

THIS POINT....in time

NEWSLETTER

The Point Richmond History Association

www.PointRichmondHistory.org

Vol. XXXIV No. 3

November/December/January, 2015/16

\$3.00



2015 Point Richmond Community
Tree Lighting Ceremony

Luminaries

Santa

Choir

Dusk

November 28th in the Indian Statue
Park



From the President

By Mid Dornan

The Holiday Season is a time people celebrate in different ways. However you make others happy, you too will reap rewards.

Our Point Richmond History Association has funds given us a few years ago toward a Kiosk. Now, the Point Richmond Neighborhood Council is interested in having a Kiosk too. With assistance from the Community, a PRHA BOARD member has graciously proceeded to make certain this is a reality.

Come by and visit us at our little museum, it is open Thursday and Saturday from 11:30 to 2:00. While visiting you can meet our volunteer docent, ask questions about the Point's history, look at picture albums and various artifacts and enjoy our slide show of over 1000 images of old Point Richmond.

Thank you for being a friend and member of the Point Richmond History Association and best wishes to everyone for the Holiday Season!

*Mid Dornan and Gary Shows
enjoying the Untied Methodist
Korean Tea Party*



Contents of this Issue

From the President	1
Members	2
Editor's Notes	3
A-Mid Trivia	4
Church News	6
Westside Womens Improvement Club	10
Bullfights in Point Richmond?	11
The Search for Smokey Row	12
This Old House	16
Sanborn Insurance Maps	19
WWIC Early Minutes	20
Rosie the Riveter Park Programs	22
Cards and Letters	24
Birthdays	25
Memorials	26
90's Club	27
Calendar/Directory	28

Thank you members for your renewal:

Marcelina Smith
Francis Smith
Joan Gatten
Norm and Jean Reynolds**
H. Abigail Bok and David Gottlieb
Penelope L. Canario
Fernando and Becky Garcia
Wilson and Sonja Gandola
Linda Andrew-Marshall**
LaVerne Rentfro Woolman
Malcom P. Burg
Gloria and Mark Maltagliati**
Pam Wilson
Michael Cooper
Mid Dornan
Burl Willes**
Charlotte Birsinger
Anne Brussok-Roth**
Margaret Morkowski**
Don S. Crowe

A warm welcome to new members:

Larry Slagle*
Wes Russell*
Jane Byron Brown Family
Anita and Martin Lee*

*Gift Membership

**Special Supporter, *Thank You!*

Thank You! To
Santa Fe Market

For selling
"THIS POINT.....in time"

Support our local retailers

Visit our little museum, view our
slide show of historic Point
Richmond photos.

Open Thursdays and 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
Caitlin Harvey



*Our stately turn of the century
churches.*

*Our Lady of Mercy Catholic
Church*

*Point Richmond Methodist
Church*

Editor's Notes

Gary Shows

garyshows@gmail.com

I am very happy to welcome Caitlin Harvey as a new contributor to TPIT. She moved to Point Richmond about a year ago from San Francisco, where she had lived for almost 10 years, following stints in Oregon, Virginia, England, and her hometown of Irvine, CA. She is a professional architectural historian with her own consulting business: Left Coast Architectural History. She works all over the Bay Area, researching buildings and neighborhoods to inform Planning decisions, historic designations, and other preservation activities. A perfect fit! You will find two of her works in this issue.

I am at the little museum on the second Saturday of each month, drop by and see me and bring your ideas with how to improve TPIT!

Let's hope for a nice and wet winter!

Deadline for the next issue is January 22, 2016.

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
Pam Wilson
Bonnie Jo Cullison
Caitlin Harvey
Mid Dornan
Marcelina Smith

*Washington Avenue and Park
Place from the Indian Statue Park.*

Thank You!

Our Special Supporters!

History Makers

Doug & Rosemary Corbin
Kathe Kiehn
John A. Thiella & Rosa T. Casazza
Roberta & Richard Palfini
Patricia Dornan
Les Crim
Norm and Jean Reynolds
Fernando & Becky Garcia
David Janes
The Bartram-Owens Family
Erica & Barry Goode
Burl Willes
Garry & Maryn Hurlbut
Jeanne Pritchard
Joe Pritchard

History Preservers

Royce Ong
Kevin, Renée & Griffin Knee
Sandi Genser-Maack & Lynn Maack
Margaret Morkowski
Maurice & Margaret Doherty
Zoe Egger
Linda Newton
H. Abigail Bok & David Gotlieb
Tom & Shirley Butt
The 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
Don & Carole Woodrow
Marilyn Darling
Richmond Convention & Visitors Bureau
Linda Andrew-Marshall
Gloria & Mark Maltagliati
Anne Brussok-Roth

A-Mid Trivia

TPIT
Exclusive
since 1984

Mid Dornan (510-234-5334) (middornan@gmail.com)

QUESTION: Why do people kiss under the Mistletoe?

ANSWER AT END OF TRIVIA.

Do we need /want a wine bar in the Point Richmond Family Starbucks?

The festive and imaginative Halloween paintings on twenty downtown business and restaurant windows were created by KID'S ART classes at Washington School.

FOR A KISS—the colorful umbrella topped outdoor flower shop next door to Kristina's Nail and Spa shop, 145 West Richmond Avenue, is another local business that makes bouquets, and stunning arrangements. Just in time for the holidays too. Flowers are nature's smiles back to us.

Does anyone remember the year Washington School students collected money for UNICEF, with grades, K-2, 3-4, 5-6 returning to the respective Methodist, Catholic and Baptist churches for a Halloween Party?

The 157 million Americans who celebrated Halloween spent an estimated:

1. \$1.9 billion on decorations
2. \$2.1 billion on candy
3. \$550 million on costumes for their pets

The 10 rook reed organ, on loan from Emmit Zediker, that graced the choir loft in the Historic First United Methodist Church is gone. Twelve years ago in December 2003, Church members transported the organ from his parents home in Dixon and the six church male members had to call for emergency help from the local firefighters when they attempted lifting it into the loft. The organ was played for the last time in church on Sunday, October 18, 2015. Emmit has retired and had professionals retrieve it from the loft to take his organ on a journey with him to So. Carolina. A

professional organ tuner, he will repair it for continued use. Church members and friends gave Emmit a heartfelt thanks for the loan.. The vacant spot awaits its next instrument!

When you go to the movies, eat Chocolate instead of popcorn. Chocolate is much quieter.

Arriving a few days before Thanksgiving from Port Orford, Oregon, PRHA Founder, Donna Roselius will spend time with Mid Dornan hoping to catch up with old friends before heading to Alameda and Sonoma to spend the holidays with her granddaughter and other family members.

Enjoy and support the ARTS of POINT RICHMOND. View their display in the windows by the Post office. Think of the items on display as gifts which are for sale.

Linda Andrew-Marshall is having a knee replaced in early November and wished a speedy recovery as her Soprano voice is needed for the Christmas season.

When you are walking about, take a whistle with you to use should you see anything happening.

The Contra Costa West County yellow pages no longer contain residential listings in the 2015-2016 edition. Request a residential one if you need that.

The 2016 graduating class at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point will be given class rings containing small amounts of steel from the World Trade Center.

After being co-chair of the successful United Methodist Church Korean Tea, Doreen Leighton left to spend a week with her brother and families in Nova Scotia from where she grew up.

Those tantalizing smells coming from our Editor's house could be from his new bread machine. Imagine, fresh, warm gourmet bread at a TPIT collating! UMMM

Under California's new Motor Voted Act, you are automatically registered to vote when you apply for or renew your driver's license .

Undocumented immigrants, can now apply for a driver's license ...BUT, IT IS ILLEGAL for them to vote! *Question: Isn't this confusing Illegals in regard to being a voter?*

If you have been to the nation's highest mountain peak, Mt. McKinley in Alaska, remember it is now Mt. Denali, the indigenous Athabaskan word meaning "the high one" by Native Alaskans.

If you cheer someone up, you cheer yourself too.

I should never had given birth to more children than we have car windows.

- Erma Bombeck

East Brother's Brewery is the appropriately named new brewery at the Riggers' Loft on the waterfront.

Former Point resident, Jean Allyn, Allyn's Men's Shop, who moved to Sonoma has now moved to Colorado to be near her daughter, Melissa.

How many have been able to keep in touch with their kindergarten friends for more than fifty years? Dee Rosier, TPIT contributor, goes yearly to Crockett in November to socialize with her many years Kindergarten friends at St. Mark's Annual Craft Fair .

Hip surgery is not going to keep Marian Kent down very long as she is anxious to resume her activities.

I am one who will miss Nilda Rego's *Column Days Gone By* which appeared on Sunday in the West Contra Costa Times for 27 years.. Nilda has retired and moved to Oregon where she tells me it

is good to see wet sidewalks and rain.

