

## PRESIDIO HISTORY FEATURED AT MARCH 18TH GATHERING

Driving through the Presidio always evokes great memories of my San Francisco childhood, digging out wonderful bullets from the backstops of the rifle ranges at the Presidio.

Our March meeting will feature Col. Milton Halsey, Executive Director of the Fort Point and Army Museum Association, bringing us the story of the Presidio of San Francisco, a landmark of our area.

Col. Halsey retired from the Army after 30 years active service, a decorated combat infantryman in Korea and Vietnam. An Army "brat", Col. Halsey was surrounded with military history all his life, and after leaving the Army has written numerous published articles on western military history.

He is a member of the Council on America's Military Past, the Civil War Roundtable, a volunteer lecturer with the National Park Service, and actively directing the Fort Point and Army Museum Association in the Presidio.

This will be another choice event of local history. Come early to dig out your own bullets of memory with Col. Halsey!

THE HISTORY GUILD of DALY CITY/COLMA  
PROUDLY PRESENTS ANOTHER

# HISTORY EVENING!



WEDNESDAY, March 18, at 7:30 pm



## PRESIDIO Sentinel by the Golden Gate

A fascinating, illustrated history  
presented by  
Col. Milton Halsey  
Executive Director  
Fort Point & Army Museum Assn.

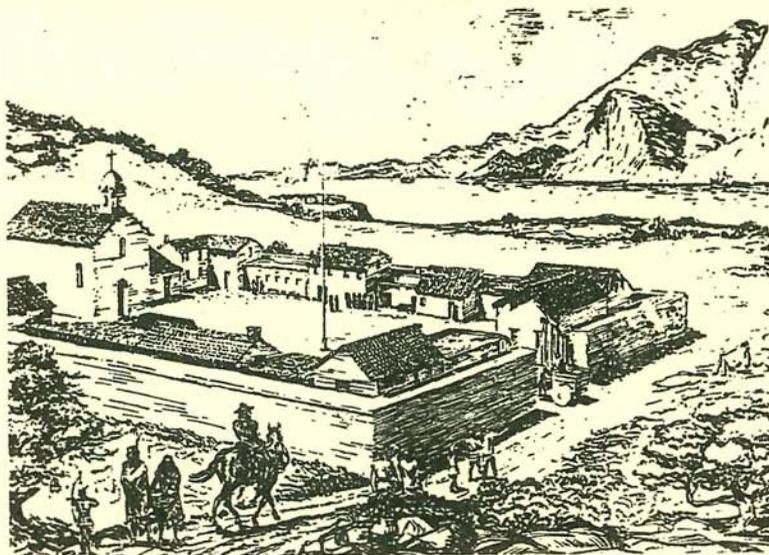
Doelger Center Multi-Purpose Room  
101 Lake Merced Blvd., Daly City

### ADMISSION FREE!

Donations Gratefully Accepted • Phone 755-5123 for information

## HISTORY GUILD of DALY CITY/COLMA

Volume 5, No. 2 March 1987



THE PRESIDIO about the end of the 1700's, on the area near the present parade grounds.

Walls 14' high and 5' thick surrounded buildings which were never threatened by an enemy.

Off in the distance center can be seen the Castillo (fort) de San Joaquin, where Fort Point is now located.

## JANUARY MEETING

Colma took top billing on the program, as well as two beautifully-decorated cakes on January 18th, our Annual Guild Birthday Party.

Principal speaker was Mayor Charles Gerrans of Colma, who presented an outstanding disertation on the history of his town, as well as some personal observations about the development of the area, the cemeteries, historically pertinent customs regarding funerals, and statements about the changing landscape and the future of Colma.

Mayor Gerrans opened his discussion time to questions from the audience, and satisfied inquiries with specialized knowledge based on his long involvement with the business and area.

A custom of the Birthday Bash has become the "Howdy Bingo Game", where attendees garner 24 signatures of others, and draw for prizes.

