

# THIS POINT

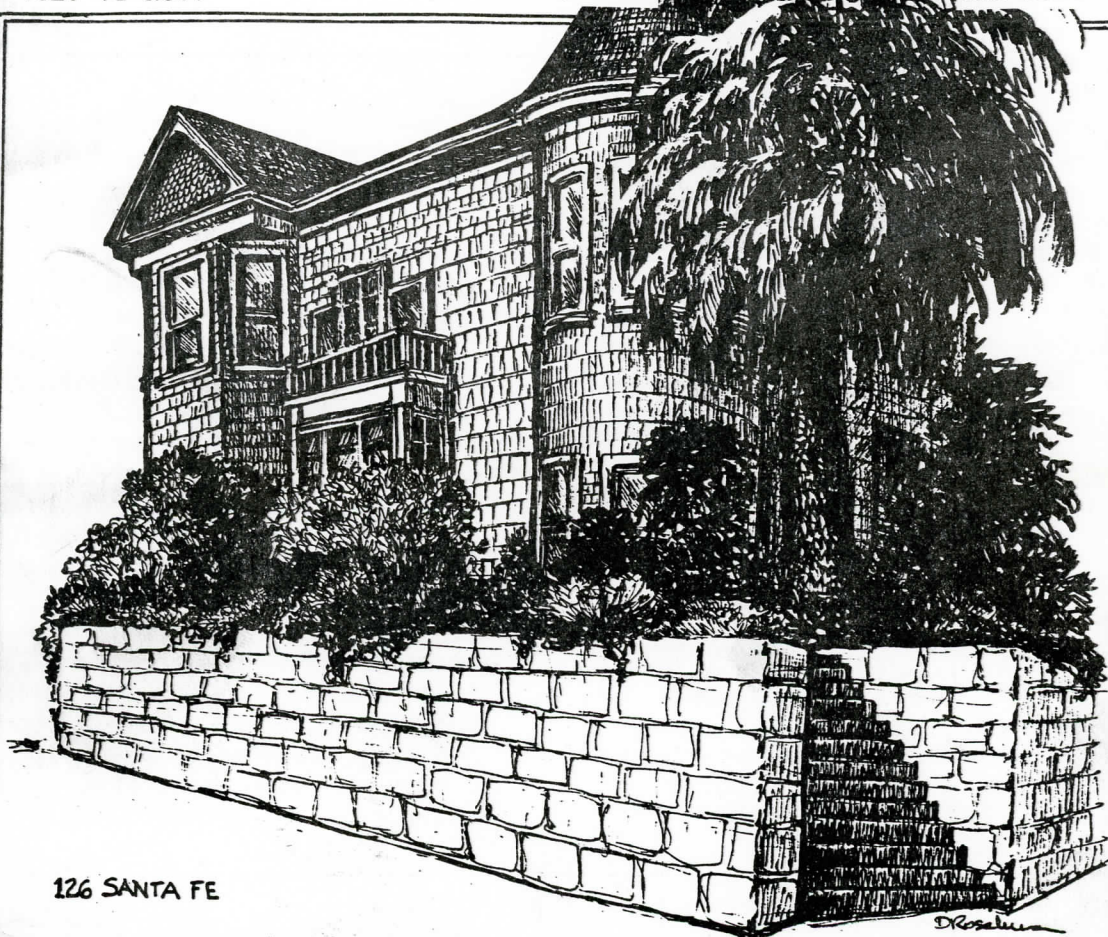
NEWSLETTER

A PUBLICATION OF THE POINT RICHMOND HISTORY ASSOCIATION

VOL. VI No.7

APRIL, 1988

One Dollar



126 SANTA FE

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## in time



# ♦ HISTORY ASSOCIATION NOTES ♦

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

*from Jerry Cerkanowicz, President*

The April general meeting held at the Hotel Mac was a great success. I'd like to thank all those who attended and took part in the program. Mrs. Monica Haley gave a two-part talk: the first a humorous history of Point Richmond in the Thirties, using water color pictures to illustrate changes that have occurred; the second part was about the art programs she set up for the children of shipyard workers during World War II and after.

She was joined by Mrs. Irene Hufford, Mrs. Eunice Helberg and Mrs. Josephine Peurifoy. A more detailed account of the program will be in the May newsletter. Thank you all for the interesting program.

Special thanks to Griff Brazil for letting us have our meeting at the Hotel Mac and for the lovely way the room was arranged and for the liquid refreshments. Thanks, Griff, a great time was had by all.

Two items were sent to us this month. A great photo of Mr. Joe Savill's grandfather in his butcher shop, dated 1902. And the other is the 1926 year book from Richmond Union High School that belonged to Nell Coward. Included in it are snapshots, dance cards, news clippings, pressed flowers, 'Big Game' tickets and much more. It's a real 'treasure trove'—our thanks to Nell, and to Charlotte Woods and Liz McDonald for their help.

You can still "Name Your Brick" and find it in the Indian Statue Park at Park Place and Washington, Point Richmond.\* The deadline has been extended to July 4, 1988. The volunteer brickmakers ("the Brickettes") will be embossing names in real kiln-fired red clay and setting them in to place this spring and summer.

The park's irrigation, electrical and landscaping work will be completed soon.

The May General Meeting on Sunday, May 22, will be an old fashion picnic beginning at 12 noon at Miller-Knox Park. Signs along Dornan Drive will show the way to the area being used.

Hot dogs and buns will be provided by the History Association. The rest of the menu will depend on you: We suggest that if your last name begins with A—H, please bring a salad or vegetable dish and if your last name begins with N—Z, please bring a dessert. (Or any of the above, of course!)

All members are welcome—with guests, too. If any of you cannot participate in providing pot luck, please know that a small donation to cover the Association's costs would be appreciated.

\*See application form and information in this edition. If you prefer not to use it, simply copy the necessary information on a piece of paper and send it with a check made payable to "Indian Statue Park" to

Indian Statue Park

P. O. Box 364

Point Richmond, CA 94807

## MEMBERS

*Pam Wilson, Membership Chairman*

*521 Western Drive*

*Point Richmond, CA 94801*

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

R. J. Anderson, Jr.

Linda Andrew

Edwin L. Bedford

Jan Burdick

Verla Camren

Jerry & Theresa Daniel

Marie Wilson Dietz

Henry Francis

Anna Soito Gaumer

Mrs. Wm. McCloskey

June Minor

Russell & Shirley Moore

Dody Perry

Kay Pinkerton

Victoria Scholz

Gary Shows

Elsie Spinola

Pauline Valenti

Ralph C. Voigt

Judy Walz

Donna Wilson

The Point Bar & Restaurant

And a warm welcome to new member:

Albert J. Kollar

*Al is another 'kid who grew up in the Point', lo, these many years ago. Hope to see you at the May picnic—and bring your big brudder Bill, okay?*





## Points in the Past

Articles from the *Richmond Daily Independent* or the *Richmond Independent*, courtesy of the *Richmond Public Library*, with the special assistance of the reference librarians.

