

THIS POINT.... in time

NEWSLETTER

The Point Richmond History Association

Vol. XV No. 4

December/January, 1996/97

\$1.50

Ho! Ho! Ho!



Point Richmond History Association General Membership Meeting

Sunday, January 26, 1996

at

First Methodist Church, Point Richmond

at

2:00 pm

Feature Guest and Speaker is Artist and Muralist

John Wehrle

**Mr. Wehrle will discuss his latest work on our Ferry
Point Tunnel and previous works. His presentation
will include a slide show. Be there!**

Refreshments will be served.

Point Richmond Holiday Food Drive

December 2-10

Bring your donations to the following locations:

The Santa Fe Market

155 West Richmond Avenue

West Side Library

135 Washington Avenue

Interactive Resources

117 Park Place

The Mechanics Bank

1001 West Cutting Blvd.

Pixar

1001 North Cutting Blvd.

Rosemary's Bakery

101 Park Place

Washington School

565 Wine Street

What to give:

Peanut Butter (no glass containers please)

Tuna

Canned Meats

Soup

Rice, beans, pasta

Canned Fruits

Canned Vegetables

Cereal

Who is served by the drive:

Children

Working Poor

Senior Citizens

Single Parents

Homeless Families

From The President

Mid Dornan

Twice a year we have program meetings when we get together with our members. Sunday, January 26th is the first meeting in 1997 and we eagerly anticipate you attending.

The cover of the September/October 1996 'THIS POINT...in time' featured the Ferry Point tunnel on Garrard Boulevard. The City of Richmond Arts and Culture Commission is sponsoring the mural facade painting, asked and got financial support from the community. Weather permitting, by the time you read this, the mural will be completed.

We are happy to announce the artist, John Wehrle, who designed the mural and who has completed other public art works in Richmond, will be our guest speaker in January. Have you seen the wonderful mural he created on San Pablo Avenue under the I-80 freeway overpass? To appreciate his art, park and take time to see everything you can't in a moving vehicle

Mark your new 1997 calendar, the last Sunday in January, the 26th at 2:00 p.m. Come and meet this talented local artist!

(You are encouraged to bring along any photos, newspaper clippings stories etc. you have been meaning to share of his story of the Point)

For more information, call (510) 234-5334 or (510) 235-1336.

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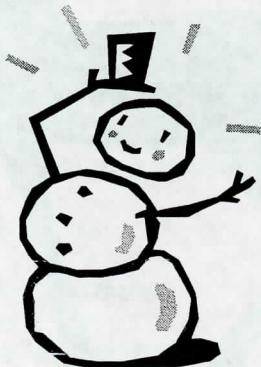
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Thank you to the following members who have renewed their memberships:

Sherry Hartynyk
The Corbin Family
Boysie Day
Ted W. Beck
Helen Farres
Bruno J. Roveda
Jerry & Theresa Daniel
Eleanor Kelleghan
Rena Gonsalves
Herbert J. Hunn
Luciano & Bonnie Forner
Pam Wilson
Shirley Moore
Helene Frosini
Bena Bowles
Mary Valenzano
Teresa Meneghelli
Dean Beesley
C.W. Thompson

And a warm welcome to new members:
Clara Loux



***Our little museum is all
decorated for the holidays!
Come downtown and take
a look, especially at night.
It's beautiful!
Thanks to all who helped!***

*Museum Staff Coordinator Betty Dorman
thanks volunteers who staffed the History
Building in November*

&

Our usual

Thank You!

to

**Santa Fe Market
and
Point Richmond Market**
*for their donated distribution of
"THIS POINT....in time"*

If you can help staff our History Building
(2½ hours per month) call museum Staff
Coordinator Betty Dorman at 232-4317.

Museum Hours:

Thursday	11:30am - 2:00pm
Saturday	11:30 - 2:00pm

Editor's Notes

GARY SHOWS

I'm happy to report that the December/January issue is a full one. I think you will enjoy it as it has a good dose of Point memories and a host of current local "goings on".

Thanks to you contributors for submitting your stuff in a relatively timely manner. Thanks to the PRHA Board I now have a quality flat bed scanner which makes my job of composing the newsletter a lot quicker and easier. The scanner reads the submitted typewritten material and prepares it for inserting in the newsletter and relieves me of the boring task of typing it all! I am excited about it, it really works quite well! I will also be using it to catalog our photo collection, our most treasured archive!

In 1937 the Post Office decided to close the Point Richmond Station. The citizens of Point Richmond formed a committee that eventually saved the office for the Point. Henry Allyn, retiring owner of Allyn's Mens Shop gave us letters collected by his father, Gust Allyn on how the Post Office was saved. I will be printing these letters in future issues.

The town is beginning to look a lot like Christmas! Sorry to see that not all of the commercial building are cooperating with rooftop lighting plan as they did last year. It was really neat! Be sure to come by and see our museum, it's all decorated for the holidays and looks kind of like a little sparkling jewel

box on the triangle.

Hope you all had a great Thanksgiving and I wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Thanks to the November issue assembly crew:

Mary Highfill
Liz McDonald
Pam Wilson
Mid Dornan
Jerry Cerkowicz
Gary Shows
Betty Dornan
Allan Smith
Mary Rudolph

Thanks to the crew at Firehouse No. 1 for the loan of the big wooden step ladder needed to install Christmas lights on the little museum roofline.

CORRECTION:

John G. Roveda, son of Bruno J. Roveda pointed out my misspelling of this fathers name in the December/January, 1995/96 newsletter. I apologize for this error.

The Cover:

Our "Indian Statue" erected in 1984 was designed by Kirk St. Maur. Caught here was Santa making a practice run over Point Richmond.

