# THIS POINT....in time

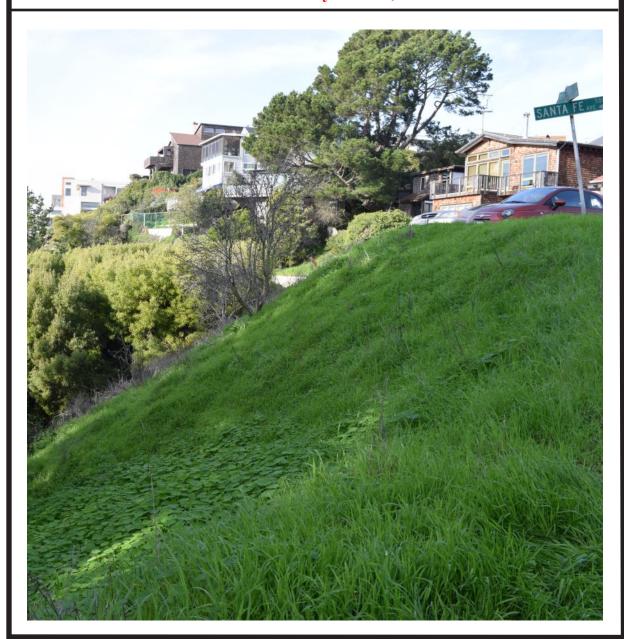
### The Point Richmond History Association

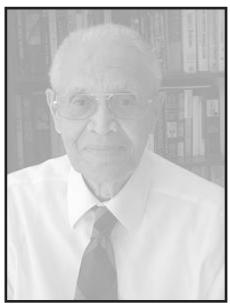
www.PointRichmondHistory.org

Vol. XXXIV No. 4

February/March, 2016

\$3.00





Judge George Carroll 1922—2016

"Judge Carroll was elected to the Richmond City Council in 1961 and served as the city's first African-American mayor in 1964, making him the first African-American mayor of a large American city. Judge Carroll became the first African-American judge in Contra Costa County when he was appointed to the Contra Costa Municipal Court in 1965 by then-Governor Edmund G. "Pat" Brown. Judge Carroll passed away peacefully in his sleep on Thursday, January 14, 2016."

# From the President

### By Mid Dornan

The year 2016 for Point Richmond History Association begins with a full roster of docents for the museum and a vision of opening our museum another day with more volunteers.

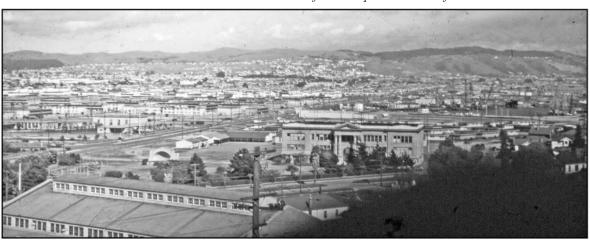
Our Community Kiosk project on the corner of Washington and West Richmond is nearing completion with designated Point Richmond History funds, financial assist from the Point Richmond Neighborhood Council, the Point Business Association, the Gateway Foundation and with Board member and manager, Bonnie Jo Cullison, overseeing the Repairs on the museum, including the repair of the planter box, have been under the direction of the Building Supt, Heinz Langford, who also uses our new blower to keep the area Editor Gary Shows updates our leaf clean. website and we welcome new members and thank those who remember PRHA with special gifts.

Our wish list is for more members, readers and friends to submit their stories and interests and tell us what they like and what else they would like from our newsletter.

We invite everyone to stop in our museum to watch our historic photos.

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Below is the old Washington School, dedicated in 1913, just before demolition because it was unsafe for earthquakes. #0589 from Simeon Burtner.



Thank you members for your renewal:

Mrs. Betty Menzie
Charlene Smith
John A. Thiella & Rosa T.
Casazza\*\*
Susan Reynolds Prine
Jacobs, Olivia & James
Tom & Shirley Butt\*\*
Marion Kent
Tim & Roberta Montgomery\*\*
June S. Solosabal
Zoe Egger\*\*

A warm welcome to new members:

John and Nellie Larson\* Barry & Kathy Webb\*

\*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 and view our slide show of historic Point

Richmond photos.

Open Thursdays and Saturdays

11:30 am-2:00 pm



Point Richmond in foreground, background Richmond Bridge and Marin County, photo by Gary Shows

### Editor's Notes

### Gary Shows

garyshows@gmail.com

Aren't the rains wonderful? I like it when our area becomes so green from the young grasses and nasturtium vines, hence this issue's cover inspiration.

Thank you to contributors Mid, Jean, Dee, Heinz, Linda, Caitlin and Norma for giving me such good stuff to print. You guys make TPIT worth reading! Others are welcome to join in on the fun. Items of the Point's history are great but does not have to be history, it can be about something interesting going on in our little neighborhood.

My next docent duty at our little museum is 11:30 to 2:00, February 13th, come by and see me.

Deadline for the next issue is March 25, 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/labeling party and meeting.

Gary Shows
Pam Wilson
Bonnie Jo Cullison
Caitlin Harvey
Mid Dornan
Marcelina Smith
Karen Engbretson
Heinz Lankford
Kathe Keihn

The Cover:
Things are super green in Point
Richmond right now!
Pacific Avenue in late January.

### Thank You! Our Special Supporters!

### History Makers

Donna Wilson
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, Reneé & 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 & Tim Montgomery Mary Crosby & Tom Piazza Karen Buchanan Engbretson Norma Wallace Patti, Stephanie & Stephen Kowalski Don & Carole Woodrow

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)

**QUESTIONS**;

1. Super Bowl 50 kicks off at Levi Stadium in Santa Clara and will bring thousands of people and money to the area. How many seats are in Levi Stadium?

2. Why are they not using the Roman Numerals for the logo year?

### ANSWER AT END OF TRIVIA

\*\*\*

The U.S. Postal Service has announced five stamps to be released in 2016 as "Soda Fountain Favorites". They will be visual flavors of banana split, egg crème, double-scoop ice cream cone, root beer float and hot fudge sundae. As the news release commented, "Feast on these stamps without gaining an ounce!

The holidays are past but the memory remains as the neighbors were caroling in the spirit of Maurice Doherty, followed by refreshments. It is a many years tradition for the carolers in the Point.

\*\*\*

January 1, 2016, the minimum wage in Richmond became \$11.52 an hour. A study conducted at the time the ordinance was passed, stated the projected minimum wage would add \$14 million to payrolls in Richmond for the year 2016.

\*\*\*

Congratulations to Gary and Maryn Hurlburt who were honored by the Richmond Tennis Association (RTA) for their many hours of work promoting tennis with youth.

\*\*\*

TIP: Beets lower blood pressure and increase oxygen efficiency which is why endurance athletes love them. (Tip: beets will stain your hands so grab some gloves or wash hands with lemon juice.)

College graduates from the U.S. Naval Academy have the highest starting salary during their first five years in the professional world, with the median degree holder making \$82,900 a year. Graduates from West Point are second, followed by grads from Harvey Mudd College and MIT.

\*\*\*

Gone is the Reed Organ that was on loan to the Historic First Methodist Church but filling its vacant space in the choir loft is another organ, on loan, from member Matt Foster's Grandmother. The wish list is for a small pipe organ. Any offers?

\*\*\*

If you think you see lots of McDonald's restaurants it is because there are 13,381 outlets in the US. But, Imagine being at the busiest McDonald's located in Pushin Square in Moscow, also the world's largest which seats 700 customers and has a 70 foot long counter with 24 cash registers. The most expensive McDonald's burger is in Norway at \$7.18.

\*\*\*

Kevin Kidd died December 2, 2015. Kevin was a Special Ed teacher who had Cerebral Palsy and is remembered by her students as one who lived a full life. She lived on Tewksbury. Her father was the Music Coordinator for the Richmond School District.