### 70 YEARS AGO . . .

by *Deirdre Cerkanowicz*

#### CUTTING FILES APPEAL BOND

"H. C. Cutting, president of the Monetary Trust Company, deposited with the clerk of the U. S. district court today, a certificate for 1175 shares of stock of the Pt. Richmond Canal and Land Company pending an appeal from the judgment of District Judge W. C. Van Fleet in February, in the action brought by Henry J. and Francis J. Woodward to the United States Circuit Court of Appeals.

Cutting as(sic) recently adjudged in contempt . . . for failure to pay fees(sic) of \$500 to master in chancery H. M. Wright . . . and Cutting spent two days in the Alameda county jail before finding(sic) a \$1500 appeal bond . . ."

*April 1, 1918*

#### KOZY KOVE WILL OPEN SOON

"Renovation of Kozy Kove preparatory to opening of the season is going on under supervision of Mrs. Shenkle, owner of the place. While the date for the opening has not been named it is thought that it will be soon. . . . The resort has been very popular with Richmond people for several seasons."

*April 1, 1918*

#### SUMMER SCHEDULE FOR FERRY TO START

"Manager Mose Moch of the Richmond-San Rafael Ferry announced today that the

new summer schedule. . . would go into effect next Saturday.

"We have been carrying record loads the last few days" said Moch, "and see that we must put on the heavier schedule right away. We had to run an extra boat Sunday. . ."

*April 2, 1918*

#### CLOSING OF SALOONS ASKED IN BAY AREA

"Edwin E. Grant who took a prominent part as the paid detective of the State Law and Enforcement League in creating the five-mile dry zone about Mare Island navy yard would now close up saloons in Richmond, San Pablo, El Cerrito, Oakland, San Francisco, Alameda, Albany and Emeryville, by the creation of a similar dry zone about Goat Island. . .

He has submitted . . . evidence . . . charging that liquor is being supplied to enlisted men and that they are allowed to frequent houses of ill fame in San Francisco and Oakland. . .

Grant has appealed to Secretary of the Navy Daniels to issue the dry zone order here."

*April 3, 1918*

#### CITY SET FOR GRAND ASSEMBLY

"No war sentiment(like) that which stirs Richmond today has yet moved the people of the city. Little by little the intense call of the great struggle "over there" has been reaching deeper into the evident need of everyone to do his or her part—these things combine to make today's exercises in commemorating the declaration of war the important



event of the year . . ."

#### **WEST SIDE STORES CLOSE FOR PARADE**

"Point Richmond merchants will show their patriotism by closing their stores promptly at 7 o'clock this evening so that the merchants can march in the Libery Loan parade.

"I would like to see every merchant in Richmond take his place in the line. . . ' said L. Garfinkle, prominent west side merchant who is president of the Richmond Merchants Association."

#### **STANDARD OIL TO MARCH IN FORCE**

" . . . thousands of Standard Oil employees . . . will march in the parade tonight . . .

Captain Oscar Long of the Home Guards will . . . head the line-up assisted by E. C. Axelson, First Brigade, mechanical departments; W. R. Selby, Second Brigade, manufacturing departments; and H. M. Flint, Third Brigade, offices, laboratories and guards. . .

. . . First Brigade: Captains A. B. McVickers, E. R. Axelson, W. L. Thompson, W. F. Faber, A. A. Higgins, R. H. Ivory, James Cassidy, William Richmond, Harry Marland, J. F. Godman, C. B. Desmond, H. W. Mergenthal and Joseph Eaton.

. . . Second Brigade: Captains L. H. Transue, H. H. Krumdick, Lee Dicely, J. A. Bell, C. A. Miller, William Ireland, E. L. Scofield, G. A. Garrard, James Allison, Thomas Siegel, A. B. Innes, W. B. Hamilton, W. D. Mason, Charles Delp, J. Garvin and John Hartnett.

. . . Third Brigade: Captains T. E. Bree, E. W. Morgan, J. P. Arnold, A. B. Brooks, Jr., H. W. Tuller, Charles Hadsell, P. M. Neville. . .

April 6, 1918

*(The preceding four stories all appeared in a front page promotion for the sale of Liberty Bonds. Some of our readers may wonder why we've printed all these names but to many of our readers who are old time Pointers and S.O. people, they are friends and neighbors of a smaller, closer community of yesteryear. Even ye olde editor recalls many of them even though she was born five years after this day in history!)*

#### **U. S. TO OPEN HARBOR DREDGING BIDS**

"The call of the Government for bids for the first dredging contract on the Richmond inner harbor, to be let by the United States, is expected to bring out several proposals, as this is deemed one of the largest contracts to be let about the bay at this time and the cash for payment, \$200,000, is lying in the Treasury. . . Actual work on the dredging is expected to begin in May . . .

Development of the new deep water frontage at the south side of Richmond is urgently needed and the facilities to be provided and the land to be reclaimed are already in demand . . ."

April 13, 1918

#### **SCOFIELD AUTO RUNS INTO BAY**

"Mrs. Iva Scofield, 509 Washington avenue, lost a new Paige automobile last night when the machine was wrecked at the bay edge after racing and rolling down the hill below her home.

Mrs. Scofield lives at the summit of Washington avenue. Last evening, after having taken her sister, Mrs. Harry Osborn, who is visiting here, out for a ride, she left the car standing at the summit of the hill.

. . . the brake became loosened and the car dashed down the hill, rolling over several times . . . No one was in the car, which ended up on the beach below the house, badly wrecked."

April 18, 1918

#### **MYSTERY VISIT HERE BY MASKED MEN**

"That pro-Germanism and Liberty Bond slackers will be dealt with without fear or favor was the announcement made Saturday evening when a parade of seventy-five masked men passed through the business streets of the city.

The paraders were in autos and they came practically unannounced and departed with out any flare (sic) otherwise than the tooting of their horns. The men wore black gowns and black masks. The machines moved along



slowly so that signs (on) stuffed dummies (on) miniature gallows could be read. 'He was a pro-German.' 'He was an alien slacker.' 'He did not buy Liberty Bonds.' . . . were among the placards. . . Many of the machines carried banners, 'Death to slackers' and 'Tar and feathers for alien slackers.'

Rumors have been current . . . that a secret organization of red-blooded Americans had been formed . . . and that a list of people who refused to buy Liberty Bonds was being secured and evidence being gathered concerning pro-Germans and draft evaders . . . the police department says that is has no cause for interference unless some overt act is attempted . . ."

April 22, 1918

#### ALIEN CARRIES POISON-ARRESTED

"Peter Ackermann, a German alien, was arrested this morning with a bottle of poison in his possession and without a registration card. He was taken to the police station where he was quizzed . . .

