from the kitchen. Rachel Herrin, Barbara Haley, Matthew Foster, Scott McLean, David Reynolds, Julia Caadium and Jean Reynolds served sausages and "World's Fair" pancakes made with real buttermilk. Patrons found juice, coffee and tea on a side table; butter and warm syrup sat close at hand on the dining tables. Deals abounded in the basement: Debbie Benko, Alice Thompson, Russ Johnson, Kristi Johnson, Betty Graham, Jonathan Swett, Bill Thompson, Diane Frary, Fran Smith, Manuel Navidad, and Gill Stanfield helped shoppers hungry for bargains. Yulia Solovieva and Doreen Leighton were "Team Ladybug;" they sold succulents pre-planted in pots or pot-on-the-spot. One customer at the pancake breakfast crowed about his purchase of a rare golf club worth at least \$100 – it cost him just four dollars in the basement - we were glad he recognized its value, and grateful for all the shoppers, donors, and volunteers who value the church's presence in the community and support us so many ways.

On the Calendar:

Fathers' Day Jazz: Sunday, June 21, 11 AM  
Music featuring The Dan Damon Quartet with vocals by Gill Stanfield, Bethany Reynolds, and Sheilani Alix. Come celebrate and remember your favorite fathers!

Vacation Bible School, August 10 – 14, 9:00 AM to 11:30 AM. Children age three to sixth grade. A week of fun with stories, songs, art, games, and snacks. RSVP to Jean Reynolds (510) 734-3942 or email [sweetheart05@mac.com](mailto:sweetheart05@mac.com) Invite your friends!

Jean Eakle Art Auction and Gala, September 26. Save the date; donate art.

# WWIC Est. 1908

*News from the Womens Westside Improvement Club*

*by Linda Newton*

Our May meeting was decorated by **Di-ane Hirano** with an elegant take on spring. Set up, beverages and desserts were performed by **Altha Humphrey, Helen Wysham, Pat Pearson and Linda Newton**. **Pat** made pastry shells, provided perfectly ripe mixed berries and a choice of toppings. **Altha** made delicious chocolate chip cookies.

We missed our members who couldn't attend due to illness and recovery, **Barbara Robertson** and **Grethe Tedrick**. We wish them well and hope they can join us for our final meeting of the 2014-15 year to be held Tues., June 2. It is our traditional Hat Day and potluck salad luncheon.

During announcements **President Norma Wallace** informed us that long time member **Lori Nova Endres** will be moving to Shreveport, LA for the next few years because of her husband's posting there. We will miss her greatly and wish her, her husband and son the best on their new journey. Another announcement by **Altha Humphrey** is that the Community Center structure has more damage than anticipated. The date of the reopening of the center and library is some months away. Therefore, there will be no Knit 'n Such or Arts of Point Richmond meetings. The PRNC is looking for another

venue. **Linda** announced that the WWIC book group is reading The All Girl's Filling Station's Last Reunion by Fanny Flagg for the May meeting.

The following members celebrate their birthdays this month: **Judy Pordes**—May 15; **Norma Wallace**--May 20.

The most important business of this meeting was the election of officers for the 2015-16 year.

Pres.—**Linda Newton**

1<sup>st</sup> VP—**Mary Lee Cold**

2<sup>nd</sup> VP—**Marion Kent**

Sec.—**Karen Engbretson**

Treas.—**Deborah Haley**

TPIT—**Norma Wallace**

We are grateful to new members **Karen** and **Deborah H.** for jumping into those vacancies, to **Marion, Norma and Linda** for being officers again, and to **Mary Lee** for offering her support. At least three of the new officers have jobs, four volunteer extensively, and all lead busy lives.

## 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.

# *Stop and Stay a While*

*What's Happening at our Little Museum*

*By Heinz Lankford*

## *Questions Create More Questions!*

In the April/May 2015 "This Point In Time" newsletter I had written an article about the building located at 235 Washington in Point Richmond, which is now owned by the Dharmata Foundation and is known as the Dakini Temple.

Prior to writing that article I had no knowledge of the history of this building but that changed when a little old lady entered the museum with a book under her arm and asked me if I was aware that a Julia Morgan building was located in Point Richmond. The book, Julia Morgan, Architect by Sara Homes Boutelle, published in 1986, lists a long table of "Buildings by Julia Morgan" at the end. The author lists buildings that existed in design only and those



that were built. She lists Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, 235 Washington Avenue, Point Richmond [Permit 27118] August 21, 1908.

