



# THE TATTLER

Vol. 22, No. 2  
November 2003

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

### DC Water Department Woes & Wonders at Nov. 19 Meeting

**Patrick Sweetland**, Director of Water and Water Resources for the City of Daly City, will be the guest speaker for the Wednesday, Nov. 19, 7:30 p.m. meeting of the Guild. As usual, the program will be presented in the multi-use room at the Doelger Center, 101 Lake Merced Blvd.

**Patrick** agreed to be our speaker some months ago. When phoned last month to confirm that agreement, he enthusiastically responded "I'll be there, unless Hell or High Water keeps me away." Under **Patrick's** able administration, neither of those problems should crop up to keep him from us.


On display that evening will be several rare and wonderful photos dating back to the time just after DC's incorporation, 1911, when city officials tested the power of the newly installed water system. They are part of the Guild's archival collection.

### Terry Walks Away, Again, From Historic in DC Park

The re-enactment of the **Broderick-Terry Duel** hosted by the **Guild** for the benefit of the **San Mateo County History Buffs** on Sunday, Oct. 19, was a wonderful success. Even the weather was cooperative. The **Duel Site Park** (El Portal at Cliffside) was as beautiful as ever, with grass manicured and trees/shrubs of multi-hued green.

THE HISTORY GUILD of DALY CITY/COLMA  
PROUDLY PRESENTS ANOTHER

## HISTORY EVENING!



**Wednesday, Nov. 19, 2003, 7:30 p.m.**

**DC's Water Works...  
& How it Works.**

**Speaker: Patrick Sweetland,  
DC Water/Resources Director**

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

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**ADMISSION FREE!**

For Guild Information, phone (650) 755-5123

Re-enactors for this most dramatic moment in 1859 local history were **Guild** members **Russ Brabec** (Senator **Broderick**) and **Gino Fambrini** (Judge **Terry**). **Dr. Robert Chandler** of the Wells Fargo Bank history department narrated the event. Very light refreshments were provided by The Guild. Hospitality providers included **Marilyn Olcese**, **Dana Smith**, **Mark Weinberger**, **Bunny & Ken Gillespie**.

**Russ** and **Gino** played their parts to the hilt, dressed to fit their roles, and totally believable. **Russ** really thrust himself into the guise of **Senator Broderick** by raising a full beard for the occasion, and coloring it to match that of the ill-fated politician. **Gino's** facial-hair, no less-fascinating, is his year-round and ever-distinctive.



## Hillside Homeowners' Panel Most Enlightening

Guild thanks to the fine representatives of the **Hillside Homeowners Improvement Association** that presented a program on the history of their organization at our History Evening in September. The program was very well received and those not present truly missed an enlightening dissertation. Informative as well as entertaining.

Speaking under the colorful banner of their organization, panelists were **Eve Aiello**, president, and **Richard Rocchetta**, corresponding secretary, both of whom have a long association with the **HHIA**. Both are members of the Guild.

**Eve** and **Richard** traced the organization's history from its beginning 47 years ago to the present, touching on such traumatic events as the 1964 fire that destroyed the Hoffman Street horse stables, killing 38 equine beauties. **HHIA** was instrumental in a movement that brought a more restrictive horse stable ordinance in San Mateo County. A magnificent display of **HHIA** memorabilia was arrayed along the length of the meeting room and given careful scrutiny by attendees. The **Guild** is fortunate to have such articulate members as **Eve** and **Richard**.

## The Collection Grows

The Guild's archival and nostalgic collection of locally related items has been enriched by recent contributions from the following :

- **Frank Franceschini**: photos of DC businesses, construction, etc. (These are now sorted by subject matter, thanks to **MMV Lynne Tondorf**.) Also vintage newspaper clippings for files.
- **Donald & Anita Ray**: 1994 photos of BART in construction in Colma and SSF's Oyster Point.
- **Hillside Homeowners**: Script from their historical presentation for the Guild at Sept. 17, 2003, meeting.
- **Menlo Historical Assn**: back copies of SMCHA La Peninsula re our area.

- **Dana Smith**: Two stand up John Daly paper cows.
- **DC/Colma Chamber of Commerce**, via member **Jeannine Minnix-Rubino**, two videos re 50 Anniversary of organization.
- **Russ Brabec**: Daly City Hell's Angels decal, DC Employees Federal Credit Union key chain.
- **Betty Schultz**: Clippings of DC historic relevance for archival files.

