



# THE TATTLER

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Journal of the History Guild of Daly City/Colma

## Daly City's Bi-Centennial Parade is Topic for March 21

Daly City raconteur, nice guy, Guild member, and wonderful person, Alfred O. Belotz, will be the featured speaker for the Wednesday, March 21, 7:30 p.m. meeting of the Guild at Doelger Center. Al was the chairperson for magnificent Daly City parade in 1976 that saluted the USA's Bi-Centennial Celebration, and it was a thrilling red-white-and blue once-in-a-lifetime Event. (Capital "E, as in wheeeee.")

The speaker will take us on a slide-illustrated march along with the parade, and events leading up to it. Many of us remember standing on the sidelines as the parade passed us by. Now we can enjoy it again by way of Mr. B's personal slides, remarks, and reminiscences.

Mr. Belotz is a long-time resident of Westlake and contributor to the quality of life here in the North County. At one time, we remember hearing him describe himself as "the oldest Boy Scout". The accolade is well earned. He is known as a congenial gentleman, ready often to help with



endeavors for the good of others. Al's involvements are numerous, among them the Chamber of Commerce, Boy Scouts of America, Operation Santa Claus, Doelger Center, etc etc. He

THE HISTORY GUILD of DALY CITY/COLMA  
PROUDLY PRESENTS ANOTHER

# HISTORY EVENING!

Wednesday, March 21<sup>st</sup>, at 7:30 pm

Daly City's  
Bi-Centennial  
Parade

Celebrate Again  
With Chairman  
AL BELOTZ

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

**ADMISSION FREE!**

Donations Gratefully Accepted ♦ Phone 755-5123 for Information

says he is a "retired accountant", but we know he's really been "re-treaded, not re-tired." The Guild appreciates his enthusiasm and talent, and looks forward to hearing/seeing him on March 21.

Also at the meeting, a salute to Daly City's 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Incorporation is planned.

### Birthday Bash a Beaut!

Ain't no doubt about it...the charming Council Chambers of Colma Town Hall need rubber walls...the better to accommodate the overflow attendance at the annual Guild Doin's, as was seen last January 21st, when somewhere around 130

cheerful members came in through all the doors to enjoy an imaginative history program entitled "Underground Residents of Colma".

Conceived and presented by Pat Hatfield, president of the Colma Historical Association, the novel slide program highlighted a fascinating folio of current Colma residents who are close enough in their cemetery condos to nod approvingly as bits and pieces of their topside lives were illuminated by Pat and half a dozen dramatists taken from our membership roles.

Inspired by splendid scripts from Pat, and wearing appropriate costumes to liven the liturgy, some of Colma's more notorious next-door-neighbors had their claims to fame presented in oft-juicy manner. Good job, Patricia!

Participants in the period play, and their subjects were:

**Dorothy Hillman – Lillie Hitchcock Coit**

**Fro Vallerga – The Buried Bikers**

**Bunny Gillespie – Joltin' Joe DiMaggio**

**Ronald Doyle – Wyatt Earp**

**Steve Doukas – Nick (Greek Cemetery) Doukas**

**Pat Hatfield – Phoebe Apperson Hearst**

**Ken Gillespie – John Donald Daly**

There was food galore on the groaning table, and plenty of liquid refreshment to wash down the yummys as brought by our generous members, who happily paid attention to the note in the *Tattler* that we had forgotten to send a sign-up clipboard around at the November meeting. Mercy Backup to all those Generous Goodie Givers, and to Hospitality Committee stalwarts Marilyn Olcese, Enid and Bob Williams, Diane Pitto, Lou Pitto, Mark Weinberger, Russ Brabec, Elinor Charleston, Ann Papia, and elusive others who placed, sliced, poured, and otherwise prepared the pre-prandial feast.

We not only celebrated the 19<sup>th</sup> Birthday of our Guild, (written in icing on three cakes), but were able to welcome perhaps the most senior of our current membership list, 98-year young

EVELYN TODD. We were also honored to welcome ALICE AGRESTI, 90, one of the Guild's most talented and generous bakers of yummys.

