

# HISTORY GUILD of DALY CITY/COLMA

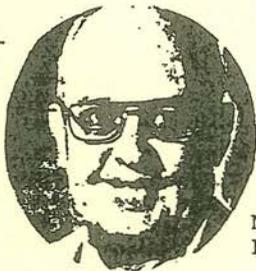
Vol. 9, No. 5 March 1991

## SAN BRUNO MOUNTAIN HISTORY BY NEIL FAHY, MARCH 20TH

Our next History Guild meeting will be at 7:30 p.m., MARCH 20th, at the DOELGER CENTER. There will be a special presentation by a very special chap, Neil Fahy, eminent geologist, geographer, historian, lecturer, and Vice-President of our Guild.

Neil, who has spoken on many subjects to us, will present "THE HISTORY OF SAN BRUNO MOUNTAIN", including portions of his extensive research on the flora, fauna and geologic structure of our easterly landmark.

The mountain was named by Portola Expedition soldier Bruno Hecata, for his patron saint a year following the climb in 1769 to watch a sunrise from its 1,314' crest.



Neil Fahy

At the meeting we will be able to sing "HAPPY BIRTHDAY" to Daly City, in recognition of its 80th birthday! On March 22, 1911, the community became an incorporated city in San Mateo County.

### BIRTHDAY BASH A SWINGER!

The San Francisco '49-ers played the New York Giants for the National Football Conference championship on Sunday, January 20, 1991. Incidentally, the History Guild of Daly City/Colma held its Annual Birthday Bash at Colma Town Hall during the same proximate hours.

Those who were lucky enough to be in Colma fared a lot better emotionally than those at Candlestick Park, we can say with all pride. 82 in number, and only 18 short of capacity for the Colma Council Chambers, the members enjoyed themselves thoroughly with a fine speaker, champagne, great refreshments, and especially, fine fellowship.

THE HISTORY GUILD of DALY CITY/COLMA  
PROUDLY PRESENTS ANOTHER

# HISTORY EVENING!



WEDNESDAY, March 20th, 7-30 pm

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**THE HISTORY  
OF  
SAN BRUNO  
MOUNTAIN** by  
**NEIL FAHY**

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

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**ADMISSION FREE!**

Donations Gratefully Accepted • Phone 755-5123 for Information

Sam Chandler, Librarian Emeritus of Daly City, and author of "Gateway to the Peninsula", spoke very candidly on his views of the Guild in the 90's. Dubbed "Father of the History Guild", due to his organizational activities beginning in the 1970's, his remarks gave the members present much to ponder upon as we embrace the '90's.

He was a prime mover in the earlier organizational activities dating back to the Seventies. Now that he is back from his 18-month tour of duty for the Mormon Church in Buenos Aires, we hope to see much more of Sam, an Honorary Life Member of the Guild.

Treasurer Roz Babow gave a report on the healthy financial condition of the Guild. Our income, from the very modest dues, raffle proceeds and passing the hat, is spent for postage, printing and provisioning (goodies), and keeps us on an even keel, thanks to all those members.

Colma councilman Ted Kirschner acted as host for Township of Colma, bringing greetings on behalf of the official Colma family. Ted has only missed one Guild meeting in 9 years!

San Bruno Mountain,  
topic for 1991  
on March 20, 1991



Pouring the champagne, with great flair, were Olive & Ed Smith and Chuck Meagher. Refreshments were received, and beautifully arranged on the display table by Hospitality chair Mary Hutchings, ably assisted by Marilyn Olcese, Bob & Enid Williams, Collins Orton, Bunny Gillespie and Ted Kirschner.

Among the dignitaries present and introduced were Dr. George Riba, chair of Daly City's History, Arts & Science Commission; Belva Carroll, H.A.S. member; Chris Graham, former Guild chair; Lola Garcia, recently retired North Peninsula newspaper columnist for 27 years, who was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation from the Guild for her many years of splendid service.

On a very light note, Guild prexy Ken Gillespie and Hospitality Committee stalwart Bob Williams donned baseball caps and delivered their version of the Abbott and Costello baseball routine, "Who's on First?"

Raffle tickets were expertly hustled by Dorothy Gorry and Walt Riney, enabling Jean Gallagher and brand new member Ruth Biggio Clooney to win a lovely chrysanthemum plant and a beautiful table flower arrangement brought by Carmel floral expert Joyce Olcese.

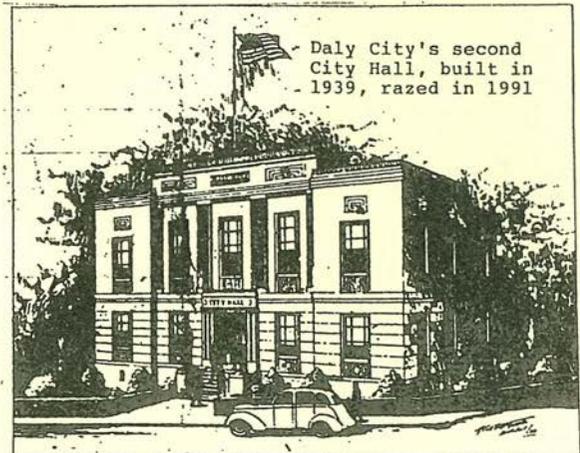
Donors to the goody table were Elinor Charleston, Dorothy Orton, Lola Garcia, Chuck Meagher, Doris Hill, Evelyn Martin.

