

# THE TATTLER

Vol. 16, No. 2 Nov.,1997

Journal of the History Guild of Daly City/Colma

### PIG SURPRISE AT NOVEMBER MEETING

At one time there were thousands of pigs gracing the hills and dales of Colma and Daly City, and as recently as 1968 the swill and swine business was a very prominent and profitable activity in our North County.

However, the snuffles and snouts gave way to subdivisions and we no longer see the big swill trucks chugging their way up what is now Eastmoor, nor sense the olfactory occasions that met our own equipment on certain days when the conditions were just ripe (whoops) right!

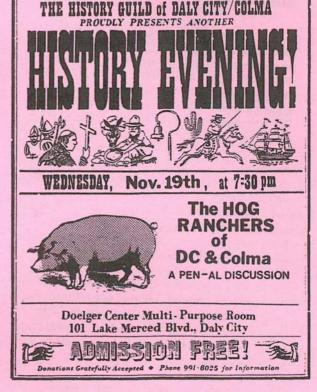
At our November 19th meeting we will be privileged to meet and greet and hear from a select group of former hog ranchers of Colma and Daly City, personalities who knew the ins and outs of what was called PIG BUSINESS.

Coordinating the program is Guild Director Marilyn Olcese, a descendant of pioneer Colma hog ranchers, whose family operated the last large spread off Hillside Boulevard.

When the Gillespies lived at the top of Gilman Drive in Broadmoor in the early '50's, a daily sight was the swill trucks from San Francisco, bringing out the tasty tidbits from the many restaurants that supplied the hog hors d'oeuvres to the nearby ranches.

All members who have recollections of the hog operations in our area are invited to participate in the program. The format will be very informal and relaxed.

Guild Director Russ Brabec will supply area maps which will enable general locations of the former hog ranches to be located for



inclusion in the Guild historical collection. Already several locations have been pinpointed by Guild member Lou Craviotto, and Program chair Bunny Gillespie is very optimistic that a good deal of information will beforthcoming at the meeting.

Pictures of the hog operations are especially solicited with the hopes that we can add some new pictures to the Guild collection.

So, snuffle on down to Doelger Center for the big meeting on Wednesday, November 19th, at 7:30 pm, and we promise that you all will go absolutely HOG WILD!

### MONUMENTAL EVENING PRESENTED BY CYPRESS LAWN

The beauty of the monuments, stained glass and landscaping was splendidly presented at our September meeting by Robert Robinson, director of marketing of Cypress Lawn Memorial Park.

Introducing a superb new art book, Mr. Robinson used brilliant slides to reveal contents of the lovely publication, and also o made two copies available to the Guild, one of which was a much sought after drawing prize Director Mark Weinberger gave a report on his discussion with the City about the possible use of Larcombe Hall in Westlake park as a future Guild Museum. Currently in use as a substitute for the Westlake Library during its reconstruction, the building would have made an ideal location for the Museum as well as the Friends of the Daly City Library. There is adequate space, plenty of parking, the site is level and well lit, and in every way would have been a great relocation area.

However, when the Library moves back to Southgate on completion of the revamp, Larcombe Hall will revert to the Parks and Rec Department as a much-needed (and used) rental facility. Oh, well, many thanks to Mark for his earnest endeavor.

### MINI-MUSEUM HITS THE FIVE-YEAR MARK!

The Guild's Mini-Museum at the Serramonte Library was FIVE YEARS OLD on Sept. 8th last. It's hard to believe that time has passed so quickly. Open every Tuesday when the Library is open, we continue to attract a well-rounded group of youngsters, researchers, and the curious, who read about it in the Pink Section of the Chronicle and other publications.

We are deeply indebted to the very faithful docents who are in attendance nearly every week, Walter Schultz, Don Manning, Collins Orton, Ken and Bunny Gillespie and Dick Larsen, who regularly brings a charming neighbor, Bernice.

