

THIS POINT.... in time

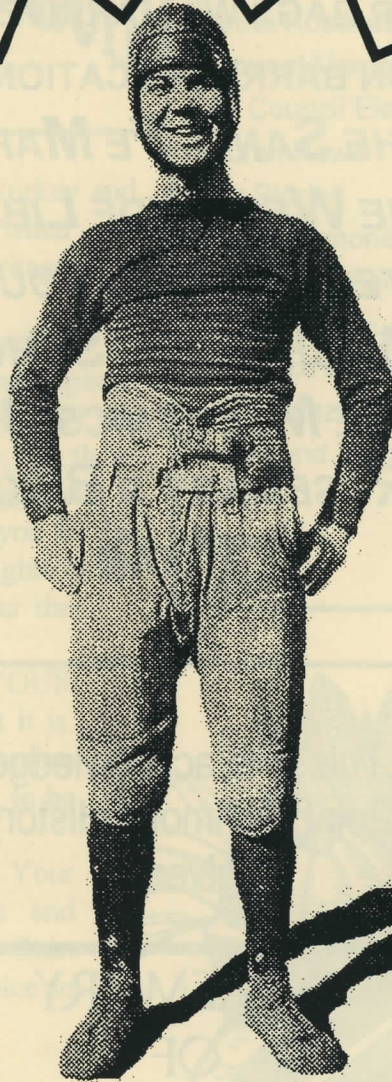
NEWSLETTER

The Point Richmond History Association

Vol. XIV No. 4

November, 1995

\$1.50



Mr. Touchdown

THE HOLIDAY FOOD DRIVE
WILL BE
FROM NOVEMBER 30TH UNTIL DECEMBER 11TH.
YOUR BAGS WILL ARRIVE SOON!

COLLECTION BARREL LOCATIONS WILL BE AT:

THE SANTA FE MARKET
THE WEST SIDE LIBRARY
INTERACTIVE RESOURCES
WASHINGTON SCHOOL
THE MECHANICS BANK
ROSEMARY'S BAKERY
PIXAR

Lucretia Edwards

This is to acknowledge
a gift to our Point Richmond History Association
given:

IN MEMORY
OF
CAPT. PETER S. CAIRO

HISTORY ASSOCIATION NOTES

From the President

MID DORNAN

Thanksgiving is more than turkey and dressing. Thanksgiving is when we remember our heritage, the heritage that makes us what we are.

As "This Point.....in time" reflects on its 'heritage' of a few years, one special event stands out, the KIDS REUNION last May. So eventful was the day, all those present voted to have another, bigger day in 1996. The staff wants to join you in this wish and invite all ideas and thoughts in this regard and will start planning as the new year approaches.

As always, this is YOUR newsletter and you make it what it is. If that formidable 'Kids' reunion committee hasn't met yet, expect to be contacted soon.

'Tis the season to Count Your Blessings. You, our readers and contributors, are our blessings. Start every morning by making a choice to be happy.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING

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

Douglas Daniels
The Fenton Family
Mrs. Boysie Day
Evelyn Neville Macdonald
Luciano & Bonnie Forner
George Kelleghan
The Corbin Family
Marian Sauer
Dean Beesley
Teresa Meneghelli
Russ & Shirley Moore
Mr. & Mrs. T.W. Beck
William L. Thompson
Ms. Helen Farres
Herbert J. Hunn
Janice Cook
Mid Dornan
Oretta Eaton
Stella Anellini Giovannini
Grace A. Howe
William S. Kollar
Mary Valenzano
Bena Bowles
Anna S. Gaumer
Pamela K. Wilson
Mary Crosby & Tom Piazza
Rena "nee" Cairo Gonsalves
Jerry & Theresa Daniel
Jack Murray
Bruce & Ann Bartram

Lt. Col. Robert T. Barnes
Gary Shows
Bruno J. Roveda
Marian & Fay Hawkins
And a warm welcome to new members:
Audrey C. Edwards
Jeff Lee

Museum Staff Coordinator Betty Dornan thanks volunteers who staffed the History Building:

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

Museum Hours:

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

&
Our usual
Thank You!
to

Santa Fe Market

*for their donated distribution of
"THIS POINT....in time"*



Editor's Notes

GARY SHOWS

Here's the November issue. Thanks to everyone for all the letters, I think this is a really good way to use the newsletter as a tool to keep in touch and at the same time record history.

It looks like I will be approaching a period where there will be space for new articles, if you've been procrastinating sharing some old memories or any other information now may be the time to do it. Idea....everyone involved in World War Two seems to have "War Stories", see page 10 for Al Frosini's. If you have a short, interesting humorous or not so humorous account of the war, please send it.

Thanks to Trefry Ross for the fun cover, I hope you like it.

I hope you all have a great Thanksgiving!

The deadline for the next issue is November 24, 1995. This newsletter's period will be the months of December and January the next issue will be February.

The September/October Issue Assembly Crew:

Liz McDonald
Muriel Clausen
Mary Highfill
Pam Wilson
Jerry Cerkowicz
Gary Shows
Mid Dornan
Anne Hanzlik
Betty Dornan
Allan Smith
Marcelina Smith



REG LENZEN AND JIMMY DOLAN OF THE
KOZY KOVE ORCHESTRA, 1916-1918.

The Cover:

"Mr. Touchdown"

Tommy McDonald who played football for Richmond High School in about 1920. It was supplied to "Reminisce Magazine" by cousin Patricia Collins and sent to us by Trefry Ross. See the "Cards & Letters" section for more.

A-Mid TRIVIA

-Mid Dornan (510-234-5334)

(Have news and want it printed? Call before deadline—see last page of TPIT)

Question 1: The Pilgrims arrived at Plymouth a day after what would become a major American holiday. When was it?

Question 2: The word 'laser' is heard often. It is an abbreviation for something. What?

Answers at the end of A-Mid Trivia.

You've survived Halloween, next come the elections! Aren't you happy someone wants those jobs?

Original rooms at the Hotel Mac (Colonial Hotel) were never like the suites that will soon be available. Isn't it delightful the Hotel will again be an hotel!

Emily Goetsch celebrated her 8th birthday with a sleep-over (*what happened to the term 'slumber party'?*) and invited those that didn't want to end the party at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday to visit her Sunday School class at the Methodist Church.

Don't miss seeing "Facing Eden - 100 Years", a private collection of paintings, photographs etc. now on exhibit at the DeYoung Museum in San Francisco. The collection includes a number of Point Richmond scenes and views by local artists, the most notable being John Haley.

How many of you can claim a continued friendship that began in the fourth grade? Lucretia Edwards can and this past summer visited her friend that lives near Augusta, Maine. They shared past memories and recent losses of their beloved husbands, 'a real therapy visit', adds Lucretia.

If phonics is reading by teaching sounds, why does it not begin with an 'f'?

