

THIS POINT.... in time

NEWSLETTER

The Point Richmond History Association

Since 1979

www.PointRichmondHistory.org

Vol. XXXVII No. 5

April/May, 2019

\$3.00



Save This Date
Sunday, June 2, 2019
At 2:00 pm

**The Point Richmond History Association
General Meeting and Election of Officers**

After a short business meeting Mayor Tom Butt
will talk to us about the

***Lost Secrets of the
Point San Pablo Peninsula***

Mayor Butt will present a vividly illustrated history of our
neighboring Point San Pablo. Isolated and wild today, it
was once an area bustling with industry ranging from
wine making to whaling. Come discover the lost secrets
hidden in the landscape of Point San Pablo.

You will enjoy this presentation!

Point Richmond Community Center
139 Washington Avenue

Refreshments will be served

From the President

by Bonnie Jo Cullison

As many of you know the Point Richmond History Association has a formal meeting of its membership once a year. The meeting begins with a brief business segment at which officers for the upcoming year are elected, a financial statement is given and a quick review of the past year's activities is presented. The meeting is also an opportunity for members and non-members to provide input to the Board of the PRHA. Anyone can attend the meeting whether or not one is a PRHA member although only members can vote.

Following the business segment is a program pertaining to some aspect of the history of the Point Richmond area. This year we are very pleased that Mayor Tom Butt has agreed to talk to us about the once colorful and lively (and sometimes shady) history of Point San Pablo. Point San Pablo is not a particularly visible area either geographically or historically to most of us so this will be an excellent opportunity to expand our awareness of how the past life of a neighboring area might have impacted Point Richmond itself.

This year the Annual Meeting is on Sunday, June 2 at 2:00. Bring your friends and neighbors. Everyone is welcome!

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PRHA photo #0076 Point Richmond, January 1903, Don Church Photo was Enhanced by Thomas Mercer-Hursh

Thank you members for your renewal:

Barry & Erica Goode**

Kim & Lynn Stoddard Family

Remigio Javellana Jr.

Frank & Kristine Lazaro Family

Dee Rosier**

Ellen Schaefer

Linda Hudock

Steve Birnbaum**

Steve Early Family

Evan & Lydia Jahromi Family

Ann Hathaway Kissling

Diane Marie

Larry Slagle

James J. Cheshareck**

Burl Willes**

Mary Lee Cole

Marc Bisio

Patricia Dornan**

Richard & Roberta Palfini**

Pam Wilson

Paula Israeli

Patrice Verhines

Judith Travis

Welcome to new members:

Aaron Goode**

Ellen Pechman**

*Gift Membership

**Special Supporter, *Thank You!*

***Thank you to Les Crim for
his generous donation to
the PRHA!***

Thank You!
**Santa Fe
Market**

For distributing
“THIS POINT.....in time”

Support our local retailers

*Visit our little museum and view our
1000 picture slide show of historic Point
Richmond photos.*

Open Thursdays and Saturdays

*And the first and second Tuesday of
each month*

11:30 am - 2:00 pm

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

Mid Dornan
Linda Andrew-Marshall
Heinz Lankford
Gary Shows
Lori Kauth
Virginia Mooney
Bonnie Jo Cullison

***The Cover:
Richmond's Point San Pablo Peninsula
Satellite view from Google Maps***

Editor's Notes

Gary Shows

garyshows@gmail.com

Here is your April/May issue. Thank you to everyone who contributed to it. I am especially pleased with what our Secretary Caitlin Hibma is doing with her *We Have Standards!* series, very informative and perfect for this newsletter. Thank you Caitlin.

I kind of made the Point San Pablo Peninsula a theme throughout this issue because it will be the subject of our annual meeting on June 2nd. See the inside cover for details. I am looking forward to Tom Butt's presentation and hope to see you all there.

The deadline for our next TPIT June/July/August issue is Friday, May 24, 2019.

Thanks to those who helped fold, staple and address the last issue:

Mid Dornan
Gary Shows
Bonnie Jo Cullison
Kathe Kiehn
Heinz Lankford
Caitlin Hibma
Pam Wilson
Tom Piazza
Marcelina Smith

Thank You to Our Special Supporters!

History Makers

Donna Wilson
Doug & Rosemary Corbin
Kathe Kiehn
John A. Thiella & Rosa T. Casazza
Roberta & Richard Palfini
Patricia Dornan
Les Crim
Norm and Jean Reynolds
David B. Janes
The Bartram-Owens Family
Burl Willes
Garry & Maryn Hurlbut
Bob Armstrong
Abigail Bok & David Gottlieb
Diane Hirano
Steve Birnbaum
Jan Palarczyk
Don & Carole Woodrow
Ron Vandergrift
Carrie Wong
Lynn Maack
The Up & Under Bar and Grill
New Leaf Salon (Guadalupe Torres)
Erica & Barry Goode
Aaron Goode
Ellen Pechman

History Preservers

Royce Ong
Kevin, Renée & Griffin Knee
Maurice & Margaret Doherty
Linda Newton
Tom & Shirley Butt
The David Dolberg Family
Bernie McIntosh
Don & Ingrid Lindemann
Mary Crosby & Tom Piazza
Karen Buchanan
Norma Wallace
Gloria & Mark Maltagliati
Anne Brussok-Roth & David Roth
James J. Cheshareck
Tony Lizzarraga
Bobbie Swerdfeger Lizzarraga
Linda Hudock
Joanne Pike
Mark J. Kornmann
Jeanne Pritchard
Joe Pritchard
Jim & Olivia Jacobs
Caitlin & Michael Hibma
Mark & Gloria Maltagliati
David N. McCuan
Dee Rosier

A-Mid Trivia

*TPIT
Exclusive
since 1984*

Mid Dornan (510-234-5334) (middornan@gmail.com)

QUESTION:

What is the only part of the human body that cannot heal itself?

Answer at end of trivia.

Soldiers cannot march in step when crossing bridges because they could set up a vibration which could be sufficient to break down the bridge.

I'm cheering for the PRHA team, the "Pointers" who entered in a Trivia Contest on March 28 at East Brother Brewery. This is a fund raiser to restore a mural, "Richmond Industrial City," created by Victor Arnautoff, and found in the basement of the main Post Office. The PRHA team consists of our President Bonnie Jo Cullison, Kit Eakle, Kathy Keihn and Deidre Cerkanowicz. GO PRHA TEAM.

If strawberries and cashews are the only fruit whose seeds grow on the outside, why don't we see any on cashews?

Rachel Palfini, Alameda, daughter of Richard and Roberta Dornan Palfini applied for a non-profit position for KEVA, which does not pay a salary. She was selected over several hundred that applied. A non-profit, Keva provides cash for people needing money to start a business. Asking for money, i.e. for \$25. This \$25 might purchase a sewing machine and some cloth which becomes clothing to sell providing income to repay the loan. Everyone can do this to assist developing countries.

Good friends are like stars. You don't always see them but you know they are always there.

If you stop being thirsty, you need to drink more water. When a human body is dehydrated, its thirst mechanism shuts off.

It's fortunate, when you have family nearby.

In the summer of 1991, graduating from the FBI Academy in Quantico, VA was Bryan Smith, son of proud parents. Marcellina and Allan Smith. President Bush gave the graduation address. Acceptance into the Academy is not easy, but Bryan credits being an Eagle Scout from Troop 111 in Point Richmond, as instrumental in enabling him to become an FBI agent. Where is Bryan today Marcellina?

The entire Douglas and Rosemary Corbin family celebrated Doug's 90th birthday and Doug and Rosemary's 50th wedding anniversary in Solvang.

It is with sincere sadness we lament the loss of Douglas Corbin. His life was celebrated at the Assembly. Know that we Care.

Pat Dornan and Shirley Pinches embarked on a trip of a lifetime. Departing March 8th, they spent four days in London to acclimate for the trip. In London, they joined 10 others to Johannesburg, South Africa. For 32 more days they continue their trip and will return April 6.

At NBC's National Dog Show, "Whiskey", a three-year-old whippet was the champion, best in the show 2018.

The Bishop Social Club is meeting regularly again. The original club included Fran Smith, Florence Wilson, Pat Pearson and Mid Dornan. Recently, Linda Mertle, Sue Bell, and Pat Dornan were welcomed as new members. At

the March meeting; a savory corned beef and cabbage dinner Pat Pearson provided at the Bishop Site.

I'm not lazy.....I just really enjoy doing nothing.

I'm a step away from being rich. All I need now is money.

November 21, 1980 350 million people around the world tuned in to TV prime time drama 'DALLAS' to find out who shot J.R. Ewing. Anyone remember how it ended?

It is possible to lead a cow upstairs, but not downstairs. Why would anyone want to take a cow upstairs?

When a person dies, hearing is the last sense to go, meaning the person can still hear you even after you feel they are gone.