Masquers Playhouse director suggests a ticket or two makes great gifts and supports the local theater. 510-232-4031 or masquers.org

Does running late count as exercise?

Your tongue is made of a group of muscles that work together to allow you to talk, sing and help you chew food. Wiggle it around and see where those muscles work. The tongue is the only muscle connected at one end.

Did you check your tongue?

Pat King is recovering from surgery and needs healing before further surgery in December or January.

Karen Gagnier, daughter of Kathe Kiehn, is battling breast cancer again and wished continued healing.

The *roar* that we hear when we place a seashell next to our ear is not the ocean, but rather the sound of blood surging through the veins in the ears.

Catahoula Coffee - Richmond! Starting in 2008, amidst an economic downturn second only to the great depression, in the scenic and beautiful coastal hamlet of Richmond, CA, Catahoula Coffee opened its doors at 12472 San Pablo Avenue. Within a short period of time, Catahoula Coffee has won the coveted San Francisco Chronicle's 2010, 2011 & 2012 "Best of Bay" for its coffee three years in a row. A second store has already opened in Berkeley.

Former Point residents, Marilyn and Carol Darling, are regulars at the Masquers plays coming from Pleasant Hill and seen enjoying local restaurants before the play.

It is more than 'rumored' our Editor has a new exercise machine. Does that mean it will compensate for that aroma coming from the new kitchen appliance?

(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

Random Acts of
Christmas Kindness! Each day of Advent, (Nov
29-Dec 25), do one random act of kindness, such as,
put a donation in the Salvation Army kettle, smile at
10 strangers, pay for someone's groceries, behind
you, give a friend a call, send a card, pick up a piece
of trash, offer to walk with someone. Little things
can mean lot and have a big impact in the life of
somebody else. To help you remember, put a small
stone in your pocket as a reminder. You will even
sleep better.

The Song, AULD LANG SYNE, is sung at
the stroke of midnight in almost every English
speaking country in the world to bring the new year.

ANSWER. Mistletoe was used by Druid
priests 200 years before the birth of Christ in their
winter celebrations. They revered the plant since it
had no roots yet remained green during the
cold months of winter. The ancient Celts
believed mistletoe to have magical healing powers
and used it as an antidote for poison infertility, and
to ward off evil spirits. Scandinavians associated
the plant with Frigga, their goddess of love, and it
may be from this that we derive the custom of
kissing under the mistletoe. Those who kissed
under the mistletoe had the promise of happiness
and good luck in the following year.

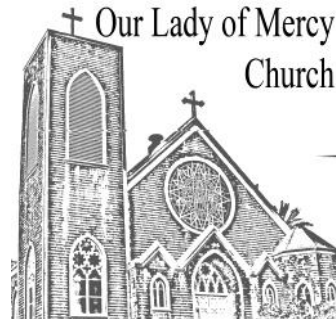
COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS AT
THANKSGIVING *and everyday,*

*MAY YOUR HOLIDAYS
BE MERRY,*

GOOD HEALTH IN 2016



Church News



By Dee Rosier

510-232-1387

drosier@sbcglobal.net

We now enter the season of Fall (also known as
Autumn) which causes a change in time and lessens
our evening to earlier darkness. The leaves that
crunched when stepped on are now limp from
moisture. Speaking of moisture, can you believe we
actually experienced rain.

The Parish webpage is in the process of being
reworked and will contain much more information.
The weekly bulletins are included. If you have
pictures of events, please email them to Father for
inclusion.

Recently commissioned as Eucharistic Ministers
in a simple ceremony during Mass were: Diane
Diani,

Anne Carroll, Tom Boone, Brenda Grayson,
Gabrielle Bay, and Dee Rosier. They have the honor
of presence on the altar to assist Father O'Rourke.

Religious instruction classes have begun for
children of the Parish. At one time Nuns actually
came to the church for religious instruction.
Thereafter it was led by Winnie Guisti, then Cynthia
Young and presently, Margaret Morkowski. One of
the advantages of a small church community is the
familiarity of families and witnessing their
generational growth. Angie Kirkpatrick, without a
doubt, is the matriarch of our Parish. Her daughter,
Diane and husband, Fred were married at Our Lady
of Mercy. Their three sons participated in our church
community as they matured. It is now time to
welcome another Siegmund into our family. Joining

the religious instruction class for First Communion is Eric Siegmund, Jr. Welcome to the fourth generation.

Major repairs are complete for now and are experiencing day-to-day fixes. Due to the age of the building, the need for a licensed electrician is never ending.

Bible study classes continue to be held every other Wednesday in the church hall from 6:30-7:30 PM.

Everyone is welcome. Contact for classes is: Anne Brussok (510-517-9905). Anne also visits those unable to attend Mass and administers Communion.

Father recently attended a formal dinner in San Francisco which was a fund raiser for the clinic operated by the Knights of Malta held at the Oakland Cathedral. Mike and Betty Ann Lambert are devout members of the Knights of Malta.

November 1 was All Souls Day (Dia de los Muertos). Envelopes listing the names of your deceased loved ones are placed on the altar and remembered at Masses during the month. Although our loved ones no longer walk with us on earth, they always remain in our hearts.

What used to be the baptistery is now a chapel and the focal point the large crucifix once inside the church. A kneeler was purchased and placed in front of the crucifix in dedication to our deceased members. It can be used for one's private moments.

Condolences to the family of Pt. Richmond native, Bill Smith. When healthy, Bill never missed Mass and always sat in the same pew. After retirement from Chevron (50 years) Bill was regularly seen walking from Atchison Village down Garrard to volunteer on the Red Oak which at that time was docked at the end of Dornan Way. The Smith family were pioneers at Our Lady of Mercy. Bill's wife, Ardy, is one of the originals who instituted the welcoming pancake breakfasts. A Mass was recently celebrated in Bill's honor.

A Memorial Mass was held for Mark Kane. Mark was responsible for installing the new sound system in the church as well as equipping Father with the sound recording equipment used in filming his documentary.

At one time a group of walkers established themselves as the Pt. Richmond Walking Group and at one time there were 20+ participants. They

walked daily in George Miller Park and then frequented a Pt. Richmond establishment for coffee. One of the dedicated walkers was Pt. Richmond resident, Doug Daniels. Doug attended local schools and was a travel was his muse. Doug's travels took him to many exotic countries. He never packed a suitcase, but depended on a backpack. He always held ones interest with experiences he encountered. Doug died recently. He has made his final journey.

Condolences to the family of Gino Martinucci. Gino was instrumental in having the hood for the church hall stove engineered and installed.

Nancy and Stan Toldeo returned to be honored with a potluck dinner in the church hall. Stan and Nancy were major contributors while parishioners. Nancy served on the parish council for many years and Stan was responsible for the writing of our church history in honor of our 100th anniversary. They are now retired and living in Rio Vista. Thanks to Anne Brussok for chairing the event and to those in attendance who shared a warm welcome to Stan and Nancy. We look forward to an occasional visit from them.

Enjoyed a chance meeting with Donna and Pam Smith at a boutique in Crockett.

This will be the last issue for 2015.

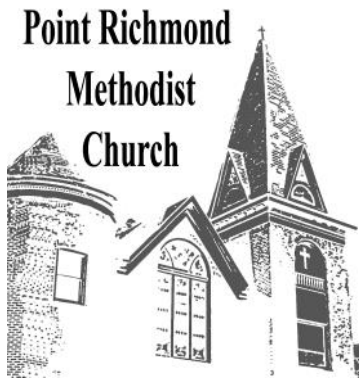
MAY THE FORTHCOMING HOLIDAYS BE FILLED WITH FAMILY, FRIENDS AND A LAVISH DISPLAY OF LOVE AND JOY.

SEE YOU IN CHURCH



DINNER/THEATRE PARTY

Another fun evening of fundraising and fellowship on Thursday, December 3, 2015, with Dinner at the Hotel Mac and Theater at the Masquers Playhouse for the musical, "The World Goes 'Round", by Kander and Ebb, writers of Cabaret and Chicago. The Methodist Church members Invite you and your friends, to save the date. Contact Jean Reynolds , sweetheart05 @mac.com



Jean Reynolds

510-734-3942

sweetheart05@mac.com

We received new members Annie Ao, Steve Chen, Lara Choe, Rachel Herrin and

Ioulia Solovieva on September 6. Mid Dornan presented them with copies of the book she wrote outlining the history of our congregation: *Point Faithful*. We celebrate the uniqueness of these fabulous five; we already love and value them as integral parts of our community.

On September 20, Pastor Dan reprised the *Down by the Riverside* jazz concert and congregational singing program he created for the Hymn Society Conference in New Orleans last summer. Dan Damon and Eileen Johnson told some of the history of jazz and church music to introduce each piece. The jazz quartet featured Dan Damon, piano; Kurt Ribak, bass; Carrie Jahde, drums; Lincoln Adler, saxophone.