\*\*\*

A pencil can write about 45,000 words.

2015 has gone down in history as the hottest year since 1880. Global warming?

\*\*\*

Show some love on VALENTINE'S DAY – (February 14) by doing a random act of kindness. Make the day one to remember for a long time for someone special!

\*\*\*

### ANSWERS:

### LEVI STADIUM

- 1. the \$1.2 billion venue has approximately 68,000 seats and features 165 luxury seats and 8,500 club seats.
- 2. If NFL advertised "SUPER BOWL L", how many would go "duh" or know 'L' stood for Roman Numeral 50 which is Arabic? Due to concerns over using the Roman numeral 'L', the NFL broke with tradition this year.



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
Virginia Mooney
Jean Rose

### SWEETHEART OF THE YEAR

Since 1998, the Point Methodist Church has recognized someone for their volunteer commitment to others in the community. This is done in February.

To be honored this year are Russ and Kristi Johnson. It was Russ, new to the Point, who felt even the homeless should be given dignity and provided a place to have a Thanksgiving meal. After several years, it was found even those not homeless were without family, were lonely, were too poor to have a turkey dinner. Thanksgiving day started feeding more than a hundred People and People were allowed to take home a meal without question and were even delivered to the elderly. Soon the small congregation wasn't able to fund the meal. It was then Russ' wife, auburn hair and perky Kristi, a retired teacher, came from their home in Concord each day the week before Thanksgiving, and approached local merchants to solicit their could help. The Point merchants responded.

Russ and Kristi will be honored on Saturday, February 20th, 2016 at the San Pablo Yacht Club on Cutting Blvd. Everyone is invited as it is a FUN'd raiser for the church budget. Call: 510.

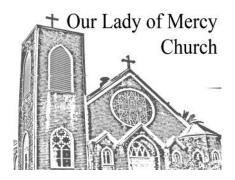
685-2338 for more information.





We offer a heartfelt thank you to Les Crim for his kind and thoughtful donation to the PRHA!!

# Church News



**By Dee Rosier** 510-232-1387

drosier@sbcglobal.net

Welcome 2016 and the year of the monkey, which hopefully means we will be having fun and much good will come our way. Pope Francis has proclaimed it as the Year of Mercy – the year of forgiveness and reconciliation. The corporal works of mercy are: Feed the Hungry, Give Drink to the Thirsty, Clothe the Naked, Shelter the Homeless, Visit the Sick, Visit the Imprisoned, and Bury the Dead. Give thought to them as the year progresses.

Donation envelopes for this year are located at the entry of the church. A record of donations is kept and at year end a listing is sent to the donor which is accepted by the IRS. If you are new and wish to partake in envelope donation, please complete the registration form.

Reflecting on the Christmas Season, as usual the church was decorated with live Christmas trees and the altar adorned with Pointsettas. The Christmas trees were actually placed inside a container of water which will remain and adorned with seasonal flowers. Elizabeth Hertzberg delighted us with her soprano voice. The blend between Yulee Seo, violinist and Cesar Cancino, pianist and Elizabeth was so astounding that they grouped together the following week and presented an outstanding concert. Elizabeth has now returned to La Scala in Milan. We look forward to her next visit. We thank previous parishioners, Stanley and Nancy Toledo for introducing us to the annual giving tree. The donated items are delivered to Children's Hospital for use by parents who board during a child's recovery. It was also a time for us to collect both food and clothing for those in need. During the year we donate to the Souper Kitchen and Meals on Wheels.

The Holy Family Sisters in Mission San Jose are closing their Mother House and had religious items to give away. Father was fortunate to receive a thurible since ours burned out a while back. They also gifted him a beautiful chalice and ciborium, each sterling silver, which ours certainly were not. The ciborium (the vessel in which the consecrated altar breads are stored in the tabernacle) is the same companion piece to the chalice we use for Mass – same maker, and design. We thank the Sisters for their generosity.

A parishioner shared a 1965 picture of the church before it was shingled. It showed a lot of white trim and looked so bright it was decided to use it as a guide and repaint the trim, which would be the same as the facade on the rectory. expected, there was some wood deterioration which was restored and then the focus was on the windows. which also required restoration. The recent grant from the Gateway Foundation will be used toward stabilizing the church rose window which faces W. Richmond. Surrounding woodwork has deteriorated. An energy efficient LED light was recently installed inside which increased the beauty and brilliance of the stained glass while providing more light for the church and street below. Additional work is anticipated which will use more dollars than the grant, which gave us a head start. Aside from the ongoing additional expenses which always present themselves, all bills for 2015 have been paid and we have a small surplus in our checking account. Years ago, Bob Young (owner of the Santa Fe Market) always professed that it was a Chinese tradition that all outstanding debts be paid by year's end in order to start a fresh new year. Sound advice.

Bishop Cummins has written a memoir, "Vatican II, Berkeley and Beyond: The First Half Century of the Oakland Diocese, 1962-2012. He served as Bishop of the Oakland Diocese from 1977 until his retirement in 2003.

A much needed parish directory is anticipated. The current one is extremely obsolete and in need of updating. Forms are available at the church entrance as well as in the pews. If you would like to be

included, please complete and place in the offering basket or leave on the table in the back of the church. The information provided will be shared only with participants.

Congratulations to Cynthia Workman who has put down her scissors and retired as a hairdresser at Shear Heaven. She was honored at a gathering of friends and family.

We have a group of young children (all male) who deliver the gifts at Sunday Mass. Recently none of them were in attendance but there were two unknown children which were asked and graciously accepted. These two delightful children were Margaret Doherty's grandchildren (daughter Claire)

who were visiting from Washington, D.C. They attend parochial school and knew exactly what to do. Also attending with her grandchildren recently was Tina Garcia. Tina previously lived in the Point and daughter to parishioners, Carol and Bob Garcia.

Get well wishes continue to be extended Jim Cheshareck, Dean Smith, Frankie and Dixie Mello and Julian Acuna.

Condolences to Rita Dorsey in the recent death of her mother Inocensta Downs. She was 99 years of age and lived in Atlanta.

Condolences to Anne Brussok in the death of her mother, Kyoko. A memorial mass was held in her honor at Our Lady of Mercy.

Nancy Noble enjoyed a river cruise to

Germany. She would love to delight you with tales of her trip.

The holidays always present one with a special gift and so it was when I attended a Christmas dinner and was so pleased to be in the company of Marilyn and Carol Darling.

Cynthia Young spent the holidays with her daughter, Christine and family in the Caribbean

The Knee family spent the holidays enjoying Costa Rica.

Welcome to our Christian community, Parker Jane Green, who was recently baptized.

It was like old times seeing Eric Siegmund take up the collection. He did it regularly when a parishioner.

Featured in the latest issue of Richmond Today, you will recognize parishioner and Chevron employee, chemical engineer, Megan Bleckinger. She is mother to Henry (one of our gift offering boys) and baby sister, Amelia.

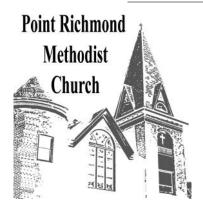
Happy Birthday Ever Special Grandson Griffin.

THE NEW YEAR LIES BEFORE YOU LIKE A SPOTLESS TRACK OF SNOW – BE CAREFUL HOW YOU TREAD ON IT – FOR EVERY MARK WILL SHOW.

SEE YOU IN CHURCH



Nice to see the return of the "waterfall" at Castro and West Richmond.



