



THE TATTLER

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Journal of the History Guild of Daly City/Colma

"Little Boxes" Topic for Guild Meeting

Subtitled "*The Architecture of a Classic Mid-century Suburb*", **Robert Keil's** unique self-published book about Westlake, "**Little Boxes**", will be the topic for his presentation at the Wednesday, Sept. 20, 7:30pm meeting of the History Guild of Daly City/Colma. The event is set for the multi-use room at the Doelger Center, 101 Lake Merced Blvd., DC. As usual, the program is open not only to members of the Guild but to friends of Daly City history.

Mr. Keil, who "has lived in and around Westlake" his entire life, will have copies of his book available for sale at the meeting and will be happy to sign his autograph for purchasers. The price is \$35.

Mr. Keil describes his book as "the complete illustrated history of how Westlake was developed". It includes profiles of Westlake builder **Henry Doelger** and "architects who created this classic suburb", maps and photos.

Local Officials Spoke in May

Special speakers for the May 17 History Evening were Colma mayor **Helen Fiscaro** and Daly City vice-mayor **Sal Torres**. After being introduced by vice-president/program chair **Richard Rocchetta**, the guests gave a short update on what happened in their respective city during the past year, with emphasis on preservation of history in their areas of influence. **Mr. Torres** is on the sub-committee appointed by Mayor **Mike Guingona** to work with your History Guild representatives and the City Historians towards the realization of converting the John Daly branch of the public library into a local history museum facility. Both speakers were presented with the Guild's traditional Certificates of Appreciation and warmly thanked for their talks.

HISTORY GUILD MEETING

7:30 P.M.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20TH

101 LAKE MERCED BLVD.

DALY CITY

The Architecture of Westlake
Everyone Welcome!



Greetings from President Mark—

We continue to make strides in our quest for a museum. I'm very pleased to announce that **Tim Birch** of the DCPD will be our grant writer as we pursue a California Cultural & Historical Endowment grant through the State Library. While competition is very stiff, and we will have to meet rigorous standards, we COULD end up with full funding for renovations of the John Daly Library (excluding furniture/fixtures). We also have met with an architect who may be assisting us. The Guild will place all financial contributions for the museum in a separate account. These will be restricted funds, only to be used for this cause. If you would like to make a gift toward the establishment of the museum, you may send contributions to: *DC/Colma History Guild Museum Fund, c/o DC Public Library, 40 Wembley Dr., DC, CA 94015*. Please remember to note "Museum Fund" on your check. This is a wonderful way to honor or memorialize someone special. I hope to see you at our next General Membership meeting on Sept. 20.

Current Museum donors include:

John Gersich—Scrapbook from the 1986 reign of DC Queen Esther and King Hartley Appleton, 1935 BofA deposit book, DCFD history booklet, 1958 Westlake map, Mission Street track metal, various newspaper pages. **Michael Doelger**, via **Rob Keil**—CA State resolution honoring Westlake's **Henry Doelger Shirley Plank**—2005-06 Year Book from Susan B. Anthony School. **Anita & Donald Ray**—DC map, late '60s; DC Directories for 1950 and 1959. **Betty Schultz**—Vintage badge urging "Horsley for Sheriff. **Ken & Bunny Gillespie**—DCPD souvenir "badge" decal. **Russ Brabec**—Info. gleaned from SMC archival deeds, dating from 1862, re Sarah Thornton, Donks, etc.



In Our Memories

An ardent member of the Guild, **Eleanor Hnilo**, former secretary for Jefferson Elementary School, is remembered for her pleasant demeanor and gracious smile. She was a member of the HG since 2000, highly active in the Colma Historical Assn. as a docent and board member. **Eleanor** was the mother of **Judy** and **Kathy Hnilo**.

This Spring the Daly City Council noted the passing of the late **Melvin (Mel) Hanson**, born and raised on San Diego Ave. in DC. He'd continued in his dad's footsteps into the DCFD, had been the department's "mascot" at age eight, and retired as Battalion Chief. His son, **Jay**, continues as a DCFD stalwart. The **Hanson family** is credited with 100 years of Fire Dept. service...

Emma Ver Linden... DC Council adjourned in her memory when she passed away at age 95 last May. She was known as the youngest, and first, postmistress for the town of Colma. She was appointed while still a teenager. FYI- **Emma's** motto was "Be kind to people, be generous, and thoughtful."...

