# THIS POINT...in time

NEWSLETTER

## The Point Richmond History Association

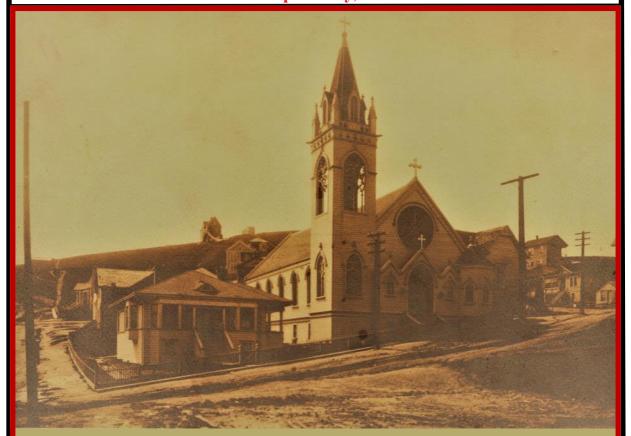
Since 1979

www.PointRichmondHistory.org

Vol. XXXIX No. 5

April/May, 2021

\$3.00



# Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church

circa 1903

This page is intentionally left blank



# From the President

by Bonnie Jo Cullison

Welcome to another fact-filled, informational issue of *This Point...in time*. For those of you who have not visited the PRHA website recently (pointrichmondhistory.org) you may not realize that you now can renew your membership with the click of a button. On the website's opening page in the righthand column is a yellow button that says "Donate". You can use this button to renew your membership using one of the credit cards shown or PayPal. You can also make a donation if you are so inclined. It's as easy as pushing that yellow button!

In the last issue of TPIT I was able to announce that we had re-reopened our Museum again after having had to reclose it in June. The rereopening didn't last long. In fact, it may not have happened at all. I lose track since we've opened and closed so many times since last April. But we keep trying and we are trying once more. We have a new re-reopening goal of Saturday, May 1 at 11:30. Our intrepid docent, Karen Buchanan, will be eager to see you all again. I expect that the usual restrictions will apply – masks, hand sanitizing and one person at a time in the Museum with the exception of family members. We're hoping this opening will last for years instead of days. Wish us luck! In the meantime, enjoy the photo DVD running continuously in the Museum window every day from 8:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m.

Lastly, this is the issue in which we usually announce the date and details of our Annual Meeting which we traditionally have on the 3rd Sunday of May. We didn't have one of those last year. In April when we realized that we could not get together in May we aimed for October thinking surely we could all assemble in the Community Center by then. You know how that went. This year even though the pandemic situation is improving we feel it is too soon to schedule our usual meeting in May. But we would love to see you all in person one way or another so we are considering non-traditional, non-Zooming possibilities for our

| <b>Contents of this Issue</b>     |    |  |  |
|-----------------------------------|----|--|--|
| From the President                | 1  |  |  |
| Members                           | 2  |  |  |
| Editor's Notes                    | 3  |  |  |
| Church News                       | 4  |  |  |
| Womens Westside Improvement Club  | 8  |  |  |
| Standard Ave. Right of Way Files  | 10 |  |  |
| Arts of Point Richmond            | 13 |  |  |
| Historic Point San Pablo Pictures | 14 |  |  |
| A-Mid Trivia Archive Files        | 16 |  |  |
| Indian Statue Day Shirts          | 17 |  |  |
| WWIC Early Minutes                | 18 |  |  |
| Bay Trail Tales                   | 20 |  |  |
| Point Items of Interest Clips     | 23 |  |  |
| 90's Club                         | 24 |  |  |
| Cards, Letters & Emails           | 25 |  |  |
| Birthdays                         | 26 |  |  |
| Memorials                         | 27 |  |  |
| Calendar/Information              | 28 |  |  |

meeting. Possibly outdoors, hopefully this Summer.

We will have a better idea of what is possible by the time the next newsletter is published. Be safe, be well, be vaccinated as soon as you can!!



The Cover:
A brand new
Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church
PRHA photo archive #1194
From Bill Mullen

Thank you members for your renewal: Malcolm P. Bury John A. Thiella & Rosa T.

Frank Lazaro Family James Cheshareck\*\* Mary Lee Cole

Casazza\*\*

Lydia Jahromi Family Olga Thomsen

Norm & Jean Reynolds\*\*

IlaMay Dein David McCuan\*\*

Joanne Pike\*\*

Burl Willes\*\*
Ellen Schaefer

Ellen Schaeler

Pamela K. Wilson

Paula Israeli

**Patrice Verhines** 

Robert McLean

**Marc Bisio** 

Virginia W. Smith

Paul Ciabattari\*\*

Virginia Rigney\*\*

Michael Pippin

Kim & Lynn Stoddard

**Betty Menzie** 

Welcome to new members:

Margi Sullivan\*\*
Sandra Falk

Paulanne Pritchard\*

James McCarty\*\*

Valerie Frosini-Gutierrez

\*Gift Membership

Thank You!

# Santa Fe Market

For distributing

"THIS POINT....in time"

Support our local retailers

We are planning on reopening our

museum on the triangle on May 1st.

Visit our little museum and view our

1000 picture slide show of historic Point

Richmond photos.

Open Thursdays and Saturdays

And the first and second Tuesday of

each month

11:30 am-2:00 pm

For now, please wear a face covering

when visiting,

We will supply hand sanitizer.

A fine is a tax for doing wrong.

A tax is a fine for doing well.

<sup>\*\*</sup>Special Supporter, Thank You!

# Editor's Notes

# Gary Shows garyshows@gmail.com

Is your TPIT mailing label in all caps? That means that you are an especially long time, loyal member. You see, our first computer was an Atari and the dot matrix printer did not do a good job with lower case letters, so I entered all information in all caps.

At long last, the end to our nagging pandemic seems to be nearing. We are fully vaccinated in our household and am knowing more and more friends who are also fully vaccinated. Everyone please continue to follow the mitigation rules and let's put this virus permanently in our past.

Spring is my favorite season. Let's enjoy it!

# The deadline for the next issue of "THIS POINT....in time" will be May 21, 2021.

So that we do the proper "social distancing" we paid the printer to fold and staple the last issue, work usually done by our group. Thanks for addressing and mailing go to:

Gary Shows Jerry Cerkanowicz Bonnie Jo Cullison



# Thank You to Our Special Supporters!

# History Makers

Donna Wilson Rosemary Corbin Kathe Kiehn John A. Thiella & Rosa T. Casazza

Roberta & Richard Palfini Patricia Dornan

Patricia Dorna Les Crim

Norm and Jean Reynolds David & Ruth Janes The Bartram-Owens Family

Burl Willes

Garry & Maryn Hurlbut Bob Armstrong Steven Birnbaum

Ron Vandergrift Lynn Maack Barry Goode Ellen Pechman

Mark J. Kornmann Jim & Olivia Jacobs

## History Preservers

Kevin, Reneé & Griffin Knee Linda Newton

Tom & Shirley Butt
The David Dolberg Family

Bernie McIntosh Don & Ingrid Lindemann

Mary Crosby & Tom Piazza Norma Wallace

Victor J. Westman

Gloria & Mark Maltagliati Anne Brussok-Roth & David Roth

James J. Cheshareck

Tony Lizarraga Bobbie Swerdfeger Lizarraga

Linda Hudock Joanne Pike Jeanne Pritchard

Joe Pritchard Jim & Olivia Jacobs

Caitlin & Michael Hibma David N. McCuan

Dee Rosier Kathy Dornan Barnes Tim & Roberta Montgomery

Richard Lompa

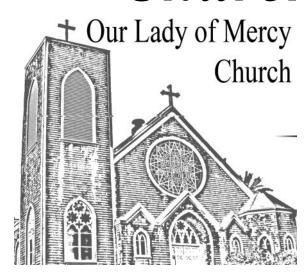
Don & Carole Woodrow

Karen Buchanan Sandra & Bruce Beyaert

Margi Sullivan James McCarty (San Pablo Historical Soc.)