Needing more information I decided to go to the Buddhist Temple and hopefully talk to someone who could shed more light on this subject. It was my lucky day! I had the good fortune to talk to the President of the Board of the

Dakini Temple. I informed her that I had been told that this building was a Julia Morgan creation and she said that it is absolutely not.

The Dharmata Foundation, in 2008, hired Michael R. Corbett, Architectural Historian, Berkeley, California to research the history of the Trinity Mission (Trinity Episcopal Church) Point Richmond, California.

I was told by the President of the Board that I would receive documentation, by email, proving that the building was not a Julia Morgan building. Unfortunately, the proof did not arrive prior to the publishing deadline so I titled the article "IS IT, OR IS IT NOT?"

Approximately 3 weeks after the article appeared I received the email that I had eagerly waited for.

The Historical Documentation of the Trinity Mission in Point Richmond went way beyond my expectation, 20 pages of well researched material by Mr. Corbett.

Prior to building the Trinity Mission church at its present location at the corner of Washington and Nicholl another proposal was offered to build at a different location in Point Richmond. By 1903 William Mintzer donated several lots in an effort to establish an Episcopal mission in the Point. Mintzer's wife's family, the Tewksbury's, owned much of the land in on which Point Richmond was built and Mintzer was active with the Episcopal Church in San Francisco.

On April 26, 1903 the San Francisco Chronicle announced plans for a church to be built on Tewksbury in Point Richmond designed

*(Continued on page 12)*



(Continued from page 11)

*Stop and Stay Awhile*

by J.W. Forsyth, architect, of San Francisco. It was to be a massive building with seating up to 300 people but was rejected by the two earliest priests, Kelley and Jones.

After the rejection a smaller church was built and it opened in January 1908 “in a very unfinished condition.” [Kelley,1915] No mention of JW Forsyth being the architect of that building.

A young English architect, Ernest Coxhead, became the semiofficial architect, 1888-1905, for the Episcopal Church in California and helped to further the Gothic Revival style. These small churches had shingled walls, Gothic and other medieval details, including towers and unpainted redwood interiors.

Apart from Coxhead’s work, several other Episcopal churches that have followed his example have been identified including St. Matthews (1908) in San Mateo, Trinity Mission (1908) in Point Richmond and St. Clements Mission (1909) in Berkeley.

So, who designed that little gem in our neighborhood? Take a guess! I have no clue!

## *The Ongoing Purposes of the WWIC*

*by Linda Newton*

The Womens Westside Improvement Club is a surviving relic of a bygone era. Yet it still serves its original purposes: service to the community and friendship among women. The organization has been infinitely adaptable in its 100+ year history while fitting in neatly with the ever quaint and edgy historic Point Richmond.

It was not uncommon for women to improve the frontier communities—perhaps civilize them. The earliest of projects initiated during the Club’s first six months covered many fronts. Those included starting a Reading Room which was the precursor to the Richmond Public Library system, Janice Park for young children next to the Baptist Church, an Indian statue at the point of the triangle in town, and two drinking fountains for



*WWIC Gardening Day at the Map  
Maureen DeCombe and Diane Hirano.*

*Photo by Deborah Haley*

people, dogs and horses.

After the initial founders of the Club met, new members were invited and voted on. When that practice ceased to be the case, one would have to read all the volumes of the preserved minutes to find out. (With the help of Gary Shows some of these minutes will be reprinted in the Point Richmond History Association's "This Point in Time.") Nowadays the WWIC is a "self selecting" inclusive group. That is to say, women are welcome to attend without an invitation and join because they want to.

As in the beginning, the projects worked on depend on the interests of the members. At some point there was a lull in the Club. **Anna Schwartz** told that back when she was president and later the club members only wanted to play Bingo. The Club continued to provide community for the women and survived that period intact. Still projects were undertaken. For example, the first Community Map was installed at the corner of Park Place and West Richmond Ave. in 1986. Midway in the first decade of 2000 the WWIC along with the PRNC commenced gardening in the Triangle at the Indian Statue Park and the Rose



*WWIC Gardening Day at the Map  
Deborah Haley in the foreground. Howard Lacheen  
and Jean-Michel Decombe are in the background.  
Photo by Mindy Pines,*



*Gardening Day at the Map  
Back row from left to right; Karen Engbretson, Linda  
Newton, Norma Wallace, Altha Humphreys, Maureen  
DeCombe, Deborah Haley. Front Row; Diane Hirano and  
Rudy ( my poodle doggy). Photo from Deborah Haley*

