



# THE TATTLER

Vol. 17, No. 4  
March, 1999

## Journal of the History Guild of Daly City/Colma

### MARCH GUILD MEETING TO HOST DC CITY CLERK

Daly City's City Clerk **Helen Flowerday** will be the featured speaker at our **March 17<sup>th</sup>** Guild meeting, **7:30 pm**, at Doelger Center's multi-use room. The program is free and open to the public.

A resident of Westlake and a Guild member, **Ms. Flowerday** assumed her office after election in November, 1996. She is the first DC City Clerk to be selected by public vote. Previous city clerks were appointed by the City Council. She has been a DC employee for more than 25 years.

The history of the City Clerk's office dates back to 1911 when **Walter J. White** was appointed by the first City Council. Over the years, eight other residents were appointed. In 1996, voters chose to place the position on the ballot. The office has always been active, and not always placid.

### JUDGE KOPP CUTE IN COLMA

Colma's beautiful council chambers needed rubber walls to contain all the attendees at the Guild's annual birthday bash on January 17<sup>th</sup> last. Newly-appointed Superior Court Judge **Quentin Kopp** was the guest speaker, and he was a real draw!

When Judge **Kopp** entered the room the entire assemblage broke into a chant, "Here Comes the Judge, Here Comes the Judge,

THE HISTORY GUILD of DALY CITY/COLMA  
PROUDLY PRESENTS ANOTHER

## HISTORY EVENING!



WEDNESDAY, March 17, at 7:30 pm



City Clerks  
On Review

Featuring  
*Helen Flowerday*  
DC's City Clerk

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

**ADMISSION FREE!**

Donations Gratefully Accepted ♦ Phone 991-8025 for Information

Here Comes the Judge!" As part of his introduction, **Ken Gillespie** and **Mark Weinberger** serenaded the newly-appointed Superior Court judge with a song, "Kopp-A-Doodle-Do", which had been written for a Press Club of SF roast back in 1985. The lyrics were still most appropriate.

Judge **Kopp** concentrated mostly on his activities in the field of local transportation and was eloquently elucidative in his polysyllabic presentation...delightful!

Special culinary treats and champagne punctuated the most pleasant proceedings. Again, it was great to be alive and having fun in Colma.

Official greetings from the Colma township family were delivered by energetic HG member/councilman **Dennis Fiscaro** who was with his lovely wife/councilwoman **Helen**.

### MARCH 17 GOODIES

Again the sending around of the sign-up board at our previous meeting was given your consideration. We thank the following for promising to bring yummys for the Wed., March 17, meeting:

**Robert & Eleanor Smyth**  
**Diane Pitto**  
**Elinor Charleston**  
**Marie Brizuela**  
**Shirley Pappas**

Hospitality chair **Mary Hutchings** (bless her) will phone the above volunteers shortly before the meeting to re-confirm the availability of goodies. You may call her, if needed, at (650) 756-0864. Thanks to each & all.

### DUES REMINDER

**FYI:** If your name is highlighted on your mailing label, we've not received your annual dues for the year 1999. Gentle reminder.

Dues range from \$3 to the-sky-is-the-limit, as noted elsewhere in this **Tattler**.

Mailings to each person on the mailing list, per year, cost the Guild about \$1.55, until postal rates go up again.

A membership brings you information about five informative programs per year, with magnificent refreshments at each, five **Tattlers**, opportunities to volunteer for Guild activities such as helping at the Mini-Museum and staffing

the Guild display area at public functions, countless moments of fellowship and chatting in comfortable, friendly, settings. Compared to similar history organizations --what we do, and what they do --we're a bargain!

Many members chose to up the amount of their annual dues with a tidy donation to the HG treasury. And some we hasten to add, were verrrry generous. Each and all are very welcome, and the senders are truly thanked.

### TOUCHING MEMORIALS

During January, several of our members sent Memorial Tributes honoring friends and/or relatives, and we thank them for their dear thoughtfulness as well as their generosity.

Among the donors were **Ron and Elaine Gaggero Riggs**, who remembered **Assunta Olcese**, and **Helen Flowerday**, who saluted the lives of **Knud Knudsen**, **Dan Gilbrecht**, and **Frank Loretta**. The secretary has sent brief notes to the families, reporting the touching gestures, as well as "thank you" notes to the donors. We are honoring the wish to be anonymous by other contributors.

### DONATIONS DELIGHTFUL

Speaking of donations, the Guild has been given a scrapbook of city-related photographs from the collection of **Irma and Knud Knudsen**, delivered by their good friends, **LeRoy and Aida Larsen**. Among the dear ones easily identifiable at dinner-party situations are the above **Dan Gilbrecht** and his lovely wife **Adele**, the **Knudsens**, and **Elsa and Max Ramos**. Fun to pour over. A treasure of faces.

