

THE STORY OF ROBERT THORNTON, PIONEER

The story of Robert Thornton, the first settler across the sand dunes in what became northern San Mateo County, will be told in narrated slide presentation style at Doelger Center on Wednesday, May 21st, 7:30 p.m.

Speakers for the program will be Daly City historians Bunny and Ken Gillespie, who have done comprehensive research on the subject.

"His name is almost lost in dusty pages of history," comments Bunny, "but his pioneering efforts should be remembered. That's the goal of our research and the reason for highlighting him at our upcoming Guild meeting. Clippings and other memorabilia will be on display."

Thornton was a leader in early area education, on the first Jefferson school board, named it "Jefferson", helped build the first school, became a County supervisor, and after his death in 1916 was honored by the naming of an elementary school in Colma in 1918, and later by Thornton Beach State Park in DC.

A visible link to Thornton remains by means of his house on Sullivan Ave. near Washington. The home was originally across Junipero Serra near the railroad tracks, and was built in 1866, when he left his blacksmithing work to become a very successful real estate agent.

The blue and white frame house was considered a landmark of early Colma days, and is perhaps the oldest building in Daly City/Colma.

MURDER WAS "IN" AT MARCH MEETING

After the standing-room only gig at the Colma Town Hall in January, the Guild hosted another packed house meet

THE HISTORY GUILD of DALY CITY/COLMA
PROUDLY PRESENTS ANOTHER

HISTORY EVENING!



WEDNESDAY, May 21st, at 7:30 pm

The
ROBERT S. THORNTON
Story



A Slide Program
Narrated by
BUNNY & KEN GILLESPIE

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

ADMISSION FREE!

Donations Gratefully Accepted • Phone 991-8025 for Information

on March 19th last, when the big attraction was the tension-filled story of the Father Heslin Murder in 1921, dubbed by program chair Bunny Gillespie as **MURDER MOST FOUL!**"

Historian Shirley Burgett brought a beautifully-prepared talk on the murder of the Holy Angels priest, who was spirited away into the Colma fog, and was later found dead in the sands of what is now Pacifica.

When Shirley concluded her splendid discourse, Father Joe Gordon, a DC native now serving an East Palo Catholic church, amplified the subject with information and research of his own, worked up over several years.

Having had an unexpected historical bonus, the audience of more than 130 living souls was stunned when member Martha Jordan, mother of Daly City police captain Bob Jordan, was

escorted to the microphone to reveal that she, as a little girl on San Pedro Ave., Colma, had been an EYE-WITNESS to the abduction of Father Heslin, and could corroborate the identity of the kidnapper, William Hightower as the man who was convicted and imprisoned for the crime.

She did not testify at the trial because of threats on her life from unidentified sources, and her revelations before the Guild meeting were the first public airings of the terrifying experience of a tiny girl!

Whew! That was a night of real excitement...the Guild meeting we mean. In the audience were several police officials, Chief Tim Guiney from Broadmoor, Chief Wayne Johnson from Colma, and Captain Bob Jordan, from Daly City.

The report of the Nominating Committee for the May election was given by chair Betty Schultz. The following names are recommended:

President	Ken Gillespie
Vice President	Mark Weinberger
Secretary	Bunny Gillespie
Treasurer	Russ Brabec
Board Member	Ted Babow
Board Member	Marilyn Olcese
Board Member	Elaine Riney
Board Member	Walter Riney

BY-LAWS CHANGED

The By-Laws of the Guild, which were adopted by the members at the Annual Meeting on Wednesday, June 18, 1986, were amended at the February 26, 1997 meeting of the Board of Directors, and the changes made are listed below for approval (if so voted) at the May 21st meeting. Copies of the full By-Laws will be available for those who so wish them.

The amended segments are these:

Article IV - MEMBERS

~~Section 1 - All who support these aims are eligible for membership. There shall be no restrictions on membership.~~

~~Section 3 - Membership may be terminated for non-payment of dues. after they become four months delinquent.~~

Article V - OFFICERS

~~Section 2 - All Officers will be nominated and elected by the membership at the Annual Meeting in June in May.~~

~~Section 4 - The Officers shall serve a term of one year. Directors shall serve terms of two years. Un-expired terms will be filled by appointment of the Board.~~

Directors shall serve a term of one year. Un-expired terms will be filled by appointment of the Board.

~~Section 5 - The President shall appoint a Nominating Committee of at least three (3) members-at-large to report to the Board not less than thirty (30) days prior to the Annual Meeting.~~

The President shall appoint a Nominating Committee to report to the Board not less than thirty (30) days prior to the Annual Meeting.

~~Section 7 - The Secretary shall record and read the minutes of each meeting of the History Guild, conduct all correspondence, and maintain record books in which the By-Laws are entered, and have such books on hand at each meeting.~~

~~Checks will be signed by two of the following four Officers, President, Vice-President, Secretary or Treasurer.~~

The Secretary shall keep records of Guild activities and present reports of such when called upon at membership meetings. Communications regarding the Guild and its activities shall be carried out by the Secretary and/or the President or appropriate designate.