Virginia Rigney Paul Ciabattari

# Church News



By Dee Rosier 510-232-1387 drosier@sbcglobal.net

It has been a year plus since our lives took a turn and not for the better. We generally celebrate anniversaries, but for the pandemic, we look to celebrate that to this point we have survived, plus instituted new ways of living our lives. The change has not been an easy one, but we did it. Most of us have been vaccinated, which again was a new experience. We now look forward to establishing our lives anew during the Chinese Year of the Ox, as well as welcoming Spring. Grandparents be sue to make up all the hugs you missed from grandchildren.

Thanks to Anne Brussock, the 2021 budget package has been submitted as required along with the other budget statistics. The Council will review the 20/21 income and revenue reports at the next meeting.

The fencing project is complete, which leads to the next step of paving the lot. We have paying tenants and can account for them, so it was interesting on Ash Wednesday, that church attendance was sparse, but the lot was full???

The lot has become a convenience for those aware of it. A parishioner suggested the lot be named, "Our Lady of Mercy Church's Matteucci Family Parking Lot." We have been fortunate that several parishioners have made donations to enhance the parish. The parking lot was a parish family donation, just as the side disabled entryway. Hoping there is an archivist who is keeping score of all of the generous donations.

The Word Day of the Sick Mass was livestreamed from the Cathedral of Christ the Light. It is a ministry of the Diocese of Oakland and the Order of Malta. The Order of Malta also offers flu shots in their clinic every Monday from 9:00AM-1:00PM.

Donation envelopes are still available at the entry to the church. If you would like to have them delivered, please contact: svdpatolm@gmail.com.

We continue to support the Souper Kitchen and are up-to-date with donations.

Saturday Mass – 1:00 PM Sunday Mass – 9:30 AM

The church is open on Wednesdays (1:00PM -2:00PM) for private prayer.

St. Vincent de Paul Help Line – 510-334-4951

There is a house for sale on Idaho Street, which years ago was the home of Margaret and Gust Allyn. Gust owned Allyn's Men Store on Washington. At one time he was Mayor of Richmond, as well as Postmaster. Margaret's mother, Mrs. Diffin lived at 45 Idaho. Mrs. Diffin was a school teacher and took the train daily to Tormey to teach. My mother and her siblings lived in Tormey and Mrs. Diffin was their teacher. The thread that binds us connected our families years past.

Please remember these members of our community who are unable to attend Mass, as well as their care givers:

Jim Arkin

Thomas Brady
Linda Cheshareck
Michael Lambert
Edwina Murray
Fr. David O'Rourke
Marie Peckham
Emon Roongruangphol
Fred Siegmund
Marcellina Smith
Dave Spencer
Christine Young
Diane Marie (surgery)

Cynthia Young recently added to her family two Siberian Huskies – brothers Mac and Jack who are three years old. During a recent walk, another dog startled them and knocked Cynthia over. Needless to say Cynthia was bruised and possibly broke some ribs. Aside from being blessed for her adoptees, she is feeling better and kept company by Mac and Jack.

Growing up in a small community, we started grade school at age 5 and retained friendships through our school years. Five of us have retained our friendship through the years and see each other socially. We recently lost one of our group and it was emotional. Beverly was our red-haired friend and will be missed forever.

We missed Valentine's Day and St. Patrick's Day – let's hope we can celebrate Easter.

According to British Author and toponymist Barclay Simpson, Richmond is the most common place name in the world. The original Richmond is located in Yorkshire England. (Trivia in memory of Mid Dornan).

It is a feel good as you look up Tunnel and the ornamental trees are blooming vivid pink blossoms.

My favorite little girlfriend, Tyler Trivers has moved to Oregon. She was part of our family and will miss her, but will continue to keep in touch.

> IT'S BETTER TO WALK ALONE THAN WITH A CROWD GOING IN THE WRONG DIRECTION

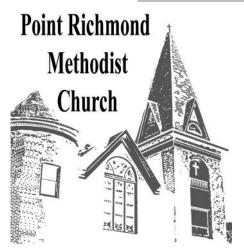
SEE YOU IN CHURCH (Hopefully soon)



Dee Rosier



#1209 - Winehaven from Bobby Winston from Port of Richmond Archives San Pablo Peninsula Photos Circa 1933



**Jean Reynolds** 510-734-3942 sweetheart05@mac.com

### People:

On March 1, Kristi Johnson succumbed to lymphoma that refused to go away despite several years of surgery, experimental therapy, and chemo -treatments at Stanford Medical Center. Kristi and her husband, Russ, faced it all with hope and a willingness to "try something new so the researchers can learn something to help the next person." Kristi welcomed all to our worship, and made sure to make a personal connection with people, even on Zoom. She loved to chat with business owners in Point Richmond when we planned for the Community Thanksgiving Feast. She took our work to the streets. Kristi was happiest when she talked with others, and welcomed phone calls even through her illness. She had an eye for style, and decorated Friendship Hall for teas, feasts, and other celebrations. She gave the kitchen a thorough cleaning before any event. As a career school teacher, she taught Sunday school for middle-schoolers at our church for several years. We will miss her love, faith, and direct ways, and will need to remember to practice welcoming people in Kristi-style.

Rev. Jacey Pickens-Jones met with the Board on Ordained Ministry early in February as part of the ordination process. In March, the board notified her that she is eligible to become ordained as an elder at the next Annual Conference, to be held in October, 2021. Her spouse, Rev. Emily, who serves as pastor at El Sobrante UMC, will likewise be ordained during Annual Conference. They are excited to see their ministry advance to the next level, and to be affirmed in their calls to serve. We celebrate their accomplishments and support their work in our community.

### Worship:

Laila Millar preached on "Healing and Wonders" on January 31. Her heart-felt message touched us all deeply. Her willingness to say "yes" to preaching gave Rev. Jacey a stress-free Sunday before she faced several sessions with the Board of Ordained Ministry and submitted all of her assigned paperwork.

We celebrated Ash Wednesday with other congregations in our West County circuit on February 17. Our choir provided recordings for some of the music, and all six pastors from our circuit took part in the service. We could pick up ashes and oil from Rev. Jacey if we wanted to apply them at home during the ritual.

On February 18, our United Methodist Women's unit met for a "Call to Prayer and Self-Denial" service with women from Easter Hill UMC and Open Door UMC. In ordinary times, we would have met in person and shared a soup supper. In COVID times, the biggest 'denial' element was probably that we could only meet virtually. Still, it was a great connection with our United Methodist sisters, and we collected funds for several good causes to aid women and girls.

During Lent, we have used a worship/devotional package called "Again & Again" prepared by Sanctified Art LLC. It provides a theme for each Sunday, visual art, poems, and commentaries to use for personal contemplation and/or as worship elements.

