

THIS POINT.... in time

NEWSLETTER

The Point Richmond History Association

www.PointRichmondHistory.org

Vol. XXX No. 2

September/October, 2011

\$3.00



Moving Our Little Museum



THE RICHMOND SUPPLY COMPANY BUILDING

THIS BUILDING WAS BUILT IN 1903 AT 139 WEST RICHMOND AVENUE BY J.Q. BLACK WHO SUPPLIED THE AREA WITH COAL, WOOD, HAY, AND GRAIN. ROBERT DORNAN SR. BOUGHT THE BUILDING IN 1909 AND ADDED THE SERVICE OF MOVING HOUSEHOLD GOODS.

IN 1911 HE BOUGHT A TRUCK AND BEGAN THE RICHMOND SUPPLY CO., THE OLDEST CONTINUING FAMILY BUSINESS IN RICHMOND. LATER HIS WIFE, TRANNIE FREEMAN, BECAME PART OF THE BUSINESS AND AFTER W.W. II HIS SON, ROBERT DORNAN JR., JOINED THEM. THE BUILDING WAS SOLD IN 1947 WHEN THE BUSINESS MOVED INTO 145 WEST RICHMOND AVENUE. THE BUSINESS CONTINUED UNTIL 1987.

IN MAY 1990, THE BUILDING WAS SAVED FROM DESTRUCTION BY COMMUNITY ACTION. IT WAS MOVED TO ITS PRESENT LOCATION 139½ WASHINGTON AVENUE TO SERVE AS AN INFORMATION CENTER FOR THE POINT RICHMOND HISTORY ASSOCIATION.

POINT RICHMOND HISTORY ASSOCIATION PROJECT

Brass plaque on our little museum

From the President

By Mid Dornan

A Point Richmond historic icon ended up in a sink hole early Saturday morning, July 16, 2011. After a water break of a 69 year old cast iron water pipe, our beloved Wig Wags on West Richmond Avenue sunk. A historic plaque is being refined to commemorate the Wig Wags that are now stored in the BNSF yard. Victor Morales, the chair of Wig Wag Restoration Committee, is working out the legal paperwork of identifying agencies and companies responsible in hopes the Wig Wags will be operational by the end of summer.

It isn't just by chance Point Richmond is a unique community listed on the National Register of Historic Places. We value the importance and significance of historic preservation and evidence of this surrounds our charming downtown.

Watch for a new Welcome to Historic Point Richmond sign on a planter by the Mechanics Bank at the end of Cutting.

Thanks to everyone who contributes in different ways to keep the Point inviting.



On July 16th our wig wag almost sunk! Photo by Gary Shows

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Thank you members for your renewal:

Burlington Willes**

Joann Gatten

Virginia Smith

Evan & Lydia Jahromi Family

Doug Daniels

Donna Hood

Mary Fregulia

Edwina Murray

Linda Andrew-Marshall

Velma Healy

Ilamay Dein

Henry & Eva Marchitiello Family

Tim & Roberta Montgomery Family

Dody Perry

Les Hathaway

Patrice Verhines Family

Linda Newton

Malcolm P. Bury

Martha Bielawski

Erica Goode

*Gift Membership

**Special Member, *Thank You!*

A warm welcome to new members:

Mary Marshall

Jack Shoemaker

Thank You!

Santa Fe Market

and

Point Richmond Market

For selling

“THIS POINT.....in time”

For us

Museum Hours:

Wednesday 4:30 pm - 7:00 pm

Thursday 11:30 - 2:00 pm

***Thanks to the Volunteers who open and
close our museum two days each week***

Betty Dornan

Ann Bartram

Pat Pearson

Mid Dornan

Bonnie Jo Cullison

Susan Brooks

Sonja Darling

Margaret Morkowski

Dee Rosier

The Cover:

We needed a new photo of the Point Richmond History Association building for this TPIT cover, but the highly reflective windows showed surrounding trucks and buildings in all prospective shots. First thing in the morning Theresa de Valence tried again with the lights on inside, only to be foiled by the early sun's reflection. Undaunted, she arose the next morning at 5:30 a.m., but this time the excess light problem came from the light over the PRHA door! Following a rumor, she banged on the firehouse door and a very nice fireman came out, but there was no switch for just the light over the door. The enterprising fireman climbed on a chair (which was retrieved from inside PRHA) and unscrewed the bulb. Theresa had to ask the nice man to wait 'til the photo shoot was over because she's not tall enough to screw the light back in. Sadly, due to the time of day, the resulting pictures were not sharp enough. In Photoshop, the ever-resourceful Thomas Mercer-Hursh clipped the window from Theresa's early morning shot and pasted it into an overcast morning's bright shot of the PRHA exterior. Voilà! And so our cover was born.

Editor's Notes

Gary Shows (510-235-1336)

I will join the chorus.....summer has just flown by! I am convinced that time goes by faster as you age

I am transferring some old VHS tapes to DVD and came across the one documenting the move of our little museum. I did a few video captures and was surprised at how well they looked. I thought it might be fun to show them to TPIT readers so I emailed them to Thomas Mercer-Hursh I was even more amazed at how good the pictures were, especially considering their source. They are in this issue and as soon as I have time to figure out how, I will put the video on the PRHA website. And when I learn how to do that I will also post our video of the 1910 Nelson vs. Wolgast championship fight that took place here in Point Richmond. It was probably the biggest event ever held in Point Richmond.

My usual thanks to our dependable contributors, you all do a great job.

Thanks for stapling, folding and mailing the last issue:

Mid Dornan
Margaret Morkowski
Sonja Darling
Pat Pearson
George Coles
Randy Bailly
Pam Wilson
Jerry Cerkanowicz

The deadline for articles and items for the next issue is October 28 2011.

Thank You! Our Special Supporters!

History Makers

Doug & Rosemary Corbin
Kathe Kiehn
Transcept Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
Christopher Spencer
Diane & Gordon Hirano
John A. Thiella & Rosa T. Casazza
Umesh & Debra Kurpad

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Royce Ong
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Sandi Genser-Maack & Lynn Maack
John & Nancy Mengshol
Donna Wilson
Linda Andrew-Marshall
Margaret Morkowski
Patricia Dornan
Bob & Ellie Strauss
Norm Hantzsche
Maurice & Margaret Doherty
Michelle Healy
Paul and Zoe Egger-Mukavtz
Spiro Cakos
Jim & Olivia Jacobs
Burlington Willes

A-Mid Trivia

Mid Dornan (510-234-5334)

Q: What is the largest bill put in circulation by the U.S. Mint?

ANSWER at end of Trivia

Where were you on that fateful day ten years ago when you heard that planes had hit the World Trade Centers and you heard that Flight 93 headed for San Francisco had crashed into a field? How has 9/11 changed your life?

Remember when September 9th was a holiday celebrating California's statehood and schools often began after this date? Summer vacation was always part of June, and all of July and August!

Happiness is getting another five years on your Driver's License.

HOTEL MAC is celebrating its 100th birthday this year. Owners Griff Brazil and Bill Burnett rescued the hotel after a fire destroyed almost everything in 1978. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, its customers are loyal. The Hotel is celebrating its centennial with restaurant specials priced at \$19.11 through the end of the year.

Bruce and Sandra Beyaert of the Trails for Richmond Action Committee, TRAC, recently led the walk along the new 3.5-mile Landfill Loop section of the Bay Trail which takes in more than panoramic bay views.

Kenny's older sister said she discovered a wonderful way to eliminate wrinkles. "When you look in the mirror, take off your glasses."

If you are old enough to remember the Burma Shave signs, you'll be happy to know they have popped up again on River Road on the way to the Russian River Resorts in Guerneville.

♦ **DON'T STICK YOUR ELBOW OUT TOO FAR**

♦ **IT MIGHT GO HOME IN ANOTHER CAR**

♦ **Burma Shave**

♦ **IF THESE SIGNS BLUR AND BOUNCE AROUND**

♦ **YOU'D BETTER PARK AND WALK TO TOWN.**

♦ **Burma Shave**

Bicycle activists can now pedal across the Golden Gate Bridge and keep peace between pedestrians and cyclists. Striping splits the east sidewalk into one lane for pedestrians and one for cyclists with no speed limit. The Golden Gate Bridge will celebrate 75 years next May 27th.

