

HISTORY GUILD of DALY CITY/COLMA

Volume 6 - No. 6 May 1988

MAYORS' NIGHT, MAY 18TH!

There's a lot on tap for our upcoming meeting, Wednesday, MAY 18th, 7:30 pm at Doelger Center.

The title of the evening's program is "A FOND REMEMBRANCE OF OUR MAYORS", featuring as many of the past (and present) mayors of Colma and Daly City as are able to be present.

Twenty-three are still with us, and were all invited, whether in the area or not. Now, before you think that the idea of a dozen and a half (perhaps) politicians might make for an overwhelming evening, they all have been apprised of the format, A SHORT ANECDOTE OR TWO, and all to fit within the program structure, about 45 minutes for the total!

The living mayor who served Daly City earliest is Michael DeBernardi, who currently lives in Groveland, on Highway 120, leading to Yosemite. He served as mayor 1958-59.

Since Daly City's incorporation in 1911, only 24 individuals have been elected mayor, 24 in 77 years. Of that number, 14 still live, 11 in the near area.

Colma has eight living mayors, six of whom live nearby, out of the 15 since incorporation as Lawndale in 1924, Colma in 1941.

This will be a most pleasant program, promising to give a light-hearted approach, by means of high-light segments, to the demanding task of being mayor of a community!


WHAT A RAILROAD RIDE!

We all had a rootin'-tootin' good time at the March 16th meeting, when an absolutely jam-packed Doelger Center took a wild "Ride on the Ocean Shore Railroad".


The normal set-up wasn't enough to contain the overflow crowd of 194, which included 44 standees. Railroad programs do attract enthusiasts,

THE HISTORY GUILD of DALY CITY/COLMA
PROUDLY PRESENTS ANOTHER

HISTORY EVENING!



WEDNESDAY, May 18th, at 7:30 pm



A FOND
REMEMBRANCE
OF
OUR MAYORS
CHEERFUL ANECDOTES BY
THE FORMER MAYORS
OF DALY CITY & COLMA!

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

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who came loaded with artifacts, maps, paraphernalia of all kinds, to augment the splendid slide program presented by Ray Wille.

Mr. Wille has been researching the Ocean Shore RR since the early 1970's, and the content of his talk bespoke great diligence, enthusiasm and scholarship.

He took us aboard, punched our tickets, and took us, literally tie by tie from the 12th and Mission Depot in San Francisco to Tunitas Glen, south of Half Moon Bay, beyond which the passengers took Stanley Steamer cars to join with the northern terminus out of Santa Cruz.

Using old and new pictures, we were treated to "now and then" comparisons of the cliffs, track areas, stations, rights-of-way, aerials, a magnificent collection of how it used to be, and how it is now. What a great journey!

There was an added segment of the program when Mr. Don Larsen showed snippets of old film, asking for help in identifying what had been



Horseplay at Garibaldi Ranch -This picture, supplied by Irene Dalton, is labeled as being located out near Skyline Boulevard, near Thornton Beach. Mrs. Dalton's husband Arthur was a former Ocean Shore R.R. employee, a DC policeman and city councilman. Perhaps our members can identify some of those shown in this delightful shot of easier times in our DC/Colma area??

thought perhaps to be sections of the Ocean Shore operations. Well, to everyone's surprise, portions were identified by Neil Fahy as being taken of the railroad across Panama, in areas that he was able to label.

Members and friends brought in enough memorabilia to run a railroad! Our great refreshment committee members Mary Hutchings, Marilyn Olcese and George Gaggero displayed four pictures they'd purchased down in San Mateo. Stan Roderick brought a great collection of railroad material, including timetables, posters, brochures, conductors' hats, signal lamp, and reprints of Western Railroader magazines.

Routes of the railroad through Daly City were displayed in map form by Russ Brabec. In Mr. Wille's slides we had been shown locations of the r.r. trestles, three of them, and now can pinpoint them due to Russ's maps.

George Comer also brought a series of maps of San Francisco and Daly City, tracing the r.r.'s passage

through those communities. Mr. Comer was also one of the electronic whiz kids who helped transcribe our old Sony videos (see story).

A railroad theme was carried through by the use of some 25 copies of engineers' hats, each with an Ocean Shore badge, worn by committee members. Some also wore r.r. neckerchiefs.

It couldn't have been a more active evening, and many thanks are due to Bunny Gillespie for providing the program, surely one of our most enthusiastic activities!

