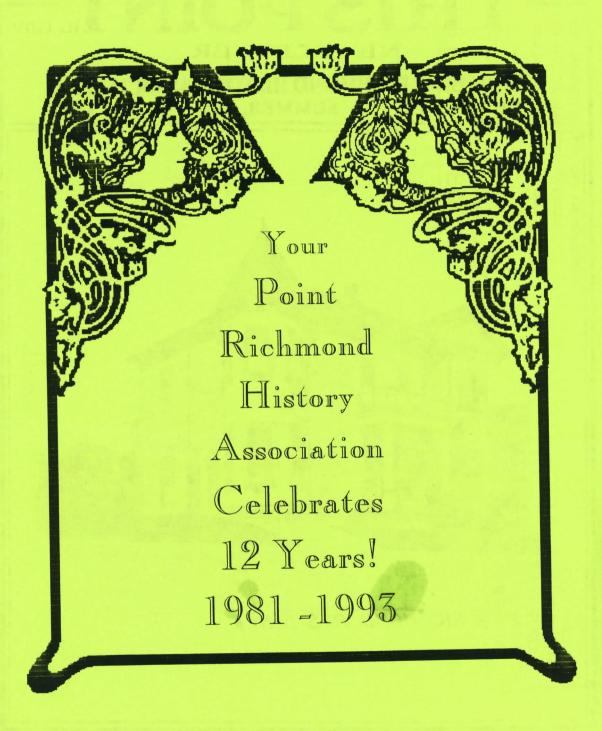
# THIS POINT in time

NEWSLETTER

THE POINT RICHMOND HISTORY ASSOCIATION **VOL XII No 2** \$1.50 **SUMMER, 1993** 



A RICHMOND RESIDENCE



# History Association Notes....

# From the President

# Mid Dornan

The Point Richmond History
Association begins its 13th year and we are proud of our accomplishments. A
Board of Directors for 1993-94 has been elected, membership is increasing and our editor, Gary Shows, continues to update our newsletter.

We are indebted to you who contribute to our success by submitting articles, writing a letter to the editor, staffing our museum, donating to our archives, visiting our displays, giving financial assistance, buying and reading our "This Point...in time". Our future is encouraging.

With this summer issue the congenial, knowledgeable and responsible newsletter staff will take a welcome break. BUT... won't you, our reader, pledge at least one article in the coming year for our paper?



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

DORRIE KENNEDY

ZOANNA KILLE

**ELAINE R. HARRIS** 

PHYLLIS FEYDER

MADELINE ALBRIGHT

**MYRNA WISHART** 

**DOUGLAS DANIELS** 

**DODY PERRY** 

JAMES L. WILSON

**DORIS SILVA** 

JAMES M. FORBES

THE CORBIN FAMILY

**PAM WILSON** 

MICHELLE BROWN

ALLAN P. SMITH

**JEFF CORBIN** 

MIKE & MARILYN CHARTOCK



And a warm welcome to new members:
BARBARA SMITH
SUSAN SHORE
ELAINE B. SCOTT
FRED BEESLEY
DEAN BEESLEY
PAT & EVELYN MACDONALD
JULIO CARRERA
JUNE (BEESLEY) SOLOSBAL



Museum Staff coordinator Betty

Dornan says thank you to the volunteers
who staffed the History Museum in
May.

If you can help Call Betty at 232-4317

Museum Hours

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

We are grateful to the SANTA FE MARKET for distributing this newsletter at no profit for themselves.

HAVE A GREAT SUMMER!

# Editor's Notes

**Gary Shows** 

Hooray! The Summer issue is finally here and we volunteer TPIT staffers get a well deserved break. Putting this publication together every month for nine months out of the year is a lot of fun, a neat creative personal challenge and very fulfilling. On the other hand it can be quite a burden and put one in that "how in the world did I ever get myself in this mess!"

Anyway, here is it is and I think you will be pleased. All of the kids were named in our Washington School Class Photo Contest. They are included inside and that means that I will have an all new surprise picture for you in the September issue.

I enjoyed seeing the members who attended the annual meeting. Anne and Muriel put on a good show!

This is not a Point Richmond story but yet it is an historical subject. I am the proud recipient of an "Outstanding Facade Renovation" award given by the Berkeley Architectural Heritage Association for restoration done to my downtown Berkeley store. A major seismic retrofit uncovered a "clear story" transom window that had been unceremoniously covered in the early fifties by signage. The window was in good enough condition that I had it removed (all 250 or so individual panes) and carefully restored by

stained glass artists to its 1922 condition. A four color Victorian blue paint job made the little commercial building quite a jewel. If you are ever near downtown Berkeley come by and see it, Alko Office Supply, 2225 Shattuck Ave.

Thanks to everyone who contributes to our newsletter.

Have a great summer!

The deadline for the September newsletter is August 20, 1993.

#### The Cover:

This image is from a 1908
Richmond Chamber of Commerce
pamphlet donated to the History
Assn. by Deidre Cerkanowicz

#### The May Issue Assembly Crew:

Mary Highfill
Liz McDonald
Sonja Darling
Mid Dornan
Muriel Clausen
Jerry Cerkanowicz
Gary Shows

# This Old House

by

Muriel C. Clausen

The fascinating story of housing structures in Point Richmond.