A-MID TRIVIA

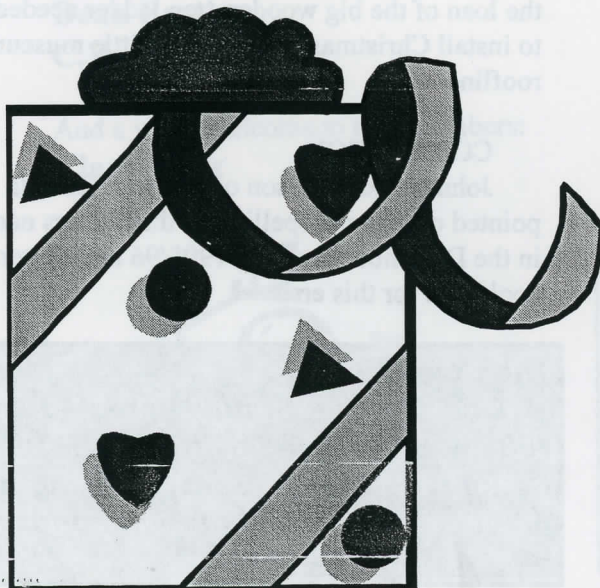
-Mid Dornan (510-234-5334)

Question: Around 1907 a Post Office was established in Point Richmond on West Richmond Avenue. What year did the U.S. Post Office Department try to close this branch? Who was instrumental in leading the fight against closure?

Answer at end of Trivia.

The turkey got its name from another of Christopher Columbus naming errors. He thought the turkey was a peacock and called it "tuka", the Indian word for that other bird.

It is HOW MANY DAYS UNTIL CHRISTMAS? It was Pope Julius in 340 AD who set December 25th as the day for Christmas.



Of course I'll never be a 'sweepstakes' winner because I don't return the envelopes. But, who can resist playing the 'games' created finding the right sticker to be placed in the right spot. Each "you and three others " are the only ones in Richmond qualified at this stage! Have you ever recognized any of the other two names? Me either.

Our famous Halloween 'Witcheeler' was out among the Trick and Treaters again but this year felt the need to do cackling broomstick blessings from her mysterious simmering pot. Were you a lucky one?

25 Years Together! Shirley and Tom Butt celebrated this milestone with a memorable party at their Scenic Avenue home on November 23rd which included a Jazz Combo, great food and everyone was invited!. CONGRATULATIONS!

Donna Wilson met Nancy Cook for lunch. Nancy was the first person she met in Point Richmond when she arrived 43 years ago and lived on Nicholl Avenue.

Sonja Darling returned home from South Dakota where she has been caring for her mother. She has been gone so long granddaughter Madison Bradley said to her on the telephone, "I don't think I'll recognized you anymore!"

Wrinkle free cotton? Resistant to shrinking and fading? Bet on it. Genetic-engineering of the cotton plant in a laboratory is proving the concept is possible and within three to five years can have a marketable

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fabric.

Does anyone have a date for when the shingle siding was put on the Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church?

Handel's Messiah is a Christmas classic. The Joyful Noise Choir of the Point Methodist Church has been practicing since September and will present it on Sunday evening, 7:00 pm with a chamber orchestra at the historic church, Martina at West Richmond Avenue. You are invited to this free event and to bring your score and sing along on the Hallelujah! chorus. Virginia Cherniak, director, has been accompanied by Jean Eakle for rehearsals.

Terry and John Lizarraga, Rodeo, are parents of Jacqueline Brooke born in Walnut Creek on October 25th. She is welcomed by an older sister and grandparents, Evelyn and Mario Lizarraga in the Point.

Why is it that people who snore always fall asleep first?

There are many pocket style calendars but Tom McGowan and Co's Pocket Pal has a touch of class--it is gold edged!

Welcome to the Point new owners: Einar and Jennifer Nyborg, Al and Rickey Nero, Alexandra Hewitt, Hal Smith and ~~Chuck~~ and Marilyn Von Schalscka.

Good News: Officer Joel Thompson has been re-assigned to this area for another year!

The Barney Dietz household will be giving thanks on Thanksgiving as they share the day

with family. Jim and Patti Dietz and son, who are also celebrating their tenth wedding anniversary, coming from Seattle, Washington; daughter Kathy and Bruce Barney arriving from Brackney, Pennsylvania, and daughter Betty and Wayne Tarr and family who live in the Point make the event memorable.

It's hoped Bob Peckham never decides to run for public office because then he couldn't treat the election board to fresh sour dough bread and brie cheeses, welcome snacks mid-morning on election day!

The Point joins I-80! With the opening of the new Richmond Parkway, residents can leave the Point at Castro Street (580) and be at the I-80 intersection at Fitzgerald Drive in Pinole in less than 8 minutes. But enjoy it now...with the amount of trucks and cars 'discovering' this route, time will change!

Abdominal exercise equipment is said to be a big seller for Christmas gift giving this year. Does this provide new items for 1997 flea markets?



Jean Reynolds spent several weeks with her ill mother in Washington who is recovering.

Marian Voight is home after spending five days in intensive care but will need several months to recuperate.

Looking for a Christmas Gift? Frances Smith collected recipes from the talented cooks from the Point Methodist Church, Gary Smith did art work/ and May Cotton and Linda Brooks formatted the cookbook published by Dreamsmith Ink. It can be in your collection for \$7.50. (If you've always wanted that Boy Scout pancake recipe or wondered how those piecrusts are made so tender, The Parish Table Cookbook is for you!)

Reba Slagle Downs has returned to Colorado Springs after spending a week finalizing details and clearing out the family home after the recent death of her mother, Velma Slagle.

Target stores has gotten out of the cigarette business. A right step even if they admit it was a decision based on economics, not ethics.

Former Point residents, Doug Clark, and daughter, Deanna Clark Higbee drove around the Point to note the many changes before flying back to Olympia, Washington. They had been visiting down the peninsula.

If you are a Bingo lover, celebrate! Edwin Lowe manufactured this innovative game in 1929, 64 years ago.

Did you know January 4 is Trivia Day?

Remember: It isn't the holiday season that causes one to eat too much, and it isn't the hours or minutes at the table that adds weight --it is the SECONDS!

Start the new year 1997 by telling someone they're doing a good job every week. Treat yourself often and if you share a joy with someone you care for, it doubles.

