



# THE TATTLER

Vol. 23 , No.3  
Jan. 2005

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

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### Annual Members' Party Set for Jan. 16

Again this year, the Guild will celebrate its birthday with a "Members' Party" in the multi-use room at Doelger Center, 101 Lake Merced Blvd., Daly City. 2-4 pm. Sunday, Jan. 16, 2005.

Remember: "Birthdays are good for you: the more that you have, the longer you live!"

Vice-president/Program Chair **Richard Rocchetta** has lined up accordionist **Peter DiBono** who will provide insight on the **SF Accordion Club** that meets regularly at the Daly City Moose Lodge building on Mission St. The SFAC's roots go back to 1913, when there were eight accordion manufacturers in SF. It would not be surprising if our "socializing" was favored with some musical selections. Those inclined to sing along will be encouraged. With party-elegant refreshments and congenial atmosphere for visiting with friends and neighbors, the event salutes the longevity of the Guild and



**GUILD MEMBERS'  
PARTY**  
**SUNDAY JAN. 16, 2005**  
**2-4 PM**  
**101 LAKE MERCED BL. DC**

the dedication of those who are dues-paying, supporting members.

### A Message From President Mark:

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I want to offer Season's Greetings and warm wishes for a Happy New Year.

During 2005, the Guild will remain optimistic and determined to secure a location for a History Museum. Our desire is to move into the John Daly Library at the Top-of-the-Hill, which will soon move to a new location in the new War Memorial Bldg. Plans for a museum in the Main Library in Gellert Park are on hold due to city budgetary concerns. Please continue to voice your support for a permanent museum to our City Council.

Of note is the recently opened Thornton Beach Vista at

the west end of John Daly Blvd. This site is all that remains of a road and parking facility that provided access to the beach below before the El Nino storm of 1982. There is no trail access to the beach at this time, but a magnificent view abounds, and interpretive signage highlighting the old Ocean Shore RR, San Andreas Fault, native flora and fauna, etc. The Guild's own Bunny & Ken Gillespie, official DC Historians, are credited with providing much of the history which is cited.

Your Guild officers look forward to bringing you another year of interesting programs and activities.

#### **RAFFLE PRIZES: FUN TO WIN**

#### **REWARDING TO DONATE**

**Director Marian Mann** and **Walter Schultz** are the pleasant people that provide lucky tickets to buy and treasures to win at Guild meetings; both of them invite you to *bring prizes (in presentable condition) to the meetings and purchasing raffle chances. Tix are 3 for \$1.00, or \$3.50 each.* To donate in absentia, contact **Marian**, please.

#### **Treat Donors**

Special treats at the November meeting were donated by **Trader Joe's of Westlake**, through the courtesy of new member **Lenny Grossman**. **Thank you TJ's!!**

Those who signed up to bring finger food for the January 16 Birthday Celebration include **Marilyn Olcese, Pat Hatfield, Angela Uccelli, Diane Pitto, Dana Smith, Annette Hipona and Amber Hipona**. Additions to the refreshment table are always welcome. **Elinor Charleston**, Hospitality Chair, will phone donors with a gentle reminder,

#### **DOTS ON YOUR LABEL???**

With this mailing is our annual pitch for annual dues. Remittance qualifies you to be a card-carrying supporter of the Guild. Dues may be paid at the Jan. 16 event, or mailed in advance. Non-dues paying people on our mailing list are invited to join the Guild and support its activities.

#### **Annual dues are:**

Individual	\$6.00
Senior/Student	\$4.00
Family	\$9.00
Business/Patron	\$26.00 (+?)

IF there's a RED DOT on your address label, we have not had an indication of your interest in the Guild during 2003 or 2004. Please remit, or be dropped.

IF there's GREEN DOT, your dues are NOT due at this time. You have paid in advance or recently.

IF there's a BLUE DOT, you are on the mailing list as a courtesy.

**Betty Schultz**, membership chairperson, will be happy to accept checks or cash on Jan. 16. She keeps dues records of members. Check with her if you are in doubt.



## MINI-MUSEUM NEWS NOTES

HG director **Marilyn Olcese**, as overseer of activities at the Mini-Museum, is **STILL SEEKING VOLUNTEERS** for once-a-month shifts as Museum Hosts. On the job training, educational benefits. This is a nice way to serve your Guild, as well as visitors, and enjoy some pleasant chatting on Tuesdays from 1 pm to 2:30 pm at Serramonte Library. (The Guild strives to have the museum open each Tuesday. Your volunteerism could deter a lapse in such service.)