According to (his) story, Ackermann has been up in the mountains ever since the alien registration order was given and has not been acquainted with (it). . . the poison was for killing vermin.

Although the police believe the man's story is plausible, they are holding him subject to federal investigation."

April 22, 1918

#### D. A. ANSWERS 'RED LIGHTS' CHARGES

"Thos. D. Johnston, District Attorney of Contra Costa county, when interviewed by an Independent reporter with reference to alleged vice conditions . . .

'Myself and other officials of this county have not only at the present time, but have in the past made continuous efforts to rid the county of houses of ill fame. Up to the time of the discovery of the two houses in the western end of the county by ex-Senator Grant, we had no information to the effect that there were any in existence. Since I have been in office, I have closed up

over twenty houses of ill fame . . . I have not refused at any time to proceed against places of this character and have sent several inhabitants of these places to jail for criminal contempt for violating court orders . . ."

April 25, 1918

#### NIGHT RIDERS PHOTO GAINS FAME

"Richmond Night Riders will be nationally known. One of the largest newspaper associations in the United States has secured a photograph of the regalia used by seventy-five men who rode through the streets of this city last Saturday evening announcing that Liberty Bond slackers and pro-Germans would be taken car(sic) of.

The picture will show the black hooded gown with the white skull and cross bones on the breast and shoulders and will be sold to several thousand newspapers throughout the country . . . The caption over the picture is 'The Men Who Are Seeking Slackers in Richmond, California' . . ."

April 26, 1918

#### Front page ad:

"Clothes cleaning by experts in their line. Ring up phone 452 and our wagons will call and deliver your work promptly. High class cleaning in all of its branches finished without delay. Mayers American Cleaning Works, 1116 Macdonald Ave."

April 26, 1918

#### 60 YEARS AGO . . .

by Zoanna Kille

#### 'MADAME MAYOR' RULES COUNCIL

"Mayor Mattie A. Chandler of Richmond will be formally addressed as Madame Mayor hereafter. City Councilman E. A. Martin read a clipping from the columns of an east bay newspaper Monday night, in which a reader of the paper called attention to the fact that Mayor Chandler was usually addressed as 'Mr. Mayor'. The writer asserted that that was incorrect and quoted authority.



Martin moved that the Mayor hereafter be addressed as 'Madame Mayor' and the motion was adopted. It was followed by a barrage of 'Madame Mayor's' from councilmen and others desiring the floor. . . "

March 13, 1928

#### W.S.I.C. TEA ENJOYED BY MANY

"A program and playlet that delighted an audience of over 125 women was presented by the West Side Improvement Club yesterday afternoon at the silver tea at Trinity guild hall on the West Side. Those taking part were Mrs. J. Downey, who pleased with piano solos, Mrs. Virginia Bryant, amusing readings, and Miss Jessie Lambrecht, vocal solos, accompanied by Mrs. Myrtle Smith.

'Woman, the Silent Sufferer', was the . . . mirth-provoking play presented. Those taking part were the Mesdames H. G. Stidham, A. Shawl, H. A. Grover, J. Downey, Paul Dunlap, Amelia Eaton, J. Patterson, J. O. Redman, J. C. Eaton, G. W. Topping, Max Henry, S. Janes, C. Forbes and J. Vloeberghs.

Delicious refreshments were served . . . "

March 13, 1928

#### EDITORIAL: CORRECT ARM SIGNALS URGED

"The police, traffic and safety organizations throughout the State are engaged during the present month in emphasizing the need of stricter observance of the California Vehicle Act with respect to proper signals by drivers of motor vehicles. This is a phase of auto driving that cannot be too strictly observed . . . not only must a signal be given before turning which is plainly visible to such drivers as will reasonably be affected by the movement, but this signal must be given continuously during the last fifty feet traveled before turning. . . 'For a left turn, put the left hand and arm straight out. For a right turn, put the left hand and arm straight up; and for a stop or slowing down movement, put the left hand and arm straight down. All these signals must be given from the left side of the machine'" —Berkeley

#### Gazette"

March 14, 1928

*And, of course, all those things had to take place after rolling down one's window—rain, sleet, snow or wind notwithstanding—and manipulating one's car with one hand—power steering by Armstrong, not automatic—clutching and braking, all the while, neither of these assisted by power other than foot and leg. So what's with today's drivers who seem unable to exert one finger on a small lever right on the steering column?!?*

#### FAILURE TO PROVIDE CHARGED

"Joseph Musso, 34, Richmond brick layer, will go on trial Friday for failure to provide for minor children. This will be the first trial here under a new state law which provides that if the defendant is convicted he may be forcibly employed on a public job and wages of \$2 a day paid to his wife and family . . . "

March 14, 1928

#### BID OPENING SET FOR STANDARD AVE.

"Bids for the paving of Standard avenue between Garrard boulevard and Castro street, will be opened by the city council Monday evening, March 26. The paving was ordered and bids called for last night, after the council had overruled protests of 16 property owners in the assessment district (who) hold property on the hill. . . "

A. F. Stone, 542 Golden Gate avenue,



The First Bank was moved over to Richmond when taken over by Mercantile Trust. It then became a Pool Hall—Photo courtesy of the Don Church Collection



one of the protestants, . . . said he had been informed that the assessments would amount to \$200 to \$300 per lot. When told the assessment . . . would amount to only about \$8 he withdrew the protest.

The paving . . . will complete a project started several years ago . . . The street has been widened to 80 feet . . . This is the only traffic artery serving the Standard Oil plant, the Richmond-San Rafael ferry, Winehaven and several small plants and docks along Point San Pablo . . ."

March 19, 1928

#### NOTARY PUBLIC MOVES OFFICE

"H. G. Stidham, notary public and insurance agent at 163 Washington avenue on the West Side, has moved his office to 201 Washington avenue. The new offices are now in the Old City Hall Building, and which is now known as the Point Masonic Temple."

April 11, 1928

#### FIRE QUELLED ON WEST SIDE

"Fire at 35 Terrace avenue last night threatened for a short time to destroy the home of J. D. Grover of Berkeley. Local fire apparatus put out the blaze, however, before much damage was done, beyond a scorched wall.

Firemen were slightly delayed from arriving at the building as the wrong number was turned in . . . according to Assistant Fire Chief J. L. Barry . . .

It is believed the fire was caused by sparks in the flat above, occupied by E. P. Shore, which ignited a cardboard covering over a flue opening on the lower floor."

April 11, 1928

#### 50 YEARS AGO . . .

by Zoanna Kille

#### SUSPENDED SENTENCE FOR DISTURBER

"William Reddick, 29, 529 Standard avenue, received a 30-day suspended sentence and . . . one year's probation when he appeared before Police Judge Leo G. Marcollo today on charges of disturbing the peace.