Carry a Heart that never hates
A Smile that never fades
A Touch that never hurts

Income Tax? April 15th

Joyous Easter

ANSWER: The tooth is the only part of the human body that cannot heal itself.

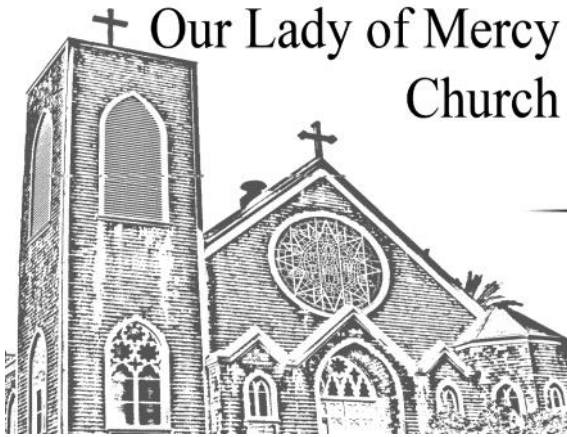


Judy Travis has recovered from the terrible fall she had in a local craft store on February 6th. As bad as the bruises looked and as bad as the broken nose hurt, she did not have a head injury. Judy is very appreciative of those who sent cards and those stopped in to visit. She says she is now able to show her face in public again.

Local Rainfall Amounts in Inches Since Last July 1st as of March 26, 2019

West County Stations	MSP ¹	Year to date ²	Last 30 days	Last 7 days	Last 5 days	Last 2 days	Last 24 hours	Last 12 hours	Last 9 hours	Last 6 hours	Last 3 hours	Last 2 hours	Last 1 hour	Last 30 min.	Established
<u>Station 15</u> Rodeo Fire Department	18.30	24.26	5.83	1.74	1.39	0.53	0.53	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	EST. 1972
<u>Station 21</u> Richmond City Hall	21.81	28.08	6.98	1.70	0.99	0.35	0.35	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	EST. 1974
<u>Station 32</u> EBRPD Bald Peak, Tilden Park	33.50	41.18	10.33	2.84	1.91	1.24	1.24	0.17	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	EST. 1979

Church News



By Dee Rosier

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Welcome back to Daylight Savings Time – we have been here before. The days do not grow dark as soon, which allows us to enjoy more outdoor time.

Also we are in the Lenten Season. It is a time to reflect and ponder random acts of kindness, not that there is a special season for them. It is always a joy to be a recipient of one – make someone feel good.

There is a person who brings smiles to all faces both young, old and animals - that would be the school crossing guard Maxine, who puts a smile on everyone's face. Recently, one of the local firemen brought her a hot chocolate and thanked her for her good work. She is friendly to all – be sure to wave back.

The church hall floor was recently redone – old wax removed, etc., a very tedious job, but very noticeable.

The First Communion children are in transition and being led through by their parent's guidance. It is a joint venture that seems to be working in a team effort. The parents were more than willing to take charge and witness their children's Catholic education. Father has directed

them on how wheat is grown. Each child has a container with the necessary makings and soon will be able to harvest the wheat which is used in making the Communion wafer. Years ago nuns educated the children. After they left, we had a wonderful woman, Winifred Guisti who guided the children through their Catholic education. In the small community in which I earned my Catholic education, the nuns stayed with us from First Communion to Confirmation. After a 63-year relationship, the Irish Nuns will leave St. John's in El Cerrito. They leave El Cerrito and return to Ireland.

The year-end diocese reports were recently completed and submitted. Thanks, Anne Brussock for your tireless work.

Add Javier and Christine to the list of those who never fail to return to see us. They were in the Bay Area to visit family. They picked the right date, Pancake Breakfast Day and were able to visit with many. They even found time to visit Brenda McKinley.

Another grand surprise was the Fred and Diane Siegmund recent return to church. Fred's recovery period is slow, but it is happening.

Let's remember those who are unable to attend Mass on a regular basis: Conde Chavez, Mike Lambert, Fred Siegmund, Margaret Morkowski and Bill Guitterez. Please note that Dixie Mello's name is not included, since she died recently. She was a loyal TPIT subscriber.

El Sol is showing the whimsical paintings by Linda Drake. Stop in, have a bite and enjoy the colorful paintings. Proprietor Josephine Orosco, is Linda's sister.

Talk about being a celebrity, Anne Carroll shared pictures of her son, Rory and his wife on the red carpet at the Academy Awards.

The Swiss Guards are sporting new colorful uniforms. I worked at Chevron with a scientist who was previously a Swiss Guard.

Our friend, Tom Boone is now back to work full time after being furloughed due to the Government shutdown.

Condolences to the family of Aldo Forner.

Aldo resided in Vacaville with his mother, Patricia Houck, but his roots were in Pt. Richmond, being the son of Leo Forner and nephew of Lucano Forner.

Condolences also are extended to the family of Leo Gardfield. Leo was former Chief of Police for the City of Richmond and was a member of the original Pt. Richmond Walking Group, of which there are becoming less/less. Many enjoyable venues were enjoyed in Leo's company. He will always be considered one of the Tall Trees.

The condolence which is the most difficult to accept is the one for a dear friend, Brenda McKinley. Brenda became ill, but did not linger before her death. We were all able to visit her and celebrate her birthday on February 19. She was the matriarch of our parish and a member for 60 plus years. The family attended Mass jointly; her son Michael was an altar boy along with Chuck Palancher. Both Michael and his sister Pat attended Washington School and received all of their Sacraments at Our Lady of Mercy. Brenda was active in our community, serving on the Parish Council, Coffee/Donuts Hostess,

Eucharistic Minister and Souper Kitchen volunteer, she was always willing to lend a hand and, even after retirement as coffee/donut hostess continued to pick up and deliver them. Her funeral Mass was held here and well attended. Her family was warm and welcoming. I will personally miss being her joint church companion. She too was a member of the original Pt. Richmond Walking Group. Brenda was from Louisiana and died on Fat Tuesday – know the Saints marched her straight into heaven.

Easter soon approaches and lots of jelly beans will be consumed, 16 million in fact, which will be enough to circle the earth twice.

Enjoy the flowering trees which line Tunnel Street – they are only showy once a year.

COMMON SENSE IS LIKE
DEODORANT, THE PEOPLE
WHO NEED IT MOST
DON'T USE IT.

SEE YOU IN CHURCH



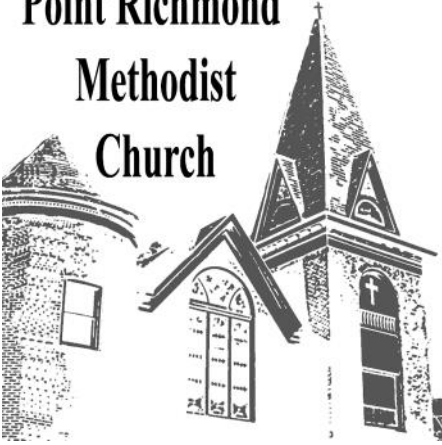
Dee Rosier



*Unoccupied bungalows on the old
Naval Fuel Depot on Point San
Pablo Peninsula.*

*Photo enhanced by Thomas
Mercer-Hursh*

Point Richmond Methodist Church



Jean Reynolds

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From Linda Andrew-Marshall: "I was honored to attend Lorraine Parmer's 90th Birthday Celebration on January 26, at Seascapes in Aptos, CA. I joined three generations of Lorraine's immediate family, many friends, and her extended Cambodian family. Some people travelled from Cambodia to attend the party. Three generations had come from San Diego: their first generation found a true friend in Lorraine when they arrived in the US from Cambodia in 1962. Attendees included immigrants and visitors from Tibet, Mongolia, Turkey, Vietnam, Czech Republic, Myanmar, and Slovakia. All achieved success here in part through support they received from the International Rescue Committee (IRC). Lorraine and her now-deceased husband, Ross, served as IRC volunteers to guide and provide assistance for new immigrants for many years. After many people spoke their loving tributes to her, Lorraine shared her Guiding Beliefs: Be curious, help others, be financially savvy, participate in organizations that share your personal values, do small acts of kindness without looking for reward, listen to both sides but identify the truth, stand up for your beliefs, the world has more good people than bad, use things that don't hurt the environment, use less plastic, stay active. Most importantly, Love. Give it, live it, share it, and

spread it around!"