Did you know Albert and Alexandra Gautraud grew up in New York just four blocks away from each other but met in California where they were married in 1974?

Don Griffin lived on Idaho Street in the late 40's and while waiting to pick up his then girl friend, Michele Horner, at Holy Names College, taught the Nuns how to break into a car with a coat hanger! (*'tis said They only wanted to know in case they had to get into one of their cars!*)

Fifty years together! That is what Jim and Jean Eakle are celebrating. He was a patient in the military hospital in Seattle and she was a therapist but she wasn't his nurse when they met and wed and lived happily ever after. Congratulations to this popular Point couple.

90 year old Al McGlaughlin was a recent visitor to our History Museum. Now residing in Pleasanton, Al was the youngest of three brothers who lived in the Point as kids although all he could remember about where he lived was that it 'was on a hill'. His daughter brought him to the Point for the visit.

Kaiser Permanente has opened its new \$565 million hospital in 'downtown' Richmond. The 105,000 square-foot hospital at 901 Nevin Street marks the completion of a four-building medical center project began in 1979. The three story building replaces Kaiser's first hospital on Cutting Boulevard built in 1942 to treat Kaiser shipyard employees during WWII.

A new baby grand piano enhances the Sunday morning worship services at the Point Methodist Church...a gift from their new pastor, Dan Damon, who is pursuing his Doctorate in Music at Pacific School of Religion in Berkeley.

What do Johnny Carson and this columnist have in common? They grew up in the same town of Norfolk, Nebraska and had many of the same teachers in high school, of which one, Fay Gordon their penmanship teacher, celebrated her 99th birthday and both sent her birthday cards.

Officers Joel Thompson and Debbie Noonan leaving the Point patrol?? In January our favorite officers will make the transition back to other patrols and we will miss them. Thanks to two special officers.

That staid old bathroom tissue is a \$3 billion industry and has entered into the competitive market. Beyond choices of color and ply, they plan to include rolls with baking powder (*for extra freshness*) as a hypoallergenic product. Lower costs and more sheets would be popular.

Treasure Island Museum is open to the public and visitors can view a collection of photos and souvenirs from the 1939-40 Exposition. When the man-made island was

closed it was supposed to become the S.F. airport. Now a political ball in the S.F. Mayor's election, it could become a huge gambling casino.

For more information on the museum, call 415-395-5067.

Don't attempt to counterfeit U.S. Treasury bills using desktop publishing! The Federal Reserve Treasury Bureau of Engraving has produced a security thread, a polyester strip, embedded in the paper to the left of the Federal Reserve Seal. Although it is visible, the thread cannot be reproduced in the reflected light of copiers or scanners. Only the \$100 bills are in production at present.

Some styles never go out. Bib overalls, designed by Louis Mehder, a tailor for Oshkosh Clothing in 1901, are even more popular today. In 1901 clothing wasn't easy to get so you wore them out.

Thank you Mary Rudolph for "Proverbs, Epigrams, Aphorisms, Saying and Bon Mots" books.

If you drink a quart of milk a day for 1,200 months, you'll live to be 100 years old!

I can't resist the urge to answer a ringing telephone even though I'm already 20 minutes late for an appointment.

Advice: Do not dwell on the problem,
Dwell on the solution!

Richmond has its own radio station, KCOR-AM 790 on your radio dial and will broadcast emergency information during

accidents, earthquakes and disasters. Project coordinator J.C. Byers and the station will broadcast City Council meetings and announcements from nonprofit organizations.

If you know when your ancestors came to this country you know more than most other Americans.

The "Rosie the Riveter" search triggered Michele Griffin to remember she had an oscillating fan from Kaiser Shipyard 3 where her father worked during World War II. Seems he "borrowed" the fan...and for whatever reason, it was never returned but can be seen at the museum at 139 1/2 Washington Avenue.

The controversial federal 'motor voter' law registered nearly 100,000 voters in its first six weeks according to the California Department of Motor Vehicles.

THE NICE THING ABOUT EGOTISTS IS THAT THEY DON'T TALK ABOUT OTHER PEOPLE.

Answers: Q1 - December 26, 1620

Q2 - 'Laser' is an acronym for "light amplification by stimulated emission of radiation."

Donna Roselius to Hold Her Silk Artwear Show in the Point on December 9th and 10th

Great news!! Multi-talented Donna Roselius has been persuaded to return for a show of her Silk Artwear along with her Paintings on Silk, Fibre Jewelry and small sculptures of mermaids and angels. And, surprise, husband Rosy has now joined Donna in making smoked glass jewelry which will also be in the show.

Hostess Marilyn Chartock invites anyone interested to her home on 220 Bishop Alley, which is the former Roselius residence where many such shows previously were held. The times tentatively set are Saturday, December 9th, 11:00 am-7:00 pm and Sunday, December 10th, 11:00 am - 5:00 pm. For more information, call 510-234-5334.

Now residing in Port Orford, Oregon, Donna was the founder of the Point Richmond History Association. She sends her 'regards' to all and invites you to join her during these two days.

MID
DORNAN



City Council Election

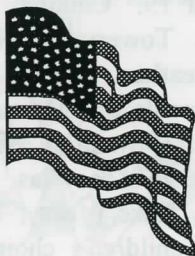
Thirteen of the sixteen candidates for Richmond City Council presented their platforms to a full house at the Point Richmond Neighborhood Council with President David Macdiarmid as moderator. Five seats will be filled. Three seats were vacated, two incumbents seek re-election, one of which was appointed in February to fill a vacancy.

Two candidates live in the Point, Tom Butt and Donna Powers. Others attending were: Allan Jensen, Bret Martin, Nat Bates, Joe Brown, Corky Booze, Alex Evans, Lesa McIntosh, Dale Paulson, Cheryle Bernard-Shaw, Bob Sutcliffe and Evelyn Ramsey. Not present were Lucille Allen, George Livingston, and Ionia White.

Are they qualified candidates? Their brochures list five with Bachelors Degrees, five with Masters Degrees, two are lawyers and the other three have had some college. One says she has a degree but the college has no record of her attendance. Their average age is 43.5 years. Twelve have no political experience but five of those have run unsuccessfully for an elective office. Two are former councilmen.

The election is Tuesday, November 7th and the Point has two polling places, Washington School and Brickyard Landing. Your vote does count!

MID DORNAN



Shipyard Memories

ELSIE A. SPINOLA

Yes, I worked in Shipyard #3 during the war years for more than a year. I was patriotic and wanted to do my part to help my country in its war effort. I had two sons, Donald and Joel at the time. So I worked the 4 to 12 midnight shift. I was classified as a *ship-fitter*. I went off to work in my hard hat, steeled toe shoes, jeans and a navy pea coat. Oh yes, and a steel lunch bucket. It was cold out there.