Garden spearheaded by **Connie Lompa** and ably assisted by Richard Lompa and a joint committee. Some years later the Club put a plaque there, and then the new Community Map was installed in 2014. At present the WWIC is collaborating on two community projects. One project is with PRAM in Janice Park spearheaded by WWIC member and outgoing vice president, **Kim Hampton**, and the second in conjunction with the PRNC is the garden at the Community Map. That effort is led by PRNC member and gardener extraordinaire Maureen Decombe, WWIC member **Linda Newton** and the WWIC landscaping committee including **Deborah Haley, Altha Humphrey, Marion Kent, Stephanie Pearson, and Norma Wallace**. There have been up to 16 community members volunteering for the past three work days. There are more work days to come. Photos of our joyful efforts will be displayed in TPIT and other venues. Who knows what the interests of new members will next lead us into improving. It's an adventure.

# Annual Meeting of the PRHA

March 17, 2015

By Gary Shows

Our Annual Meeting was interesting and very successful. Thank you to the Point Richmond Methodist Church on Martina Street and West Richmond Avenue for hosting the meeting

All current officers were re-elected.  
President, Mid Dornan  
1st Vice President, Pat Pearson  
2nd Vice President, Heinz Lankford  
Secretary, Mary Crosby & Tom Piazza  
Treasurer, Kathe Kiehn

After the business part of the meeting Mid

and Rosie the Riveter/WWII National Historic Park in Richmond.

The theme of his presentation was how we, in a time of the WWII emergency mobilization



*National Park Ranger Raphael Allen addresses our members.*

call on women to do work that was previously “men’s work”. Then explained how hard we tried after the War to “put the toothpaste back into the tube” by trying to convince women to stop working and go back home to do “women’s work”, bake cookies and have babies.

At the end of the war, it was the same folks who tried to convince women to stop working as the folks who tried to convince them to work for the war effort.

The end of the war sparked the home economics movement. That gave women a chance to organize their authority in the house in a way that it was much greater than it was before the war often in the name of motherhood.

Raphael’s talk was interesting and entertaining and he encouraged and received



*Left to right Heinz Lankford, Kathe Kiehn, Mid Dornan, Tom Piazza, Pam Wilson and Bonnie Jo Cullison*

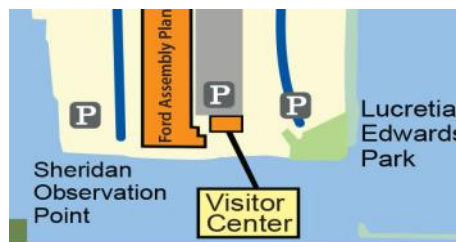
Dornan introduced our guest speaker, National Park Ranger Raphael Allen who is an Oakland native and graduate of Stanford University. Raphael is an interpretative ranger in support of the Port Chicago National Monument in Concord





*Attendees at the meeting. Rosies are in the front row from right to left Kay Morrison, Marian Wynn and Agnes Moore*

audience participation in the discussion. We were treated with the attendance of three extremely pleasant and knowledgeable Rosies. You can visit with these Roses on Fridays 10 am to 2 pm on Fridays at the National Historic Park Visitors Center at 1440 Harbour Way in the classroom. If you have not been to the National Historic Park Visitors Center you are missing a wonderful experience.



After the meeting we all enjoyed refreshments supplied by members of the PRHA Board of Directors.

You can listen to Ranger Allen's presentation and the entire meeting by directing your computer to:

[http://pointrichmondhistory.org/audio\\_video/May\\_17\\_2015.mp3](http://pointrichmondhistory.org/audio_video/May_17_2015.mp3)

*Or there is a link that you can click at [pointrichmondhistory.org](http://pointrichmondhistory.org).*



*Ranger Raphael Allen*

## ***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. Please note that parts 2 and 3 were in the last issue even though they were not separated.***

Chapter III  
***Tents***  
Part 3

Two kinds of small family “housing” shelters are typical of the Coast Miwok. One is the straight branch, tied in the center of the top, “tepee” shape with its outer surface covered with very heavy redwood bark. The earth inside was pounded down and tule mats made up the sleeping pads. These were called the KOTCA, or tepee. The other type had more space, standing room and head room. It was rounded up from the straight branch sides curving over at the top to form a dome shape. These were called the KOLE KOTCA and consisted, as described in Francis Drake’s records, as “houses digged round within the earth, bended round clefts of wood set up around the circle joined together at the top, covered watertight with earth. The door is the chimney, with the fire in the center. Rushes strewed on the ground for sleeping.” Often the



***KOTCA***

covering of these rounded fuller shaped tepees was tule rushes packed tight so as to be waterproof.

