



FIRST NATIONAL BANK **(OF DC)** **TOPIC FOR MARCH** **MEETING**

Tom McGraw, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of First National Bank of Northern California since 2002, will be the guest speaker at the Wednesday, March 16, 7:30p.m., meeting of the History Guild.

Mr. McGraw will speak on the history of the bank, which was founded in Daly City and established itself as the first "home-owned" bank in Daly City and the "only independent bank in San Mateo County."

The FNB/DC held its initial shareholders meeting on Jan.24, 1963. Temporary offices opened April 24 on San Pedro Road. Early-years officers included John Varni (President), Ricco Lagomarsino, Gerald Minchen, Harry Curusis, Elton McGraw, Joseph Verducci, Lawrence Vannucci, and cashier K. R. Keeney. Assets were \$1.9million in July. They had reached \$2.2million by October. FNB got off to a good start, and continues to serve.

Mr. McGraw's roots reach back to the landmark "McGraw Bros." pharmacy opened in 1928 at Daly City's "Top-of-the-Hill".

Richard Rocchetta, vice-president and program chair for the HG, will introduce the

GUILD MEETING
7:30 PM, MARCH 16
101 LAKE MERCED BL. DC

speaker. Those with memorabilia related to FNB (old bankbooks, calendars, whatever) are invited to bring materials for display during the meeting.



The Family
Bank

Annual January Party **Was Social-Musical Delight**

The History Guild celebrated its birthday Jan. 16 with a "Members' Party" at the Doelger Center, complete with the customary bubbly, cakes, good company, speaker, musical treats, raffle prizes, and surprises.

Vice-president/Program Chair **Richard Rocchetta** presented accordionist **Peter DiBono**, who talked about the **SF Accordion Club** and delighted attendees with his musical talent. Familiar tunes were enjoyed before **President Mark** awarded raffle prizes and invited everyone to partake of goodies. All-in-all, it was another splendid afternoon.

Treat Donors
For March Meeting

Those who signed up to bring finger food for the Spring (March) meeting include **Amber** and **Annette Hipona**, **Diane Pitto**, **Elsa** and **Max Ramos**, **Richard** and **Michael Rocchetta**, and **Mark Weinberger**. Additions to the refreshment table are always welcome. **Elinor Charleston**, Hospitality Chair, will phone donors with a gentle reminder,

RAFFLE PRIZES: FUN TO WIN,
REWARDING TO DONATE

Director Marian Mann and **Walter Riney** 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)*. **Tix are 3 for \$1.00, or \$.50 each**. To donate in absentia, contact **Marian**, please.

The Raffle is a very important part of the Guild's fund-raising for wonderful things such as postage, printing, stationery, hospitality, and museum supplies.

No Guild money is spent on personal reimbursement such as travel, phones, representation at community fund raisers, historical conferences, membership in other historical organizations, subscriptions to historical periodicals, or other historically-related temptations.

Public Schools Week
Exhibit Through June
At Serramonte Library

Recalling **Public Schools Weeks** of the 1950s, when hundreds of visitors flocked to Daly City/Colma classrooms, the Guild's main floor showcase at Serramonte Library now features photos and memorabilia of those gentler times. Then sponsored by **DC's Crocker Masonic Lodge #454 F.& A.M.**, Public Schools Week spurred store-

front displays, student pride, newspaper coverage, postage-cancellation dies, brochures, and appreciation of the school system. Display materials are through the courtesy of the late **Lyal Ingersoll**.

HISTORICAL TIDBITS

Eagle-eyed **Marilyn Olcese** spotted the C&H Sugar website on which the sweet lady of First Street, **Alice Agresti**, 94, is saluted for her "Random Acts of Sweetness" spirit over a lifetime of baking for the joy of others. **Alice**, luckily for Guild meeting attendees, is a frequent donor of treats for our tummies.

New in the Arcadia series of Images of America is Chris Hunter's "**Ocean Shore Railroad**". Interesting to note that **Daly City** and **Thornton** are not shown as stops on the OSR (page 2) route map. A 1915 time table (pg 105) does note those stops. Also, (pg.23) the project was already linking SF to Mussel Rock..."through the suburbs of **Daly City**"....when nature decided the OSR's fate, ie the SF earthquake and fire of April 16, 1906...**Daly City** did not become an entity until 1911. Even so, it's a definite must-have treasure for OSR buffs. Congratulations, CH.