Ann Bartram and her daughter Suzanne Wilson spent the day visiting Mid Dornan at her cabin on the Russian River.

How long has it been since you went to a County or State Fair? Remember the faces of the proud 4H kids in their crisp white and green uniforms as they showed their beloved animals or how you felt after all the carnival rides or after eating all the unhealthy food because that is the only kind sold at fairs or buying that kitchen gadget the demonstrator made you feel you couldn't live without.

We all know dandelions are weeds but really, who hasn't wished on a dandelion full of balls of fuzzy seeds?

The depression of being 90 was overcome when so many family and friends surprised me

(love surprises) at parties without end! Friends and relatives came from Australia, England, Hawaii, New York, Mississippi, Wyoming, Oregon and all parts of California. After partying at the Methodist Church on Saturday, Russian River OFRC friends on Sunday awaited on the cabin deck for a second surprise party only to have still another celebration with another cake in the park center on the actual day. THANK ALL OF YOU! And, I have a rock that says it is Older than I am. Tee hee!

The Blue Shield Health Notice of Availability of Language Assistance Services to accompany Vital documents is issued in 14 different languages.

Grandchildren don't make a man feel old. It's the knowledge that he's married to a grandmother.

More than 40% of people who did not volunteer their time in the past 12 months reported being lonely.

PERSONALS: Bachelor with 40 acres of excellent land would like to make acquaintance of lady with tractor; matrimony in mind. Please send picture of tractor. Box 25476

TRIVIA ANSWER: The U.S. Secretary of Treasury announced the U.S. mint will finally print the \$100,000 bill for circulation. The ober rich still needs to have cash they can actually use. The original bill was to have President Woodrow Wilson featured.



Here's Mid enjoying her 90th birthday party.

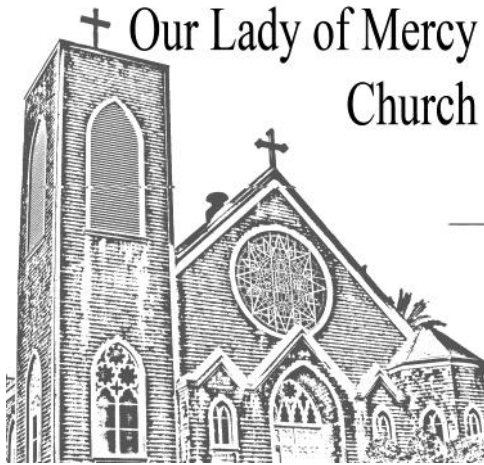
Photo by Gary Shows



Coca-Cola was originally green

From Ellen Schaefer

Church News



By Dee Rosier

510-232-1387

drosier@sbcglobal.net

How quickly the time passes when on a summer hiatus – summer failed to show, so it's back to writing.

As computers go, the one used in the office has run out of space and replaced – aging computers are well known for this.

Tom Sindicich has taken on the task of repairing the Station of the Cross which was damaged after a fall. If successful, and we do hope so, it will then only need to be painted. A complete listing of church repairs is available on the table in back of the church.

Our church has experienced many upgrades during Father O'Rourke's tenure. Bearing her age, the old girl requires a lot of upkeep, always keeping in mind the unexpected. Speaking of Father's time spent with us – when originally asked if he was interested in being in Pt. Richmond, he replied negatively. Sure glad that he had a change of heart.

Remember that information regarding the church, i.e., baptisms, wedding, funerals, etc., can be found on the webpage – Pt. Richmond Catholic. The Sunday bulletin as well as Father's homilies can also be found on the site.

Always looking for an opportunity to celebrate, a BBQ was held on the 4th of July and will be repeated on Labor Day. It is a great opportunity to further acquaint yourself with other parishioners, as well as enjoy the food. The BBQ's are always a potluck and you will find Father in charge of the grill.

An online social network in has been established by the Bishops of California in Sacramento. They publish interesting articles in areas of social justice and other informative articles. By signing up, you will receive weekly newsletters via the internet.

Back to the 4th of July, Father chose this time to visit family in Santa Barbara. He set out after Sunday Mass and after traveling three hours to Gilroy (bumper-to-bumper), he decided to return to the Point. Later in the month he attempted the drive again and achieved his destination. While in Santa Barbara he celebrated his birthday. The parish gifted him with a prepaid swim card to the Plunge. As well as celebrating a birthday, he also celebrated the 49th year of his ordination. He also spent two weeks in France.

He has made the decision to concentrate mainly on the needs of our present parishioners and limit requests from outside of the parish.

During Father's trip to France, Father Ken Hamilton, a Pt. Richmond resident, officiated at Sunday Mass. The following Sunday, Father Ray Breton was here. Father Breton sat at our pancake breakfast table and entertained us with tales of his years as a Navy Chaplain. Appropriately seated at the same table was Tom Boone who also served in the Navy. The conversation between them was indeed enjoyable.

Pancake breakfasts continue to be a big draw with healthy amounts of food. If you have not yet attended, better do it soon – the last will be held in October.

The Parish Council continues to hold meetings without a Secretary. At the September meeting, a replacement will be appointed, as well as additional council members. If you are interested in serving on the council, please contact Father.

A fundraiser will be held sometime this fall. Parishioner, Jerry D'Aleo who owns Trattoria La Sciliana in Berkeley has offered to prepare dinner. The date has yet to be announced. Assets will be used to upgrade countertops in the parish hall.

Condolences to the family of Lupe Morris.

Bill Guitterez spent time on crutches after a fall, but is almost fully recovered.

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Sean Diaz, a recent graduate of St. David's and recipient of a scholarship to Salesian High School

Linda and Robert Drake on the anniversary of their 40th wedding anniversary on July 4. They also welcomed the birth of a new granddaughter.

Betty Sindicich on her 88th birthday.

We applaud Al Frosini, seen dancing with his daughter on Park Place during the Friday night music programs.

Tom Boone, a member of the Galileo Club, recently hosted a table for several parishioners at the family night ravioli dinner. Several also attended the annual Saturday movie night potluck on Scenic Avenue.

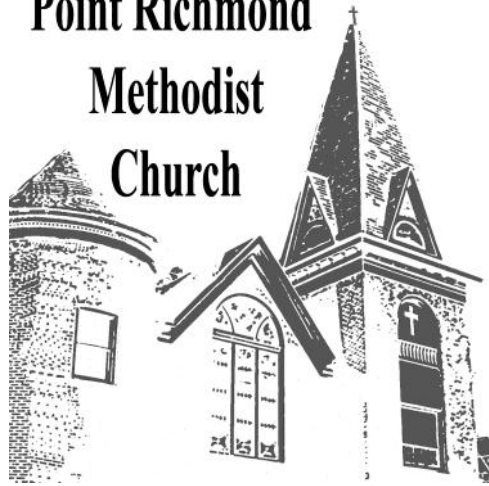
The Knee and Rosier families enjoyed dinner with the Kearney family visiting here from Ireland.

Continue to remember in your prayers: Al Frosini, John Gerk, Vince Kafka, Bill Smith, Frankie Mello and Dody Perry. We were delighted to see John Gerk and his daughters attending Sunday Mass.

A SMILE IS A LIGHT ON
YOUR FACE THAT LETS
PEOPLE KNOW YOUR
HEART IS HOME

SEE YOU IN CHURCH

Point Richmond Methodist Church



By Jean Reynolds

510-235-2988

jeanormr@pacbell.net

Vacation Bible School this summer found us "Fanning Our Creative Spirit." We are all creative agents in the world and can use our creativity to make a positive difference! This year we had ten students aged two to seven. By the time the week was over, five children helped Bethany lead songs: they knew all of the words and motions. Jean Womack guided everyone through making imaginary animals from recycled goods, making hand-made paper, greeting card collages, and drawing. We heard some Bible stories and saw Sarah, Sydney and Bethany act them out. Norm and David Reynolds cooked lunch on the last day. Our enthusiastic staff and supporters included Bethany Reynolds, Sarah Thompson, Bill Thompson, Sydney Nakamura, Jean Womack, Jamela Smith-Folds, Myrna Martin, Shirley Butt, Dan Damon, David Reynolds, Norm Reynolds, Terri Fewins-Pittman, Linda Andrew-Marshall, Helen Wysham, and Jean Reynolds.