Arriving one Tuesday on the desk at the Mini-Museum was another treasure found and turned over by interim Director of Library Services, **Susanna Gilden**. It's a 1974 plan for

use of open land in the Crocker Hills, with overlay on an aerial. Ms. Gilden's thoughtfulness is appreciated.

Mostly in storage is a fine collection of "stuff" gleaned from the basement of the long-closed **Serra Theater** on Junipero Serra Blvd. Three 4-drawer filing cabinets were placed in the Gillespie garage and were immediately put to use for Guild item storage. Three clip boards were put into use at the January meeting, replacing the Guild's well-used cardboard sign-up sheet-backers.

The theater, according to strong rumors, is soon to be gutted, or demolished, or altered into use as a hotel. Looking forward to that, Daly City, the city hosted a public sale of cast-offs, but gave the Guild a pre-sale choice.

**Marilyn Olcese, Don Manning, Mark Weinberger, and Ken & Bunny Gillespie**, with the help of **Alan Olcese's** truck, removed such things as two 1939 Bronze Plaques from the DC City Hall on Wellington Avenue, garbage cans, a humongous (sp?) 1987 aerial photo of the area, a magnetic attendance board, magazine display rack, a wood easel, the 1968 DC General Plan, and a wonderfully colorful Friendship Banner in maroon velvet and gold given to DC in 1996 by Jincheng City in the Peoples' Republic of China, with gold tassels.

We are indeed grateful that the City allowed us to roam and select. It was like being turned loose in a sweet shop!

### NEW MUSEUM CASE UPSTAIRS

By the time you read this Tattler, a nice addition to the Mini-Museum in the Serramonte branch of the DC Library will have been placed into use. Hopefully. (At this writing, it's waiting for wiring.)

The vintage display case utilized by the Guild in the upstairs, public, portion of the library was phased out in early January, and a

brand new display case has been acquired for Guild use. It stands just opposite the front entrance doors. You can't miss it.

Scheduled to be on display through April are items relative to the 1911 incorporation of DC, including a great shot of the earliest City Hall being doused as city water pressure was being tested. The original photo, copied for the display, was given by HG member **Rita Perada**.

Just because Spring is on the way, an outstanding collection of pressed local wildflowers is also scheduled, given by HG member **Carolyn Opperman** in 1997. The flowers were collected for posterity in 1942 by members of Girl Scout Troup #8 on **Black Mountain**, the former popular name for **San Bruno Mtn**. The donation was a family effort, they were delivered to the Mini-Museum by **Carolyn's** mother, **Florence**. Again, thanx to both.

### SNOOPING CAN BE FUN

Ever wondered about the value of snooping? Not that we mean that as a putdown, but Marilyn Olcese is one. You could be one too, for the sake of the Guild's eclectic collection of things, old, past-tense, almost forgotten, discarded, or soon to be.

Case in point: Marilyn recently turned over a pretty little wood trophy, with a medallion in metal emblazoned with an eagle underlined with the word "Numismatics." Marilyn found it in a local estate-sale outlet.

Inscription beneath tells us it was presented to Shelby Ross, Charter Member Daly City Numismatic Society, Outstanding Member.

If you happen to know who Shelby Ross is/was, or what's happened to this DC group, perhaps you'd care to drop us a note with that information.

Meanwhile, our thanx to super-snoop Marilyn. You, too, could be one. It's the way the collection grows.

### RAILROAD BUFF ALERT

An opportunity for rr buffs and other friends of the Ocean Shore RR is offered at the Vallemar Station restaurant in Pacifica, on Saturday, March 13, 1-5 p.m., free. Hosts and display-creators are the Vargas brothers.

Vintage photos, maps, model train equipment, and other memorabilia are to be displayed.

### STREET SIGNS SELL WELL

Our pitch for the sale of local street signs in the January **Tattler** was profitable. Two have been delivered, and one is yet to be picked up. Price was raised to \$25.01 and that extra penny is really thrilling to Treasurer **Russ Brabec**.

Some remain to be sold. We're reserving *John Daly Blvd.* for eventual museum use.

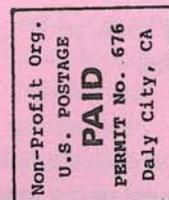
### AHEM, 'BOUT THEM DUES...

Seniors and Students	\$ 3.00
Individuals	\$ 5.00
Families	\$ 8.00
Patrons	\$25.00 or more

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### HISTORY GUILD OF DALY CITY/COLMA Officers and Directors

Ken Gillespie	President	755-5123
Mark Weinberger	Vice-President	755-0612
Bunny Gillespie	Secretary	755-5123
Russ Brabec	Treasurer	583-4985
Marilyn Olcese	Director	755-5616
Walter Riney	Director	992-4696
Albert Teglia	Director	755-1792



Daly City Advocates  
**History Guild of Daly City/Colma**  
40 Wembley Avenue  
Daly City, CA 94015