Our Memorial Book – We are grateful for monetary tributes honoring loved ones. All donations are acknowledged to the family (please provide name and address) and displayed in a page of our Memorial Book. Tributes may be sent to: Daly City/Colma History Guild, 40 Wembley Dr., Daly City, CA 94015.

Mini-Museum Volunteers always needed to host visitors to our Mini-Museum, 1-2:30 p.m. Tuesdays, downstairs at the Serramonte Library, 40 Wembley Ave. Call Museum Coordinator, Marilyn Olcese at 650/755-5616. Your help is much appreciated.



...Gossip

INTIMATE NOTES "from my little black book", as **Winchell** used to say (Or was it **Jimmy Fiddler**??)

"**Max FM**" the SF-based radio station, on their airway i.d.: "Max FM in San Francisco, gateway to **Daly City**."

Speaking of Sound – Have you noticed the vast improvement to the quality of the sound system for HG meetings lately? All thanx is due to the generosity of **Michael Rocchetta** and his brother, **Richard**, who saw a need and solved the long-lived problem.

Congratulations to Guild Member **Georgette Sarles**, who assumed the reins of the DC/C Chamber of Commerce at the organization's gala, and to **Mike Nevin** for receiving the Chamber's "Cypress Lifetime Achievement Award." Former honorees of years past include History Guild members **Al Beltoz**, **Al Teglia**, **Adrienne Tissier**, and **Georgette**. ...

Westmoor High School principal **Richard Morosi** hosted meeting at the school to form a **WHS Alumni Assn.** in July.

Guild member **Elliott Blackstone**, SFPD "straight cop during the turbulent '60s", was the Grand Marshal for SF's gala Gay Pride Parade. He's credited with "planting the seed to ensure that SF treats all people equally" and was the first SFPD liaison to "homophile organizations" of that era. **Elliott** and his wife, **JoAn**, are long-time members of the Guild....

Guild booster **Angela Uccelli** was on hand at the Spring HG meeting to see her daughter, **Janice**, pledge her talents as HG Treasurer. **Jan's Atria** (home away from home) is a great place for hosting HG Board meetings. ...

MUSEUM FUNDERS START ACTIVITIES

Under the direction of The Guild's Museum Fund Raising Committee co-chairs **Marian Mann**, **Janice Uccelli**, and **Marilyn Olcese**, initial meetings have been held. According to spokesperson **Olcese**, **Kathy King**, **Lorraine D'Elia**, **Al Belotz**, and **Al Teglia** will head community fund raising. Assisting fund raising will be **Dee Canepa**, **Marie Brizueta**, **Perla Ibarrientos**, and **Ray Santori**. "We appreciate the generosity of these leaders in our community to aid in our fund-raising," **Olcese** states.

Local Books & John Madden

The Guild's upstairs display case at Serramonte Library now displays publications with content dedicated to sharing history of Daly City. All may be purchased in the Mini-Museum with percentages going to the Guild treasury. Books by Guild members are **Sam Chandler's** "Gateway to the Peninsula"; **Bernard Winn's** "From the Top of the Hill" and "SF Underfoot"; **Robert Keil's** "Little Boxes"; and **Bunny Gillespie's** "Great Daly City Historical Trivia Book" and "Images of Daly City."

Downstairs in the Mini-Museum, the new pegboard display highlights Jefferson HS Grad (Class of 1954) **John Madden** and his induction into the Pro Football Hall of Fame in August. DC's ex-Mayor **Bob St. Clair** claimed that honor in 1990.

EMERITI MUSINGS

Thought sharing: Remember the old song, "Wishing Will Make It So."? In recent years we've been hoping to "live long enough" to see the Guild's collection of historical materials housed and displayed in a proper museum setting. We're sure that specific hope is not unique to us, but it is closer to reality today than yesterday, for which we thank HG founders and funders, finders and friends. The ultimate goal is to have the Daly City History Museum at the Top-of-the-Hill open for visitors during Daly City's Centennial Year in 2011, or even before. Our wishes continue and your help continues to be needed. Questions? Call us. Best to you all.
Ken and Bunny



Heritage Talks & Tours At Cypress Lawn

Cypress Lawn Heritage Foundation, dedicated to promoting the facility as a rich historical and cultural resource, will present two more of its outstanding Sunday afternoon programs and Saturday afternoon coach tours.

