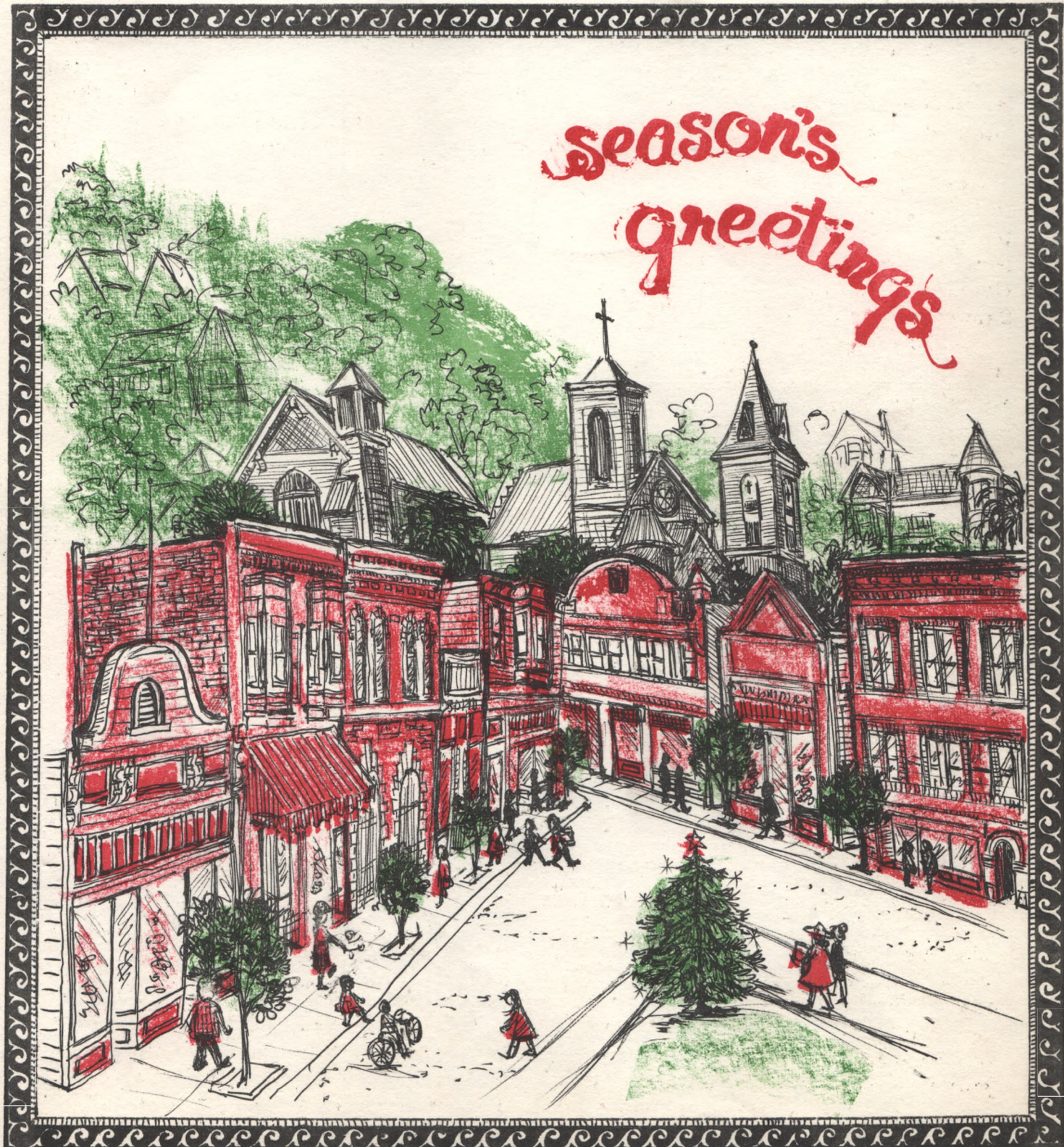


POINT COUNTERPOINT

VOL. III • NO. 37/38 A JOURNAL FOR CIVIC COMMUNICATION
POINT RICHMOND, CALIFORNIA

WEEKLY • 10¢
CHRISTMAS • NEW YEARS 1968 • 1969



1. Special HOLIDAY ISSUE

The special Christmas - New Year's Issue covers the period from December 20 through January 2 -- so read slowly. Our faithful paper carriers and collators and helpers deserve a week's vacation, and a special end-of-the-year thanks. For more than two years, David Hein, Anna Marie Healy and Mike Allaire and Michelle Healy, plus the editor's two daughters have been delivering the Point Counterpoint in Point Richmond. Jared Ross joined the crew, replacing his sister, Becky! Newer members of the crew are Estelle Calvin, Erin Evans, Dierdre Johnson, Sandra Kinter and Allan Smith.

People may say a great deal about irresponsible youth, but these paper carriers are essentially self-employed; responsible for their own deliveries and collections; and arrange for their own replacements when they are unable to carry out their duties. They deserve a BIG thank-you, and their one-week vacation!

Many thanks, too, to all the helpers who have helped to assemble the paper, who have written the articles that comprise the paper, and who have by their continuing interest, made a "journal for civic communication."

HAPPY NEW YEAR!



IF YOU HAVEN'T FINISHED your Christmas shopping, (and who has?) don't forget to take advantage of the fabulous little shops here in Point Richmond. Some of the most unusual gifts can be found here--from clothing to hand-made gift items. It's not nearly so hair-raising an ordeal as making your way through the maze in the large stores, either. While you're shopping, you can stop at Stoddard Realty to pick up the Point Cook Book, too!

!TIS THE SEASON TO BE JOLLY

SATURDAY night, take out time to hear some beautiful Christmas music, sung by the Richmond Symphony Chorus. December 21, at 8 p.m., the chorus will perform Bach's Cantata No. 106, contemporary composer Robert Lombardo's "Desert Places" and Vivaldi's "Gloria." The performance will take place at Grace Lutheran Church, 24th and Barrett, in Richmond. There will be no charge for the concert.