Checks will be signed by two Board members out of four as designated by the Board.

Article VI - BOARD MEETINGS

~~The Board shall meet monthly unless otherwise ordered by the President. Five members shall constitute a quorum.~~

The Board shall meet as called by the President, at least once a

year. Five members shall constitute a quorum.

Article VIII - COMMITTEES

The President may appoint other committees as needed. ~~He shall appoint the Chairman of all standing and ad-hoc committees. The President shall also appoint representatives to other civic groups. He is also an ex-officio member of all committees, except the nominating committee.~~

The President may appoint other committees as needed, designating the Chair of all standing and ad hoc committees. The President shall also appoint representatives to other civic groups. The President is also an ex-officio member of all committees, except the nominating committee.

GATEWAY FESTIVAL **JUNE 7 & 8**

Our Guild will participate once again at the Gateway Festival, to be held on the weekend of June 7-8th in the parking lot of Serra Bowl.

This will be the 6th annual gathering of local organizations of entertainment, service, food, and cultural activities. Our Guild will have its canopied booth in a prominent location, and will have displays of historical significance for the passing public to admire.

Staffing the booth will be volunteers from the History Guild, and members are urged to sign up at the May 21st meeting for 2-hour assignments. It's a very pleasant endeavor, when friends old and new come by, and a real feeling of community is engendered.

If you can't attend the members' meeting on the 21st, please give the Gillespies a call to sign up, 755-5123,

The food is good, the entertainment continuous, the weather sunny, and there's a lot ongoing. Come on along, you'll like it!

GRACIOUS GOODIES!

As they could have sung it in the Wizard of Oz:

"Ding, dong, the time has come,
Time to bake your num-a-nums,
Ding, Dong, the goodie time
Is come!

Ding, dong, the cookies bake,
Bake your cake, for heaven's sake,
Ding, Dong, the goodie time
Is come!"

Ah, yes, the below-listed folk have volunteered to bring the goodies for the May 21st meeting:

Irene Krueger
Betty Schultz
Jean Gallagher
Elaine Riney
Robert & Eleanor Smyth
Ann Papia

Hospitality Chair Mary Hutchings will give you a confirmation call a few days prior to the meeting. If you have a problem, her number is 756-0864. Many thanks for your culinary craftsmanship and generosity!

TREE PLANTING

Guild member Tony Aiello passed away on May 14, 1996, the son of a pioneer Daly City family.

A long-time DC Parks and Rec commissioner, and San Mateo County P & R official, his memory will be honored in a tree-planting ceremony at Hillside Park, 222 Lausanne Ave., 2 p.m., May 9, 1997.

Born in 1924, Aiello attended local schools and graduated with a teaching credential from UC Berkeley, entering the retail grocery business at the New State Market in San Francisco, near the Daly City border line.

He was active in many civic affairs, Boy Scouts, Little League, and the sponsorship of a DC teen club. Guild members Verna & Al Teglia are sponsoring the tree-planting ceremony.

"DRAWING" PRIZES NEEDED

Prizes for the members' meeting "drawing" are earnestly solicited. The event is always popular with the attendees, who make selection from the goodies as their numbers are drawn.

Drawing master Walter Riney is a mainstay of ticket sales, assisted on heavy meetings by Hartley Appleton and Fran Bullard.

Contributions should be items that the donors themselves would like to win, were their numbers drawn. Remember, the "drawing" is a most efficient way of paying for the printing and postage of your Tattler newsletter.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE COLLECTION

Contributions to the collection have been made by the following very generous friends:

Lena Rossi - Jefferson High senior editions of the "Totem Pole", 1936-1939, previously owned by Bernice Carlo, brought by Marilyn Olcese.

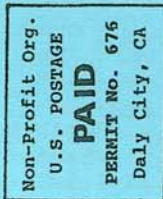
Libby Merlini - 1933 Jefferson High "Totem Pole", 3 Colma School pictures, 1924-1924, brought by Marilyn Olcese.

John Martin - Daly City Manager, presented a BART editorial cartoon, framed.

Pat Hatfield - 3 8"x 10" photos of Colma scenes, Belli barn, Colma creek, etc. Taken by Frank Maffei.

HISTORY GUILD OF DALY CITY/COLMA Officers and Directors

Ken Gillespie - president	755-5123
Russ Brabec - vice-pres	583-4985
Bunny Gillespie - sec'y	755-5123
Ted Babow - director	994-7662
Marilyn Olcese - director	755-5616
Elaine Riney - director	992-4696
Walter Riney - director	992-4696



DALY CITY ADVOCATES
History Guild of Daly City/Colma
40 Wembley Drive
Daly City, CA 94015

