

HISTORY GUILD of DALY CITY/COLMA

Vol. 9, No. 4 Jan. 1991

BIRTHDAY BASH JANUARY 20th AT COLMA TOWN HALL

The celebration of the Guild's 9th birthday will be held on Sunday afternoon, JANUARY 20TH, at Colma Town Hall, 2-4 p.m.

Our yearly visit to Colma's charming Town Hall is always a delight. Councilman (and member) Ted Kirschner acts as our host, in company with Mayor (and member) Charles Gerrans and City Manager (and member) Frances Liston.

Special refreshments and fun will accompany the observance, highlighted by our guest speaker, Samuel Chandler, Daly City's Librarian Emeritus. Mr. Chandler will focus on Challenges for the Guild in the 90's.

Born in Idaho, Mr. Chandler is a graduate of Brigham Young University. He took his master's degree in Library Science at George Peabody college, returning to work at BYU for six years. He came to Daly City in 1958, where, after 25 years of service, he retired in 1983, when he was named Librarian Emeritus of the city.



Samuel Chandler, Daly City's Librarian Emeritus, featured speaker at January 20th meeting

His 1973 book "Gateway to the Peninsula is the definitive history treatise on the North Peninsula. Only one other book focusing on Daly City has been published, Bunny Gillespie's "The Great Daly City Historical Trivia Book", released in 1986.

He returned last July from an 18-month tour of duty for the Mormon Church in Buenos Aires, Argentina, working at the LDS Temple there.

If anyone can truly be called "Father of the Guild" it would be Sam, who sat in every organizing function since the mid-70's, when such ideas were just being formulated, and which culminated with the Guild birth in 1982.

Remember, the Birthday Bash is for members only...but, those who receive this bulletin who aren't members can join at the door. Our dues structure is the lowest of any around:

Seniors/Students	\$2.00
Individual	\$4.00
Family	\$6.00
Patron	\$25.00 or more

We look forward to seeing as many as can jam into the Council Chambers.

TRAIN EVENING ON RIGHT TRACK

The room was full of train buffs and their paraphernalia for the November 21st meeting of the Guild. Doelger Center's tables, eight of them, were lavishly laden with every kind of train material, schedules, models, paintings, signal lamps, train caps, photographs and posters.

Our speaker, railroad expert Art Lloyd, Public Relations Director for AMTRAK-West, brought a fascinating history of the incipience of railroads in San Mateo County, from 1863 to date, including nostalgic remarks on commuter trains and streetcars, as he knew and loved them. It was great, all the way from the first blasts on the train whistles (two of them), through the cheerful singing of "I've Been Workin'

on the Railroad" to the exchange of railroad and streetcar experiences among the 108 members and friends in audience.

Member Frank Maffei brought a fine collection of local railroad pics, from his early days at the end of Dunks St. in Colma. A huge display of postcard depictions of railroads, schedules, menus, hats, lamps, etc., came from the wonderful collections of Roy Pulsipher and Stan Roderick. A beautiful model of the Colma Depot was made and displayed by James Bond, together with a fine painting of same brought by Mary Hutchings. Also, a set of model BART trains was shown by Robert May.

President Ken Gillespie read a note which accompanied a \$50 check from newly-re-elected Councilwoman Jane Powell. In attendance also were DC's City Clerk Lorraine D'Elia and DC Councilman Al Teglia, Colma Councilman Ted Kirschner and Lydia, and DC Library Commissioner Bianca Caserza.

Raffle tickets were sold by Guild Director Walt Riney. Winner of a lovely poinsettia plant was Eleanor Lloyd, wife of our speaker. Rounding out a most successful Guild evening were refreshments, contributed by Ed & Olive Smith, Bunny Gillespie, Elaine Riney, Frances Windhurst, Carl & Bea Hoppe, served efficiently by Mary Hutching's team of Marilyn Olcese, Bob & Enid Williams. Thanks to all who made the evening another Guild blockbuster!

REMEMBERING GEORGE

The memory of former Guild member George Gaggero was honored over the holidays by a sweet note from good friend Sharon Lee Rogers, who sent the Guild this message:

"Enclosing a \$20.00 check in memory of my good friend George Gaggero. I know all of you will miss him also like I do."