I was in charge of the inventory of supplies on Crane Way #3. I had an inventory of all the steel plates, brackets, etc. and supplied the assembly Platform #3 with whatever they needed. There was a huge whirly bird crane and a very cooperative rigging crew who put it on the assembly platform where it was needed.

Sometimes I went to the storage yard to hurry up an order of steel plates, brackets and bolts for the assembly crew. There were ship-fitters, welders, boilermakers and other workers who were busy putting the steel together into a huge unit, which was lifted by the crane and taken to the basins where they were put into the assembly of a liberty ship.

My Husband, Joseph, was on a liberty ship hauling ammunition to the Philippines. He had seamen papers and life boat credentials because he had worked on the San Rafael ferries and these credentials were needed to man the supply ships.

Church News

Our Lady of Mercy

Allan Smith

Our BBQ Sunday (Labor Day) was a beautiful day with a great outpouring of past parishioners and friends who came back to Point Richmond and Our Lady of Mercy Church to support our one and only yearly fund raiser.

During the month of September, our church welcomed into the Family of God, **Matthew Charles Ostrander**, son of Charles and Jody Ostrander; also **Natalia Marin Pachote**, the daughter of Francisco Pachote and Tiffany Menosse. During October, **Lillian Jane Karl**, daughter of Billy Karl and Mary Roth was Baptized. **Juliana Marie Depp**, daughter of Richard Depp and Margaret Roth, also at this time entered the Family of God. We congratulate these children and their parents and pray for continued spiritual blessings for their families.

Pastor Rev. James C. Clift has just returned from Milwaukee, Wisconsin where he visited his 93 year old mother.. He found her well and was able to be with her daily for lunch and shopping thanks to Milwaukee County's Med-Van Service which transports wheelchair bound passengers in and around the city. To her great delight, people asked her on different occasions if Father Jim was her brother.

Also, returning home from a visit to her brother in Tennessee was Dody Perry and

welcomed back home from Baton Rouge, Louisiana from a visit with her mother was Brenda McKinley. Just back from a Hawaiian Adventure were Anna Schwarz and Amelia Drake. They were part of a vacationing group that was planned and escorted by parishioners Edwina and Jack Murray.

Radio station KVTO (1400AM) and the Director of the weekly Catholic Radio Mass, Rev. Michael Walsh were guests of Our Lady of Mercy Church on October 22nd. Holy Mass was offered by Rev. Clift and was recorded by the Catholic Radio Mass program which will be a feature of the station at a later date. .

Point Richmond Methodist

Jean Reynolds

(235-2988)

The Children's Angel Choir rehearses on Wednesday afternoons at 4:00 p.m. The choir is directed by Pastor Dan Damon and Marion Damon (as much as her new work schedule at Rosemary's Bakery allows). Many of the hymns they sing are written and/or composed by Pastor Dan or Marion, that's an advantage most choirs don't have! They will sing once each month as part of Sunday worship. Their debut was on October 15, and they are scheduled to sing next on November 19. Children in the Angel Choir include Iris Towery, Jessica Horton, Emily Goetsch, Heather Damon, Liam Thompson, Bethany Reynolds, and Marisol DeForrest.

October 15 was Lay Witness Sunday Pastor Dan got to "take it easy" as lay members led the service. (By "take it easy" I mean that he *only* directed the children's choir, doubled accomp-

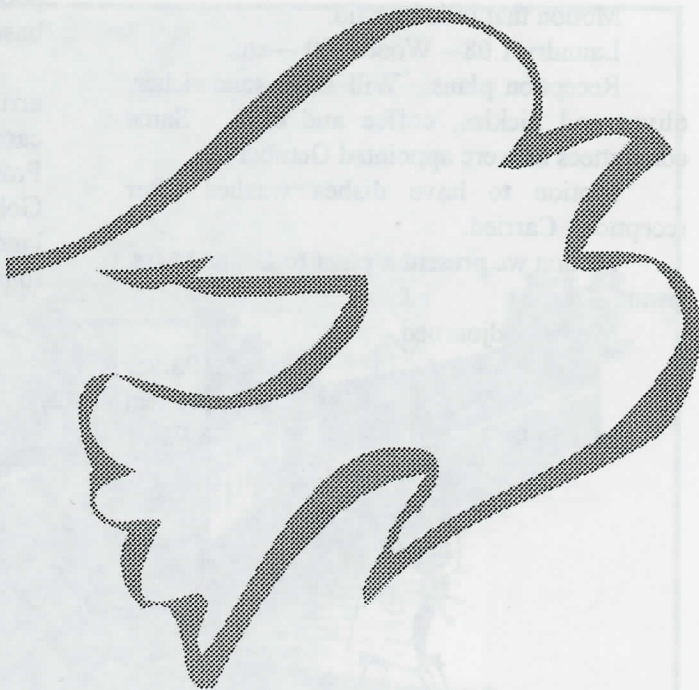
animent for the hymns we sang and led the benediction at the end of the service. We are glad for his many gifts!) Mid Dornan, Jessie West, and Colin and Melissa Brady each shared stories of their own spiritual journeys and how those journeys brought them to our church. Those of us who got to hear them appreciated their willingness to tell.

October 21, Saturday, several people from our church joined members of other congregations at the Richmond Civic Center for the Harmony Walk for Hunger. The walk is sponsored by G.R.I.P., Greater Richmond Interfaith Program, and benefits the Richmond Food Pantry, the San Pablo Food Pantry, the Richmond Souper Center, and CROP international hunger relief. Walkers included Claudia LeGue, Elizabeth Meixell, Tom Butt, Shirley Butt, Pat Dornan, and Jean Reynolds. G.R.I.P. continues to plan for a Winter Shelter Program that will begin mid-November. This will be the third year that churches have hosted qualified homeless families and women, while providing opportunities for the residents to find more permanent housing and means through contact with existing social service agencies. A plethora of enthusiastic volunteers from churches in our community makes this worthwhile program possible on a limited budget.

Saturday, October 21, was also Fall Clean-up Day at the church. An impressive crew showed up and spiffed up the place inside and out. Common laborers included Roger Goetsch, Carol Seawell, Linda Pereira, Vern and Helen Valentine, Linda and Jim Brooks, Betty Dornan, Fay and Marian Hawkins, Oretta Eaton, Pastor Dan Damon, Jean Reynolds

and Mid Dornan. Roberta Dornan Palfini stopped by to boost morale and brought her children Rachel and Robert so we could see how they have grown. How nice of her to come all the way from Irvine for the work party!

PIANOS, PIANOS, PIANOS. Notice how I keep saying pianos? Pastor Dan is the self-declared "Patron Saint of Pianos", and has managed in the short time he has been here to acquire two baby grand pianos, one of which is now making beautiful tones in the sanctuary, with the help of Jean Eakle, Alice Thompson, and the Patron Saint Himself. (The other baby grand has found a comfortable home in the parsonage!) Keep a space open on Christmas Eve to come hear and sing carols with special jazz accompaniment! (A full schedule of special events and services for Advent and Christmas will be listed in next month's issue.)