Much information about the Coast Miwok Indians has been obtained from the very vivid descriptions in the Francis Drake records and from studies of their remaining shell mounds, which were located near their villages. In remembrance of these Coast Miwoks and their communal living, there are four graphic areas where one can “see” re-creations of Coast Miwok Indian environments. The first is a typical re-created Coast Miwok Indian village near the Point Reyes National





*KOLE KOTCA*

Seashore Information Center. This is called Kule Loklo or Bear Valley and is reconstructed near a former Miwok village site with some of the structures described above. The second is at Tomales Bay State Park where there is a nature trail that points out the Coast Miwok's food sources and tule supplies. There are two KOTCAS on Indian Beach there. The third is a Lompall State Historical Park, two and a half miles north of Novato. Long ago this was the major gathering place for Pomo and Coast Miwok Indian communities. It was the home of major chieftains. The oldest residential structure in California can be seen there, the adobe-covered home of the last surviving Indian chieftain, Camillo Ynita, who died in 1856. The fourth site is the Marin Museum of the American Indian at 2200 Novato Boulevard in Novato. Gathered here are many of the artifacts that help to know how the Coast Miwok Indians lived.

We have noted that the Coast Miwok Indians lived as communities all up and down the coast of this area as long as 3500 years ago. The next question that comes to mind is, "If they had such a bountiful existence, why did they die out?" From the records, there were at least 3000 Coast Miwok Indians by as early as 1602, but by 1840 there were only about 300 remaining. By the 1860's there were none. They had been silenced by the colonization of the coast. First the Spanish came, they the Mexicans, and finally the Americans all having their impact on these peaceful peoples.

In the 1500's, explorers from Spain and England were scouring the coast searching for a "Northern Passage", a way around North America that would be shorter and not as brutal as the trip around the southern tip of South American. In 1542, Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo anchored off the shore of this area but did not come ashore. However, he claimed then to have discovered this coast for Spain. The English were in direct competition with the Spanish for new lands. Francis Drake was sent by Queen Elizabeth of England to do what he could to counter the effects of the Spanish. Meanwhile the Spanish were also carrying on a galleon trade between the Philippines' and Acapulco. This was very lucrative booty is captured. Drake attacked any Spanish ship that he could contact and sacked the waters off the coast with abandon. In 1579 Drake put into this area for ship repairs, calling the shelter which we now call Drake's Baym "new Albion". He was landed here for about 5 weeks and was to our knowledge the first white man to go ashore. He made vivid reports of the very friendly "natives" that he found and he found many small communities of the Coast Miwok Indian. He also found gentle sloping grasslands leading up into the scrublands of the foothills and from there up to the oak and redwood forested ridgetops. (The terrain has not changed much since then. We find the same benign landscape when we make a visit to Kule Loklo at Point Reyes National Seashore.) Then in 1602 Spain sent Sebastian Vizcano to the coast to chart it for Spain, making note of the Indian communities, so that, in about 100 years the Coast Miwok Indians had very real, if minor, contact with the outside world.

#### Tents Part 4

After this there was not much if any, contact, for about two hundred years by the Coast Miwok Indians with the white man. The Russian fur traders made trading sorties from their encampment at what we now call "Fort Ross" up and down the coast from 1812 to the 1840's. Their interaction with the Coast Miwoks was friendly.

Meanwhile, further south on the coast, in  
*(Continued on page 18)*

(Continued from page 17)