Yours truly,
Sharon Lee Rogers

LETTER FROM IRENE DALTON

One of our distant members is Irene Dalton, who lives in Palo Alto, but who follows our goings-on very closely. She is a senior lady, but full of vim and vigor, loving to travel, and to reminisce about her old days in Colma, and about her husband Arthur Dalton, who was an Ocean Shore Railroad engineer, besides civic duties as a DC policeman and Councilman in the '30's.

From her Christmas letter:

"The Frank Maffei you mentioned I don't recall. Dunks St. on the south side of Washington ended at Mr. Thornton's fence - on the north it ended at our family home land 92nd St....our property line on Dunks St. met the property line of the Community Center, when it was a church - I used to love to "sneak" there on Sundays and sing from the hymnal with the congregation. I recall when the Dennis children were baptised. I carried a bucket of water from our house to the church for the occasion...I knew the original Biggios.

They owned Biggio's Park, San Pedro and Washington, a block south of our home. A large park and a large dance hall. Even though I was very young we had fun there at picnics. I recall a picnic where I won 2 guinea pigs, and when I brought them home my mother ordered me to take them back.

"Those really were the good old days. We didn't have the material things they have today. I being the youngest of 9 had more of the Christmas goodies than the others, but what really stands out is the love and affection!"

Ms. Dalton plans to be at the January meeting, and looks forward hopefully to reunion with many or any of her old Colma chums.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO COLLECTION

Additions to the collection of documents and publications relative to our area have been made by Peg Bigon,

in the form of Westlake directories, housing by-laws, Mary's Help Hospital brochures, etc. We are indebted to Mrs. Bigon, who has made previous contributions to the collection.

LOLA GARCIA RETIRES



San Francisco, Colma, Brisbane, Daly City and San Bruno.

Lola's popular, chatty columns were a true reflection of the service and social activities, offering a great insight into what was going on among the clubs and organizations, including our own Guild. "I read about it in Lola's column" was an ever-present factor in the success of countless projects over more than a quarter century. Few people in our North County were as instantly recognizable by their first name as our favorite Lola.

FORMER MAYOR SELMI PASSES

Paul Selmi, Daly City's fifth mayor, died in Eureka in early December. He served the city as a Councilman from 1934-42, holding the office of Mayor from 1936-40. He also had been a city Fire Commissioner and head of the Depression-era NRA program for the City. After leaving the Council, he was City Treasurer for many years.

He had moved to San Francisco some years ago, returning to Daly City for two years before going to Eureka.

His last public appearance here was at our Guild gathering of mayors in 1988, where he was the oldest of 13 former DC mayors to attend.

GOODIE VOLUNTEER REMINDER

Refreshment volunteers for our January 20th Birthday Bash at Colma Town Hall are the following:

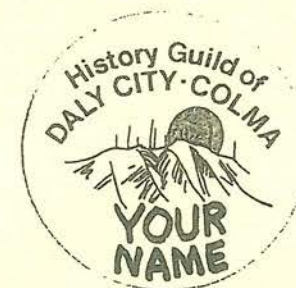
Chuck Meagher
Elinor Charleston
Dorothy Orton
Doris Hill
Carolyn Damonte
Lola Garcia
Evelyn Martin

You will be contacted by Mary Hutchings before the meeting. Her phone number is 756-0864, should there be any problem.

WOULD YOU LIKE A BADGE?

Membership badges of the Guild are available from Ken Gillespie, who purchased a button-making machine, and has been having lots of fun making individual buttons for particular projects.

Buttons are as represented below, with names lettered, are 2 1/4" in diameter, and can be ordered at \$1.00 each, with 75¢ going to the Guild treasury.



OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

Ken Gillespie - President	755-5123
Neil Fahy - Vice President	756-2753
Bunny Gillespie - Secretary	755-5123
Roz Babow - Treasurer	994-7662
Ted Babow - Director	994-7662
Yolanda Hardiman - Director	589-0188
Elaine Riney - Director	992-4696
Walter Riney - Director	992-4696