Jean Reynolds preached on March 14 while Rev. Jacey took a vacation. When our pastor is away, the depth of our laity "bench" is especially clear. Jennifer Metz Foster facilitated worship, providing the warp and weft that tied everything together smoothly; Jonathan Swett read the scriptures; Alice and Bill Thompson led children's time and provided the community voice; Laila Millar led the prayers; Matthew Foster presented options for the offering, Barbara Haley announced

about the special offering and the SOS! Shower Project; Gill Stanfield shared the worship PowerPoint; Bill and Jonathan led the Closing Circle. Other hands and eyes help edit the bulletin, send out the invitation to worship, and keep the website up to date. Choir members record themselves at home and Gill mixes the recordings. May Cotton is apprenticing to be the PowerPoint worship host, and others may learn that skill, too. It takes a village!

Pastor Jacey uses a podcast site to share recordings of her sermons. It can be found at https://pointrichmondmethodist.buzzsprout.com/

### Education:

Starting in Lent, our mid-week bible study Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. centered on the psalms as we discussed "Journey Through the Psalms" by Denise Dombkowski Hopkins. The book described the different types of psalms, how they have been used throughout history, and how they are still meaningful and useful to us today. The Wednesday morning study will continue with other topics in the future. The zoom link is listed on the church website.

Several people met in the afternoon February 27 to watch a video of a program sponsored by the Inter-Ethnic Coordinating Council of the Western Jurisdiction of the United Methodist Church. The program highlighted systemic racism, and gave ideas for ways to dismantle it. We took breaks after each speaker to discuss our thoughts. In the process, we learned more about how others have observed and experienced racism.

### Mission:

During Lent, we are gathering socks and underwear for the Safe Organized Spaces (SOS!) program led by Daniel Barth and his Shower Power project. They have two three-stall shower trailers they move to homeless encampments in Richmond. Anyone who arrives to shower gets clean, new underwear and socks to wear. When we get secure bins at the church, we will be able to launder towels as another way to help SOS! Shower Power. Chevron and Hello Fresh contributed substantial donations to launch the project, but community volunteers and support will be key to keep it going.

On the third Thursday of every month, we provide food for dinner for families at Greater Richmond Interfaith Program (GRIP). Linda Andrew Marshall buys and delivers the groceries. GRIP staff prepare and serve it during this time of COVID restrictions.

### Trustees:

The parsonage is ripe for a new laundry dryer. Hauser Shade, a local business on S. Second Street in Richmond, made and installed new blinds in the church study. The trustees are considering our need for better air circulation, sanitary practices, and other protocols for when the building reopens. No date has been approved for reopening by our Annual Conference.

### On the Calendar:

Easter Sunday is April 4. See the church website for details.

For calendar updates or to play a recording of the weekly worship service, see the church website: https://

www.pointrichmondmethodist.org



Jean Reynolds



# WWIC Est. 1908

### News from the Women's Westside Improvement Club by Carla Bowman

Now in the swing of Zoom meetings, the Women's Westside Improvement Club gathered Tuesday, February 2 at 1 p.m. While waiting for everyone to sign in, we enjoyed sharing highlights of our lives during this strange pandemic year. President Diane Diani welcomed members and introduced guests Suzie Koide, Annabelle Huang, and Margi Sullivan, who saw club announcements on Next-door and want to become more involved in the community.

After members approved the minutes and reviewed the treasurer's report, WWIC's Garden Committee chair, Marlee Prutton, reported on progress to improve the three gardens WWIC maintains for the enjoyment of the community: the Indian Statue Garden, the Map Garden and the Rose Garden. Marlee is requesting funds from the Pt. Richmond Neighborhood Council to buy plants and organic fertilizer and to hire a gardener 4 hours a month for the year. Between the work of the gardener and WWIC sponsored community garden events, the gardens should become glorious for all to enjoy.

Diane introduced our guest speaker, Dr. Mi-Yung Lisa Rhee of A Healthy Qi and You clinic located in the Little Yellow House on West Richmond Ave., built in 1900 by John Nicholl. Dr. Rhee explained that Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM), which is over 3,000 years old, is recognized for building on our physical relationship to the natural environment. She introduced the concept of Oi, loosely translated as "energy," and its function in our body, and then explained how TCM modalities work with Oi to activate the body's own resources to facilitate self-healing and symptom management. In her practice Dr. Rhee uses an integrative medical treatment plan and frequently partners with her patient's physician in Western health care. After her talk members asked questions and made comments about their own positive experiences with TCM. Her website, www.healthyqiandyou.com, has a menu of services.

After Dr. Rhee's presentation, the meeting continued with committee reports. Ann Langille, chair of the Sunshine Committee, has sent members cheery birthday cards. Doreen Leighton is re-activating the Serving Aid/Sharing Interests (SASI) project and will send club members a Survey Monkey questionnaire about participating in the project.

Under New Business, Diane asked members to bring their recommendation forms for charitable donation suggestions to the March meeting. She also encouraged ideas for other community projects the club could be involved in. Mary Lee Cole reminded the book group members about meeting to discuss Caste, by Isabel Wilkerson, and invited others to join the conversation.

The meeting closed with member's responding to Leslie Hick's question: "What is your memorable Valentine's Day?" Diane added her Food for Thought: "The best things in life are the people you love, the places you've been, and the memories you've made along the way."

The March 2 Zoom meeting began at 1 pm. After the minutes and the treasurer's report were approved, Garden Committee chair Marlee Prutton announced the Pt. Richmond Neighborhood Council has donated \$2,200 to WWIC for the triangle gardens on Park Ave. This builds on WWIC's legacy of improving Pt. Richmond's public spaces. To broaden community support, Marlee is setting up the Pt. Richmond Garden Club (PRGC), sponsored by WWIC. At PRGC's first event, March 14, community volunteers helped pull weeds, munch treats and enjoy the day together. We invite community members to save May 16 for the next PRGC garden day.

Ann Langille, chair of the Sunshine Committee, continues to sent great birthday cards to members. Fran Smith shared news of the 2 1/2 foot angel statue commemorating Mid Dornan's life installed in the United Methodist Church courtvard.



New Business began with a discussion of board elections. Marion Kent, First VP, is stepping down. Fortunately, Ruth Frassetto volunteered on the spot to be First VP. Thank you Ruth! Next we deliberated choices for WWIC's charitable giving. In this pandemic year of need, we voted to donate funds to the local St. Vincent de Paul and the Richmond Emergency Food Pantry.

Juels Klotz gave updates on the April virtual Bingo fundraiser; winner's prizes will be gift cards from local Pt. Richmond businesses.

Kathleen Wimer reminded members that the WWIC book group will discuss Desert Queen by Janet Wallach; she invited others to join. She also remembered the life of Margaret Jordan, a dear member who passed last year. Diane concluded with Food for Thought: "Never regret a day in your life: Good days give happiness, bad days give experience, worst days give lessons and best days give memories."

See you around town! Mary Lee Cole



Early 1950's Richmond Ramblers Motorcycle Club Meeting. That's Dornan Drive and the now Miller/ Knox Regional Park across the street.

PRHA photo archive #1218 from Sonny Jackson.

# STANDARD AVENUE RIGHT OF WAY FILES

by James Cheshareck

In the last issue, I was surprised to see scans of a map and two photos of Standard Avenue from original 1950's California Division of Highways right of way file. I've wanted to examine these, files but I didn't know if they still existed, let alone how to access them. I observed the small details in the two photos. The black and white "+"railroad sign became obsolete in 1947 when a yellow and black "X" was federally mandated. There is also a 1930's-1940's speed limit sign in front to the Colombo Hotel. A Par-T -Pak advertisement is painted on The Spot. Par-T-Pak soda, distributed by Nehi, sold six-packs containing a mix of flavors such as root beer, orange, and cream soda. The Spot survived bulldozing, but the Colombo Hotel, a piece of Italian immigrant history, was razed along with a chunk of Point Richmond.