On Sept 17, **Kent Seavey** will tell of "Great Little Buildings: Architecture at Cypress Lawn." On Oct. 15, **Michael Svanevik**, Guild Member, will discuss "Cemeteries: Some Great, Some Small, Some Near Forgotten." Talks start at 2 pm in the Administration Bldg., 1370 El Camino Real. Tours leave at 1:30 pm on Sept. 16 and Oct. 14 from the front of the Administration Bldg. Phone (650) 550-8810 for free reservations.



...Looking Back To Earlier Days

Fifty years ago, some of us were reading the **Daly City Record**...

A January, 1956, front page that launched the year with "Seek Recall of Three City Councilmen"... St. Francis Heights was headed for annexation to Daly City, Broadmoor Village and Brisbane were considering annexation also... Colma's Jim Honeywell (F street family, Jeff grad) continued his outstanding football activities with acceptance at Stanford University... Richard Hunter of Crocker Avenue was deemed the "Caruso of the Ferries", having gained the title for his outstanding tenor voice shared while he worked the Santa Fe tugboats on San Francisco Bay. Years earlier, he had stemmed a ship-deck panic with his singing... Westmoor High School Rams football team, although not yet in their new school in the South of town, launched its first varsity campaign. Westmoor was to be opened in the September, 1957... Cockle Clam Chowder was being offered by Hillside Fish & Poultry for fifty-five cents a quart... Golfer Ken Venturi, then Daly City's most famous sportsman, was favored in the upcoming \$25,500 Open at Presidio Club, SF. Opponents included Cary Middlecoff and Harvey Ward. Venturi, a "sensation" at Pebble Beach, then held his second state amateur title... Broadmoor Chief of Police Ray Savage pondered and surmised that a dead monkey, had fallen from a passing plane... Bartley Flynn, 65, resigned his post as Colma Councilman, after serving for twenty years... Westlake homeowners along Alemany Blvd., now John Daly Blvd., suffered "acute problems" from equestrian traffic along the road between Skyline and Lake Merced. Gardeners took advantage of the natural situation and swept up... A prized "Scoutmaster's Key" was presented to Troop #248's Al Belotz at a recognition event at the Cow Palace... Otis Calhoun became Daly City's first permanent Director of Works with monthly salary of \$801... George Brenner, baton-wielder for the DC Municipal Band, prepared to direct his musicians at the city's annual Christmas Concert in the War Memorial Building... John Doelger took the helm of a huge earthmover to start removal of the infamous "Hump" on Southgate. Litigation between Ocean Shore Railroad and Doelger enterprises had come to an end.



FIRST CLASS MAIL

**History Guild of
Daly City/Colma**
c/o Daly City Mini-Museum
40 Wembley Avenue
Daly City, CA 94015

Guild Installs Officers and Directors

Nominating chair **Vaughn Jones** presented the slate of Guild Officers and Directors elected and installed, or re-installed, at the May 17 meeting. No nominations were from the floor.

Janice Uccelli was elected Treasurer for the HG. **Mr. Jones** was elected to fill her slot as a director.

Guest speakers **Fisicaro** and **Torres** served as installing officers.

Russ Brabec, retiring treasurer, was recognized for his many years of excellent fund-managing and presented with a framed certificate.



Treat Donors For Sept. Meeting

The following have graciously volunteered to donate finger-food refreshments for the Sept 20 History Evening: **Bunny & Ken Gillespie, Judy Hnilo, Janice & Angela Uccelli, Vaughn & Glorian Jones, and Annette Hipona.**

Hospitality Chair **Elinor Charleston** will contact donors prior to the meeting. Additional treats are always welcome.

Thank you!

GUILD OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

Mark Weinberger, President	415/750-1939
Richard Rocchetta, Vice-President	650/992-9144
Janice Uccelli, Treasurer	650/878-5111
Dana Smith, Secretary	650/755-3432
Marilyn Olcese, Director (Mini-Museum Coordinator)	650/755-5616
Walter Riney, Director	650/992-4696
Marian Mann, Director	650/991-9386
Ken Gillespie, Director emeritus	650/755-5123
Bunny Gillespie, Director emerita	650/755-5123

Tattler Editors:

Ken and Bunny Gillespie

