



THE TATTLE

Vol. 25, No. 3
January 2007

Journal of the History Guild of Daly City/Colma

25 YEARS AND COUNTING... "Forget not the threads of yesterday... they are woven into the rich fabric of today."

Greetings from President Mark-

This New Year marks the 25th Anniversary of the Daly City/Colma History Guild's founding, and lots of exciting events are in store for the New Year.

We continue to work with the city in order to transform the John D. Daly Library at the Top-of-the-Hill into a permanent history museum. We are still in discussions over the terms of use of the building, and also are in the process of submitting a grant application to the California Cultural & Historical Endowment through the State Library in order to help with the cost of renovations, including disabled access, bathroom upgrades, and more.

The year in store promises great programs to be given by dynamic speakers. And our annual birthday meeting on January 21st will get us underway with author, conservationist and historian Amy Meyers. Also, we plan to have some very special raffle prizes and mighty tasty birthday cake and champagne, so you won't want to miss this extra special event.



JANUARY GUILD PARTY & PROGRAM

SUNDAY, JANUARY 21ST

2-4 P.M.

101 LAKE MERCED BLVD.

**Doelger Senior Center
multi-use room**

**Special Guest: Author Amy Meyer
and special refreshments!**



Featured speaker for the January meeting will be Amy Meyer, author of "New Guardians for the Golden Gate - How America Got A Great National Park," the story of how Bay Area activists forged bipartisan local and national support in

order to create the Golden Gate National Recreation Area established in 1972 and most recently enlarged in 2005. It is the country's largest national park in an urban area. Ms. Meyer, who was one of the original participants in the process, will tell us how dedicated citizens, spanning over 30 years, won a fight to save these lands for

Cont'd.



generations to come. She will also tell how Daly City and northern San Mateo County fit in to the vast area of this national park.

Ms. Meyer has been a member of the Presidio Trust Board of Directors and is currently the Chair of People for the Presidio and Co-Chair of People for a Golden Gate National Recreation Area.

She has also been given numerous awards and commendations from many diverse organizations such as the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors, San Francisco Tomorrow, the Sierra Club and National Parks Conservation Association.

**History Guild's
Tattler
Read Far and
Wide.....**

The Guild's faithful and most welcome maker of mailing labels, **Richard Babow**, now living in Arizona, has provided an interesting look at destinations to where *The Tattler* is mailed five times a year. The breakdown includes: Out-of-State, nine addresses; Around greater California, 67; Brisbane, five; Burlingame, four; Millbrae, five; Pacifica, ten; Redwood City, four; San Mateo, twelve; South San Francisco, fifteen; San Francisco, twenty, and Daly City/Colma, 209. The numbers do not represent the membership since many households embrace more than one member.



● **Check the dots!**

History Guild Membership Dues
January is the Month to Renew!

IF a **RED DOT** adorns your name on your mailing label for this issue, you've not indicated an interest in Guild membership through 2006, 2005, or earlier. That's a matter for your consideration.

RED DOT addressees from whom 2007 dues are not received during January or February will be deleted from the mailing list for the March 2007, mailing, ergo: **this could be your last Tattler issue.**

With this *Tattler*, our annual invitation to receive the newsletter as a dues-paying, supportive Guild member is enclosed. Minimum dues cover the cost of printing and mailing our five-times-a-year organizational journal. It lets you know what's going on within the Guild, what has happened in the recent past, what is coming up in the way of programs or activities, and provides, we hope, a bit of interesting sidebar reading about things related to local history.

Payment of dues per person are encouraged. HG dues continue to be the "best bargain" among history-related organizations of which we have knowledge. (Just the January membership party alone...with all the goodies and bubbly... is worth far more than the annual dues!)

A **GREEN DOT** means that your dues are paid through 2007. A **BLUE DOT** means **NO** dues are owed. You are on our "courtesy" list. We want you to know what's going on with the HG. If you choose to send dues, we'll smile and say "thanks."



In Our Hearts and Memories.....

The History Guild is grateful for a recent financial donation from HG Director **Walter Riney** and his daughter

Janis. The gift was made in memory of their dear wife and mother, **Elaine S. Riney**, who passed away in November of 1997 after an extended illness. Together **Elaine** and **Walter** were charter members of the Guild's Board of Directors and highly involved with original cataloguing of photos and newspaper items. A new page in **Elaine's** honor has been placed in the Guild's Memorial Book, which is viewable at the Mini-Museum. Memorial Book entries reflect monetary donations to the Guild's fund for establishment of a "proper" museum that will provide suitable space for an expanded display of Daly City/Colma history. Memorials and/or honorariums may be sent to the Guild at 40 Wembley Drive, DC, 94015. To date, the book holds thirty seven memorial page tributes.