Point Methodist Church History

-Mid Dornan

Church history is rich with contributions of women. One Church group in the 1920's was the SOCIAL LEAGUE of the First Methodist Episcopal Church whose history is reflected in their minutes printed below and taken from the canvas covered, red leather cornered notebook which cost \$1.15. The minutes are printed as written. This is the 17th installment.

Tuesday, November 11th, 1924

Social League held a special meeting in church parlors with President Mrs. Scofield in chair and twelve members and three visitors present.

Minutes of previous meeting read and approved. Report on bazaar.

Amount received, bills to be paid, to be added to the treasury.

Motion that bills be paid.

Laundry 1.08—Woods .50 —etc.

Reception plans. Will serve sandwiches, olives and pickles, coffee and cake. Same committees as were appointed October 7th.

Motion to have dishes washed after reception. Carried.

Motion we present a plant to Dr. and Mrs. Grant. Carried.

Meeting adjourned.

Erma L. Parker
Secy pro tem
18.93

cash in bank

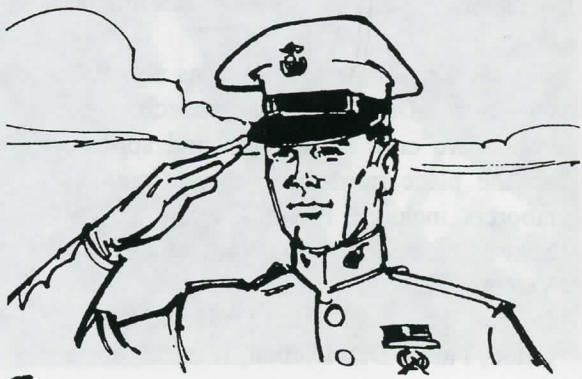


War Stories!

AL FROSINI

During World War Two I was stationed on Guam when the war ended and we were sent home. There were about 1000 GI's in my outfit and were being returned via Saipan by C-47's and departing according to rank.....since I was busted to buck-private, I caught the last plane. Unfortunately the pilot was flying back and forth all day and was tired (or a hot dog), because on take off, he retracted the landing gear too soon. As a result, we skidded all the way down the runway on our belly, no one was injured and the poor pilot caught hell from the Colonel on the base.

We got on another plane and when we arrived in Saipan they put us on a baby aircraft carrier the very next day and we headed for San Francisco. I'll never forget my first sight of the Golden Gate Bridge, and when we reached the land we all kissed the good ole' terra ferma, glad to be home.



Sports Memories

by Allan Smith

I'll leave the present World Series Baseball News to be commented on by "This Point...in time" editor, Gary Shows, whom up to this baseball season was a great professional baseball fan. All I want to say about the subject is when the big league ball players went on out on their continued strike, who was most vicious and clamorous against the replacement players? None other but the great *McGuire* of the Oakland Athletics and his fellow *Million Dollar Players*. When the strike was settled and the big league Umpires placed a picket line around the ball parks, who was the first to cross the picket line? You guessed it, the great *McGuire* and his fellow *Million Dollar Players*. Author Jack London had a correct name for this type of employee and it wasn't "John Barleycorn".

Our First Grade teacher during the 1926-1933 years was **Ruby Simmons**, one of Washington Elementary School's most popular teachers. During this time, a great big league baseball player for the Philadelphia Athletics was Al Simmons. We all thought that Ruby Simmons was related to this player. What disappointment when we learned we later discovered that Al Simmons real name was Aloysius Harry Szymanski. Simmons played twenty years in the big leagues and is in Baseball's Hall of Fame. He was nicknamed "Bucketfoot Al" because of his strange right handed stance when batting.

AP Smith

Women's West Side Improvement Club News From Betty Dornan

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, November 7th at the First Methodist Church Friendship Hall at 11:30am.

Dextra Christiansen will be the guest speaker. Her subject will be "Hot to Put More Quility in Your Life". Dextra is very well informed on this subject as she and her husband have their own physical therapist offices in Walnut Creek.

For more information on the West Side Improvement Club call 233-3343 or 232-4317.



Floral Changes in the Point Richmond Hills

Wm. L Thompson

William L. Thompson, often called Louis by his friends, was born in Point Richmond on February 17th, 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 to our written archives. Here is our tenth series from Dr. Thompson.

Part Two of Two

There are at least two species of eucalyptus on Nicholl Nob and elsewhere in the hills. Some are quite large. There is one redwood and several Monterey pines on the very top of Nicholl Nob. I wonder how old Botts could have built his airship there if the trees were there then. I have noted two other redwood trees near the bishop pine on the Dornan trail. Also I know of several Monterey cypress trees in the area.

There is a large number of rather small, young trees with small crinkly leaves in the cove above the Dornan rock. Closer study showed these to be small oak trees. There are others elsewhere on the Bay side of the ridge. It is hard

to see how these could have been brought here by other than human means. These trees are most certainly the coast live oak (*Quercus agrifolia*) which is common in Marin County and up and down the coast, as well as in areas of the Berkeley Hills. The only other oak that answers this description in the area is the interior live oak (*Q. wislizeni*) and it is possible some may have been hidden in other bushes. I have not found evidences of acorns in the Indian mounds. I will check the acorns later to try and further the identification.

In studying the original bushes in the area I have noted that the coyote bush is now wider spread and larger than before, and the toyon bushes are much more numerous and larger than I recall in years past. Some are now almost tree size. This is especially true on the east side of the ridge. Other brush is more common, especially poison oak. Areas that were grassy slopes fifty years ago are now heavily brush covered. I have also noted tiny trees planted and reinforced with

stakes along the crest of the ridge. These were probably planted by the Park Service but have not done well, probably because of the drought. Recent holes dug along some of the trails suggest more trees will be set out, probably after the winter rains.

Another rather obnoxious but beautiful foreign plant in the area is the scotch broom. It has a pretty yellow blossom but is rapidly spreading and crushing out much of the native flora. It is present throughout the West and is quite a nuisance in the Point Reyes area.

The most amazing tree find that I have noted in the area is the madrone tree, two of which are located on the east side of the Potrero Ridge. These beautiful trees are widespread in Marin County and elsewhere in

California, but they

have never occurred before

in the Point Rich-

mond hill. One is quite

large and apparently many

years old. How they got where

they are I do not know. They are not in

regions where one would suspect them

to have been planted. Another unusual

finding was of two apple trees in

the same area. It seems

possible that seeds of

these, along with

those of other

plants, could have been carried by birds.

There has also been an invasion of the hills by various ordinary garden flowers that have escaped. These are mostly sweetpeas. I have also noticed a very pretty blue flower that is entirely unfamiliar to me. It is on the far end of the ridge above and beyond Brickyard Cove. There is also

a deep magenta-colored flower which is probably a type of wild sweetpea. There are also cultivated blackberries which are larger than the native variety, of which a large number exist near the old Bernardi home where they were probably originally planted. I now find them far out along the top of the ridge.