Karen Bianchini died January 25 after a recent cancer diagnosis. We celebrated her life on February 23, with a sanctuary full of friends and family. Karen was a dancer. She worked with children: at the Early Childhood Mental Health Program in Richmond; for many years at Children's Hospital, Oakland; and most recently as a volunteer at our Vacation Bible School. She made quilts, knitted, cooked, and was an avid mystery reader. She attended Weight Watchers and her walking group after the meeting became a bigger draw than the meeting itself. She patronized art, drama, music, and dance events. Karen studied with the Dalai Lama in Italy years ago, and kept a Buddhist practice. Most of all, she valued people and loved to connect with them on a deeper level. During her last days, she made sure to know the name of every nurse and aide and to learn their personal stories. At the memorial, her cousin Raymond Brutti, dear friend Kathy Quides, son Mark Ellis, husband Mark Ellis, and friend Jean Reynolds all offered memories and tributes. Jennifer Metz Foster and RaeAnn Goldberg played cello and violin, with Pastor Dan Damon on piano. Bethany Reynolds and Kathy Quides read poems by Mary Oliver; finally, we read a poem by T.S. Eliot that Karen read throughout her life. Afterward, we gathered in Friendship Hall for a reception. We reminisced and shared stories surrounded by Karen's quilts, knitting projects, photos and Tibetan relics.

On February 10, Pastor Dan led a "worship in song" service at Sutter UMC, one of his first appointments. Jean Reynolds shared a summary of all of our church activities in our worship; Jonathan Swett was the worship leader.

In worship on February 24, we heard hymn-writer, theologian, and retired professor of worship at Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, Ruth Duck. She spoke with Pastor Dan Damon and described how her hymn texts represent her own expression of faith and how writing them helped her sort her feelings during times she struggled. Both Pastor Dan and George Peter Tingley have composed tunes for Ruth's lyrics, and Pastor Dan edited a collection of her hymns published in 2015. It was such an honor to meet her and hear her speak since we have sung numerous hymns she has written.

Linda Andrew-Marshall, Linda Lee, Eileen Johnson and Pastor Dan Damon attended the Ash Wednesday Service at St. Luke's UMC on March 6. People attended from all six of our local West Contra Costa United Methodist Circuit churches. Pastor Ofa Uepi of St. Luke's UMC also invited the members and clergy from First Presbyterian Church and Sojourner Truth Presbyterian Church to participate in the somber service. Pastors imposed ashes to the foreheads of those who came forward. St. Luke's Tongan Choir sang beautifully and a member from one of the Presbyterian churches sang a solo. Linda Andrew-Marshall added: "I appreciate Pastor Dan Damon's message that to observe Lent we do not have to give something up. We can choose to walk away from what hurts us. We are invited to follow that practice beyond the forty days of Lent."

The string band played during worship on March 10. Laura Sutton, viola; Lawrence Tietz, mandolin; Rose Ayers, guitar; Matthew Foster, guitar; joined Alice Thompson and Pastor Dan on keyboards.

Debbie Benko was the clear choice for our 2019 "Sweetheart of the Year." On March 16, we celebrated at the Pt. San Pablo Yacht Club all the ways Debbie rocks our world. She encourages us all to achieve more than we think is possible, and is always there when we need an expert hand. Robert Love shared a fairytale like story of how Debbie met her husband Bill, and we heard tributes from Debbie's sister, Julie; her brother, Mike; Diane Frary; Fran Smith; and Pastor Dan Damon. Kristi Johnson, just now able to rejoin the flow after several rounds of intense (and successful!) chemotherapy, came in person (with Russ by her side) to share her heartfelt love for Debbie. Coley Grundman sang "You Must've Been A Beautiful Baby" and the Joyful Noise Choir and friends sang "The Lord Bless You and Keep You." Last year's sweethearts Chi and Yvonne Nair shipped the heart scepter, fondly referred to as a heart on a stick, from their new home in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Thirteen former sweethearts, including Mid Dornan, joined Debbie for a photo at the closing.

Our Administrative Board adopted a statement at our meeting on March 14, 2019:

We, the Administrative Board of Richmond

First United Methodist Church, do not support the decision made by the recent Special General Conference of the United Methodist Church in St. Louis, MO, to continue the policy to refuse to ordain LGBTQIA persons called to ministry; to forbid same-gender weddings in United Methodist church buildings; and to add harsh punitive consequences for those pastors, Annual Conferences, Bishops, and congregations who refuse to comply. We hope the United Methodist Judicial Council will declare the changes are unconstitutional according to church law at their meeting in April 2019.

We vow to continue our policy to welcome and allow everyone to fully participate in the life of the church. We refuse to comply with any ruling that excludes or makes less of any people based on their sexual orientation or gender identity. We need the gifts and graces of all people to make beloved community a reality.

On the Calendar:

Easter: Sunday, April 21. Celebrate at 8:00 am in the Labyrinth Garden on the east side of the church. Breakfast will be ready in Friendship Hall at 9:00 am. Sunday School is at 10:00. Worship in the sanctuary starts at 11:00 am, followed by an Easter-egg hunt for children in the yard near the palm tree. Come for any or all of the day's festivities.

Junktique Sale, Saturday, May 4, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. Shop books, household items, garden supplies, toys, furniture and more! Nosh on soup, chili, hotdogs, burgers, and pie by the slice. To help, contact Fran Smith, junosmith@aol.com. Check with Bill or Jonathan to arrange pick up of large items or to inquire: Bill Thompson, (510) 730-5274 or Jonathan Swett, jnscons@comcast.net Please do not bring: mattresses, bedding, or pillows; broken furniture or particle board furniture; clothing or shoes; TV's (flat screens are OK); computers (flat screen monitors are OK); sofa-beds or sofas; coffee mugs; plastic storage containers; Christmas lighting or decorations; outdated electronics such as printers, VCR's, tape decks (working phonographs are OK); tire chains and wheel rims. Please do not leave donations outside the church building.

Junktique II: Monday, May 27, 9:00 AM to

(Continued on page 17)

WWIC Est. 1908

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

As usual, WWIC's February-March meetings were held in Fellowship Hall at First United Methodist Church. In February, Head hostess Cathy O'Brien and hostesses Beverly Bastian and Anne Langille made the room look beautiful with combined Valentine's Day and Lunar New Year's themes, replete with red tablecloths, hearts, flowers and lucky gold coins in envelopes. As Second VP, Fran Smith was in charge of this team. Desserts the hostesses prepared were as tasty as the room was beautiful. Thank you, all!

Diane presented new members Jules Klotz and Suellen Barnett with handbooks and tea cups.

We had several guests: Dee Pearson, Ruth Frachetto, Grier Cooper, and Anne McGuire. January birthdays were Mary Highfill and Altha Humphrey, February birthdays were Anne Brussok-Roth and Gail Eierweiss. Members made many various announcements regarding The Masquers. WWIC's garden and native plants, the Welcome Project for new neighbors, Sisters in Solidarity, a group promoting peace and balance, and the Asanta Club's meeting on March 8 about sex-

trafficking. Among others.

We noted sadly the passing of Alyce Williamson, with fond remembrances of her life, especially by Marion Kent and Fran Smith. Alyce was a former president of WWIC. Her daughter Nina requested a donation to the Multiple Sclerosis society in her mother's memory. It was left to the board to make this decision at the next board meeting February 26.

Our speaker Dee Pearson's topic was "Actualizing the Best in Yourself." Dee is a mentoring coach who works with small groups to "accentuate the positive" aspects of one another. Dee recommended reading Nathan Branden, who wrote extensively about self-esteem. There are female/male differences in how the two sexes approach situations when things go awry. Males tend to look outside themselves for the cause, whereas females look inward. A further dichotomy exists: carbon is one of the most abundant elements on Earth, yet diamonds are made of carbon, and are rare. They form under conditions of high pressure and thus are quite



WWIC 2016 Hat Day Photo

strong. They are also beautiful. Dee said her retreats' purpose is to find the diamonds in one another. We then went around the room, making positive comments about one another. Thank you for an insightful presentation, Dee.

Diane adjourned the meeting with this food for thought from Eddie Cantor, "Slow down and enjoy life. It's not only the scenery you miss by going too fast – it's also the sense of where you are going and why."

Time "marches" on. At our March meeting, Diane Diani thanked Head Hostess Linda Newton and hostesses Mary Lee Cole and Doris Mitchell for the set-up and delicious desserts. The themes were St. Paddy's Day, Spring, and Women's History Month, which featured a group photo of WWIC members taken on "Hat Day," a few years back. New members are Ruth Frasetand Anita Mermel. Welcome aboard!

Kate Spaulding of "Magick Lantern" presented us with a synopsis of The Divine Order, a film about women's suffrage in Switzerland, where women were finally given the right to vote in 1971 (!). It was shown March 15 at our local community center, where the red carpet was rolled out and popcorn was served.

Under old business, we gave \$100 to the M. S. society in memory of Alyce Williamson.

Under new business, Diane Hedler and Jules Klotz volunteered to be on the nominating committee for the two-year- term offices of First VP, Secretary, and Treasurer. Thank you! We also nominated five groups for our charitable giving. Speaking for Anne Brussok-Roth, Diane suggested St. Vincent de Paul; Doreen Leighton, modernizing the First United Methodist Church kitchen; Diane Hedler, Rosie's Girls; The Masquers building fund; and Carla Bowman, Richmond Swims. Because we had \$1,000 to give, we decided to give each group \$200. As you can see, part of WWIC's mission is to help local groups financially.