ANSWER: In January 1937 Gust J. Allyn, President of the Point Richmond Citizens Committee, led the fight to keep a post office here. Many years later, Gust was appointed Postmaster.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS
TAKE TIME TO ENJOY THEM!



Holiday Tree Lighting!

By Jerry Cerkanowicz

Once again the Holiday Tree Lighting at Indian Statue Park was a success and a lot of fun. 500 new lights were on the tree as more than 200 residents (lots of them of the smaller variety) filled the park, which was decorated with 80 luminaries. Thanks to all who helped fill sand, light them and place them around the park. The event was successfully concluded just before a rainy system moved into the area.

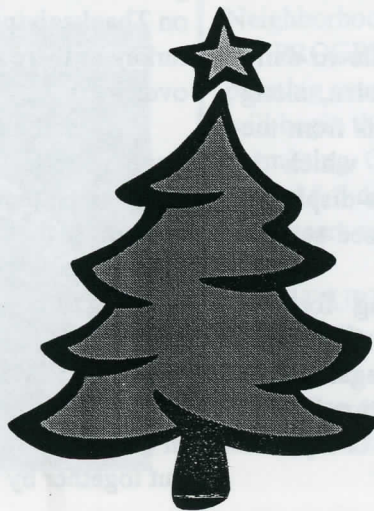
Thanks go out also to Point Methodist Choir led by Virginia Cherniak which sang numerous favorite Christmas carols. Then Santa (thank you Marcia Ward) arrived, lit up the tree and handed out stuffed animals and candy canes to the children.

Many of the buildings around town were decorated with rooftop lights and window displays. Special thanks go out to David Vincent and the Point Richmond History

Association for sponsoring the event.

A couple of humorous asides, the extra lights on the tree were beautiful for a short while but the new extra bulbs caused the circuit to overload and a breaker tripped plunging the tree and library into darkness! David Vincent saw to it that the problem was rectified the very next day.

New resident to the town was feeling so comfortable in the triangle that she casually put out her hand to stop an oncoming car so she could cross the street to take a look at our little museum building's sparkling decorations. Reaching the over side of the street she put her hand to her face to hide it and whispered, "Did you see what I just did....I put out my hand to stop a police car so I could cross the street". The officer just rolled his eyes and continued on his patrol.



This Point....in time

Church News

Our Lady of Mercy

Allan Smith
234-5149

Pastor Jim Clift had a special Thanksgiving Day Mass for all parishioners and interested friends. Canned foods and non-perishable food items were brought to the service and given to the St. Vincent de Paul Society for distribution to the needy. We do this periodically throughout the year.

Tony Ferriera leads a group of parishioners who serve at the Souper Kitchen in Richmond. Also, several parishioners assist Richard Brouette each Friday during the month, serving 35-40 worthy people at the St. Vincent de Paul Society building. A good assortment of food items are distributed.

The American Flag, which is flown daily from a 40 ft. pole was recently stolen, along with a three foot statue of St. Francis from the patio. The flag was returned, which is fortunate, because some of the flags displayed belong to family members of deceased service men of the parish.

Rev. James Clift is preparing for the Advent Season and a special Christmas Mid-Nite mass will be offered once again

On November 27th on radio station KVTO a Holy Rosary was recited for our late pastor Rev. Denis Araujo.

Point Richmond Methodist

Jean Reynolds
235-2988

We who live in this community have much to be thankful for. Nowhere has this been more evident than the outpouring of support we have received from the businesses in Point Richmond as we organized a Thanksgiving dinner to share with any who want to come. Most of the food was donated and prepared by the members of the business community. All were willing to do what was needed. It was such a good feeling to see so much energy and cooperation directed toward feeding people. We will know why we are thankful as we gather for a brief worship service at 11:30 a.m. on Thanksgiving Day, and if there is as much turkey as there is spirit, we all will be filled to overflowing by 2:00 p.m.!

Matt and Elizabeth Meixell got their travel dates (Dec. 12 to Dec. 24) to go to China and pick up their new baby, Samantha. It has been more than a year since the Meixells started the process of adoption and finally after jumping through the required hoops, they will actually get to go to China and bring her home with them. What a holiday joy!

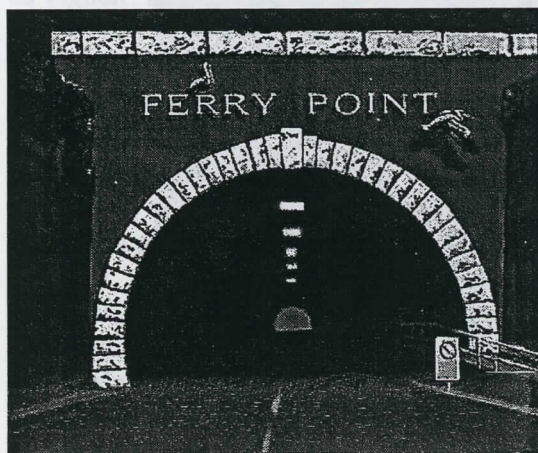
If you missed the annual Country Faire in October, you can still purchase a cookbook put together by the United Methodist Women,

and compiled by Frances Smith. The cookbook contains the famous Boy Scout Pancake Breakfast pancake recipe as well as other secrets. The books sell for \$7.50. Get yours at the church or call Betty Dornan at 232-4317.

NOT TO MISS . . .

The Joyful Noise choir and Friends will again present a musical offering of Handel's *Messiah* this year during Advent. Sunday, December 15, at 7:00 p.m., is the date to note on your calendar! Bring your own score to the program and sing with us on the Hallelujah Chorus, or come to rehearsals on Wednesday nights at 7:30 p.m. and sing some of the other choruses, too. It sounds pretty good now, and keeps my heart singing all week!

It's the Second-Annual-Already-a-Tradition Christmas Eve Jazz Service happening on December 24, 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. It will include stories, scripture, and, of course, carols to sing and listen to played by Pastor Dan and his jazz trio.



