

HERE COMES EDDIE DENNIS!

Back in 1944, Edward J. Dennis (everybody calls him Eddie) was elected as a Daly City councilman, the inception of council service that spanned a period of 26 years, 1944 through 1970. At our March 15th meeting, 7:30 pm at Doelger Center, Eddie, born on Station Avenue almost 86 years ago, will grace our podium.

He was elected to five terms on the Council, 1944, 1952, 1958, 1962 and 1966. He was Mayor of Daly City 1959-60, when our community was undergoing its periods of great growth, the post-WW II expansion in area and population.

As a sidebar to his comments, we will show a few choice slides of the Dennis family in the early days, Dogs, Dennis and Daly City!

His father was a dog trainer and racer, and as a youth, Eddie worked with him in many locations. He later became a milk wagon driver, and union official, in addition to entering the field of political public service.

But, we don't want to give away the whole story of the remarkable Edward J. Dennis. Come on the 15th and enjoy a grand evening with a grand guy!

NOTES FROM THE TREASURER

Treasurer Roz Babow reports that we have 237 membership cards returned with various membership categories. Many are family memberships, so we can presume that our paid membership is close to 500. WELL DONE, EVERY ONE!, as Young Mr. Grace would say on "Are You Being Served?" We surely think that the Guild is being very well served by its membership results.

Incidentally, in the above numbers are 20 Patron Memberships of \$25

THE HISTORY GUILD of DALY CITY/COLMA
PROUDLY PRESENTS ANOTHER

HISTORY EVENING!



WEDNESDAY, March 15th, at 7:30 pm



Ed Dennis

LONG TERM COUNCILMAN
and
MAYOR OF DALY CITY

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

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and above. And, many members have sent in extra monies, just to help out the Treasury. Thanks to all for wanting to be part of the Guild!

Our raffles are a fine way of bringing enough money in to pay the bills that we incur. If you have a white elephant you'd like to contribute, bring it (them) along to the next meeting. Make it something that you'd like to win yourself, okay? Thanks!

THE JOHN DALY LIBRARY

There was a very enjoyable installation of officers at the Jade Dragon of the Mission Merchants' Association recently. Member Marian

Mann is the new president, taking the gavel from Mike Markovich.

Table conversation included the hoped-for usage at some time of the current John Daly Library at the top of the hill for an expanded museum for our community.

A study of library needs was made recently, where the four locations now extant, Westlake, Serramonte, Bayshore and John Daly, were thoroughly examined for future service to Daly City patrons. Possible expansions, movings, etc. were delineated, to the general conclusion that the top of the hill location didn't offer feasible expansion, and that another site would be preferable.

This, of course, raises the hope that the old library might be available for such purpose. It is probably the oldest city-owned building; perhaps something in the Water Dept. has the age edge, but it truly can be considered of historic import. And...it's right in the middle of "WHERE DALY CITY STARTED", quoting from the plaque affixed to the Masonic Temple wall on Hillcrest, across the street.

City officials have reported that a "proper museum" is certainly a matter of concern, and felt quite serious about future implementation.

We surely hope that circumstances will permit the last generous gesture of John Daly (he died within a year or so of the library opening) to be continued in the form of a museum across from his dairy farm!

COLMA TOWN HALL BASH

It was a lot easier this year to set up for the annual Guild birthday party at Colma Town Hall. There are a lot more chairs in-house, and we didn't have to borrow from the DC Parks and Rec Dept. as in previous years.

However, space in the beautiful Council Chambers was still at a premium, and there were standees again to help celebrate the 13th Anniversary

of our Guild. It was in 1982 that we began to function as an organized group, and 1986 when we adopted By-Laws and elected officers.

The January 22nd meeting was in between play-offs and Super Bowl, and with a fine speaking team of Michael Svanevik and Shirley Burgett, the co-authors of "City of Souls, San Francisco's Necropolis at Colma" introducing their brand-new volume, the afternoon was a very happy occasion.

Mayor Dennis Fisicaro greeted the assemblage in gracious fashion, evoking the memory of long-time Councilman and Mayor Ted Kirschner, who was our greeter for so many years.

Michael and Shirley told their stories of the book's purpose, commissioning and production, their search and research, which has produced a beautiful book, crammed full of information about the move of the cemetery complexes in San Francisco to the farmlands of Colma, after S.F. literally kicked them out.

The book will be available for purchase through the Colma Historical Society. Please call President Pat Hatfield for information (755-4683).

The goodie tables were temptingly laid out by Mary Hutchings' Hospitality Committee. Mary was under the weather, but Marilyn Olcese and Bob and Enid Williams did yeoman service in presenting a variety of tasty morsels, champagne, apple juice and coffee. Staffing the tables were Russ and Eunice Brabec avec la champagne, Lydia Kirschner, Max and Elsa Ramos.