The California Nevada Annual Conference in Sacramento in June saw Pastor Dan appointed to his seventeenth appointment year at our church: in

the United Methodist Church, appointments are for one year at a time, so it is notable that he has remained in Richmond since arriving in July 1995! We celebrate!

Church Historian and faithful member Mid Dornan celebrated her ninetieth birthday at the church on July 16. Friends and family gathered from here and abroad to honor her. It was “standing room only” in Friendship Hall. Several dresses she wore through the years were displayed in the sanctuary. Each included a paragraph about when or where she wore it. Mid has worked diligently to make sure our church contributes in a positive way to Pt. Richmond and beyond. She has been the face of the church in the community during times when pastors came and went like borrowed books.

The United Methodist Women had a planning retreat at the Russian River on August 13. Mid made her signature watermelon chiffon pie and warned us it was the last time she would make it. We hope as the year goes by, she forgets how much work it is. The women purchased new chairs for Friendship Hall this summer: they are much more comfortable than the long-serving metal folding chairs. The women also continue their promise to serve a dinner quarterly at the GRIP shelter. Each time we serve dinner, the process gets easier.

Richmond Farm 2 Table will be distributing boxes of locally grown fruits and vegetables twice a month from the church office – the second and fourth Thursdays of the month. The cost of two boxes a month is \$50. One box is \$25. People who subscribe help fund a box of produce for a family in need. We are excited to be able to support this program that can help all of us eat more healthily. Contact Farm 2 Table by phone (510) 234-1200 or online www.richmondcf.org.

Pastor Dan and Eileen Johnson visited Colorado Springs in July to attend the Hymn Society Conference. Dan presented his newest collection of hymns, published just before he left. While Dan was away, Jean Reynolds preached for the service July 17, and Doreen Leighton preached July 24. Sarah Thompson led the service July 17.

She and Alice Thompson sang one of Dan’s new hymns for the special music that day. On July 31, we welcomed Eileen Johnson as a member of our congregation. Eileen is employed at El Sobrante United Methodist Church as Minister of Music; she has served at First UMC in many ways even though she worships at El Sobrante UMC. We already claimed her as one of our own, but it was wonderful to publicly proclaim the connection!

Pastor Dan flew to Washington D.C. in August to attend a rally on behalf of residents of Ashraf City in Iraq. The purpose of the rally is to ask that the State Department remove persons in the MEK (People’s Mujahedin of Iran) from the USA’s terrorist list. This would allow people trapped in Ashraf City to relocate to European countries. They would be welcome if not for the stigma of having terrorist status. Although the USA government promised to protect Ashraf residents, we relinquished control of Ashraf to Iraq. Iraqi security forces attacked the people of Ashraf more than once: some were killed and others injured. All who remain are in peril.

The Trustees continued to care for the church over the summer. Jonathan Swett made the cracked ceiling over the choir loft whole again! Bill Thompson, Jonathan Swett, Don Wieber, and Lorraine Parmer installed a Hearing Loop system in August. Now, anyone with a T-coil equipped hearing aid can hear directly what is broadcast through the P.A. system. If someone doesn’t have a compatible hearing aid, we have some headsets that work the same way. Kim Butt won a grant last year from the Gateway Foundation to buy the Hearing Loop Transmitter. Funds given in memory of Lloyd and Melba Farley paid the rest of the cost.

On the Calendar:

Sunday School for all ages resumes Sunday, September 11 at 10:00 a.m. **Breakfast at 9:30** will give students and their families a chance to meet and visit after the summer. Everyone is invited to join the feast and the fun! Call Jean Reynolds

(510) 235-2988 with questions or to reserve a space.

Angel Choir resumes Saturday, September 10. Youth who like to sing meet at the church Saturday mornings from **10:00 to 10:45**. Many of the songs are choreographed to help convey the message. The Angel Choir usually sings one Sunday a month, and may perform a concert in the spring. Pastor Dan and Christine Silva-Netto direct.

Joyful Noise Choir resumes rehearsal on Wednesday, September 7, 7:30 p.m. New members are always welcome. The choir sings most Sundays at the 11:00 a.m. service.

ART Silent Auction and Party! September 17, 4 to 7:00 p.m., Point San Pablo Yacht Club at 700 Cutting Blvd. **Cost:** One ticket, \$10, two tickets, \$15. Live music and light refreshments guarantee an evening of fun. Call Deby McFadyen (510) 235-0165 to reserve a space, donate art items, or for more information.

Persian Dinner and Program, September 25, 4:00 p.m., Dinner at 5:30 p.m. Hear about the August 26 Ashraf City March, Washington D.C., attended by Pastor Dan, Ensieh, Parvis, and Ali. Learn more about the people in Ashraf City and consider ways to help them.

Saturday, October 8, 9:00 a.m., The 25th Annual **GRIP Harmony Walk to End Hunger** presented by Chevron: Homelessness and hunger are still a serious problem for families in Richmond, and the numbers served by GRIP (Greater Richmond Interfaith Program) continue to grow in these economic times. Call the GRIP office (510) 233-2141 if you can help as a donor or volunteer. There are plenty of ways to contribute even if you are not a walker. GRIP runs programs like the **Family Shelter** and the **Souper Center**. These agencies help people every day of the year in Richmond who are hungry and homeless. Businesses can sponsor the walk; their business logo will be featured on the event shirts.

Visit our church website at: <http://www.pointrichmond.com/methodist> to see the current calendar listings

POINT METHODIST CHURCH HISTORY

Mid Dornan

Church history is rich with contributions of women. One church group in the 1920s was the SOCIAL LEAGUE of the First Methodist Episcopal Church whose history is reflected in their minutes printed below and taken from the canvass covered, red leather cornered notebook which cost \$1.15.

The minutes are printed as written,

AUG, 20, 1929

The meeting of the Social League was called to order by the President, Mrs. C.B. Jones. Mrs. Bliss Brothers & Mrs. E. L. Scofield were hostesses for the afternoon. The meeting was opened by repeating the Lord's prayer unison. The minutes of the last regular meeting were read and approved. At the roll call twelve members responded.

The newly elected officers were as follows.

Mrs. Daisy Jenkins - President

Mrs. J.J. Meese - 1st Vice President.

Mrs. Edith Oehne - 2nd Vice President

Mrs. Helen Burdick - Secretary

Mrs. Elizabeth Jenkins - Treasurer

Plans for a covered dish Luncheon to be held on our next League Day, Sept. 3rd. Mrs. Scofield was made solicitor for the luncheon with Mrs. Daisy Jenkins the newly elected president, as general manager.

Old Balance	20.66
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Tea	<u>16.00</u>
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Total	36.66
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Paid our during summer vacation-

M.E. Church (/Aug)	10.00
--------------------	-------

Laundry	1.65
---------	------

Cleaning curtains	<u>2.00</u>
-------------------	-------------

	13.65
--	-------

Old balance	36.66
-------------	-------

Total paid out	<u>13.65</u>
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	23.01
--	-------

Aug Plate collection	<u>1.30</u>
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Total	24.31
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Mrs. Prince, Sec'y Protem

(Audited Aug 20, 1929 and found to be correct.

Mrs. E.R. Scofield

WWIC, Est. 1908

Jane Vandenburg

News from the Women's Westside Improvement Club

During the spring of 2011 and under the direction of our president, Connie Lompa, we began an on-going discussion of the mission and aims of our organization. Several members voiced the opinion that we should have a service component, that the “improvement” in our name, should indicate our dedication to help improve the lives and well-being of not only those in the smaller, perhaps insular world of The Point, but of the City of Richmond as a whole.