Linda Newton asked for help in the garden and Doreen Leighton, Mary Lee Cole, Jules Klotz, and Deborah Haley volunteered. We debated how to keep kids from trampling the garden, especially when music is performed on Park Place in the summer. Parents, please help!! Also, how to keep smokers from smoking there is a big issue. Leslie Hicks asked for help with mulching the garden and Marion Kent volunteered. I've lost track of times I used the word "volunteer," but it's a key to this organization.

Before we closed, Diane asked us to describe how we were supported by women. Three of us, Carla Bowman, Mary Lee Cole, and Deborah Haley mentioned our dance teachers. Carla and Diane Diani cited our mothers and grandmothers, "Nona" in Diane's case. Deborah stated that her grandmother, who was half Native American, was very supportive. Marion Kent said that her mother introduced Marion to her future husband! Linda Newton mentioned two Girl Scout leaders and Dorothy Sayers, a professor of children's literature. Marion cited a woman in Oakland who erected a Maypole every year for girls and boys. To all of these women a heartfelt thank-you!

Diane Diani, our president, has a wonderful tradition of ending the meetings with a joke. Following is the March example, "Hang in There:" Eleven people, 10 men and 1 woman, were hanging from a rope below a helicopter. They determined that 11 was too many and that one would have to let go so that the others would be safe. The woman most touchingly said that she would let go because as a woman, she was used to making sacrifices for her husband, children, and for men and boys in general, while expecting little in return. The men all started clapping.....

Most apropos for Women's History Month, no?





Early Minutes of the Women's Westside Improvement Club

It's amazing what's in the WWIC minutes! They date back to July 1908 when the Club started. The ladies met weekly. In the first six months they set projects in motion that we enjoy to this day: a statue a Washington and Park Place, a large drinking fountain, a park next to the Baptist Church, and the establishment of a reading room where the city hall had been in Mr. Crichton's place. Even the names are historical. These minutes are a priceless treasure of Point Richmond's history.

-Linda Newton, Past President

Point Richmond July 20, 1909

Womans West Side Improvement Club called to order by President Mrs. Curry.

Roll call officers resulted in all being present except Executive Board Mrs. Coleman, Mrs. P. Roth, Mrs. Wm. Lucas, Mrs. Dimm.

Reading of minutes of regular and recess meetings were read and approved after correction.

Report on com. on application. Committee reported favorable on application of Mrs. J. Roth.

Dr. Chapman was present to see if club would like to have him give a lecture entitled 'The Drummer Boy of Chicamauga introducing Tales Anecdotes' and Graphic Descriptions of Camp and Field. Also Original Songs Accompanied by the Actual Drum he carried through the war. It was decided to lay it over until next meeting to decide whether we have him or not.

Bills: Terminal for printing \$1.15

Communications: A letter from the Call stating the subscription had expired and wished us to still take the paper. Mrs. Marston donated \$1.00 toward subscription to the Call. Moved by Mrs. Adams sec by Mrs. Walker that we take the Call. carried

Reports: Mrs. Walker reported in regard to Palms for street and could be bought for \$1.00 per foot from ground up. Mrs. Garrard reported in regard to lots. Mrs. Curry reported see Mr. Nichol in regard to Playground. Mr. Nichol said if we would work for a Poly tenick school he would donate an acre and a quarter for school.

The question of planting trees was discussed, and a committee was appointed to see which would be the best to plant. Committee, Mrs. L. Adams

Mrs. Curry.

Bills: The bill of terminal for advertising 1.15 moved by Mrs. Whitecomb sec by Mrs. Asher bill be paid, carried.

Moved by Mrs. Younglove wec by Mrs. Marsten a note of thanks be extended to Mr. Nichol for his generous offer of donation of land. carried.

Mrs. Adams Report: monthly library subscriptions 24.50, receipts from baseball game 5.00, receipt from Pythian Sisters 17.00. Total 46.50.

It was moved and carried a note of thanks be extended to Base Ball team also Mr. Nichol for his donation of 56 books for Library.

Mrs. Whitecomb suggested having a dance but not sell tickets.

Mrs. Younglove thought when fountain arrived and we had Richmond Day enough money would be contributed to pay for fountain.

Moved by Mrs. Dinnick sec by Mrs. Asher we call to order at two oclock. carried

Receipts 61.25

No further business appearing before the meeting adjourned to meet Tuesday Aug 3.

Ella Dinnick, Secty

Point Richmond August 3, 1909

The Womans West Side Improvement Club met in the Reading Room.

Meeting was called to order by President Mrs. Curry.

Roll call of officers resulted in all being present except Secretary, Treasurer, Excutive Com. Mrs. Dimm.

Minutes of the last meeting were read and

approved.

Communications: One from Fred Carlyle offering to put on extravaganza for 50 percent proceeds. No action taken.

Bills presented: Bill of Daily Leader for printing 4.25, bill of Herald for printing 4.00, H.B. Kinney sent for Palm Hall for dance 5.00, music for dance 10.00, electric light for library 1.44, Mrs. Coleman, Mrs. Nichol appointed temporary finance committee, Mrs. Harsen services as Librarian 20.00.

Finance Committee reported favorable on bills. Moved and carried warrants be drawn to pay bills.

The subject of the Library was discussed and decided to keep the Reading Room open for the present.

Appointed for Fountain Day, Mrs. Adams chairman, Mrs. Hopkins, Mrs. Coleman. Mrs. G.B. Jones, Mrs. Garrard, Mrs. Dimm, Mrs. Whitecomb, Mrs. Roth, Mrs. Trautvetter, Mrs. Minon, Mrs. Hendricks, Mrs. Brooks, Mrs. Nichol.

Offers to act as Librarian Mrs. Colinian would take one evening, Mrs. Marsten this P.M. Mrs. Roth, Mrs. Mian two days each month, Mrs. Trautvetter two evenings of each month, Mrs. Walker two days of each month. This to cut down expenses to do without Librarians.

Report of finances: \$1131.61 in bank July 10, 1909. Receipts \$42.00.

Lillie P. Marston
Sect Pro Tem

Miss M. Harsens bill for \$20.00 was overlooked on day of meeting and was allowed at a special meeting called Wednesday evening. Moved and carried bill be allowed and warrant drawn.

Mrs. Marston, Secty

Pt. Richmond Cal Aug 17, 1909
The Womans West Side Improvement Club

met at the Reading Room.

The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Younglove the President and Vice President not being present.

Roll call of officers results in all being present except Pres. Mrs. Curry, Vice Pres. Mrs. Marsten & Sec. Mrs. Dimmick.

The minutes of the previous meeting was read and approved.

Bills: Fountain \$800.00, freight for fountain 173.65.

Report favorable on bills, moved by Mrs. Eaton sec. by Mrs. Curtain bills be paid. carried

Moved by Mrs. Critchett sec by Mrs. Coleman that a committee be appointed to see the People Water Co. to secure free water for the fountain carried. Committee appointed Mrs. Critchett & Mrs. Curtain.

Communications: From Mrs. Shaw applying for Librarian also a verble one from Mrs. Hudson a committee was appointed to see Mrs. Kudson and ascertain just what she wanted in return for her service. Mrs. Younglove & Mrs. Adams was appointed. A motion was made and carried that all communications be answered, carried.

The Librarian wishes to resign on the 28th when her month is up. The following members volunteered to look after the reading room until we secured another Librarian. Mrs. Marsten & Mrs. Coleman, Monday, Mrs. Dimm and Mrs. Brooks Tuesdays, Mrs. Eaton & Mrs. Younglove, Thursdays, Mrs. P. Roth and Mrs. Muion Friday, Mrs. Grover & Mrs. Trautvetter, Saturday, no volunteered as yet to serve on Sundays. Reading room to be moved in a few days to the new place.

The Fountain committee will meet Thursday eve in the reading room.

Receipts from Dues and donation \$28.10

There being no farther business, Club was dismissed to meet on Sept. 6th.

Nellie Adams,
Sec Pro. Tem



We Have Standards!

Episode 2: Save Your Character Defining Features

by Caitlin Hibma

Now that we all know that maintaining the historic use of a building is recommended, or at least that we shouldn't do something ridiculous like convert a house into a factory, let's move on to the Secretary of the Interior's Standard Number 2. (If you don't know what I'm talking about, or are still determined to turn your old bungalow into a bowling alley, please refer back to Episode 1 of this series concerning appropriate use).

The next tenet in doing a rehabilitation project right concerns character. Standard 2 officially reads: "The historic character of a property will be retained and preserved. The removal of distinctive materials or alteration of features, spaces and spatial relationships that characterize a property will be avoided." So, simply put, don't remove or alter character defining features.