Tunnel Mural Update

HISTORY: The Point Richmond Neighborhood Council has partnered with the Arts and Culture Commission of the city of Richmond to paint the north tunnel facade on Garrard/Dornan Drive. Artist John Wehrle has designed shadow lettering (Ferry Point) and pelican images to enhance the tunnel entrance, identify the end point of Dornan Drive and the new park located there, and preserve the history of this area as a ferry departure point.

Community fundraising for this project has raised approximately \$3000 of the needed \$4000. Donors contributing \$25 or more will be recognized on a plaque at the site. Donations may be mailed to the Pt. Richmond Neighborhood Council, PO Box 70386, Pt. Richmond, Ca. 94801, or dropped in the collection box at the Santa Fe Market. Checks should be made payable to the Point Richmond Neighborhood Council.

PROGRESS: The artist is ready to begin painting even while fundraising continues. He will begin the work 12/21/96, weather permitting. One lane of the tunnel will be closed 5-6 days from 10 am to 4 pm, and volunteers are still needed to help with traffic control.

FUTURE: Fundraising for an additional \$1000 will continue with a goal of December completion. Community celebration and dedication of the completed project is anticipated for January 1997.

Anne Hanzlik
Reviews
The Masquers Production

THE
WIZARD
of
OZ

By L. Frank Baum

Music & Lyrics of the MGM motion
picture score by Harold Arlen and E.Y.
Harburg background music by Herbert
Stothart

book adaptation by John Kane

Directed by John Hull

November 1 through December 21, 1996

The Wizard of Oz and all of its following sequels are American fairy tales which have been read by most of us many times over. The Masquers have retold it once again with its current delightful offering.

The memory of the '37 movie is still fresh in many of our memories and the present cast lives up to that memory albeit with a few modern additions. From Dorothy, (Zura

Young) to Aunt Em (Marie Wedell) and Uncle Harry (Ed Collins) who are in the opening scene with Dorothy singing the signature song "Over the Rainbow". Then we move on to the tornado (imaginatively done) which carries Dorothy to the land of Oz and where we meet all those familiar characters, the Strawman (Andrew Gabel), the Tin Woodsman (Keoyh Barlow), the Cowardly Lion (John Stenger) and most importantly the Wizard himself (Robert Wood).

The Strawman's rubber legs and body movements rivals those of Ray Bolger and the Tin Woodsman is just as good as the movie version. The Cowardly Lion is as hilarious as Bert Lahr's rendition and the Wizard is properly impressive as well.

Then of course there are the Munchkins. Much credit must go to Susi Webb and Linda Bradshaw for the imaginative and intriguing costumes of all of them which furnished everyone with chuckles and admiration for making them into little people, amusing in their antics and choreography. The Munchkin City Father (Vanessa Butler) should be congratulated as well for the Lollipop Guild with Dallas McMurray and Gillian Stenger as featured dancers.

Frank Baum was a turn of the century writer, born in N.Y. and later active in the middle west. For most of his life he was a "Jack of all Trades", Raising fancy poultry, then producing a new form of axle grease and then a newspaper reporter, traveling salesman, crockery buyer in Chicago, as well as founding a National Association of Window Decoraters and finally editing and publishing "The Show Window", a trade magazine. He also dabbled in politics and supported William Jennings Bryan for President.

He also was a Theosophist for a time. After previous half hearted attempts at various books. He finally hit his literary stride with the publication in 1902 of "The Wonderful Wizard of Oz", illustrated, by John R. Neill. He had an instant success with this fanciful children's fairy tale. He had found his metier, doing what he liked best, writing for children and it rewarded him after a long string of sequels with a comfortable life style both in Chicago and later in Hollywood where he built "Ozcot" large comfortable house 1911.

He remembers, "I was sitting in the hall, telling the kids a story and suddenly this one moved right in and took possession. I shooed the children away and grabbed a piece of paper that was lying there and began to write. It really seemed to write itself. Then I couldn't find any regular paper so I took anything at all, even a bunch of old envelopes. It was pure inspiration. It came to me out of the blue. I had settled on

Wizard as part of the title and then my gaze fell on the drawers of my filing cabinet, the last one was labeled "OZ" and "OZ" it at once became!

After the great success of the long strings of Oz books he continued to write various books children's as well as adults but met with only modest success. But he was quoted as saying "to please a child is a sweet and lovely thing that warms ones heart brings its own reward.

Just as Lewis Carroll's "Alice in Wonderland" is considered to be a political commentary so has Baum's "Oz" books been given political interpretations. The Straw Man is said to represent an agriculture interest, the Tin Woodsman is industry and the Cowardly Lion represents William Jennings Bryan.

The Masquer's has achieved a hit with it's fall production and we look forward to a long and successful season. This reviewers out of town guest on opening night pronounced it "great theater" and I second that. Don't miss it!



Zura Young (2nd from right, as Dorothy) and her three friends John Stenger (left, Cowardly Lion), Andrew Gabel (center, Scarecrow), Keith W. Barlow (right, Tin Man) spy the Emerald City. Photo by Jerry Telfer.

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I WILL ALWAYS REMEMBER THE POINT AS HOME

By
Rena nee Cairo

Our "Kid's Day" was great and a real success and I'm looking forward to May of 1997!

It was a pleasure to see our group of 86-87 years young. They were from classes of 1921 to 1923, and included William Kollar, Dr. William Thompson and Chester Thompson. This group was already at Washington School at the time of the first World War and I'm sure they still remember it. That day has brought back these memories to me.

Posters were nailed on some of the buildings. The Huns are coming, Uncle Sam needs you. We were frightened and we didn't like to look at them. We bought war stamps which were sold on Fridays. They were 25 cents each and we were given a book that held 20 stamps. When that book was full we turned it in and received a \$5.00 War Stamp. A camp of soldiers was stationed between Prospect Street and Thomas, close by the Standard Oil Company. The kids would sit down on the sidewalk and watch them drill. Finally, Armistice Day came and people were cheering and crying. The Standard

Oil and Santa Fe's whistles were blown loud and clear all day long. Men from the Standard Oil made a dummy that resembled the Kaiser. It was roped to the rear of a street car and dragged on to Richmond. I'm sure it went on all the way to Oakland. There was so much celebrating, I remember later when some soldiers came home, I was with my parents at the Point Masonic Hall and I met a First World War bride and her soldier husband. That soldier and bride were Claude and Nellie Bisio's parents.