Cataloguers were noted, Walt and Elaine Riney, Olive and Ed Smith, Ken and Bunny Gillespie, Collins Orton, Yolanda Hardiman and Jo Lyman. These dedicated workers spend each Tuesday afternoon, 1-2:30 pm at the Serramonte

Library indexing and filing the continuing flow of material that comes into the collection.

It was a very cheerful, upbeat celebration of 9 years of Guild organization, a testament to our splendid membership. Thanks for 9 great years, guys and gals. Keep it up!

## 2ND D.C. CITY HALL RAZED



Daly City's second City Hall, at 75 Wellington Ave., top of the hill, is no more! The art-deco building, which served as the seat of government for 28 years, was demolished recently, its hilltop site to be occupied, presumably, by condominium residences.

News of its demolition came as quite a surprise to Ken and Bunny Gillespie, who, wearing their hats as DC's official Historians, had been promised notification by the purchaser (and others) of the timing of the wrecking.

Their purpose was to take pictures of the process for the record, and, hopefully to salvage two particular items for the collection: the plaque on the doorstep, and one of the bas-relief bears which decorated the parapet of the building.

We understand that the plaque, placed by the Native Sons of the Golden West, has been retained, but the bears are busted. This is sad, since we had been given hope that we could salvage one...even offered the services of concrete sawing by a pair of our members.

All we needed was a little notification, a phone call. But...nada. Too bad, too bad. A landmark building was destroyed, and the Daly City Record was not even notified, either.

### INTO THE CRYSTAL BALL???

Musings on the future...It's very possible that 1991, which has started cataclysmically with a major war and a major national financial recession, might see the establishment of a mini-museum for use by our communities.

The collection at Serramonte Library, mainly photographs, but increasingly of pamphlets, letters, journals, and artifacts, is not available to the general public, save through the library staff and Guild oversight.

But, we hope that, perhaps this year, a start can be made on the creation of a display area where students and the public can see some of the pictures and documents that are part of our communities' historic tapestry. We urge our members and friends, as they look about their homes, not to throw out pictures and deeds, letters, artifacts, badges, old papers and magazines of local interest or emphasis. Remember, what is possibly junk to you could be items of community history importance.

### LUNCHEON FOR LOLA

An announcement was made at the January meeting by Evelyn Martin of the South San Francisco Historical Society that a luncheon would be held in honor of LOLA GARCIA, recognizing her 27 years of community service columns in North County newspapers.

The luncheon will be held at the Holiday Inn in South San Francisco on Saturday, April 6th. Those interested should call Evelyn at 583-9227.

### CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED

Contributions to the collection have been made by Garden Village resident Rich Blackburn, who presented three vintage maps of Westlake and Daly City, which give good info as to businesses extant in DC in the mid-Fifties. Also, noted transportation historian, and

member, Ted Wurm, forwarded a copy of an SF Chronicle article, May 20, 1920, headlined "San Mateo 'Sub' Runs Over Dynamite", a depiction of how a suburban streetcar detonated a stick of dynamite in Daly City. A sack, with 50 sticks in it, had been placed on the running board of an automobile, racing toward South San Francisco with an injured pedestrian.

The pedestrian had been carrying a sack of dynamite (unknown to the motorist) and the sack was dislodged in DC when the car bumped over the streetcar tracks. One of the wheels hit the sack and one of the sticks exploded, cracking the wheel and smashing nearby windows. Passengers and crew were unable to credit their eyes when they opened the sack and saw 50 unexploded sticks of dynamite!

Irene Dalton of Palo Alto has sent us four pictures of a 1931 parade in Los Angeles, featuring SF mayor James Rolph and Daly City's El Carmelo Parlor 256 of the Native Sons of the Golden West, and a business card, 1926 of the Daly City Record. Many thanks for the continuing generosity of our members and friends.

### RAHS FOR ROZ!

Our Treasurer and recorder of membership data, Roz Babow, certainly deserves kudos for her continuing, splendid work.

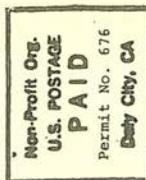
Each January, she and husband Ted make up the membership packets, with address labels turned out by LeRoy Larsen, and send them out. When the return envelopes are received, with the varying categories of membership and dues, she records them. Names on the membership list who have not responded in any way for two years are deleted.

All this takes a good deal of painstaking, accurate work, and it is most assuredly appreciated by the 279 paid members of our Guild!

### BADGES READY, FOLKS

Members' badges have been made and will be on the table at Doelger Center for the following:

Mike Wilson, Lorraine D'Elia, Bea and Mark Marquez, Christen Wegener, Elsie Martin, Bob Kelly, Ray Harman, Florence Opperman, Fran Kelly, Julie Lenkert, Nadine Dean, Evelyn Todd and Silvia Truelove.



### GOODIES FOR MARCH 20TH

These good members have volunteered goodies for the March meeting. Mary Hutchings will contact them prior to March 20th meeting:

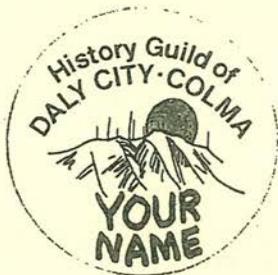
Belva Carroll  
Lorraine Cordova  
Evelyn Tyler  
Eda Guisti  
Elsa Ramos

Thank you all for your thoughtfulness and generosity.

### MEMBERSHIP BADGES, ANYONE?

Membership badges of the Guild are available from Ken Gillespie.

Buttons are as represented below, with names lettered - 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



DALY CITY ADVOCATES  
HISTORY GUILD OF DALY CITY/COLMA  
40 Wembley Drive  
Daly City, CA 94015

**DATE MATERIAL**