



Journal of the History Guild of Daly City/Colma

Greetings from President Mark

I have a couple of significant developments to share with the membership on our plans for a permanent museum in the **John D. Daly Library**. After continuing discussions with the city on the complex details of a long-term agreement, we decided that the responsible action would be to retain an attorney to review the document, explain the various implications to our Board, and advocate on our behalf. We have set a reasonable spending limit of \$3,000 for legal counsel.

After negotiations with the city for a lease agreement, it became evident that we could not meet State Prop. 40 grant criteria for control of the facility. We have decided it would not be prudent to continue with our grant application.

The good news is that we continue working on an agreement for re-use of the library as a Daly City History Museum, and we anticipate a move by summer or fall from the mini-museum. While we will be opening our doors very modestly in the beginning, we remain optimistic that adequate funding will be available in the future. These are indeed exciting times, and the board looks forward to the not too distant future when we will celebrate calling the Top-of-the-Hill home.



GUILD HISTORY EVENING
San Bruno Mountain Watch Presents

HISTORY OF
SAN BRUNO MOUNTAIN
Wednesday, March 21 - 7:30 PM

101 Lake Merced Blvd.
Doelger Senior Center

As arranged by Vice-President **Richard Rocchetta**, the March History Evening will host a speaker representing **San Bruno Mountain Watch**, one of the North County's most knowledgeable and dedicated non-profit organizations.

For thirty years, **Mountain Watch** has spearheaded the protection and preservation of **The Mountain**, the largest and most abundant of the Bay Area's bio-regions and our most conspicuous and oldest local landmark. The program will include history and current preservation efforts. Free to the public.

MAY PROGRAM - The 150th anniversary video on San Mateo County "Made in America - San Mateo County's Journey from Dairies to DNA" is scheduled to be shown at our May 16th General Meeting.



SPLENDID BIRTHDAY BASH

January's members-only party celebrating the Guild's 25th anniversary of founding, was another afternoon of fellowship, fun, food, and surprises, at Doelger Center, plus a highly knowledgeable and charming speaker, **SF activist Amy Meyer.**

Ms. Meyer, author of "*New Guardians for the Golden Gate – How America Got a Great National Park.*" autographed copies of her book for sale following the presentation.

Decorative banners for the celebration proclaiming "**25 Years, and Going Strong**" were created by **Dana Smith.** The prize table, arranged by **Marie Brizuela** and **Vaughn Jones**, tempted raffle ticket buyers. Prizes were provided by **Elephant Bar & Grill, Friends of the DC Library, Jade Dragon Restaurant, Springs Italian Café, See's Candies, Robert & Marie Brizuela** and **Gloriann & Vaughn Jones.** Director **Walter Riney** encouraged ticket sales.

Special "happy music" was provided by accordionist **Richard Rocchetta** and pianist **Vaughn Jones.** Abundant refreshments, under the gracious direction of **Elinor Charleston**, were provided by **Dana Smith, Marilyn Olcese, Janice and Angela Uccelli, Judith Christensen, Annette Hipona, Marie Brizuela, Joan Lopiccola, Vaughn and Gloriann Jones, Ken and Bunny Gillespie,** and others.

REFRESHMENTS NEEDED

You are invited to join **Janice Uccelli**, a frequent donor and the only person to sign up at our January party, to provide treats for our March meeting. Please phone Hospitality Chair **Elinor Charleston**, (650)755-8267. Much appreciated!



THORTON VISTA LIGHTS ON BLINK

Spurred on by a question from HG member **Betty Williams**, your snoopy Editor queried Rec & Parks Dept. Director **Mike Stallings** regarding the absence of solar lights at Thornton Beach Vista, overlooking the Pacific at the west end of John Daly Blvd. The answer: They were not functioning properly and were removed for repair or replacement.



MEMORIAL BOOK HONORS DEAR ONES

Madeline C. Gaggero, aunt of HG Board member **Marilyn Olcese**, was honored by the Golden Years Senior Citizen Club of Holy Angels Catholic Church with a monetary donation to the Guild in her memory.

Robert L. Belli, descendant of a pioneer Colma family and a long-time patron of the Guild, was honored with a monetary donation from **Bianca and Louis Caserza.**

Alice Agresti, one if the HG's most generous member/donors of home-baked treats, was honored with a contribution to the Guild by her friend, **Claudine Silveira.**

New pages have been added to the Guild's Memorial Book, briefly highlighting the lives of **Madeline, Robert and Alice.** The memorial contributions have been added to the Guild's Museum Fund and are acknowledged with appreciation.



The Guild respectfully solicits donations to the Memorial Book and Museum Fund in honor or memory of loved ones. Checks may be sent to the Guild at 40 Wembley Drive, Daly City, 94015.



