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THE TATTLER

JOURNAL OF THE HISTORY GUILD OF DALY CITY/COLMA

Greetings from President Mark

We are almost finished with the final renovations to the museum before we can open the doors to the public. Unfortunately we have needed to push back the opening a few times now due to project delays and other unanticipated circumstances. With the floor now installed, electrical and interior painting complete, we will work on finishing the exterior painting--including the Mission St. facade--whose frontage will be landscaped, too. Our stellar volunteers Robert Brizuela and Al Hipona were joined by Daly City Host Lion volunteers Bob O'Donnell, Pat Kelly, and Raul Cortes for a second work day on Saturday, October 18th to complete the painting of the rear of the building before the winter weather begins. A final load of brush and debris from the side yards was hauled away.

The mini-museum at Serramonte Library is now permanently closed. We are now taking inventory of the collection, cataloguing, and packing the collection in anticipation of the move to our new home. This will probably occur in early December. Board members, their spouses, members, volunteers from the Daly City Fire Department and others will provide the trucks and muscle necessary for the move. Thanks in advance to all.



**SAN FRANCISCO'S
"LOST CEMETERIES" TO BE
THE SUBJECT OF OUR
NOVEMBER HISTORY NIGHT**



Trina Lopez, director of "A Second Final Rest: The History of San Francisco's Lost Cemeteries" will be the featured speaker at our November 19th History Evening. We will also be viewing the 45 minute film. This fascinating documentary exhumes the hidden history of how the modern metropolis of San Francisco relocated nearly all of its burial grounds to make room for the living. Through recollections of residents who remember these forgotten graveyards to reflections on present-day conflicts that pit the living against the dead, "A Second Final Rest" reveals an astonishing chapter in the history of the American West in which those who settled the City by the Bay were unceremoniously sent packing long after they had passed from this world to the next.

HISTORY EVENING!



**Wednesday
November 19th
7:30 p.m.**

Trina Lopez, Director

Showing her video

"A Second Final Rest: The History of San Francisco's Lost Cemeteries"

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

ADMISSION FREE!

A resident of Tucson, Arizona until 1997, Trina Lopez relocated to San Francisco to pursue her Master of Fine Arts degree in Cinema Production at San Francisco State University. She completed her degree in 2004. While still in Arizona, Ms. Lopez discovered a book that had tales of the removal and relocation of nearly all of the City's graveyards. The idea of pursuing a film on this particular subject sat dormant until she gained a greater familiarity with the geographic and historical background of the City.

The film is the result of many hours of archival research, numerous interviews and countless days of exploring San Francisco's waterfront and park spaces and the adjacent town of Colma where nearly all of San Francisco's dead are laid to rest.

Refreshments for the evening will be provided by: **Georgette Sarles, Pat Hatfield, Vaughn and Gloriann Jones, Joye Bacigalupi, Judith Christensen, Sandra Bolds, and Annette Hipona.**



WORDS OF WISDOM ON OPENING A NEW MUSEUM

By Pat Hatfield

Editor: As we contemplate the opening of our first full-size museum, I asked the President of the Colma Historical Association to offer words of advice from their experience of creating the Colma Museum.

Biggest Challenges: Money and fundraisers, where to place displays, maintaining hours open to the public, and finding dedicated docents

Keys to Success: Having a written plan for everything, the dedicated of board members, adequate funding and volunteers, involvement of local businesses and organizations for outreach, connecting with historical associations on the local, county and state level for mutual support and expertise, and keeping the community and city officials informed on a regular basis of your progress and activities.

Some pitfalls to avoid: Don't push so hard for exact completion of time schedules, allow time for the unexpected, you will learn who you can and can't depend on, don't overextend --financially or physically, decide on a policy to screen donations so they fit the themes of the museum and are pertinent to the history of Daly City.

Positive surprises: Financial help from businesses and individuals, wonderful deed of gifts from in and out of the area, volunteers from all walks of life, neighboring associations with ideas and support.

Good luck!

STORIES OF WESTLAKE SHOPPING CENTER SEPTEMBER PROGRAM

Georgette Sarles, longtime owner of Georgette's of Westlake hair salon, was the featured speaker at the Guild's History Night in September. When family illness prevented Georgette from pursuing her dream of becoming an endocrinologist, she became a cosmetologist and at age 19 opened her own salon in Westlake Shopping Center. At that time, she was affectionately called "the Kid" by Mr. Doelger, Jack Kendree (the Center Manger) and all the old-time shop owners. Thus began her 46 year history in the Center. Georgette's reminiscing including the time a special squad of Federal investigators raided her tenant who was counterfeiting three million dollars. She managed to keep her shop open through trials and tribulations, including a flood caused by broken plumbing at the business above her salon. She remembered the good times and funny times including the Miss Daly City Contests, fashion shows, and children's events.

