HISTORY JILD of DALY CITY/COLMA

Volume 7 - No. 5 Mar. 1989



FRANK SPADARELLA TO SPEAK ON THE EARLY NORTH CTY. ITALIANS

Frank Spadarella, the noted photographer, restaurateur and history buff, will be the guest speaker for the Wednesday, March 15, 7:30 pm meeting of the Guild at Doelger Center.

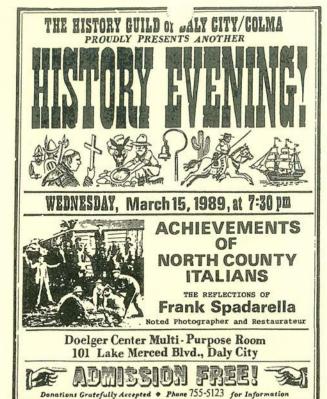
Personable and knowledgable, Spadarella was a member of the Italian-American Historical Committee of San Mateo County, credited with and presenting the SMC Historical Association's remarkable exhibit, "The Early Italians of San Mateo County, 1860-1935."

In connection with that exhibit, Spadarella served as editor of the illustrated commemorative book published by the SMCHA on the topic.

Spadarella's talk will be highlighted by some of his outstanding photographic art. Over the years, he has earned many First Place awards for his photographs, and he has been honored with one-man shows.

His "County Concepts - New Images-Fond Memories" show was spotlighted in the Keyston and Stanger Galleries of the county historical museum. Two of his photographic portfolios are in the permanent collection of the SF Museum of Modern Art.

A philanthropist, well-known to North County diners as the proprietor of Toto's Restaurants, Spadarella is an active member of civic and arts organizations. For several years, he wrote a food column for the Daly City Record.



Reflecting on "Achievements of
North County Italians", Spadarella notes
that in 1860, when the first county census was taken, only 13 Italian residents
were listed. Occupations included woodchoppers, gardeners, storekeepers and
stockraisers.

Quoting from the speaker's book:

"The effort to set down roots and achieve economic and social success in San Mateo County has made the Italian community a part of this county's history and development.

"It has been involved in agriculture, a wide range of business activities, in founding clubs and social organizations, in running for public office, and in the arts. It has struggled with ethnicity and assimilation.

"Through all of this, Italian-Americans have become an integral part of the county id present indications suggest that this will continue..."

FIRST WESTLAKE RESIDENTS

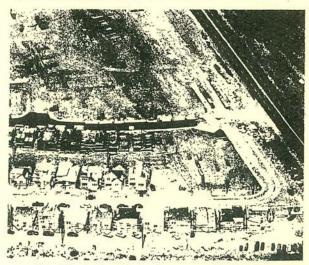
The 40th anniversary of the first home-owning in Westlake is observed this year of 1989. Just forty years ago in the fall of the year, the first homes built on Cliffside Drive, just over the easterly side of the parking lot for Westlake Park, were finished and occupied.

When there was notice in the local papers that the History Guild would observe the anniversary and try to find the longest tenancy with original occupants, there was quite a bit of interest generated.

The Gillespies' phone number was listed, and calls and mail have arrived since the posting, each with a little to contribute to solving the puzzle.

Knowing from member Eddie King, Doelger's right-hand man, that the first homes were on Cliffside Drive, we found that the first homes were started on the John Daly Blvd. (now Alemany Blvd.) end of the street.

Member Walt Schultz was of immense help, providing a list of every address on Cliffside, together with their <u>first</u> and current owners' names!



The first Westlake homes on Cliffside Drive, under construction in 1949.

tacting those who were still listed as original occupants, we have invited residents of two homes, who had moved into Westlake in the fall of 1949, and who have lived here continuously, to our March 15th meeting.

According to our research, they were the 5th and 6th occupants on Cliffside Drive. The first four original occupants are no longer owners.

An interesting sidebar involves members Esther and Hartley Appleton, who bought the first lot in Westlake, while at a social function with Doelger. According to the story, the lot was offered, and Esther Appleton gave Henry D. the sum of \$1 as a binder!

They didn't qualify as first residents, however, since their home was not completed as one of the first, nor was it on Cliffside, but on El Portal.

"WHAT SUPERBOWL?" ASKED GUILD MEMBERS

When the Annual Birthday Party meeting of the Guild was planned, back in March or so, the presumption of a Forty-Niner SuperBowl game was somewhat remote. HAH!

Well, we should've checked when game was to be played, oh, yes! Other years it always seemed it was on the last Sunday of the January. Well, it wasn't. It was on January 22nd, and we were frankly surprised when the Colma Town Hall was completely filled for our 7th Birthday Celebration.

Walter Vielbaum, transportation historian, brought a fascinating program of recollections on the No. 40 Streetcar, which had ceased service from San Francisco to San Mateo, running through Daly City and Colma, in January 1949, just 40 years previous.