1769 Spanish explorers slowly began colonization starting from Mexico and heading north. They gradually built a chain of missions at or near Indian villages hoping to use the Indians as their laborers to construct the missions. The Spanish sent Mexicans to conscript the Indians, making promises to the Indians that their lands would be held in trust for them until they were converted to Christianity. All along the coast they found that the Indians had no tool knowledge except for the making and using of obsidian arrowheads and bone needles. Nor were the Indians very good as laborers as that had never been their way of life. The buildings that were constructed looked more crudely Mexican than Spanish. The first ones were stockade-like structures with walls of heavy poles set vertically into the ground and plastered over with thin adobe, a black mud that bonded



when wet and fortified with chipped weeds.. At first within these walls very simple shelters like Indians tepees were built for housing. Later flat topped log structures were constructed, and then the missions were gradually built. Later when the Mexicans took over from the Spanish they built small communities outside of the stockades that enclosed the missions. These were pueblos, small towns made up of Mexican adobe buildings. Here they farmed and grazed cattle. Gradually these pueblos gave way to large Mexican land grants as the land was assimilated. When secularization took place between 1816 and 1840, the Mexicans lost control of their large land grants to the Americans. However, to go back to the last mission to be built, Mission San Rafael, built in 1817, the Coast Miwok Indians had been conscripted as had the others as laborers for this mission. They were taken from their communal

villages and put to work. The Indians slowly became disoriented and lost. They could not adapt to the life of laboring, and they were kept too long from their former way of living. Furthermore, the promise to the Indians to restore their lands was never kept after secularization because the lands had passed from Spanish to Mexican to American hands. After secularization the classic missions fell into disuse and ruin and were plundered. Earthquakes and fire also took their toll. Gradually the Coast Miwok Indians were no more. Their heritage for Francis Drake's memoirs and their shell mounds are all we have left of the really first people to inhabit our coast. Their happy and bountiful existence is to be remembered. They had a successful way of living for themselves in really simple structures that were a step between the basic tent and the permanent home as we know it today. Tents give way to houses, as we have found, but the Coast Miwok Indians were successful with their "tents" for over 3000 years. Early settlers on the coast who came after them were not so successful, as their tents were rained upon and blown away in the very first years of their existence here. The Coast Miwok Indian has a rich history upon which to ponder.

*Next issue, Chapter IV The Simple House:  
Point Richmond*



## 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.*

*-Linda Newton, President*

July 14, 1908

The West Side Improvement Club met in Currys Hall. The meeting was called to order by the President Mrs. Lee Adams.

Roll Call Officers resulted in all being present.

Reading of the Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

Report of Committee

Mrs. Curry reported the Committee on Constitution and By Laws had met and drawn up a set of By Laws for the approval of the Club.

Mrs. Dennick then read the Constitution and By Laws in full.

There are sections to be discussed and amended.

Article 1 – The Name

The Committee presented five (*six*) Names for the Club

The Ladies Municipal Improvement Club of Richmond

The Ladies West Side Improvement Club of Richmond

The Ladies Improvement Association

The Ladies Progressive Club of Richmond

The Rockefeller Progressive Improvement Club

The Rockefeller Improvement Club of Richmond

A vote was taken and the majority favored the Ladies West Side Improvement Club of Richmond which was adopted.

Article 1 Sect. 2 was read and adopted

Article 2 Sect. 1 adopted as read.

Article 2 Sect. 2 amended to vote on members one meeting and admit them the next.

Article 3 Sect. 1 adopted as read

Sect. 2 adopted as read

Article 4 Sect. 1 adopted as read

Article 5 Sect. 1 adopted as read

Sect. 2 adopted as read

Sect. 3 adopted as read

Sect. 4 adopted as read

Sect. 5 adopted as read

Sect. 3 adopted as read

*(Continued on page 20)*

(Continued from page 19)

Article 6 adopted as read  
Article 7 adopted as read  
Article 8 adopted as read  
Article 9 adopted as read  
Article 10 adopted as read

#### Bills presented

The bill of the Daily Leader was read and laid over until next meeting for correction.

A bill of Mrs. Topping for stationery .15 cents

A bill of Mrs. Curry for cleaning Hall \$1.00

Bills was ordered paid

Mrs. Troutsetter was nominated and elected Financial Secretary

Mrs. Geo. Gerrard, Mrs. Lang and Mrs. Jones was appointed Financial Committee

#### New business

Mrs. Curry announced that Mrs. Boyd would Hospital in memoriam of her husband and present it to the City through the West Side Improvement of Richmond. A board of trustees to be selected from the members of the club.

Mrs. Curry, Mrs Windrum, Mrs. Arnold, Mrs. Niedecker and Mrs. Dimineck were appointed to act on the executive board of the Club for a term of a year.

The Secretary received \$14.50 for admission fees and Disbursements of 1.15.

There being no further business appearing before the meeting, the Club adjourned to meet at Currys Hall Tues, July 21, 1908.