Georgette has donated her lecture notes for our files.



Guild Loses Longtime Friend and Volunteer

Enid Williams passed away on Tuesday, October 14th at age 93. She died at home, as was her wish, peacefully, surrounded by her two children Lowell and Cathy and her beloved husband Bob. Bob and Enid Williams and their children moved in 1947 into a house on Niantic Avenue which continued to be their home into their senior years. Both Bob and Enid were active in the Doelger Senior Center where they volunteered in the kitchen, and both were active hospitality volunteers at our History Guild meetings. Enid, a retired elementary school teacher, was honored at PTA Council teas and was famous for her delicious cooking. Her recipes were published in church recipe books. Joseph Gordon, a Roman Catholic priest now living in southern California sent this comment: "Enid was raised on a farm in tiny Noble Township, North Dakota, some 25 miles north of Fargo, where she learned the inventiveness of the hardy families for whom the Great Plains prairies were home... the pioneer spirit has influenced to an indescribable degree Enid's kitchen skills and creativity." Enid will be buried in Noble Township. The Guild will remember her as our warm and generous friend.



TATTLER BEGINNINGS

You may have wondered about the origin of the name of our newsletter. The first "Tattler" was a chatty monthly flyer first published in November 1912 to report "doings in Colma, Daly City, and vicinity witty, wise, and otherwise." Bunny Gillespie tells us a copy of the first edition on display in the mini-museum was the inspiration for our newsletter.

Our Thanks

RECENT MUSEUM DONATIONS

Robert Keil donated a large screen TV for showing videos and DVDs. **Bruce Moore** donated a glass and wood horizontal showcase and **Maureen Bourbin**, a student in Museum Studies at SFSU, donated a vertical glass and wood showcase. **Judith Christensen** made a generous \$500 donation to our Museum Fund.

HISTORY GUILD OF DALY CITY/COLMA

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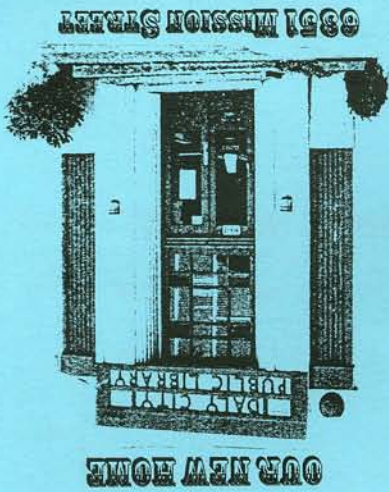


Make checks payable to: "History Guild of DC/Colma"

*****Mail orders to: Vaughn Jones, 261 Palisades Dr., Daly City, Ca 94015-4520*****

ORDERS MUST BE RECEIVED BY DECEMBER 1, 2008

Proceeds benefit the History Guild of Daly City/Colma



FIRST CLASS MAIL

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



CENTENNIAL COUNTDOWN

One hundred years ago, as 1908 came to a close, Henry Ford's Model T automobile was taking the country by storm. When it was introduced, even local roads on which to drive for business, sightseeing, joyriding, or family travel were items of considerable concern. There had been concern since the very first meeting of the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors in 1856. At that time, the magnificent sum of \$50 was authorized for repairs to the county road connecting San Francisco and Santa Clara County. In Township #1, which would later become the municipalities of Colma and Daly City, pioneer resident Robert S. Thornton was the road master, filling mud holes with twigs and pickets liberated from wayside fences.

For one native son, James T. Casey of unincorporated north San Mateo County, improved roads were a passion. Born on a ranch near Colma in 1862, Casey gained his education at Colma's one-room school house and the family farm. In San Francisco he engaged in the dairy/produce business and the laundry business. Later the entrepreneur returned to Colma and established two local butcher shops. Elected in the fall of 1908 to the county Board of Supervisors to represent Township #1, Casey's campaign promised better roads. Dubbed "Good Roads Casey," he launched serious efforts to replace notoriously poor dirt and wooden roads with paved streets and

highways. He was instrumental in promoting a road improvement bond of \$1,250,000 that was floated by the county in 1913, with matching funds to come from the State of California.

We salute you, Jim Casey, butcher-turned-supervisor, insurance man and real estate entrepreneur. Does anyone know of a street named in his honor??? B/KG



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