After the War came another bad experience, the dreadful Spanish influenza. We had to wear gauze masks to school. Some kids had little sacks of hard camphor tied with a string and they wore it around their necks. A lot of families lost some members. I remember when we saw Bert Curry's (the mortician) black cab, we would run home in



fright!

But, through all of this we had our happy times. Picnics and dancing at Kosy Kove park, swimming at Keller's Beach, skating in the tunnel, relay races, competing with Richmond Schools. Recitals by Carrie Elsworth and her dancing students at the old Opera House, dancing by Tony Massa's band also at the Opera House. Friday was band music by Mr. Hart's Band from Richmond. It was held at the "Pit". There were a few benches for the elderly and the kids would

sit down on the sidewalks. On Saturday night we would go to the show. We loved the comedies....Buster Keaton, Charlie Chaplin and Fatty Arbuckle. On our way to the show we would always stop at Kettelhut's Bakery and spend our nickel on two cup cakes or a cream puff.

I still have a lot more memories. I will always remember the Point as home. Hoping to see a lot of you "Kid's" again next May. For now I wish all of you well!



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A Few Memories

from
Al Frosini

I remember my first job at the tender age of 10. My brother Caesar had a newspaper delivery job for the "Call-Bulletin". He was around 12 years old. I would help him from time to time. I don't recall the year, but it was around the time of the Dempsey-Tunny fight. I learned early that if you hollered "Extra! Dempsey-Tunny fight!" you would sell out every paper you carried. At that time the newspaper cost 3¢ each and extras were 5¢ each, and by selling extras my brother received 2¢ and I got 1¢ and was happy to get it, after all my brother was the boss.

I remember my friend Paul Noverini and I bet each other that we couldn't come down Washington Avenue on a coaster with no brakes. I started from Crest Avenue, but there was a problem....Standard Oil employees were getting off about that time and I had to go through the Washington and Richmond intersection with a police officer directing traffic. Well I came flying through that intersection at about 30 miles an hour! Fortunately for me the cop stopped all traffic, and when he caught up with me I tried to convince him that I had no brakes and wouldn't do that anymore, and I didn't. Paul got to take his coaster and go home and I was invited to visit the old Point police station, but I did win the bet!

Mr. Smith's Meandering Point

by *Allan Smith*

I wish someone would take over "Sports Memories" and "Our Lady of Mercy" columns because I am now in a meandering stage.



I sure miss Dr. Thompson's articles printed in TPIT Newsletter. I wish he would continue his contributions. Also he has many mementos and artifacts of early Point Richmond that I wish he would let us exhibit at our museum temporarily.



What area in the Point was called Indian Circle? In my time we called it Sunset Pass as we were great readers of the author Zane Grey. This area is directly behind the old Gunnery Range adjacent to Miller-Knox Park. A family lived in the location where Mr. Bernardi once had his corral. A member of the family attended the Terrace School and would walk through the the Sunset Pass or Indian Circle to and from school. I think Dr. Thompson mentioned this location in one of his articles. I'd say it was used for transportation access before the tunnel was built.



The Village Launderette should change it's name. Point Richmond does not appear to be a village any longer. Just walk through town during the lunch hour.



Jimmy Forbes, native Point Richmondite, suggested we have a column entitled "Whatever Became Of???" Good idea, so I will start off with whatever became of Judy Forbes? The last I heard she was aboard a Russian ice-breaker in the Antarctic as their Medical Officer. Dr. Forbes is living in New Zealand.



Gary Shows, Editor, his work is never done, all volunteer. The final stage in putting out the TPIT Newsletter is when the assembly crew gets together to prepare for mailing. This is a very interesting time as more of Historical Point Richmond is discussed (no gossip though). For instance, when Mary Highfill saw the cover of the last issue the old Abbott building brought tears to her eyes. She lived there in one of the apartments after her marriage during World War Two. She mentioned that her son was involved in the operation of the first Naval Nuclear operated vessel. Very interesting....will get more on that later. A good part of the newsletter assembly operation is the hospitality offered by Jerry and Gary, refreshments and meeting that follows. The stapling of the Newsletter is good for a bad back....stand up job.



Joe and John Bailo lived in the Brickyard area above Devil's Hole. Their dad was a blacksmith for the brickyard. They also had a long walk to Washington School. A Richmond Creamery truck driver would give them a ride occasionally. One day, the truck was involved in an accident. Joe was seriously injured.



The local restaurants are doing a great business these days. I can't understand why Tekla's Place couldn't stay in business. Great homemade soup and Peet's Coffee. The Tewksbury area where it was located had some great eating places in olden times. For instance, Joe Matteucci's Roma Hotel.



Point Richmond school kids during the early part of World War Two did not receive fair educational treatment. Due to the heavy enrollment at Washington Elementary School, the students were put on double sessions and only went to school one-half day, less than four hours. On top of that, some of them were bussed to a school located in the then beautiful Terrace War Apartment area located where our sewage disposal plant, warehouses and business offices are now located on Canal Boulevard. Some of those students were Carole Garcia (Stanley), Johnny Schmidt, Dick Cunan and Rich Smith.



Mrs. Wilderson was principal of the new Washington School during World War Two. Once a week she would gather the entire student body and they would surround the original flag pole and would pledge allegiance and salute to the American flag. Classroom respect to the flag was done daily. In our 1930 daily salute to the American flag each morning, your right hand would cover your heart and when you said "I pledge allegiance to the flag" at the word "flag" your right hand would extend lengthwise and point to the flag. Who remembers that procedure?

WESTSIDE IMPROVEMENT CLUB

A Christmas fellowship will culminate the 1996 year for the women of the Westside Improvement Club as they enjoy a catered turkey luncheon on their regular meeting day, Tuesday, December 3, 1996 in the Fellowship Hall of the Point Methodist Church.