The complaint was preferred by Reddick's former wife, Mrs. Irma Reddick, 325 Fifth

street, who claimed that Reddick came to her home last night with a revolver.

Judge Marcollo stipulated in the probation order that Reddick . . . turn his gun over to the police department for the ensuing year."

March 1, 1938

#### FERRY STRIKE PARLEY SET FOR TODAY

"An early settlement' of the Richmond-San Rafael ferry strike was forecast today by Walter Mathewson, United States commissioner of conciliation, . . . appointed by The U. S. Department of Labor to act as a mediator in the strike that has tied up the ferry line for a month and a half.

Mathewson announced that he is arranging a meeting between union representatives and company officials this afternoon or tomorrow. He declared that since the employers and employees are . . . 'not far apart', he believes the difficulties will be ironed out. . .

The remaining disputed point . . . is the company's contention that 'confidential employees' . . . who handle the company's funds and accounts, would not be required to join the union."

March 17, 1938

#### WEST SIDE NEWS

"Members of the Thursday bridge club were entertained at . . . the home of Mrs. N. S. Stephens, Berkeley, last Saturday. . . present were Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Downey, Mr. and Mrs. C. O. Bryant, Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Woodworth, Mrs. and Mrs. C. A. Patterson and Mrs. Jack Heath . . . A supper prepared by the men of the party was greatly enjoyed at midnight."

\*\*\*

"John Fisi, who has been . . . recuperating from a serious operation is able to out again. He resides on Scenic avenue."

\*\*\*

"The Monday bridge club met at the home of Mrs. T. T. Cramer on Martina street. . . Mrs. S. G. Little and Mrs. A. C. Cramer were guests of the day. . ."

\*\*\*



"Whist players will enjoy the dessert party to be given next Tuesday at the home of Mrs. Walter Paasch on Washington avenue. The Washington P.T.A. is sponsoring this event . . ."

March 18, 1938

#### *S. O. MAN IS CIVIC CLUB SPEAKER*

"Today industry requires technically trained men to attend to the more complicated apparatus," said D. J. Hanna, superintendent of Standard Oil company as guest speaker at a meeting of the Richmond Civic League.

. . . education may be (in) engineering, mechanical, electrical, or it may include bookkeeping, accounting and legal training . . . Foreign languages and psychology should be included . . . according to the speaker, who (said) companies need men who can represent them abroad.

George Erskine asked why large corporations have done away with the apprentice shop system which was a benefit both to the men and the company . . . Hanna said he would look into the matter.

Professor Mathurin Dondo presided over a short business session . . . D. J. Robertson reported on a recent city council meeting . . . and Mrs. G. A. Ellis announced that the garden contest would be judged April 25 . . ."

April 14, 1938

#### *WEST SIDE NEWS*

"The Ladies Aid of the First M. E. church planning (sic) to held (sic) a food sale on April 23 at Point Masonic Temple. Mrs. Richard Walsh and Mrs. Billie Brown are in charge of the sale. "

\* \* \*

"A stork shower honoring Mrs. Cliff Sin-  
gree was given Tuesday at the home of Mrs.  
Leonard Rich on Nicholl avenue. . . present  
were Mesdames A. Peterson, H. W. Pierce,  
Elizabeth Diffin, C. E. Adams, LeRoy Alex-  
ander, T. T. Cramer, Guy Rich, I. D. Owens,  
Daisie Jenkins, M. Poore, J. O. Weston, G. J.

Allyn, Richard Walsh and Mary Willett . . ."

\* \* \*

"Mr. and Mrs. LeRoy Alexander are . . . vi-  
siting friends at Compton and Los Angeles."

\* \* \*

"Educational night will be observed at a  
meeting of Point Chapter O.E.S. Thursday  
at Point Masonic Temple . . . Mrs. Eva Doney  
Miss Katherine McCracken and Mary Moyle  
will serve refreshments . . ."

\* \* \*

"Miss Helen Ceridono of 50 Nicholl ave-  
nue is vacationing in Yosemite Valley for  
ten days . . ."

April 14, 1938

#### *BOY SCOUT NEWS*

"Recently members of Boy Scout Troop 1  
put on a tenderfoot investiture ceremony for  
their candidates at Washington school.

Those awarded tenderfoot badges were  
Jim Wilson, Spiro Cakos, Fred James, James  
Keenan, Bruce Bartram, Billy Nixon and  
Karl Feudner. . . At a court of honor follow-  
ing the ceremony merit badges were received  
by Martin Busby, Ken Nystrom of Troop 1  
and Dick Hinkley of Troop 12. Martin Busby  
also received a star Scout badge with a cer-  
tificate and a junior assistant Scoutmaster's  
badge.

Robert McAfee and Martin Busby received  
one year service stars.

Percy T. Kunkel, Scoutmaster, reports  
that his troop is rapidly advancing and that  
all boys are invited to attend their weekly  
meetings."

April 15, 1938

#### *\$192,000 APPROVED FOR HARBOR WORK*

"Richmond's plea for federal funds to  
cut down Point Potrero and widen the chan-  
nel into the inner harbor has been approved  
by the . . . army engineers, according to a  
telegram received from Fred D. Parr (which  
said : 'Following just received from Albert  
Carter: 'Chief of engineers recommended  
\$192,000 improvements for Richmond



harbor, including \$98,350 for 100-foot widening at Point Potrero. I had rivers and harbor committee adopt this yesterday, which will be in the next rivers and harbors bill to be introduced soon.' . . ."

*April 16, 1938*

#### **COUNCIL THANKS CARTER ON HARBOR**

"The city council last night authorized a letter of thanks to be sent to Congressman Albert E. Carter . . . expressing appreciation for his efforts which contributed to the success of the city's appeal to the Board of Army Engineers to reconsider . . . rejecting the \$92,000 harbor widening . . ."

*April 19, 1938*

#### **40 YEARS AGO . . .**

*by Pam Wilson*

#### **MRS. ELLEN HURLEY DIES AT HOME**

"Mrs. Ellen Hurley, wife of the late James Hurley died this morning in her home at 40 Nicholl avenue. Her age was 70.

Mrs. Hurley who resided in Richmond for 33 years was a member of Our Lady of Mercy Church. She is survived by a son James Hurley and daughter Eleanor Hurley both of the Nicholl Avenue address. . ."

*April 1, 1948*

#### **RENOVATED PLUNGE TO RE-OPEN**

"Reservations for the Richmond Plunge Water Follies sponsored by the Junior Chamber of Commerce as a preview opening of the renovated city pool, should be made before Tuesday, . . . the committee announced today.

Invitations for the event, which will feature Zoe Ann Olson, who recently won the national three-meter spring board diving championship; Barbara Jensen, former national backstroke champion, and other outstanding swimmers and divers, have been sent to . . . all civic groups.

The Plunge will be opened to the public at noon, April 17 . . ."