I have also noted yellow lupin, which I don't recall ever seeing in the hills before. They are still very small plants, located in two places about a mile apart. At the far end of a point I found three small plants blooming where there was only one last year. In the little depression between the main ridge and the little knoll above the old Santa Fe wharf, there are also four small bushes with blooms right near some blue lupin. Another flower that has spread rather widely is the noon flower (sea fig, elephants tusk, etc.) which is noted over many of the lower hills.

One of the most interesting little invaders spreading widely on the hills is rattlesnake grass, or quaking grass. It grows in with the wild oats but comes to seed later. Its generic name is briza, an invader from Europe, and looks like a tiny rattle snake rattle. It is green at first but turns brown as it discharges its seeds, and when shaken produces a very faint rattle. There are two species, one recognized here, and another I found in Point Reyes.

I hope that all of these alien species do not crowd out the natural flora. Some of them have been intentionally planted, while others have escaped cultivation. Still others have been spread by bird or animal droppings, yet others by the wind. It will be interesting to note the effects of the passing of future time on the flora of Point Richmond.

Memories of the Point in the 20's and 30's As Seen Through A Kitchen Window

by Al Franco

Part Two of Two Parts

Up the hill on the left, was an old abandoned house in it's last stage of disrepair. All the windows had long ago been broken, most of the shingles had been torn off and about the only thing remaining was the 2x4 wood frame. This we had turned into our fort. One team would take a turn at defending it, while the other would try to capture it. Our weapons were rubber guns which we laboriously crafted from a piece of wood, a pinch type clothes pin and a section of inner tube cut into rubber bands knotted in the middle to improve accuracy and increase the stringing power of the "bullet" when it hit it's target. If you got hit by the enemy's rubber band, you were dead. Even as an ugly red welt was rising on our body, we would proclaim that we had not been hit.

To the north I could see Mt. Tamalpias rising 2604 feet above sea level, the sleeping princess majestically stretched out on the horizon, which Indian legend tells us was a beautiful Indian maiden anxiously waiting for the return of her lover, a brave who went to war and has not yet returned. Her legs disappearing

into the shores of Marin County and her hair cascading down to touch the bay. When the bay was calm, I could see the mirror image of the coast line in the tranquil water.

During the summer weekends I could see the tiny white images of hundreds of sail boats, some of which sailed in the famous Hearst Regatta. Then there was the ever present view of the Pan American China Clippers, the great amphibious flying boats, which flew to all parts of the world. What would it be like to fly? A few years later when World War II broke out I was given the opportunity to find out when I enlisted in the United States Air Corps (only weeks ahead of receipt of my draft notice). As I lay in my bunk at the induction center I could visualize myself, white silk scarf trailing in the prop blast, shooting down enemy planes. (A lot of "Snoopy" in me in those days.) But alas, fate dealt me another hand. My weak eyes kept be out of the cadet corps. So it is very possible that my myopia allowed me to live long enough to write this article. Second prize for me was being a mechanic/flight engineer on a B25 medium bomber in the training command. When the war ended and I received a discharge, I continued to work in the aviation field.

On clear evenings at the close of the day, the Golden Gate was a kaleidoscope of color ranging from a subtle pink to a bright red as the sun sunk in the west. The shoreline of Marin and San Francisco counties first took on shades of blue and then melted into a deep purple and then almost black as the night descended upon us. I've never seen a more beautiful sight that the sunset through the Golden Gate.

But then there were days in the evening when the air on the land would cool and the warm air from the Pacific Ocean would rush in to replace the void caused by the rising air and

the soft billows of fog would roll in completely obliterating everything on the horizon. If the mist was low enough, the rays of the setting sun would cast its brilliant crimson reflection off the top of the fleecy white fog banks.

On clear warm summer nights, when the moon was full, the lunar light would cast a bright glistening shimmering path on the mirror smooth waters of San Francisco Bay as far as the eye could see, over the silhouette of the blue black hills of the San Francisco and Marin County coast line. If I were able to walk on water (not you, Al) I wondered, how far would I be able to go? To the edge of the earth? To heaven?

On stormy winter nights, the wind would howl and the rain would beat a steady pounding tattoo against the window. The waves would crash against the rock bound shoreline of Point

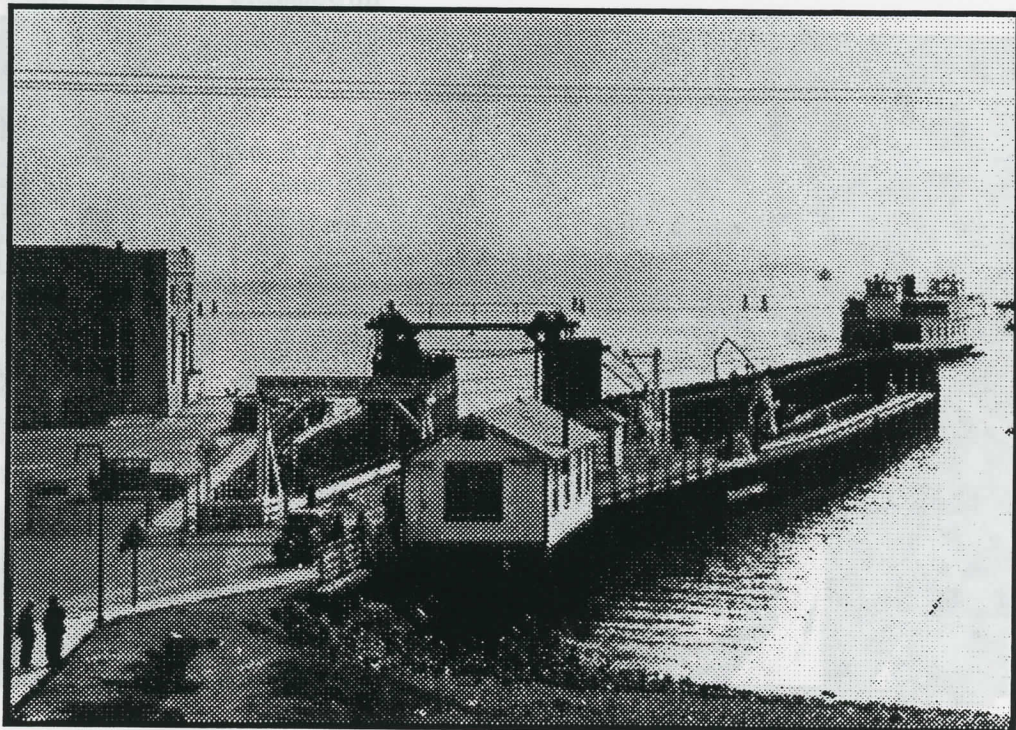
Richmond spraying white frothy foam high in the air. It made me glad that I was in the shelter of that old house.