**Jean Reynolds** 510-734-3942

sweetheart05@mac.com

Thanksgiving Dinner 2015 Every year our Thanksgiving Dinner brings together a broad coalition of volunteers, businesses, donors, and neighbors for a delicious, warm, friendly sit-down meal. This year, people lingered to chat with people they just met over dinner. We served about 200 meals: more than 150 on site and 50 packed to go home to share. Warm weather beckoned some to dine at tables spread beneath the palm tree. We are grateful for our business and non-profit partners: Santa Fe Market, Starbucks Coffee, Little Louie's, Spot Liquors, Point Richmond Realty, Kaleidoscope, Awe Flowers, Hotel Mac, Feagley Realty, Saffron Strand and Beauty by Nature. Please thank them for their generosity when you patronize their businesses. I counted at least fifty volunteers: Russ and Kristi Johnson worked from start to finish: they acquired food, donations and supplies earlier in the week and Kristi worked cleanup until the absolute end. Matt Foster brought the turkeys; Mike Carnall, Paul Garnett, Shirley Rodriguez, Jackie, Richard Smith, Joe Flannigan, Tinna Manansala, Camille Manansala-Garnett, Manuel Navidad, and Nick Pollutro prepared the turkeys and more. Julio Osegueda, Mim Drake, Deborah Doctor, Terri Pittman, Diana and Bill Gutierrez, Doreen Leighton, June Costa, Heinz Lankford, David Tung, Terry Culinane, Larkin Murray, and two mystery friends peeled, chopped and mashed vegetables before the dinner. Donald Briggs was our dishwasher supreme. Lara Choe, Lydda

Vetrov, Tim Odetto, Rachel Herrin, and Fran Smith decorated the dining room and set up the drink station and bandstand. Barbara Haley and Jean Reynolds publicized. Pat Pearson, Julie Simmons, Diane Frary, Mid Dornan, Saffron Strand, Awe, Doreen Leighton, Fran Smith and Jean Reynolds donated pies. Terri Pittman and Kathy O'Brien sliced pies. Peggy Geary, Sara Pollutro, Eric Dauden, Siena, Tim Odetto, Manuel Navidad, Deborah Doctor, Bryan Harris, Kristi Johnson and Jean Reynolds waited tables. Musicians Eileen Johnson, Tom Belton, Kit Eakle, and Pastor Dan Damon entertained from the side room. Kathe Kiehn, Rachel Herrin, Tim Odetto, Heinz Lankford, Jean Reynolds, Kristi Johnson, and Doreen Leighton cleaned up afterward. Each volunteer, donor and guest was key to the success of the feast. We are thankful Paul, Tinna, Fran, and Kristi paid close attention to the details: it made the meal such a blessing for all involved.

The church sponsored a bake sale on Saturday, December 19, at the Point Richmond Community Center. Doreen Leighton, Barbara Haley, Kristi Johnson, Fran Smith, Mid Dornan, Rachel Herrin, and Pat Dornan were all hawkers for the festive cookies, beautifully latticed pies, homemade candy, cakes, fruited breads, sparkling jelly and more for sale that day. Kristi Johnson carried plates of cookies into local businesses and invited people to come shop. She left early and charged Rachel Herrin with the same task. The baked goods all sold and many craft items, jewelry, and treasures found their way into the bags of appreciative shoppers.

Christmas Eve Jazz: Many neighbors and friends filled the pews in the sanctuary and others sat in padded straight-backed chairs listening and watching from Friendship Hall as the Dan Damon Quartet led us through a jazz celebration on Christmas Eve. The quartet featured Dan Damon, piano; Kurt Ribak, bass; Lincoln Adler, sax; and Alex Aspinall, drums. Dave Tattershall, Paula Helene, Bethany Reynolds, Gill Stanfield, and Sheilani Alix sang solos. George Peter Tingley played his own arrangement of "Christmas Time Is Here" on piano. Jean Reynolds read the story "A Gift of the Heart" by Norman Vincent Peale. Mia Thorp read the Christmas story from Luke 2:1-20. We sang "Silent Night" together to close.

Just before Thanksgiving, Pastor Dan had

surgery on his ankle. You may have seen him in the weeks since swinging up the hill to the church on crutches. His cast is off now, and he has a bit more use of his foot every day. Pastor Dan led music January 19-21 at "The Gathering of the Orders" retreat at Mt. Hermon camp in Felton near Santa Cruz. He came back primed to compose new lyrics and tunes: the fresh surroundings yielded a creative flurry we all appreciate.

### On the Calendar:

**Program for Lent:** The United Methodist Women at Easter Hill UMC are hosting a "Call to Prayer" supper and program on February 16, Tuesday, at 6:00 p.m., 3911 Cutting Blvd, Richmond. Richmond First's women will lead the program. Open Door UMW chapter will be guests. All are invited.

Sweetheart Dinner: Russ and Kristi Johnson are our new Sweethearts for 2016. You may have seen Kristi selling plates of cookies downtown or making contact with business owners before the Thanksgiving Feast. You may know Russ as the dreamer who knew we needed to have a Thanksgiving Feast. We officially name them Sweethearts on February 20, at the Point San Pablo Yacht Club, 700 Cutting Blvd, Richmond, CA. Delicious dinner prepared by Ingrid Hogan and team, and a program to "honor and roast" the Johnsons will be 6:00 to 9:00 PM.

Reserve a seat today! Send a check made payable to "Richmond First UMC" to Fran Smith, 2149 Beaujolais Court, Fairfield, CA, 94533 Tickets are \$50 per person.

Cello/Bassoon/Piano Concert: February 21, 6:00 PM. We eagerly anticipate the return of cellist Rebecca Rust and bassoonist Friedrich Edelmann of the San Francisco Munich Trio. Internationally famous musicians, they never fail to enchant. Tickets will be available at the door.

Journey Farthest Out One-Day Spiritual Retreat, March 5, Saturday, 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Join us for a day of meditation, singing, art, movement, reflection and prayer. All are welcome. Contact Jean Reynolds to RSVP: sweetheart05@mac.com

Vicki Zabarte, Jazz vocalist, concert March 19, Saturday, at 7:00 p.m. All proceeds will be donated to Point Richmond non-profit Saffron Strand where people get help to seek, gain, and keep good jobs.

Easter Sunday, March 27. Festivities will include: Guitar and singing outside in the Labyrinth Garden at 8:00 a.m.; Breakfast at 9:00 a.m.; Sunday school at 10:00 a.m.; Worship inside at 11:00 a.m.; Easter Egg hunt for the children following worship. Drop in for a bit or start early and stay late to experience the joy!

For updates to the calendar, see the church website:

http://www.pointrichmondmethodist.org

PRHA founder Donna Roselius (right) with Mid Dornan.

Donna now lives in Oregon and paid a November visit to Point Richmond



# WWIC Est. 1908

### News from the Womens Westside Improvement Club by Norma Wallace and Linda Newton

### November meeting report is from Norma Wallace

Our always gracious WWIC president Linda Newton called our November 3 meeting to order. First order of business: thank you to our head hostess Carla Bowman for coordinating this rambunctious crew of Cathy O'Brien and Diane Diani. Kudos to Diane Hirano for setting up the room and festive décor. Since lunch is incomplete without it, special stars for the desserts of chocolates and mixed nuts, pumpkin pie and cupcakes! Special thanks to Diane Diani for coordinating WWIC volunteers for an outreach activity at Picnic in the Point.

WWIC celebrates member birthdays each month. November celebrants: Janice Cook (28th); Margaret Jordan (18th) and Toula Siacotos (22nd). (Of course those are days of the month, not ages □ Ladies never tell!)

Linda welcomed new members Leslie Hicks, a retired flight attendant, and neighbor and speaker Ann Brussok.

During the meeting, attendees heard recaps of various community projects where WWIC is making its mark, including various garden cleanup events throughout the year. These efforts focus on the Community Map garden and the Triangle / Rose garden. However, WWIC has been seen in Miller/Knox, improving the gateway ramp, so the WWIC gardening group may be seen anywhere in the Point.

Contact President Linda Newton to get on the call list for Saturday work groups!