*April 10, 1948*

#### **30 YEARS AGO . . .**

*by Pam Wilson*

#### **'THE LITTLE HUT' PLAYS THIS WEEKEND**

"The Richmond Community Theatre production of 'The Little Hut' will be given its fifth and sixth performances at the Village Playhouse, 105 Park Place, Point Richmond, this Friday and Saturday evening. . ."

*April 9, 1958*

#### **WASHINGTON P-TA ELECTION SET**

"The election of officers of the Washington School P-TA will take place Thursday, at 10 a.m. in room 8. . .

Nominated slate is as follows: Mrs. Basil Cherniak, president; Mrs. Robert Davis, vice-president; John Emrich, second vice-president; Mrs. Walter Pederson, recording secretary; Mrs. Robert Dorman, treasurer; Mrs. Fay Hawkins, corresponding secretary; Mrs. A. A. Warren, historian; Mrs. Elizabeth Bailey, auditor; and Mrs. Victor Highfill, parliamentarian. . .

Plans are now being formulated for the annual sixth grade party. Co-chairmen for the event are Mrs. Gordon Miller, Mrs. Walter Pike and Mrs. E. G. Berg.

Mrs. Veil Hammond is chairman for the sixth grade picnic . . . aided by Mrs. Edward McKinley. The picnic will be held at the Rod and Gun Club.

Chairman of the third annual Spring House Tour, Mrs. Veil Hammond, announced her hopes that there will be a large turnout to see the seven Point Richmond homes on Sunday, April 27 . . ."

*April 14, 1958*

#### **CHANNEL DREDGE PLANS GET NEW LIFE**

"Word has been received here today from Congressman George Miller that a formal resolution has been adopted by the House Committee on Public Works for a review of the existing plan for dredging the outer harbor.

. . . Army and Navy departments have joined the committee urging the work.



Under existing plans the outer harbor, including areas surrounding the Standard Oil Company wharf, Navy Supply Depot and Parr-Richmond Terminal at Point San Pablo, would be dredged to 35 feet.

At the same time Fred D. Parr said that Richmond and other interested parties are seeking to include . . . dredging the inner harbor, including the Santa Fe channel to allow larger vessels entry.

Parr pointed out that when the Texas Company plant is completed, the harbor will have to be dredged to 35 feet to include their ships."

April 17, 1958

#### **B-B GUNS TO BE SUNK OFF PT. RICHMOND**

"A barrel in the basement of the Hall of Justice is bristling with B-B guns that will never again know the squeeze of little trigger fingers.

Sometime in July a Richmond police officer will give that barrel a gentle shove, sending it splashing to the bottom of the bay off Point Richmond . . . with 100 to 150 of the guns, including some so new they have hardly fired a shot. . .

During 1957 the small-scale weapons inflicted damage estimated at \$4,745 in the city . . ."

Parents of B-B gun owning lads would probably shudder if they stopped to think that the law holds them responsible for damage inflicted by their offspring up to \$300. Moreover, in recent years here two children lost the sight of an eye by stray projectiles.

...

April 17, 1958

*Sad to say, those really were 'the good old days'! The weapons sported by many of today's youngsters are a far cry from these old 'pea-shooters'. And they're used to damage more than an eye! Wouldn't it be great if they could barrel up all of these and deep-six 'em?*



### **IN PURSUIT OF HISTORICAL TRIVIA**

*courtesy of Stan Nystrom*

#### **ANSWER:**

Last month's trivia question was directed to the 'senior set' to see if they could match up former brand names of the Standard Oil (now Chevron) Refinery with their respective products. The match-up is as follows:

BRAND NAME	PRODUCT
1. Atlas (not tires)	1. harness oil
2. Mica	2. wagon axle grease
3. Zerolene	3. motor oil
4. Red Crown	4. premium gasoline
5. Flight	5. 'white' gasoline
6. Flamo	6. cooking & heating gas
7. Cronite	7. cigarette lighter fluid
8. Caloi	8. furniture polish
9. Pearl	9. heater & stove oil
10. Squibb	10. pharmaceutical mineral oil
11. Delo	11. diesel engine lube oil

Black stove polish, floor wax and sealing wax were included as 'ringers' to keep the matching process from getting too easy. Remember—these were brand names from before World War II. Can any reader name other brands for Standard Oil products of that era?

#### **QUESTION:**

Late in the year 1916, Rear Admiral Charles F. Pond, USN, made an official visit to the City of Richmond, then only about 15,000 in population. (Some accounts state that Franklin Delano Roosevelt, then Undersecretary of the Navy, was also in the party—although I have not been able to confirm this.)

The trivia question is: What was the purpose of that official visit?





# CHURCHES

## POINT METHODIST CHURCH

*Courtesy of Mid Dornan*

*Church history is rich with contributions of women. One of the church groups in the early 1900's was the Home Missionary Society of the First Methodist Church whose history is reflected in their minutes, printed below and taken from the stiff cardboard covered notebook purchased from "Shoen's Pharmacy in the Point". This is the 30th installment.*

"August 16th, 1912

The Home Missionary society met with Mrs. Gibbons with six members. Mrs. Pritchard opened meeting by reading Romans 8th Chapter and offering prayer. The Treasurer gave a very good report which followed the election of officers for ensuing year. Those elected are as follows.

Mrs. Gibbons	Pres
Mrs. Totten	Vice Pres
Mrs. Bradley	Sec
Mrs. Grover	Cor. Secretary
Mrs. I. Lester	Mite box secretary

Adjourned.

Mrs. Totten, Sec Pro Tem"

"Sept 1911

Meeting at Mrs. I. Lesters. No business transacted."

"The October meeting of Woman's Home Missionary Society was held Oct 25th at Mrs. H. A. Grovers with Mrs. Gibbons president in the chair. Meeting opened by repeating the 23 Psalm and prayer by Pres.

The business meeting followed in which was discussed the question of Kindergarten support for Lydia Woo for the following year. No conclusion was arrived at but cor. sec'y was asked to correspond with the matron of Chinese Home in regard to the little girls and to be decided upon next meeting. Move and carried that Mrs. Dearborn of San Francisco be asked to lecture before our society next month. The meeting to be held at Mrs. I. Lester's. Lunch

was served by Mrs. Grover and collection for same .75.

Dues Mrs. Gibbons .50

" Mrs. Harley .10

Mrs. Harley's name was received for membership. Meeting adjourned.

Mrs. C. Bradley, Sec"

## OUR LADY OF MERCY CATHOLIC CHURCH

*by Eleanor Hurley*

*Belated and heartfelt thanks to Eleanor Hurley for volunteering on short notice to provide us with the news from Our Lady of Mercy, stepping in for Marian Downey, who is still recuperating from heart surgery.*

During Holy Saturday services on April 2, two adults—Cynthia Kmetz and Sudhakev Joshi, received the Sacrament of Baptism and were welcomed to the parish.