The service group sponsors a Many Hands class at Washington School and donated funds for the Ferry Point tunnel mural. NOTE: President Virginia Cherniak announced there will not be a January Meeting of the organization. Next meeting will be Tuesday, February 4th. Happy New Year!

Point Methodist Church History

-Mid Dornan

Church history is rich with contributions of women. One church group in the 1920's was the SOCIAL LEAGUE of the First Methodist Episcopal Church whose history is reflected in their minutes printed below and taken from the canvas covered, red leather cornered notebook which cost \$1.15. The minutes are printed as written. This is the 24th installment.

March 17, 1925

Social League met at the home of Mrs. A.D. Jones with Mrs. Jones and Mrs. Jenkins as hostesses. There were 27 members present and 2 visitors.

The meeting was opened by repeating the Lord's prayer led by Mrs. Burdick. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

It was moved and seconded and carried that Mrs. Dicely's resignation as president be accepted. It was moved, seconded and carried

that Mrs. Burdick's resignation as Vice President be accepted as it was impossible for Mrs. Dicely and Mrs. Burdick to continue in their respective offices at this time.

Mrs. Brothers was nominated and elected Vice-President. Mrs. Seymore was nominated and elected second vice president.

Mrs. Ford reported that Mrs. Clark, president of Club Mendelssohn, asked if we would be interested in serving the dinner to the County Federation meeting on April 8th. It was moved and seconded that we do not serve it.

The meeting was adjourned and an enjoyable program given. Mrs. Scofield gave two very clever original recitations and Mrs. Dillar played two beautiful selections on the Violin and Mrs. Mythen sang a vocal solo.

Delicious refreshments were served by the hostess.

The next meeting will be held April 7th at the home of Mrs. R.T. Osborn with Mrs. Osborn and Mrs. Owney as hostesses.

Mrs. Allison and Mrs. Jefferies were welcomed as new members.

	On hand	58.13
Mrs. Burdick dues	.60	
" Allison	.60	
" Brothers	.60	
" Holbrook	.60	
" Yillar	.60	
" Vloebergh	.60	
" Osbsorn	.60	
Use of silver	.60	
Mrs. Scofield	.60	
Mrs. Martin	.60	
Mrs. Owens	1.60	
Bazaar fund	1.00	
Silver offering	2.50	
	11.60	11.60

Total Amount on hand 69.73
Paid Mrs A.D. Jones sewing material 10.98
58.73

Irene Mythen, Sec

Sports Memories

by Allan Smith

Point Richmond was well represented on the gridiron (football field) by many excellent players such as Larry Slagle, who was the only lineman to catch a touchdown pass in a Rose Bowl game. Larry played for UCLA.

Andy Cakos, the McAfee brothers, Chip Cecchi, Jim Wilson, J.D. Vincent and Bryan Smith were a few of many Point Richmond high school and college players. David and Ray Giacomelli played college football, Dave with Oregon State and Ray with Washington State. Their Brother Mark also played college ball. David played at Salesian High School at the same time Bryan Smith played for St. Mary's High in Berkeley. So, when the two schools played an annual Point Richmond rivalry was held between the two friends.

AP Smith

WASHINGTON SCHOOL

One day in the early 1930's word was passed around Washington School that a big 'fist' fight between two sixth grade student would be held after school. A huge crowd gathered in a vacant lot across from the school. I had a ring side seat. To my dismay, one of the contestants was by brother Leonard. The other pugilist was the biggest kid in school who just arrived to the Point from Mexico. As the contestants prepared for the fight by stripping to the waist, Mrs. Victoria Peterson, the school principal arrived and stopped the proceedings which would have been equal to the Nelson-Wolgast Championship fight held in Point Richmond on February 22, 1910. Even though I knew Len could handle himself very well and was respected, I must have flown to Mrs. Peterson's office that day.

Did you know that Ralph Edwards, originator of the "This is Your Life" radio and TV program was Washington School playground director before his entry into show business?





400 NEVIN AVENUE
P. O. BOX 1267
R I C H M O N D
CALIFORNIA 94802

HISTORICAL MINIATURES

Beautifully crafted by the local, world-famous jewelry company *Wild Bryde*, the shiny brass or silver miniatures come in the following:

- East Brothers Lighthouse
 - Masquers Playhouse
 - Richmond Natatorium
 - Rosie the Riveter and the Red Oak Victory, the Shipyard years.
 - RUHS
- Price: \$20.00 including tax.



Museum Coverlet: Third order will arrive in time for holiday gift giving. The coverlet is 100% cotton, preshrunk, color fast and machine washable. It measures 50 x 70 inches and is fringed on all four sides. It is Williamsburg Blue with Natural. Pictured are 13 symbols of Richmond's history we all remember, including Richmond Union High School, the Ferry, Standard Oil Co., the Auto Ferry sign and the Kaiser Shipyards. It is really beautiful.

If you do not have a Museum Coverlet yet or need one to give as a gift (what a great gift!), order it now!! Price: \$51.41. All prices include tax.

Gift-giving season is near... Visit the RICHMOND MUSEUM OF HISTORY GIFT SHOP

THE CHINESE CONTRIBUTION

is the theme of the Richmond Museum Association's General Membership Meeting on Sunday, January 26, 1997. The event will include a speaker plus elections of Board members for 1997 and refreshments.

More information is coming or call 235-7387 in early January. Everyone is welcome.

The Game of Richmond

A "Wheeler-Dealer" game featuring the landmarks, the businesses and organizations of the City of Richmond as real estate. Price: \$20.00 including tax.

OTHER GIFT IDEAS

Tote bags and T-shirts with the famous train design, gold on black. Price: \$15.00 including tax.

Elegant wine glasses with black stems and the Museum logo in purple. Buy a set!

Price: \$3.50 each including tax.

WE ALSO HAVE GREAT GIFT BOOKS

GALLERY AND GIFT SHOP OPEN WEDNESDAY THRU SUNDAY,
1 TO 4 P.M. OR BY APPT. CALL 235-7387

Messiah

Messiah

Messiah

Come and Sing with Us!