I wanted to see these files, so I reached out to Caitlin and Michael Hibma and it turns out that the documentation was rescued in the nick of time from going into Caltrans' dumpster. I asked if they happened to have the 1970's file in addition to the one from the 1950's. Not only did they have that file, they had a whole box of files covering Highway 40 (future I-80) from the Alameda County line to Crockett, and the Hoffman corridor to the San Rafael Bridge. The historical significance of these documents for research purposes cannot be overstated, and a debt of gratitude is owed to the Hibma's.

The Hibmas loaned me the heavy box containing several individual manila file folders representing phases of freeway construction. Each file contained black and white photos, property appraisals, and parcel maps of land taken through eminent domain for highway construction. I selected the two files I needed for elaboration on previous articles written on the history of Standard Avenue and City Engineer Edward A. Hoffman. The extent of demolished

buildings and neighborhood impact is clearly evident.

I recognized the names of several property owners listed in both files, but the 1950's file provides the best perspective of what was taken from Point Richmond residents and business owners for the future I-580 freeway. Although eminent domain ultimately prevailed, the State faced plenty of resistance from landowners. A legal battle was waged by Milton Mayer, who owned a 19,000 square-foot parcel on Standard Avenue between Santa Fe and Tewksbury Avenues, along with another parcel near Standard and Railroad Avenues.

The U.S. Government put up an even bigger fight when the State wanted to acquire land around a Maritime Commission warehouse located 100 feet north of Standard Ave. The warehouse was accessible by Santa Fe Avenue and the State needed an outer portion of land consisting of swamp and overflow not affecting the dwelling. The Government not only denied use of the property, they also denied the State access to enter in 1952. The State was told that an Act of Congress was their only option for acquisition. Even if the U.S. Government was bluffing, the State took immediate action to do just that.

The California Division of Highways had a friend in our distinguished City Engineer Edward A. Hoffman. Hoffman was the biggest proponent of improving transportation for Richmond, and had plenty of respect in the State. It was Hoffman who pressured the State to construct the Highway in 1942 that would eventually bear his name. His then deceased assistant engineer had a direct link to Congress. His name was George Miller Sr., and he had been Ed Hoffman's close friend and business partner. He was also the father of our local U.S. Congressman, George Miller Jr. Although George Sr. died in 1944, Hoffman







remained close friends with the Miller family. George Jr. took immediate action in the Legislature by introducing H.R. 7126.

The text of the bill read: "To authorize and direct the Secretary of Commerce to convey certain land and grant certain easements to the State of California for highway construction purposes in Richmond, California." State obtained the needed land and the warehouse was later sold to private owners who leased it to Standard Oil's (later Chevron) division chemical long-term. When the State returned for more land 25 years later, both Chevron and the owners contested. The warehouse survived once again but it was torn down several years later after the final round of eminent domain in the late 80's. The foundation and slab floor remain and are now used as a Chevron contractor parking lot.

A few photos from both the 1950's and 1970's files show how much has changed. Photo 1 from 1952 was taken at northwest Santa Fe Avenue, the billboards facing westbound Standard Ave. At the far left is Fred's Service at the southeast corner of Standard and Castro. Owned by Fred Clements (1897-1980), the gas station survived eminent domain and operated into the early 1960's. It was eventually closed and torn down probably in part to competition from Standard Oil's station which opened across the street in the late 1950's. Photos 2 and 3 from 1952 show the north side 400 block of Standard Avenue between Eddv Contra Costa streets. Nearly half the block consisted of refinery

parking lots for SOCO employees, but several vintage houses and an apartment building were torn down. Although I tried for hours, I was unable to ascertain the exact address numbers.

Photos 4 and 5 from 1977 are the intersection of Standard, Railroad, and Washington Avenues. The left lane in #4 turns onto Washington Avenue, and #5 was taken from north Railroad Avenue. The Spot is in the upper right. The Railroad Avenue Overheads, built in 1980 -1981 routed traffic above Atchison Topeka and Santa Fe rail tracks, bypassing train blockages which could number over 90 per day. The ATSF rejected the State's appraisal of \$18,300 for needed land and







settled for \$32,700. Consequently, north Railroad Avenue access was eliminated and the edge of town looked radically different.

When grade separation completed, the unsightly billboards near Washington Avenue were traded for an ugly concrete retaining wall. Standard Avenue between Railroad Avenue and Garrard Blvd. vacated to ATSF and fenced off. The portion between Garrard and Cutting Boulevards was vacated around 1990 when tech centers were built. The old Chevron gas station at Standard and Garrard operated as an independent before closing in the late 90's. structure was later torn down when the land was purchased by the railroad. The station may have been the oldest in Richmond. The last photo, number 6, is the northwest corner of Standard and Garrard as it looks today. The sidewalk remains as does a pole that once held a traffic signal, and brackets that once held a Highway 17 sign still intact. many residents had discovered Point Richmond in the 60's and 70's solely by traveling along the Standard Avenue portion of Highway 17?



# Current art exhibitions sponsored by Arts of Point Richmond

from Rita Gardner

Arts of Point Richmond is a community association established to enrich our community by providing support, appreciation, and exposure for the arts. For more information: www.artsofpointrichmond.com

# April 7 through July 6, 2021 at Post Office, 104 Washington Avenue, Point Richmond.

Exhibition of fabric art by Rebecca (Becca) Riley. Becca describes her art as follows: "Making art is just plain fun – it gives me something to ponder, such as 'what would happen if I did..?' Bright, intense color is joyful and exciting. I like texture that is tactile as well as interesting. Creating art solidifies my thoughts and feelings and helps me to communicate them to others."



Ongoing: "Taking it Outdoors" Encore addition! Art banner displays on the walls of downtown Point Richmond. Arts of Point Richmond announces an encore addition to the Taking it Outdoors Preview, an open-air exhibit first installed in downtown Point Richmond last summer. As of March, it features a total of 28 banners. Drive through town or put on your masks and social distance for a leisurely stroll, discovering each of the pieces adorning walls

throughout Washington Street and Park Place. Look for more banners to come in Spring and Summer 2021!

NEW: View the art in this YouTube video, created by ArtsCalifornia.net:

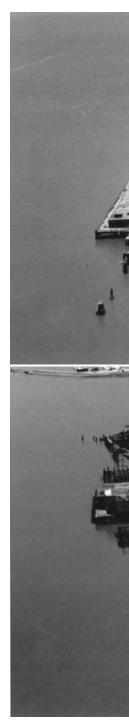
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xGCIiyKTln4 For more info on banner project and the featured artists, visit http://takingitoutdoors.org

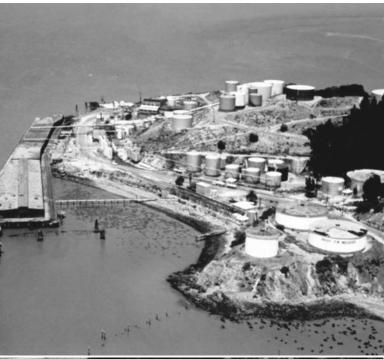


# (Ongoing) Lara's Fine Dining Restaurant,1900 Esplanade Drive, Richmond (Marina Bay).

Exhibition features artists Caitlin Hibma, Mary Lee Cole, Rita Gardner, Bonnie Leonard, Virginia Rigney, Betsy Kellas, George Tomberlin, Marilyn Hertzberg, Louise liams, Jean Brady, Jan Chleboun, Nancy Whitley, Nancy Noble, Dee Bell, Bob Colin, and Jim DeWitt. (Check with restaurant regarding current regulations and seating.)