Susan Peters from the CA-NV Annual Conference Endowment Board preached in worship September 20, and stayed afterward for a potluck lunch and to answer questions. We have begun to create a church endowment to help pay future costs for our ministry of word, music and action in this community; Susan is one of our resources for how best to accomplish it.

The 2015 Jean Eakle Art Auction and Gala was September 26, at Point San Pablo Yacht Club. Pastor Dan and Kit Eakle entertained with live piano and fiddle music. Themed gift baskets were a hit this year, as door prizes and silent auction items. It was a warm day and many people basked

on the deck. Auction goers bought a variety of handmade or recycled jewelry. They bid on framed art; gift certificates; classic Tepco pottery; sculptures, and hand knit and crocheted scarves, hats, and shawls. Hors d'oeuvres included cupcakes with Twinkie-bodied minions. Debbie Benko and Diane Frary masterminded the event. They and others solicited and donated items, decorated, welcomed, brought food, invited friends, cashiered and helped clean up. We joined the 21st century by adding PayPal as a payment option at the Art Auction and we accept donations via PayPal on our website.

On October 10, the United Methodist Women served a Korean Tea. Lara Choe guided menu planning. Lara's friends prepared and donated most of the food: they own Korean restaurants in the East Bay. Before the first seating, a performing troupe from the Oakland Korean United Methodist Church beat hourglass-shaped *janggu* drums; their leader chimed in with a jing (gong). Lara brought traditional Korean women's dresses for some of the servers to wear, and sewed colorful aprons to protect them. Eileen Johnson wore her traditional Korean wedding gown. Likewise, Eileen's mother, Sun, wore a beautiful traditional dress too. Most of the tea fare was savory rather than sweet, and all who came enjoyed sharing a style of tea and dress that differed from previous ones.

Retired electrician Emmett Zediker reclaimed his beautiful reed organ in October. It has been part of our worship services since he loaned it seventeen years ago. Bill and Liam Thompson, Aaron and Michael Marshall, Sy Siatos, Pastor Dan Damon, and three unnamed but much-lauded firefighters installed it in the sanctuary after Bill and others trucked it here from Dixon on December 20, 2003. Emmett could not fit the organ in his Bay Area home, but he recently moved to a more spacious home out of state.

Fran Smith preached the morning sermon on October 4; Pastor Dan was away to share his spiritual and musical talent at Rancho Cordova UMC. Fran relayed Rev. Peter Storey's opening address to "Gather At the River" conference attendees. Peter Storey, a South African Methodist minister who worked to end apartheid, served as chaplain to Nelson Mandela and other political prisoners on Robben Island. Later, Nelson

Mandela appointed him to help select members for the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. His address encouraged us to continue to speak and act for justice, especially in the struggle for equal rights for people of the LGBTQ community.

Eli Botchan's family and friends gathered October 24 to remember his gentle, open spirit, and how his caring attitude endeared him to them. People offered various tributes in word, meter, dance, food, photos and song. Everyone who spoke told ways their lives will always be better for having known Eli.

Linda Pereira died October 31 after enduring the effects of harsh treatments for cancer. Her wife, Pat Dornan, survives her. In past escapades, she was always the center of fun when we cut down Christmas trees with Paul and Nona Howe in Challenge. Linda had a special heart for children and they all loved how she led the Easter egg hunt. She made sure everyone had an opportunity to find eggs - or to help hide them if they were too old to hunt. She was the perfect match for Pat's creativity: she willingly scaled the ladder to decorate the sanctuary as Pat directed safely with two feet on the floor. Services are scheduled at St. Joseph's in San Pablo. Rosary: November 13, Memorial: November 14.

On November 1, our worship theme was "All Saints Day." The choir sang an anthem composed by George Peter Tingley, "Give Thanks for Each Departing Life," with lyrics by Brian Wren. We remembered recently departed members and friends: Liam Thompson, Eli Botchan, Linda Pereira, and Armand Westerveldt's husband Brent. We remembered the people killed in missile attacks at Iraq's Camp Liberty, and all of our own departed saints.

On November 8, guests in worship included Saffron Strand, Inc. founder Yvonne Nair and her coworker. Saffron Strand's members gain skills and confidence to go from joblessness to employment. The non-profit has programs that address many of the barriers people who are unemployed and/or homeless have when they seek more stability in their lives.

On the Calendar:

FREE Thanksgiving Feast and Celebration of Thanks: You are invited to

share Thanksgiving dinner with neighbors, family and friends! Volunteers are already planning a delicious Community Feast for all, served Thanksgiving Day in Friendship Hall, 201 Martina Street, Point Richmond, November 26. From noon to 2:00 p.m., relish a savory turkey dinner complete with all the side dishes you expect. Local businesses and individual donors supply the food, and dinner is prepared on site by local chefs Paul Garnett and Tinna Manansala. Come early for a simple non-denominational service of thanks at 11:30 a.m. in the sanctuary. If you'd like to help, contact Fran Smith, (510) 776-0392 or junosmith@aol.com. To volunteer for the clean up crew, contact Jean Reynolds, (510) 734-3942 or sweetheart05@mac.com

December 3, 2015: Dinner at Hotel Mac followed by the live Masquers Theater performance of "The World Goes 'Round" featuring music of Kander and Ebb. Kander and Ebb defined Broadway with shows such as *Cabaret*, *Chicago*, *Funny Lady*, *Kiss of the Spider Woman*, and *New York, New York*. Liza Minnelli, Barbra Streisand and Chita Rivera shot to stardom singing their compositions. Dinner starts between 5:30 and 6:30 p.m. Curtain at 8:00. Tickets are \$55 each and include dinner, tax, tip, and a full-length production of the show. Call Jean Reynolds (510) 734-3942 or email sweetheart05@mac.com for tickets.

Shop at the **Holiday Craft and Bake Sale** Saturday, December 19, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Point Richmond Community Center, 139 Washington Ave. Early shoppers score homemade pies. Brighten a holiday gathering with a colorful platter of cookies, an intricately decorated cake, homemade candies and breads, and jars of sparkling preserves, all artfully wrapped by Pat Dornan. Buy handmade craft items for unique stocking stuffers or gifts.

Christmas Eve Jazz: December 24, 7:00 p.m. Make jazz on Christmas Eve your holiday tradition! The Dan Damon Quartet and other musical guests share music of the season. The sanctuary is always packed and latecomers are seated in Friendship Hall. Plan to arrive early for the best vantage.

WWIC Est. 1908

News from the Womens Westside Improvement Club

by Norma Wallace

A lively group greeted newcomers to the first luncheon meeting of the Women's Westside Improvement Club, postponed to the third Tuesday of September, Sept. 15. Deb Haley and Kathe Kiehn set the tables beautifully with glittering gold runners, topped by decor in vibrant fall colors, coordinated by Diane Hirano. Before the official start of the meeting, members and guests enjoyed lively conversation, seeing each other for the first time since the pre-summer break.

Incoming Club President Linda Newton brought the group to order just after noon, and the club proceeded with its usual business. First order, introduction of two new members! WWIC was glad to warmly welcome Peggy Thow and Patricia Gangwar. Other highlights included Altha's discussion of production details to complete the long-lived Centennial Cookbook project, and request for cookbook orders! Non-members are welcome to order one or more cookbooks; all recipes were provided by WWIC members, and fall into the usual cookbook categories.

The meeting proceeded to include stories of "how I spent my summer vacation." In deference to privacy, some of what happens at a WWIC meeting *stays* at a WWIC meeting. Come, meet, join, share in the sisterhood of WWIC.

Business carried out included presenting ideas for speakers for the year. This year's effort resulted in two speakers being selected. Anne Brussok, a foot care specialist, and Nancy Burns, all around healthy person and wellness through movement guru.

In October, WWIC returned to the first-Tuesday-of-the-month schedule. On October 6, a full house of members and guests attended the annual fall fundraiser lunch.

Set-up of the large tables, padded chairs, and decor for 24 guests was implemented by member Diane Hirano. The tables were beautifully decorated with shimmery gold thread runners over bright green tablecloths, accented by fall-themed napkins, red-orange fruits and berries, and glass beads.

The officers were in charge of preparing a salad luncheon as a fundraiser. VP Marion Kent and VP

Mary Lee Cole prepared the ingredients with help from one of the hostesses this month, Gail Eierweiss. This year's WWIC fundraiser lunch featured green salad sprinkled with Mandarin orange and almond slices, chicken optional. The hostess committee of Kathleen Wimer, Gail Eierweiss and Diane Marie provided desserts and set out coffee and tea. Altha Humphrey had shared her strategy for beverage preparation with Diane Marie so others can take over.

Among unofficial conversations, Alyce Williamson was having some roof work done by Armstrong Roofing. A survey was needed, so a drone was sent up to survey the roof. (PRHA members will recall the recent TPIT issue wherein Mid Dornan wonderingly observed a drone outside her house.) Alyce was eager to see Mid and share the rest of the story.