This TPIT correspondent will be resigning her post in June. New correspondent wanted! Benefits include getting to know everyone and having a byline in the community voice, TPIT!

All the best for 2016.

### December meeting report is from Linda Newton

WWIC board members led by Linda Newton welcomed guests at the door of First UMC's

Fellowship Hall, which had been transformed into a winter wonderland for the season with festive garlands displayed high on the walls, and oversized ornaments dangling from the ceiling. Members were appropriately outfitted in bright and shiny reds and golds. Our caterers for the day had provided festive red and green napkins which were set inside small wine glasses. Each place setting was assembled with care. Once the caterers had completed their work, the WWIC decorator extraordinaire Diane Hirano finished off the tables, adding garlands of holly leaves with berries, candles and sparkly gold décor.

Once guests had assembled, Linda took the floor briefly to welcome and thank everyone for coming to celebrate the season, thanked First United Methodist Church Pastor Dan for his gift of piano music which set the mood for mingling, thanked the officers for collecting the RSVPs for our full-house holiday lunch, thanked Marion for catering coordination for the second year, thanked Treasurer Deb Haley for collecting the luncheon monies, thanked Diane and Kathy Kiehn for setting up six tables with accompanying chairs, and Diane for the décor.

The real business of the day followed quickly as Pastor Dan launched into carol requests, starting with Joy to the World, and culminating in a rendition of Silent Night, sung as always in honor of departed member Anna Schwarz. Anna fled Hitler's Europe with her husband to come and prosper in California. She brought her accordion to every holiday lunch, told the tale of the first night Silent Night was ever sung, and then gifted WWIC members with her playing while singing the lullaby in its original German. She brought history to life.

With the singing over, lunch was served while new member Anne Buchanan announced and circulated a sign-up for a WWIC field trip on January 14 to the Rosie the Riveter Museum.

Announcements included: Altha Humphrey: 12/5 Arts of Point Richmond Holiday Faire, 1/6

(Continued on page 24)



# **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. Crichett's place. Even the names are historical. These minutes are a priceless treasure of Point Richmond's history.

-Linda Newton, President

August 4, 1908

The Women's Westside Improvement Club met at Curry's Hall.

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

Roll call of Officers resulted in all being present except Tres. Mrs. Lucas, Fin. Corr. Mrs. Lang and Mrs. Garrard, Exec. Com. Mrs. Windens and Mrs. Drunick.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

The petition for membership of Mrs. Mary Nichols. Mrs. Peard, Mrs. John and Mrs. Topping were appointed on the Investigating Com.

The Investigating Com. reported favorable. A ballot was then taken which resulted favorably and Mrs. Nichols was elected as a member of our club.

Mrs. Whitcomb reported that she had seen Mr. Rehen in regard to the Library and that he had advised the club to write a letter to him under the seal of the club and that he will take it up with Mr. Rockefeller.

Mrs. Peard reported that Mr. Nicol would give a site if Mr. Rockefeller would give the Library.

It was moved and seconded that the Pres. and Sec. should write a letter to Mr. Rehen about the Library.

Mrs. Curry reported that the petition for P.O. was being circulated.

The Committee on Parks were given to the next meeting to report.

Mrs. Lowe was added to the Floor Com. for the Ball in place of Mrs. Murry.

A bill was presented by Mrs. Curry for cleaning the hall twice at .50 cents each. The Finance Committee reported favorably so it was moved and carried that a warrant be drawn on the Treasury for the payment of the bill.

The raffle for the pig was held and Mrs. Arnold drew from the box No. 35. Mrs. Wm. Lindsey was the lucky winner. It was moved and carried that Mrs. Peard be given a standing vote of thanks for the pig.

\$43.90 was cleared on the raffle. It was moved and carried that Ice Cream and homemade cake should be served at the Ball instead of punch.

Mrs. Marston, Mrs. Gibbons, Mrs. Arnold, Mrs. Riggs and Mrs. Holt were appointed on the refreshment committee.

Receipts \$50.15 Disbursements \$1.00

There being no more business to come before the club adjourned to meet August 11, 1908.

Mrs. Geo. W. Topping, Sec.

# Brick by Brick

By Heinz Lankford

Over the years I have cycled and run many times past the remnant of a brick kiln located at Brickyard Cove wondering how this business ended up at this location. So, thanks to modern technology the answer was just a few keyboard strokes away.

In 1861, three brothers left Montreal, Canada and came to Oakland, CA to start a brickyard. They were Peter, Hilaire and Edward Remillard. Their firm was named Remillard and Brothers, they opened an office and yard at Clay and 2<sup>nd</sup> Street in Oakland and a plant nearby. In 1879 the firm incorporated to become the Remillard Brick Company.

After the depletion of clay at their Oakland yard the Remillards searched for new clay deposits. In 1875 they located a shale deposit at Point Richmond, Contra Costa County, that was suitable for making red pressed and hard common bricks. This property was owned by John Nicholl and it is not known if Remillard

purchased or leased the property for their brickyard. No record of purchase could be found in the Contra Costa Country Recorders Office, so this would indicate that they may have leased the property.

Three types of common brick were produced at this yard, soft, hard and pressed. The soft brick was made from the surficial material on the property which contained a lot of different rock. The hard and pressed bricks were made of crushed shale mixed with some white quartz. The yard employed about 100 people.

During the first year the yard produced 6.7 million bricks, 300,000 of these were pressed bricks which were used in the U.S Appraisers Building in San Francisco. This yard also supplied over 1.8 million Remillard bricks that were used in the original San Francisco City Hall and some were stamped "CH" denoting City Hall.



Los Angeles Pressed Brick Plant, about 1912 PRHA Archive photo #0265 enhanced by Thomas Mercer-Hursh

determined yet.

The Los Angeles Pressed Brick Company in gondola railroad cars. Los Angeles was one of the major brick manufacturers in Southern California. When San supplement the brick production from several plants Francisco began ordering their hard red pavers for its owned by the Los Angeles Pressed Brick Company. streets and enameled and pressed bricks for its Richmond bricks were shipped out by barges, rail or buildings, the company took an interest in the San trucks. When production began in 1907 the plant Francisco market. To help cut the cost of shipping produced 10 million common bricks per year. In brick from Los Angeles to San Francisco, the Los 1908 the Los Angeles Pressed Brick Company Angeles Pressed Brick Company decided to build a formed the United Material Company to sell and new brick plan at Point Richmond, California, where distribute its clay products to San Francisco. The there was desirable clay on the property and a good demand for Richmond bricks and tile was so great in shipping port close to San Francisco. This was the the early years that the plant could not meet all of former site of the Remillard Potrero brickyard of the their orders. The port Costa Brick Company was 1890s. The Richmond plant was built on 40 acres in called upon to help fill the orders for common brick 1907, consisting of a crushing mill, a pug mill, and a and eventually the United Materials Company large building containing a brick press room, a large handled all of the Port Costa products as well. brick drying room, and a tile making and drying room. Next to the buildings were six round down- Company was incorporated. brick chimneys. 15 to 20 men, nine months out of the year.

shale, 39 feet thick, which provided the material for employees over the next four decades. making common brick and tile. About 1,000 feet drag line scraper. A gravity tram transported the developed material to the plant. In 1914 Santa Fe Railroad Condominiums. Company extended a spur line to the plant so that

The Potrero brick yard closed sometime gondola cars could bring in high grade clays from between 1892 and 1896, the exact date has not been Lincoln, Placer County, and Ione, Amador Country. An overhead clamshell crane was used to unload the

The Richmond pressed brick plant was to

In April 1920, The Richmond Pressed Brick This allowed the draft kilns connected to two 60-foot high square Richmond company to become an independent John G. Gerlach was the operation, no longer under the control of the Los superintendent of the plant. The brickvard employed Angeles Pressed Brick Company. Frank M. Irving became the new Richmond plant superintendent and On the hill behind the plant was a blue clay the work force was gradually increased to 50

In 1966, the Richmond plant had closed due to north of the blue shale was a bank of red shale, the low demand for building brick. The plant and which was used for making paying brick. At first most of the kilns were razed. Only two kilns and one these shales were quarried by blasting and using a chimney were saved when the property was for the Brickvard Landing



Brickvard Landing

Site of the Los Angeles Pressed Brick Plant todav.