**CHAPTER III** 

# **TENTS**

# **Part Four**

After this there was not much, if any, contact for about two hundred years by the Coast Miwok Indians with the white man. The Russian fur traders made trading sorties from their encampment at what we now call "Fort Ross" up and down the coast from 1812 to the 1840's. Their interaction with the Coast Miwoks was friendly.

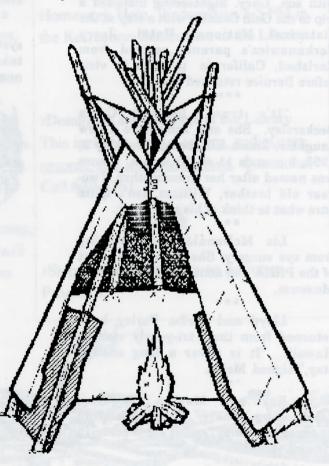
Meanwhile, further South on the coast, in 1769 Spanish explorers slowly began colonization starting from Mexico and

heading North. They gradually built a chain of Missions at or near Indian villages hoping to use the Indians as their laborers to construct the Missions. The Spanish sent Mexicans to conscript the Indians, making promises to the Indians that their lands would be held in trust for them until they were converted to Christianity. All along the coast they found that the Indians had no tool knowledge except for the making and using of obsidian arrowheads and bone needles. Nor were the Indians very good

as laborers as that had never been their way of life. The buildings that were constructed looked more crudely Mexican than Spanish. The first ones were stockade-like structures with walls of heavy poles set vertically into the ground and plastered over with thin adobe, a black mud that bonded when wet and fortified with chopped weeds. At first within these walls very simple shelters like Indian tepees were built for housing. Later flat-topped log structures were constructed, and then the Missions were gradually built. Later when the Mexicans took over from the Spanish they built small communities outside of the stockades that enclosed the Missions. These were pueblos, small towns made up of Mexican adobe buildings. Here they farmed and grazed cattle. Gradually these pueblos gave way to large Mexican land

grants as the land was assimilated. When secularization took place between 1836 and 1840, the Mexicans lost control of their large land grants to the Americans. However, to go back to the last Mission to be built, Mission San Rafael, built in 1817: The Coast Miwok Indians had been conscripted as had the others as laborers for this Mission. They were taken from their communal villages and put to work. The Indians slowly became disoriented and lost. They could not adapt to the life of laboring, and they were kept too long from their former way of living. Furthermore, the promise to the Indians to restore their lands was never kept after secularization because the lands had passed from Spanish to Mexican to American hands. After secularization the classic Missions fell into disuse and ruin and were plundered. Earthquakes and fire also took their toll. Gradually the Coast Miwok Indians were no more. Their heritage of Francis Drake's memoirs and their shell mounds are all we have left of the really first people to inhabit our coast. Their happy and bountiful existence is to be remembered. They had a successful way of living for themselves in really

simple structures that were a step between the basic tent and the permanent home as we know it today. Tents give way to houses, as we have found, but the Coast Miwok Indians were successful with ther "tents" for over 3000 years. Early settlers on this coast who came after them were not so successful, as their tents were rained upon and blown away in the very first years of their existence here. The Coast Miwok Indian has a rich history upon which to ponder.



# A-MID TRIVIA

- Mid Dornan (510-234-5334)

Q; Who was Mrs. John Bruce Dodd? (Answer at end of Trivia)

Flag Day is June 14th. Display "Old Glory" and review its symbolism. Do you know a vexillologist is a flag expert!

Bernice Shows, Texas, arrived for Mother's Day and a two week visit with son, Gary. Sightseeing included a trip to the Gold Country with a stay at the historical National Hotel. Jerry Cerkanowicz's parents arrived from Carlsbad, California in time to visit before Bernice returned home.

"It's true!" beamed Carla Beckersley. She and Tony have a new daughter, Laura Elizabeth, born May 3, 1993, 8 pounds 11 oz, 21 inches. Laura was named after her grandmother. Twoyear old brother, William, isn't quite sure what to think of his new sister.

Liz McDonald is recovering from eye surgery. She is Vice-president of the PRHA and active in the Richmond Museum.

Lloyd and Melba Farley have returned from their tri-yearly visit to Hawaii. "It is never a long enough stay," sighed Melba.

Fay and Marian Hawkins, celebrating their 50th Wedding anniversary also spent 2 weeks in Hawaii in April.

Dr. Thompson's informative and interesting articles trigger reader's memories. Shiela Fostiak recalls that when Esmeralda Court was closed, some of the houses were barged up to the Napa River and the Delta area.

Mike Chartock celebrated his Five-Oh Birthday on May 23, 1993 when his wife, Marilyn, invited friends, relatives and neighbors to an open house at their Point Richmond home on Bishop Alley. In the spirit of a birthday party, the invitation read, 'Children welcome'. Traditionally hasn't 212 Bishop Alley always been a gathering place for youth!

If you're driving the Interstate system, odd-numbered highways will take you north and south, even-numbered, east and west.



TIP: Are deer destroying the roses or shrubs in your yard? Go to your local feed store and buy a 50 pound bag of blood meal. Scatter the meal around in your yard.