The term "character defining features" is preservation jargon for the physical elements of a building that exemplify its historic materials and determine its structural and aesthetic identity. Removing such elements would destroy the building's ability to represent its age and important historic associations. Often they have a lot to do with the building's architectural style. Sometimes they are specific to the building alone. They can range from the way the building is situated on its lot, to its height and form, to siding type, or even the specific trim around the front door. If it gives the property character and the building would be unrecognizable or just not the same without it – if it makes that building that building - then it's a character defining feature.

It is important to identify these features before making decisions about changing them. I always ask myself hypothetically, if a feature were changed, would the property be fundamentally different? Would it lose its ability to convey its

age, use, physical qualities, or role within its surrounding environment? If I moved a house from the front of its lot to the back, or turned it to face another direction, would it still relate to its neighbors, or even its garden or outbuildings, the same way? If I took the gable roof off and put a flat roof on would it look less 19th century and more Mid-century? If I added two stories would it still look like a single-family house or an apartment building? If I removed a row of modillions from the cornice would it start to look less Classical?

Let's use the Hotel Mac as a familiar example. I would identify its character defining features as: its 3-story height, flat roof, boxy form, brick construction/cladding, regular pattern of punched upper story window openings with double-hung sashes, large storefront window openings on the first story, a centered entrance, and Classical ornamentation such as the bracketed pediment above the entrance, corner quoining, a molded beltcourse, arched panels and lintels over upper story windows, and a dentiled cornice.

If any one of these features were changed, The Mac would take on a very different character. If it was given extra stories or had some taken off the top, it would look much taller or shorter, and that in turn would begin to change its boxy profile. Same thing if wings were added to the sides or if it was given a gable roof. If its brick was covered with wood lap siding, or its double-hung windows replaced with large picture windows, or if its storefront windows were made into small individual openings or, conversely, frameless glass walls, critical characteristics would be lost. If the entrance was moved to the Cottage Avenue facade and no longer marked by a pediment but maybe a broad porch, or if the decorative brickwork, trim, and cornices were stripped, The

Mac as we know it would change and diminish.

However it is interesting to note, that there is some leeway. While I've identified the large storefront window openings as character defining, the window sashes themselves not so much. The openings speak to the history of the saloon originally located on the ground floor of The Mac. Small individual windows would convey a less commercial, more domestic character, while frameless glass window walls might anachronistically shout "Apple store!" So, the size of the openings should not change; however, the aluminum multi-lite sashes currently installed within the openings are recent additions and don't convey the age of the building, nor are they typical of those found on early-twentieth century saloons or stores. It would actually be acceptable to change them out for more appropriate plate-glass panes.

Likewise, there is flexibility in taking a cumulative or prioritized approach. While, as a concept each feature is considered significant, the removing of a small sampling is sometimes acceptable if enough of the feature is left to be exemplary, or if the samples removed are on less visible areas of the building. For instance, if we removed the arched panels over the windows on the secondary side facade of The Mac, but left those on the primary front facade intact, it could be argued that enough of this particular feature is preserved on the most prominent facade to continue conveying character appropriately.

So, take a look at your historic building. What makes it special, what gives it

character, what speaks of its age and architectural style? Historic buildings are made up of historic parts and pieces, and those parts and pieces contribute to the overall character and feeling of a building. New parts and pieces in simplified forms and modern materials might sound financially attractive or easy to care for, but consider how dumbed-down decorations and plastic parts are going to erode the integrity of fabric that contributes to the personality of your place... and keep that character well defined!





From Rita Gardner

Arts of Point Richmond: Established in 2008, it is a community association established to enrich our community by promoting support, appreciation, and exposure for the arts. For more information, please visit our website: www.artsofpointrichmond.com.

Current and Upcoming Arts of Point Richmond Exhibitions and Events



March 28-June 24, 2019: Art exhibition of Goyutaku natural prints (a traditional Japanese method of printing fish) by master printer **Bill Voigt**. This artform captures the details

of scale, texture, and essence of fish. For more information about the artist and this method of creating art: <http://artsofpointrichmond.com/gallery/billvoigt.html>



April 1- May 27: Photographs by **Chandra Walker** at Post Office display windows, 104 Washington Avenue, Point Richmond. Chandra Renee Walker studied Photography and Video at UC San

Diego under renowned artist and photographer Martha Rosler and documentary photographer Fred Lonidier. A native-born San Franciscan, she has a deep love and interest in the Western landscape. She has lived and worked as a designer and photographer in the Bay Area since 1991. Chandra has exhibited her photography at Grey City Gallery and Live Worms Gallery in North Beach, SF. She has also participated in Artspan's Open Studios 3 years in a row, and has been included in the "Tiny" show at Studio Gallery SF. She's working on a portfolio called "Trainscapes."

Email: crwphoto.design@gmail.com,

Website: <http://crwdesign.net/>



Through April 30, Artwork by **Sharon Goods** at Kaleidoscope Coffee, 109 Park Place, Point Richmond. Artist's Reception (open to all) is Saturday, March 9, 4:00-6:00p. This exhibit is titled "Mostly Talking Heads" and is a departure from

Sharon's typically abstract figurative art. She describes this work as follows: It's "more graphic novel-esque. Favorite quotes, collected over the past few years, have landed with images of slightly offbeat characters to depict the humor, angst, absurdity, and vulnerability of the human drama."

Wicked Point Richmond

The following excerpts from Bill Foster's recollections of "old-time;" were recorded by the late Don Church, and edited for print in 1966 editions of the weekly "Point Counterpoint"~ by late Point poet Robert C. Friend

It was 6:30 p.m., past sundown, one day early in 1903 when Bill Foster alighted from the train at the Santa Fe station in "East Yards" (later to be Point Richmond); and his own words best describe that moment: "I stepped off the Santa Fe Train from Fresno . . . and trudged down the tracks of the railroad toward the town on the hill called "East Yards" to find my sister, Mrs. J.H. Bedford, who had settled there a few years ahead of me. There was no road from the depot to the town and you were on your own going down the tracks ... The swamps and the mosquitoes were terrible.

One would have to fan them off in

droves. It sure was terrible." Terrible conditions or no, Bill was not one to dally, for the next day he went to work as a grocery boy in the Ben Shelline store located in the Castle Garden Hotel, near the Santa Fe shops. Hours: 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily (except Sunday). Salary: \$30 per month.

"East Yards", 1903, was in the midst of a booming expansion. John Nicholl, whose memory is honored by a park, a "Nob" and a tree-shaded street, owned most of the town property and waxed wealthy as the village mushroomed out along Standard Avenue, where, in the true frontier tradition, evolved the notorious "Hell's Half Acre" complete with red lights and the ladies who kept them lit. As Bill recalls, "It was like the Goldrush - gambling saloons, dance halls, fast women, and drunks everywhere. The town was very wicked; and a decent lady wasn't safe on the streets after sundown."

(Continued from page 9)

Methodist Church News

3:00 PM; Real Buttermilk Pancake Breakfast from 8:00 AM until 11:00 AM. Shop our basement sale and Pancake Breakfast (Three buttermilk pancakes, two link sausages, juice, and coffee or tea: \$7) as you enjoy many yard sales at the Masquers' All Point Richmond Yard Sale. We donate ten percent of our merchandise sales to the Masquers.

Point Richmond Jazz: Two Concerts Remain in the 2018-2019 season. Jesús Florido, Friday, April 26, 7:30 pm. Jesús studied classical violin, Afro-Cuban, Jazz, Rock, and Fiddle music. Those influences combine with his Latin American roots to present a unique and eclectic style. Kit Eakle, Friday, May 24, 7:30 pm. Since January, the Point Richmond Jazz concerts have all been sold out before the doors open, with only a few tickets available for people who discover online sales closed. Purchase tickets in advance through

prjazz.org to guarantee your seat.

Jazz Piano Legend Larry Vuckovich in concert Saturday, May 11, 7:30 pm. Look for posters downtown or check the church website for more information in May.

Dennis Johnson, Classical Pianist, Saturday, June 1, 2:30 pm. Mr. Johnson will play selections from Beethoven, Debussy, Granados, Handel, Liszt, and Schumann. Suggested donation: \$15. No one will be turned away for lack of funds. All donations go directly to "Spirit In Action" to provide business grants to qualified individuals, families and communities in Malawi, Uganda, and Kenya. Learn more at www.spiritinaction.org

Summer is Coming! Vacation Bible School, August 5-9, 9:00 am to 11:30 am, for ages 3 to grade 6. My favorite week of stories, songs, art, games and snacks. To sign up, contact Jean Reynolds sweetheart05@mac.com

For updates, see the church website: pointrichmondmethodist.org



FIRST 50 YEARS OF MASQUERS HISTORY

*Over half a century of first-rate community theater in
Richmond, CA!*

Boundless Energy 1995-2005

In a splashy newspaper article in 1991, Masquers founder and Resident Director Josephine Camp said, "I want the Masquers to grow in talent, enticing more actors, more audience." She had said with pride, "We have a professional attitude. And it's always been a very friendly group. Nothing that we've set out really seriously to do have we been unable to complete."

