



Journal of the History Guild of Daly City/Colma

Gaggero Legacy Salute Set for Jan. 16 Meeting.

Acting on the suggestion of director **Marilyn Olcese**, the Jan. 16 (Sunday) meeting will include a loving tribute to former Daly City Councilman and Mayor, **Anthony (Tony) Gaggero**, who was DC's top executive 1942-46, 1948-49, and 1952-54.

Principal speakers for the event will be **Bianca Caserza** and **Elaine Gaggero Riggs**. Each will offer unique historical perspectives, **Bianca** as a former neighbor and longtime friend of **Mr. Gaggero**, and **Elaine** as the eldest daughter of this remarkable man.

In 1991 and 1992, several History Guild members were interviewed by co-authors **Michael Svanevik** and **Shirley Burgett** for their salute to Colma Italians published by the San Mateo County Historical Assn. Among them were **Bianca Ratto Caserza**, **Mary Garibaldi Hutchings**, and **Marilyn Olcese**.

A handsome 1920s photo of **Gaggero** ranch hands launches the narrative, recalling the days when cauliflower plants festooned the slopes of San Pedro Road, near Westmoor. In the photo, **Marilyn** can point out her

THE HISTORY GUILD of DALY CITY/COLMA
PROUDLY PRESENTS ANOTHER

HISTORY EVENT!



SUNDAY, Jan. 16th, 2:00 pm

MEMBERS' PARTY

The
Gaggero
Legacy



at COLMA TOWN HALL

grandfather, **Giuseppe Gaggero**, who had immigrated to Colma from Genoa in 1898. **Grandfather Gaggero** put down roots, and the family continues to be a vital part of the local scene.

Marilyn remembers her **Uncle Tony** with high esteem and affection, as do many local Colma and DC-ites.

One of the first persons with an Italian surname to venture into local politics, **Mr. Gaggero** went on to make his profound mark on greater San Mateo County. His story is unique, interesting, and inspiring, an excellent way to start a new Century of historic programming.

Happy New Year!

Recent acquisitions for the Guild collection of things nostalgic have been donated by the following, for which our many thanks.

Tom Pollicita, 1961 DC 50th Anniversary, souvenir letter opener.

Vintage papers from the estate of Peter Tolovi, among them his 1934 graduation diploma from Jefferson Elementary, and Jeff HS year books, delivered by Marian Mann.

From the estate of Norma Ghiotto Dunn, her Jefferson HS June 5, 1929, diploma, and the May 1928 JHS yearbook of Till Ghiotto, both donated by Mike Markovich. His dad, Pete, is among baseball team members on page 41, described as a "very reliable pitcher" and having "a very cool head."

Paul Grosshans and his camera documented the recent demolition of Serra Theater in its last throes, sad but true. Eventually there will be a Guild display about the Serra. Veep Mark Weinberger has already suggested a title: "The Last Motion Picture Show."

Thanks Paul, Mark, Frank Franceschini and others who have been there with their cameras, and and shared with the Guild.

From the Guild's treasured Mike Wilson the historical collection has received the printed program from the retirement dinner honoring DCPD Chief David A. Hansen; a vintage PT&T report on Daly City, including an

estimate that population might soar to 80,000 by 1975; a pictorial history of BART, and a 1979 SF Chronicle reprint of a story about Mussel Rock walking trail.

Bill Schumacher (for CA Senate) and Westlake Shopping Ctr. Million dollar month badges, from Mark Weinberger.

Victorian Days photos from The Smyths, Robert & Eleanor.

Memorabilia removed from the entrance decor at Applebees in Westlake Shopping Center, through the courtesy of Ron & Lynn Hawkins, new executives of the complex.

Among the items are vintage Jefferson, Terra Nova, and Westmoor high school sports-related togs, photos, large collages in frames under plastic, rooting gear and trophies. Wonderful!! We look forward to being able to display them with other local treasures. The Hawkins and the local memory joggers are welcomed heartily.