Toward that aim, Connie invited speakers from several service organizations to make presentations to the group. In February, Nathan Trivers, owner of the Up & Under Rugby Pub, came to ask for our participation in A Simple Gesture, a food-collection program begun by his parents in Paradise, a suburb of Chico. Nathan pointed out that 20 percent of Richmond residents live at or below the poverty line, so one of five risks going to bed hungry. His proposal: The Cool Green Bag, which as Nathan says, could be latched onto by a tight-knit community such as ours and really grow. Stop in at the Pub and offer your help if you’re interested.

Also visiting this spring were Deb Dyer, head of the National Institute of Art and Disabilities’ Art Center on 23rd Street in Richmond. Begun by a UC prof and his wife in 1982, NIAD provides a place for adults to come to spend the day in creative endeavor. As she points out, Outsider Art – that made by those by those with physical and mental “handicaps” – is now heavily collected, with shows in our major cities and the American Vi-

sionary Art Museum in Baltimore dedicated to this work.

We also hosted a talk by Yvonne Nair, founding president and CEO of Saffron Strands, an organization dedicated to the visionary goal of helping the homeless of our community find gainful employment without reliance on ever-vanishing government aid. This non-profit has since its inception in 2008 established a record of helping with the homeless on a one-on-one basis with goals that include personal wellness and self care and jobs training. They are specialists in seeing the problem holistically so support offered includes coaching on social skills, as part of the longitudinal case management that allows these folks, once viewed as outcasts, to be welcomed back as productive members of our community. Saffron Stands is located at 124A Washington Avenue. More information can be found at saffronthreads.org

In May we elected new officers: the amazing and dynamic Connie Lompa will continue as president. Joining her and Sonja Darling, as treasurer, will be Marion Kent, as vice president, and Diane Hirara, as secretary. Norma Wallace with take over for me as TPIT correspondent.

In June we celebrated Hat Day, a tradition begun by our long-time president Anita Christiansen, whom we lost last June and dearly miss. We raised a cup of Starbucks coffee to her memory and to that of Anna Schwartz, who died this spring at age 97.



Out and About Town

Margaret Morkowski (510) 234-4219

Wow summer never seemed to get here and now it's gone because the kids are back in school.



This school year is going to be BIG at Washington School. They will be celebrating the **Washington School Centennial** in 2012. The **Point Richmond History Association** and the **Many Hands Project** will be working with the school to make the year long celebration a great success. The plan is to have a huge display in the School Lobby. We would like the display to include individual "before-and-after" pictures of Washington School's alumnae with a half-page write-up describing what each alumnus has been doing since they graduated from High School. Also, if you have informal pictures of school activities over the years, copies of those pictures would be great to post too. We can scan your original pictures, return them to you and then use copies for the display. We'd like to change parts of the display every couple of weeks so we need lots of items that will inspire Washington School's students and families. We also plan to honor prior year PTA members and invite the entire community to an old fashion "Founders Day." If you can help us with any of these items, have any questions or suggestions please give me a call at 234-4219. It is all very exciting.



The **Point Richmond Business Association** and the **PTA** joined efforts in August for the **2nd Annual Picnic in the Park** grand event to raise funds for various PTA projects at Washington School. Special thanks go to Nate Trivers of the **Up-and Under Pub** and the **PTA's Dad's Club** for their efforts which ensured the Picnic was well organized and a lot of Fun. The **Point Richmond Neighborhood Council** made arrangements for the use of the Park and the PTA families provided cakes for the cake walk and staff for all the games

and fun stuff including the dunk-tank. If you would like more information on this great annual event or other PTA activities you may call Becky Jonas at 235-0157.



We still have a few more weeks to enjoy the **Point Richmond Farmers' Market**. Come, gather your items, enjoy the pastries and listen to the music every Wednesday through October 12, 2011. **The Point Richmond Farmers' Market is located on Park Place every Wednesday from 4 pm - 8 pm.** The certified farmers' market is sponsored by the Point Richmond Business Association and is managed by the Pacific Coast Farmers' Market Association. Please call Marge Cellucci at 237-0101 for more information.



The **Point Richmond Summer Concert Series** will have one more concert this summer. It will take place on **Friday night, September 23rd** from **5:30 pm – 8:00 pm** on Park Place. A special "thanks and congratulations" go to **The Point is Music** for organizing this amazing music series every summer. Attendees as well as the musicians, come from the entire bay area and beyond. This is truly an asset to the entire Richmond Community. Please call Andrew Butt at 236-7435 for more information.



Point Richmond's Historic **Our Lady of Mercy Church** will be hosting two more monthly **Pancake Breakfast** fund raisers this year. If you enjoy pancakes, eggs, sausages, bacon, fruit, coffee, tea and juice stop by the Church Hall on the third Sunday of the month. The dates will be **Sundays, September 18th and October 16th**. The donation is \$8.00 and we serve breakfast from **8:30am to 12 Noon**. The food is great and we always have a lot of fun. Mark your calendars for these two Sundays

then come and join us. We thank Susan Brooks and her faithful group for organizing these fun events. Please call 232-1843 for more information.



The **Richmond Swims** teams had a great summer. The kids **Richmond Sailfish** team enjoyed their practices at the **Richmond Plunge** and did really well at their first series of “meets” in Napa and El Cerrito. You only have to be 5 years old to join ... there’s not a lot of competition but they sure do have fun. Coach John and Assistant Coach Benicia always make it a lot of fun but everyone knows when it’s time to focus. With the fall program just starting up, it’s a great time to join. By the way, if you are a “kid at heart,” **Richmond Swims, Inc.** has a Masters program too. The Masters are sponsoring an **Open Water Swim at Keller Beach** as a fund raiser for the **Sailfish** program on **Sunday, September 25, 2011**. For more details on the programs for both groups, check out the Richmond Swims, Inc. web page at RichmondSwims.org or call 356-8801.



The **Many Hands Project** will be having their **Annual Fundraiser on Tuesday October 18th**. If you’d like to meet the teachers from **Washington School** and have a lot of fun, please call Margaret Morkowski at 234-4219.



Don’t forget **The Point Richmond Neighborhood Council (PRNC)** meets the last Wednesday of every month at from **7:30PM to 9:00PM** in the Community Center. Various issues or standing agenda items usually updated at the PRNC meetings include the Police Repot, Safety Committee, Land Use/Design Review Committee, Emergency Preparedness, Veolia Waste Treatment Plant, Formula Restaurant Ordinance Committee, TRAC, PRBA, WWIC, Landscape Advisory, Richmond Tennis, PRHA and the Red Oak Victory Ship. For more information please call their Membership Chair Sue Rosenof at 599-1197.



The **Knit-and-Such** group meet on the first Wednesday of every month in the Point Richmond Community Center from **12:30PM until 2:30PM**. Altha Humphrey, who is very active in our Point Richmond neighborhood, leads a gathering of us who knit, crochet, craft and/or who just like getting together. Please call Altha at 232-2934 for more details.



The **Arts of Point Richmond** meets on the third Tuesday of the month at the Point Richmond Community Center from **7:00 pm to 9:00 pm**. They gather to hear from local artists, enjoy an art exhibit, to hear from a writer or presentations from others associated with or of interest to those who love art. Please call Linda Drake at 672-0793 for more information.



Do you have some suggestions for additional programs at the **Point Richmond Community Center**? If so please call Cheryline Babb with the Recreation Department at 620-6814 or you may leave a message at the Center at **233-6881**.



Remember, for an update on what’s new, call the **Point Richmond/West Side Branch Library** at **620-6567**.



Search **PointRichmond.com** for more up-to-date information on “What’s Out and About” in Point Richmond.



