



Journal of the History Guild of Daly City/Colma

Upcoming Meeting to Focus On DC's Oldest RC Church

One of the Guild's enthusiastic members, **Father Joseph Gordon**, will be the shepherd/speaker for our Nov. 15 meeting, 7:30 p.m., in the multi-use room at Doelger Center.

A "local boy that grew up in the Parish", **Fa. Gordon** will present a historic overview of Daly City's pioneer Roman Catholic Church, Our Lady of Perpetual Help.

Some time ago, he told us about the 75th anniversary of founding being celebrated this year by OLPH, whose distinctive tower and buildings are landmarks at Daly City's "Top-of-the-Hill" on Wellington Avenue, across from where two DC City Halls formerly stood.

Fa. Gordon will present a history of the church, AND will play "Devil's Advocate" (Heaven, forbid!) as an interviewer of **Sister Rita Marie Kropp** who played a distinct role in the education of many of our local young people. She will travel from Southern California to take part in the program. **Fa. Gordon** will visit us from his post at St. Francis of Assisi Church in East Palo Alto.

This should be a very interesting and nostalgic program. Although some of us are not of the RC faith, all of us can appreciate the "mainstay" role that the facility has played in this community over the years. (Bunny remembers being taken by Crocker Tract neighbors to wonderful St. Patrick's Day corned beef and cabbage dinners in the Parish Hall, when the price included the entire family, and she was counted as one.) Meeting attendees with OLPH memorabilia,

THE HISTORY GUILD of DALY CITY/COLMA
PROUDLY PRESENTS ANOTHER

HISTORY EVENING!



Wednesday, Nov. 15, 7:30 p.m.



OLPH

**Pioneer Church
At Top-of-the
Hill**

Fa. Joseph Gordon
Sister Rita Marie Kropp

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



ADMISSION FREE!

Donations Gratefully Accepted ♦ Phone 755-5123 for Information

either from the Church or the School, are invited to bring items along for our display tables. School photos? Uniform bits? Certificates? Year books? Awards? Pins? Programs? Wedding pictures?

Library Showcase Display Heralds November Program

Now on view in the Main Entrance showcase at Serramonte Library is a special display focusing on Daly City churches, one of which will be the topic for the Guild's Nov. 15 program. During August & September, the display featured

our local libraries. Installed periodically, displays pertinent to things historical are proving of gratifying interest to Library patrons, many of whom visit the Mini Museum 1-2:30 p.m., Tuesdays to see more history materials. You can do the same. It's free, of course.

Quick Quiz Question

At the entrance to Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, what is the name of the edifice engraved on the cornerstone?

Prizes Invited for Fun/ Fund Raising Drawings

Prizes are always needed for fun/fund raising drawings at our meetings. This activity provides a nice part of our annual income, and is sorta fun.. If you're inclined, donate items that you would like to win & take home-- edibles, potables, pretty things, good-looking things. (No tired junkie, please.) Delivery to the meetings appreciated. Qs? Call director **Marilyn Olcese**, (650) 755-5616. By the way, the cheerful guy that roams around selling those little prize-winning tickets is long-time director **Walter Riney**. There are times when he could use a helper. Volunteers most welcome to inquire at the desk. Fringe benefit: you get to chat w/ lots of people.

Election Time, Our Chance to Act

As we write, three members of the Guild are running for re-election to Daly City positions of trust. Because the Guild has never endorsed political candidates, we won't mention their names, but you can probably figure out just who they are by remembering their participation at our meetings. As good citizens, we know you'll vote on Nov. 7.

RAGBL "Mystery" Unraveled at Sept. Meeting

An update on the progress of Library refurbishing throughout Daly City's four-branch system was presented by **Director of Library**

Services Susanna Gilden at the Sept. 20 meeting. Her remarks followed a historical overview of the libraries by **Ken and Bunny Gillespie**. For those still unaware about our RAGBL "mystery", it was told that the letters were a "password" used a generation or so ago by young library patrons. "RAGBL?" one would ask. "Yes" or "No" came the answer. The letters stand for "Read Any Good Books Lately?" Let's hope you can say "Yes!" when next you're queried "RAGBL????"

The Collection Grows

Thanks to the generosity of friends and members of the Guild, the following have been "accessed". (FYI we saw that word used by one of the bigtime history groups.)

- Vintage Daly City Map, **Mike Wilson**.
- 26 Paper Matchbooks advertising local businesses, **Frances Liston**
- 3'x5' framed 1954 DCPD map donated in 1980 by **Anthony Aiello**, and given to Guild by **Tom Goward**, manager of the Westlake branch of DC Library.
- Photo updates of DC about-town progress, **Frank Franceschini**.
- 1992 J.C. Penney "Olympic" pin and key chain, **Mark Weinberger**.
- Toto's Restaurant menu, **Marie Brizuela**.
- 1931 Jefferson High varsity baseball team pix (copy) from DC Record, **Diane Pitto**.
- SF Examiner clipping re DC, **Dr. Robert Chandler**.
- DC Library membership card, **Neil Fahy**.