Expressing her sentiment, she said, "I feel such pride in every member of the group. It is their theater." Four years later Jo was gone. In July 1995, Masquers 41st season, she succumbed to a debilitating lung disease which had weakened her body but never her spirit.

Her beloved Masquers Playhouse, that she helped to build and sustain, was now completely in the devoted and capable hands of other hard-working volunteers who embodied the same regard for producing quality theater in a friendly and fun atmosphere. Would Masquers falter? By no means. For many terms beginning in the 1980's, Pat Nelson was Business Manager. Elected for any number of 2-year terms, the Business Manager was not only an administrator but a hard working motivator, who conducted the group business meetings with positive energy, creative expertise, and good humor. Chris Dover volunteered to take on

Chris Dover and Robert Hamm in "Oleanna" (1996 Envision)



the financial duties and she also accepted a stint as Business Manager. When Pat resumed as the head of the Theater Administration Staff (TAS), the new position of Financial Manager was created and also her new position, that of permanent Managing Director.

The Masquers welcomed dynamo Robert Love as her successor when Pat retired in 2001. A longtime Masquer actor, director, and set designer, Robert responded to his added responsibility by devoting even more energy and

*Katie Dederian
and Gregg Klein
in "Into the
Woods" (1998)*



dedication to the functioning of the Masquers. The Playhouse burgeoned with theatrical offerings throughout this decade. Not only were main season shows in full flower, but many other fine shows took root and flourished on the nubbins of the Masquers stage calendar.

Main Season

Praise from reviewers for directing, acting, and set design continued to be strong. Sweeney Todd : "sharp direction of Robert Love," "particularly inventive staging ." *A Few Good Men*: "riveting," "precisely directed by Betty Baker Bindner." *Man of La Mancha*:

Pat Nelson's direction "expert" and "unerring" and the show "inspirational." The Secret Garden: "Director Debbi Sandmann works magic across the small Point Richmond stage, fusing together reality and memory through song, lighting, and movement." Picasso at the Lapin

1998
Stage One
Performance



Agile: "such a believable set [by Linda Ellinwood] you're almost tempted to hold up a couple of fingers and order another round at the bar." *You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown*: "...and what struck me most was the richness of just being in a theater steeped in dedication and hard work... the performers are not paid, they donate their talent because they love to act. Countless hours are put into staging the show..."

Mindful that Jo Camp had championed a kind of good taste she knew some patrons counted on, the group was nevertheless eager to push some traditional boundaries to offer grittier fare. If a show contained harsh language or scenes, warnings could be added to the promotional flyers and to answering machine messages. The 2003 main season musical, Kurt Weill's *The Threepenny Opera* directed by Robert Love, was



Scott Snyder, Gary Howes, Michelle Pond, David Irving, John Hull, Jan Brown, Robert Love, Chris Schwartz and C. Conrad Cady in "Assassins" (2003 Envision)

such a show that patrons either were wild about or hated. Luckily, patrons who were put off by indelicate scenes were delighted by the next musical that year, *The 1940s Radio Hour*, a sentimental tribute to the soldiers and songs of World War Two directed by Betsy Bell Ringer.

Other main season firsts this decade included Masquers taking on Shakespeare (*The Comedy of Errors* and *Romeo and Juliet*) and creating their own musical tribute to the century gone by (*The 20th Century Follies*, co-created by John Hull, Pat King, and Robert Love). Shows were well-attended this decade, helped greatly by the support of the local newspapers, notably Jack Tucker of the *West Contra Costa Times*. His reviews inspired many readers to head to the Point for an enjoyable show at the Masquers. When his

Hillary Waits,
Andrew Gabel,
Ann
Homrighausen,
Troy Guthrie in
"Mame" (1998)



column was in danger of being dropped, supporters of amateur theater rallied, appealing to the newspaper to continue to offer this lifeline to East Bay theater. Happily his column continued throughout the decade.

Envision

The Envision program got rolling in 1995 and mounted over 20 productions in 10 years. Sets and lighting needed to be of limited scale and cleverly designed to make use of the main season designs as much as possible due to the short dark

George Adams and
Richard Davis in
"Sweeney Todd"
(2000)



time between main season offerings. Audience and actors experienced worthy and memorable shows that for one reason or another were not appropriate for the main season.

Envision gave new directors and playwrights a chance to hone their skills and sometimes chose provocative topics. Oleanna audience members were given an opportunity to discuss its disturbing subject matter. Headed by Theo Collins shortly after its inception, the Envision committee chose a gamut of theatrical fare, from the simple heartwarming what-if tale in 1997 of *Camping with Henry and Tom* to the shocking, poignant and humorous Sondheim musical *Assassins* in 2003.

Galas

Galas also were held in the between times. In 1998, Robert Love put on the raved-about concert version of *Annie Get Your Gun*. George Johnson put together Leading Ladies Sing Broadway with a buffet, and reprised the format

Coley
Grundman in
"The Secret
Garden"
(2000)



with a Ladies and Gents version. John Blytt's flamboyant and warm-hearted ZaZa, a character created during La Cage Aux Folles, became the host(ess) for both galas and for special New Year's Eve variety shows. For the Christmas seasons of 1995 and 2000, Pat Nelson reprised Masquers' beloved production of Menotti's Christmas operetta, *Amahl and the Night Visitors*.

Stage One

Stage One, as the summer workshop for youth came to be called, enabled local kids to gain theatrical experience and skills. Later, some would add to their experience and fun by participating in a main season Masquers production. John Magee on the Masquers Board

of Directors administered the program and local parents found it to be the highlight of their kids' summer.

Supporting the Playhouse

In 1998, sensing a change in audience preferences, curtain time was changed to 8:00pm from 8:30pm. As always, a Masquers show cost barely more than a movie. To offset higher expenses, single ticket prices for non-musicals by the end of the fifth decade cost \$13 and musicals \$15. A season ticket was only \$55.

Masquers did find ways to cut expenses, such as Ticket Manager Robert Hamm's clever idea of creating reusable plastic cards to eliminate the need for new paper tickets for each performance. But expenses were unavoidably higher now and the facilities needed renovating

John Blytt in
"La Cage
aux Folle"
(2001)



and upgrading. For example, Ticket Manager Arthur Atlas initiated the Commode Replacement and Porcelainization Fund and championed the issue until conditions improved. Intermissions flowed much swifter with the addition of a second stall in the women's restroom, an amazing feat given the small space available!

Generous donations helped the Masquers each year to accomplish their goals thanks to fundraising coordinator David Vincent, Board members, and Masquer volunteers. Masquers

Kelli Valle,
Paulette
Herring,
Heather
Morrison and
Angel Almeida in
"Gypsy" (2002)



celebrated full ownership of the large warehouse that was boldly purchased the previous decade to house costumes/sets/props and provide office, workshop, and rehearsal space.

The Board of Directors chose a new president this decade. At a 1997 board meeting, Bob Goshay excused himself to use the men's room and discovered upon his return that he had been elevated from board member to board president. Soon after, he drafted a formal proposal to the Dean and Margaret Leshner Foundation and within a year received our largest donation ever, a grant of \$25,000. As shown in the printed programs, it and other foundations, community businesses, and donors continued to donate to the Masquers and the Stage One program throughout the decade.



*Norman MacLeod, Simon Patton and Conrad Cady
in "Ten Times Table" (2004)*

Other needed fund-raising traditions were initiated by Board Member Marie Peckham whose local grocery store, Santa Fe Market, donated beverages for years for intermission refreshments.

This decade continued her idea for an annual raffle with the top prize of a chauffeured progressive multi-course dinner and dessert at several Point Richmond homes. Also, the annual Labor Day all-Point-Richmond Yard Sale continued where sellers donate 10% of their profits to the Masquers Playhouse. And patrons can buy a bronze nameplate for a theater seat.

Onward and Upward

Jo put it in a nutshell when she said for the newspaper, "There's been a feeling — I like to think I had something to do with it originally — that we did the shows for fun but we always did the very best we could." Looking back on four decades, she said, "We've done so much good work here, and we've had great fun and great success." This statement summed up the fifth decade as well. May it continue to be true for as long as the Bay Area and its community theaters thrive.