THERE IS STILL TIME to see the spectacular "Freedom Now" exhibit. The ten-foot mahogany mural, artifacts and art work depicting various facets of Afro-American history will be at the Memorial Youth Center through December 31. Many school children have attended during school hours, and thousands of people have come to view the fine exhibit. If you haven't taken advantage of the only East-Bay showing, plan to attend before the thirty-first.



The Richmond Art Center is offering the variety of work of three artists, with paintings, drawings and photographs being featured. John Kalamaras' paintings, Helen Nestor's photographs and Richard Diebenkorn's drawings will be on exhibit through February 2.



IF you listen closely on December 23, between the hours of 7 and 9 p.m., you may hear some children's voices.... singing Christmas carols. The Washington School Playground leaders will meet the kids at the Community Center at 7:00.

REMINISCING

WITH DON CHURCH

Interesting and sometimes amusing stories from old Richmond and Point Richmond Newspapers, courtesy of the Richmond Museum.

1925: AN ANGEL LANDS IN RICHMOND.....

December 14, 1925:

"Angel To Have New Field Here"

"Jimmy Angel, Richmond aviator, will establish flying headquarters at First and Ohio Streets this week. Angel is planning to stage a flying circus at the field. Every known feat in aviation will be demonstrated at the field by able airmen.

"Angel will continue to take up passengers at the new field after he gets established."

1914: SANTA CLAUS AND HIS ELKS....

December 26, 1914:

"The local Elks Lodge distributed a total of 69 baskets to 69 needy families. In addition to the food baskets, fuel and other necessities were included. This annual custom reflects great credit upon this American order widely known for good fellowship and charity."

1914: A RICHMOND CHRISTMAS CAROL

December 26, 1914:

"Asked for Death For Christmas and Got It."