Could I see the Golden Gate Bridge? (It opened 57 years ago this May can it be possible?) I don't remember but it is not relevant whether I did, these memories are about the natural beauties which GOD has given us, things that man can never duplicate.

It was out of that kitchen window that I learned to appreciate the beauties of nature. There is so much around us. Some 45 years after I looked out that window, I retired from the aviation industry.

Now when I feel down, I look back at when I sat at that window and remember that at that time life was simple and all those whom I loved were alive and well and my spirits are lifted.

*Southern
Pacific Ferry
Slip, at Ferry
Point, 1930's.
They gave
scheduled
auto
passenger
service to San
Francisco.*



THE MASQUERS PLAYHOUSE

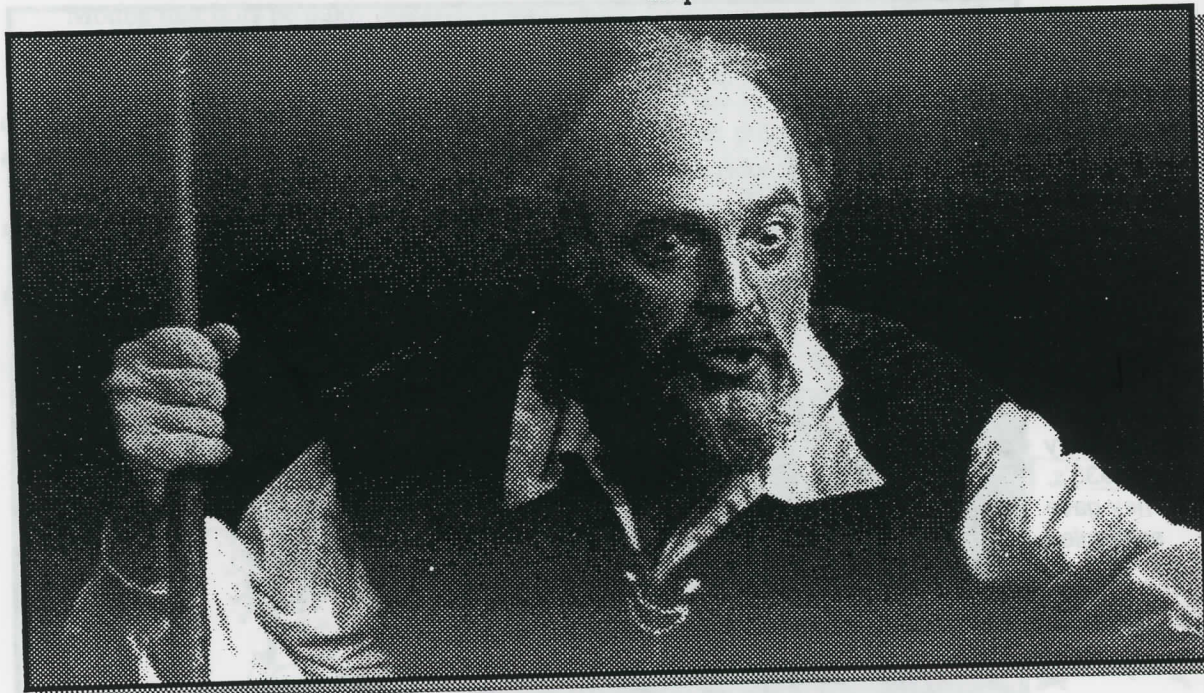
PRESENTS



Anne Hanzlik Review

Don Quixote is part of a collection of classic tales that has endured for centuries, and now with the production of *Man of La Mancha* it has captured the minds and spirits of countless people regardless of whether they have actually read Cervantes tales or have see the musical & modern version in *Man of La Mancha*. The very word "quixotic" has entered the modern lexicon as well as the phrases "the impossible dream", "tilting at windmills", "knight-errant" and even perhaps "the fair Dulcinea".

The Masquers present and second production of *Man of La Mancha* was greeted most enthusiastically on the past opening night, much to the Masquers credit. The production made the 'impossible dream' telescope from



Cervantes voluminous book of Don Quixote and the large productions of *Man of La Mancha* into a memorable evening of theater on our own Masquers stage, with the aid of the invaluable efforts of all the large production staff as well, of course, of the very able cast.

ROBERT ROGER as DON QUIXOTE brought a broad background of study and experience to his interperation of this puzzling (Quixotic) personality. His staring gaze out into the audience was transfixing. HARRY BERS as his squire SANCHO PANZA made an able partner to his endearing madness. The other character "the fair Dulcinea" (ALDONZA), AMY UKENA, was arresting as the shady prisoner that Don Quixote insisted upon glorifying.

There is a large cast who took varying roles from 'muleteers' to 'men of the inquisition' in as many scenes. The haunting specters of the KNIGHTS OF THE MIRRORS was a great piece of stagecraft.

Jo Lusk as costume designer deserves great credit, along with her staff, for the ambience given to the 16th century drama. John Hull in particular in his doctoral robes might have been taken for a subject in one of Velasquez' paintings.

This was an ambitious production marking its second Masquers appearance and with the original director PAT NELSON again in charge, this time to mark still another expansion of the Masquers scope in their acquisition of their new warehouse.

Many kudos to all!



THE MASQUERS PLAYHOUSE PRESENTS



Book by
Dale Wasserman
Music by
Mitch Leigh
Lyrics by
Joe Darion

Directed by Pat Nelson

Come and share "The Impossible Dream" with Don Quixote, the Man Of La Mancha, in this illusion of bold adventure, charm, absurdity and gallantry from the imagination of Don Miguel de Cervantes. Winner of 5 Tony Awards! The critics said "Grand and glorious," "Musical theater at its finest," and "A lusty, rowdy, thrilling show." For those who still dare to hope!

THE CAST

Anna Albanese Henry Bers Larry Golding
Steve Hill Erika Hulin John Hull Doreen Kaye
Heinz Lankford Robert Love Karen McKinney
Mark Patino Robert Roger Sara Scheuenstuhl
Gill Stanfield Jerry Telfer Amy Ukena

Friday & Saturday Evenings:

OCTOBER 27- DECEMBER 16, 1995

Sun. Matinees: NOV. 5 & 12, DEC. 3 & 10

**24 HR. RESERVATIONS:
510-232-4031**

Reservations held until 10 minutes before curtain.
Group Rates Available.

Box Office opens at 8PM; 2PM for matinees

Curtain 8:30PM Matinees 2:30PM

Admission: \$10⁰⁰ cash or check

MASQUERS DINNER & THEATRE BENEFIT

for the Masquers Building Fund

THURS., DECEMBER 14

Dinner at the Hotel Mac followed by performance
of *Man Of La Mancha*

for only \$25. To reserve, call (510) 236-4988.