During the business meeting, new member and local business owner Gay Timmons introduced friend and new Point neighbor Dorothy Ferguson, relocated from Orinda. President Linda Newton introduced her guest, former WWIC member Lynn Clifford. Lynn was particularly excited to hear about the WWIC Book Club - currently digesting Proust's *Swann's Way* - and renewed her membership during the meeting. Welcome back, Lynn!

Several members sent notes of regret for being unable to attend WWIC on a regular basis, which Linda shared with the group, including notes from Janice Cook (with renewal and donation!) and an update regarding long-time member Maggie LaForce, now based in Placerville.

Special thanks to Dave Moore, Sincere Designs, for his support in updating the WWIC information at the PointRichmond.com website which he hosts and sponsors.

A round of applause went up for Nancy Malone (15th), Evelyn Thill (27th), and Kathleen Wimer (28th), all born in October.

Contact: President Linda Newton [510-235-0081](tel:510-235-0081).

Bull Fights in Point Richmond?

By Heinz Lankford

While browsing through old issues of the Point Counter Point newsletters I came across a story that most, if not all, of the local residents have not heard of.

A bull fight in Point Richmond? Yes, indeed!

A local saloon keeper, Pat Dean, was ecstatic about the surge of growth in Point Richmond and decided to put the town on the map. To him Clambakes were boring. Every land promoter and speculator had been using that old method. Something original and unusual was needed to create the right publicity.

By chance his dilemma was resolved when one day a touring group of Spanish bull fighters arrived in town offering their services. This was what Pat was looking for, excitement with a Spanish flavor.

A make shift arena was quickly erected on Dean's property at the corner of Washington and Standard Avenue and equipped with newfangled electric lights for evening performances.

The San Francisco Newspaper got wind of the plan; a huge protest arose, heard across the nation. The protest became such a great concern to then Governor Cage that he cut short his visit to Los Angeles. He rushed back to San Francisco to alert the State Militia in case the Richmond barbarians did not mend their cruel ways.

An Aid to the governor was sent to Point Richmond to investigate and report back to the governor. Pat Dean's group assured the official that the publicity release had perhaps gotten a bit out of hand, the proposed bull fights would be humorous and completely a wholesome affair.

A preview was staged so that the official could judge for himself. A lovable animal of ancient vintage was chosen for the show and when no amount of urging could get it to act fierce the aide agreed that the whole business had been blown out of proportion by the San Francisco press.

As soon as the official left, Pat Dean and his boys plotted in earnest. The most vicious animals were brought into the ring and blood flowed for a week in the ring. Crowds gathered for each performance and the town achieved notoriety.

The Point Richmond "Record" in its review of the event stated "the bull fights are better than any pulled off in any other Californian town, it is said, and while not as spirited as they may be in Mexico they are all right and entertained the people".

An amusing side note to the event, in order to illuminate the bull ring all the rest of the electric power in Point Richmond had to be shut off.



1971 Newspaper Article

Richmond's 70 year old Mac Hotel at 50 Washington Avenue was swept by fire early Sunday morning causing damage estimated yesterday at \$65,000.

The two-alarm blaze broke out at 3:55 am in a second floor stairwell of the three-story red brick structure. The hotel, its bar and restaurant have been closed during renovation.

Richmond's Assistant Fire Chief Robert Selzer said the possibility of arson is being investigated.

The Search for Smoky Row

by Caitlin Harvey

San Francisco has its earthquake shacks, but here in Point Richmond we have our own home-grown breed of tiny houses. A double row of diminutive cottages once lined each side of Oregon Street (originally called First Avenue) east of the Santa Fe rail tunnel. They were constructed in 1901, just as Point Richmond was springing into existence, to house Santa Fe Railway workers. Known as Smoky Row, the twenty cottages earned their name by being engulfed in smoke each time a coal-burning train passed through the adjacent tunnel. Ten cottages stood on

which were so small the stove could only be put in one spot and a bed would only fit one way.

In the short fifteen years that Smoky Row remained intact, it was rumored to have housed a number of The Point's ladies of pleasure; however, no proof has been found of such activities (although a number of dwellings labeled "female boarding" on Sanborn maps - a euphemism for bordello - were located farther north on Railroad Avenue). Instead, the 1910 federal census lists a number of families living on Oregon Street at that time and it appears that although the cottages were originally intended for Santa Fe employees, later residents weren't necessarily railroad men. Residents in 1910 included the Frank Brazil family, which hailed from Portugal and included Frank, his wife, and six children! (At 800 square feet, the Brazil cottage must have necessitated a lot of outside playtime.) The Brazil creamery was located in town and was run by Frank, while one of his sons drove the creamery's milk wagon. Another large family of eight was that of Joseph Corsi. The Corsis were Italian and Joseph worked as a general laborer, while one of his sons worked at the Standard Oil refinery. Other families included the August Dutra family from Ireland. August Dutra had three children and worked as a general laborer. Katie M. Linden, also Irish, lived on Smoky Row with her three sons and did general housework.

Later, Smoky Row increasingly became home to Standard Oil employees. The 1914-1915 Richmond city directory lists a number of the residents at that time who worked at the refinery as foremen, welders, pipefitters, and clerks. They included Michael and Ann Fischer, Emeric A. and Minnie Vidal, and Albert L., Ernest J., James A., and Joseph B. Willis, the latter of whom was a city councilman as well as a Standard Oil pipefitter. Another cottage was occupied by the



*Smoky Row
From Don Church Collection*

each side of the street and all were identical, measuring approximately 25 feet wide, 32 feet long, and one story high. Each was topped by a hip roof that was clad with wood shingles, as were the exterior walls. The front facade featured a balanced arrangement of a centered front door flanked by two double-hung windows. The side facades each had two symmetrical double-hung windows as well, and the rear facade was characterized by a recessed back porch. Accounts tell of the cottages' internal plan of four rooms,

McCabe family, of whom James B. McCabe worked as a Santa Fe Railroad engineer, and Melvin B. McCabe worked as a clerk for M. Whorter.

In 1915, the municipal tunnel, which parallels the rail tunnel but serves automobiles, was built along the line of Garrard Avenue. In its approach to the tunnel, Garrard effectively bisected the block on the northwest side of Oregon Street and co-opted the southern end of the street for its own route. Today, only a small stub of Oregon Street and a small wedge shaped block remain. Obviously, the Smoky Row cottages stood in the way. There may have been some monetary benefit to the railroad in selling off the surplus cottages for private use. Most were torn down or since lost to time, but a number were purchased by locals, who moved them to new sites, made modifications, and moved in. Because of their diminutive size and standard forms and facade organization, it is possible to spot remaining Smoky Row cottages around town, although some hide behind altered facades and others prove to be impostors!

Enacting a detailed survey using Google maps and my own two feet, I searched the neighborhood looking for houses with the telltale hip roof form and standard dimensions. A number of likely candidates were found, but when I compared the houses to the 1909 Sanborn Fire Insurance map (the last maps where Smoky Row appears fully intact), I found a number of the candidates already in existence in their current locations, meaning they could not have been Smoky Row cottages. The 1916 Sanborn map then helped me confirm that once Smoky Row had been broken up, a few cottages with similar footprints (including the tell-tale recessed back porch) showed up in locations where I suspected cottages had moved to.

Perhaps you've eaten at the Great American Hamburger & Pie Co.? Then



35 East Richmond Avenue

Photo by Caitlin Harvey

you've been inside a Smoky Row Cottage. Although it has been stuccoed, added onto at the rear, and the window pattern greatly changed, vestiges of the old cottage remain in its hip roof and a pair of windows on the east facade. The cottage-turned-burger-stand didn't move far. Nor did the cottage now located at 66 Idaho Street. It appears to have simply been turned to face east and scooted to the curb. A lower level was added to adapt the house to the sloped site and to add



117 East Richmond



66 Idaho

Photo by Caitlin Harvey

some living space, but a small gable hood over its entry door is the only notable change to its front facade. Likewise, two former Smoky Row cottages were moved to 117 E. Richmond and arranged with one facing the street and the other situated behind it. Both were re-clad with horizontal wood siding early on, but the roof forms and facade arrangements remained the same.

An intact row of five tiny cottages on the east side of Marine Street at Tewksbury were widely thought to be Smoky Row cottages until recently, as well. They would have been well traveled, all the way on the other side of town, except that they appear to have been built on the spot. They are slightly different in dimensions from the known Smoky Row cottages and were already in place in 1909, when all twenty Smoky Row cottages were still on Oregon Street. It's likely this additional row was another development of workers' housing, probably serving employees of the Standard Oil refinery, not far away. In fact, small clusters of tiny identical cottages can be found throughout the Point. Many have been altered, but you may notice certain similarities in roof form or facade organization. This was a company town, after all, and all those refinery and railway workers had to live somewhere. See if you can spot identical cottages elsewhere in the neighborhood... and be sure to let me know if you discover any you think may have belonged on Smoky Row!