We are grateful to Bobby Winston for sharing his restored collection of historical Point San Pablo aerial photos. They will all be available for your online viewing at PointRichmondHistory.org. Thanks to Bruce Beyaert for introducing us to Bobby's work.

Clockwise starting at the upper left:

#1198-Bobby Winston from Port of Richmond Archives San Pablo Peninsula Photos Circa 1933

#1217-Bobby Winston from Port of Richmond Archives San Pablo Peninsula Photos Circa 1933

#1216-Bobby Winston from Port of Richmond Archives San Pablo Peninsula Photos Circa 1933

#1210-Bobby Winston from Port of Richmond Archives San Pablo Peninsula Photos Circa 1933

# A-Mid Trivia Archives Report

Trivia taken from Late Former President Mid Dornan's Files thanks to Daughter Pat Dornan (some may have been previously printed.)

# The year was 1911 --- one hundred ten years ago. (Ed.: edited to the current year)

- \* The average life expectancy for men was 47 years.
- \* Fuel for the car was sold in drug stores only.
- \* Only 14 percent of homes had a bathtub.
- \* Only 8 percent of homes had a telephone.
- \* There were only 8,000 cars and only 144 miles of paved roads.
- \* The maximum speed limit in most cities was 10 mph.
- \* The tallest structure in the world was the Eiffel Tower!
- \* The average US wage in 1910 was 22 cents per hour.
- \* The average worker made between \$200 and \$400 per year.
- \* A competent accountant could expect to earn \$2000 per year while a dentist \$2,500 per years, a veterinarian between \$1,500 and \$4,000 per year, and a mechanical engineer about \$5,000 per year.
- \* More than 95 percent of all births took place at home.
- \* Ninety percent of all Doctors had NO COLLEGE EDUCATION! Instead, they attended so-called medical schools, many of which were condemned in the press AND the government at "substandard".
- \* Sugar cost four cents a pound.
- \* Eggs were fourteen cents a dozen.
- \* Coffee was fifteen cents a pound.
- \* Most women only washed their hair one a month, and used Borax or egg yokes for shampoo.

- Canada passed a law that prohibited poor people from entering into their country for any reason.
- \* The five leading causes of death were:
  - 1. Pneumonia and influenza
  - 2. Tuberculosis
  - 3. Diarrhea
  - 4. Heart disease
  - 5. Stroke
- \* The American flag had only 45 stars.
- \* The population of Las Vegas, NV was 30!!
- \* Crossword puzzles, canned beer, and iced tea had not been invented yet.
- \* There was neither a Mother's Day or a Father's Day.
- \* Two out of every 10 adults couldn't read or write and only 6 percent of all Americans had graduated from high school.
- \* Marijuana, heroin, and morphine were all available over the counter at the local corner drugstores.
- \* Back then pharmacists said, "Heroin clears the complexion, gives buoyancy to the mind, regulates the stomach and bowels, and is, in fact, a perfect guardian of health!" (Shocking?)
- \* Eighteen percent of households had at least one full-time servant or domestic help.
- \* There were about 230 reported murders in the ENTIRE U.S.A.!
- \* I am now going to forward this to someone else without typing it myself.
- \* From there, it will be sent to others all over the WORLD - all in a matter of seconds!
- \* Try to imagine what it may be like in another 110 years.





1985 - green







1987 - green Seven years of Indian Statue Day T-Shirts



Joel Beck Designs



1988 - magenta



1989 - blue



1990 - blue/metalic



# 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, Past President

#### Point Richmond, Calif. **April 12, 1911**

met in regular session at Peards Hall. President called the meeting to order. The reading dispensed with.

Bills read – Richmond Daily Independent for Gilcorabe alternates. 500 envelopes \$2.00. F.A. Fitz for planting trees \$60 and replacing trees \$64. Total \$124. James May 19th. Moved by Mrs. Rolto, seconded by Cruickshacks sal. for rent \$48. Moved and seconded that bills be paid – carried.

Comm. force City Health officer in regard to appoint the rest of the comm. appointing two of our founders as Deputy Health Officers without pay – Mrs. L Adams & Mrs. A. Total 2.50 Trautvetter were suggested.

Mrs. Ghalers and Mrs. C. Adams sang a duet. Then Mrs. Deece of the College of Professional Women's Suffrage Club gave a very interesting talk.

were very well received.

Women's Suffrage gave an interesting instructive talk.

A vocal solo by Mrs. Haceule completed our and carried that bills be paid. program - Mrs. Marston then asked the ladies to discuss. Next light refreshments were served.

Mrs. T.T. Cramer, Cor. Sec.

Receipts – Mrs. J.H. Coleman 1.00, Mrs. J. Stiefvater 1.50, Mrs. R. Maynard 1.00. Total 3.50.

### Point Richmond, Calif. April 26, 1911

met in regular session at Peard Hall.

President called meeting to order.

Roll call resulted in 5 officers being present. The West Side Women's Improvement Club Minutes of the previous meeting were read and The approved.

Bills presented – Hall rent bill audited and of the minutes and all unnecessary business was ordered paid. Mrs. Curtian and Mrs. Marston were elected delegates. Mrs. L. Adams and Mrs.

> It was decided to give a dance at Stege Park Mrs. Curtian that Mrs. L. Adams be appointed Chairman of dance comm. with authority to

> Receipts – Mrs. Ellis 1.00, Mrs. Kolte 1.50.

Meeting adjourned, Mrs. Cramer, Cor. Sec.

### Point Richmond, Calif. May 24, 1911

The Women's West Side Improvement Club Miss Edna Moore played two piano solos that met in regular session at Peards Hall. President called the meeting to order. Roll call resulted in 4 Mrs. Mackville of the State Assoc. of officers being present. Minutes of the previous & meeting read and approved.

Bills for music \$60 and \$5 hall rent moved

It was moved and seconded that Sec. Pav State Federation dues. Moved and seconded that Mrs. Adams pay Mr. Fritz the balance due on the park where ever she saw fit to do so.

Moved and seconded that club extend Mrs. Mauard note of thanks for tree presented to park – carried.

Moved and seconded that a letter of thanks be The Women's West Side Improvement Club written to Mrs. Maker for the two trees presented for the park – carried.

Moved and seconded that the Sec. write Mr.

Nobison a letter of thanks for extending to us the use of Hall for our dances – carried.

Report of the dance, as a success. Mrs. Adams thanked the ladies who assisted her.

Moved and seconded that we finish the rest room - & Mrs. Adams is instructed to pay for the work - carried.

Receipts – Mrs. Adams \$1.00, dues, Mrs. Marston, 1.00, dues, Dance 66.75. Total 66.75. Adjourned, Mrs. Cramer, Sec.

### Point Richmond, Calif. June 14, 1911

The Women's West Side Improvement Club met in regular session at Peards Hall. Roll call resulted in 6 officers being present.

Bills – Mrs. Curtian, hall rent \$2 for month of May. Richmond Daily Independent \$2 for advertising dance.

We heard from J.R. Vaughn, City Clerk in regards to us appointing one of our members to meet with council as a comm. for park site. Also one from R.G. Erskine Sec. Fire Co. #1 in regard to the use of Fire Hall.

Receipts – Hall rent \$2 bill to be paid – carried.

Moved and seconded that Mrs. Adams be appointed to meet with council about getting a park site.

Moved and seconded that we send Miss Kohler a note of thanks for her help writing our constitution and by-laws – carried.