*(l-r): Robert
Love in archy
and mehitabel
(2001);
Michelle Pond
in "20th
Century
Follies"
(1999)*

***This is all I have on Masquers history. Is someone going to write 2005 to the present?
Gary***



*Early photo of
Point San
Pablo Yacht
Harbor*

Summertime is Coming!
Point Richmond Summer Music Festival
Free Music on the Triangle
5:30 pm to 8:00 pm



June 14
Gator Nation
Afro Blue Grazz

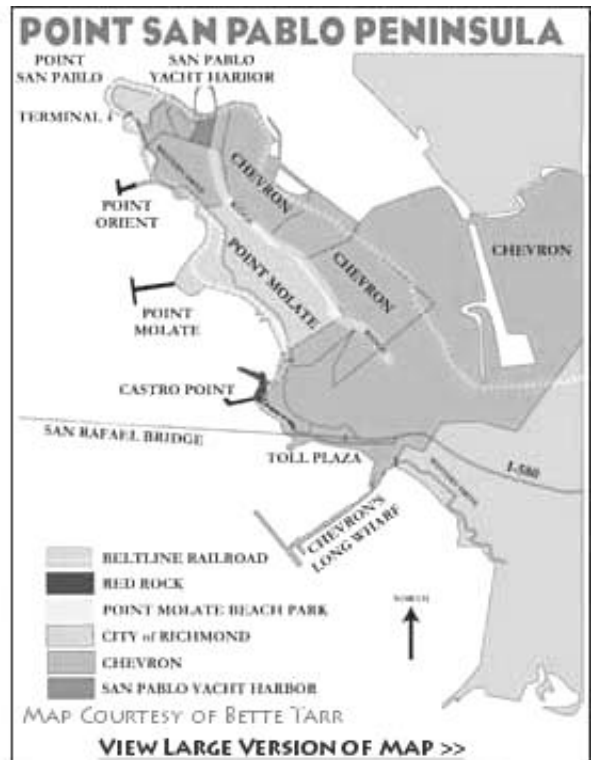
July 12
Dirty Cello
Deep Blue Jam

August 9
Maurice Tani & 77 El Deora
Pellejo Seco

September 13
Matt Jaffe
Extra Large

Things to think about

- ◆ What if my dog only brings back the ball because he thinks I like throwing it?
- ◆ If poison is past its expiry date, is it more poisonous or is it no longer poisonous?
- ◆ Which letter is silent in the word “Scent,” the S or the C?
- ◆ Do twins ever realize that one of them is unplanned?
- ◆ Why is the letter w, in English, called double u? Shouldn't it be called double v?
- ◆ Maybe oxygen is slowing killing you and it just takes 75 to 100 years to fully work?
- ◆ Every time you clean something, you just make something else dirty.
- ◆ The word “swims” upside-down is still “swims”.
- ◆ Intentionally losing a game of rock, paper, scissors is just as hard as trying to win.



People are Asking about Masquers

Are you ever going to re-open??
We are optimistic about re-opening!

I haven't heard anything in a while. What's going on?

We've signed a contract with Interactive Resources and are working on the scope of work for what exactly needs to be done in order to re-open and are currently waiting to get a detailed cost estimate.

How much is the repair going to cost?

Based on very preliminary estimates, we think the work will be between \$400K and \$600K.

So, when will you be back up and running?

How soon depends on several factors. First, determining the precise scope of work and associated costs. Second, how quickly we can raise the necessary funds. And third, the availability of quality contractors to do the work.

How can I help?

First, you can come to our shows! The popular Radio Plays will be back at the Hotel Mac on the weekend of April 26–28, for more info and tickets go to www.masquers.org. Second, keep the faith that we are working to re-open the theater as soon as possible. We will have a kick-off event where you can party AND give money! What a great deal! Your enthusiasm keeps us going during this process; thank you for your ongoing support.

www.masquers.org
510-232-3888



*PRHA Photo
#0145 from
Don Church*

*Winehaven
on Point San
Pablo
Peninsula*

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

Items of Interest Point Richmond, early 1900's

The Record and The Leader

- | | |
|------------|---|
| 01-03-1916 | New liquor law in effect. Bars to close at midnight.
Mrs. Mary Carr of 33 Nicholl (Kozy Candy Store) fractures shoulder when knocked down by the high winds of the storm. The bay washed over Cutting Blvd; City Hall flooded. |
| 01-04-1916 | After March 1st no milk can be sold in the City unless in bottles.
Influenza epidemic threatens.
Large part of San Pablo flooded when creek overflows. |
| 01-12-1916 | John P. Coy among 17 Americans killed by Villa in Mexico |
| 01-18-1916 | Present storm has caused 100 homeless and 1 million damage and 500 oil derricks have been wrecked in Taft-McKittrick-Midway areas. |
| 01-21-1916 | One mile of San Pablo Ave. in City limit to be paved. |
| 02-18-1916 | 400 palms to be planted in center strip of Cutting Blvd.
John Nicholl will dismantle his oil well. |
| 02-24-1916 | Ashland Ave. changed to Garrard Blvd and other prominent men get streets named after them. |
| 03-10-1916 | Pres. Wilson orders pursuit of Villa into Mexico after raids in US. |
| 04-08-1916 | Modern gypsies pay call here in 8 Cadillac trucks. |
| 04-13-1916 | Gypsies have a white boy legally. He was adopted in Louisville, Ky. |
| 03-15-1916 | New railroad from Ferry Point to the Brick Yard is open. 1st car of bricks goes out. |
| 04-22-1916 | Police investigating Adams boy who is with gypsies. |
| 04-27-1916 | All of Richmond Red Lights are closed except 3. |
| 05-06-1916 | Rev. Rumrill of San Pablo makes survey of the Red Lights. They burn no more he says. |
| 05-11-1916 | Authorities still looking for gang of gypsies with blonde boy. |
| 05-18-1916 | The gypsies are being pursued thru Oregon and were caught near Walla Walla Washington. |
| 05-29-1916 | Winehaven to get a new school house. |
| 05-31-1916 | Work continues on extension of belt line from Winehaven to Blake Brothers Quarry. |

Birthdays

April

LOOF LIRPA
Kathy Dornan Barnes
Billie Bonham Shaw
Erin Frame
Roberta Dornan Palfini
Charlene Smith
Ruth Wilson
Paula Israeli

Pam Wilson
Don Amantite
Joel Peterson
Lori Meister
Charlotte Knox
Monica Doherty
Eric Hoiland
Rosemary Corbin

Alison Lord
John Maxwell
Sherri Mertle
Carol MacDiarmid
Gloria Smith
Robert J.Palfini
Terry Downey
Sharon Mertle

Charline Barni
Louis Stockdale
Joni Loux Emerson
Donna Diaz
David Roth

May

Patricia Beth Dornan
Diana Corbin
Richard Mattuecci
Jon Doellstedt
Sara Eeles
Rena Gonsalves

Sandra Loux Fuller
Muriel Clausen
Sophia Dolberg
Julina Smith
Roger Glafke
Henry Marchitiello

Anne-Catherine
Hadreas
Shoney Gustafson
Winifred Boziki
Norm Reynolds
Patrice Verhines

Mark Healy
Karen Brougham
Hilda Gozzi-Reed
Annabella Feese
Lorenzo Feese

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

Cards, Letters & E-Mails

Please tell Gary when you see him that I renewed because the quarterly newsletter keeps getting better and better. Bravo for Mark's help! The Winter issue looks really sharp.

Thank you All,
Burl Willes
Berkeley

Thank you so much Burl, your nice compliment means a lot to me.

Gary



***I ordered a chicken and an egg from Amazon
I'll let you know what happens***

Memorials.....