Flowers were in abundance, especially, violets, as befits Colma, which was at one time the Violet Capital of California, if not the whole country. Beautiful violet corsages and a special violet table centerpiece were created by member Albina Parma, leading to a stand-up identification of those present who actually had picked the posies in the old days. Among them were Mary Garibaldi Hutchings, Albina's sister, and Rena Giusti Rideout. Albina recalled that pickers received fifteen cents for twelve bundles of no less than 45 flowers each. Talk about miserable wages!!

Although she couldn't grace the party, generous member Joyce Olcese, our clever floral caterer of Carmel, sent an unusual basket-delight arrangement that was presented with grateful thanks to speaker Pat Hatfield for her outstanding program. In the family tradition, member John Olcese contributed beautiful primroses for the event, and we thank him as well as dear Allan Olcese who delivered them after potting and arranging by magnificent Marilyn Olcese. Over the years, the Guild has happily reaped the benefits of Olcese family floral contributions to fun and fund-raising activities. What a cooperative team! Thank to all.



**Forewarning about Possible  
Meeting Locale Change  
For March meeting.**

We have been notified by Mike Stallings, director of the DC Recreation Dept. under whose kind auspices we are able to meet in the multi-use room at Doelger Center, that *there is a possibility the location for our March 21 meeting might be changed, due to improvements being made to the facility.*

IF THERE IS A CHANGE IN LOCATION, WE WILL POST SIGNS, DIRECTING YOU TO THE CORRECT LOCATION. It is possible that we will be moved within the Pacelli Gym building, just to the south, across the parking lot from the Doelger Center.

**Cypress Lawn  
Talks Continue**

Upcoming Sunday afternoon talks at Cypress Lawn Cemetery include March 18 ("Body Disposal") and April 22 ("Grave Importance"). Reservations? 650-550-8811. Free.

**Have You Visited  
The Mini-Museum?**

Recent visitors to the Mini-Museum at Serramonte Library, but not on the same day, included Angie Mills, Robert Belli, Frank Franceschini, Pat Hatfield, and Eric Mohler, all members of the Guild for a nice long time. Great to greet them. Looking forward to seeing you. MM is open Tuesdays, 1-2:30 p.m., free of course.

**Seeing Spots??**

IF your January Tattler arrived with a red dot following your name on the address label, this will be your last Tattler, unless you choose to send along a dues payment. We hate to say adios, but must. Questions? Phone Betty or Walter Schultz, Membership co-Chairs. 650-756-3875.

**Thanks to Colma**

Again we happily convey our sincere thanks to the Township of Colma for permission to use the Council Chamber for our Guild party-program in January. As always, a member of the Council was on hand to officially welcome attendees. This year the nice person was Helen Fisicaro, a member of the Guild with her husband, Dennis. Thanx, Colma.

**Treats for March Per Sign-up Sheet**

Treats for the January meeting were outstanding, considering we'd failed to pass around the sign-up sheet last November.

But, all's well that ends well, as the saying goes. We did not starve in Colma, thanx to the fantastic generosity and culinary skills of our nice members.

Those who have promised to bring refreshments for the March 21 meeting include:

**Diane Pitto  
Rosa Veronello  
Bianca Caserza  
Linda Minnis  
Carolyn Damonte  
Mary Muffley  
Fran Bullard**

According to custom, the above will receive a reminder-phone call prior to the meeting from our Hospitality-lady **Mary Hutchings**. If you have questions, please phone Director **Marilyn Olcese**.

**Drawing Donors  
Delight Winners**

Sincere thanks, also, to ALL of those who brought along treasures to be claimed by winning ticket. We used to call it a "Raffle", now it's a "Drawing." By any name, it's lots of fun, and the treasury appreciates every one of the items placed

for claiming. Some items were pulled from the front desk to hold for future meetings. Had we not done that, we might have been there yet, calling numbers and seeing smiles. Keep up the good work.. **Walter Riney**, ticket seller, just loves to take your "dough-nation" and give tickets in exchange. Item donations are always welcome. The kind you'd like to take home, not junque, please.

Unique anytime Gifts  
Available at  
Mini-Museum

Several interesting items, uniquely available through the Guild and suitable for anytime 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




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HISTORY GUILD OF DALY CITY/COLMA  
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