Donations to Mini-Museum Welcomed:

John Gersich—Vintage photos and newspapers pertinent to DC. **Shirley Plank**—Program from "Last Alarm" memorial service program honoring DCPD Chief **Jack Doyle**, Lt. **Mike Galindo** and Officer **Richard J. Klass**; Colma FD Asst. Chief **Mike Lanza**, Capt. **Raymond Lencioni**, and Broadmoor Officer **Charles Manning**.

*Please Sign the Clipboard
to Bring Treats.*

Let's all take a turn!



THE HISTORY GUILD



Looking Back At Our History Guild History ...

The first public "History Evening" program was presented in February of 1982. At that time, a grant-subsidized Daly City employee put out a city-wide newsletter heralding activities of the newly-formed History, Arts, and Science Commission. The Guild was formed under the aegis of the HAS Commission. When grant funds ran out in 1986, the Guild became a self-dependent entity, with by-laws, elected officers, and dues-paying members. Each year since then the Guild has presented four public "History Evenings" and a January "members only" party, as well as taking part in street fairs and local festivals, and provided a myriad of information to students, researchers, the public, nostalgia-seekers, employees of Daly City, electronic and print journalists, authors, teachers, etc. The Mini-Museum was dedicated by **Mayor Jane Powell** in September of 1992 and has been in operation every Tuesday that the Serramonte Library in Gellert Park is open, always with a hospitable and helpful staff of volunteer HG hosts and/or hostesses. In its cozy downstairs location, displaying only a "tip of the iceberg" look at archival materials collected by the Guild, the Mini Museum may be accessed by those agile enough to navigate stairs. The hope for moving into larger, more accessible, quarters continues. The motto of the History Guild, penned by **Bunny Gillespie** some years ago for use on HG promotional material, is:

*"Forget not the threads of yesterday...
they are woven into
the rich fabric of today."*



Another Celebration of Emperor Norton I

... Since 1934, the remains of **Joshua Abraham Norton**, self-dubbed Emperor of the United States and Protector of Mexico, have been located at Woodlawn Memorial Park in Colma. The Emperor's birthdate was Jan 8, 1818. He died in 1880. Born in London, he caught gold

fever, arrived in San Francisco in 1849, became rich, went broke, and died with "deranged mental machinery" as one person reported. Each year **E Clampus Vitus** members privately pay homage to the Emperor at his gravesite, with all due respect. Their red-shirts and raucous music will be in Colma on January 6 for brightening of what could be an otherwise dismal and foggy morning.

Postel Presentation Warmly Received at November History Evening....

Mitch Postel, president of the San Mateo County History Assn., delighted listeners at the Nov. 15 "History Evening" of the Guild at Doelger Center. Postel focused on the sesquicentennial (150th) anniversary of the establishment of San Mateo County and the characters participating in political scheming surrounding that historic event. The speaker was introduced by HG Vice-president and program chair, **Richard Rocchetta**, and awarded the History Guild's traditional "Certificate of Appreciation" at the conclusion of his talk by President **Mark Weinberger**. A brief question and answer session followed Postel's presentation.



Another Magnificent Lineup For Treats...

The January HG membership soiree will be gala, as usual, helped by generous and yummy

treat donations from the following signees: **Marie Brizuela, Dana Smith, Bunny & Ken Gillespie, Annette Hipona, Joan Lopiccola, Judith Christensen, Marilyn Olcese, Angela & Janice Uccelli, Vaughn & Gloriann Jones**. Additional treats are always welcome. Appreciation is extended in gleeful anticipation. For information, contact Hospitality Chair **Elinor Charleston**, (650) 755-8267.

25 The Daly City/Colma History Guild has spent the last quarter-century preserving our legacy of historical artifacts and presenting programs on local lore. We hope you can join us on January 21st and throughout the New Year.

On behalf of your History Guild Board, I offer "Season's greetings and best wishes for 2007!"

- Mark Weinberger, President of the Board

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 |
| Vaughn Jones, Director | 650/756-6795 |

Ken Gillespie, Pres./emeritus 650/755-5123

Bunny Gillespie, Sec./emerita 650/755-5123

Tattler Editors:

Ken and Bunny Gillespie