

U.S. NAVY BLIMP L-8  
WANDERS OVER D.C.

## BLIMP PLAQUE DEDICATION AT DC WAR MEMORIAL BUILDING

The Guild will kick off the New Year with a special presentation at the War Memorial Building on Mission Street, 9:30 a.m., January 9, 1993.

On that Saturday morning, in concert with members of Yerba Buena Chapter #1, E Clampus Vitus, we will unveil and dedicate a plaque to commemorate the crash-landing of the U.S. Navy blimp L-8 on the morning of August 16, 1942 in Daly City.

The landing on Bellevue Ave. is considered as DALY CITY'S GREAT UNSOLVED MYSTERY, since the two-officer crew was never found, nor was any provable reason for their disappearance ever discovered.

A beautiful plaque was created by the artisans of Donohoe & Carroll, pioneer Colma monument makers, from an inscription written by our Secretary Bunny Gillespie, and a line drawing by President Ken Gillespie.

Cost of the plaque has been split between the Guild and members of the Emperor Norton Brigade of the Yerba Buena Chapter of the Clampers.

The project was originally suggested by Bob Chandler, of the Wells Fargo History Room. Bob was the "Sheriff" of the Westerners, an organization of western history buffs, at the time when the Guild program on the Blimp Mystery was given at their monthly meeting.

Guild member Geno Pambrini then worked with Bunny Gillespie to coordinate the dual role of the Clampers and the Guild in the plaque creation, in the same manner as when the plaque WHERE DALY CITY STARTED was presented on the Crocker Temple outside wall in April 1989.

Accepting the plaque, which will be hung on the inside entrance wall of the War Memorial Building, will be Daly City Mayor Al Teglia, long-time Guild member. Other Daly City officials, Federal, State and County reps have been invited to participate in the brief dedicatory activity, as well as officials of E Clampus Vitus, both Yerba Buena and state, and from the U.S. Navy at Treasure Island, from which the L-8 took off more than fifty years ago, to land on Bellevue Ave., unoccupied.

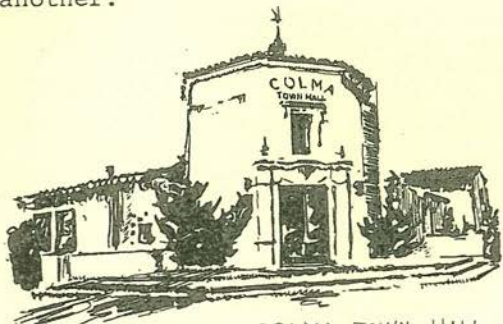
Bruce Shelton, Noble Grand Humbug (the head guy) of Yerba Buena Chapter, will represent the chapter at the ceremony. Bruce is also a Guild member.

The Clampers have provided and installed hundreds of historic-area and building plaques throughout the west, having great fun and doing great good in the process. A Clamper band will entertain at the doin's.

The date of the presentation is coincident to the Clampers' yearly outing to gravesite of Yerba Buena's mentor, Emperor Joshua Norton, in the nearby Woodlawn Cemetery in Colma, with socializing and a crab feed at Molloy's in Colma.

## GUILD BIRTHDAY PARTY AT COLMA TOWN HALL - JAN. 24

It's **HAPPY BIRTHDAY, GUILD** once more at Colma Town Hall, on Sunday, January 24, 1993 from 2 to 4 p.m. Celebrating our eleventh birthday, the members only birthday party will feature special goodies to eat, champagne for those who effervesce, fun, games and a pleasant program of **OLD COLMA MEMORIES**, bringing back items that made the **Tattler** and the **Record** in the days when our population was very small, and everybody knew one another.



COLMA TOWN HALL

When we say **members only** we mean those who have been dues-payers during 1992. All those who are on the mailing list, but have not joined the Guild, may do so at the party, at the very modest membership cost:

Senior/Students	\$ 2/year
Individual	\$ 4
Family	\$ 6
Patron	\$25 or more

The Colma Town Hall, that architectural gem at Serramonte and El Camino Real, is made available to the Guild this one-day-a-year, and we are so indebted to Frances Liston, Colma City Manager, for the township's cooperation. We also appreciate the help of the City of Daly City, who lends the Guild 50 chairs for use at the Birthday Party, to augment those from Colma's supply.

Come early, get a good seat, eat, drink, reminisce. It's **A PARTY!**

## DUES ARE DUE

With this issue of the **Tattler** members receive their **DUES RENEWAL** notice, prepared so efficiently by Guild Treasurer **Roz Babow**. Send them in the envelope provided, or bring them to the Birthday Party on the 24th.

We've been spending more money lately, especially on the cases for the **Mini-Museum**, and our half of the **Blimp Mystery** plaque, so we need to replenish the coffers by means of the dues, still the least-expensive organization to join that we know.

Our Guild policy is to enroll those interested in our local DC/Colma history by means of sign-up sheets at Guild meetings, or at extra functions, such as **Victorian Days**, **Celebration of the Arts**, **Gateway Festival**, etc., and to put them on the mailing list during the year. Then, when the new year arrives, to send out a dues notice to see if they wish to join. Most do...hooray for us!