LOOKING BACK AT THE YEARS OF '7'

GUILD RECEIVES ANNIVERSARY HONORS

Among surprises at the Guild's Jan. 21 party were congratulatory messages received from U.S. Congressman **Tom Lantos** and CA Assemblyman **Gene Mullin**.

State Senator Leland Y. Yee, assistant president pro Tempore, honored the Guild with his presence and pleasant laudatory remarks, and presented CA Senate Certificates of Recognition to HG Officers, the Board of Directors and the Emeriti Officers. He was assisted by **David Canepa**.

Supervisor Adrienne Tissier, represented by former local journalist **William Chaing**, recognized the Guild with a Congratulatory Resolution signed by the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors.

Vice-mayor Larry Formalejo presented a Proclamation of Recognition of the Guild's Silver Anniversary on behalf of the Council of the Town of Colma, standing in for **Mayor Frossanna Vallerga**.

Councilmember Judith Christensen presented a Commendation on the Guild's historical endeavors signed by the Daly City Council. **Ms. Christensen** stood in for **Mayor Maggie Gomez**.

(Awards received and photos taken at the gala are currently on display in the Guild's main-floor showcase at Serramonte Library.)

MUSEUM DONATIONS GRATEFULLY RECEIVED

Verona Williams, formerly of Daly City and now residing in Nevada, has sent another generous contribution to the Museum Fund in honor of her late husband, **Dale**. Over the years, **Mrs. Williams** has contributed many items of historical interest.

Thanks to Guild member **Algis Ratnikas**, creator of an extensive Daly City Time Line, here are a few of the events of years ending with "7". Read more at **Algis'** internet site at www.timelines.ws:

1777: Priests from Mission Dolores and SF Presidio soldiers, designate the gap between San Bruno Mtn and the Coastside Hills as La Portezuela, later Daly's Hill and the Top of the Hill.

1867: German immigrant John Husing opens a general store on Mission Street around the corner from Joe Hill's store on Old San Pedro Road. Husing's store later became a saloon called "White House Gardens."

1867: A new school is built on two lots donated by Peter Dunks. The site later became Jefferson School Annex.

1877: Dampness and a potato blight in the Colma Hills forces most Irish settlers to flee the area. Garnet Chili potato seeds from Oregon are brought in and thrive. Italians buy into the area, plant artichokes, cabbage and flowers.

1887: Holy Cross Cemetery is consecrated on Mission Road

1907: John Daly sells all but three acres of his 250-acre dairy ranch at San Jose Ave. and Mission Street.

1917: Woodrow Wilson Elementary School is constructed, later rebuilt.

1947: First families move into Broadmoor Village; area voters approve new school taxes.

1957: George McKeon begins Zita Corp. construction of St. Francis Hts.

1967: DC's new (third) City Hall is dedicated. \$3.5 million!!

1977: DC's History, Arts & Science Commission is organized.

1997: Colma dedicates \$750,000 recreation center on F. Street.

CYPRESS LAWN AGAIN HOSTS HISTORICAL EVENTS

Upcoming events, free at Cypress Lawn, include April 14, 1:30 pm, Arbor Day tour regarding "Horti-cultural Delights at CL"; April 15, 2 pm, lecture by SMC historian **Mitch Postel** re. "Characters of 1856", and April 21, 1:30 pm, tour of CL "Glass Splendor." For info: 650-550-8810.

PAT ON THE BACK FROM DISTANT MEMBER

Carolee Heim, a corresponding member of the Guild formerly of Daly City and currently residing in Missouri, included this note with her renewal of dues and contribution to the Museum fund: "Keep up the good work!" Thank You, Carolee. We need all the encouragement we can get.

MEMBERSHIP DUES ARRIVING NICELY

Membership chair **Betty Schultz** accepted dues at the January party, and will happily continue to accept dues through the mail. Those with RED DOTS on their January mailing label were dropped.

GUILD OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

Mark Weinberger, President	415/750-1939
Richard Rocchetta, Vice-President	650/992-9144
Janice Uccelli, Treasurer	650/878-5111
Dana Smith, Secretary	650/755-3432
Marilyn Olcese, Director (Mini-Museum Coordinator)	650/755-5616
Walter Riney, Director	650/992-4696
Marian Mann, Director	650/991-9386
Vaughn Jones, Director	650/756-6795

Ken Gillespie, Pres./emeritus 650/755-5123
Bunny Gillespie, Sec./emerita 650/755-5123

Tattler Editors:
Ken and Bunny Gillespie



History Guild of Daly City/Colma

c/o Daly City Mini-Museum

40 Wembley Avenue

Daly City, CA 94015

FIRST CLASS MAIL