Jan Feagley has been elected President of the Washington School Parent-Teacher Association. Parent involvement is imperative in the success of this organization. It provides a bonding between parents as they find other parents have the same problems and worries over their children. Kids know their parent/s are interested and are proud to know they are a part of the school too.

Does anyone remember the coneshaped tin toaster with four sides that fit over the gas burner? The bread slices fit on little racks and had to be turned when the inside was toasted. They are often used for camping now.

No wonder the English language is so difficult for foreigners. Is a 'pump' worn on the feet or is it a pressure suction device? Is a 'boot' worn on the foot or found on the rear section of a car? Is a 'bonnet' worn on the head or is it the hood of an auto?

In the "olden days" a person wasn't terminated, he was fired or laid off. Now they de-hire when they cut back personnel.

Members of the historic Point Richmond Methodist Church thank the community for donating and supporting their successful third annual Juntique Sale in May. Even those who resisted the 'treasures' found the lunch a bargain.

POW REMOND

RISTORY ASSOCIATION

Our neighborhood has many dogs...that roam before the dawn. These visitors I rarely see...that come within my yard. But, they follow canine etiquette...and always leave a calling card."

Jackson Bradshaw celebrated his first birthday at the Rod and Gun club but sisters Madison and Taylor enjoyed the unwrapping of the gifts. Jackson was entertained by the wrapping paper and ribbons!

A letter opener from Mechanics Bank and a pencil from The Times are reminders of the fun annual Point Richmond Stroll sponsored by the Point Business Association.

When friends went to cheer-up convalescing Roy Jones, they left with tears of laughter as Roy, in his inevitable way, entertained them! Roy has a delightful and unique piano style which he shares at the residence. One older woman, after listening to him play asked, "Didn't you use to be Roy Jones?"

Congratulations to Casie Stockton who received her BA from University State California Casie is the Bakersfield in June. daughter of the Rev. Charles and Kathy Smith and lived in the Point Methodist parsonage while attending El Cerrito High School. She was married last year.

Dodie Perry's right hand finger surgery is disguised as a small weapon is only a temporary handicap as she does well using her left hand.

Hope Lee from Auburn, Iowa visited her daughter, Michelle Brown, and friends before going to Arcada to see grandson, Eric, who is attending college there.

Answer: She is credited with being the founder of Father's Day. Mrs. Dodd was upset with the popular songs of the day like "Everybody Works But Father" and she decided to upgrade the image of fathers by giving them a day all their She started it in 1910 as a local own. celebration in Spokane, Washington and four years later Congress made it apply to fathers nationwide.

SCHOOL WASHINGTON READING KINDERGARTEN CLASS OF 1975

-Mid Dornan

Facts document the cliché about getting a good start in school with a dedicated teacher.

Recognizing the capabilities of several students to learn, Gwen Crouse (she married Dr. Tysell the next year) held after class reading sessions for eight of them. Where is that reading class in 1993?

DIANA CORBIN, majoring in Economics and Literature, graduates from University of California, Santa After helping Mom. her Cruz. with her campaign for Rosemary, Richmond Mayor, Diana will return to graduate school.

SETH FENTON, is graduating of California. University from Berkeley, Seth will enter Law School.

TODD CORT graduates from University of California, San Diego. Todd plans to enter graduate school in Colorado to study Biology.

DOHERTY. TERRANCE majoring in Sports Medical/Physical Education, graduates from University of California, Berkeley. Terrance plans to enter graduate school there.

MATTHEW CONE, graduates from University of California at Los Angeles. Matthew plans to teach English in Czechoslovakia.

BRENNER. MATTHEW majoring in Literature is a fourth year student at San Francisco State University and will graduate in 1994.

ERIC EGAN, a fourth year student at University of California at Los Angeles, majoring in Aerospace Engineering and will graduate in 1994.

ROB BURY, (couldn't be reached, but told is attending college in Oakland and working part-time.)

Beaming parents, rewarded teachers community sav proud and Congratulations!

Best wishes to other graduates and former students of Kindergarten teacher, Mrs. Holden:

MONICA DOHERTY, majoring in Physiology, from University of plans to attend California, Davis graduate school. (TWO in one family!)

ROSEMARY GIACOMELLI. majoring in English and Rhetoric, from University of California, Davis.

# Churches

# Our Lady of Mercy

#### **Allan Smith**

Rev. George E. Crespin, Vicar General of the Oakland Diocese, administered the Sacraments of Confirmation and First Holy Communion at our church on May 16, 1993.

Ten children were confirmed and five received First Holy Communion. Cynthia Young, our Christian Doctrine Director, prepared the students for the reception of the sacraments along with our Pastor Father Jim Clift.

Varsie Lometti was the chairperson for the recent Senior Citizen's Day held at the Richmond Auditorium. Over 3000 "seniors" attended the day long affair.

Catholic Charities Sunday was held with parishioners making donations or pledges for the support of this worthwhile charitable endeavor that serves the East Bay.

A special collection will be held on May 30th for the benefit of Richmond's Souper Kitchen who feed over 200 of the area's

hungry each day.

Memorial Day Mass is planned on May 31st at 9:30 am. All are welcome to participate.