Two beautiful live plants, provided by member Stan Roderick of Rose & Leona's Flower Shop, and a beautiful table centerpiece from Joyce Olcese of Carmel's Floral Caterers, were raffled off to the delight of three lucky winners. Joyce, incidentally, is the sister of Marilyn Olcese, one of our super hospitality team.

Among those present, and introduced to the Guild were Colma Councilman and Mrs. Ted Kirschner, Daly City Councilman and Mrs. Al Teglia, Millbrae Councilwoman Mary Griffin, plus Southern Hills Property Owners Association president Elsa Ramos and Max Ramos. Past Guild chairpeople Christiana Graham and Knud Knudsen were also introduced and welcomed.

A Guild Certificate of Appreciation, along with the Guild's sincere thanks, was presented to Mayor Gerrans.

Magnificent refreshments, provided by Mary Hutchings, Marilyn Olcese, Cathy Skupien and George Gaggero were thoroughly enjoyed by all. President Ken Gillespie chaired the event for the full house Guild members.

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Our upcoming programs are a good cross-section of historic interest we believe, and we hope you mark your calendars for the next three History Guild events, as planned through Belva Carroll's Program Committee.

May 20th - Colma Town Hall, 7:30pm  
Mr. Mitch Postell - San Mateo County Historical Association

July 15th - Doelger Center, 7:30pm  
Ms. Gladys Hansen - San Francisco Library Archivist

Sept. 16th - Doelger Center, 7:30pm  
Mr. Carney Campion - General Manager, Golden Gate Bridge

## CATALOGUING PROJECT

Our Library Liaison chairman, Neil Fahy, reports good progress for the Guild project of identifying and cataloguing the myriad photographs, letters, journals and other artifacts in the Samuel Chandler Historical Collection at the Serramonte Library.

Neil and Claire Fahy, and Ken Gillespie met at the Library in January with Daly City Librarian John Sullivan and City Hall rep Mike Wilson to initiate means of launching the project.

Mr. Wilson, during the summertime of 1986, had made enormous strides in the cataloguing with a self-designed system, most comprehensive and forward-looking. The discussion at the meeting turned then to the feasible methods of transferring the work already accomplished into a system of computer input and availability.

Mr. Fahy volunteered to investigate the computer software and requisite hardware needed to assimilate the work already accomplished with the data base needed for comprehensive cross-referencing.

This might include identification of a photo (or series of pix) where the searcher is looking for all

those pictures, for example, showing schoolchildren, 1910 or before, in a particular location.

A report on the project is forthcoming, and the Guild is looking for volunteers in the future for the task of corroborating those items already catalogued, and inputting to a new system when (and if) the computer hardware and software becomes available. Please call Neil Fahy (756-2753) or Ken Gillespie (755-5123) if you are interested in helping. Merci beaucoup.

### OCEAN SHORE RAILROAD TRESTLES

Having read the fine book, *The Last Whistle*, the story of the Ocean Shore Railroad, our appetite is whetted for more, detailed information of the exact route that the railroad took through what is now Daly City, Broadmoor and over to the coastline, where it went down along the cliffs towards the communities along the shoreline.