## NOVEMBER MEETING WAS A MUSICAL MEMORY MELANGE

Our November 18th meeting was a real blast, with about 100 enthusiastic members and friends present, to hear **Joe Marchi**, director of the Center for the American Musical at Canada College, comment on and play segments of popular music of 1942, songs that **WE WENT TO WAR SINGING!**

Members sang out with great vigor as the memories of that time 50 years ago brought back those special times that are etched so deeply in our psyches.

Six tables of WWII artifacts, weapons, flags, uniforms, badges, posters, signal flags, ship and aircraft pictures and models were on display, carefully tended by Director **Ted Babow**. It was a stirring display, and with lots of wartime stories buzzing back and forth.

Librarian Emeritus **Sam Chandler** was present, and congratulated the Guild on the progress of our group, especially on the opening of the **Mini-Museum**. It was great to see **Sam**, who was the nucleus around which the Guild was formed, from earlier groups in the 1970's to its present state.

The raffle was a lot of fun, with 5 great prizes, including a \$20 gift certificate for Safeway, from Cypress Lawn; two beautiful plants from member **John Olcese** of John's Nursery; a cook book and place mats from a "friend of the Guild."

Goodie donors were thanked: **Carl/Bea Hoppe**; **Lola Garcia**; **Evelyn Martin**; **Bunny Gillespie**; **Bianca Caserza**; **Lou Craviotto**, and for the cash contribution by **Dennis Lipsett**. Refreshments were served by **Mary Hutchings'** great committee, **Marilyn Olcese**, **Bob/Enid Williams**. Beautiful floral decor by **Marilyn** graced the tables.

A Guild Certificate of Appreciation was presented to member **Russ Brabec**, in recognition of his continuing work on behalf of the Guild, the saving of relevant newspaper and magazine articles, finding of historic artifacts, researching, and for having the interests of the Guild very much in mind. We thank you, **Russ**, so very, very much!

### POETRY CONTEST UPDATE

The Guild is participating in the 12th ANNUAL DALY CITY POETRY CONTEST and SHORT STORY COMPETITION. Sponsored by the Poetry Guild of the History, Arts & Science Commission, this year's event includes a new category, subject matter relative to Daly City or Colma, and by entrants who are residents of our two communities.

The awards ceremony will take place at Serramonte Library on **Saturday, February 6, 1993, at 2:00 pm**. Winners will receive cash awards, in the DC/Colma category from the Guild.

Content of our Guild-sponsored segment must relate to our locale, be

historically accurate, and reflect feelings about life in DC and/or Colma.

The judging committee for our category will be chaired by Guild member and long-time Colma resident **Bianca Caserza**.

### DC RECORD, 65 BOUND VOLUMES

We are most grateful to the **San Mateo Times**, who have donated to the Guild collection 65 bound volumes of the Daly City Record, some as early as 1913. It is wonderful to have a "hands-on" availability of the early newspapers. Most are on micro-film at Serramonte Library, but running through them page-by-page is a very tedious, eye-burning activity.

Now, with the bound volumes we can quickly find something of a particular time frame. The volumes are stored in a temporary dry, safe, well-secured volunteer location, for which we are so very grateful also.

### MINI-MUSEUM ONGOINGS

Our **MINI-MUSEUM** at Serramonte Library is attracting a gentle stream of visitors at its downstairs locale. Recognizing the current short-time open hours limitation, we are very encouraged by those who have seen our bold picture of John Daly, the arrow pointing downstairs, and have responded to the invitation.

Sometimes the patrons are groups of children, sometimes couples or individuals. There was a special display which recognized the Christmas decorations and activities in Westlake and its Shopping Center, offered by Guild member **Eddie King**. A front-page picture in the Record brought memory-seekers, one of which was a descendent of an early-day Daly City politician, and for whom we were able to provide a photo copy of her grandfather as a young man.

Volunteers for the Tuesday open time are earnestly solicited. All we need are Guild members who will staff

the desk in the Mini-Museum for 1½ hours on a Tuesday afternoon, from 1 to 2:30 p.m. You only need to be there, not be an expert, just make visitors welcome, and point to the three main historic time zones that the Museum embraces. Everything is captioned or self-explanatory.

Please give Bunny Gillespie a call(755-5123) if you'd like to help out for a Tuesday time slot. We take volunteers for a one-shot activity; it's as simple as that. Besides, you meet a lot of interesting people, and delightful children.

Our Guild is the only continuing source of Daly City/Colma history information, and we are proud of our ability to provide our citizens even this small glimpse.

### ATTENTION - GOODIE VOLUNTEERS

Refreshment donors for the meeting at Colma Town Hall on January 24th include the following nice folks:

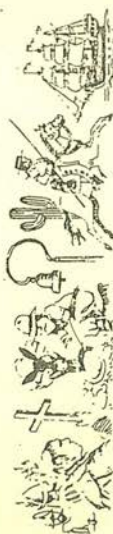
FRAN BULLARD  
FRAN KELLY  
STELLA SMITH  
BOB STUTE  
ESTHER APPLETON  
DORIS HILL  
JEAN GALLAGHER

Mary Hutchings will phone you before the event to confirm...okay?

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

Ken Gillespie - president	755-5123
Neil Fahy - vice-president	756-2753
Bunny Gillespie - secretary	755-5123
Roz Babow - treasurer	994-7662
Ted Babow - director	994-7662
Yolanda Hardiman - director	589-0188
Elaine Riney - director	992-4696
Walter Riney - director	992-4696

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