

THE HISTORY GUILD of DALY CITY/COLMA

Vol. 10 - No. 5 May 1992

Neil Fahy and San Bruno Mountain

Last March we hoped to hear Neil Fahy, our Guild v.p., as the featured speaker on the topic of San Bruno Mountain. Neil was delayed in returning from a South Pacific ship voyage, so his narration on our most visible landmark was postponed - until May 20th, 7:30pm, Doelger Center.

Titled "WHAT'S ON THE MOUNTAIN?," Neil's illustrated story of SBM will cover such diverse subjects as plants, rocks and slimy creatures!

A geologist-historian with speaking credentials on wide-ranging topics, Neil is the author of "San Mateo County County Sourdoughs in the Klondike and Nome Gold Rushes of 1896-1900", "Simplified Mineral Identification", and two family histories. His published articles include "Geology and History of San Bruno Mountain", and "Origin Lake Merced." His mother was born in 1902 on a truck farm that was located near the present site of the Daly City BART station.

On the agenda for the meeting will be the report of the Nominating Committee, chaired by Jane Powell. All the offices will be up for election at the meeting. If you are interested in becoming a Guild officer, please contact Jane at 992-2757. Current officers are listed at the end of this bulletin.

March Meeting a Lively One!

Our March 18th meeting at Doelger Center was a lively one, with a wide range of activities leading to the introduction of our guest speaker, San Mateo County Supervisor Bill Schumacher. A former Daly City policeman, Councilman and Mayor, Mr. Schumacher regaled us with tales of some of the "Bad Guys of San Mateo County", init-

THE HISTORY GUILD of DALY CITY/COLMA
PROUDLY PRESENTS ANOTHER

HISTORY EVENING!



Wednesday - May 20, 1992 - 7:30pm



WHAT'S ON THE MOUNTAIN?
an Illustrated History
of
San Bruno Mountain

by
Neil Fahy

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

ADMISSION FREE!

Donations Gratefully Accepted • Phone 991-8025 for Information

ially zeroing-in on the voting fraud shenanigans of bully-boy Billy Mulligan and his cohorts, who helped push through the vote which split San Francisco County's borders way down the Peninsula and created San Mateo County in 1856. With hundreds of ballots cast on behalf of people who didn't exist, baddies such as Mulligan made for fascinating subject matter by Supervisor Schumacher!

Mrs. May Fahy, was introduced, who was about to celebrate her 90th birthday. She was presented with a beautiful plaque by DC Mayor Jane Powell, and enjoyed a rousing rendition of "Happy Birthday" sung by the members and friends.

Also honored were long-time DC residents Ed and Olive Smith. They were early Westlake homeowners, and early members of our Guild. Since the first days of the cataloguing project

at Serramonte Library, Ed and Olive have been enthusiastic participants.

The Smiths are moving soon to Livermore, and we will certainly miss them, as long-time church, personal and Guild friends.

Representatives from the South San Francisco Historical Society were present and introduced, as well as member Lanty Molloy of Molloy's on Mission Road. Lanty recently hosted several hundred members of E Clampus Vitus for their annual pilgrimage to the grave of Emperor Joshua Norton.

Other honored guests were DC Mayor Pro-Tem Al Teglia, Library Director Linda Saltzer, JUHSD Trustee and Rec. Commissioner Betty Schultz, and Cristal Paul, from Cypress Lawn Memorial Park, celebrating its 100th anniversary this year.

Ms. Paul brought several prizes for the Guild's raffle, including two beautiful floral arrangements, gift certificates for Blue and White bay cruises, Lyon's Restaurant (Millbrae) and Safeway Stores.

Member John Olcese contributed five lovely plants, and it was a very exciting raffle scene at the end of the meeting!

Appreciation is extended to Mary Hutchings, Hospitality Chair, and her live-wire gang, Marilyn Olcese, Bob and Enid Williams. Their warm, friendly presentations are always a wonderful climax to a pleasant evening. Sincere thanks also go to the goody contributors: Olive Smith, Elinor Charleston, Doris Hill, Anne Ingersoll, Max and Elsa Ramos!

What would we do without the great raffle-ticket pushing of LeRoy Larsen, who brought in \$72! Leroy also is our computer whiz, turning out our mailing-labels and membership rosters for each meeting.

He has a great partnership with

Treasurer/Mem. Chair Roz Babow, who with Director Yolanda Hardiman keeps up our rolls with such great efficiency. These behind-the-scenes activities make for a smooth operation, and are gratefully acknowledged.