Cards & Letters

Dear Gary,

I squealed with delight when I received my copy of TPIT! On the very front cover was my two sister's pictures taken at Cappy's Beach, 66 years ago. It was gracious of you to publish it.

I wanted to write to you sooner but plunging my thumb into a meat fork did not feel very well trying to hold a pen and applying any pressure! Even tried to typewrite and it would throb. Fortunately it is now functional.

You are there creating the memoirs of yesterday through the TPIT for all us who lived at the Point and experienced so many happy days of our childhood. You bridge the gap between yesterday and today so that one word (such as "Buckeye" for instance) can conjure up the many times we used that hollow seed pod to bean our opponents in a mock war! Both sides won because we were having fun. Yesterday is a world we should never dismiss from our minds, take for granted, nor should it ever be forgotten.

I appreciate the long dedicated hours you have to be putting in for our benefit.

Sincerely,
Betty (Glass) Marshall
Grants Pass, OR

THANKS BETTY GETTING LETTERS LIKE THIS MAKE IT ALL WORTHWHILE!

GARY



Hello Gary:

Here's a picture from the latest issue of "Reminisce" magazine. Anyone around that would know or remember Tommy McDonald?

I went to school with Jimmy and Harry McDonald. They used to live at the end of Bob Dornan Drive in a Santa Fe house. When the Santa Fe RR was in the "big leagues".

Also went to school with louse McDonald. If my memory hasn't failed me completely Louis lived in the Parish house at Santa Fe and West Richmond Aves. Allan Smith would know.

Sincerely,
Trefry A. Ross
Tucson

THE PICTURE REFERRED TO IS THIS ISSUE'S COVER PHOTO, THANKS TREFRY!

GARY



Dear Gary:

First, a suggestion for next year's Kids from the Point. A picnic at Kellers or Miller-Knox Park, where people can relax and enjoy an afternoon. Of course, a dutch treat affair.

As Far Rosie the Riveter, I worked at shipyard No. 2 as a welder, my cousin Alice Beesley and me were the first 2 women to work as welders. Then I went to yard No. 1 as a shipfitter for a year or so.

A note to June Kunkel, I never lived on

Idaho Street. I lived at 125 Hillside Avenue behind the National Hotel where the Macafee family had their first hotel. Yes, I remember you and have asked a few people of your whereabouts, but to no avail, now I know Mary Beesley Thomas lived on Idaho for a few years, my cousin and sister of Alice.

As for the picnic, if it is too cool in May maybe it could be held later when the weather warms up.

Sincerely
June Beesley Solosabal
Martinez, CA

Is the "KIDS" MEETING PLANNING COMMITTEE LISTENING?



Dear Pam:

I have been a 9 year resident of Pt. Richmond, at Brickyard Landing, but was an East Oakland native. My father was a long time Chief Engineer on the ferries and was occasionally sent out on the Pt. Richmond run. I do remember in the 20's & 30's making the ride thru Pt. Richmond to board the ferries enroute to summer vacations at Cazadero.

Many of my summer friends at Cazadero were Point Richmond kids like the Moyles, Turley and George families.

I may not have been a "Point Richmond Kid", but am now one in my second (?) childhood.

Jack Murray
Point Richmond



Dear Pam:

Noting the cover on the September/October issue of "This Point", it is indicated that it was taken "with Cappy's beach in the background".

Although I left the Point when I was five years old I have some vivid memories of some of my adventures while we lived at 809 Ocean Avenue. The term "Cappy" brings one of them to mind.

Cap Austen had a boat house located on the beach at short distance from the Salt Water Station, it stood at the shore end of the Long Wharf. He also had a wharf, of sorts, that extended out into the water, for what seemed like a considerable distance. The young people had great fun swimming off the end of his wharf, whenever the tide was right. On one accasion, when I was about three years old I accompanied my brother to Cap's Wharf. The year would be 1918. While he and the group were swimming, I walked out on the two planks that constituted the structure and threw a rock into the water. The problem was that I forgot to let go of the rock. As I was headed for the water I heard the watchman at the Salt Water Station yell, "look out for the baby!" I was soon out of the water and on the beach saying "I want to go home". Stanley Lindahl carried me home.

Enclosed are my dues for another year of interesting information.

Take care,
Robert T. Barnes
Bowie, MD



Dear Pam:

Here is my check for another year of happy memories of the past. I really enjoy reading all of the articles.

Also, I'm enclosing a check in memory of my brother Capt. Peter S. Cairo. He started school from kindergarten to the eighth grade (in Point Richmond), then on to Richmond Hi.

On Saturdays on Sundays he worked for the Richmond/San Rafael Ferry, selling news papers and also as a "shoe shine boy".

He went to Marine School and received his License but wasn't able to start work until he became of age. He finally started to work for the Richmond/San Rafael Ferry, the "Charles Van Damm" as First Mate.

In 1942 he started to work for the Standard Oil Company in Richmond and was a tug boat Ships Pilot. He worked 27 years and retired in 1969. He was considered by the Standard Oil Company to be one of the best.

Although he lived on the other side of Richmond he always called the "Point" home.

My very best to all the staff, keep up the good work.

Sincerely,

Rena "nee" Cairo Gonsalves
Manteca, CA



Dear Pam Wilson:

On May 18, 1912, I was born at the Standard Hotel at 541 Standard Avenue.

My father, Joe Roveda, was the owner of the saloon and boarding house. In 1913 he sold the business and we moved to Richmond.

I was told by my father that there were many saloons and hotels located there in the early years.

With this in mind I did some research and was able to compile the enclosed list of the 35 saloons and hotels in operation during the period of 1907 thru 1912.

I trust it may be of some help in the history of Point Richmond.

Sincerely,

Bruno J. Reveda
Richmond

*YES IT IS VERY INTERESTING, I AM TRYING TO FIGURE OUT
JUST HOW TO PRESENT YOUR RESEARCH IN TPIT, LOOK FOR IT
SOON, PROBABLY DECEMBER.....GARY*

*Traditional Point Richmond
Tree Lighting Ceremony at Dusk in the Indian Statue Park
on November 25th!
Santa Claus will be there!
Christmas carols will be sung
amongst the luminaries*

DEATHS

Michael Dennis Kinter an advocate for Independent Living Resources in Martinez, died from complications of pneumonia at his Richmond home October 5, 1995. He was 38.

He was a native and lifelong resident of Richmond.

He is survived by his mother, Frances Smith of Richmond; father, Rollen Kinter of Utah; stepfather, Gary Smith of Berkeley; sister, Sandra Kokoruda of San Pablo; brother, John Kinter of Vacaville; and grandmother, Goldie Mobley of Colfax.

Memorial gifts: Michael Kinter Memorial Fund, 2574 Sheldon Drive, Richmond, CA 94803

Albert Paul Schmiedeke, a word processor-engineer, died August 23rd in a San Pablo hospital. The cause of death was not available, he was 53 years old.