On Pal Sunday, March 27, a Pancake Breakfast was served after mass by the Knights of Columbus. Proceeds will go to the CCD Program.

The Rice Bowl Program, held yearly during Lent and sponsored by Catholic Relief Services, was completed, and 25% of donations made will remain in the Diocese and 75% will be used for agricultural assistance in developing countries of the world.

Plans are in progress for wheelchair access on both sides of Santa Fe or Richmond avenues. Now that the ramp is in place, it is difficult to negotiate chairs over curbs other than in front of the parking lot or the ramp, itself.

Several parish members attended the Crab Feed sponsored by the McKinley Foundation in memory of Judge Patricia McKinley. Former Foundation award winners and some currently under consideration were introduced at the March 25 event.

**Britchell Hotel...**

Thomas McMahon, Proprietor.

Washington Ave.

Richmond, Cal.



# Gala Night

## RICHMOND UNION HIGH SCHOOL

NOVEMBER 17, 1933

Plume of Purity March.....Lithgow

### CAMP FIRE MEMORIES

courtesy of Mid Dornan

*Maude Wood was a Camp Fire Girls leader in the Point, 1932-33. A scrapbook of their activities, "Diary of the Pikida Wakan Camp Fire Group", was kept by Pikida, Kokokocho, Wakoda, Wapo Moma and Tanda, Indian names the girls chose for themselves. This is the 14th installment of excerpts from the diary.*

"Friday the 17th the girls went to the high school play instead of having a meeting. Three of the girls went with Miss Wood. They were Eva Garloff, Betty Williams and Betty Dornan. The plays, The Kelley Kid and Thursday Evening were enjoyed by everyone. After the play, Miss Wood drove the girls over to Berkeley and they all got a hamburger with pickle, onion and garnished with hamburg in between. The hamburger was mostly half cooked onions, but we got it all for a nickle.

Then Miss Wood took us all home and thus was the end of a happy evening.

Wakoda "

### A-MID TRIVIA

by Mid Dornan (234-5334)

Looking for a place for morning coffee or lunch? Have you tried the Contra Costa College Culinary Arts Dining Room? Located on the second floor of the Applied Arts-Administration building on the college campus, it is open for lunch from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Monday through Friday. It offers a gourmet lunch for less than \$6 per person, and, every Friday, there is a special buffet, featuring garde manger offerings and a dessert table.

Since seating is limited, you are encoura-

ged to make reservations by calling 235-7800 7800, extension 3311, from 7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Monday through Friday.

O-O-O

Are you that one out of five American taxpayers who wait to send in their returns on the last day? Ye-e-e-sss!

O-O-O

Best wishes to newlyweds Maria and Allan Peter Smith, Jr., who were married in September at St. Jerome's Catholic Church in El Cerrito. After a reception at the Mira Vista Country Club, they honeymooned in Hawaii and will live in El Cerrito.

Allan is the son of Marcellina and Allan Smith, Sr. of the Point and is a graduate of U.C.-Berkeley and Cal State-Hayward. He is a senior systems programmer for Lockheed Missiles and Space in Sunnyvale.

The former Maria Inchauspe is the daughter of Gregory and Diana Inchauspe of El Cerrito, a Cal State-Hayward graduate and works for the IRS in San Francisco.

O-O-O

Our enjoyment of Jim Beaver's West County Times column, "The Insider", was reinforced by his reference to the Point History Association as "one of the area's small pleasures".

O-O-O

A long standing dispute over development of the choice bayside properties known as the Tiscornia Estates has been settled at last. Located roughly between Santa Fe and Pacific avenues and Western Drive, the select 12.2 acre area has to afford the finest views remaining on the Bay. It was unani-



mously approved for 29 sites for single family homes, instead of a subdivision by a single developer. Much credit for preserving the area in the Point tradition goes to hard-working, dedicated Lucretia Edwards. In a show of good faith, she even exchanged a small lot to preserve the green belt at the top of the property, leaving Tony Cortese the only one not agreeing to the land swap.

*Guess the big-time S.F.-Bay Area social scene makes his home town small potatoes, huh? Ed.*

O-O-O

Just when it seems there can't be an improvement on the spectacular view of the world as seen from the Point, the Bay bridge "lights up" its cantilever spans, making an already breath-taking view even more so.

O-O-O

County Supervisor Tom Powers' water color art work, done at age five and a half at the Pullman Child Care Center, was displayed by Monica Haley during the recent meeting of the Point Richmond History Association at the Hotel Mac. Remarkably good, too!

O-O-O

Why do you suppose Richmonders need 300 gallons of water per day and residents in the Blackhawk area need 800?

*Aw, c'mon—how many of us have 10-12 rooms, saunas, spas, pools and several acres of property to moisturize?*

O-O-O

Helium balloons—colored streamers—colored signs attached to a fence across from the Spot proclaimed Happy Birthday to someone on March 23.

O-O-O

Point Historian Emeritus Donna Roselius reports from Port Orford, Oregon—"I have completely redecorated my shop, "From Oregon with Love" and it really is a cute place—I'm having fun with window displays. For Easter, I tried to make some little birds breaking out of their shells. They got uglier and uglier, so I made them into caricatures—and decided to use them for the window display, but they were small and insignifi-

Beginning April 23, Northwest Airlines will snuff out cigarettes on all its flights over the continental United States—the first airline to do so. Exempt will be flights between this continent and Hawaii, Europe, etc.. According to its marketing manager, the airline found that nine out of ten of its passengers were requesting non-smoking seats.

*Well, what kind of fool would want to sit in a smoking seat? Talk about the 'hot seat'! Ed.*

O-O-O

Speaking of hot—bet you like your pancakes that way, right? So, mark your calendars right now for Saturday, May 14, when Boy Scout Troop 111 will be serving up the cant, so I "built" a giant egg (equally ugly)—its eyes bulging in amazement, and one of the small chicks will have a caption above it saying "That's all right, honey—this shop has lots of unusual things!" (And doesn't that sound just like Donna?) She adds, "I'm testing the town's tolerance for 'corn'."

O-O-O

Belated congratulations to Todd Cort and Seth Fenton for grades that placed them on the honor roll at Kennedy High!

O-O-O

Campbell Soup is replacing its trademark red and white labels on those soups used primarily as ingredients in sauces, gravies and other recipes. The label, celebrating its 90th anniversary this year, was born when a Campbell executive in 1898 was so inspired by the colors in Cornell's new football uniforms that he ordered the change from the previous orange and black label.

O-O-O

Trefrey Ross is a special father—why else would he take care of a 5-foot boa constrictor for his daughter. (Please, Tref—keep it in the cage!)

P.S. Trefrey's middle name is Abbott, for the doctor assisting at this birth.

O-O-O

Attention, IRS! In Austria, the entire house payment, principal and interest, is tax deductible.