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

## ENJOY YOUR EXTRA SECOND IN JUNE

You are in luck! You are getting more time this June as 2015 is going to be exactly ONE SECOND longer than 2014. This was decreed by the astronomers at the International Earth Rotation and Reference Systems Service in Paris who measure Earth's rotation and compare it to the time kept by atomic clocks. It's the 26th time this has happened since atomic clocks started governing our time \which was back in 1967.. It is unpredictable and nobody knows when the next one will be. The extra second will be tacked on to the final minute on June 30.

Atomic time, on the other hand, defines a second as exactly 9,192,631,770 oscillations of cesium-133 atom. This is what determines the time that displays on your computer or cellphone. Atomic clocks keep uniform time scale, but the Earth does not. The speed of the Earth's rotation varies and changes. Earth's surface can cause it to slow down or speed up by thousands of a second over a period of decades.

*Mid*



## 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Home Front Film Festival

### *National Park Service and Richmond Museum Association present war-time films aboard the historic SS Red Oak Victory*

The film screenings will be presented aboard the *SS Red Oak Victory*, a beautifully restored cargo ship built in Richmond during World War II. The ship is located in historic Shipyard #3, where thousands of Americans labored to build 747 ships over the course of the war.

Admission to the films is free, but there is a suggested donation of \$10 to help preserve and maintain the ship.

Boarding is at 6:30 PM on each date, and the films begin at 7 PM. Please note: the ship is not ADA accessible. Visitors must be able to climb gangplank (40 feet of stairs with railings) and steep steps once aboard ship.

#### June 11: *The Fighting 69<sup>th</sup>* (1940) James Cagney

In 1940, as the United States prepared for the war that seemed inevitable, filmmakers looked for ways to prepare a reluctant population. *The Fighting 69<sup>th</sup>* is based upon the actual exploits of New York City's 69th Infantry Regiment during World War I, and centers on misfit Jerry Plunkett (James Cagney), who displays a mixture of bravado, cowardice, and eventually service to the greater good.

#### June 25: *Invisible Agent* (1942) Peter Lorre

The concept for the story was inspired by *The Invisible Man*, by H.G. Wells. The film was a wartime propaganda production that was part of a Hollywood effort to boost morale at the home front. The screenplay was written by Curt Siodmak, a refugee from Nazi Germany.

#### July 9: *Casablanca* (1942) Humphry Bogart and Ingrid Bergman

Considered by the *American Film Institute* to be the greatest romance movie of all time, *Casablanca* became the most popular film of the Home Front Era and its popularity is still alive and well. Come join us for the film and fun, as we recreate Rick's Café Américain aboard the ship. Feel free to dress for the evening (as your favorite *Casablanca* character.)

#### July 23: *Northern Pursuit* (1943) Errol Flynn

Royal Canadian Mounted Police Corporal Steve Wagner (Errol Flynn) tries to uncover a Nazi plot against the Allied war effort. The film was set in Canada during the early years of WWII. Remember, "The Mountie always gets his man."

#### August 13: *For Whom the Bell Tolls* (1943) Gary Cooper and Ingrid Bergman

Based on the novel *For Whom the Bell Tolls* by Ernest Hemingway, this film is about an American fighting in the Spanish Civil War on the side of the Republicans, who finds romance during a desperate mission to blow up a strategically important bridge. Hemingway hand-picked Cooper and Bergman for their roles.

#### August 27: *Dragon Seed* (1944) Katherine Hepburn

Based on a best-selling book by Pearl S. Buck, the film portrays a peaceful village in China that has been invaded by the Imperial Japanese Army during the Second Sino-Japanese war. The men in the village choose to adopt a peaceful attitude toward their conquerors, but Jade (Katherine Hepburn), a headstrong woman, stands up to the Japanese. This film is not without controversy, as almost the entire cast of Asian characters is played by Western actors.



## A DOCTOR WITHOUT BORDERS

*(Judy Forbes, former Washington Elementary School student and Point resident.)*

In May, the UCSF Medical Alumni Association presented Judith L. Forbes, MD '75 with the Alumni of the Year Award.

When Judith Forbes, MD '75, is at home in Christchurch, new Zealand, she works as an anesthesiologists in a local hospital and charity clinic. She is often away, for three to four months at a time, on volunteer medical missions in war zones, refugee camps, rural villages, and chaotic urban hospitals in the developing worlds.

She has worked in more than 30 countries including Afghanistan, Pakistan, Sri Lank, India and several African nations.

