

HISTORY GUILD of DALY CITY/COLMA

Volume 7 -No. 4 Jan. 1989

ALL ABOARD THE #40 CARS FOR JAN. 22ND PARTY!

A Happy New Year to all our good members and friends! And what better way to start the New Year than to enjoy our Annual Members' Birthday Party at Colma Town Hall, Sunday, January 22nd, from 2 to 4 p.m.

Yes, we know that it's SuperBowl and we hope (at this writing) the San Francisco '49ers will be the NFC contenders, but, with any luck, the game will be over by 2 pm, since the start is at 11 am, Miami time.

Anyway, all members are invited for fun, great refreshments (including The Bubbly!) and a splendid program which has special significance for January of 1989.

On January 16, 1949, just forty years ago,, the Municipal Railway of San Francisco, the then-owner/operator of the #40 line from San Francisco to San Mateo, ceased service on a streetcar line that had run, in one form or another since 1903.

Many of us have spent long hours commuting, going to school, visiting friends and relatives in Peninsula communities, via the "Big Subs", as the earlier cars were dubbed, from United Railroads days, through Market Market St. Railway ownership, and the final operation by the Muni of SF.


Our guest speaker will be **Walter Vielbaum** of Burlingame, a noted railroad historian, showing slides of the famed streetcar operation.

In our copy of "THE 40 LINE PICTORIAL", a publication of the Western Railroader, April 1967, is the notation:

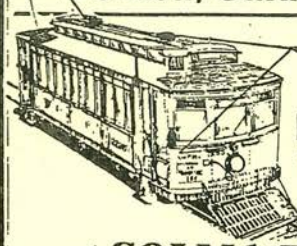
"The photographs in this issue were taken by Walter Vielbaum in the period 1944-49, during the Municipal Railway of SF operations..."

THE HISTORY GUILD of DALY CITY/COLMA
PROUDLY PRESENTS ANOTHER

HISTORY EVENT!



SUNDAY, Jan. 22, 2:00pm.



MEMBERS' PARTY

Remembering
THE BIG SUBS,
and #40 Cars!

at COLMA TOWN HALL

ADMISSION FREE!

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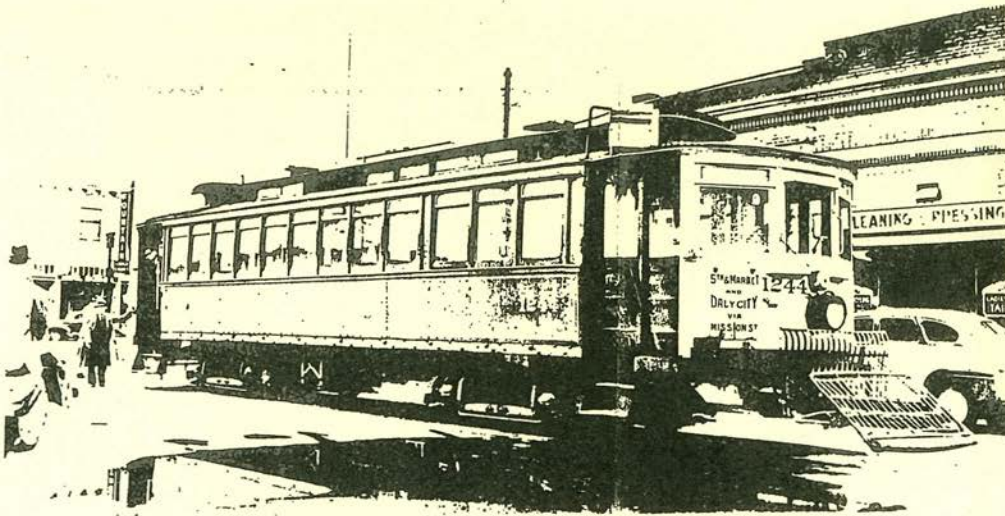
So, our guest speaker is very historically connected with the "40 line and its operations!

In addition, during our time of refreshments, there will be a shown a non-narrated (silent) film of the entire route of the #40 streetcar, from San Francisco to San Mateo. This should be a real treat, with landmarks of our earlier districts there for recollection and identification.

This precious footage will be provided by **Rick Borgwardt** of San Francisco, another enthusiastic railroad buff.

Memorabilia of anything connected with the #40 car operations will be on display, and members and friends are asked to bring their artificacts.

Also, if there are any former #40 workers, conductors, motormen, artisans, etc., we hope that they will come to the meeting and make themselves known for introduction and comments, if they desire.



#40 car at stop down the Peninsula somewhere, possibly San Mateo or Burlingame? Who can identify???

Remember, although this is a **MEMBERS ONLY** meeting, friends and guests can join the Guild at the door, and our membership rates are very modest:

| | |
|------------------|---------|
| Seniors/Students | \$2.00 |
| Individuals | \$4.00 |
| Families | \$6.00 |
| Patrons | \$25.00 |

"MOVIES GO WEST" BIG HIT!

Our November meeting was a very pleasant affair, taking us back to the days of silent film-making in the Bay Area, with accent on the operations of the **Essanay Film Manufacturing Company** in and around Niles, California, from 1912-1916.