November Earp Program Truly a Night to Remember

The Earp family history was well-chronicled at November's meeting in Doelger Center, when every chair in the hall was filled, well over the 120 set-up normal for our Guild meetings.

Good local media coverage, plus our Tattler teasing, brought out a record

crowd, some of whom succumbed to the Tattler invitation to wear something in a western mode, hats, coats, belts, boots, spurs, you name it. We even had a couple of Wyatt Earp dress-alikes.

Special arrivals were gun-toting costumed members of the Gun Fighters of the Old West, a dozen well caparisoned subjects of life as hazarded when coaches, horses, and trains were the way to go in the settling of the West. The GFOTOW do reenactments of famous shoot-outs, packing history, theatrics, and entertainment into one.

Speaker Norman Tutorow, PhD, a teacher and historian well-versed in the history of the Earp family, gave us a splendid time-line of the famous brothers, and put to rest many a myth of long-standing, especially the premise of Wyatt Earp's standing as a lawman.

Deftly Dr. Tutorow brought us close to the brothers in order of birth to death, and, we are sure, made many of the enthusiastic Guild audience plan to do more reading on the subject.

Dr. T. was an outstanding speaker, and we would wish that each of our members might have heard his talk.

If you're interested, we did do an audio tape of the evening, and you may phone Bunny to request the loan of it. HG member Roger Vincent has volunteered to be our "audio man", and will be taping future programs, as his

health allows. Get well, Rog!!!

Member Pat Hatfield brought a supply of directions to the Earp grave in Hills of Eternity Cemetery, which were eagerly gobbled up by attendees.

The audience was seated theater-style again, the two-meeting experiment of sitting at tables showing that our members preferred the usual seating plan. Thank you, Rec. Department!

A rousing rendition of "Home on the Range" opened the program, and our customary drawing for donated prizes preceded refreshment time and visiting. Those with cameras had some good "photo ops", as the saying goes, as the Gunfighters mingled and posed. All in all, 'twas a grand evening. Yep!!

The Guild now has its own "paparazzo", and a warm welcome to that role is new HG member Al Belotz. Al "has camera, will shoot" and did just that at the November meeting. Great photo-documentation for the HG scrapbook. Bless you, Al B.

Museum Musings

Currently on display in the downstairs HG Mini-Museum, and in the upstairs showcase at Serramonte Library, are toys, photos, craft items, relics, song books, and memory joggers of **Holidays Past**.

On view are such goodies as a treasured 1921 "old world" Santa Claus figure, with papier mache face

and hands, alongside a photo taken that year when he stood under an ornately decorated tree in a Crocker Tract home.

A collection of U.S. Postage Stamps, dating from 1962, displays *all* of the December holiday issues through 1998. Each brought a message to a friend over the years.

Vintage newspaper pages from 1920s **Daly City Records** are in wonderful color. Some might recall the days when those pages were *the way* of decorating for the season.

Nice Folks sign up for January Table Treats

The January membership party following the program will again be graced with lovely selections of treats as provided by our wonderful members, including those who signed-up at the November meeting. Some helping hands would be nice to assist with the setting up, serving and tidying. (Men and/or women.) Thanks to all!!

Eleanor & Robert Smyth

Pat Hatfield

Fran Kelly

Diane Pitto

Julia Padreddii

Lou & Patricia Craviotto

Evelyn Franco

Angela Uccelli

Audrey & Bern Winn

Elinor Charleston

Seeing Spots????

A RED dot on your mailing label, means we've not received dues

from you for 1998 or 1999. This will be your final Tattler, unless we hear from you. A GREEN dot means you've already paid through 2000, a BLUE dot means no dues are expected. NO DOT means Y2K dues are payable now.

News Notes

- **Sal Torres**, HG member and a history booster, has been installed as new **Daly City Mayor**. Warmest congratulations to him!
- **Mark Weinberger**, Guild veep, has been officially welcomed to the board of the **Jefferson Elementary School District**. He promises not to shirk his HG duties.



HISTORY GUILD OF DALY CITY/COLMA Officers and Directors

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