The Wisconsin native was an 11 year resident of San Pablo and he was a member of the Masquers Playhouse.

He is survived by a companion, Robert Dale Bowery of San Pablo.

Anna Marie Beardsley a retail sales clerk five years, died in a San Pablo hospital. The cause of death was not available. She was 39 years old.

The San Francisco native was a 38 year resident of Point Richmond and a member of Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church in Point Rich-

mond.

She is survived by a daughter, Gina Beardsley of Point Richmond.

Memorial gifts: Many Hands Project benefiting Washington School, c/o Tom McGowan, 101 Park Place, Suite A, Point Richmond, CA 94801.

Randolph Beekman Delmore "Dell" Delmore, retired as a sheet metal supervisor at the Naval Shipyards in San Francisco, died in an El Cerrito nursing center of cancer. He was 89.

The Alaska native was a 45 year resident of Point Richmond. He was an Army Air Force veteran of World War II.

He is survived by a stepson, Ronald F. Brown of Point Richmond; and sister, Constance Beals of Washington state.

Memorial gifts can be sent to American Cancer Society, West Contra Costa Unit, 2000 Vale Road, San Pablo, CA 94806 or Kaiser Hospice, 1330 Cutting Blvd., Richmond, CA 94804.

Thomas Ernest Downey, Retired as a Postal Service Inspector, died October 11th in Hemet, CA. The Point Richmond native son was also a former Navy Reserve Unit Instructor locally and United States Navy veteran of World War Two.

His brother, Terry Downey, also a native son of the West Side, still lives in the Richmond

Area. Tom and Terry grew up in the Point.

Paulette L. (Kermabon) Robbins passed away in San Francisco, September 19th. She was the sister of Charlotte, Jean, Joseph and the late Guy Kermabon. Paulette had a keen business mind and held executive positions when not many did. She was a member of Epsilon, Sigma Chapter of Delta Theta Tau Sorority and served in the United States Navy as a Wave during World War Two. Funeral Mass was offered at Notre Dame des Victoires Church in San Francisco, Committal at Holy Cross Cemetery in San Bruno.

The Kermabons lived on Oregon Avenue, Mr. Kermabon was an electrician at the Standard Oil Refinery. The family later moved to San Francisco where they opened a family grocery store in the Mission District.

Local Students Win Scholarships and Academic Awards

As the school year end, many organizations recognize the efforts of students with scholarships and other awards. The West Contra Costa Division of the California Retired Teachers Association presented \$1,000 scholarships to each of fifteen graduating seniors from six high schools in the West Contra Costa Unified School District.

The A. L. Bernes Memorial Scholarships are awarded to students who demonstrate leadership and community service. The award's namesake was a teacher, administrator and community leader. A. L. Bernes was a native son of Point Richmond; raised on Idaho Street and later had a home on Western Drive.

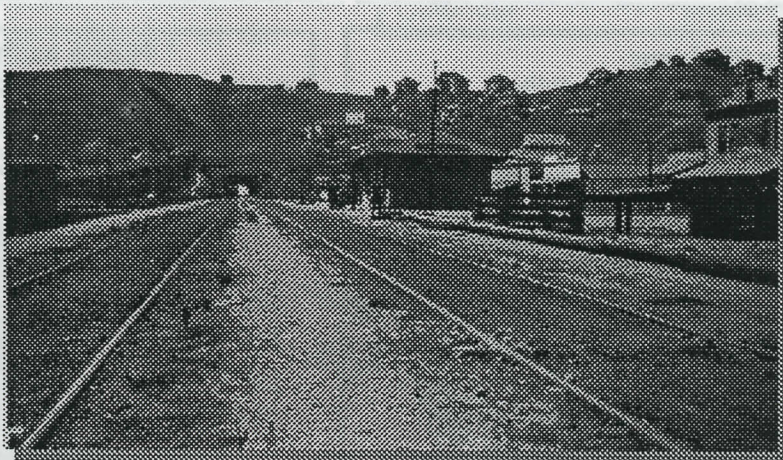


NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Ann Greiner
Jason McGill
Betty Dornan
Elsie Spinola
Clare Doherty
Bo Amantite
Gary Shows
Marianne Forbes
Les Crim
Hal Marshall
Nicole Vargo
Matthew Berman
James Cheshareck, Sr.

James Cheshareck, Jr.
Ida Giacomelli
Claudia LeGue
Aubyn Eakles
Lance Rotting
Albert & George Kollar
Theodore W. Beck
Paul Cort
Lynn Rendler
Mary Ann Gaspard
Chris Bradshaw
Craig Seaborg
Kenny Paasch

Joe Savill
Mike Price
Shane Thomas
Linda Feyder
Bethany Reynolds
Kay Pinkerton
Bobbies Boziki Linda
Audrey C. Edwards
Shirley Butt
Jack Elle
Marj Bellati
Linda Cheshareck



*Wherever I have gone in this country,
I have found Americans.*

-Alf Landon (in America), during a speech in his presidential campaign against FDR

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

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Type of membership (check one):

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

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

Pam Wilson
521 Western Drive
Point Richmond, CA 94801

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

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

fax 510-233-0762

"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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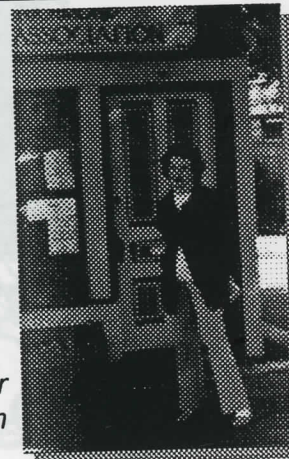
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Pam Wilson, Membership
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Betty Dornan, Museum
Allan Smith, Archives

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Al Franco	Article
Anne Hanzlik	Article
Elsie A. Spinola	Article
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David Vincent	Information
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PRHA Treasurer
Muriel Clausen



Calendar

November, 1995

November 3-5
Fri., Sat., Sun.

Richmond Museum of History Annual Treasure and Junque
Faire, Harry Ells Gym

November 7
Tuesday

Election Day

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

November 8
Wednesday

Point Richmond Business Association Meeting
Noon, Hotel Mac

November 11
Saturday

Veteran's Day

November 23
Thursday

Thanksgiving Day

November 24
Friday

DEADLINE FOR THE DECEMBER ISSUE OF TPIT

November 25
Saturday

Point Richmond Old Fashioned Christmas Tree Lighting
Ceremony, dusk at the Indian Statue Park

November 28
Tuesday

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

December 2
Saturday

"A Christmas Fest" holiday celebration on the triangle in
downtown Point Richmond, music and surprises, 5pm

December 5
Tuesday

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

December 13
Wednesday

Point Richmond Business Association Christmas Party
5pm, Hotel Mac