Her medical care has taken her literally to the farthest corners of the world, providing basic trauma care as medical director for ships that carry scientists and film crews to the Arctic and Antarctic. She has worked with Doctors Without Borders,

Health Volunteers Overseas, the Italian aid organization EMERGENCY, and the United Nations. Judith has volunteered with Rotaplast International, which performs reconstructive surgeries for children with cleft lips and palates.

Judy was the first in her family to graduate from college but was inspired at an early age to become a doctor. She moved to Christchurch in 1985 because of concern about the growing inequality apparent in this community and around the world. Her husband, Bill, wanted a more egalitarian place to raise their six children, including three children from international adoptions and found New Zealand provided a very good life for children. They now have three grandchildren. "It is tough work, physically, and I keep trying to retire but miss the interaction with people I've met and the insights into other people's lives, other countries, every religion, indigenous beliefs and that's a huge privilege"

*Mid*



*PRHA Photo Archive #0946  
from Patricia Pearson  
1940 Y.M.C.A. Basketball  
Champs. Top row, left to  
right Mervin Rose, un-  
known, unknown, Herbie  
Bill, Johnnie Duarte  
(coach), Al Diaz (assistant  
coach) . Bottom row, un-  
known, Gene Fevche, un-  
known, George Neel, Walter  
Bebich.*

*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***

- 04-16-1912      Ground broken yesterday for both Lincoln and Washington schools.  
S.S. Titanic sunk yesterday after collision with iceberg.
- 04-17-1912      Oakland Traction Company is doubling tracks on San Pablo Avenue
- 04-19-1912      Mad dogs and rabies prevalent here.  
Miss L. Clark, 16 has small pox. 2nd case in 2 months.
- 04-21-1912      C. Young, lost brother in law on Titanic. Sister will go back to England.  
John F. Galvin succeeds I.N. Foss as Mgr. of Independent. (Galvin is from Martinez Standard.
- 04-25-1912      E.B. Smallwood sells furniture business to L.H. Schrader. Will maintain undertaking business.
- 05-03-1912      E.B. Baldwin, famous Artic Explorer, here for NY Capitalists.
- 05-05-1912      New Richmond Feed and Grain Plant ready.  
New \$6500 fire truck arrived yesterday for the Point.
- 05-08-1912      New fire truck has collision on Standard Avenue, Oliver Wylie driving-other driver gets \$10 fine for interfering with the fire engine!  
Mrs. H.N Barney injured in her auto when runaway horses upset the auto and throw her out.
- 05-16-1912      Joe Willis badly injured at Refinery when staging gave way.  
Walter Smallwood joins father in undertaking business.  
Mrs. C. Gannon drunk again, \$20 bail.
- 05-18-1912      SOCo to build 30 more stills, 15 just completed - 88 before that, total will be 133.  
Mother steals chickens from son. Had been convicted and fined \$20 for stealing from Chas. Swattout here last month.  
Chief Dick Paasch of Point Company #1 getting instructions from the Seagrave representative Jack Heyser on operation of truck.
- 05-19-1912      Mrs. Kvint, 90 year old chicken thief freed by Oakland judge.  
Point has water famine due to break in a hill waterline.
- 05-25-1912      SOCo is paving the streets within the Refinery for first time.
- 05-28-1912      Mrs. Sophie Burtin to erect \$7,000 apartments corner of Washington and Nicholl.

# Cards, Letters & E-Mails

To Gary Shows:

Appreciation for Articles on George Coles

We would like to thank you and all that helped you with the articles for George's obituary. You did a great job with the pictures and text regarding the dog biscuits and the attachment cards. George really loved dogs and made a lot of friends by giving their dogs biscuits from his pockets.

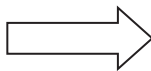
We also appreciate the articles through the years that you printed from George, from Brooks Island to his fall on the side walk at the Mechanics Bank and all the activities on the Red Oak Victory Ship including the Mimosas at the Pancake Breakfast.

An exhibit of his many years of archeological work at Brooks Island with his students from Contra Costa College is planned to be on display at the Richmond Museum sometime later this year.