Graduating from the University of California at Davis are two members of Our Lady of Mercy church. Congratulations to Monica Dherty and Rosie Giacomelli.

# Point Methodist

#### Jean Reynolds

The annual juntique sale held on May 8 was fun, profitable and delicious. My daughter Bethany says, "The yard sale is my favorite holiday", it really is a day when prices take a holiday. Someday she might tell her children about the stuffed animals that she bought for only a quarter each, and they will think she grew up in a wonderful era!

Bob and Grace Yank hosted the Orinda Garden Club for a tour of our church and rose garden. The garden thrives under the care given it by the Yanks, and who can walk by without stopping for a whiff? Pastor Bill Gates and wife Pam Are relieved to have completed another term of school. Bill attends Pacific School of Religion in Berkeley and Pam studies architecture at California College of Arts and Crafts in San Francisco. They will have the summer to take a bit of a breather before classes resume in the fall.

A delegation of well-wishers visited
Roy Jones during his recent stay at
Brookvue Convalescent Hospital and
presented him with a walker equipped with
enough gadgets to draw a crowd of
admirers wherever he might use it. Not
that Roy needs any thing extra to draw
admirers.

Fay Hawkins continues to amaze us all with his work around the church and parsonage. The parsonage garage door has a new panel and molding, and plans continue to reshingle and paint the trim of the other two sides of the parsonage. We are lucky to have Fay's expertise and willing hands!

Wedding bells were heard on May 15 for Jacqueline Brooks and Dan Hanel. The Rev. Bill Gates officiated.

The Sunday School will end spring quarter on May 30, and will resume for fall quarter in September. Some students plan to attend summer camp for a week. The adult Bible study will continue to meet

irregularly over the summer. Days and times will be announced during Sunday morning worship.

June 17 is the date of our dinner/theatre fundraiser to raise money for camp scholarships for students. Dinner....? at the Hotel Mac at 6:00. Theatre....? at The Masquers. The Play....? "I Hate Hamlet" ("I do too, Jean", says Oretta Eaton, "but what is the name of the play?"). At \$25.00 per ticket it is great entertainment value for a great cause. Call Jean Reynolds at 235-2988 or leave a message on the church phone; 236-0527 for tickets.



### STILL TIME TO REGISTER FOR BOY SCOUT SUMMER CAMPING

If you are a boy at least 10 1/2 years-old or in the 6th grade it is not too late to register for Boy Scout Troop 111 summer pioneer camping. Scouts meet on Monday, 7:30 P.M. at the Point Methodist Church, Martina Street at West Richmond Avenue. Patrick Ferguson is Scoutmaster. For more information, call 234-5334 or just show up on Monday night.

#### POINT METHODIST CHURCH HISTORY

-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". The minutes are printed as written. This is the 70th installment.

May 7, 1919

The President and Mrs. Gillette, Finlay & Grover visited the Beulah Rest home and in the name of the Society took 3 yd. table linen and 9 towels for the Linen Shower value \$6.00.

May 16, 1919

The W.H.M. Society met at the home of Mrs. Grover. Meeting opened by Mrs. Owens reading Scripture lesson and prayer by Mrs. Gillette. Minutes read and approved. The president Mrs. Gibbons was placed on the reception com. for the District Convention to be held in Wesley Church May 23.

Mrs. Gillette gave a report of the visit to Beulah Rest Home.

Mrs. Owens paid dues \$1.00 Lenten Thank offering .50

Refreshments were served. Thank Offering 50¢ Nettie B. Grover, Treas.



# MISC. STUFF



# **Happy Birthday Francis Sandoe**

Congratulations to Francis Sandoe of 162 Santa Fe turned 99 years old on March 31st. She has lived in Point Richmond for 25 years and was originally from Michigan.



# 12 Scholarships Given

The August L. Bernes Memorial Scholarship Fund of The California Retired Teacher's Association presented 12 scholarships of \$1000 each to 1993 graduating seniors of the Richmond Unified School District recently.

The late Al Bernes was a native of and resided in Point Richmond and his parents were pioneers in this area. Al was the Personnel Director for the RUSD.

# **PRHA Equipment For Sale**

>Offset Press

>Plate Processor

>Plate Maker

>Offset Plates & Supplies

>IBM Composer Typewriter & a

Collection of Font Elements
The best offer will be accepted.

**Call Gary** 

235-1336 or 848-3356

11

# More Memories of Old Point Richmond **East Richmond Avenue**

Wm. L. Thompson

William L. Thompson, often called Louis by his friends, was born in Point Richmond on February 17, 1909, lived on Scenic Avenue, graduated from Richmond Union High School and was the first native Richmondite to go through medical school. Dr. Thompson began his practice in 1940 at 9th & Macdonald later moving to 32nd & Macdonald until that building was sold at which time he moved to an office on Broadway. In 1979, at age 70 and after 39 years, he retired officially from medical practice. However, his many loyal, local patients continue to call him for advice.

Thanks to Dr. Thompson for his valuable contributions for our written archives.

Here is our sixth series from Dr. Thompson. Tn this series he remembers the neighborhood and friends where he grew up, East Richmond Avenue.