Geoffrey Bell, film historian, writer/producer of documentaries on movie-making in our area, was our honored guest, showing one of his award-winning films, "**The Movies Go West**", centering on the production facilities in Niles, where good film conditions, access to transcon railroads, and a good supply of professional actors and local cowboys combined favorably.

After showing his picture, **Mr. Bell** answered questions from the attendees, some of whom (as youngsters)

had performed in films made in San Francisco and Marin County.

The display table included the speaker's **Wrangler Trophy**, which had been awarded for "**The Movies go West**" by the Cowboy Hall of Fame in Oklahoma City.

Among items of interest brought by members were three 1914-16 publications from the collection of **Milt Staub** which were used as advertising for the silent films of the Kalem and Paramount Film Companies. Of note was the name of an officer of one of the film companies, **Samuel Goldfish**, who later changed his name to **Samuel Goldwyn**.

FIRST WESTLAKE RESIDENT(S)?

It will be some 40 years since the first occupancy of a residence in Westlake, and the Guild will make a special recognition of this anniversary at the March meeting in Doelger Center.

Effort is underway to find the actual first occupancy, on Cliffside Drive, and also the residents of Westlake who have continually lived in their originally-purchased home the longest period of time.

If any of our members or friends

have documented information about the above-mentioned activity, please call Ken Gillespie at 755-5123.

BILL HURSCHMANN DIES

We note with sadness the death of one of our most loyal members and friend of the Guild, **Bill Hurschmann**, staff writer for the San Mateo Times Group, assigned primarily to the Daly City scene.

Bill was often in our home, as a friend and honest fan of historical information and Daly City life. As a fixture at the Council meetings in Daly City, he could always be counted upon to report honestly and fairly the proceedings.

A most enthusiastic Giants fan, he was afforded a tribute in death that properly should have been given in life. We shall miss him very much.

"ITALIANS IN NO. COUNTY" FOR MARCH MEETING

Our March 16th meeting will feature local restaurateur **Frank Spadarella**, who will show a selection of his exquisite slides on the contributions of "Early Italians of San Mateo County."

Mr. Spadarella, a noted photographer, has displayed his works in many splendid exhibitions, and is the editor of the booklet published by the San Mateo County Historical Association on the subject of his March program for the Guild.

NEW BOOK BY NEIL FAHY

Congratulations to Board member **Neil Fahy** on the completion and publication of his written work "**San Mateo County Sourdoughs in the Klondike and Nome Gold Rushes.**"

The book was previewed at the January 8th meeting of the San Mateo County Historical Association, where **Neil** presented a slide program on San Mateo County residents who were participants in the gold fever of the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

CO A ARTICLE IN "MOTORLAND"

We hope you saw the fine article in the recent (Jan.-Feb. 1989) issue of **Motorland** on the subject of Colma, with a sub-head of "Strolling Through The Cemeteries." Written by **John Goepel**, the article is a fine, concise history and tour-guide of our unique cemetery city.

THANK YOU, LEROY LARSEN!

Continuing appreciation is expressed to our great computer whiz **LeRoy Larsen**, who updates our expanding address list (with data from Membership Chairman **Roz Babow**), and turns out splendid, zip-coded address stickers for our Guild mailings.

Recently **LeRoy** and his wife **Aida** attended a computer seminar in Colorado, in the field of computer-assisted geological file data (**Aida's field**), and returned with such advanced concepts that it was dazzling to hear!

BOARD MEETING BUZZINGS

A Board of Directors meeting was held at the Gillespie home on January 2nd, where the activities of the Guild past, present and future were brought into focus.

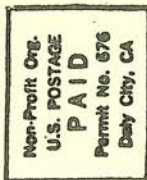
The dues structure was found to be adequate. Our bank account shows a balance of over \$3,300. The dues, raffle and other donations pay for the major costs of operating the Guild, namely postage, printing, refreshments and photography costs (film and development) in connection with the Guild's maintenance and enhancement of the picture collection at Serramonte Library.

Attendance at Guild meetings is excellent, and the cooperation of the staff at Doelger Center and our once yearly meeting at Colma Town Hall is very much appreciated. We average about 125 members and friends for each activity...splendid turnouts.

The resumption of cataloguing work at the Library is in the offing, for collection materials which are in the form of pamphlets, memoirs,

artifacts, etc. Neil Fahy will be examining the file drawers' contents to determine the methodology of proper cataloguing.

Presumed expenses for this phase of the operation might include extensive file equipment, folders, cabinets, etc.



LAST MINUTE REMINDER!

Those good friends who signed up to bring 4 dozen goodies for the upcoming **January 22nd** meeting are reminded of their generous offer:

Betty Schultz
Anne Ingersoll
Frances Windhurst
Doris Hill
Aida Larsen
Marie & Ford Baron

Refreshment Committee chairperson **Mary Hutchings** will be contacting you before the meeting. In case you want to check with **Mary**, her number is **756-0864**.

We'll see you all at Colma Town Hall, and **HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!**

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 |
| Yolanda Hardiman, dir. | 589-0188 |
| Ted Babow, dir. | 994-7662 |



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DATED MATERIAL