With movies and slides, Vielbaum showed just about every phase of the operation, bringing back wonderful memories for many members, who'd ridden the comfortable interurban cars for many purposes.

There was a full table of memorabilia on display, provided by Stan
Roderick and Roy Pulsipher, including

a vintage fare box, a "collect s item" wicker conductor's hat, transfers, route cards, streetcar signs, etc.

An honored guest was Anna Kahle, perhaps our senior member, age 94 years, and who has resided in Colma for 92 of those years!

Colma Councilman Ted Kirschner offered Official Colma Greetings on behalf of the Township Council.

In the audience were several who had connections with the streetcar line, including Motorman Frank Loskay, who added to the flavor of the afternoon with comments on his years with the Market Street Railway.

Delicious refreshments were provided under the guidance of committee chair Mary Hutchings. Special cakes with streetcar decorations were centerpieces, through Marilyn Olcese.

Helping with refreshments were Bob and Enid Williams, Ted Kirschner, Ed and Olive Smith. Treats were brought by Betty Schultz, Ann Ingersoll, Aida Larsen, Frances Windhurst, Doris Hill, Ford Baron and others.

Appreciation is expressed to all the above, and also to Joyce Olcese of of Carmel, who sent a beautiful floral display for our raffle, and to Peter Conci, who donated three beautiful plants also for the raffle. Raffle ticket sellers were Dorothy Gorry and Leroy Larsen.

So, in spite of the SuperBowl, there were 102 attendees, who celebrated our Guild's 7th birthday in fine fashion, helped along by Ted Kirschner, who kept us posted on the score as it went along. Actually, the 4th quarter was the only good one, and we were all finished by then, in plenty of time!

CATALOGUING PROJECT

The cataloguing project, which had come to a halt on the photographic end, is about to start again, and will be amplified at the March 15th meeting.

There is a good collection of notes, letters, journals, artifacts, etc., which will be discussed and analyzed for inclusion in the

his y collection at the Serramonte Library.

MEMBERSHIP AND DUES

Treasurer Roz Babow notes that 190 of our members have returned their 1989 dues already, and urges those outstanding to send in their checks.

Our dues are the lowest of any comparable local history group we know, and shouldn't be a burden on anyone.

Seniors/Students \$2.00 Individuals \$4.00 Families \$6.00 Patrons \$25.00

We do have a fine number of patrons, for whose generosity we express deep appreciation.

Louis and Bianca Caserza
Excelsior Roofing Company
Col. and Mrs. William Wade
Richard and Jane Powell
Peter and Elma Conci
Rev. Harry and Winnie Washburn
Paul Selmi

Paul Selmi, mayor of Daly City from 1936-40, has contributed \$100! Thank you so very much, Mayor Selmi!

BRODERICK-TERRY DUEL PROGRAM MAY 17th

Our May 17th program at Doelger Center has a very local flavor, local because the subject of the evening, THE BRODERICK-TERRY DUBL, took place a little more than 1 mile north of our meeting room.

In a ravine, now heavily wooded around, bordered by the San Francisco Golf Club on the north and east, and Westlake to the west and south, the famous feud between U.S. Senator David Broderick and former California Supreme Court Chief Justice David Terry was fought, resulting in the ultimate death of Broderick.

The September 1859 event, reputed to be the last duel in California, will be described by Dr. Robert Chandler, Historical Officer of the Wells Fargo History Department.

TREASURE IS ND FAIR OPENING 50 YEARS AGO!

Those of us who were fortunate enough to live in the SF Bay Area before WW II, and who attended the wonderful Golden Gate International Exposition, have been reminded recently, on radio, t.v. and newspapers, of the February 1939 opening of Treasure Island.

It was a real island of enchantment, which will be brought back briefly in an enlarged exhibit in the Administration Building on T.I., and the San Francisco County Fair, which will be held on the island for two days in September.

It doesn't seem 50 years since we were toted up as individuals on the huge Cash Register which registered daily attendance, had a "red-hot" Scotch scone (best of all food), weighing about ½ pound, lavishly lathered with hot butter and raspberry jam, costing about 15¢!

Daly City had a day at the fair, October 22, 1939, close to the end of the first year's run. Because the fair lost money in 1939, a second year was offered. It didn't have the magic of the first year, however, because WW II was on, Europe was being over-run, many of the exhibits were closed because of the strife, and we were gearing up our defense industries.

Fair Quiz: What was Johnny Weiss-muller's <u>title</u> as the star of Billy Rose's Aquacade?

Answer: "Number One Aquadonis"

OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

Ken Gillespie, pres.	755-5123
Roz Babow, treas.	994-7662
Bunny Gillespie, secy.	755-5123
Claire Fahy, dir.	756-2753
Neil Fahy, dir.	756-2753
Yolanda Hardiman, dir.	589-0188
Ted Babow, dir.	994-7662

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



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

DATED MATERIAL