Point Richmond Gets Its Own History Museum

Gary Shows

1990 was a big year for the PRHA. Ramon Zambrano was ready to build his new three story multipurpose building at 139 West Richmond Avenue. But there was a building in the way that had to be torn down first. That building was most recently Hazel Carr's real estate office. It was a little building, would be easy to knock down and haul away, but hey, it was also the oldest commercial building in Richmond. I can't remember whose bright idea it was to save it by moving it to City of Richmond property. Was it Mid Dornan, whose family originally owned the building or was it community activist David Vincent who pretty much caused the move to come about, or was it Point Richmond History Association president Jerry Cerkowicz, or was it Tom Butt our preservationist extraordinaire or or was it some other forward thinking Point Richmonder? In any case, one day the whole idea was about to be just that, an idea because Mr. Zambrano had said that we could have the building but it had to be moved tomorrow as he had no choice but to start his project right away.

Events then happened quickly. We were lucky to have a volunteer by the name of Zenny who had moved buildings (real big buildings) in his native Czechoslovakia. Santa Fe railway was contacted and they enthusiastically offered to help (can you

imagine such a thing happening today?). They brought a giant fork lift and a crew to move the lucky little building away from a sad fate. They even handed out Santa Fe caps saying that Santa Fe needed some good publicity. Zenny, Mr. Zambrano and the Santa Fe crew did it! That was an exciting day, Jerry took videos of the actual move, captures from those videos are the subject of Thomas Mercer-Hursh's gallery on the next page.

Then after the building was successfully moved in one piece, the fun really started. Jerry remembers being called forth by then City Councilman McMillan and scolded for moving this thing onto city property without city permission. It was demanded that we put a fence around it immediately and obtain hazard insurance, which we did. Amazingly wonderful stuff kept happening. Martin McNair built a new foundation, and secured the building to it after Chevron (I told you it was amazing) donated a huge crane to lift the building up and onto its new foundation. Wonderful volunteers stripped, cleaned, sheet rocked and painted. Sonny Jackson donated a great new roof.

You can find a really good foam core mounted display of pictures of the after move work in the museum itself. It is worth the time to look at it, ask the volunteer to show it to you!



Just Before



Right After

Thomas Mercer-Hursh Enhanced Photos



Future home of the little museum



Mid Dornan watches Walter



Santa Fe Railroad brings in its big forklift



Santa Fe Railroad employee

Video captures by Gary Shows, video by Jerry Cerkowicz



Mr. Connolly remove old roof



Reinforced and ready to move



Mr. Connolly help with move logistics



Coming down Washington Avenue.....almost home!

The Mystery of Irma Vep

at the Masquers

A review by Theresa de Valencé, TdeV@bstw.com

Married couples daydream about the oddest stuff together, but I bet the conversation between D.C. and Peter went something like this:

“More coffee? What if we did a play together?”

“Hmm, did you speak? Oh, we often work plays together. Yes please, I’ll have another cup.”

“Yeah, but what if *we* performed *all* the parts?”

“Hmm. Seems like we’d be pretty busy.”

“Yes, but *think* what we could do—and we could use dressers!”

“Hmm. We could, couldn’t we? You know what else we could do?”

“No. Yes. Tell me.”

The Mystery of Irma Vep was written by **Charles Ludlum** and first performed in 1986. Like the original production, there is a cast of only two: **Peter Budinger** and **D.C. Scarpelli**. This show is directed by **Robert Love**. Photos by **Jerry Telfer** and **Adam Telfer**.

The Mystery of Irma Vep is a ridiculous penny dreadful. In Dickens’ era, penny dreadfuls filled the popular need for gruesome themes and copious melodrama.

Both actors play several characters apiece (more than enumerated here). Each rôle’s importance is partly what it is *not*—the characters have been constructed to be as disparate from each other as possible. Costumes emphasize this polarization. Congratulations to wig design (**Robert Love**), costume design (**Tammara Plankers** and **Jacki Medernach**), and numerous costumers.

The set, designed by **John Hull**, opens in the drawing room of Mandacrest, a cold, stone English manor house, set in Victorian times. Over the mantle hangs a striking painting of the former lady of the house, the infamous Irma Vep. Although Lady Irma could not be called beautiful, she is very striking.

Jane Twisden (Peter) survives her lowly servile



position by refashioning her world with fantastic imaginings. While dutifully performing her maid-servant chores, Jane has a rich imaginary life where she’s the centre of attention. Most of the time she’s prim and dutiful, but she’s been with the family a long time, so feels comfortable expressing her displeasure with current events. Periodically we see comic flashes of her inner thoughts.

Nicodemus Underwood (D.C.) is a smelly, rough swineherd who is given many household chores, so he has fairly free access to the manor. He is opinionated and free with his opinions, too. He is lame yet manages amazing gymnastic acts.

Lord Edgar Hillcrest (Peter) is the product of what we imagine an expensive public school education to be: he is ponderous, pompous and (mostly) charming. Though this character is buttoned in formal dress, it’s Peter at his most natural appearance,

elegant and handsome. In tune with old horror films, Lord Edgar intimates a hidden awfulness than no honourable gentleman would discuss. In an illogical development, the solution to mysterious happenings is a voyage across the world.

Lady Enid Hillcrest (D.C.) was most recently an actress and is having a tough time getting her new household to accept her new rôle. In true dramatic style, she is helpless and swooning. Typically, she has several TSTL moments (known fondly as Too Stupid To Live behaviour).

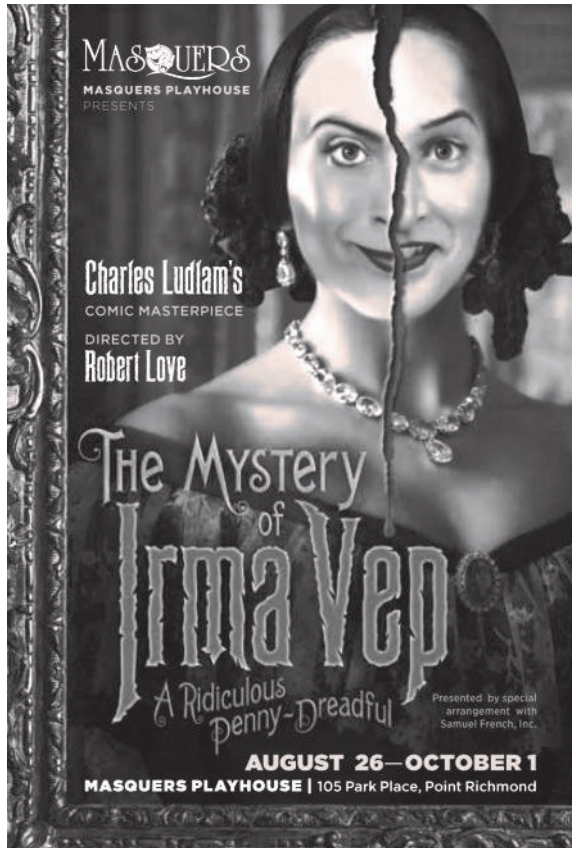
Some men who dress as ladies look feminine and thus are difficult to identify as male, but such is not the case here, since Peter and D.C. are such manly men. What *is* startling is that Lady Enid becomes a truly beautiful woman. Her transformation is no doubt helped by the spectacular painting over the fireplace.

This show is a satire on several genres. It's a mystery but does not have a sensible plot, or tie up loose ends as one might expect. I didn't ever become emotionally involved with the play—I never lost the sense of sitting in the audience watching; the fourth wall never becomes transparent.

But.

The delight in this play is watching the outstanding juggling act of two people becoming many characters, like loaves and fishes. The speed with which the costumes are changed is impressive. Praise is due to the dressers (**Anne Collins** and **Steph Peek**) for coping; they helped swap costumes over 30 times apiece.

In a way, this is a play for actors, for those able



to appreciate the technical demands of the performance. Each character has a different voice, a unique style of walking, and disparate body movements. Although generally I dislike listening to non-native British accents, I found the dialogue mostly comprehensible, a tribute to D.C.'s and Peter's diction. Worthy of note is that we can distinguish between the various characters from offstage voices and glimpses of body parts.

The Mystery of Irma Vep is a wondrous performance, even for amateurs. On opening night, Peter and D.C. got a standing ovation.

Definitely, put tickets for this show on your list.