Mrs. Adams, Mrs. Trautvetter, and Mrs. Curtian were appointed Entertainment Comm. and they appointed the following comm. Door – Mrs. Adams, Mrs. Hendricks, and Mrs. Trautvetter. Ushers – Jones, Crammer, Topping.

Mrs. Crammer read paper on curb work and a report of conventions

Meeting adjourned, Mrs. Cramer, Sec.

### Point Richmond, Calif. June 28, 1911

The Women's West Side Improvement Club met in regular session at Peards Hall. Roll call resulted in 6 officers being present.

Bills – Hall rent \$2. Moved and seconded that bill be paid.

New business – Tres. report read. Club has expended \$512.55 during the past year – have received \$317.35 we now have \$71.75 in our hands. Moved and seconded that report be accepted. The election of officers for the coming year being next in order. Mrs. T.T. Cramer elected President, Mrs. J.H. Coleman elected V. President, Mrs. L.R. Adams elected Sec., Mrs. Eaton elected Fire Sec., Mrs. Riggs elected Tres.

Moved and seconded that Mrs. J.H. Clemcau be recommended to City Council and act as Park Comm. from our club. – carried

Moved by Mrs. Curtian, second by Mrs. Trautvetter that the Sec. write to City Council asking permission for club to use the Fireman's Hall and meet in for Tues. afternoon beginning the 1st Tues. in Sept. – carried. Mrs. Adams appointed more Comm. and half at the Open house at night.

Mrs. Marston gave a very nice talk summing up the work of the first year and offered some suggestions for the coming year. Thanking the members for their help and wishing the club success in the future.

Mrs. Cramer appointed the following Comm. for ensuing year.

Executive Committee – Mrs. Jilcombe, Grover, Jones, Marston, Custeau. Finance Committee – Mrs. Ellis, Reposa, Hayward.

The President called a meeting for Sat. afternoon to meet with Mrs. Payue to settle accts of play.

Receipts – Dance, 2.00, Mrs. C. Neidecker dues, .75, Mrs. Grover, .75 – Total 4.00.

No further business the meeting adjourned. Mrs. T.T. Cramer, Sec.

Hendricks, 1.75, Mrs. Coward, 1.75, Mrs. Fitzpatrick, 1.75, Mrs. Runyan, 2.00, Mrs. Whitcomb, 1.00, Mrs. T.T. Cramer, 2.50, Mrs. J.B. McCabe, 2.50, Mrs. Brignoni, 1.50, Whist Party Oct.10th, 14.50. Total 28.65.

There being no farther business Club closed.

Nellie Adams, Sec.

# **Bay Trail Tales**

### December 2018 to March 2021

by Oliver B. Pollak

This story conceived in September 2019 had the grandiose ambition of being Vol. 1, No. 1 of the revived Anchor Cove Newsletter. The last, and perhaps only, *Anchor Cove Residential Association Newsletter* appeared online in August 2012.

Email, blogs, Facebook, Nextdoor Marina Bay and Nextdoor Digest did not augur well for a new community-neighborhood ink on paper newsletter.

I'm smitten by print. During my mid-1960s Navy days, I prepared the Plan of the Day on a green fumy ink ditto machine, indicating who had the watch, duty officer, vessel's location at sea or in port, uniform of the day, movie on the mess deck, library hours, gunnery practice, drills, captain's message, and admonitions to avoid accidents and diseases. I helped run a weekly in the 1980s, a quarterly for 20 years, and contribute to an online daily in San Diego.

Pedaling about six miles of the Bay Trail between Point Richmond and Point Isabel, thinking about verbs, sentences, and paragraphs, opens spaces for new ideas, as aspiration and perspiration meet.

In the Summer of 2019 Richmond's two iconic container cranes, visible from the Bay Bridge, dating from 1979 on 1413 Harbour Way South, Harbour Channel, adjacent to the Craneway Pavilion (Ford Assembly Plant, 1930), the Richmond Ferry (2019), and Rosie the Riveter/WWII Home Front National Historical Park 2012), disappeared virtually unnoticed. By the mid-1980s the Richmond container project was a money loser.

A feasibility study by the Bechtel Corp. reported by John Keane in "Richmond Port's Bright Promise," in the San Francisco Chronicle in June 1972, suggested a container facility to attract trade. In 1978 Matson Navigation planned to install a container handling system. In 1979 the cranes graced the quay. Eight years later, Kathy Bodovitz reporting for the San Francisco Chronicle in March 1987, wrote it was "the city's biggest fiasco: a \$30 million container terminal with no users and a debt service of \$2.8 million a year." The Port of Oakland dominated the container trade. Changing land use and continuing crane maintenance costs spelled its demise; it yielded in the Summer of 2019 to the welder's arc. Only the stadium lights remain.



Photo by Karen Pollak, December 27, 2018. Richmond Charter Academy in the foreground.

News • Events • Updates

Anchor Cove Residential Association August 2012



# Anchor Cove Residential Association Newsletter



Dismantling cranes. Photo by author, August 26, 2019.

On Saturday, September 7, 2019 the Anchor Cove Homeowners Association Annual Picnic featured a Bouncy house, face painting, Pig-In-A-Pickle BBQ catering, wine and beer. Ribs, chorizo, chicken, hotdogs, beans, macaroni, chow, cupcakes, all yum. Pleasant company. Maybe 50 families attended. The 128 units started in 2005. I chatted with old and new neighbors.

The quinquennial painting of Anchor Cove was complete but not without a cherry picker damaging a resident's car. Tennis players and hikers exchanged stories. Homeowner dues paid for the "free" food and drinks, a tasty investment. We went home with 5 ribs in a box. Halloween and Christmas decorations are other community highlights. COVID cancelled all in 2020.

The Bay Trail provides evidence that the world is getting larger. I juddered over at least 52 cracks in the blacktop straightaway, a former railway spur, from Meeker Slough to Costco. The cracks suggest global expansion though geologists, seismologists, hydrologists, meteorologists and astrophysicists may dissent. By September 11, 2019 a goodly number of the cracks had been filled, though many were left unattended. Fixing sidewalk, trail and road cracks and potholes reduces hazards. The bike and my body rolled smoothly over the patches. By February 2021, weather and wear contributed to deterioration of all the patches.



Bay Trail crack repaired with slag in shoulder

Camera toting Nancy Parker has walked the Trail a dozen years photographing nature. She wondered what determines which crack gets filled, which not? Her prize for the walk, a happy otter photo at Point Isabel Dog Park slough.



Reproduced with permission of Nancy Parker

The Bay Trail is an unending source of exercise, delight, vitality and social activity.



Photo by author, March 5, 2020 of artist Ame Papitto Painting of the "Dog Park" reproduced with her permission. www.instagram.com/amei.art.gallery

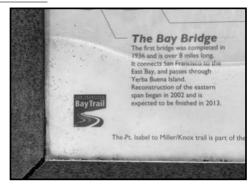


Photo by author, March 5, 2020 of artist Amei Papitto Painting of the "Dog Park" reproduced with her permission. www.instagram.com/amei.art.gallery

On March 5, 2020, Plein Air artist Amei Papitto of El Cerrito is painting looking out at Point Isabel Dog Park and the Bay. In the early COVID-19 days masks were not de rigueur. On March 16, 2020 seven Bay Area counties including Contra Costa, issued Stay/Shelter at Home orders commencing March 17, 2020.