And now a POEM

anon

A clothesline was a news forecast
To neighbors passing by,
There were no secrets you could keep
When clothes were hung to dry.
It also was a friendly link
For neighbors always knew
If company had stopped on by,
 To spend a night or two.
For then you'd see the "fancy sheets"
And towels upon the line;
You'd see the "company table cloths",
With intricate designs.
The line announced a baby's birth
From folks who lived inside,
As brand new infant clothes were hung
So carefully with pride!
The ages of the children could,
So readily be known
By watching how the sizes changed,
 You'd know how much they'd grown!
It also told when illness struck
As extra sheets were hung;
Then nightclothes, and a bathrobe too,
Haphazardly were strung.
It also said, "On vacation now",
When lines hung limp and bare.
It told, "We're back!" when full lines sagged,
with not an inch to spare!
New folks in town are scorned upon,
If wash was dingy and gray,
As neighbors carefully raised their brows,
And looked the other way.
But clotheslines now are of the past,
For dryers make work much less.
Now what goes on inside a home,
Is any body's guess!
I really miss that way of life,
It was a friendly sign
When neighbors knew each other best
...By what hung out on that line.



LEGAL TENDER

With a two dollar bill (\$2) and a fifty cent piece (50¢) I set out to spend them. They have been in my drawer a long time and I thought it would be fun to see the reaction when using this rarely used legal tender. At the nursery checkout, I put my \$24 items on the counter paying with a \$20 bill, the \$2 bill and two \$1 bill's. As the 30-ish looking clerk picked them up her eyes widened, checked the \$2 bill, looked up at me and with a slight pause asked, "Would you mind if I traded my own two \$1 bills for this? I would like to have it." I answered, "You know, it no longer is mine. I paid it to the store." Still holding the \$2 bill, she asked, "Do you think the store would let me buy it?" Her honesty was very transparent and not wanting to cause any questions, I took back the \$2 bill, gave it to her for her two \$1 bills which I used for the items. Transaction completed. Presumably a conversation item for later. Now for the 50¢ piece. After ordering a drink for \$2.78 at a fast food service, I gave the young man (17 or 18 years old) behind the counter two one-dollar bills, a quarter, the fifty cent piece and two pennies. When he attempted to put the 50¢ piece in the drawer, he hesitated and said, "What is this?" "A 50¢ piece", I replied. "Never heard of one." "Oh!, it is legal." I retorted. Another counter person checked it and commented it did look legal. "It is worth 2 Quarters or 5 dimes", I explained, "but, if you are not comfortable taking it, here are 2 quarters."

I still have the 50¢ piece to try another time.

Mid

COME BY AND ENJOY A COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING DINNER

*Lovingly prepared for the community
to enjoy at no cost, Thursday,
November 26th at the Historic First
United Methodist Church. Noon - 2:30
pm. Interfaith Service of Thanks,
11:30 am. Dinner made possible with
donations from local merchants,
restaurants, church members and
friends. If you are willing to
help contact Fran Smith,
at junosmith@aol.com or 707-427-2131.
All are welcome.*

Thank you to David Moore for giving us this
100 year old ribbon "Admission Day—
1915". We will care for it well!



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 1992.

Chapter IV
The Simple House: Point Richmond
Part Two

The first “smoky row” houses were workers’ homes supplied by the company when it was forming the town of “Eastyard” later named Point Richmond. The Santa Fe Railroad was building a rail connection to Ferry Point, its West Coast terminus. A tunnel was needed to complete this connection and was started in 1897 near this future town. The Santa Fe Railroad set up a row of “company town” type houses at the proposed tunnel entrance, in which to house the workers needed to build the tunnel and, because of the engine smoke going through the finally completed tunnel, the houses earned the name “smoky row” houses. A typical American “company town” of that period, 1860 to 1900, would not only have built the workers’ houses but also boarding houses for singles, a company store often with a dance hall above, a post office, school and church as well as a library. This would be to provide an incentive for workers to leave whatever other jobs they were holding and come to the more opportune setting. The Santa Fe Railroad

Company was relieved of the necessity of building all of the other traditional “company town” structures because, fast on their heels in 1901, the Standard Oil Company started oil refinery operations in the same area.

The new town grew quickly and naturally without all of the usual “company town effort. The Santa Fe Railway’s first efforts, the “smoky row” houses of “Eastyard”, were small and mainly utilitarian, costing the company less than \$600.00 each. They sometimes housed two workers and their families. They were constructed of rough wood boards with wood roofs. The houses reflected a tent in that they had a tent shaped, pyramid, hip roof, but this roof was set up in four straight vertical walls instead of a tent’s slanted side walls. These houses were one story with no real foundations and were four square (equal sided). They had a central front entry door and a minimum number of other openings. Since they were mainly for utilitarian purposes they had no affectations, nor did they have pretentions such as bathrooms, separate bedrooms or kitchens. Cooking was done on the braziers outside and the toilet facilities were outside in a separate outhouse, if any. There are a few of the “smoky row” houses of that early period still in existence in Point Richmond, adjusted to make them more livable by today’s standards. To note a few, a row



Point Richmond about 1905, the Smoky Row houses are in the foreground.

Photo is PRHA archive #0369 from Don Church Collection and is enhanced by Thomas Mercer-Hursh.

of five of these small, modified, functional houses exists on the East side of marina Avenue between Tewksbury and Morgan Avenues (ed, these little houses are currently being nicely restored). This is not likely their original location. They were possibly moved here in the 1920's when the property closer to the town center near the tunnel became more valuable.

The West Coast “hip roofed” cottage was the workman’s house of choice from 1860 to 1900 on the Pacific Coast from just below San Francisco to as far North as Oregon and Washington. There were local interpretations reflecting different communities. It was small and modest yet was definitely a social improvement over the “smoky row” house. It was larger than the “smoky row” house, functioning still as a basic house. It had a pleasant interior space. It was simple, comfortable and affordable, providing basic shelter. It too was of wood construction with the pyramid shaped hip roof reflective again of a simple tent yet with straight side walls. The exterior was finished in clapboard and it was foursquare and one story in height. It had a separate low shed roof from extension over the entry forming a narrow wide porch, and a flight of stairs up to the porch. As this house was often raised somewhat above the ground level, the raised area below was framed in to conceal the space under the house which was often developed to handle storage. Later on a lean-to was often added to the rear for extra functions. The interior was four rooms around a central hall, or, without a

hall the entry was directly on the center into the living room with two bedrooms off to the side and a kitchen to the rear. The earliest had the “dry” kitchen (water carried in) with a heavy iron stove and iron cookware. The kitchen floors were painted cloth or pine boards. An outhouse provided the toilet facilities, and a cabinet wash-up stand with water pitcher was placed in the house. The zinc “hip tub” was brought into the kitchen to provide bathing facilities. A floor furnace was later added to provide heating. Gas was used for lighting as no electricity was available. Very often in other areas decorative touches were added but not in Point Richmond. Here it was a forthright, indigenous, vernacular, functional house. This direct approach helped to create the very casual, comfortable feeling that is now Point Richmond. Several are still standing here, mostly with additions and modifications to meet new requirements and functions. One of the simplest West Coast “hip roof” cottages remaining is at the far West end of Tewksbury where the Tewksbury family built a house very early for their son. This remaining house is not in very good condition, having lost its front veranda porch, yet it is a fairly pure example of the early West Coast “hip roof” cottage. There are others and many with modifications in Point Richmond.

For more information on Point Richmond’s hip roofed cottages, see Caitlin Harvey’s article “The Search for Smokey Row” on page 12.
Gary



Lara Choe wearing Korean garb while hosting the United Methodist Tea Party



*George Kelleghan on 1st Communion, standing on the front porch of 225 Clarence Ave.
PRHA Archive Photo #1003-Kelleghan*

BUTTERFLIES FLY FREE

- Christine Volkner

How long have butterflies been on earth?
North America has how many species?
How long do they live?
What do they use their antennae for?
How is their sense of taste?
What do adult butterflies eat?
How fast can they fly?
What is the longest monarch migration?
How do monarchs know where to migrate?
What is happening to butterfly populations?

ANSWERS:

56 million years

700

An average of 20-40 days, depending

Feeling, smelling & hearing

200x better than humans! Through receptors called “tarsi” in their feet.

Generally nectar, and some pollen.

Skippers can go at 37 mph, others 5-12 mph

Eastern migration: 3000 miles from So.

Canada to Mexico.

Western: hundreds of miles from Pac NW and west of Rockies to Santa Cruz, Monterey area.

Their “genetic directional imprint” is still a mystery

Dwindling. One example: Monarchs down 90% in 20 years, in California from 1.2 MM to 120,000. In 2016 will be considered for protection under Endangered Species Act.



Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps

by Caitlin Harvey

A favorite archival source that I use in my work as an architectural historian is Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps. These maps illustrate the streets and buildings of a town in great detail and with uncanny accuracy, giving a snapshot of a place at a specific point in time and allowing comparison over a number of years.

Starting in the late 1860s, the Sanborn Fire Insurance Company began producing maps to assess fire insurance liability. They sent out legions of surveyors, who canvased towns throughout the country on foot, measuring, observing, and recording. Original maps were contained in large-scale bound volumes, showing street plans on a 50' = 1" scale. In addition to street names and addresses, the maps included detailed footprints of every building on a street (even back porches, garages, and chicken coops), which were annotated with symbols indicating things like use, number of stories, number and location of windows and doors, presence of

chimneys and sprinkler systems, and building materials. The latter included structural framing, flooring, roofing, and cladding, much of which was indicated through the colorful outlines given to each building (but which are sadly lost in black and white digital versions).

Today, we can use Sanborn Maps to look at an entire town and see how it developed; how it expanded from a central point, how streets were platted and grader, and how commercial and residential districts formed. We can see what businesses existed and sometimes what cultural groups lived in what parts of town. We can also look at specific buildings and see approximately when they were built, when they were torn down or moved, and how they changed over time. Sanborn maps are so specific that it is possible to tell when an addition was made to a house or if a porch or bay window was added or removed at some point.

The Richmond Planning Department has a number of original Sanborn Map volumes for public viewing, while most local libraries have access to an online database of maps. But if you're interested, the Point Richmond Historic Association museum now has a set of its very own Sanborn Maps that have been printed out and assembled on poster-sized sheets. You can see the town as it developed through 1903, 1905, 1909, 1916, 1930, and 1951. Please stop in and ask to see the maps. Find your house and see what's changed... and what hasn't!



Support the Richmond Emergency Food Pantry

A 100% volunteer 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization that provide food to approximately 45,000 individuals each year, most are low-income families with children.

510-235-9732 or visit <http://www.refp.org>



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 at 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.

-Linda Newton, President

July 28, 1908

The Womens West Side Improvement Club met at Curry's Hall.

The meeting was called to order by the President Mrs. Nellie Adams.

Roll call: All officers were present with the exception of Mrs. Lang on the finance committee and Mrs. Windrear and Mrs. Niedicker on the executive committee.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. The bill for food from the Lang Drug Co. (\$3.50) was approved by the finance committee and moved and carried that it be paid.

Mrs. Lucas reported that Mr. Crowe give us the use of the Stege Hall free of charge at any time if we would let him know in time. It was moved and carried that we should give a ball on Aug. 21, 1908 or as near that date as possible. The music was left in the hands of the committee.

The Advertising Committee reported upon the prices of printing posters, etc. It was moved and carried that we should have 500 tickets printed and moved and carried that there should be 50 window cards printed. The president then appointed the following committee for the ball.

Reception and Introduction Committee:

Mr. and Mrs. S.F. Jenkins

Mr. and Mrs. J.S. Moyle

Mr. and Mrs. Niedicker

Mr. and Mrs. Delp

Mr. and Mrs. Galbraith

Mr. and Mrs. Runnyou

The officers and their husbands to act in conjunction with them.

Floor Committee:

John Murry

Mr. S. Curry

Mr. Silva

Mr. Garrard

The officers were appointed to prepare punch to be served at the ball.

The constitution was read for the third time and it was moved and carried that they be adopted as a whole as read.

It was moved and carried that a committee be appointed to interview the City Fathers regarding the little park near the Baptist Church. Mrs. Laurence, Mrs. Richard Spierch and Mrs. Adams were appointed as committee.

Mrs. Curry announced that Mr. Windieure offered his services to the club as legal advisor.

Mr. Windieur was given a standing vote of thanks for his kind offer. Mr. Crowe was also given a standing vote of thanks for this offer of the hall at Stege Park.

There was a general discussion in regard to locating the General P.O.. A committee consisting of Mrs. Topping, Mrs. Avery, Mrs. Grover and Mrs. Adams were appointed to see Mr. Kenrow and have him draft a petition to secure the location on the side of town to be circulated among the people. Mrs. Peard offered

a baby pig to be raffled for the benefit of the club. The offer was accepted.

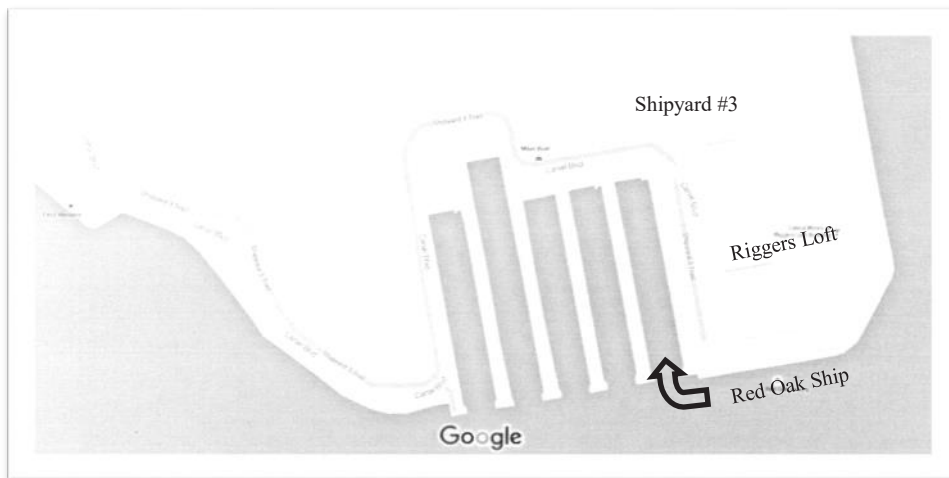
It was moved a carried that the secretaries be allowed their dues for their services.

Receipts \$4.00

Disbursements \$3.50

There being no farther business to cover before the club, the meeting was adjourned to meet Tuesday Aug. 11, 1908

Mrs. Geo. W. Topping, Sec.



Red Oak Victory Ship to be Moved

The Red Oak Victory will be moved in early January to Basin #5 in front of the vintage Whirly Crane.

Moving the ship accommodates the new tenants of the Riggers Loft. They will then have an unobstructed view of San Francisco and the Golden Gate. The tenant is Carica Riggers Loft Wine Company who plans to “retrofit the building to function as a winery: add floor drains, install a tank farm and harvest equipment, build a wine laboratory, and a wine tasting room and tasting patio for people to come and taste wine and enjoy the unparalleled views of the San Francisco Bay.”



For detailed information on these programs call 510-232-5050 or visit www.nps.gov/rori. The Visitor Center is open daily, 10am to 5pm and is at 1414 Harbour Way South, Richmond CA. It is behind the Ford Assembly Building. Support our beautiful National Park!

November 2015

SUNDAYS:

Junior Ranger Fun!

11/8 at 1:00 PM (45 minutes)

Kids of all ages, we want your opinion! Help a ranger est brand-new junior ranger ideas and activities, and earn a junior ranger badge

The Port Chicago Disaster and Aftermath

11/8 at 2:00 PM (30 minutes)

Want kinds of questions were sailors and civilians asking after ten million pounds of explosives blew up in Concord in 1944?

Bay Trail Walk

11/29 at 2:00 PM (30 minutes)

Take a 1 hour leisurely stroll along the Bay Trail and explore home front history with a park ranger.

MONDAYS:

What We Wore During the War

11/2, 11/23 at 11:00 AM (30 minutes)

The war changed everything including fashions which changed to meet new needs: leather, wool and nylon were needed by our fighting forces, so we made do on the Home Front. We'll have a look at the clothing worn by working men and women, children, and even Hollywood stars!

Games and Toys for Girls and Boys

11/23 at 2:00 PM (45 minutes)

War time was deadly serious for grown-ups, but for kids, it was a time for adventure. Let's explore how children had fun during the war years: costumes, riding toys, board games, ships and planes and trains, the comics, and more!

TUESDAYS:

"Of Lost Conversations" (first come seating)

11/3, 11/10, 11/17 at 2:00 PM (45 minutes)

Ranger Betty Soskin discusses her experience as a young African American woman during WWII, Limited Seating for the popular program—Starting 1 hour prior to program seat numbers are issued at the front desk. Those without a number cannot be admitted due to fire code regulations.

What We Wore During the War

11/24 at 2:00 PM (45 minutes)

See Monday 11/2 for description of this program.

WEDNESDAYS:

Richmond Bus Tour with Armand Johnson (RESERVATION ONLY)

11/4 from 10:30 AM to 12:30 PM (2 hours)

Hop aboard with Ranger Armand Johnson for an overview of the park sites located throughout the City of Richmond. Space is limited, reservations are required: call 510-232-5050 x0 for start time and location.