Photo by Gary Shows

### California County History and Boundaries

Reprinted with permission from 1968 book "California's Emergent Counties" by Jane Gladfelder

I found this book quite interesting, hope you do too. If you want to read more of it, you will find it in our museum bookshelf.

Gary

The first California Constitution -- adopted in 1849, the year before California became a state -- directed the Legislature to provide for a system of county government, and for the election of county boards of supervisors. Accordingly, in 1850, the State was divided into twenty-seven counties. Until supervisors were provided, the legislative and administrative body of the county was justices of the peace. However, between 1852 and 1855, the Legislature made it mandatory for all counties to elect a board of supervisors, some to have three members, some to have five.

The first Constitution also directed that a sheriff, district attorney, assessor, and tax collector be elected from every county. Thus, while counties were established as agencies of the State for the administration of State laws, the officials administering the laws were made responsible to their local constituents rather than the state departments.

The twenty-seven counties originally designated by the Legislature in 1850 were: San Diego, Los Angeles, Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo, Monterey, Santa Cruz, San Francisco, Santa Clara, Contra Costa, Marin, Sonoma, Solano, Yolo, Napa, Mendocino, Sacramento, El Dorado, Sutter, Yuba, Butte, Colusa, Shasta, Trinity, Calaveras, San Joaquin, Tuolumne and Mariposa.

#### Counties Formed Between 1851 and 1871

As increasing population extended and the settled area, it created a demand for new counties, as well as helping to determine more definitely the proper location of county boundaries. In 1851 three new counties were created: Klamath, from the northern half of Trinity County, in the northwest corner of the State; Nevada, from the eastern part of Yuba County, in the mining area of

the Sierra Nevada between the American and Yuba Rivers; and Placer, just south of Nevada County, formed also from Yuba as well as parts of Sutter County. The greatest change, however, was made in Los Angeles County which, according to the act of 1850, had been one of the smaller counties. By the act of 1851 it was greatly enlarged at the expense of both San Diego County on the south and east, an Mariposa County to the north.

In 1852 Siskiyou was formed by territory taken from both Klamath and the upper halfof Shasta County on the Oregon border. This was the logical result of the development of mining in the area. Sierra, created from the eastern or mining district of Yuba County, was the third mining county to be detached from Yuba. Tulare, the other county created in 1852, was formed from the southern half of the large Mariposa County, on the northern boundary of the County of Los Angeles.

Three agricultural counties were created by the Legislature during 1853. Due to population growth along the eastern side of the San Francisco By, the County of Alameda was formed from portions of Contra Costa and Santa Clara Counties. The creation of San Bernardino County was made necessary by the immigration of a large number of Mormons who formed a colony there. The territory was about one-third its former size. And Humboldt was created from the western part of Trinity County, due to the political rivalry that developed between the settlements on the coast and those in the mining region of the Trinity River.

In 1854 another agricultural county and two mining counties were formed. Stanislaus was created from the western part of Tuolumne, just below San Joaquin County and lying in the valley between the coast range on the west and the Sierra Nevada on the east. Plumas was created from the eastern part of Butte, just above Sierra County because of the great growth of the mining population in the area, and its remoteness from the county seat in the valley. AndAmador, another

county in the mining area of the Sierra Nevada, was formed from territory along the northern border of Calaveras County.

Merced was the only county created in 1855. It was formed from the western or valley portion of Mariposa, lying directly below Stanislaus, west of the Sierra foothills.

In 1856 San Mateo County was separated from San Francisco, whose government then became consolidated into the City and County of San Francisco. The creation of Fresno County that year was the third and last important division of the once large Mariposa County. In addition to territory detached from Mariposa, Fresno was made up of territory from Merced and Tulare Counties. Tehama County was formed in response to the demand for a county centering around Red Bluff, the head of navigation on the Sacramento River. To form the new county, Territory was taken from Butte, Shasta and Colusa.

The shifting of the county seat of Klamath County from Crescent City to Orleans Bar led to a demand by citizens of the former place for the creation of a new county. As a result, in 1857, Klamath County was divided, and the northern part became Del Norte.

The first of the mining counties east of the Sierra Nevada was created in 1861. A petition had been presented from citizens of Calaveras, Mariposa, Fresno, and Tulare Counties for the creation of a new county to be called Mono. Owing to the rapid growth of the region, brought about by the development of the silver mines, there was little or no opposition to the proposal. Lake County, formed by detaching the northern end of Napa, was also created in 1861.

In 1864 other counties were created east of the Sierras. The first of these was Alpine, formed from portions of El Dorado, Amador, Calaveras, Tuolomne and Mono. The second was Lassen, in the Honey Lake region, where the people had long maintained a spirit of independence regarding California. The Legislature was induced to pass an act creating a new county for them from that portion of Plumas County lying east of the summit of the mountains, plus the eastern half of Shasta County.

In 1864 also the Legislature created "Coso County" near Owens Lake east of the Sierras. However, its organization was never completed, and in 1866 it was recreated as Inyo County. This new county was formed from portions of Tulare and Mono Counties.

Kern Count was created in a similar manner. In 1855 an act authorized a county empracing practically the same territory as Kern, but designated as "Buena Vista County." However, the act provided that when a majority of the voters of the proposed district, together with a majority of the voters of Tulare County (from which it was to be formed) had signed petitions for the formation of the new county, an election should be called for the purpose of choosing county officers. Since these conditions could not be met, the county remained unorganized until, in 1866, the Legislature created it out of Los Angeles County within its boundaries. The impetus for the creation of the county was a combination of both mining and agricultural interests.

### California Counties — 1850



Next issue "Counties Formed After 1871".

### **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 Three

After these initial tent-like structures with their pyramid shaped hip roofs, the gable roof made its appearance again with the freedom of expression that we have discussed. Some early examples can be described. The first was a gable roof house built in Monterey, though it was not the very simplest gable rood house which shall be described, then very simple gable roofed houses in the Sierra foothills, and finally some in Point Richmond, each reflecting its area's needs. In Monterey the first wood frame house was built in 1850 by the Bushton family. Monterey had a very strong adobe tradition which gradually evolved into a blending of the adobe Mexican-Spanish with the wood structured American tradition. (This blending can be seen in the still-standing Larkin House.) Continuing the initial attempts of the Larkin House to Americanize building design was this first wood frame house. It was erected on Munrus at Webster Street and existed there until 1924. This house of wood frame construction. was precut and matched, with a clapboard finish made in Australia, disassembled, shipped and reassembled with mortised joints, in Monterey. It was one of the earliest wood frame and gable roofed houses on the West Coast, making it notable in that respect, but prefabricated in another country. It reflected that country and had two stories with a one story wing. This makes it the earliest wood gable roofed house but not the earliest simple wood gable roofed house. front was six bays wide. However, it had American interpretations and interior stairway, a fireplace and glazed windows. The Bushton family designed it to meet the needs of the Monterey area in a simple, direct manner with no embellishment. This would have been a house to save!

All through the foothills of the Sierras, indigenous houses sprang up as homes for families involved in farming and grazing, and for those who decided to stay there after the Gold Rush of 1849. These were casual, small, simple practical houses with single, front-facing gable roofs. Many can still be seen all through Tuolumne, Calaveras, and Amador Counties in this simple gable style. They can also be seen in modest numbers in Point Richmond in a slightly different interpretation to meet the different needs and climate of the area.