## Looking Ahead Job Opportunities:

1. For the November meeting, A VOLUNTEER IS SOUGHT *to sell raffle tickets*. Interested person should arrive by 7:15 p.m. and be prepared to mingle with potential customers. Benefit: Guild Treasury. Tickets 3 for \$1 or \$.50 each.
2. For the Mini-Museum, any Tuesday from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m., VOLUNTEER CLIPPING SORTER IS SOUGHT *to help tidy our archival files*. Benefit: Hands-on activity & information for you.
3. IDEA PERSONS WANTED to suggest possible programs/speakers for upcoming Guild Meetings. Phone Bunny at (650) 755-5123.

## Notes From Here And There

Currently in the Guild's *upstairs showcase* at Serramonte Library is a new display of Cow Palace memorabilia, which will continue to be viewable through the middle of November. Historically, the **Cow Palace** is one of Daly City's largest and oldest landmark buildings, dating back to completion just before WWII. After only one **Grand National Rodeo & Livestock Exposition** in the brand new building, the war happened and the facility was closed to the public and utilized by the US Army. After the war, the "Palace for Cows" reverted to state ownership and use. Photos,



clippings, award ribbons, official badges, etc, are on display in this unique exhibit.

The **Cow Palace**, a local landmark for over sixty years, is a treasured, long-time, dues-paying member of the Guild.

**HG Memorial Book**  
**Lists Donors/Honorees**

*Monetary Memorials honoring loved ones may be sent to the History Guild Memorial Fund, 40 Wembley Dr., DC. 94015. The fund is earmarked for the benefit of a proper Daly City/Colma History Museum. Donors and honorees are recorded in our beautiful Memorial Book, which may be viewed on request at the Mini-Museum.*

\* \* \*

*At this time of Thanksgiving across the nation, we are especially thankful for all the blessings of the quality of life here in our own area. As the annual day of rejoicing comes around, let us remember those who helped pave the way for the Guild we enjoy today....Knud, Ova, Roz, Ted, Yolanda, Jane, Elaine, Allan, Hartley, Esther, Bill, you (!) and so many more. Many thanks.*

**A Look Backward**  
**At 1915-16 Daly City Expenses**

Thanks to HG members **Frank and Doris Rehe** (he's a retired 30-year DC employee), the Guild now treasures a copy of the vintage "Itemized Account showing cost of the DC Municipal Water System, Jan. 31, 1916."

The little 60-page booklet includes listing of \$467.20 in expenses to vote in a bond issue of \$100,000. Cost for installing the system was \$115,239.14, with \$7154.96 drawn from DC's General Fund and \$6219.98 due to Crocker Estate Co. (The booklet will be on display at our November 19 membership meeting. )

*Current election officers* might take note: Clerks (7), Judges (3), and Inspectors (2), each received \$10. The Election Deputy received \$5 for the day. Typing of

addresses for mailing sample ballots was billed "1/2day @\$3...\$1.50." Postage was \$10.75. Printing of 2675 ballots cost \$19.00. In celebration of the successful campaign, the city spent \$.90 (i.e. ninety cents!!) for "Red Fire" Pyrotechnics.

Daly's Hill was **THE** place to be that night.



**Did You Know That?**

One Hundred & Fifty years ago, Patrick Brooks and Robert Thornton arrived to settle in what was to become Colma and Daly City...A government survey had prompted settlers to stake claim to land then known as the Colma Hills...M. Holenworth and J.G.Knowles started dairies in the north County.



**Tasty Treats**  
**For November Meeting**

Those who signed up in September to bring cookies for our next Thanksgiving-season meeting (4 dozen or so, please) are **Alice Brockman, Gloria and Lee Weis, Marie Brizuela, Elsie Tonelli, and Pat Hatfield**. As always, those who would like to add to the treat table are also appreciated. **Mary Hutchings** will phone with a gentle reminder a few days before the meeting. Thanx in advance to all.





Yes, I (we) would like to join the  
**History Guild of Daly City/Colma.**  
 (please print)

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**YEARLY DUES** (renewed each January)

Senior/Student	\$4.00
Individual	\$6.00
Family	\$9.00
Patron/Business	\$26.00
	(or more)

**HISTORY GUILD OF DALY CITY/Colma**  
**Officers and Directors**

Ken Gillespie	President	(650)755-5123
Mark Weinberger	Vice-President	(650)755-0612
Russ Brabec	Treasurer	(650)583-4985
Bunny Gillespie	Secretary/Pgm	(650) 755-5123
Marilyn Olcese	Director	(650) 755-5616
Walter Riney	Director	(650) 992-4696
Dana Smith	Director	(650) 755-3432
Al Teglia	Director	(650)755-1792

History Guild of Daly City/Colma

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 Daly City, CA 94015

**First Class Mail**