ITALIAN FAMILIES POSTPONED

The program announced as being formulated for the 20th of July, "Our Italian Families", has been temporarily postponed. The subject is very complex and frankly, we have not yet been able to establish the proper format to do the title justice. So, THERE WILL BE NO MEET-

ING in July. We can all have a bit of a holiday!

On September 21st at Doelger Center we will have an intriguing look at the shipwrecks of the past off our San Mateo and San Francisco coastal areas, as presented by Mr. Steve Haller from the National Maritime Museum.

VIDEO HISTORY TAPES

Thanks to the cooperation of Officer Duane Bolton, Daly City Police Department, and Mr. George Comer we have been able to transfer several Sony videotapes taken some 14 years ago to VHS format.

In the original state the tapes could not be viewed on current equipment, and the old equipment was not convenient nor operable. So, through the skills of Bolton and Comer, with patchcords and proper knowledge, the interview tapes of Lillian Fletcher and Ethel Hahn are eminently viewable.

Filmed by Daly City Librarian John Sullivan, with member Helen Stout as interviewer, the tapes provide great insight into the earlier days of Daly City schools, with Mrs. Fletcher's experiences as founder of the first PTA, back in 1929. Ethel Hahn, a teacher and principal from the days when William "Pop" Savage was superintendent of the Jefferson Elementary School District, affords splendid views of the burgeoning school system, from her original three schools to the current operation, serving a population of 82,000 in Daly City.

The tapes point out how very necessary it is to get the knowledge of our older residents recorded for the benefit of those who will follow. On that subject, we attended a splendid program by Neil Fahy on the techniques of genealogical research. Neil emphasized how important it is to label photographs, identify artifacts, ask questions of older relatives, make tapes, audio and video, and write it all down, somewhere, in methodical fashion.

It's not hard, it takes diligence, but there are all kinds of sources for helping you start, and

continue. Those who have been working on the cataloguing project at the Serramonte Library know the difference in satisfaction quotient when they discover all the names on the back of an old photograph!

APPRECIATION GOES TO:

Additions to the photo/document collection were recently received, and for which we express our thanks:

Yolanda Hardiman - Show program from the second Boat Show at the Cow Palace, dated Jan. 1947.

Frank Maffei - Four mounted photos of r.r. operations in Daly City, Ocean Shore, S.P.

Irene Dalton - Seven photos of school groups, Fuse Factory, Colma store, Garibaldi ranch, city officials at Tanforan.

Verona Williams - Booklet - "Your City and Ours", news articles on Peninsula landmarks.

Leroy Larsen - Geographic landmark information

RUN FOR OFFICE???

The present officers of your Guild have been faithfully in office for the past two years. But, there are nearly 200 other members, some of whom might be interested in participating in the administration of the organization.

A nominating committee, chaired by Jane Powell, will establish a slate of candidates, making a report at the May 18th meeting. Election will be held at the Annual Members' Meeting, held at Serramonte Library on Wednesday, June 8th, 7:30 p.m.

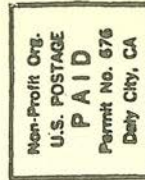
Offices to be filled are:

President
Vice-president
Secretary
Treasurer

Most of our members have been around for a number of years, and can see that it isn't all that demanding an activity. We produce 5 to 6 programs a year, publicize the same,

make arrangements for the evenings, and are engaged in cataloguing activities at Serramonte Library.

Members who might be interested in becoming an elective officer are urged to contact Jane Powell, at 992-2757.



PAID YOUR 1988 DUES YET?

Treasurer Roz Babow reminds members who haven't yet sent in their 1988 dues that they are payable.

Now that income tax time has passed, we can look forward to an influx from those few who haven't yet renewed. Our dues are really modest:

| | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| Senior/student | \$2.00 |
| Individual | 4.00 |
| Family | 6.00 |
| Patron | \$25.00 or more |

Our mail address is:
History Guild of Daly City/Colma

c/o Serramonte Library
40 Wembley Drive
Daly City, CA 94015

DATES TO REMEMBER

May 18 - Doelger Center MAYORS' NIGHT

June 8 - Serramonte Library ELECTION

Sept. 21 - Doelger Center SHIPWRECKS

OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

| | |
|------------------------|----------|
| Ken Gillespie, pres. | 755-5123 |
| Roz Babow, treas. | 994-7662 |
| Bunny Gillespie, secy. | 755-5123 |
| Claire Fahy, dir. | 756-2753 |
| Neil Fahy, dir. | 756-2753 |
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| Ted Babow, dir. | 994-7662 |



DALY CITY ADVOCATES
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Daly City, CA 94015

DATED MATHEMATIC