Incidentally, the outing arm of the San Mateo County Historical Assn. The History Buffs, held their April 26th meeting at Cypress Lawn, with historian Michael Svanevik as featured speaker, great refreshments and tours of the lovely park.

Mini-Museum Nears Reality

The Mini-Museum is coming closer and closer to reality! Space in the lower-level History Room area of the Serramonte Library is being cleared for the acquisition and installation of three lighted display cases, with wall shelf areas for other exhibits.

We are pointing towards a gala ribbon-cutting ceremony and reception during the first week of September! Since a hoped-for audience for the Mini-Museum will be Daly City's school children, the opening just prior to the resumption of school after Labor Day should afford opportunity for the teachers of elementary schools to schedule visits in the Fall.

Gateway Festival on School Street

On May 16-17th next, School Street will be closed off for the first annual GATEWAY FESTIVAL! From 10am to 6pm there will be craft booths, community displays, food booths of all kinds, and continuing entertainment on a stage at the westerly end of the street.

Your History Guild will have a space for display, and a fine group of volunteers to staff on 2-hour time slots. This will hearken back to the grand re-opening of the street after beautiful re-furbishing just last year



Logo for the
Gateway
Festival

School Street, named after the first little school that was a landmark as early as 1856, has been a thoroughfare since the 1870's. When the railroad was built in 1863, the station on San Pedro Road was called Schoolhouse Station.

When dog racing came to what is now Jefferson High's athletic field, a spur track brought streetcar passengers down from Mission Street. A big grandstand was built near School and Station Avenues. The area was also used for major boxing events.

The festival, sponsored by the Mission Merchants, should be a happy affair, with lots of music, food, craft booths, a dog-Frisbee exhibition, and a real sense of community spirit!

Recent Contributions

Recent contributions to the collection are the following:

From Olga Tourkoff we received a class picture of Colma School, Miss Slater's class, 8th grade, 1953, and two student body cards, Jefferson Hi, 1954, Westmoor Hi, 1957-58.

Daly City Record front page story of the unveiling of Sculptor Spero Anargyros' bust of Henry Doelger, in the courtyard of Doelger Cen- June 1982, from **George Riba**.

We thank our donors for their thoughtfulness and generosity!

The Crest Theatre on Mission

While doing some research in the microfilms of the Daly City Record, we came across the opening of a new theater on Mission Street near School.

There have been a number of shows along Mission since the days of the nickelodeons, but who remembers the Crest Theater, which opened its doors on April 1, 1948?

Housed in a reinforced concrete shell which previously had been a advertising firm, the Crest seated 510 patrons. Its opening double bill was John Garfield and Lilli Palmer in the boxing drama "Body and Soul." Accompanying was a thriller of the Old Southwest, "The Adventures of Don Coyote."

We visited the site of the Crest, now the Colma Auto Body Shop. Its proprietor, Mr. Carlos Cisneros, was a most genial host, and showed us the locations of many of the theater's attributes. The box office was on the left of the entrance doors, balanced by a curved, flanking wall opposite which displayed current and coming attractions outside the restrooms available inside. The lobby must have been quite small, ending just beneath the projection room above.

The screen was about 12' wide, no more, set in a niche at the west end of the hall, with space behind for twin speakers. Heating was provided by two curved-face blowers on either sides of the theater.

When Mr. Cisneros revamped the building, he discovered many reels of film in a storage area. He could find no outlet for them, and they were discarded.)

The Crest announced a policy of current year films only, with a main outlet MGM Studios. Open Mon.-Fri. at 5:30pm, 12:45pm Sat.-Sun.-holidays, the Crest Theater lasted until some-

time after Apr. 1949, when the theater ceased advertising in the Daly City Record. Can anybody remember when it went out of business?

Goodies for May 20th Meeting

Goodies have been volunteered for the May 20th meeting by the following generous members:

Enid Williams
Bianca Caserza
Louis Craviotto
Russ Brabec
Charles/Ida Bullis

Mary Hutchings will give you a reminder call before the meeting. Thanks so very much for being such nice folks!

New Pepsi Playpark at Marchbank Park

A beautiful addition to Marchbank Park was unveiled on April 18th, when a Pepsi Playpark was opened at the east end of the park.

One of 10 such installations in Northern California and Reno, state-of-the-art Iron Mountain Forge play equipment was put in place.

Marchbank Park's area was originally Knowles' dairy farm, 1853, later a commercial fish pond, an informal park, then Vista Grande Park, turned over by John Marchbank to DC in 1920, for \$10. In 1941 the park was refurbished and named in honor of its former owner, John Marchbank.

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

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
P A I D
Permit No. 676
Daly City, CA



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