This gold-country style was a small, simple,

practical house built of redwood. It commonly had a 12' high pitched, front-facing gable roof covered with metal. The roof was pitched high to hopefully collect the heat of summer. because of the heat in summer, a low one story shed roof forming a broad veranda was wrapped about the house on three sides, giving a large shaded exterior porch. The exterior finish of the wood frame structure was lap strake redwood. The entry would be on front center into a living room with two bedrooms to one side and the kitchen to the rear. The interior walls and ceiling were tongue and groove redwood and only the redwood kitchen sometimes painted. The floors were pine. Simple detailing on the exterior and around the front porch completed the picture. After the 1920's an inside bathroom was often added between the two bedrooms.

In Point Richmond a few small, one story single gable houses were built very early. The terrain in Point Richmond is much steeper than that of the Sierra foothills and often these small houses were built up the side of a hill with an under area in front to cover the slope with a longer, steeper stairway. This under area was skirted in, providing space under the house for other functions. Here in Point Richmond the climate is much cooler than that of the Sierra so there was no need for the wide, wraparound veranda. Often there was just a simple portico entry with a shed overhang for a roof. Later, to elaborate the style, a small gable replaced the shed overhang at the entry reflecting the larger front facing gable of the house itself. These houses were smaller than those in the Sierras due to the smaller, steeper hillside lots. However, other than tose slight differences the one-story, single front gable in Point Richmond was this locale's interpretation of that style. A few of several remaining small single gable houses in Point Richmond can be located. There is a tiny one in the 200 block of Martina, one with the gable entry portico in the 200 block of Piedmont Place, and one a bit larger with the gable entry in the 100 block of Cottage. Others can be seen plus several

(Continued on page 18)



Three simple houses in Point Richmond on East Richmond Avenue

(Continued from page 17)

that have been modified. Man, many of these simple houses predate the bungalow which was introduced later and which was of distinctly Eastern United States in influence. These simple houses are more relaxed in design than the bungalow as we shall see. This gives them an intrinsic charm.

The simple houses, the "smoky row" houses, the West Coast "hip roof" cottages and the small, one story, single gable houses have characteristics that we can remember when we wish to identify They were small, mostly of wood construction, mostly foursquare with straight sides (no boys), and one story in height. The entry door is usually on center front with windows on either side. Three is either a hip roof or a single, front facing gable roof with a simple roof extension forming a canopy over a front porch. The height of the pitch of the gable is influenced by the warmth of the climate with roof pitches up to 12' in the very warm Sierra foothills, and much lower pitches in the cooler Point Richmond area. Often the porch is raised and reached by a flight of stairs

with a simple post and rail detail at the sides of the stairs and porch. The under stair area is skirted in for storage. The warmer areas have low, wider porches surrounding the building on three sides. In Point Richmond the porches were simpler. smaller and often with modifications of the overhang. It is the simplest kind of comfortable house with only a few basic rooms. Later, the introduction of sewers and water, electricity, interior plumbing, kitchens with built in cabinets, closets, heating systems, laundry rooms, garages, etc., created modifications to this simple house so that very few today represent the early simple house of the 1900's. Today the simple house, though modified, still represents the fulfillment of the basic needs for housing in the most economical manner and with a direct and honest, casual approach. Many homes in Point Richmond, while adding the needed functions, have retained the materials, the massing, and the scale of the original architectural features so that the integrity of the whole is maintained. It is this simple house that helps Point Richmond retain its historical flavor.

Chapter V, The California Bungalow is next

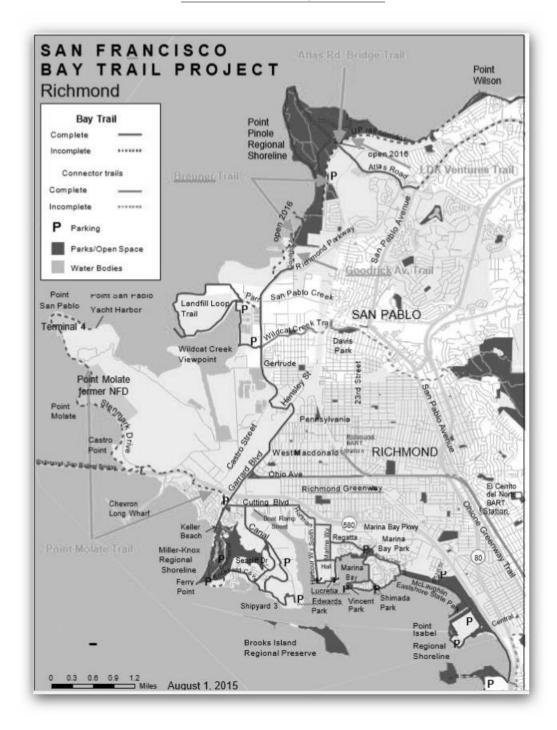
### PART OF THE BAY TRAIL IN RICHMOND NEW YEAR 2016 REPORT

This 17th New Year Report by TRAC, the Trails for Richmond Action Committee, highlights 2015 achievements and describes plans for completing the San Francisco Bay Trail in Richmond. The city has over 32 miles of Bay Trail built as shown on the next page — more than any other city on the planned 500-mile walking and cycling path encircling San Francisco and San Pablo Bays. Nine projects now underway promise to complete seven miles of new Bay Trail in Richmond and 4.3 miles across the Richmond/San Rafael (RSR) Bridge by late 2017.

Remarkable advances were made during 2015:

- Ferry Point Loop: The City completed the Plunge Bay Trail section.
- Point Pinole: East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD) and the City launched three design and construction projects, and LDK Ventures agreed to build 0.5 miles of Bay Trail north of Atlas Road.
- Point Molate: Bay Area Toll Authority (BATA) accelerated design & permit work on the Bay Trail between Castro St. and the RSR Bridge, as well as across the bridge. EBRPD awarded a contract for design, environmental & permit work on 2.5 miles of Point Molate Bay Trail north of the RSR Bridge.
- Marina Bay: Development Solutions Seascape LLC agreed to construct Bay Trail improvements on Marina Way South and Wright Ave. as part of the Bay Walk mixed use project to implement the South Richmond Transportation Connectivity Plan adopted by the City Council in September.

Trails for Richmond Action Committee does great work for Richmond, we are all grateful. For more information on TRAC and to see this report in full visit http://pointrichmond.com/baytrail/



### Point Richmond's Brothers of Baseball

By Caitlin Harvey

It's been a long dark winter, but the wait is nearly over. By the time this article reaches you, pitchers and catchers will be about to report, ballparks will be getting spruced up for the season, and you might even begin to smell mustard-slathered sheboygans and garlic fries on the wind in Oakland and San Francisco. To tide you over until Opening Day, enjoy this interesting bit of baseball history from right here in The Point.

Ballplaying brothers, Russ and Loyd Christopher, were born and raised in the house at the far northern end of Golden Gate Avenue. Their father, Frank Christopher, was the proprietor of an upholstery shop and older brother, Frank Jr., was a pipe fitter at the Standard Oil refinery. Russel Ormand, was born in in 1917, while the younger Loyd Eugene was born two

years later. Both grew up in the Point and attended Richmond High School. The brothers likely had an early passion for baseball and countless hours of playing under their belts, and Loyd lead the way onto the professional stage. Accounts suggest that when he was approached with a professional contract, he refused to sign until Russ was given a contract, too. Thus the brothers took the field.

Russ began his career in 1938 with the minor-league Clovis Pioneers and within a year transferred to the El Paso Texans, a farm team for the New York Yankees. A promotion in 1940 took him to the Wenatchee Chiefs and another the following season made him a Newark Bear. At the end of the 1941 season, he was the top prospect and first pick in the Rule 5 Draft, which pulled players up from the minor leagues rather



Loyd Chirstopher



Russ Christopher

than from high schools and colleges.