In Our Memory

We're sorry to report the passing in early October of one of the Guild's long-time members,

attorney **Hartley Appleton**. **Hartley** was one of the first to purchase a home in Westlake, was an enthusiastic member of the Guild, and enjoyed his role as a ticket seller during many of our meetings. His wife, **Esther**, is among his survivors.

Treat Donor Sign-Ups

Yummies for our tummies at the November meeting have been promised by the following generous members. We thank them in advance!

1. Aida Larsen
2. Elsie Tonelli
3. Ingrid Salazar
4. Diane Pitto
5. Patricia Craviotto
6. Elinor Charleston

Unique Holiday Gifts Available at Meeting And Mini-Museum

Several interesting items, uniquely available through the Guild and suitable for holiday gifting, are among historically-pertinent materials sold for the benefit of the organizational treasury, including:

- "From the Top of the Hill" by member **Bernard Winn**, \$17.95, autographed.
- "Gateway to the Peninsula" by former DC Librarian **Sam Chandler**, \$15.00
- "The Great Daly City Historical Trivia Book" by members **Ken & Bunny Gillespie**, \$15.00
- Notepaper packets, each with six line drawings of DC scenes, \$2.50.
- Enameled HG logo pins, \$4.00

Members Vote To Raise Dues, a Bit

At the September meeting, members voted to increase annual dues \$1 per label to cover the price difference in sending out the Tattler first class for each mailing. To date only the January mailing has gone 1st class. We're starting with this issue. The

change should alleviate some of the worry each time we do a mailing...and have to hold our breath until we hear that actual deliveries are made. Never did solve the mystery of the lost May Tattlers.

Sixty Years Ago This Month

Looking back some sixty years, Mayor John J. Fahey was the Mayor of Daly City.

The DC Record was being issued on Wednesdays. A front page photo attested to the reality of the National Defense Program. In the pic, smartly uniformed Bill Gfroerer, a DC Record employee, was being bid farewell as he entered the US Marine Corps for a years service. (He and his wife, Trudie, are members of the Guild, now living in Fresno.)

Elsewhere in November, 1940:

Daly City, Colma, Sharp Park and San Pedro "followed the nation-wide landslide" for Franklin D. Roosevelt. A student "vote" at Jefferson High gave FDR 475 and Wendell Willke 141.

DC Fire Commissioners were considering purchase of a new fire truck.

DCPD received a new Harley-Davidson motorcycle to be used by Officer Ricco Benedetti. Price was \$350, with trade-in.

Judge Wade Clay announced fines for three dumping offenses (\$2.50 each), one case of disregarding a signal(\$2.50), and four cases of speeding(\$2.00) Interestingly, only one was a local person.

Bethel #68, Job's Daughters, attended their annual Halloween Party hosted by the Price family at their home in Lawndale.

"All This and Heaven Too", starring Bette Davis and Charles Boyer, was playing at the DC Theatre on Mission. Once-a-week giveaway book nights were on Wednesdays.

A six cubic foot Kelvinator was advertised for \$149.95, a gas Wedgewood Range was \$199.

Crocker PTA Sew & Sew Club was taking ceramics classes at Jefferson High School.

Modern welding equipment had been purchased by the DC Welding Works. The old equipment was up for sale.

American Legion auxiliary, DC Unit #410, as well as Court St. Mary #1155, CDA; Holy Angels, and Ladies Aid Society Br. 59 were among groups planning Turkey Whist card parties.

DCPD Chief James G. Reardon was quoted as noting "Daly City has safe streets."

Local students at San Mateo Jr. College-- Hazel Hill, Betty Morgan, and Martha Callan-- attended the opera "Aida" in SF.

President Tony Gaggero presided at a meeting of the DC Veteran Firemen's Assn.

DC Record subscribers paying for a six month period in advance were to receive a box of 25 of "The Most Attractive Christmas Cards in Town."--a \$1.50 value!

A Page One story read: "It was only a dime's worth of ham, but it caused plenty of excitement up on Shakespeare Street...customer wanted it exchanged, grocery proprietor said "no"...customer snatched box of cookies and started to leave ...proprietor stopped her...customer lost temper, began hurling eggs. Judge Clay refused woman's request for arrest warrant for businessman.

Proprietor's lawyer, Stanley E. Gustavson of Rhine Street, joined audience in satisfaction of outcome."

Jefferson High School principal James Ferguson was to speak on "Building for Cooperation and Friendliness Through Understanding" at a PTA symposium.



HISTORY GUILD OF DALY CITY/COLMA
Officers and Directors

Ken Gillespie	President	(650)755-5123
Mark Weinberger	Vice-President	(650)755-0612
Bunny Gillespie	Secretary	(650)755-5123
Russ Brabec	Treasurer	(650)583-4985
Marilyn Olcese	Director	(650)755-5616
Walter Riney	Director	(650)992-4696
Albert Teglia	Director	(650)755-1792
Diane Pitto	Director	(415)584-9876

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