# **PART FIVE**

Across Richmond Avenue from the Actis home there had originally been a great salt marsh. This was mostly mud flats and reeds, but a channel of the Bay extended down along the Cutting

Boulevard side of this marsh and then curved around to form an arm that extended up along the Richmond Avenue side of the swamp. This was inhabited by curlews and other shore birds and on occasion we saw the fins of sharks and sting rays in the water. Also it was a source of clams which were dug primarily for fish bait. Along this water, in the only house on its shore, resided the Cizmich family. The house was right on the water and I think it extended somewhat over the water. Pete Cizmich entered the first grade with me in 1915. I understand that some of the family still reside in the area.

Well beyond this site and past the area of a large warehouse there is a place on the point of land where a road turns up a ridge to the crest of the hills. This road was constructed during the

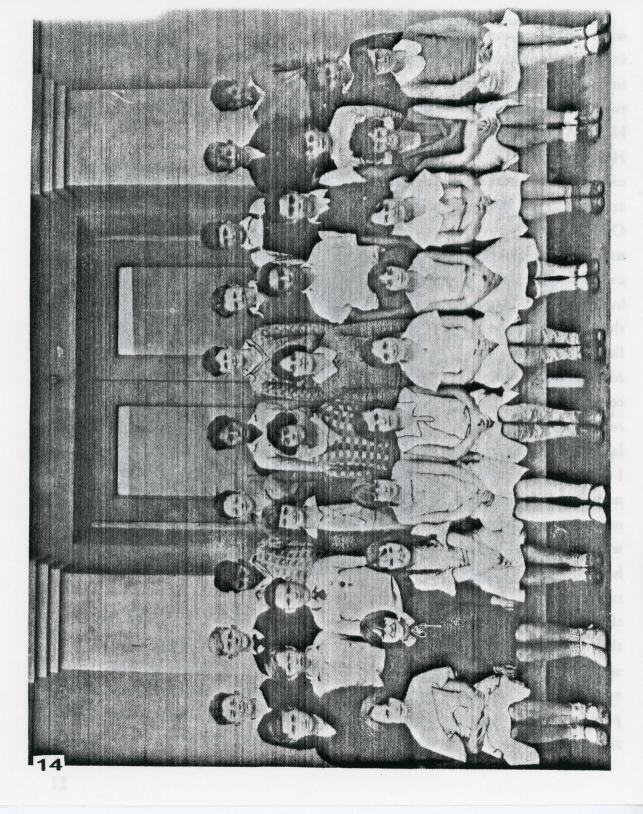
war to maintain and service military installations on the ridge. My father told me that near the origin of this road there was the home of the elder Henry Aine, the father of

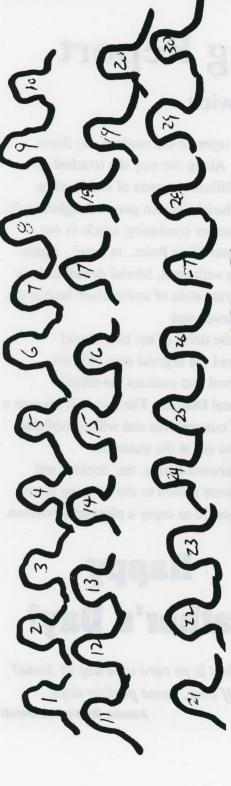
Harry Aine, the carpenter and later engineer of the Standard Oil Company. I have never been able to find evidence of an old building there. Around this point there was a little cove which contained and almost concealed a little residence. This was the last home in this area and I think that the residents' name was Schmidt. The only spring in the area was at this point and I believe that this was the reason for the location of the dwelling. I suspect

that the Indians had used this water and I believe that there may have been an old shell mound there. Beyond this point at present the entire original ridge of hills have been levelled to make the site of Shipyard #4 during the War. Dirt from this excavation filled in the marshes where now there are industrial sites.



During the War a few housing units were placed here. Among them were apartments for married women. Because of this, we occasionally found the body of a newborn child deposited in brush behind.





# 1931 Washington School Class Picture

This class photo was supplied by Allan Smith (#11). Thank you Josephine (Matteucci) Palenchor (# 16) for sending us all of the names! Josephine, is your memory that good.... or did you save your copy of the photo? We also heard from Kathryn (Coad) Johnson (#28), thanks. Watch for a new surprise Washington School class photo in the September issue.

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- 2 Gerald Lewis
- 3 Phillip Carrara 4 Raymond Silva
- 5 Conception Grandada
- 6 Frank Moscrop 7 Albert Moscrop
- 8 Joe Bailo
- 9 Melvin Janes 10 Gregory Solich

- 11 Allan Smith
- 12 Fred Beasley13 Henry Harrawitz
- 14 Betty Clinger
- 15 Abigail Munoz16 Josephine Matteucci
  - 17 Vincent Ramirez
- 18 Frank Morrison
  - 19 Terry Downey 20 Richard Erwin

- 21 Ila Baker
- 22 Pauline Spiersch
- 23 Regina Cunan 24 Winifred Wickersheim
  - 25 Thelma Rogers
- 26 Blanche Harrarity 27 Fredia Guisti
- 27 Fredia Guisti
  28 Katherine Johnson
  - 29 Melba Gheri
    - 29 Melba Gherr 30 Betty Parker

# **Annual Meeting Report**

# Jerry Cerkanowicz

The May 23rd meeting of the History
Association was called to order by
President Mid Dornan. Mid commented
that this was our 12th active year and
discussed some our the accomplishments of
the past year, notably that our little
museum had been staffed, by volunteers for
106 days during the past year.