Douglas Tenny Corbin was born in Rochester, New York on May 24, 1928, and died February 24, 2019 after a brief illness at home in Richmond with his family beside him. He was the son of Eugene Corbin & Mildred Van Saun. They died in the tuberculosis epidemic of the early 1930s, so he was raised by an unmarried aunt, Alta Van Saun, who taught him to be independent. In high school he started his own business cleaning offices at night. His love of his Gilbert Chemistry Set as a child led him to major in chemistry at St. Lawrence University. He decided to apply his knowledge of chemistry as a lawyer, so he obtained his law degree at George Washington University, and became a patent attorney in Washington D.C. But, after a few years the west coast beckoned, and he joined the patent law firm of Eckoff and Slick in San Francisco in the mid-1950s. In his spare time he became active in the Democratic party where he served as the treasurer of the SF County Central Committee. Patent law wasn't exciting enough for Doug, so he became a Public Defender at the height of the "flower power" era. He was particularly proud of defending "flower children" and gay people against harassment. He also volunteered to buy houses for African Americans whose bids had been rejected, thereby getting the houses for them for less than they had been willing to pay. Working on Democratic campaigns and protesting the Vietnam war he met a librarian named Rosemary MacGowan who shared his philosophical, political, cultural & recreational interests. They were married in 1968. Shortly thereafter he was appointed the first Juvenile Court Referee for Contra Costa County, so they moved to the Richmond neighborhood of Point Richmond in August of 1968, where they lived in the same house for more than 50 years. Their son, Jeffrey, was born in 1969, and their daughter, Diana, followed in 1971. Doug's love of the out-of-doors inspired him to co-chair the effort to establish Pt. Pinole as a regional park. He always wanted his family and friends to join him in his many passions. Like a piper he led excursions hiking, backpacking and skiing in the Sierras, beach combing and snorkeling on the West Coast and the Caribbean, attending Shakespeare festivals, exploring abroad, golfing, and listening to opera. Sometimes he pushed people beyond their comfort zones, but all thanked him for it. His laugh was infectious, and he loved telling jokes and reciting his endless collection of limericks. In 1982 Doug retired early and led his family on their biggest adventure: a year in Spain. They studied Spanish and explored Europe to the enrichment of all. Back in Richmond, Doug re-discovered golf, and joined the Richmond Country Club, where he and Rosemary became active. Led by a commitment to improve his community he supervised a Habitat for Humanity development of four town homes in Richmond, and he served The Early Childhood Mental Health Program for decades as a board member and chairman. As their children grew and departed, Doug & Rosemary enjoyed Elderhostel trips to Mexico to study Spanish & the culture, Europe to study history and music, and around the U.S. to explore and improve their golf games, and they continued skiing & back-packing until their knees gave out. Doug enriched the lives of everyone around him. He was a voracious reader, mainly of non-fiction, and he shared his extensive knowledge with all around him, including his grand-children, who also loved playing games with him. Doug & Rosemary celebrated their 50th anniversary and Doug's 90th birthday last spring in Sedona, AZ. with their whole family. Doug began swimming as a child, served on his high school swimming team, and was still swimming a half mile a day at the Richmond Plunge until a month before his death. Doug is survived by his wife Rosemary; his son Jeffrey, Jeffrey's wife Janette Schue & their daughter Elise; his daughter Diana, Diana's husband Evan Berg, their son Cameron & daughter Jenna. A memorial celebration is uncertain, but if you want to make a memorial contribution please send it to the Early Childhood Mental Health Program, 200 – 24th St., Richmond, CA 94804.

Leo Garfield resident of El Sobrante, Ca, former police chief for the City of Richmond, passed away on February 20, 2019 at his home in El Sobrante just three days after his 90th birthday. He was born the 5th of 8 children to Laura and Dallas Garfield in Fremont, Nebraska. After graduating from high school in 1946, he enlisted in the U.S. Army where he served three years in the occupation of Japan as a military policeman. Discharged in 1949, from Camp Stoneman, Pittsburg, he settled in Richmond, where he met and married Doreen Daniel in 1951. Their marriage of 67 fantastic years, produced four children, six grandchildren. and six great grandchildren. Leo Garfield served 31 years on the Richmond Police Department where he served as chief for 9 years. He then served 7 years at the Los Medanos Police Academy. He enjoyed being with his family, traveling, reading history books and writing a newsletter to retired Richmond

Police alumni. He was a long time member of the Richmond Elks Lodge. During his last weeks at home, Leo was able to visit with his extended family including his wife Doreen, his sisters Dorothy Kennedy and Marjorie Palmer, his children Laurie Hailey, Barry Garfield, Doug Garfield, and Karen Zaragoza, their spouses, (Mark, Shannon, Debbie, and Jorge, respectively), his six grandchildren and his six great grandchildren, along with many nephews, nieces and friends. Leo's family would like to thank the many friends and community members who called or stopped by in the last few weeks to wish Leo well and reminisce about his years of helping and serving the community with pride, honor, and a warm sense of humor. Services were held on March 11th, at the Bethany Baptist Church in Martinez. Internment was on March 12th at the Sacramento Valley National Cemetery in Dixon.

Although Leo Garfield wasn't a Point resident, he started at the RPD as a traffic officer and was one of three officers that directed Standard Oil end-of-shift traffic at Standard Avenue & Castro Street before a traffic signal was installed. He truly worked his way up from the bottom to become Chief of Police.

-James Cheshareck

EXCLUSIVE OVER 90 CLUB

Martha Bielawski - 95

Muriel Clausen - 94

Mary Bianchini Highfill - 95

Tom Kenny - 94

Loretta Stevens Johromi - 93

Billie Bonham Shaw - 97

June Beesley Sosabal - 95

Mid Dornan - 97

Morris Simpson - 96

Brenda McKinley - 92

Victor Morales - 90

Alphonso Diaz - 95

Age is merely the number of years the World has been able to enjoy time with you.

CENTURY CLUB

Madeline Bellando Albright - 102

Delphina Franco Tawney - 101

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

CALENDAR/DIRECTORY

ARTS OF POINT RICHMOND

Art is for everyone, the artist, the viewer, the Point is art. Meets at 139 Washington Avenue. Contact: Irene Hightower, irene1328@comcast.net More info: <http://www.artsofpointrichmond.com/index.html>

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE READING ROOM

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

GOLDEN STATE MODEL RAILROAD MUSEUM AND EAST BAY MODEL ENGINEERS SOCIETY

900-A Dornan Drive, Miller/Knox Regional Park. Sunday 12:00 to 5:00. Adults \$5, children under 11 and seniors \$3, family \$10. Trains run on Sunday and Wednesday 11-3, Saturday 12-5 viewing only. 510-234-4884 for details or www.gsrmr.com

MANY HANDS PROJECT TO SUPPORT WASHINGTON SCHOOL

Contact, Margaret Morkowski, 510-234-4219

MASQUERS PLAYHOUSE

The Masquers remains closed for building repairs. For more information see the website, <http://www.masquers.org>

PARENTS, RESOURCES AND MORE (PRAM)

A volunteer, nonprofit organization serving families with children 5 or under. Playgroups, social events, educational opportunities, Information go to <http://www.PRAM.net> or call 510-215-1734.

PARENT, TEACHER ASSOCIATION

Joanna Mina, Contact, 510-235-0157

POINT RICHMOND BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

Contact: Andrew Butt, 510-236-7445

POINT RICHMOND COMMUNITY CENTER

Info: 510-620-6905

POINT RICHMOND HISTORY ASSOCIATION

Museum is at 139½ Washington Avenue, and open Thursday's 11:30 to 2:00 and Saturday 11:30 to 2:00. See the *Editors Notes* on page 3 for next TPIT deadline. For information call President Mildred Dornan at 510-234-5334.

POINT RICHMOND NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

Meets last Wednesday of each month, Point Richmond Community Center; 7:30 P.M.

Contact: Margaret Jordon at 510-412-3673

POINT RICHMOND/WEST SIDE BRANCH LIBRARY

Information call 510-620-6567

RED OAK VICTORY SHIP

Open Saturday, Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday, 10am to 3 pm. \$10 Donation/Boarding fee.

Pancake Breakfasts one Sunday a month, April - June, August - October, \$9/adults, \$5/kids under 8 years,.

For more information call the ship at 510-237-2933 or the Richmond Museum of History at 510-235-7387 or visit www.richmondmuseum.org

RICHMOND MUSEUM OF HISTORY

400 Nevin Avenue, Richmond. Open Wednesday-Sunday, 1:00 to 4:00 pm. For more information call 510-235-7387

RICHMOND SWIMS

The Children and teens "Sail Fish" and Masters swim teams at the Richmond Plunge. Contact: Coach John Schonder, 510-504-0330 - September 25, 2011 open water bay swim raises money for coaching, equipment, pool fees and swimming scholarships for inner-city youth throughout Richmond. More info at <http://www.richmondswims.org/> or call 415-892-0771

ROSIE THE RIVETER NATIONAL HISTORIC PARK VISITOR CENTER

1414 Harbour Way South, Oil House next to Ford Craneway.

For more information call 510-232-5050 or visit www.nps.gov/rori.

See page 22 for programs. GREAT movies all day

WASHINGTON SCHOOL

Washington School at 565 Wine Street offers traditional and Spanish dual immersion curriculum, K - 6th grade. Contact principal Lisa Levi at 231-1417 for more information.

WOMEN'S WESTSIDE IMPROVEMENT CLUB (established 1908)

Richmond's longest standing women's club. Contact: Diane Diani, President. Email: italiandiane@gmail.com

Additions/Corrections? Email Gary Shows, garyshows@gmail.com

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

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E Mail: _____

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"/>	History Maker	100.00

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Pam Wilson

521 Western Drive

Point Richmond, CA 94801

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

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

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: garyshows@gmail.com

"This Point...in time" is a publication of the Point Richmond History Association, a non-profit organization at:
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Point Richmond, CA 94801**

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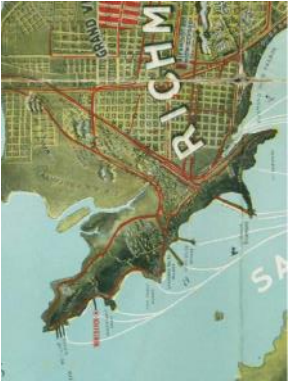
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<https://www.facebook.com/groups/prhafan/>

Richmond Museum of History 510-235-7387
Red Oak Victory Information 510-235-7387
Rosie the Riveter Park 510-232-5050

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