O-O-O



best breakfast in the Point at the 34th Annual Boy Scout Pancake Breakfast. This is the event that brings former Scouts and their support troops from far and wide for a super feed and what has become a reunion for present and former residents of the Point, as well. Make your plans and buy your tickets from present and former Scouts—you don't want to miss this one!

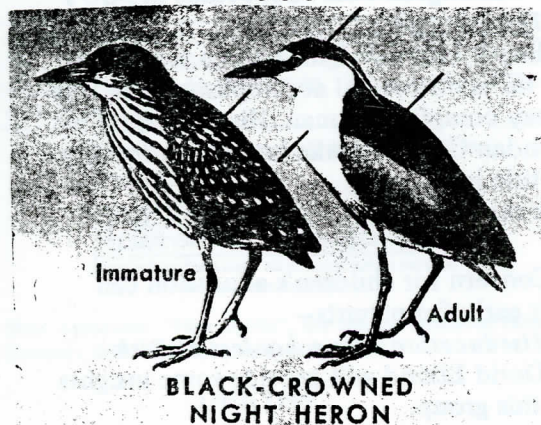
O-O-O

Christine Dennis is back home after a 5-day hospital stay at Brookside, undergoing more tests. Best wishes, as always, Christine!

O-O-O

Elsie Spinola wrote to correct an item in the Winter edition regarding her granddaughter, Stacie Spinola, seriously injured in a near-fatal car accident last summer. I inadvertently named her sister Stephanie as the victim. Both girls are the daughters of Don and Diana Spinola of El Cerrito and granddaughters of Elsie and also Christine Dennis, as well as great-granddaughters of Victoria Peterson. Stacie is now at South Valley Ranch, a community re-entry program for head injury victims in Gilroy. If you'd like to send messages of encouragement to Stacie, give Elsie a call at 232-6831.

O-O-O



Teresa Albro suggests a 'bird alert' be issued, to allow local residents a chance to visit the tree-covered lot behind 222 Tunnel avenue to view black-crowned night herons roosting there during daylight hours, in the

large acacia trees. At dusk, the large birds take off and circle the area before heading over Nicholl Nob to the waterfront to feed all night—the nightly ritual includes a repetition of the birds' distinctive (and somewhat raucous) call, during the departure and short flight to the shore.

Teresa notes that the property has been sold and present plans are for removal of the trees to allow construction of two rental units—so you may not have an opportunity to see the birds settled down for a long day's nap for much longer!

O-O-O

Congratulations are in order for Mary Casey, who will be 95 years old come April 20! Dear friends Pat and Frank Pearson put together a small celebration last week for those closest to Mary, including Pauline Valenti, Louise Banks, Louise Novarini, Dorothy Davis, Henry O'Hara, Eleanor Hurlley, Marge Thomas, Alma and Mel Accornero and Tony Ferreira. Many happy returns, Mary! (Should note that good friends Norma and Winnie Guistis were invited to the party, but were unable to attend.)

O-O-O

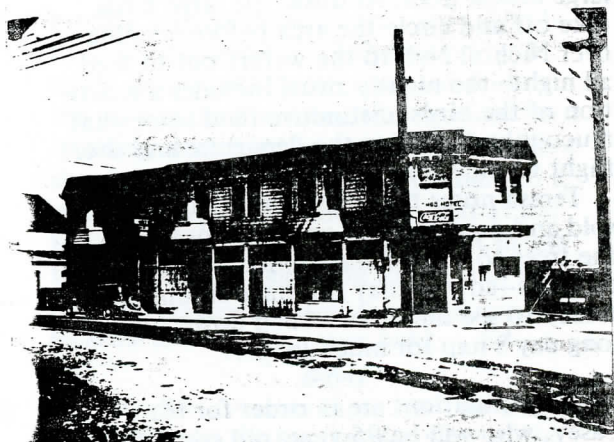
Hortense McGee (nee Gnaga), now of Vallejo, caught an announcement in the Times-Herald there of plans for the wedding in October of Rodney Brothers and Jennifer Hughes. He is the son of the late Rodney and Margaret Brothers, who lived on Ocean avenue here for some years in what had been the Totten home. The Brothers family were pioneer residents of Richmond.

#### HAPPY APRIL BIRTHDAY!!

Kathy Barnes  
M. Roberta Palfini  
Kari Elle  
Tara Kaufman  
Judy Walz  
Verla Camren  
Don Amantite  
Joel Peterson  
Lisa Ogles  
Michael Horn  
Anna Schwartz  
Bonita Klivans  
Elnora Surdam  
Mary Casey (95!)

Zac Smith  
Monica Doherty  
Bruce Bartram  
Dori Freitas  
Ruth Wilson  
Helen Kocker  
Paula Ferguson  
Pam Wilson  
Melissa Allyn  
Eric Hoiland  
William Kretzmer  
Russell Greenlaw  
John Maxwell  
LOOF LIRPA(??)





The old Columbo Hotel run by Ben Brignone—  
Photo courtesy of the Don Church Collection

## POINT RICHMOND NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

*courtesy of Linda Andrew*

New officers for the Point Richmond Neighborhood Council were elected at the annual membership meeting on April 5, as follows: Lyle Fisher, president; Bruce Beyaert, Theresa Daniels, vice-presidents; Barbara Fleming, secretary; and Jay Ward, treasurer.

Among the first orders of business facing the new regime will be participation in a study to determine boundaries for possible rezoning of all of Point Richmond, excepting the business district, as R-1 (single family dwellings). Councilmembers Rosemary Corbin and David MacDiarmid have indicated that they would back a request to City Council for such rezoning. The move is proposed as a means to prevent further problems with traffic and parking by limiting density in existing areas of the Point, some of which permit multiple dwelling units.

At its March meeting the council heard Matt Cantor describe plans for remodeling the house at 222 Tunnel avenue. He plans to live there and also plans building a Victorian style duplex with 3 off-street parking spaces, at the far end of the elongated

lot behind the residence. He also noted that he plans to retain as many of the mature trees growing on the property as possible.

Also discussed at the March meeting were lack of public notice re heavy industrial zoning in sewage treatment plant-Frog-town area; problems re proposed freeway-shoulder bicycle path on 580; public hearing on North Richmond bypass; and availability of window signs for local businesses from the Crime Prevention Group.

## WEST SIDE LIBRARY

*by Jan Burdick*

Some recent additions at West Side Branch Library:

If your idea of walking is taking a leisurely stroll on a Sunday afternoon, then—

*Journey on the Crest* by Cindy Ross will give you the vicarious thrill (from your armchair) of walking 2600 miles from Mexico to Canada.