"It was Thomas Obian who died and his wish was fulfilled had the clock barely struck midnight.

"In his younger days, Obian was a member of the Anderson's Texas Rangers. He was known far and wide as a terror to criminals and cattle rustlers. The time came when he could no longer ride the back of a pony. He came to Richmond but there was nothing in his line. So he became 'a derelict on the sea of circumstances'. He drifted about the streets and his genial manner served him in good stead for he never asked but what he received.

"He fell faint and weak on MacDonald Avenue yesterday. Officer Sam Wright found him and took him to jail. Sgt. Barry also rode the range in the past and knew Thomas never drank. At 11:00

p.m. last night, Dr. D.L. Abbott ordered him to the hospital.

Tom Obian was dying. Turning to Sgt. Barry he said, "I have always hoped to die on Christmas, and I hope that now my wish will be fulfilled." It was. He asked for death as a Christmas present and his wish was granted."

OTHER 1914 Christmas wishes (which might be exactly the same today) were expressed by Police Chief Walker-for a crimeless city, Sgt. Barry-for no more complaints.

1914: The Christmas programs in Point churches included , at the Methodist Church, Uldine Adams Nickola, and at the Baptist Church, Margaret Peterson and Charles Hess.

WEST SIDE LIBRARY

by Mary Burkhard

NEW BOOK TIME AGAIN--YIPPEE!

THE NAZI HUNTER by Bynum Shaw is a suspenseful, action-packed novel about a hunter and executioner of high-ranking ex-Nazis. In tracking his prize quarry, Friedrich Boehm, he comprehends, finally, that he has lost out in the human equation -- that he has become victim of the very evil he sought to obliterate. A well-constructed book--provocative (good grief!).

NUCLEAR WEAPONS by Otto Berzins lucidly explains how atomic and thermonuclear explosions are produced, describing the weapons and delivery systems available, and informing the citizen what can be done in the way of protection and civil defense.

THE PUBLIC IMAGE by Muriel Spark is the story of a film star--an English girl -- who makes the mistake of believing in her public image. Annabel's deep core of stupidity might forever have protected her from holding up a mirror and confronting the empty shell. But her husband becomes an increasingly hostile partner in their game of idyllic marriage, acted out before the exploitation cameras. In his rage and anguish he exercises a final trump card, forcing Annabel to revert to the decent pride of her private image. The elaborate plot he devises--the wild fantasy he succeeds in imposing -- is the novel's devastating climax. Is it an act of revenge, or, in truth, an act of creation? The author plays with the mysteries of identity and self-knowledge, of image and reality, in a novel that fascinates, as well, by its savage portrayal of today's celebrity culture.

A CEREMONY OF INNOCENCE by Robert Wool is a novel of engrossing characters and ideas, fully and richly developed. Heir to a centuries-old tradition of English rectitude, and a superbly professional career diplomat, Carl Aspinwall has totally dedicated himself to his mission, as his country's representative. But as Ambassador to the potentially rich but dangerously underdeveloped nation of Latafundia, he has become friend as well as emissary to its president -- Demadiado, a leader whose volatile pride, passion and ambition represent the Latin American temperament at its best and worst. At the same time, during the absence of his wife, Aspinwall has been drawn into a different kind of involvement with a woman who offers an intensity of love and physical pleasure he has never known before. Increasingly, Aspinwall has become a man of divided loyalties. He finally must commit himself to an ultimate choice--a choice each reader will feel in terms of his own life.



THE GIRL SCOUTS have only three Girl Scout Calendars left--but they would like to sell them. They are only 50 cents, and would make a nice additional stocking gift--call Grethe Tedrick at 234-0415 for delivery.

AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY headquarters will provide prompt mailing of a Christmas-stationery letter, that may be sent as a gift, stating that, "In your honor the Contra Costa Branch of the American Cancer Society has received a donation from...." Call 232-9130 for such a gift.