This is the 8th season Theresa de Valencé has reviewed Masquers performances. All her reviews can be read at www.ReviewsByTdeV.com. Subscription to the electronic list is free, send an email with "subscribe" in the subject, email at top.

Spotlight on 2011 Historic Preservation Award Winner Joe Fischer

Joe Fisher is a member of the Board of Directors of the Richmond Museum of History, a former U C Berkeley Lecturer, an art curator, veteran of World War II, and author of 5 books on Indonesian art and culture. He has written many articles on children's art and in his book, *The Folk Art of Java* there is a chapter devoted to children's art.

When he heard about the rich collection of children's art from the Richmond Kaiser Shipyards child care centers that had been preserved at the Richmond Museum of History, he was intrigued. He discovered that the largest federally funded child care program in the United States during World War II was in Richmond. The program was funded from 1943 to 1966.

Fourteen centers were established in Richmond during World War II for the children of the thousands of mothers who were employed in wartime industries. One of the activities in these centers was art. This resulted in the largest children's art collection in the United States and is unique for the years 1943 to 1966.

The collection consists of some 4000 paintings, 800 cut and paste pictures, 285 drawings and some linoleum block prints. In addition there are numerous educational materials, documents, photographs and comments by teachers and pupils. The collection would not have been saved without the foresight and expertise of Monica Haley, the art director of the program. The collection was destined to become the subject of Mr. Fischer's book; *CHILDREN'S ART & CHILDREN'S WORDS: RICHMOND, CALIFORNIA 1943 – 1966*. Initial financial support came from the Richmond Museum Board of Directors chaired by Lois Boyle.

The purpose of the book was to document and affirm the great value and distinctiveness of children's art. Its focus was not on art theory, but rather on the paintings of individual children, comments by them and their teachers, and the environment in which this took place.

It could be seen as an important resource for the study of the home front, and the social and diverse history of Richmond.

With Don Bastin, former director of the Richmond Museum, and Clementina Diaz former exhibition coordinator of the Museum providing their help and expertise, Joe began the conservation of the collection. He counted, sorted and applied professional preservation techniques. The paintings (18 x 24") on old newsprint or discarded posters have all been



*Joe Fischer
with Pat
Pearson at
the award
ceremony*

affixed to high quality acid-free Italian paper leaving a margin so that the edges are protected from breaking; tears and cracks were repaired. The 8 x 10 cut and paste pictures are on relatively stable art paper; although some required re-gluing. The drawings were on the worst quality paper, and needed new-backing.

The Book: *Children's Art and Children's Words: Richmond California 1943 – 1966*, is available for purchase at the Richmond Museum of History at 4th and Nevin Ave at the gift shop aboard the Red Oak Victory moored at the end of

Canal Street, and at local book stores.

To conserve time, Mr. Fischer decided to shorten his acceptance speech and has provided copies of the full text of his acceptance speech which will be available along with the book at the reception in the Art Center.

Mr. Fischer, The Historic Preservation Commission proudly presents you with this award in recognition of your work not only in preserving the history of the children's art work but also in preserving the history of the City of Richmond.

Submitted by Pat Pearson

Thomas Mercer-Hursh Enhanced Historical Photos Bonus Picture



Thomas found our little museum in one of our turn of the century Don Church photographs

On This Date in KP History

Steve Gilford

#309 Rosie's big sister, "Wendy the Welder"

Rosie the Riveter has become such a powerful and widely-agreed-on symbol of the Home Front during World War Two that it's a bit surprising to realize that if sheer numbers were the only yardstick, "Wendy the Welder" would actually be more appropriate. In fact, for a while, "Wendy the Welder" was in common use in Northern California. Certainly, in the shipyards, there were far more women and men working as welders than riveters, and for some very good reasons. The first was the ships themselves. Traditionally, the steel plate that is fashioned into the hulls and decks of ships was held together by riveting. Riveted ships are strong and they are durable but there are disadvantages, too, particularly in the construction process.

It took time and craftsmanship to properly align steel plates so that the holds that had to be drilled in each plate for the rivets would match up. Even with highly skilled drillers, the match was rarely perfect. As a result, these holes had to be enlarged by another craftsman, a "reamer" so the rivets would pass through but at the same time making sure they remained small enough so the head of the rivet could clinch the plates together. Then, finally with the riveter on one side of the hull and the busker on the other, the red-hot iron pin could be driven through and the partly molten head smashed repeatedly until it was flattened to hold the plate in place. Then the rivets on the hull had to be smoothed by other workers so as not to slow the ship down. Production was slow and expensive.

On a vessel roughly the size of a Liberty or Victory ship built by traditional methods, there would have been about 150-000 rivets meaning at least double that number of holes to be drilled and

reamed to prepare for them. According to some authorities, rivets added around 300 tons to the weight of the ship itself, cutting down by that much the amount of cargo it could carry. Welding plates together with about 40 miles worth of welds instead of riveting seemed like an attractive alternative but there were problems there, too.

As far back as the First World War, shipyards had tried welding but no one had yet built a ship that was essentially welded rather than riveted. However, there had been some recent advances in the technology. Electric arc welding had improved greatly between the wars, speeding up the welding process and making stronger joints than had been possible before. Now, with German submarines choking off the movement of supplies to Great Britain from the US and Canada, there was a desperate need for new ships. The potential advantages of welding overwhelmed the "we have always built ships with rivets" attitude. If welds were done right, they could be as strong as riveted joints. Another advantage was that a skilled instructor could take a man or woman off the street and turn him or her into a capable welder with basic skills after just one or two weeks of training as opposed to riveting which took far longer to learn. Furthermore, the pre-assembly method used by WW II shipbuilders and in particular Henry Kaiser, meant that pieces could be turned around so that novice welders were always working "down-hand", meaning the seam they were joining was below them so gravity was on their side. This is the easiest sort of welding. However, the work was far from effortless. Even getting to work could be a struggle.

At the beginning of each shift, welders had to pick up their heavy machines from the dockside tool sheds and with the bulky electric power cables slung over their shoulders, climb the ladders to their workplace. One interesting feature



Before women could begin work, they had to be able to navigate ladders and scaffolding with their heavy, bulky equipment.

HJK Collection: Bancroft Library

welded ships went to sea, some of the hulls buckled, some decks and bulkheads cracked.¹ Some ships even sunk because of welds springing open. Investigation showed that welding built up stresses in the hull in a way that riveting did not. Sudden temperature changes such as moving into an Arctic ocean sea current or the battering of stormy seas would increase the strains until a seam gave way and a crack opened up.

The shipbuilders were quick to learn from their mistakes and with the help of engineers and naval architects, new welding techniques were developed that relieved these built-in pressures. They solved the problems so well that for the next twenty years the “temporary” Liberty Ships with welded hulls were a common sight on the world’s oceans, steaming from port to port, an essential part of international trade. The wartime cousins of the Liberty ships, the larger, faster Victory Ships, also with welded hulls, were sturdy enough to become the

of the Rosie/Wendy experience in the Kaiser shipyards was that because climbing to the work site on a ship was often so physically demanding, shipyard management developed a training course to help women learn how best to carry the equipment and to help them build up their strength for the climb. However, as efficient as welding was, the shipbuilders had some hard lessons to learn before they could take full advantage of it. When the first

backbone of the postwar American Merchant Marine fleet until the 1970’s when they were replaced by a new generation of merchant ships, containerized freighters.



Enter the Kaiser “WINKS”

In the Spring of 1943, as “Rosie the Riveter” fever, in picture and in song, swept across the nation, the Kaiser yards developed their own name for the women working there, WINKS, “Women in Kaiser Shipyards”. They recognized that relatively few of the thousands of women working in the yards were actually riveters but that there were tens of thousands working as welders, drivers, ship fitters, dispatchers, secretaries burners, fire personnel, shippers, drafters and all sorts of other occupations. These women were all a vital part of the record-breaking successes of the yard. The “WINKS” column in the shipyard weekly news magazine recognized their role in the record-breaking production of ships with stories featuring women in all of these occupations.