"Alice Munro is a born teller of tales who can transform the anecdotal or apparently digressive into a rich parable of life in our fickle times." So writes a reviewer for the Washington Post about Alice Munro's

*The Progress of Love.*

Frank Lloyd Wright, known world wide for his architectural accomplishments, was a very complicated man. His biography by Brendan Gill will make interesting reading. Its title is—

*Many Masks: A Life of Frank Lloyd Wright*

Concern for children's education can start early for parents—

*Miseducation: Pre-schoolers at Risk* by David Elkind will provide some insights for this group.

If you have read *Birdy* and *Dad* by William Wharton, you have already enjoyed the craft of this fine author. His newest novel, entitled *Tidings*, is about a family gathered together for a Christmas reunion in rural France.





## THE MASQUERS

Playhouse, Inc.

105 Park Place, Point Richmond

PROUDLY PRESENTS

# THE CURIOUS SAVAGE

By John Patrick

Directed by Jerry Johnson

This tender, warm, and gentle comedy sometimes tests the question of which segment of our society should be 'inside' and which should be 'outside'!

Featuring:

Bill Atwood	Linda Ellinwood	Robin Steeves
Greg Behrendt	Christina Olsen	Marie Wedell
Sara DeWitt	Freeman Sargent	Robert Wood
John Dunn	Angela Skrivanich	

Friday & Saturday evenings — March 25 - May 7, 1988

Sunday Matinees — April 3, 24, May 1

DINNER & THEATRE benefit for our building fund at HOTEL MAC, Thursday evening, May 5. Dinner and ticket to THE CURIOUS SAVAGE for only \$22.00. To reserve, CALL RESERVATIONS: 232-4031.

Box Office Opens at 8:00 p.m.; 2:00 p.m. for matinees.

Curtain: 8:30 p.m.

Matinees: 2:30 p.m.

Admission: \$6.00

**RESERVATIONS: 232-4031 (24 hours)**

Reservations held until 10 minutes before curtain.  
Group Rates Available

Next Attraction: "High Spirits", the musical version of Noel Coward's 'Blithe Spirit', opens June 3, 1988.

## DEATHS

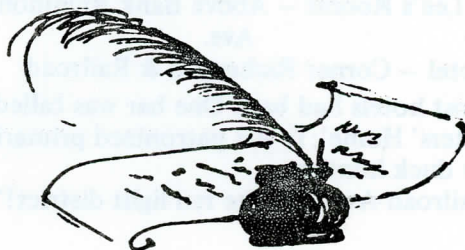
ABBOTT U. BREWEN died March 3, 1988, at his Richmond home. Our valued history advisor, Trannie Dornan, informs us that Mr. Brewen was the first baby born in the Abbott Hospital on Cottage avenue. Dr. Abbott was the delivering doctor.

Mr. Brewen, a life-long resident of Richmond, was the retired owner of Sunnyside Market. He never married, and is survived by one cousin, Max Brewen, of Oakland.

DREXIL HOLLADAY, 77, died recently in a Vallejo hospital. A native of Arkansas, he was a former Richmond resident.

Drexil and his first wife, Lucille, who died several years ago, lived in the Point on Mancilla street until that area was needed for the freeway. They moved to Nevada street, living there until Drexil's health prohibited his climbing the steps.

Surviving are his wife, Delilah, of American Canyon; two daughters, Dorothy McCuan of Alameda and Sharon Dale of Pinole; two stepsons, Michael McLaughlin, Vallejo, and Patrick Furtado, Pinole; three sisters, Lillian Oliver, Arkansas, Rachel Hopkins, Arkansas, and Geraldine Hooser, Texas; eight grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.



## LOVE THOSE LETTERS...

In a printout accompanying his membership renewal, Bernard Bernes tells us the following:

"I left Pt. Richmond in 1934. Worked at radio station KROW, then went to Reno, Nevada, and was at KOH. Moved to Chula Vista in fall of 1934. Been here ever since.

1922 grad. Washington School

1926 " Richmond Union High

1931 " U. C.



I thought it might be of interest to you to name some of the hotels in Pt. Richmond in the '20's.

On Standard Ave.

Colombo Hotel – Ben Brignoni. Hotel d' Italia – Corner of and Santa Fe Ave.

Nick Braillo – Standard

Lombard Hotel – Standard & Washington

Roma Hotel – Standard Ave.

Louis Mighetti – Railroad Ave.

Standard Hotel – Standard Ave.

National Hotel – Standard Ave.

Eagle Hotel – Washington

Maxwell Hotel – Richmond Ave.

Anderson Rooms – Richmond and Washington

The Baltic Rooms

Richmond Hotel – Rom Kenny

Joe Kenny's Rooms – Washington Ave.

Hoover's Hotel – Washington Ave.

St. Francis Hotel – Cottage Ave. McDuff

St. James Hotel – Cottage Avenue. McDuff

Colonial Hotel – Washington Ave.

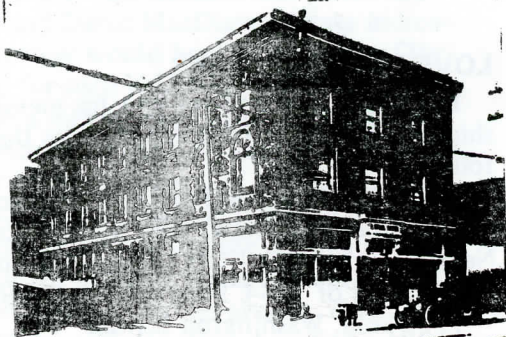
Mrs. O'Brien's Rooms – Washington Ave.

Mrs. Lee's Rooms – Above Bank Richmond Ave.

A Hotel – Corner Richmond & Railroad

Most hotels had bars. One bar was called 'Hunters' Home'; it was patronized primarily by duck hunters.

Railroad Ave. was the red light district!"



The Colonial Hotel in 1914—Photo courtesy of the Don Church Collection

Please fill out and return this form to renew your membership, or to become a member of the Point Richmond History Association, a non-profit corporation. Your support is greatly appreciated!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone No. \_\_\_\_\_

#### TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP (CHECK ONE)

<input type="checkbox"/> SINGLE	\$15.00
<input type="checkbox"/> SENIOR (65+)	7.50
<input type="checkbox"/> FAMILY	25.00
<input type="checkbox"/> ORGANIZATION	35.00
<input type="checkbox"/> HISTORY PRESERVER	50.00
<input type="checkbox"/> HISTORY MAKER	100.00

membership in the Point Richmond History Association includes a year's subscription to "This Point in Time" newsletter (nine issues).

Please make check payable to the Point Richmond History Association, and send with form to:

PAM WILSON  
521 WESTERN DRIVE  
POINT RICHMOND, CA 94801

Articles for each month's issue are due on the 20th of the previous month.

Please mail articles and items of interest to Jerry Cerkowicz

229 Golden Gate Ave.

Pt. Richmond, CA 94801

Phone: 235-1336

This point in Time is a publication of the Point Richmond History Association, a non-profit corporation at 229 Golden Gate Ave., Point Richmond, CA 94801

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