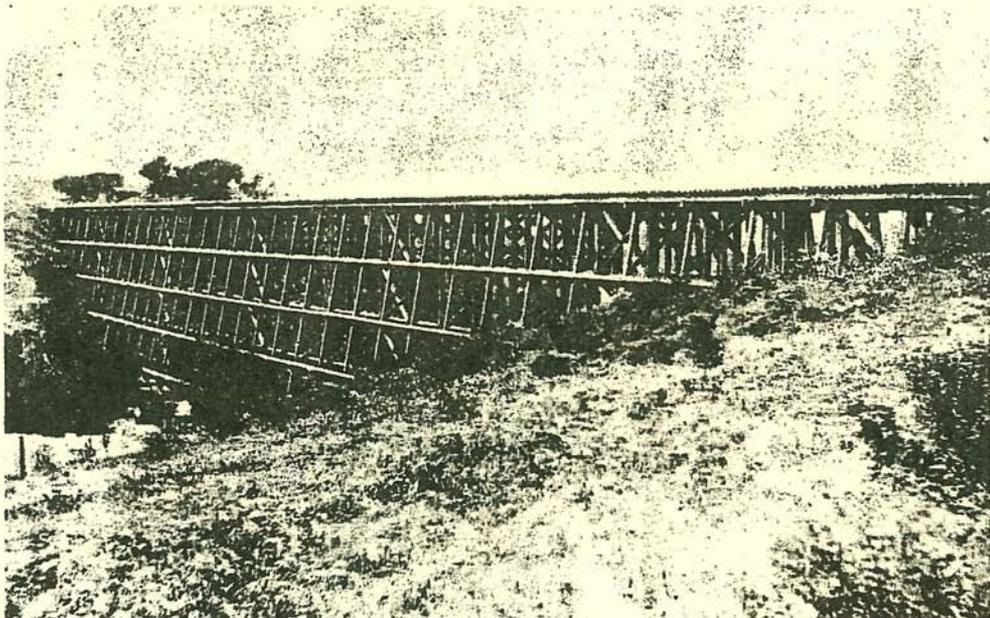
With a slogan of "Reaches the Beaches", the railroad had a rocky

life of 15 years, hoping at first to link Santa Cruz from San Francisco, but never making it, because of most difficult grade and terrain problems.

By 1921 the rolling stock was sold and the track removed, and only vestiges remain (some station buildings, roadbed highlights, etc.) of the optimistic railroad with the cheerful slogan.

The book tells of the station at 12th and Mission Sts., routing along or near Potrero Ave. to San Jose and Alemany, following Alemany to a point where BART Daly City is now, across the lands of the Lake Merced Golf and Country Club, through what is part of Broadmoor, then over what we remember in the mid-'50's as "the hump" on Southgate in Westlake, by Our Lady of Mercy and up to what we remember as the Silver Saddle at Alemany (now John Daly Blvd.) and Skyline, and following the coast road down the hill.

There were three trestles in the area, one described as milepost 8.05, the other as 8.85, the third 9.10. Anybody able to tell just where those were? Tell us about it at the March 18th meeting, okay?



## BITS & PIECES

Our Auditing Committee, **John Palmer** and **Dan Gilbrech**, will start the annual audit of the Guild books after Feb. 28th close. Many thanks to this eagle-eyed duo and our meticulous Treasurer **Roz Babow** for their continuing, good care of our books!

And thanks, too, to our good members for sending in their dues in such good fashion.

Have you seen the beautiful exhibition of artist **Bob McClay** in the Octagon Gallery at City Hall? Working in a myriad of media, **Bob** displays a set of paintings well worthy of a special visit to 90th Street!

Before you know it, the Board of Directors will list a Nominating Committee to present a slate of officers for the election in June. My, how quickly this History Guild year has flown!

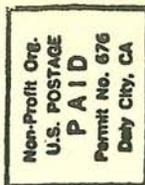
We had the pleasure of meeting **Dan & Debbie Sullivan**, of Holy Cross Cemetery in Colma, reminding us that the cemetery will be celebrating 100 years of service this year.

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### OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

Ken Gillespie, pres.	755-5123
Pamela Giusti, vice-pres.	992-9685
Roz Babow, treas.	994-7662
Bunny Gillespie, secy.	755-5123
Claire Fahy, dir.	756-2753
Neil Fahy, dir.	756-2753
Yolanda Hardiman, dir.	589-0188
Ted Babow, dir.	994-7662

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DALY CITY ADVOCATES  
HISTORY GUILD OF DALY CITY/COLMA  
40 Wembley Drive  
Daly City, CA 94015

DATED MATERIAL