On to business, Jerry Cerkanowicz gave his Secretaries report and minutes of the last meeting. Treasurer Muriel Clausen gave her report on the financial operations of the organization. The chair of the nominating committee, Jerry Cerkanowicz announced that the committee was recommending that the entire Board of Directors be re-elected. After opening the floor for additional nominations the membership gathered unanimously approved the sitting Board for another year.

The entertainment portion of the meeting co-hosted by Anne Hanzlik and Muriel Clausen was an interesting and educational presentation on the history of houses. Anne began the show with slides depicting the evolution of the house, from

tent or tepee to the modern day frame house. Along the way she touched on many different aspects of architecture.

Next Muriel Clausen gave a delightful talk, based on her continuing article in our newsletter "This Point...in time". Again starting with tents, Muriel described how the current style of architecture here in the Point developed.

At the finish of her talk Muriel presented the orginial map of Point Richmond that outlines the offical Historical District. The map will become a part of our archives and will be available for all to see at the museum.

Afterward coffee, tea, cookies and cakes were served to the 30 or so guests who seemed to enjoy a pleasant afternoon.

# Happy Father's Day!

And what is so rare as a day in June? Then, if ever, come perfect days.

James Russell Lowell

# Sports Memories

Allan Smith

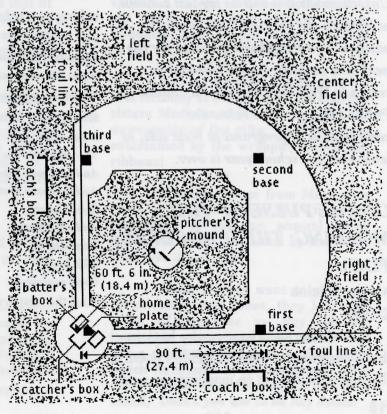
**B**aseball players in the Richmond area during the last 60 years knew of Joseph Matteri, the baseball groundskeeper for the City of Richmond.

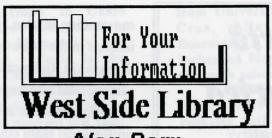
Joseph "Babe" Matteri died on May 12, 1993 at the age of 82. He was a Richmond

native who was a friend to hundreds of local young baseball players over the years. Babe managed the Richmond Merchants semi-professional baseball team which was highly respected in California baseball circles. Many local semi and professional players were proud to play for Babe.

Matteri was a member and past president of the Semi-Pro Baseball Manager's Association of Northern California. The City of Richmond honored him in 1967 for 30 years of outstanding service. Babe took special interest in the Seawright Field baseball diamond in Richmond's Nichol Park. The playing field was kept in excellent playing condition and was as good as any professional team could offer. Many exciting games were played there.

The large funeral service was attended by many of the local past and present baseball players who fondly remembered the "Babe". Joseph "Babe" Matteri's parents settled here in Point Richmond in 1896. His mother was the former Nancy Ming.





# Alan Bern

# What's New at the West Side

It has been a great pleasure to have served you as the librarian at the West Side Branch of the Richmond Public Library for these last three months. Unfortunately this will be my last column, at least for the present. I am taking a position in a neighboring system for the next nine months; I hope someday to return to West Side and the Richmond Public Library. Note below the continuation of programs at West side, at least until the school year is over.

ON THE PULSE OF THE MORNING: THE INAUGURAL POEM

Maya Angelou ©1993

It is wonderful to have poetry back in the White House. Maya Angelou's poem is the first to be read at an inauguration since

Robert Frost read at John F. Kennedy's inauguration. This is a poem of great substance and fluid energy. Angelou uses our often overlapping multiple heritages in the United States, and speaks to all of us, asking us to clear and purge our lives and our land:

Yet today I call you to my riverside
if you will study war no more.
In inauguration William Jefferson Clinton,
she speaks of new days and of hope:
Here on the pulse of this new day
You may have the grace to look up and out
And into your sister's eyes,
And into your brother's face,
Your Country,
And say simply,
Very simply,
With hope—
Good morning.
And the rest will be history.



# FACES AT THE BOTTOM OF THE WELL: THE PERMANENCE OF RACISM.

Derrick Bell

New York, Basic Books, ©1990

Bell, who "was dismissed by Harvard University from this position as Weld Professor of Law for refusing to end this two-year leave protesting the absence of minority women on the law faculty", is now a visiting professor at NYU.

Bell gives us the straight scoop in a myriad of ways. He uses conversations, law citations, and history lessons to demonstrate how permanent racism is in our country, and how our society was founded and grew up on the back of racism and the destruction of our cultures. He argues that we must recognize the permanence of racism.

And yet from a deep despair, and moving beyond the civil rights movement, he finds a kind of hope based on the will and accomplishments of the slaves, his ancestors and our history. A very important work.

# WEST SIDE BULLETIN BOARD

>Story Hour continues every Thursday morning at 10:00 AM at the West Side Branch; tumbling and crafts follow in the Recreation Center next door.