For recent donations to the HG's collection of historical photos, memorabilia, etc., thanks are extended to, and for, the following:

**Russ Brabec:** Internet visuals re local businesses.

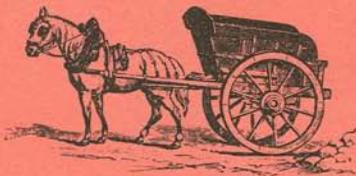
**Ken & Bunny Gillespie:** local vintage business memorabilia.

**Frank Franceshini:** DC progress photos and clippings.

**Annette Hipona:** School graduation program.

Please Remember: IF you're tempted to toss out something of local historical interest, please consider donating it to the HG Mini Museum. Contact person is Marilyn at Olcese 650-755-5616.

Ongoing docent **Don Manning** has donated a long-needed stapler for Mini Museum use. Over the years, **Betty Manning**, via **Don**, has donated numerous books for HG raffles.



## Guild Gossip

Sights to see around town include the photo mural in the Serramonte Branch of **Wells Fargo Bank**, with photos of local highlights AND framed photos of Westlake locations in the new Westlake mall location of **Trader Joe's**. In both cases, the Guild supplied informational and photographic input. Monetary donations for the above services were gleefully & gratefully accepted.

At the Top-of-the-Hill, the new **Bepler Street Firehouse**, officially called Daly City Fire Station 92, has been dedicated, replacing "old" Station 92 on Santa Barbara Ave. that had been in use for over 65 years.

Historically interesting, the station is located directly on top of John Daly's ranch property, which he operated from 1868-1906 as the San Mateo Dairy. Eventually his cows were sold, his dairy operations merged with others to become the nucleus of Borden's Dairy Delivery, and home sites were developed on the property that became the hub for emerging Daly City. Standing in front of the station, one can virtually imagine the gentle hills and pleasant view that Daly enjoyed for so much of his life.

Quick quiz: What were the stage names for **Dino Crocetti & Jerome Levitch**? (Info gleaned from a recent **Manning** donation.) Sincere thanks to both of these very nice people, **Betty & Don**, that is.



## NOV. HG MEETING HOSTS NEIL FAHY AS SPEAKER

Home from the high seas, Neil Fahy, former vice-president of the Guild, returned to Doelger Center as guest speaker for the Nov. 17 meeting of the History Guild. His topic was "The Ferro Family in Two Worlds – A History of Daly City."

Neil is the author of "The Italians: Ferro-Cafferata Family History", which is in the SMC Library System, and many other published works including sections in "A Flora of the San Bruno Mountains, San Mateo County."

Neil was presented with the Guild's traditional "Certificate of Appreciation" by President Mark.



### HG Memorial Book And Museum Fund

*Monetary tributes honoring living loved ones, and those in our memories, may be sent to the History Guild, 40 Wembley Dr., DC. 94015. Such donations may be earmarked for the benefit of a proper Daly City/Colma History Museum or for expenses of operating the Guild. Our beautiful Memorial Book may be viewed on request at the Mini-Museum.*

*All contributions (birthdays, anniversaries, memorials, honoraria, etc.) will be acknowledged and appreciated by the Guild.*

## **Looking Back in History**

150 Years Ago..(1855).. California had been a state for five years. Teenager John Daly has arrived from Boston and was riding mail for a Peninsula ranch. Plans to establish San Mateo County were being made.

100 Years Ago..(1905).. Vegetable crops flourished in the shadow of San Bruno Mountain. John Daly's rock quarry was providing rock for streetcar rail beds. Boxing was "big time" at Union Coursing Park (now the site of Jefferson High School.) Tracks were being laid for Ocean Shore Railroad. Woodlawn Cemetery opened.

50 Years Ago..(1955).. Joe Verducci was Mayor of Daly City. Population hovered around 24,000. DC Council adopted the City Manager form of government. Pianist Liberace performed at the Cow Palace. Westlake's Henry Doelger had achieved fame as one of the world's foremost homebuilders.

### Images of America: Daly City

The book noted above was written by **Bunny Gillespie** and is offered for sale for the benefit of the HG treasury during Mini-Museum hours from 1-2:30 p.m. on Tuesdays in the Serramonte Library. The HG price is \$20. (More at bookstores.) It embraces 128 pages, 234 local photos.

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

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