¹ *This cracking happened to hulls built at a number of shipyards, not just Kaiser. After the war, a Federal commission investigating the quality of work done by contractors concluded that despite the speed with which Kaiser produced ships, quality was among the highest in American shipbuilding facilities.*

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Early Days, History of the City of Richmond according to Bill Foster

This was written by Mr. Foster in 1954. I would like to know more about Bill Foster and will share any information with our TPIT readers. Gary.

Installment #5

I have not learned anything more about Mr. Foster, must have been an interesting man. It is presented pretty much as written, I have changed or corrected very little, punctuation and spelling. I do not know if it should be taken as factual history.

As you read, keep in mind that this was written nearly 60 years ago I think in the year 1954.

....Gary

Bert Curry came in 1906 and started on Park Place. His brother Sam had undertakers quarters upstairs in his livery stable in 1901. Brownie Wing tells of how (as kids) they used to sneak upstairs and view the corpses. A man named Hughes ran undertaking parlors in connection with his furniture store from 1903 to 1906 or later.

Then came Lincoln on 10th and Bissell (wrong – 10th Street school was built shortly after the Standard Avenue School which was built in 1903). Later Richmond had three schools, one on Lucas Avenue (probably Peres on Pennsylvania in 1908). Mr. Helms was Supt. Of all schools and a fine man. (Appointed in 1908, he was principal of

Standard Avenue school at the time). Then up came Richmond's first firehouse on 5th Street, horse drawn. Then came the paving of McDonald Avenue (an old joke goes with this one). The town held a big blowout for it from 1st to 16th Street. It was some street. Then business houses went up like mushrooms. Later they put in the subway (completed May 1908) at 16th Street. Past that was no man's land.

The Nicholls had a big ranch near 23rd Street and DeDonald Avenue and the kids played football on the site of Nelson's Market and the Greyhound Station. The high school still stands across the street (1954). John Nichol raised hay there and he was quite a figure coming to town in his old horse and buggy with rope harness and lines to drive. His residence on the farm was a weather beaten old country house. Across the road was the old Malone ranch for cattle. (This was not John Nicholl but it was his brother.

No. 5 City Hall stands on it today as they did away with No. 4 to make way for the beautiful Civic Center we have today. People used to run all over town wanting to know which city hall the council met in. It will go down in history that Richmond had more city halls than any city in the USA. Richmond had a small port at the foot of South 15th Street called Ellis Landing. The boats picked up hay from farmers around there. Mr. Boorman was an old settler at the foot of the hill. His ranch house still stands on Cutting Blvd. Emily Boorman Axtel and Cucetta Wood Dunlap were born in that house. This is probably the

oldest house in Richmond today. Later on he was on Cutting Blvd. when the dirt road was cut through to the Point. Dredgers worked for years to fill in that land to build on your present housing unit.

There were other old timers in that section, some still alive, Mr. Rasmussen and wife still live on South 9th near Ohio Street. He quit cable cars in San Francisco to work at the oil refinery. He has retired now from the oil company hale and hearty. His son Ray works for the Daily Independent and is quite a boating fan, his present hobby.

The Southern Pacific opened up their heart and put up a nice depot at 16th and McDonald. Harry Stivers was agent for years. He lived on South 13th Street between Bissell and Chancellor and raised some nice girls. Later he was transferred to San Jose where his daughters live now. I also live in San Jose. Richmond got another boom when the Pullman Shops moved out from Denver and built their Pacific Coast Shops. The country around the shops went up in houses. Leo Persico was one of the first on the tract to sell lots. He got rich quick. Got drunk one day and blew his brains out, leaving his widow some valuable property on McDonald Avenue, property was cheap then, \$100, \$5 down and \$5 per month. I could have bought any lot on McDonald Avenue on those terms.

Well, transportation got better and the East

shore Electric cars went as far as the county line and hooked up to the Oakland Lines in 1905. Fare was 10 cents from the Point to the county line. Richmond had no cemetery so they put the bodies on the street cars for Berkeley. One special car had an opening in the side and the caskets were put in it. It was for funerals only. Then Richmond got car service all over town. It had but one park and that was Grand Canyon Park for picnics, better known as Alvarado Park and located at the foot of the hill on upper McBryde Avenue. Dick Paasch had a saloon at the entrance to the gate where a home now stands. There were no country clubs or fine homes up there then.

Richmond got its big picture house at 9th and McDonald, the Fox California. Later on factories sprang up all over the town. The roofing plant out north of town near San Pablo. Then Berkeley Steel Company nearby and a bog pottery as well. It had a good payroll every two weeks. Richmond's first steam laundry was at 5th and Ripley, run by a Frenchman named John Borrelles. He is gone but his daughter is still on Barrett Avenue. Otto Ludwig built the best house in town at 8th Street and Barrett Avenue. He had all the butcher trade in town and was a councilman and later on mayor.

Conclusion in the next issue



Santa Fe Avenue with downtown in the foreground. Sure was different without the many large trees that we have now.

*From our Don Church collection, enhanced by Thomas Mercer-Hursh
0016-DC_TMH_NN*

Birthdays

September

Joan Gatten
Sofia Warith
Susan Armstrong
Marie Peckham
Ivar Elle
Daniel Butt
Sara Warren Smith
Don Diani
Emily Anne Barnes
Al Frosini
Frank Christopher

Linda Newton
Roberta Wilson
Nadia Warith
Bernard Dietz
Stephen Berman
Ingvar Elle
Simeon J. Burtner
Gayle Kaufman
Roxanne Trudeau
John Hadreas
David Reynolds

Donna Roselius
John T. Knox
Jerry Cerkanowicz, Jr
Kenneth Dolan
Theresa Daniel
Jan Feagley
June Kunkle Blackburn
Lorin Buhler
Isosbel Shaw
Aubrey Lee Rentfro
Stephen Kowalski

Stephanie Kowalski
Gene Smith
Diane (Frosini) Diani
Margaret Morkowski
Gene Smith
John Bailo
Alice Jordan
Peter Minkwitz
Michael Heckmann
Elisa Delatorre

October

Terry Wynne
Kate Lord
Florence Wilson
Maria Shaw
Marguerite Clutts
Linda Pereira
Timothy Doherty
David Vincent
Jodi Bagley

Jeff Ward
Todd Cort
McKinley Bradshaw
Tim Montgomery
Brian Tedrick
Dean Smith
Rich Weirick
Marc Bisio
Chris Ward

Helen Frosini
Tony Peter Bernabich
Chad Feagley
Isobel 'Boo' Shaw
Bill Vallivero
Jerry Daniel
Grace Cerkanowicz
Otto Barni
Betty Glass Marshall

Maria Inchauspe Smith
Abigail Munoz Rivera
Toni Cannizzaro
Jan Burdick
Leo Matteucci
Ray Smith



Interesting fact.

The percentage of Africa that is wilderness 28%

The percentage of North America that is wilderness 38%

From Ellen Schaefer

EXCLUSIVE OVER 90 CLUB

An impressive list that grows each month.

Gretchen Van Tassel Shaw - 93

Al Frosini - 93

Shoney Gustafson 96

Madelilne Bellando Albright - 94

Charlotte Kermabon Birsinger - 94

Lupe Padilla Lopez - 97

Steve Wyrick - 95

Bernard Dietz - 95

Avis Blanchette - 97

Roger Wiese - 95

Eunice Ruth Hursh - 94

Dody Perry - 94

Betty Dornan - 92

Edna Hathaway - 92

Jerry Cerknowicz, Sr. - 91

Mark Gebhart - 97

Delphina Franco Tawney -93

Harry Gondola - 91

Anne M. Gondola - 98

Viola Kennedy - 93

Fred Beesley

Mildred Dornan - 90 *(Welcome to a most distinguished member)*

MORE EXCLUSIVE OVER 100 CLUB

Rena Cairo Gonsalves- 100

Age is not a number, it is an attitude.

Please send corrections and additions to “Over 90 Club” to midornan@sbcglobal.net or call 510-234-5334



Our little museum spotted in this 1908 photo taken before the streets were paved.

Enhanced by Thomas Mercer-Hursh

*From our Don Church Collection.
#0021-DC*

Deaths.....