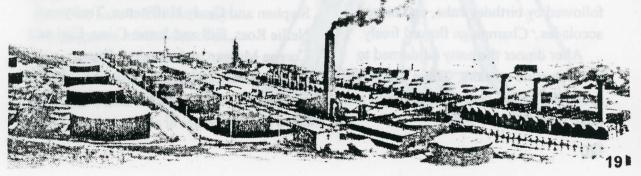
>Volunteers are still welcome for Homework Help, Wednesdays 3-5 PM in the Recreation Center next to the Library.



Donations are welcome at the Library.
This includes: books, videos, audiotapes, records, and some magazines. Questions?
Call 620-6567.



>Stop by for information on Summer Programs.



# Naomi Huffstetter is 90... And She Celebrates!

Trefry A. Ross

Former Point Richmond resident and Point Richmond History Association member Naomi Huffstetter recently celebrated her 90th birthday. It was a wonderful party and bash held at the Waterfront Plaza Hotel at Jack London Square in Oakland.

The affair took off with family members and friends in the "Spinaker Room" at 3:00 pm with a reception and refreshments. Naomi was presented with a money tree and numerous cards. An open bar and fantastic spread preceded dinner. It's amazing how ones appetite and capacity for food and drink seems to have limitless bounds when confronted by such delicacies.

Dinner was served at 5:00 pm to the 30 or so guests. Naomi was toasted and regaled by family members. Dinner ended with a flaming dessert, Cherries Jubilees followed by birthday cake, and more accolades. Champaign flowed freely.

After dinner the party adjourned to Naomi's suite upstairs, where she would spend the night. Naomi had arrived in a huge limo in grand style. After letting the dinner settle and relaxing a bit getting a "second wind" so to speak the party went down to the lounge for dancing and revelry. A combo of musicians played special music for the group and believe it or not Naomi danced and danced! It was obvious to the large crowd in the lounge of "Jack's" restaurant that something special was in progress. When the learned that that lady up there in the red blouse with the beautiful white hairdo was 90 years old many gasps of approval and amazement were heard.

It was now getting late and some were getting a bit weary and ready to depart. Naomi was bid a fond farewell and they left. Others returned to the suite upstairs for more festivities. Naomi will undoubtedly remember the occasion for many a day.

Taking part in the celebration were Dale Huffstetter, Jr. who was in charge of the celebration and worked hard to make it a success. Rebecca (Ross) Cileo who arranged the elaborate floral displays. Others in attendance were Dale and Lorna Huffstetter, Bob and Nancy Huffstetter, Stephen and Cindy Huffstetter, Trefry and Nellie Ross, Bill and Justin Cileo, Carl and Corene Morgan and daughter Kazea, George Keele and family, Alice Sheldon, Undine Elliot, Bob and Carol Kelly, David Silva and more.



Dear Gary:

I almost had a heart attack when I saw this photo in This Point. I have looked all over my house for it. Wanted to sent it to you when I saw them first being published. Happy to know what year it was. What darling outfits!

Hope you get more of the names for your next issue.

Kathryn Coad



Dear Pam:

As you know, we are moving to El Cerrito. Please transfer my membership to the new owner of our house, Susan Shore.

Thanks, and thanks for your support and friendship all these years.

Love, Teresa Albro & Ron & Theodore



Dear Ms. Wilson:

Enclosed are two checks for two memberships in the P.R.H.A. We are sisters and lived in Point Richmond many years ago.

I was introduced to your publication by Marie Dietz. She sent a recent copy to me because my 1929 Washington School Class Picture was featured and she thought I could identify some of my classmates. It was a delightful publication. By the way I was No. 25, Elaine McConnell.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Elaine B. Scott
Hercules



# Deaths...

Bernice Lucille Preece died at her home in Point Richmond on April 26th. Mother of Bernard McIntosh of Pinole. Sister of Ethel Schumacher of Point Richmond. Grandmother of 16.

A native of Oakland; aged 78 years old. Expressions of remembrance may be made to Guide Dogs for the Blind, Inc., P.O. Box 1200, San Rafael, CA 94915.

A

Joseph 'Babe' Matteri of Richmond died in Pinole May 12th. Husband of the late Pauuline P. Matteri, Father of Nadine Reid, Gerald and Joine Matteri, grandfather of Dana and Mark Matteri, Carlos Vasquez and the late Richard Riise. Brother of Al Fray and Lorraine Numnes and the late Charlie Matteri and Pauline Matteri-Bettencourt. Father-in-law of the late Henry C. "Dick" Reid.

Babe was the son of a pioneer Point Richmond family that settled here in 1896. He was retired as a Grounds Keeper with the City of Richmond for 32 years.

He was 82 years old.

# THE MASQUERS

Playhouse, Inc.

PROUDLY PRESENTS



By: Paul Rudnick Directed by: Shelli Maximova

This modern comedy finds Andrew Rally, prime-time T.V. idol, face-to-face with the ghost of the legendary John Barrymore. Andrew has come to New York to do Hamlet. Barrymore has materialized to coach him. Andrew hacks and swigs his way towards opening night. Will he wow New York or should he stick to the soaps? Come share the fun.