Subsequently, Russ made his major league debut in the 1942 season as a pitcher for the Philadelphia Athletics (twenty-six years before they'd become the Oakland A's). Bestowed with the knickname "Daddy Russ," he had a noteworthy career, continuing to hold down the A's pitching staff when many of his team mates went off to serve in World War II (he presumably stayed home due to health issues). In fact, Russ made the 1945 American League All-Star Team, but never played because the game was canceled due strict wartime travel restrictions. In 1946, Russ considered retirement due to declining health and an inability to gain and maintain the weight he needed to play, but he held out for one more season as a relief pitcher with the A's. In 1948, Russ was purchased by the Cleveland Indians for his final season. He again specialized in relief pitching, as he had for the A's, and his career culminated in pitching in game 5 of the 1948 World Series, helping his team clinch the championship over the Boston Braves.

After retiring, Russ Christopher settled in San Diego and underwent surgery to remedy heart trouble he'd suffered since having rheumatic fever as a child, and which had been hampering his pitching talent for many years. He then attempted a come-back by joining the Padres, but was released after a few weeks of training. He went on to work at an aircraft plant and eventually returned home to Richmond, where he died in 1954 at age 37.

Despite being the one to pull his older brother into professional ball, Loyd Christopher had a more low-profile career. Signing a professional contract the same year as Russ, at the young age of 18, Loyd kicked around the minor leagues for seven years, playing for numerous teams including the El Paso Texans, Joplin Miners, Akron Yankees, Wenatchee Chiefs, Oakland Oaks, Kansas City Blues, Newark Bears, and Seattle Rainiers.

Loyd finally broke into the major leagues in 1945, playing outfield for the Boston Red Sox. Lasting only sixteen games with the Sox before being put on waivers, he was picked up midseason by the Chicago Cubs. Loyd's 1946 season was spent back in the minors, with the Los

Angeles Angels, before he was drafted for one last major league season with the Chicago White Sox. Loyd continued to play professional baseball until 1952, but spent his remaining years in the minor leagues with Oakland Oaks.

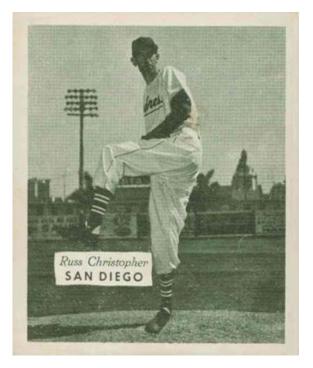
Unlike his brother, Loyd continued in baseball after his active playing years. Although his on-field career was somewhat unremarkable, he knew the game and could spot talent. He became a successful Northern California scout for the Cincinnati Reds, Kansas City A's, Cleveland Indians, Montreal Expos, and California Angels and was responsible for signing a number of players who would go on to become All Stars and Hall of Famers. Loyd died in Richmond in 1991, at the age of 71.

Sources:

Jennifer Germen, Christopher brothers' great-niece

www.baseball-reference.com www.wikipedia.com

Census and vital records via www.ancestry.com







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!

### MONDAYS

### The Port Chicago Disaster and Aftermath

1/11 at 1:00 PM (30 minutes)

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

### What We Wore During the War

2/22 at 2:00 PM (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!

### Rails through Richmond

2/8 at 2:00 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.

### Warbling Through the War Years

2/29 at 2:00 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.

#### TUESDAYS

# "Of Lost Conversations": Ranger Talk by Betty Soskin with First-Come, First-Served Seating\*

2/2, 2/9, 2/16, 2/23 at 2 PM

Ranger Betty Soskin her experience as a young African American woman during WWII.

\*Limited Seating for this 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

2/2 at 3:30 PM (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!

#### WEDNESDAYS

## Richmond Bus Tour with Armand Johnson (RESERVATION ONLY)

1/30, 2/17 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": Ranger Talk by Betty Soskin (First Come - First Served Seating\*)

2/4, 2/11, 2/18, 2/25 at 11:00 AM (45 minutes)

Ranger Betty Soskin discusses her experience as a young African American woman during WWII.

\*Limited Seating for this 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.

### **Blossoms and Thorns**

2/4, 2/11, 2/18, 2/25 at 2:00 PM (45 minutes)

A docent from the Japanese American Citizens' League screens the documentary film "Blossoms and Thorns" and shares from their experiences in a WWII internment camp.

#### **FRIDAYS**

#### **Rosie Meet and Greet!**

2/5, 2/12, 2/19, 2/26 from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM; 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 life and work on the WWII American Home Front.

### Kleen Teens and Zoot Suits: The Rise of the Teenager 2/12 at 3:00 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.

### **Rationing on the Home Front**

2/5, 2/19 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 rationing and share a sweet treat invented by wartime cooks.

# "Staging Migrations Toward an American West" (Reservations Required)

2/19 at 2:00 PM (1 ½ hours)

Marta Enger-Crichlow, chair and associate professor in the African American Studies Department at New York City College of Technology-CUNY, will discuss her book, "Staging Migrations" which examines the varied ways black women used migration to survive in the world from the viewpoint of theater and performance theory. Research for her books included oral histories from Richmond, California shipyard workers during WWII. Space is limited and reservations are required for this film and discussion. Please call 510-232-5050 x0 to reserve your seat today.

#### **SATURDAYS**

### "Of Lost Conversations": Ranger Talk by Betty Soskin (First Come - First Served Seating\*)

2/6, 2/13, 2/20, 2/27 at 2:00 PM (45 minutes)

Ranger Betty Soskin discusses her experience as a young African American woman during WWII.

\*Limited Seating for this 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.

Henry Kaiser: "Build 'Em By the Mile and Cut 'Em Off by the Yard"

### 2/27 3:30 PM (45 minutes)

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

### "Staging Migrations Toward an American West" (Reservations Required)

2/20 at 11:00 AM (1 ½ hours)

Marta Enger-Crichlow, chair and associate professor in the African American Studies Department at New York City College of Technology-CUNY, will discuss her book, "Staging Migrations" which examines the varied ways black women used migration to survive in the world from the viewpoint of theater and performance theory. Research for her books included oral histories from Richmond, California shipyard workers during WWII. Space is limited and reservations are required for this film and discussion. Please call 510-232-5050 x0 to reserve your seat today.

#### **SUNDAYS**

### "Of Lost Conversations": Ranger Talk by Betty Soskin (First Come - First Served Seating\*)

2/6, 2/13, 2/20, 2/27 at 2:00 PM (45 minutes)Ranger Betty Soskin discusses her experience as a young African American woman during WWII.

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### WWIC Est. 1908

(Continued from page 10)

Knit 'n Such. Jean Reynolds: 12/3 Dinner Theater fundraiser for FUMC (Hotel Mac/Masquers). Karen Buchanan: 12/5 Hall Party at her place; ..... Point Richmond History Hike. Margaret Jordan: PRNC 12/2 includes Toy Drive. Mid Dornan:

12/19 FUMC Bake Sale. Linda: 12/15 PRBA holiday party hosted by Mechanics Bank. Marion: 12/5 Holiday Faire. Toula Siacotos: 12/18 Women of Bethlehem Christmas related olive-wood items for sale, 1pm her house. Mary Lee Cole: 12/8 WWIC Book Club at Kathleen's house, Gilead by Marilyn Robinson.

#### Positive Train Control

At the December meeting Bruce Beyaert reported on a BNSF project to install "Positive Train Control" apparatus on Crest Avenue. The installation will approximate (as much as possible) the appearance of a pine tree. Thanks to Bruce's initiative (with input from Maureen Decombe), we were able to request native planting around the project to lessen its visual impact of the installation). Working with a landscape consultant from BNSF, we have made our list of recommended planting and are hoping that this is included in the project.