For flying buffs, there's a website that is working on a report about **Daly City's** historic 1942 L-8 Blimp incident. <http://www.flying-legends.net/>

Looking to the future: **Daly City** officials will unveil a welcoming plaque and spring native plants workday planting and cleanup at **Thornton Beach Vista** on **Saturday, April 16**. **YOU** are invited, 9 am. to

Noon. BBQ and good views are guaranteed by Park & Recreation Director **Mike Stallings**. Another first for Daly City will be telescopes around the Vista.



Historical Stuff? Keep HG Collection in Mind

Contributions to the Guild's collection of vintage historical items relating to Daly City or Colma are always welcome. Recent donors include:

Daly City City Manager John Martin – Framed under glass, gold metal with blue enamel lettering, D.C. Fire Commissioner badge #3, previously owned by **Louis Larcombe**. Appointed in 1954, **Mr. Larcombe** served until 1955, when police and fire commissions were eliminated as then new City Manager Howard Stites took over.

Marlene Manzanares – 2005 Heritage Calendar distributed by First National Bank of Nor-CA, w/ pix of Colma FD in 1930 and 1915 Vista Grande School student body group.

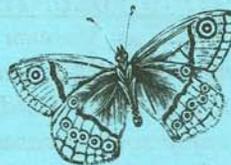
Joan Keller –Vintage brown plastic Ruby brand potato sack, noting price for 5 lbs. of US #1 was 45 cents.

LeRoy Larsen – Photo copies of Crocker Tract homes being moved away from what became Lincoln Park site at Brunswick and Acton streets.

Ed Mahoney (EMah1965@aol.com)—2004 Vol.1 No. 1 OLPH “Perpetual Light” bi-yearly newsletter with graduation/reunion pix. Alumni Hall homecoming is set for March 5.

Frank Franceschini

With the saddest of feelings, we report the passing in January of the Guild's “official paparazzi” ie photo-grapher par excellence, **Frank Frances-chini**, whose generous photographic contributions to the Guild gave rise to creation of **Frank's Photo Corner** in the HG Mini Museum. Faithful in supplying the Guild with hundreds of photos of DC progress over the years, **Frank** shared his hobby with pride, labeling each of his images meticulously with date of documentation and location. The Guild honored him with a Certificate of Appreciation in 2003, for which he was modestly appreciative. Several of his documentary photos appear in “Daly City Images” and his name was often listed as a contributor to the Museum collection of archival material. We shall miss **Frank** and treasure his memory.



Memorial Book

Monetary tributes honoring living loved ones, and those in our memories, may be sent to the History Guild, 40 Wembley Dr., DC, 94015. Donations benefit realization of a proper/larger Daly City/Colma History Museum or for Guild operating expenses. Our beautiful Memorial Book may be viewed on request at the Mini-Museum. A memorial page, noting donors, is placed for each honoree. All contributions are appreciated.

Contributions in memory of **Frank Franceschini** have been received and acknowledged.

About Your Membership

Response to the annual pitch for dues has been quite rewarding. **Betty Schultz**, membership chair, reports a "nice flow" of dues envelopes with cash or checks indicating your ongoing interest in the Guild.

Some members chose to remit at the annual meeting. Several new members joined that day also.

HG dues are collected each January. One member has suggested a Life Membership category, following the lead of other clubs. What would you be interested in investing in the future of the Guild?

MUSEUM MUSINGS

*HG director Marilyn Olcese, as overseer of activities at the MiniMuseum, is **STILL INVITING 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.)*

IF you're tempted to toss out something of local historical interest, please consider donating it to the HG Mini Museum.

HISTORY GUILD OF DALY CITY/COLMA

Officers and Directors

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Richard Rocchetta	Vice-President	(650)992-9144
Russ Brabec	Treasurer	(650)583-4985
Dana Smith	Secretary	(650)755-3432
Marilyn Olcese	Director	(650)755-5616
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Walter Riney	Director	(650) 992-4696
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History Guild
of
Daly City/Colma
40 Wembley Drive
Daly City, CA. 94015

First Class Mail