Deborah “Shane” Coles, March 29, 1952 - June 12, 2011. Deborah was born in San Jose and moved to Point Richmond at the age of 3. She acquired the name of “Shane” by paying 25 cents to neighbor Shane Peters to buy his name. From then on she insisted on being called Shane. Shane attended Washington School, Roosevelt Junior High and Kennedy High. She graduated from Contra Costa College, and attended U C Berkeley and Sonoma State University. Her degrees were in environmental preservation and anthropology. She became a California State Park Ranger and served in many parks throughout California. Her last position was at Cuymaca State Park near San Diego. She retired after 30 years with the Park Service to live in her home near the park with her companion Gary Weide. During her career with the Park Service she received recognition for her botanical interpretation work and publications in ethnobotany. Shane was the daughter of the late Corrine Coles and of George Coles, of Point Richmond, she was predeceased by her brother Scott and her sister in law Stephanie. She was the aunt of Indra Coles Unyal (Vivek) and “a great aunt” to their children Surya and Jake of Dublin CA. A Celebration of her Life was held at Cuyamaca Rancho State Park on July 9, 2011.

Anne Nordell Hanzlik passed away peacefully at age 99 on August 28 in Pleasant Hill, CA. Anne was an enthusiastic traveler, student and teacher of architecture and house design, voracious reader, swimmer, wife, mother and grandmother. She lived her life in vivid color and was loved by all who knew her. In 1934 she married Raymond Kaspar in Chicago and together they had three children, Nordell, Theodora, and Steven. She was remarried in 1961 to Joseph Hanzlik. She and Joe traveled extensively in Europe, Central America and the South Pacific. Late into her 80’s she was still actively entertaining friends at her Point Richmond home which she designed and Joseph built, and swimming in San Francisco Bay. Anne loved Point Richmond, she served as an active officer on the Point Richmond History Association and she along with Joe gave enormous contributions the Point Richmond community. She is survived by Steven Kaspar of Martinez, CA, Theodora Atkinson of Lafayette, CA, two grandchildren, two great grandchildren.

Willard “Bill” Judkins passed away on March 31, 2011 at 80 years of age. Bill was born in Richmond to Perry and Alice Judkins. The family moved to Mariposa for a few years then returned to Richmond during World War II so his parents could work in the shipyards. Bill, his sisters Betty and Belva, attended Richmond Schools. Bill frequently returned to the Mariposa area for recreation and visiting family. After finishing school Bill lived in many places in Point Richmond and began his career working in the cabinet shop at El Cerrito Lumber. He not only made custom cabinets but also was in demand for his wood carving expertise and made ornate entry doors for many commercial buildings in the Bay Area. He designed and made custom furniture and artifacts and performed custom construction work on many homes in the Point. He bought a house on Crest Avenue where as a master wine maker he crushed the grapes and made the wine in the basement of the house. He frequently visited his sister Betty

(Continued from page 26)

and her husband Frank Pearson on Ocean Avenue and not only entertained his nieces, Stephanie and Jennifer but made many toys and other items for them. Bill was an excellent cook and frequently made holiday dinners for his extended family. Bill is survived by his wife Elaine Stremmel and children Elizabeth and Susan and his sister Belva and nieces, He was great uncle to Jack Eskelin and Montana Fillius. He was predeceased by his sister Betty and his brother-in-law Frank and his parents. Private memorial services were held in Mariposa.

Shannon Anne Powell passed away of natural causes on August 15, 2011. In addition to the many lives of the human spirit that Shannon illuminated, Shannon had a life long love affair for her cats and a passion to help those that she couldn't house. She provided care to many abandoned and feral cats near her home and workplace while working with her local veterinary office and feral cat foundation. Friends and family are invited to a memorial service on September 18th. Please call Wilson and Kratzer Mortuary at 510-232-4383 for time and place.

Remembering Anne

Jerry Cerkawicz

I am saddened by the passing of my old dear friend Anne Hanzlik. Although I have not seen Anne for a number of years, I have such fond and vivid memories of our times together in Point Richmond. I remember the pleasant afternoons I would spend at her home being entertained by my fascinating and entertaining host. We would spend wonderful hours just talking about life.

I will never forget about our trials and tribulations with the building of the Point Triangle park. I was President of the PRHA and Anne was my Vice-President. Together we shared the responsibility of watching over the spending of resources to build the Indian Statue Park. Things got somewhat difficult. Anne wrote an essay on the difficulties that she called "Small Town Politics". In it she recalls the difficulty we were having getting it all done and our frustration with our local contractor.

Anne along with her late husband Joe were more valuable than most know in the building of the Indian Statue Park. Joe did most of the extensive stone and brick laying work in the park and Anne much of the design work. After his death Anne placed the benches that are in the park now in Joe's memory.

MEA CULPA

There was a small park alongside the Baptist Church on Washington Avenue. In about 1925 I unintentionally kicked a football through a window of a residence next to the park. (My Dad replaced the glass and surprised me by not giving me the scolding that I deserved.)

Harold Shawl

CALENDAR/DIRECTORY

ARTS OF POINT RICHMOND

Meets third Tuesday of each month 7-9 at the Pt. Community Center, Contact: Linda Drake, 510672-0793

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE READING ROOM

114 Washington Avenue, Point Richmond, 510-223-0487

GOLDEN STATE MODEL RAILROAD MUSEUM AND EAST BAY MODEL ENGINEERS SOCIETY

900 Dornan Drive, Miller/Knox Regional Park. Sunday 12:00 to 5:00. Special openings on Saturdays and Holidays.
510-234-4884 for details.

MANY HANDS PROJECT TO SUPPORT WASHINGTON SCHOOL

Contact, Margaret Morkowski, 510-234-4219

MASQUERS PLAYHOUSE

Quality productions, Fridays and Saturdays at 8 pm, Sunday Matinees at 2:30 pm. Tickets are \$18-\$20. Dinner at the Hotel Mac and the play on Thursday, for only \$50. Call 510-232-4031 for reservations.

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

Becky Jonas, Contact, 510-235-0157

POINT RICHMOND BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

Contact: Andrew Butt, 510-236-7445

POINT RICHMOND COMMUNITY CENTER

Info: 233-6881

POINT RICHMOND HISTORY ASSOCIATION

Museum is at 139½ Washington Avenue, and open Winter, Thursday's 11:30 to 2:00 and Saturday 11:30 to 2:00 and Summer, Wednesday 4:30 to 7:00 and Thursday's 11:30 to 2:00. The deadline for the next issue of TPIT is Friday October 28, 2011. Info call President Mildred Dornan at 510-234-5334.

POINT RICHMOND NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

Meets last Wednesday each month, Point Richmond Community Center; 7:30 P.M Contact: Peter Minkwitz, President, 510-232-3663

POINT RICHMOND/WEST SIDE BRANCH LIBRARY

Information call 510-620-6567

RED OAK VICTORY

Open Saturday, Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday 10am - 3pm. \$5 donation for adults, \$4 seniors, \$2 children. Sunday Breakfast September 10th and October 12th, 9 am - 1 pm, \$6 adults children FREE

RICHMOND SWIMS

The Children and teens "Sail Fish" and Masters swim teams at the Richmond Plunge.

Contact: Coach John Schonder, 510-504-0330

September 25, 2011 open water bay swim raises money for coaching, equipment, pool fees and swimming scholarships for inner-city youth throughout Richmond. More info at <http://www.richmondswims.org/> or call (415) 892-0771

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: Connie Lompa, President. 510-237-7888

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

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Type of membership (check one):

<input type="checkbox"/>	Single	\$20.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Senior (65+)	15.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Family	25.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	History Preserver	50.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Corporate Sponsor	75.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	History Maker	100.00

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

Pam Wilson
521 Western Drive
Point Richmond, CA 94801

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

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

Please mail articles and items of interest to:

Gary Shows
229 Golden Gate Avenue
Point Richmond, CA 94801

or
email: gary@alkos.com

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Visit our website
PointRichmondHistory.org

Thanks ALKO office supply for hosting our site

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