Thank you,  
Indra Coles and family and Patsy Pearson

*You are very welcome. By printing George's stuff we were all both entertained and educated. TPIT will miss him.*  
Gary

Rosie The Riveter  
Agnes Moore still wears her  
Richmond Shipyard  
Number Two Badge



**YOU'RE A GRAND  
OLD FLAG**  
-George M Cohan  
(A request by a Marine  
Veteran)

*You're a grand old flag,  
You're a high flying flag  
And forever in peace  
may you wave.  
You're the emblem of  
The land I love.  
The home of the free  
and the brave.  
Ev'ry heart beats true  
'neath the Red, White, and Blue,  
Where there's never  
a boast or brag  
Should auld acquaintance  
be forgot,  
Keep your eye on the grand old flag.*



# *Birthdays*

## *June*

Alissa Bagley  
Phyllis Downey  
William Shea  
Emeric H. Baxter  
Andrew Butt  
Cynthia Wilson  
Workman  
Joanne Lansing  
Cathe Brazil  
Brian Rotting

Stacey Spinola  
Gill Stanfield  
John H. Knox  
Alice Baxter  
Wilson Gandola  
Rosemary Giacomelli  
Daniel Buhler  
Dianne Primaver  
Suzanne Squires Unser  
Tom Kenny

Bill Smith  
Aaron Marshall  
Dorothy Wells  
Michael Marshall  
Marcelina Smith  
Gerry Higuera  
Judy Travis  
Lee Christian  
Lillian Karl  
Luke Karl

June Solosbal  
Phyllis Bogue  
Doreen Minkwitz

## *July*

Francis Smith  
Amy Rotting  
Richard Tapp  
Joan Glover Carter  
Mrs. Chas Baldwin  
Dan Damon  
Julius Matteucci  
Bea Read

Mary L. Knox  
Richard Smith  
Diedre Cerkowicz  
Allen Anderson  
Roger Elle  
Trace Smith  
Alice McMahon  
Hilary Lord

Clifford (Lou)  
MacMillan  
Loretta "Mertle" Lease  
Madeline Bellando  
Albright  
Jean Reynolds  
Regan Bradshaw  
Jon Healy

Golda Pettycord Howard  
Alyce Williamson  
Martha Bielawski  
Madison Bradshaw  
Dixie L. Mello  
Frank Matteucci  
Lea Smith

## *August*

Donna Wilson  
Mid Dornan  
Kevin Pryne  
Molly Kate Barnes  
Joe Darling  
Marlene Smith  
Barbara Ward

Connee Fisher  
Alice Thompson  
Linda DeLaTorre  
Zoanna Kille  
Mary Knox  
Karla Peterson  
Karen Gagnier

Terrence Doherty  
Lisa Smith  
Kelly von York  
Rose Barra  
Bonnie Ritzenthaler  
Wilson  
Dean Beesley

R. Clayton Barnes  
Tony Bernabich  
Michael Shaw  
Roy Henry Glover  
Bernie McIntosh  
Beatrice Beesley Casey  
Jim Healy

*You share your birthday  
with about 9 million other people in the world!*

*Mid*





*Happily there are no Memorials this issue, so you get to see two of my favorite Point Richmond panoramas. Above is #0070, below is 0076, both are from Don Church Collection and both have been enhanced by Thomas Mercer-Hursh.*







*PRHA photo archive #0887 from Jean and John Knox. This is taken in the 1950's when Keller Beach was remodeled. Notice Keller's Wharf in disrepair to the right. The tracks to the left are bound for Ferry Point.*

## EXCLUSIVE OVER 90 CLUB

*Our oldest known birthday*

Lupe Padilla Lopez - 101

Delphina Franco Tawney - 97

Billie Bonham Shaw - 92

Elfriede Morris - 95

Martha Bielawski - 92

Shoney Gustafson - 97

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

Jean Stark - 99

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.**

# 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 or visit [MASQUERS.ORG](http://MASQUERS.ORG)

## 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 August 24, 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 412-3673

## 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 NATIONAL HISTORIC PARK VISITOR CENTER

1414 Harbour Way South, Oil House next to Ford Craneway

Tuesday and Saturday Betty Soskins talks about Richmond and being Black in a segregated town

Thursdays @ 2:00 Flora Oishi talks about being Japanese and internment

Fridays 10 - 2 Richmond Rosies are in the classroom to chat

The tours are once a month and reservations are required. GREAT movies all day

## 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: Linda Newton, President. (510) 235-0081

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**

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### Board of Directors:

*Mid Dornan, President*

*Pat Pearson, 1st Vice President*

*Heinz Lankford, 2nd Vice President*

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*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
Linda Newton	Article
Muriel C. Clausen	Article
Pat Dornan	Article
Heinz Lankford	Article
National Park Service	Information

### 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

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