



# THE TATTLE

Vol. 17, No. 2  
Nov., 1998

## Journal of the History Guild of Daly City/Colma

### FIRE DEPARTMENT HISTORY HOT TOPIC FOR NOV. MEETING

With Thanksgiving just around the corner, our November 18 meeting topic seems completely (politically) correct....we'll be saluting the **Daly City Fire Department**, and the services for which we are all grateful. Isn't it nice to be able to sleep with the knowledge that should something dreadful, our emergency service lads and gals are as near as a phone!?!?

Speaker for the program, starting at 7:30 p.m. in the multi-purpose room at Doelger Center, will be **Robert O'Donnell**, who has been Chief of the DCFD since June, 1997. He is the seventh man to hold the position of Chief, having risen to the office through the ranks. He's been a down & dirty firefighter, an engine operator, captain, battalion chief, and acting fire chief. During the **Oakland Hills firestorm** of recent years, Bob provided live commentary on **KRON-TV**. His calm demeanor and knowledge gave assurance to Bay Area viewers as they were riveted to their teevee sets during that sad time in local history. Remember the ashes that wafted into your gardens during those nervous days?

The Chief will provide an update on DCFD services as well as an historical overview of Daly City's beloved "smokies."

Firefighting efforts locally followed the embers of the 1906 earthquake and fire when multitudes of San Franciscans took refuge at

THE HISTORY GUILD of DALY CITY/COLMA  
PROUDLY PRESENTS ANOTHER

# HISTORY EVENING!

WEDNESDAY, November 18, at 7:30 pm

Daly City  
Fire Dept.  
History  
Featuring  
Fire Chief  
BOB O'DONNELL

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

**ADMISSION FREE!**

Donations Gratefully Accepted • Phone 991-8025 for Information

**Daly's Hill**, many staying to establish homes and a city in 1911.

The DCFD is an outgrowth of the **Vista Grande Volunteer Fire Dept.**, established in 1907, with **George Edmunds** as Chief. In 1922, volunteers started providing their own uniforms, and the next year city fathers voted to pay the volunteers \$1.00 annually. Wow!

Vintage photos from the Mini-Museum collection will be on display. If you have additional memorabilia, bring it along for display....firehats? badges? engine models?

And, in true, firefighter's fashion, how about everybody wearing something in fire engine red?

### STREET SIGNS AUCTION

For those of you who have been wondering, Auctioneers par excellence **Al Teglia** and **Mark Weinberger** will swing into action again at the November meeting, this time offering six **Vintage Street Signs**, the kind replaced in 1995 after thirty years of use of DC corner poles. Available will be "**Abbott**", "**Crocker**", "**Daly**", "**Dennis**", "**Gellert**", and "**Sweetwood**." Opening bids will be \$25.00. Cash or checks will be accepted. The signs would make unique **Holiday Gifts**.

### JEFFERSON HI SALUTED

Our September meeting was right out of the happy musical **Music Man**, when ta-ra-ta-ra the marching band of Jefferson High School treated arrivals to Doelger Center with a splendid surprise concert, this as part of the evening's salute to the high school, past and present.

JUHSD board member (*and Guild member, too!*) **Betty Schultz** made the invitation to bandmaster **Bill Burkhead**, who escorted the some 30 very talented musicians. The rafters fairly rang with a fine variety of tunes from marches to Broadway.

After the concert the youngsters were treated to goodies in the courtyard outside as our meeting got underway. **Mike Crilly**, superintendent of the High School District brought a wealth of pictures and other display materials and gave a great run-down on the past and present of the first high school in his district.

**Sidney Rasmussen**, major domo of the Jefferson High School Alumni Boosters, brought other treasured mementos of the high school

over the years, and Guild member **Elsie Tonelli**, dressed trimly in her original cheerleader's outfit, led songs and cheers in fine fashion. It was a most happy evening, ta-ra-ta-ra!

Pat yourself on the back, you generous people!! You done good, as the kids say.

In case you missed the announcement at the end of the September Guild meeting, the passing of the band hat during the meeting netted \$203.00, and the money was sent along with Jefferson HS Superintendent Mike Crilly for donations to the band's uniform fund

### MEANINGFUL THANKSGIVING

We've a lot to be **Thankful For** this cheery holiday season, including the following:

- ◆ An admirable, friendly, cooperative membership.
- ◆ Faithful museum and meeting volunteers
- ◆ City assistance in providing free space for our activities as well as professional liaison.
- ◆ The anonymous donor of our shiny new coffee maker.
- ◆ Members **Bill & Trudy Gfroerer**, who, upon moving to Fresno, counted their blessings over the years in Daly City and donated \$500 to the goals of the Guild.
- ◆ Member **Frances Liston**, who, wishing to memorialize her friends, the late **Ruth Giammona** and the late **Eddie Dennis**, contributed \$100 to the Guild in their honor.
- ◆ **Bill Clark**, who turned over to the Guild a vintage plow found on the grounds of the old **Thornton** residence, recently demolished.
- ◆ The DC/Colma Chamber of Commerce, via **Susan Brisenden-Smith**, which has donated two oversize aerial photos of Westlake, vintage CC maps, and a business notepad.
- ◆ **Frank Franceschini**, who shares his talent of photography by documenting local changes.