The trail's ten informative and educational Orientation and Interpretive panels about history, wetlands, native culture, habitats, shorebirds, and conservation, present helpful, misleading, and no information at all. A timeline starts 4,500 year ago and ends in 1996 when the Point Isabel to Miller Knox trail was dedicated. The Santa Fe Railroad to foster commerce built a spur in 1968 to Central Ave. The United States Postal Service moved in instead in 1972. Rails to trails legislation in 1976 encouraged converting abandoned rail lines into public recreational trails. The rails and ties were removed in 1992.

This sign following states that the Bay Bridge "is over 8 miles long." This is only accurate for a round trip. One way is 23,556 feet, 4.46 miles. The eastern span begun in 2002, "expected" to open in 2013 did in 2013. Ten lanes make it one of the world's widest bridges.



Finally, some graffiti, art and vandalism in the era of COVID-19 in a beautiful setting:





Photos by author, March 2021.

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

# Items of Interest Point Richmond, early 1900's The Record and The Leader

| 00.05.1010 | Du Ct. John Haalan tales arouth a Abbatt mastice and Emany Haan   |  |  |
|------------|---|--|--|
| 09-05-1918 | Dr. St. John Healey takes over the Abbott practice and Emerg. Hosp.                                       |  |  |
| 09-06-1918 | Spanish Flu in sweep all over War Nations in Europe   |  |  |
| 09-16-1918 | v   |  |  |
|            | Hazel Downer is sugar administrator for Pinole.   |  |  |
|            | Sugar shortage is getting worse.  |  |  |
| 09-23-1918 | Henry Bill listed as missing, but was in hospital.  |  |  |
| 09-24-1918 | Lagoon at Ferry Point will be filled with dredgings.  |  |  |
| 10-01-1918 | Businessmen want horses off the main avenues.   |  |  |
| 10-07-1918 | TNT Plant to be erected at Giant at \$1,430,000 cost.   |  |  |
| 10-09-1918 | Fred Cushman, Union Oil Employee refused to buy Liberty Bonds. Tarred and rolled in sawdust at the Plant. |  |  |
| 10-18-1918 | Flu epidemic spreads. Strict orders to stop all gatherings. School all close.                             |  |  |
| 10-12-1918 | City closed tight because of epidemic. 500 cases here.  |  |  |
| 10-14-1918 | Harry Ivory names committee to watch prices as Govt. fixes them.  |  |  |
|            | 700 flu cases   |  |  |
| 10-16-1918 | All poolrooms and bowling alleys closed.  |  |  |
|            | 3 Codeglia boys are in service; Rinaldo, Dick and Earnest.  |  |  |
|            | Masks being worn throughout east in Flu Epidemic.   |  |  |
| 10-21-1918 | Masks free - Get them at Red Cross on 9th Streetand WEAR THEM!!   |  |  |
|            | 11 die over week (flu)  |  |  |
| 10-22-1918 | Shoppers must wear masks say council. 263 new 5 die.  |  |  |
| 10-23-1918 | 7 die; situation still serious; only 153 yesterday.   |  |  |
|            | Telephone Co. asks to reduce phone calls - too many operators are out sick.                               |  |  |
|            | All saloons and pkg liquor stores closed. Not a drop available!   |  |  |
| 10-24-1918 | To jail mask slackers. All must wear them by morning. 8 die, 132 new.                                     |  |  |
|            | Red Cross emergency hospital ready. Men needed as night nurses.   |  |  |
|            | Harry Niendick (Cy) dies of flu in Texas.   |  |  |
| 10-25-1918 | Conrad Pressler, father of Stanley dies of Flu.   |  |  |
| _0 _0 1010 | 53 arrests without masks. Warning today; jail tomorrow (or fines).  |  |  |
|            | os arross manne. Tarining today, Jan tomorrom (or into).  |  |  |

### DID YOU KNOW THESE THINGS HAD NAMES?

- The space between your eyebrows is called a glabella.
- 2. The way it smells after the rain is called petrichor.
- The plastic or metallic coating at the end of your shoelaces is called an aglet.
- 4. The rumbling of stomach is actually called a wamble.
- The cry of a new born baby is called a vagitus.
- 6. The prongs on a fork are called tines.
- 7. The sheen or light that you see when you close your eyes and press your hands on them is called phosphenes.
- 8. The tiny plastic table placed in the middle of a pizza box is called a box tent.
- The day after tomorrow is called overmorrow.
- 10. Your tiny toe or finger is called minimus.
- The wired cage that holds the cork in a bottle of champagne is called an agraffe.
- 12. The 'na na na' and 'la la la', which don't really have any meaning in the lyrics of any song, are called vocables.
- 13. When you combine an exclamation mark with a question mark (like this ?!), it is referred to as an interrobang.
- 14. The space between your nostrils is called columella nasi.
- 15. The armhole in clothes, where the sleeves are sewn, is called armscye.
- 16. The condition of finding it difficult to get out of the bed in the morning is called dysania.
- 17. Illegible hand-writing is called griffonage.
- 18. The dot over an "i" or a "j" is called tittle.
- That utterly sick feeling you get after eating or drinking too much is called crapulence.
- 20. The metallic device used to measure your feet at the shoe store is called Bannock device.

HOW MANY OF THE ABOVE DID YOU ALREADY KNOW?

# How Many Can You Answer?

- Who sponsored the television show "Death Valley Days"?
- Who Invented the fountain pen?
- Who was the first Democrat to be elected president after the Civil War?
- To what does the expression "white elephant" refer?
- What is the capital of Madagascar?
- What is nyctophobia?
- What is a balefire?
- ♦ What is a pottle?
- In the Mother Goose rhyme, what problem did the little old lady who lived in a shoe have?
- What measurement gives the length of a straight line through the center of a circle?
- Who clipped these questions?

Answers are on page 27

# EXCLUSIVE OVER 90 CLUB

Martha Bielawski - 100 Muriel Clausen - 96 Mary Bianchini Highfill - 97 Victor Morales - 92 Billie Bonham Shaw - 98 June Beesley Sosabal - 96 Morris Simpson - 98 Marcelina Smith - 95

Jean Knox - 93
Hector Lizarraga - 97
Donna Wilson - 90
Florence Wilson - 91
Loretta Stevens Johromi - 95
Alphonso Diaz - 95
Christopher Wilson - 97
Betty Menzie - 92

# Cards, Letters & E-Mails

Gary,

A church you might recognize. Found this among my family things. It is labeled California. I believe it was sent by Mary Mullen Seitz to her family. The two are the same picture one just has the cardboard it is glued to cropped out.

Bill Mullen



Hi Bill.

What a fantastic picture! That is Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church. I am looking at it now as I type this note because my house is on the hillside behind the church. A different house was on my lot halfway up the hill. This is a wonderful find that is going in our photo archive collection with your name as the donor attached. I am thrilled! It has to be very new because the Methodist church is next door now and was built right after the Catholic Church. We are grateful!

Gary Shows Point Richmond Gary,

I have no attachment to this photo. I'd be happy to send to the historical society if they'd like.

Bill Mullen

Gary,

Below is the UPS shipping information for the picture I promised you. I apologize that your last name got misspelled.

I know you offered to reimburse shipping but there is no need. The knowledge that the picture has found a home with a group who will appreciate it is all I need.

Bill Mullen

Dear Gary,

I enjoyed learning more about the movie theater in Point Richmond. At some time after World War II Anna Schwartz's husband owned and ran it. I hope someone has information about that.

Linda Newton
Point Richmond

Dear Pam.

Thank you for so many years on Membership!

Burl Willes Berkeley

Dear PRHA,

Please start subscription with the February/March 2021 edition. This is a present to Sandy, who grew up in Point Richmond. She told me a few stories recently. I thought that she would enjoy this membership.