Treasurer Roz Babow sat at the left end of the huge Council table, taking dues, while Walter and Elaine Riney and Ted Babow hustled raffle tickets. Neil Fahy and Don Manning helped set up the chamber, with the help of Dick Larsen.

Raffle prizes were donated by the following generous guys and gals: Joyce Olcese (beautiful floral centerpiece, designed and fashioned in her Carmel shop), Elaine Riney (lovely decorative tray), Mayor Dennis Fisicaro (two bottles of beautifully-

labeled - personal bottling - of wine), Marilyn Olcese (champagne, jelly, mixed nuts, and with John Olcese, plants), Bunny Gillespie (sparkling cider, coin purse, dish).

Refreshments were contributed by Trudy Ehrlich, Bob and Eleanor Smyth, Bunny Gillespie, Max and Elsa Ramos, Lou and Pat Craviotto, Russ Brabec and Pat Hatfield.

Appreciation is extended to the Township of Colma, through City Manager Frances Liston, for the generous use of the Council Chambers each year for our birthday party. It's always a real treat to meet there.

The brand-new museum of the Colma Historical Society was open for view the same afternoon, and we were privileged to tour the beautiful facility. Located in a large house trailer at the west end of the Colma Town Hall parking lot, the museum is in a temporary location, displaying significant memorabilia, pictures and artifacts connected with Colma's history. It is very well laid out, and worthy of a visit. Please call Pat Hatfield, 755-4683, for hours of operation.

UPCOMING IN MAY, A TREAT

Our By-Laws dictate that the purpose of the History Guild of Daly City/Colma shall be "to promote interest in and gather and disseminate historical information pertaining to Daly City, Colma, and their environs."

Therefore, when Program Chair Bunny Gillespie read the glowing review in the Chronicle of a new book by Jerry Flamm, she asked him if he would like to speak at one of our meetings in 1995.

The book, "Hometown San Francisco", is a follow-up to his earlier "Good Life in Hard Times", growing up in the Depression-Era San Francisco.

What's the connection with our By-Law dictum? Well, Mr. Flamm had called the Gillespies to get information about the boxing scene just over the County Line into what is now Daly City, and the boxing training arenas in Colma. So, such memorabilia are indeed part and parcel of the new book,

and we stay within bounds. This will be a dandy...mark it down, May 17th!

FOR GOODIE-NESS SAKE!

Volunteers for goodies for the March 15th meeting are listed below:

Lu Fliegler
Dorothy Orton
Irene Krueger
Bianca Caserza
Mary Chiappari
Angela Uccelli

Many thanks for your generosity. Mary Hutchings will give you a reminder call the week before the meeting.

ADDED TO THE COLLECTION

Contributions to the collection have been received from the following thoughtful, generous individuals:

The Rocchettas: Match book from Mary's Help Hospital.

The Rineys, Russ Brabec, Lee Robinson: Clippings from the Independent re the Guild.

Dick Larsen: Scrapbook of Jeff High and Yearbooks from Thornton School. These were on display in the Mini-Museum recently.

Remember, don't throw away any of those family photos, or memorabilia you've saved that reflect your life in Daly City or Colma. Give us a chance to see if they are suitable for the collection. Also, if you have pics that you don't want to part with, but which should be in the collection, let us take pictures of your pictures. We have the capability.

MINI-MUSEUM MEANDERINGS

The Tuesday afternoon gang at the Mini-Museum is really a lively bunch. Don Manning is our resident expert on streets and roads, Dick Larsen can answer manifold queries about Jeff Hi, Collins Orton puts his 45 years residence in the area (Broadmoor and St. Francis Heights) to good use, Walter Schultz is steadfast at the reception desk and filing, and is usually the early bird to put up the mobile displays. Bunny and Ken work with the

others in meeting and greeting and cataloguing.

Some days the visitors are few... other days we might have half a dozen differing sets, each with particular interests in the history of the area. The schoolchildren recognize the more current objects, and are interested in the old schools, Seton Hospital and the Ghost Blimp panels.

Why not come around any Tuesday afternoon to check it out? It's a lot of fun, and we can all keep learning from one another and the objects that are on display.

...end notes...

The San Mateo County Historical Association has just received an assortment of artifacts found at the Fitzgerald Marine Preserve on the San Mateo Coast.

Among the artifacts, bones, and fragments of human habitation, is a small (1½" wide) fragment, probably half its original usage size, of a type of cutting tool, scraper, which has been carbon-tested to a period as old as 10,000 years ago.

Since the general science had placed any local humans in our area only to a maximum of about 5,000 years ago, this discovery has topsy-turvied such previous beliefs.

HISTORY GUILD OF DALY CITY/COLMA
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