THURSDAYS:

"Of Lost Conversations" (first come seating)

11/5, 11/12, 11/19 at 11:00 AM (45 minutes)

See program description at 11/3

Blossoms and Thorns

11/5, 11/12, 11/19 at 2: PM (45 minutes)

A docent from the Japanese American Citizens' League screens the documentary, Blossoms and Thorns, about Richmond's pre- and post-war community of flower growers and nursery owners, and shares from their experiences in a WWII internment camp.

Warbling through the War Years

11/12, 11/19 at 3:30 PM (45 minutes)

World War II produced popular music from jitterbug to broken hearts, which we'll see and hear through samples from radio, records and the movies.

FRIDAYS:

Rosie Meet and Greet

11/6, 11/13, 11/20 from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM
and 1:00 PM to 2:00 PM

Most Fridays, a group of civilian WWII docents share their stories in an informal setting at the Visitor Center. Here is your chance to ask the experts about and work in the Richmond Shipyards.

Rationing on the Home Front

11/27 at 12:30 PM (45 minutes)

During WWII, Americans were asked to sacrifice in support of the troops, and this was evident daily at the dinner table. Learn about food rationing and share a sweet treat invented by wartime bakers.

Kleen Teens & Zoot Suits: Rise of the Teenager

11/6 at 2:30 PM (45 minutes)

Greater independence, and defense plant salaries, forever changed America's ideas and attitudes towards young adults during the war years. Join a ranger for a 45 minute program that explores the lives of teen aged Americans on the home front.

SATURDAYS:

"Of Lost Conversations" (first come seating)

11/7, 11/14, 11/21 at 2:00 PM (45minutes)

See Thursday 11/5 for program description.

"First Friend - The Love Affair of Lorena

Hickok and Eleanor Roosevelt

11/7 at 11:00 AM (1½ hours)

Pioneer Lesbian Playwright and Actor, Terry Baum, will talk about Eleanor Roosevelt's love affair with hard-living butch reporter, Lorena Hickok, their 30 year relationship and their humanitarian work. Space is limited and reservations are required. Call 510-232-5050 x0 to reserve your seat.

The WWII Enemy Alien Program & Lessons For Today

11/14 at 11:00 AM (1-1/2 hours)

Over 70 years ago, thousands of German, Italian and Japanese immigrants in the US and Latin America experienced arrest, forced relocation, internment, and even deportation to war zones because of their nationality. What can we learn from our past as the US government continues attempts to balance national security concerns with protection of individual liberties? Space is limited and reservations are required. Call 510-232-5050 x0 to reserve your seat.

Emmy Lou Packard: Drawing new Conclusions in the Kaiser Shipyards

11/21 at 11:00 AM (1hour)

Lincoln Cushing, Kaiser Permanente Heritage Resources archivist and historian, will present a sliideshow about

Emmy Lou Packard's unique illustrations in the Kaiser Richmond employee Magazine. Space is limited and reservations are required. Call 510-232-5050 x0 to reserve your seat.

Henry J. Kaiser: "Build Em' by the Mile and Cut Em' off by the Yard"

11/21 at 3:30 PM (45 minutes)

Join author Steve Gilford for a 45 minute presentation about the extraordinary life of ship builder Henry J. Kaiser, and industrialist who was a loyal friend to (organized) labor.

Kleen Teens and Zoot Suits: The Rise of the Teenager

11/28 at 2:00 PM (45 minutes)

See Friday 11/6 for a description of this program.

December 2015

SUNDAYS:

Rosie the Riveter Memorial- a closer look

12/13, drop by from 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM

Drop by and visit the Rosie the Riveter Memorial while a docent is available to answer questions, and introduce this thoughtful public art sculpture of a World War II cargo ship under construction along a 450-foot timeline.

Kleen Teens and Zoot Suits: the Rise of the Teenager

12/13 at 2:00 PM (45 minutes)

See Friday 11/6 for a description of this program.

The Port Chicago Disaster and Aftermath

12/20 at 2:00 PM (30 minutes)

What kinds of questions were sailors and civilians asking after ten million pounds of explosives blew up in Concord in 1944?

Junior Ranger Fun!

12/27 at 2:00 PM (45 minutes)

See Sunday 11/8 for a description of this program.

MONDAYS:

Rails through Richmond

12/7, 12/28 at 3:30 PM (45 minutes)

Railroads opened the West, including the City of Richmond, western terminus of the Santa Fe. Join a ranger to explore the railroad's impact on WWII, and vice versa.

Games and Toys for Girls and Boys

12/28 at 2:00 PM (45 minutes)

See Monday 11/23 for a description of this program.

TUESDAYS:

"Of Lost Conversations" (first come seating)

12/1, 12/8, 12/15, 12/29 at 2:00 PM (45 minutes)

See Saturday 11/7 for a description of this program.

(Continued from page 23)

WEDNESDAYS:

**Richmond Bus Tour with Armand Johnson
(RESERVATIONS ONLY)**

12/9 from 10:30 AM to 12:30 PM (2 hours)

See Wednesday 11/ for description of this program.

**Emmy Lou Packard: Drawing New
Conclusions in the Kaiser Shipyards**

12/9 at 2:00 PM (1 hour)

See Saturday 11/21 for description of this program.

Games and Toys for Girls and Boys

12/16 at 2:00 PM (45 minutes)

See Monday 11/23 for description of this program.

What We Wore During the War

12/16 at 3:00 PM (30 minutes)

See Monday 11/2 for description of this program.

THURSDAYS:

“Of Lost Conversations” (first come seating)

12/3, 12/10, 12/17, 12/31 at 11:00 AM (45

minutes)

See Tuesday, 12/1 for description of this program.

Blossoms and Thorns

12/3, 12/10, 12/17 at 2:00 PM (1 hour)

See Thursday, 11/5 for description of this program.

FRIDAYS:

Rosie Meet and Greet

12/4, 12/11, 12/18 from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM
and 1:00 PM to 2:00 PM

See Friday, 11/6 for description of this program.

Rationing on the Home Front

12/11 at 12:30 PM (45 minutes)

See Friday, 11/27 for description of this program.

SATURDAYS:

“Of Lost Conversations” (first come seating)

12/5, 12/12, 12/19 at 2:00 PM (45 minutes)

See Thursday 12/3 for description of this program.

**Echos of World War II—A Bay Area
Perspective (reservations are required)**

12/5 at 11:00 AM (1½ hours)

Join us for a documentary film highlighting the stories of the children of the Greatest Generation and their experiences in the San Francisco Bay Area during World War II. After the film, the producer, Patricia Weaver, will discuss, her childhood experiences entertaining wounded soldiers with Kay Kyser’s band, and her work with the Veteran’s Oral History Project (Library of Congress) which inspired this film. Space is limited and reservations are required for this film and discussion. Call 510-232-5050 x0 to reserve your seat. Henry J. Kaiser: ‘Build Em’ by the Mile and Cut Em’ of by the Yard”.

12/19 at 3:30 PM (45 minutes) author Steve Guilford

See Saturday 11/21 for description of this program.

Cards, Letters & E-Mails

Dear Gary,

The current issue of THIS POINT is excellent. First, let me extend my sincere sympathy to you and Jerry for the loss of Jerry's father. Even though he was a remarkable 95, Jerry will be missing him. Good that you are there to provide comfort and support. You did a terrific job with the "1991 Time flies" ! Glad you found and included a photo of Bill. He was such a treasure. I wonder if there is anyone still alive who remembers him as the uber-enthusiastic projectionist at the POINT CINEMA. Thank you for all that you do.

Your grateful fan,
Burl
Berkeley

Thanks Burl, please stay in touch, Gary

Dear Mid,

Just a note to say hi and let you know how much I enjoy reading “This Point”. I am not criticizing on the cover, but 90% of the trains went to Tiburon and the balance to South San Francisco.

Hope to see you when we come up next and do the “Red Oak” ship tour.