Karen Fenton Richmond

I'm trying to organize a hide and seek tournament, but good players are really hard to find.

# Birthdays

# April

LOOF LIRPA Kathy Dornan Barnes Billie Bonham Shaw Erin Frame Roberta Dornan Palfini Charlene Smith Ruth Wilson Paula Israeli Pam Wilson Don Amantite Joel Peterson Teri Meister Charlotte Knox Monica Doherty Eric Hoiland Rosemary Corbin Alison Lord John Maxwell Sherri Mertle Carol MacDiarmid Gloria Smith Robert J.Palfini Terry Downey Sharon Mertle

Charline Barni Louis Stockdale Joni Loux Emerson Donna Diaz David Roth Ann Hathaway Kissling Kate Harps

# May

Patricia Beth Dornan Diana Corbin Richard Mattuecci Jon Doellstedt Sara Eeles Rena Gonsalves Sandra Loux Fuller Muriel Clausen Sophia Dolberg Julina Smith Anne-Catherine Hadreas Roger Glafke Henry Marchitiello Shoney Gustafson Winifred Boziki Norm Reynolds Patrice Verhines Mark Healy Karen Brougham Nilda Gozzi-Reed Annabella Feese Lorenzo Feese Dale Roberts

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

Please help me keep our lists correct, send additions, corrections or updates to our "Exclusive Over 90 Club" or "Birthdays" to Gary Shows, c/o PRHA, 139½ Washington Avenue, Point Richmond, CA 94801 or email to editor@pointrichmondhistory.org



Past year's Womens Westside Improvement Club Easter celebration.

Sue Bee, Pat Pearson, Florence Wilson, Linda Myrtle, Fran Smith, and Mid Dornan.

# Until I was thirteen, I thought my name was SHUT UP.

Joe Namath

# Memorials.....

**John Henderson Knox** On June 1, 1957, was born to parents Margaret Jean and John T. Knox. Raised in Point Richmond, California, John passed away under a full moon early Saturday morning February 27, 2021, surrounded by family in his home. John had many nicknames throughout his life. As a child, his father affectionately called him "little flower", during his teenage years he was dubbed "Johnny", and when he became a father his wife, Aracely, often referred to him as "Big John". Those who knew John Knox knew he was a man of many talents, the most prolific being his musical ability. John started playing the piano at age five and fell in love with jazz music as a young boy. Throughout his teenage years and early twenties, John played professionally with his closest friends in bands called "Murphy's Law" and "Bent Umbrella". It was also at this time that he met the love of his life, Aracely Estrada. Paired up for a school project at John F. Kennedy High School, John and Aracely became high school sweethearts and were married September 5, 1981, in Point Richmond. As newlyweds, Aracely encouraged John to pursue a career in law and it was not long until he gained his Juris Doctorate at the University of California, Berkeley in 1987. John joined Orrick-Herrington as a first-year associate in 1987, fully committed to a career as a public finance lawyer. John was a star in his field, he loved solving complex problems and built a large and successful local government practice centered around the Bay Area. When redevelopment agencies were eliminated and "land secured" financings dried up after the 2008 financial crisis, John promptly built an equally successful municipal restructuring practice, guiding the cities of Vallejo and Stockton through bankruptcy together with his friend and partner Marc Levinson. John's incredible success awarded him the California Lawyer of the Year Award not once but three times. His San Francisco office was adorned with many awards but on his desk, he only kept pictures of his family. John and Aracely Knox have four children: John Carlos, Joseph Alexander, Gina Gabriela, and Antonia Isabela. Growing up, the four children had a vague understanding of their father's career. To them, he was a dedicated father who taught them how to sail and always played their favorite songs on the piano. When John was diagnosed with Adenoid Cystic Carcinoma in 2003 he did not stop working and fought his cancer for nearly eighteen years. Amidst multiple surgeries, radiation, and clinical trials, John remained fiercely committed to his family and career. He was never one to complain, instead he dedicated himself to his passions of fishing, traveling, making music, and eating Aracely's fantastic food. Until the end, John remained devoted to his friends and family, always reminding them of his love. In death, John Knox leaves all who knew him with a legacy of love. Love for knowledge, love for music, and love for one another. Survived by his wife Aracely and their four children, the Knox family has held a small ash ceremony to honor John's legacy.

# **How Many Did You Answer!**

- Borax
- ♦ Lewis E. Waterman
- ♦ Grover Cleveland
- ♦ An item with little or no value.
- ♦ Antananariyo
- Fear of Darkness or Night

- A large outdoor fire, sometimes used as a signal fire.
- A container that can hold a half gallon of liquid.
- She had so many children, she didn't know what to do.
- ♦ The diameter
- Mildred Dornan

# 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-A Dornan Drive. Sunday 12:00 to 5:00. Adults \$5, children under 11 and seniors \$3, family \$10. Trains run on
Sunday and Wednesday 11-3, Saturday 12-5 viewing only. 510-234-4884 for details or www.gsmrm.org

### **MASQUERS PLAYHOUSE**

 $The \ \textit{Masquers remains closed for building repairs.} \ \textit{For more information see the website, http://www.masquers.org}$ 

#### 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: 510-620-6905

#### 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. See the Editors Notes on page 3 for next TPIT deadline. For information call President Bonnie Jo Cullison at 510-412-2202.

#### POINT RICHMOND NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

Meets last Wednesday of each month, Point Richmond Community Center; 7:30 P.M.
Contact: Peter Thelin at 510-326-8108

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 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 - 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. 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: Diane Diani, President. Email: italiandiane@gmail.com

Additions/Corrections to this Directory/Calendar? Email Gary Shows, garyshows@gmail.com

| I would like to join the P.R.H.A                     | ١.                     |  |
|--|------------------------|--|
| Name:  |                        |  |
| Address:   |                        |  |
| Phone:   |                        |  |
| E Mail:  |                        |  |
| Type of membership (check one):                      |                        |  |
| Single   | \$20.00                |  |
| Senior (65+)   | 15.00                  |  |
| Family   | 25.00                  |  |
| History Preserver                                    | 50.00                  |  |
| History Maker  | 100.00                 |  |
| Membership in the Point Richmond History Association |                        |  |
| includes a one year subscription to "THIS POINTin    |                        |  |
| 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

☐ CHECK HERE if you would like to receive your newsletters electronically instead of by US Mail

If you would like to have birthdays noted in the newsletter, please include names and months.

### Main Contributors to this Issue:

**Gary Shows** Editor/Uncredited **Photos** Various Articles and Bonnie Jo Cullison Information Don Church/Allan Smith Historic Photos Mid Dornan Articles & Stuff Jerry Cerkanowicz Information Mark Kornmann Proof Read Pam Wilson Membership Info Jean Reynolds Article Dee Rosier Article Mary Lee Cole Article Oliver B. Pollak Article Donna Roselius Line Drawings James Cheshareck Article **Bobby Winston** Historical Photos Bruce Beyaert Information Pictures/Information

Information

Articles for each issue are due on or before the deadline printed in "Editor's Notes" on page 3 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 1/2 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.

### PRHA Board of Directors:

Bonnie Jo Cullison, President Heinz Lankford, Vice President Caitlin Hibma. Secretary Kathe Kiehn, Treasurer Pam Wilson, Membership Gary Shows, Newsletter Editor/Webmaster

### Contacts

Bonnie Jo Cullison 510-412-2202 bjocullison@sonic.net

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.

Pat Dornan

Rita Gardner

Point Richmond History Association 139% Washington Avenue Point Richmond, CA 94801



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