- ◆ **Elsie Garrison-Martin**, who has donated a 1956 Westlake Development holiday card.
- ◆ **Doris Hill**, who has donated her Feb. & June, 1944, Jefferson HS year books.
- ◆ **Hazel Hill Cargain**, donor of vintage DC Parade photos....and is a new Guild member.
- ◆ **Ingrid Salazar**, Guild member and brand-new United States citizen, who has donated vintage memorabilia relating to Vern's Restaurant.
- ◆ **Marjie Tweedie**, long-time Broadmoor resident, now of Walnut Creek, who has given us slide-photos of memorable events at Broadmoor Presbyterian Church.
- ◆ And all the Guild's other friends and members that remember that the collection of local memorabilia for the historical collection is an ongoing project, someday to be properly housed in a Daly City Museum. The Guild treasury is totally dedicated to the creation of such a facility.

### GOODIE GUIDE FOR NOV.

The following generous gaggle has volunteered to bring goodies for the gang to eat at the **November 18<sup>th</sup>** meeting at Doelger Center. We thank them beaucoup!

**Georgia Esteves**  
**Julia Padreddi**  
**Angela Uccelli**  
**Lou/Patricia Craviotto**

Goodie guru **Mary Hutchings** will confirm a few days prior to the meeting in case there's an ag-chew-al problem. Her number is **(650) 756-0864**.

Oh, speaking of bringing stuff - we are always in search of prizes for the drawing, those charming collateral contributions that keep our treasury in healthy condition.

### GUILD PIONEER PASSES

It is with deep sadness that we report the death of **Knud Ove Knudsen**, who served as Chairman of the History Guild from July 1985 until June of 1986. He succeeded **Christiana Graham**, who chaired from Nov. 1982 until the end of June, 1985. Knud is survived by his wife, **Irma**. His close friends, members **Leroy** and **Aida Larsen** reported that no services were held. It was under Knud's direction that the Guild's continuing by-laws were adopted. The memories of his devoted service continues.

### DUES UPCOMING IN JANUARY

The dues reminder will be mailed with the January **Tattler**, and, on inspection, the rates are probably the the least for any comparable history organization in our County.

Senior/Student.....	\$ 3.00
Individual.....	\$ 5.00
Family.....	\$ 8.00
Patron.....	\$25.00
	or more

**Red Dot** after your name on this issue's mailing label? If so, this will be your final **Tattler**, unless we hear from you \$\$\$\$wise.

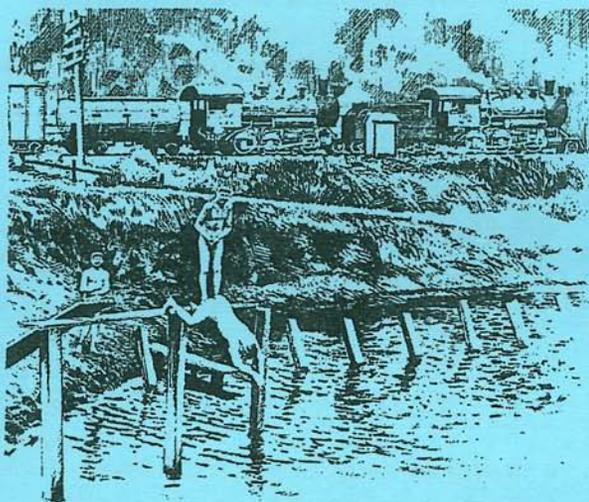
### MUSEUM MUSINGS

A group of 18 students and four teachers from the Jefferson Union High School District GATE program made a special visit to the Mini-Museum recently, hosted by the **Gillespies, Marilyn Olcese, Don Manning, and Walter Riney**. Groups of 6 or so visited the museum while others heard introductory remarks that broad-brushed our local history.

GATE is a special program which translates to Gifted and Talented Education.

Most of the students were from the Pacifica area, and were interested especially to hear of the original Spanish settlers in Pedro Valley that supplied foodstuffs to the Presidio and Mission Dolores.

The Guild's collection of subdivision maps are now housed in a flat mapcase at the entrance to the Mini-Museum. We thank the new interim Director of Library Services, **Susanna Gilden** for making the storage space available to the Guild.

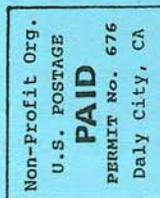


*The Ole Swimmin' Hole at Knowles' Pond is one of six scenes of historic relevance contained in convenient packets of note-size stationery available from the Guild. \$2.50.*

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**HISTORY GUILD OF DALY CITY/COLMA**  
**Officers and Directors**

<b>Ken Gillespie</b>	President	<b>755-5123</b>
<b>Mark Weinberger</b>	Vice-President	<b>755-0612</b>
<b>Bunny Gillespie</b>	Secretary	<b>755-5123</b>
<b>Russ Brabec</b>	Treasurer	<b>583-4985</b>
<b>Marilyn Olcese</b>	Director	<b>755-5616</b>
<b>Walter Riney</b>	Director	<b>992-4696</b>
<b>Albert Teglia</b>	Director	<b>755-1792</b>



**Daly City Advocates**  
History Guild of Daly City/Colma  
40 Wembley Drive  
Daly City, CA 94015