Selections from Handel's Messiah will be performed
Sunday, December 15 at 7:00 pm with a chamber orchestra
Bring your score and sing along on the Hallelujah! chorus,
Joyful Noise Choir, Virginia Cherniak, director and Jean Eakle, accompanist

First United Methodist Church, Point Richmond
At the corner of West Richmond and Martina Streets

Don't the lights on our town holiday tree on the triangle look great this year! David Vincent engineered the installation of 10 new strands containing 500 bulbs. Getting the job done was a Richmond Public Works cherry picker operated by Wilber Gomez in the basket and Steve Huwitt on the ground. Also assisting in the project was Cathy Kittelson as she waited for her laundry to finish across the street and Jay and Marsha Ward provided a fine ladder. Thanks to you all, job well done!



Washington Avenue

This Point....in time

CARDS & LETTERS

Dear Pam Wilson:

I'm so appreciative to all the members who participate in making the newsletter so interesting. I read it from cover to cover as soon as it arrives. Many thanks to all.

Sincerely,
Helen Farres
Sacramento



Dear Mrs. Dornan:

I'm enclosing a list of names that I came across after my father, George Kelleghan, died. I don't know why he made this list, but my Mom said that they are names he remembers from his younger days, that he did not see at the 1st Kid's Reunion. Maybe the list will be of

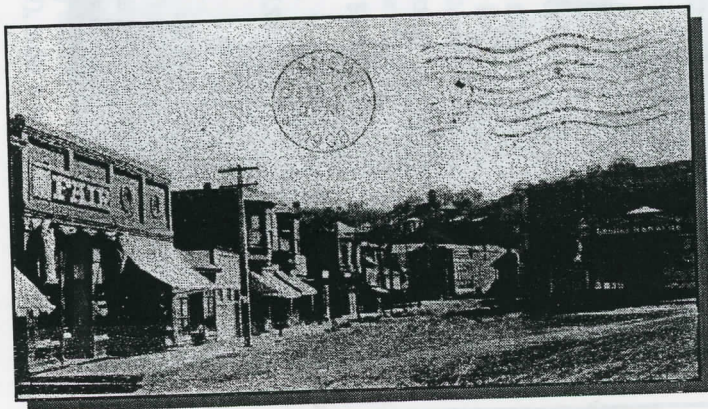
help to you in planning the next reunion.

I've also enclosed a copy of a postcard I purchased at a flea market of Point Richmond when it had dirt streets. You can see the mailing date was in 1908.

I read your article in the November "This Point," about elections passed. You mentioned your mother-in-law losing her citizenship when she married. That sentence sparked a forgotten memory from long ago. I overheard relatives say that my dad's mom, Annie Valencia lost her citizenship when she married her husband Peter Kelleghan in 1908. I'm going to have to talk to my 2 aunts soon and see what they remember about it.

Happy Holidays to you and good luck planning the next Kid's Reunion.

Diane Donahoe
San Ramon, CA



Postcard from Diane Donahoe

This Point....in time

Deaths....

FREDRICK W. HART, Jr. died on October 30, 1996 age 48 years. Born in Richmond, he lived in Atchison Village and attended Washington School. At Harry Ells High School Fred was chosen as one of 32 boys for the special Richmond Plan Tech Program, later graduating at the top of his class from Cogswell College in San Francisco. He served in the Navy and was currently employed at the Lawrence Livermore Lab as a Mechanical Engineer. Fred joined Boy Scout Troop 111, earned his Eagle Scout award, become an Assistant to his Scoutmaster Bob Dornan and assumed the Scoutmaster role on Bob's death. Fred loved camping, hiking and the out-of-doors and continued the famous Scout Troop 111 Pancake Breakfast, even for a few years after moving to Pleasanton. Fred is survived by his mother and step-father, Agnes and Jim Bethune, Fairfield; brother, Steve Hart; Sister Connie and former wife, Sookhi.

JOHN MARSHALL BANKS, died on November 4, 1996. Age 65. Raised in the Point and attended Washington School, John retired after 33 years with Chevron USA and was a member of Chevron Retirees Club, St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Sons in Retirement. He is survived by his wife, Peggy Banks of Richmond; daughter, Catherine Miller of Oregon; son, Michael Banks of Richmond; brother, Stephen Banks of Richmond and mother, Louisa Banks of Point Richmond.

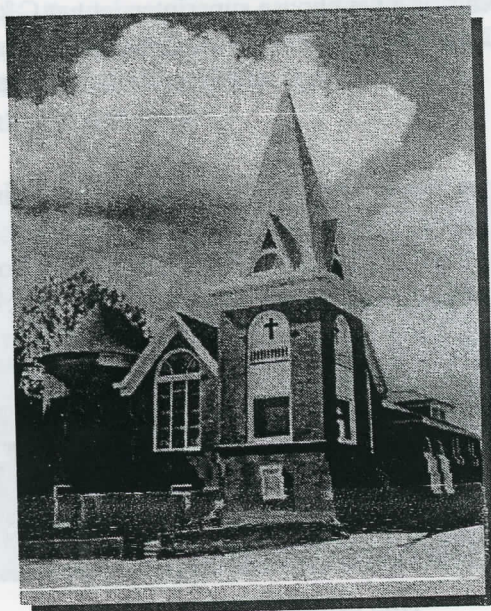
PATRICK PAUL PALKO SR. died on November 2, 1996 at his home in Napa. Age 87 years. Patrick retired after 43 years as a warehouse superintendent at C&H Sugar Refinery, Crockett and formerly lived c Crest Avenue in the Point. Preceded in death by his wife, Karin, he is survived by his sons, Patrick Palko Jr. of Napa and Peter Palko c Pleasant Hill, and four grandchildren.