Taken from the Point Richmond Neighborhood Council's Newsletter, "On Point" January 2016



Antenna structure on January 26th
Not yet a pine tree.
Photo by Gary Shows

# Birthdays

### **February**

### BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

Mark Gebhart Sarah Wilson Steven Mertle Billy Bob Karl Chris Rotting Walter MacMillan Connie Healy Marcos Rotting Jim Allgaier Landow Howe Rowene MacMillan Ethel MacMillan Art Gagnier Kim Ward Velma Healy Anne Brussok-Roth Jared Bigard Lupe Padilla Lopez Allegra Fenton Kay Mayfield Madison Artrese Morrison Anne Roth Kiley Brougham Gretchen Van Tassel Shaw Brenda McKinley Frank Smith Leonard Smith Kay Madison Beverly Bartram

### March

GIRL SCOUTS
CAMP FIRE GIRLS
Rachel Palfini
Elfriede Morris
Damon Kiehn
Kathe Kiehn
Dale Hawkins
Sophia Frame Rice
Isabella Frame Rice
Karolyn Macdiarmid
Carol Paasch

JoAnn Bray
Carol Darling
Claire E. Crowson
Dolly Frosini
Ben Bray
Ken Madison
Janice Jones
Jean Knox
Lavinia Karl
Darlene A. Wright
Brian Richardson

Susan Berman
Mary Valenzano
Isobel Folson
Myron Pestana
Delphina Franco
Tawney
Mike Smith
Michael Lambton
Lucile Cottingham
Meyer
Henry Marchitiello

Evan Jahromi Kenneth Madison Kara Piantidosi Michael Smith Tom Butt Harlan Butt Ryland Thomas Butt Sophia Frame Rice Isabella Frame Rice

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



1913 Photo of Point Richmond, note the brand new Washington School in the upper left.

PRHA archive photo #0086 from Don Church Collection has been enhanced by Thomas Mercer-Hursh

# Memorials.....

**Wayne Palmer Tarr** passed away November 27, 2015. Age 76. Born in Berkeley in 1939, he taught at Sequoia (Redwood City) and Montgomery (Santa Rosa) High Schools until he joined Reader's Digest fund raising organization, QSP, from which he retired. He became an unofficial cheerleader for CAL, the 49ers, and the Warriors. He opened three Tarr and Feathers Saloons with partner, Ed Hoeffer and 49er players, Len Rohde, Randy Beisler and Caz Banaszeak. He is survived by his wife Bette, sister, Peggy McNulty, brother Fred Tarr, nieces and nephews Maureen, Sarah, Erin, Maggie and Scott and step-children, Matt and Kristan, Services will be held early in 2016.

**Sidney Allen Clutts** died in his Pinole home from cancer on November 23, 2015. Age 63. Sidney grew up in Point Richmond and was a member of Boy Scout Troop 111 in the Point. He and two friends roared up in motorcycles to a PRHA Annual Meeting one year adding an air of excitement. A 40 year member of Steamfitter's local 342, he felt fellow steamfitters like a second family; He is survived by his three daughters Shannon, Stacia and Sarah, and four grandchildren.

Ann V. Bartram passed away on November 26, 2015. Age 90. Ann was born and raised in the Point, going to Washington School, attending UC. Berkeley and S.F. State after graduation from Richmond High. Teaching in the Richmond Schools for 38 years, Ann retired from Portola Junior High where she taught French. Ann and her late husband loved to entertain, swim, play tennis and travel. Ann was an active member of the Point Richmond History Association, serving as a docent at their museum in the Point. She is survived by her only child, Suzanne and husband Neil Owens, granddaughter Sarah and great grandson, Lucas Ibarra, born on December 28, 2015 and sister-in-law Beverly Bartram. She was preceded in death by her husband Bruce, her parents, John and Viola Vloebergh and her brother Jerome. Private services were held.

**Bobby (Bob) Ray Cheyne** left us to be with his Lord on January 14, 2016. Age 85. Born in Jayton, Texas, Bob moved to California in 1942 when he was 12. In 1947 he was VP of the Methodist Youth Fellowship along with Joanne Smith who was to become his bride in 1951. They celebrated 65 years of marriage the day before his death. He retired as an engineer from Southern Pacific Railroad after 42 years of service. While in the US. Army he served his country in Korea. With his wife he enjoyed traveling. He was a member of the Oakland Rails Club, SIRS, and joined the 4-Winds RV club and served as President.

Bob is survived by his wife Joanne, son Douglas (Marjorie) Cheyne, daughter Patricia Cheyne, three grandchildren and five great grandchildren, and step-brothers and sisters in Texas. A Military and Memorial service will be held on Saturday, February 6th at 11:00 a.m at First United Methodist Church in Point Richmond. Reception to follow at Paulding & Co., 1410 D 62nd S. Emeryville.

**Richard Matthew Smith** died March 22, 2015 from heart trouble. He was the brother of Dean and Frank Smith. Rich was the child of John and Ida Smith. He had a career at Chevron as a Head Warehouseman in the Richmond Refinery. He was a dedicated volunteer for the WWII shipping on the SS Jeremiah O'Brien in San Francisco and the SS Red Oak Victory in Richmond, part of the Richmond Historic Society. He was proud of his six children and four grand children. He was a life long member of Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church in Richmond.

## EXCLUSIVE OVER 90 CLUB

Lupe Padilla Lopez 102 (Can anyone verify this?)
Jim Wilson 91
Delphina Franco Tawney 98
Elfriede Morris 97
Billie Bonham Shaw
Shoney Gustafson 98
Grace Cerkanowicz 93
Mary Highfill - 91
Madeline Bellando Albright 99
Mid Dornan 94

Charlotte Kernabon Birsinger 98
Viola Lola Kennedy 96
Eunice Ruth Hursh 97
Muriel Clausen - 91
Alice Williamson 90 John T. Knox 91
Dalles Wilcox - 91

Please send corrections and additions To Middornan@gmail.com or call 510.234-5334 and leave a message.





Vol. III No.26 - Oct. 1968

WANTED TO RENT: One bedroom flat, apartment or cottage. Anything with a Bay View. Semiretired lady. Will pay approximately \$115 per month.

\*\*

WANT ADS: 25¢ per week. Payment may be placed in newspaper coin boxes located in stores. Teens For Hire – no charge.

\*\*

FOR SALE: Renault Dauphine 1960. Good condition. Rebuilt engine, new clutch, transmission, battery, carburetor. Runs well,. \$200.

\*\*

Wednesday, Les Crim returned from the Azores Islands. He is home for two weeks, visiting his family, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Crim. After his leave, he will return to Norfolk, Virginia, until next March when he will be discharged from the Marines. Previously he served two tours of duty in Vietnam.

\*\*

WE'RE BACK. Girl Scout leaders, Mrs. Grethe Tedrick, Mrs. Sharon Taylor and Mrs. Annette Bolden announced activities for girl scouts Linda Pair-Taylor, Darlene Symon, Wendy Mahler, Pamela Johnson, and Stella Calvin.

They will be taught sewing and weaving and taking ice skating lessons as well as go camping. They learned firemaking at Kellers Beach and roasted marshmallows. Thanked Methodist Church for letting them meet there.

Mid

# 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.richmondmuseum.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

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Family	25.00	
History Preserver	50.00	
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Association includes a one year subscription to "THIS		
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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

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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### **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 Revnolds Article Dee Rosier Article Donna Roselius Line Drawings/article Linda Newton Article Muriel C. Clausen Article Heinz Lankford Article Caitlin Harvey Article Norma Wallace Article TRAC Report County Supervisors Assn. of CA Article

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### PointRichmondHistory.org

Join our Facebook Group https://www.facebook.com/groups/prhafan/

Richmond Museum of History
Red Oak Victory Information
Rosie the Riveter Park

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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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