Love & good health,
David Janes

*Thank you for the information David. I did
not know that.*
Gary

Birthdays

November

LaVerne Rentfro Woolman
Amanda Kinley
Bethany Reynolds
Heinz Lankford
Lynn Rendle
Robert Larsen
Chuck Dutrow
Mary Ann Gaspard
Shirley Butt
Chris Bradshaw

David T. McCarthy
Clare Doherty
K. Patrick O'Higgins
Jason D. Crowson
Dennis Dornan
Kenny Paasch
Xavier Delatorre
Lance Rotting
Joe Savile
Shane Thomas

Jay Fenton
Joann Bill-Cannon
Linda Feyder
Nicole Vargo
Kathryn Pinkerton
James Cheshareck, Sr.
Aubyn Eakles
James Cheshareck, Jr.
Audrey Edwards
Bobbies Boziki

Linda Cheshareck
Katrina MacDiarmid
Albert Kollar
Viola Lola Kennedy
David Dolberg
Charlotte Birsinger
Gary Shows

December

Jean Allyn
Alexis Lane Jensen
Hazel Paasch
Donald Smith
Debbie Seaburg
Fred Frye
Christine Hayes

Lydia Jahromi
Jeff Corbin
Heidi Framerice
Mike Turner
Lauren Nason
Marilyn Darling
Linda Mertle

Michael Cheshareck
Eric Turner
Seth Fenton
Vince Smith
Les Crim
Christina Nagatani
Donald Smith

Thomas Mercer-Hursh
Jerry Feagley
Ilana Dolberg
Kayla Dolberg
Bob Burdick
Pat Pearson

January

Don Lindemann
Donna Buhler
Cindy Rosier
Tom Brennan
Altha Humphrey
Ann Bartram
Linda Andrew-Marshall

Bryan Smith
Doug Greiner
Jeff Quist
Ed Paasch
Jan Burdick
Jim Wilson
Robert McIntosh

Mary Highfill
Taylor Brougham
Alphonso Diaz
John Cutler
Marilu Fox
Elaine Harris
Kristina Hollbrook

Les Hathaway
Richard Palfini
Bena Bowles
Mitchell Heckmann
Diana Mertle McHenry
Brad Feagley
Frank Kenny

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

Mid

CHRISTMAS EVE JAZZ SERVICE

Thursday, December 24th, 7 pm.

***Featuring the Dan Damon Quartet and Friends. First United Methodist Church
101 Martina Street. Arrive early to get a good seat.***

Memorials.....

Douglas Le Roy Daniels passed away peacefully on October 3, following a short stay in hospital. Douglas was born October 5, 1937 in Richmond, the son of Delores and Leroy Daniels, Doug attended Grant Elementary School, Roosevelt and Ells Junior High School, Richmond High (class of '55), and received his AA degree from West Contra Costa Junior College in one of its first graduating classes. Doug was an avid skier, and it was at the Scholer Ski Club in Hayward in 1960, that Doug met his great Friend, Dick McSorley. In 1961 they both joined the National Ski Patrol, and sailed many boats out of the Richmond Yacht Club. Together with Dick's wife, Gloria, the trio spent many vacations together, boating in the Caribbean, and the Pacific Northwest.

After working in the Ski and sports industry for 25 years, Doug retired, spending his time traveling all over the world with friends, Bill, Gene, and George.

Doug will be greatly missed by his long-time friend Ken Campbell who met him in Portillo Chile in 1967, and wife Rhonda, whom he spent many happy months with at their home in London. Their children Catherine and Fergus, looked upon Doug as a grandfather growing up in the Bay Area. Doug traveled far and wide to watch their various sporting events and theatrical performances. At last count Doug had visited over 100 different countries and will be missed by many around the world.

Janet Rodgers was the first born to Walter & Alvina Theobald. Alan & Gary joined the family and they moved to Richmond CA. Janet graduated from Richmond HS in 1956. She mothered five children, Gay Lynn Hoskins (Randy), Mark Lackey (Christi), Craig Lackey (Lori), Brien Lackey & Justin Rodgers (Jessica) who gave her 10 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren.

She was a stay at home Mom when her children were young then worked and retired from Chevron. She was very social and could often be found in Point Richmond doing her favorite pastime, shopping or dining. She loved planting flowers and See's Candy which she always hand selected.

Janet struggled with FTD (frontal temporal dementia). We shared many days of love & laughter before she passed quickly and comfortably with her family. She requested not to have a memorial or service. Her remains will go back to Minnesota.

Linda Joan Pereira passed away Sunday, November 1, 2015 after a long battle with cancer. Linda was raised in Hercules and spent her entire life in the community. She was a member of the last class to graduate from Richmond Union High School. Linda's passion from high school through retirement was playing softball. She qualified to play in several Senior Olympics Games with her team the California Rockers. Her professional career ranged from Student Supervisor to being in charge of the maintenance for the athletic fields for the WCCUSD. Additionally she was a volleyball referee at the high school and college level and a high school softball umpire for over 30 years. In 2008, she was inducted into the Mid-county Officials Network Hall of Fame. Her infectious smile will be missed by everyone whose life's path she crossed.

Linda is survived by her mother, Lorraine Pereira, of Pinole and her wife/life partner of 35 years, Patricia Dornan. She joins her father, brother and sister who predeceased her. Ron Pereira, her brother Richard's son, as well as other nieces and nephews, survive their Aunt Linda. Contributions can be made to the St. Anthony Foundation, 150 Golden Gate, San Francisco, CA, 94102; WCCRE Scholarship Fund, 3101 Garvin Ave, Richmond, CA 94804.

EXCLUSIVE OVER 90 CLUB

Our oldest known birthday

Lupe Padilla Lopez - 101

Delphina Franco Tawney - 97

Fred Beesley - 96

Billie Bonham Shaw - 93

Elfriede Morris - 96

Martha Bielawski - 93

Shoney Gustafson - 99

Grace Cerkowicz - 93

Beatrice Beesley Casey - 97

Madelilne Bellando Albright - 98

Mid Dornan - 94

Charlotte Kermabon Birsinger - 98

Viola Lala Kennedy - 97

Lee Christian - 93 (*month?*)

Mark Gebhart - 99

Mary Highfill - 91

Muriel Clausen - 91

John T. Knox - 91

Tom Kenny - 90

June Beesley Sosabal - 91

Helen Wysham - 91

Jim Wilson - 90

Dalles Wilcox - 90

Alice Williamson - 90

Ann Bartram - 90 (*month?*)

Age is not a number, it is an attitude.

**Please send corrections and additions to
“Over 90 Club” to middornan@gmail.com
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.**

Memorials.....

Caitlin Olivia Rivers was born on January 19, 1932 and died Memorial Day, May 25, 2015. Cait was a talented artist and writer. She was kind, witty, smart, an animal lover, a worker for environmental cause, and a loyal friend. A plaque will be installed on a bench at Pt. Folate beach that reads, “ARTIST-VISIONARY-WRITER-SISTER TO US ALL” She is survived by her sisters Leslie, Susan (Fred) and Margaret Rivers. Also two nieces and many cousins and predeceased by a lifetime of beloved kitties. A celebration of her life was held on October 18, 2015 at the First United Methodist Church.

Bill Smith (William Alfred Smith) Was born: June 8, 1928, died October 13, 2015 (87 yr) Born in Point Richmond at the family home located on 13 Oregon Street Attended Washington Grammar School, Roosevelt Junior High School, and Richmond Union High School After school, he worked at Standard Oil as a hod carrier, and then worked on tankers as a bosun.

He was drafted following the end of WWII; he served with the US Army in Germany as a radio technician. Following his service with the Army, he returned to Standard Oil. He retired after 55 years with Standard Oil; 50 years with Chevron Shipping; the last five years with Chevron Long Wharf.

He was instrumental in renovating the Red Oak Victory ship, which was part of Moth Ball Fleet in Suisun Bay. He was a rigger and docent for the ship, and provided tours on the ship for visitors. Bill was a life long parishioner of Our Lady of Mercy Church in Point Richmond.

Survived by his wife, Arduina, children Gary Encinas (deceased), Charlie A. Smith. He is the brother of Dean and Frank Smith. He was preceded in death by his siblings John Leonard, Allan, Loren, Gloria Groff and Richard.

CALENDAR/DIRECTORY

ARTS OF POINT RICHMOND

Art is for everyone, the artist, the viewer, the Point is art. 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

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 January 22, 2016. For information call President Mildred Dornan at 510-234-5334.

POINT RICHMOND NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

Meets last Wednesday of each month, Point Richmond Community Center; 7:30 P.M.

Contact: Margaret Jordon at 510-412-3673

POINT RICHMOND/WEST SIDE BRANCH LIBRARY

Information call 510-620-6567

RED OAK VICTORY SHIP

Open Saturday, Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday, 10am to 3 pm. \$10 Donation/Boarding fee.

Pancake Breakfasts one Sunday a month, April - June, August - October, \$9/adults, \$5/kids under 8 years.,

For more information call the ship at 510-237-2933 or the Richmond Museum of History at 510-235-7387 or visit www.richmondsmuseum.org

RICHMOND MUSEUM OF HISTORY

400 Nevin Avenue, Richmond. Open Wednesday-Sunday, 1:00 to 4:00 pm. For more information call 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.

For more information call 510-232-5050 or visit www.nps.gov/rori.

See page 22 for programs. 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

Corrections? Email Gary Shows, garyshows@gmail.com

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 Wilson, 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
Linda Newton	Article
Muriel C. Clausen	Article
Pat Pearson	Article
Heinz Lankford	Article
Caitlin Harvey	Article
Norma Wallace	Article

Contacts

Mid Dornan 510-234-5334
middornan@gmail.com

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