VELMA SLAGLE, died on November 1, 1996 at her home in Point Richmond where she had lived for 47 years. Age 73. She was retired after 24 years from Rawson Drug and Sundry of San Leandro. She enjoyed the outdoors and served as a volunteer for Brookside Hospital. Preceded in death by her husband Lawrence, she is survived by her daughter, Reba Downs, of Colorado Springs, Colorado a son, Larry Slagle of El Sobrante; a brother Carlos Preston of Texas, and three grandchildren.

BONNIE H. TUCKER, died on October 30, 1996 in a San Pablo convalescent hospital, she was 90 years old. The Lockesburg, Ark., native was an eight-year resident of Point Richmond. She is survived by a daughter, Nancy T. Compton of Point Richmond; son, Bob Tucker of Missouri; four grandchildren; and two great grandchildren.

CLARA JONES, died on November 9, 1996 in a San Pablo convalescent hospital. She was retired after 10 years as a cook at Eagle Cafe in Point Richmond, she was 94. The Linn, m Kan., native was a 20 year resident of San Pablo and a former Point Richmond resident. She is survived by a nephew, Charles Wayne Long of Magalia.

WILLIAM "MICKEY" ALLYN, died on November 25, 1996 in his home in Richmond of cancer. Son of Gust Allyn he was known to Point Richmond residents as co-owner of Allyn's Mens Shop, from which he retired 11 years ago. He was a longtime volunteer on the city's police and planning commissions and a lifetime Richmond resident. During his working years and into retirement, he devoted much time to civic affairs. He got his nickname, "Mickey," because as a child he couldn't pronounce his middle name: Demetrios. It came out something like Mickey," his wife, Margaret, said. He is survived by his wife, Margaret Marie Prior Allyn; daughters, Carole Ann Erkkila of Pinole and Sandra Marie Simmons of Pleasant Hill; son James Michael Allyn, of Santa Cruz; brothers Nathaniel C. Allyn of Palo Alto and Hank C. Allyn Of Sonoma; four grandchildren and one great-grandson.



*First United Methodist Church
image taken from old card
donated by Treffery Ross.*

This Point....in time

December Birthdays

Jean Allyn
Seth Fenton
Hazel Paasch
Cris Creed
Edna Hathaway
Debbie Seaburg
Fern Eastman
Christine Hayes
Richard Barnes

Inez Pestana
Sherry Hartynyk
Marge Stone
Marian Hawkins
Inez Pestana
Teresa Albro
Mark Steven
Gerrie Kretzmer
Jeff Corbin

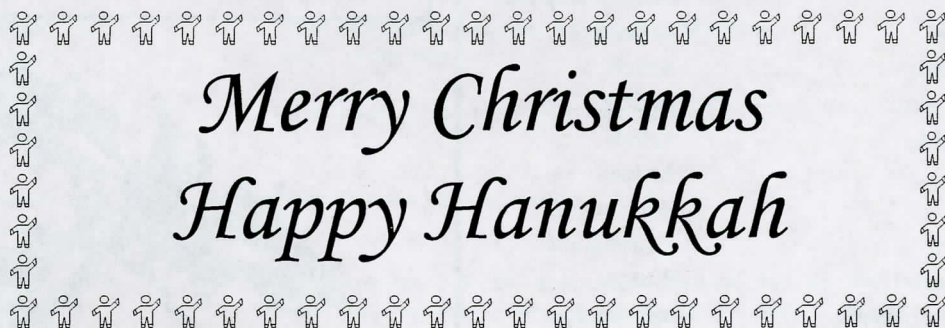
Marilyn Darling
Mike Turner
Eric Turner
Michael Cheshareck
Teresa Meneghelli
Tom McGowan
Lauren Nason
David Williams
Christina Nagatani

January Birthdays

Henry Allyn
Cindy Rosier
Sonja Darling
Joe Travis
Linda Marshall
Bryan Smith
Doug Greiner
Trefrey Ross
Ed Paasch

Jim Wilson
Lupe Morris
Betty Moore
Diana Kaffan
Mary Highfill
Elaine Harris
Ann Bartram
Louis Cuanan
John Cutler

Les Hathaway
Kristina Hollbrook
Marilu Fox
Tom Brennan
Jeff Quist
Robert McIntosh
Saryl Weinstein



I would like to join the P.R.H.A.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Type of membership (check one):

<input type="checkbox"/>	Single	\$18.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Senior (65+)	12.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Family	25.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	History Preserver	50.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Corporate Sponsor	75.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	History Maker	100.00

Membership in the Point Richmond History Association includes a one year subscription to "THIS POINT...in time" newsletter (six issues) and a special publication. Please make your check payable to the Point Richmond History Association and mail it to:

Pam Wilson
521 Western Drive
Point Richmond, CA 94801

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

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Rena nee Cairo	Article
Anne Hanzlik	Article
Al Frosini	Article
Tref Ross	Information
Henry Allyn	Information
Diane Donahoe	Picture
Sandi Genser-Maack	Information

Articles for each issue are due on or before the deadline printed in the calendar section.

Please mail articles and items of interest to:

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<http://www.hooked.net/~gshows/prha>



Calendar

December and January, 1996/97

December 6
Friday

Hanukkah begins at sundown on the 5th

December 11
Wednesday

Point Richmond Business Association Christmas Party
5 - 7 pm, Gates Building, 117 West Richmond Avenue

December 15
Sunday

San Pablo Historical Society Blume House reopens
Open House held at Blume House and Adobe, 12 noon

December 21
Saturday

Winter Solstice (shortest daylight of the year)

**December 23 thru
January 3**

Richmond school holidays

December 25
Wednesday

Christmas Day

December 31
Tuesday

Point Richmond Neighborhood Council Meeting
7:30pm, Point Community Center

January 1
Wednesday

New Years Day

January 2
Tuesday

Women's Westside Improvement Club Meeting,
11:30am, Point Richmond Methodist Church

January 10
Wednesday

Point Richmond Business Association Meeting
Noon, Hotel Mac

January 19
Friday

DEADLINE FOR THE FEBRUARY/MARCH ISSUE, TPIT

January 20
Saturday

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

January 26
Sunday

Point Richmond History Association Membership Meeting
Artist John Wherele, Guest, see inside front cover for details.