THE CAST:

RONDA HEWITT

STEVEN HILL

PATRICIA INABNET

ROB LLOYD

ANNE RIPLEY

MARK WEST

Friday & Saturday evenings – June 11 - July 24, 1993 Sunday Matinees – June 27, July 11, 18

**RESERVATIONS:** (510) 232-4031 (24 hours)

Reservations held until 10 minutes before curtain.
Group Rates Available

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: \$8.00

DINNER & THEATRE benefit for our building fund at HOTEL MAC, Thursday evening, July 22. Dinner and ticket to "I HATE HAMLET" for only \$25.00. To reserve, CALL: (510) 236-4988.

COMING: "SHE STOOPS TO CONQUER", an antique situation comedy, opening August 20, 1993.

# Summertime, And the livin' is easy.

Ira Gershwin 1896-1983 Porgy and Bess [1935]. You're having another birthday today? Well, your spirits should be lifted Because, you're not really getting older, you know You're just chronologically gifted!

# JUNE BIRTHDAYS

(234-5334)**ALISSA BAGLEY** WILLIAM SHEA **ANITA BROUGHAM GRACE YANK** JAN SPRECKER **DAN WEINSTEIN** STACEY SPINOLA JEAN EAKLE ROSEMARY GIOCOMELLI DAVE MACDIARMID. JR. CATHE BRAZIL AARON / MICHAEL MARSHALL **MAURICE DOHERTY RON ALBRO** RICHARD FOX SUZANNE UNSER ANDREW BUTT JOANNE LANSING **BRIAN ROTTING** NATHAN BERMAN **CLAUDE BISIO** 

## **JULY BIRTHDAYS**

ROGER ELLE FRANCIS SMITH AMY ROTTING JULIUS MATTEUCCI

JEAN CREED **ALLEN ANDERSON** DIEDRE CERKANOWICZ **KATHRYN FONG** ALICE MC MAHON CLIFFORD (LOU) MAC MILLAN JOSEPHINE PALENCHAR MADELINE ALBRIGHT MADISON BRADSHAW **HILARY LORD** AL MCGEE **BRIAN PEASE** JEAN REYNOLDS MARY KNOX **ED SQUIRES BETTY CONCEPTION** FRED BELLATI LIZ GARRARD AL FRANCO **ANN BISIO** 

# **AUGUST BIRTHDAYS**

**ORETTA EATON VEORA HEINEY BEA KENOYER NIKKI EATON BERNIE BISIO** ETHEL SCHUMACHER R. CLAYTON BARNES THELMA HECKER HARVEY **BOB MASKE ANNE-THERESE AGESON CONNEE FISHER** KARLA PETERSON TERRENCE DOHERTY **CARL WESTMAN BONNIE RITZENTHALER WILSON DONNA WILSON** MID DORNAN KEVIN PRYNE JOE DARLING **KELLY DARLING ALICE THOMPSON** LYNN BROWN ALIA SMYKE LISA SMITH BERNICE PREECE BARBARA WARD

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Membership in the Point Richmond F cludes a one year subscription to "THIS letter (nine issues). Please make your of Point Richmond History Association and	POINT in time" new heck payable to the

Pam Wilson 521 Western Drive

Point Richmond, CA 94801

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

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Articles for each month's issue are due on or before the deadline published in the calendar section.

Please mail articles and items of interest to:

#### GARY SHOWS 229 GOLDEN GATE AVENUE POINT RICHMOND, CA 94801

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# Calendar Summer, 1993

	July 6 Tuesday	July 5 Monday	<b>July 4</b> Sunday	June 21 Monday	June 20 Sunday	June 14 Monday	June 11 Friday	June 9 Wednesday		June 1 Tuesday	May 31 Monday
Women's Westside Improvement Club Meeting 11:30AM, Point Richmond Methodist Church	Point Richmond Neighborhood Council Meeting, 7:30PM, Community Center	Independence Day Holiday Observed	Independence Day	First Day of Summer	Father's Day	Flag Day	I Hate Hamlet opens at the Masquers Playhouse	Point Richmond Business Association Meeting, Noon, Hotel Mac	Women's Westside Improvement Club Meeting 11:30AM, Point Richmond Methodist Church	Point Richmond Neighborhood Council Meeting, 7:30PM, Community Center	Memorial Day Holiday
September 25	September 16	September 8 Wednesday		September 7 Tuesday	September 6 Monday	September 4 Saturday	August 20 Friday	August 11 Wednesday		August 3 Tuesday	July 14 Wednesday
Yom Kippur	Rosh Hashanah	Point Richmond Business Association Meeting, Noon, Hotel Mac	Women's Westside Improvement Club Meeting 11:30AM, Point Richmond Methodist Church	Point Richmond Neighborhood Council Meeting 7:30PM, Community Center	Labor Day	First Indian Statue dedicated, 1904	DEADLINE FOR THE SEPTEMBER ISSUE, TPIT	Point Richmond Business Association Meeting, Noon, Hotel Mac	Women's Westside Improvement Club Meeting 11:30AM, Point Richmond Methodist Church	Point Richmond Neighborhood Council Meeting, 7:30PM, Community Center	Point Richmond Business Association Meeting, Noon, Hotel Mac