# DEAR OLD COL



### SPECIAL JANUARY FUN MEETING SLATED FOR GUILD BIRTHDAY

After talking about it for years, the Guild is going to produce the musical comedy, "Dear Old Colma" to help celebrate its January birthday on Sunday, January 18th!

The play will be produced by the Guild, and will feature several members in key roles. Music will be taped, songs and dialogue will be live, in radio program format, inasmuch as most of the cast aren't too hot about memory work.

Produced originally in 1960 at Broadmoor Presbyterian Church on 87th Street, the show tells the story of a Colma farmer (somewehere off Hillside Blvd) who is making noises about selling out to developers. His wife is anxious to move into town (Daly City, that is) but his three talking pigs (Snuffles, Mudpie and Fatty) are most unhappy at the prospect.

A dilemma arises when *Dad Gumm*, a Colma farmer, his wife *Ma Gumm* and his daughter *Tender Gumm* meet up with bigshot

## MA - MAY 6-7, 1960



Shown is a flyer for the original production of **Dear Old Colma** back in May of 1960.

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developer Jollie Ollie and house salesman Tellem and Sellem McGuire. Romance brews between McGuire and Tender. The pigs let it be known that they can talk and protest the proposed sale. Let's just say for now that everything comes out okay in the end!

There is a cast of 12, plus a narrator to set the scenes, and 10 songs. Already committed to participate are members Russ and Eunice Brabec, Lee Robinson, Mark Weinberger, Bunny Gillespie and writer, producer and director Ken Gillespie and Bob Salazar.

The show has been presented at Broadmoor several times, and some original cast members will be recreating their roles from previous performances.

Location for the Birthday Party/Show is not yet firmed, but will be announced in plenty of time via the January Tattler.

### WHO'S A-BRINGIN' THE SWILL FOR THE PARTY?

The following pigshots have signed up to bring refreshments for the Nov. 19th do, and we do appreciate their volunteering:

Evelyn Franco Julia Padreddii Selma Riba Pat Hatfield Trude Erlich Betty Schultz

Mary Hutchings, Hospitality chair, will give you a hog call shortly before the meeting, and her number is 756-0864 in case there's a problem of any kind. She will be assisted at the refreshment tables by Marilyn Olcese, Bob and Enid Williams.

### VICTORIAN DAYS WAS A REAL VICTORY

The annual fund-raiser of the San Mateo County Historical Association, Victorian Days in the Park was held over the weekend of August 23-24, and our Guild held down a most prominent booth area on History Lane.

We were blessed by a bountiful bunch of Guild volunteers, who came down to stake a place, set up the tent and displays, staff the booth during open fair hours, and dismantled the activity at closing time.

As usual, we sprinkled the hot flesh of passers-by with our own bottled Daly City/Colma air, specially condensed for the fair each year, and which always gets a lot of laffs from the crowd.

The following members were so very helpful throughout the weekend:

Marilyn Olcese, Linda Abbey, Walter Riney, Mark Weinberger, Dick Larsen, Russ Brabec, Yolanda Hardiman, Elinor Charleston, Kathryn Caserza, Don Manning, Ken Gillespie, Bunny Gillespie, Mildred Eschler and Betty Schultz.

#### **COLLECTION ADDITIONS**

Very welcome gifts to the collection have been received from these very generous folks:

Wilda Tillmans - Video of the Briones ancestors of DC artist Gil Doyle

Mrs. George Herson - Daly City newspaper reports, selected, 9/63 - 5/69

Marlene Harris Sheridan - 1948 Rec. Department awards, certificates and 1st place, delivered through Marilyn Olcese

Mark Weinberger - 1994 Rec. Dept. participation trophy

Frank Franceschini - 1997 photos around Daly City with emphasis on Thornton House location on Sullivan

John Tealde -Thornton House doorbell, delivered through the City offices of Terry Sedik and Stan Gustafson

Carolyn Opperman - Scrapbooks containing pressed local wildflowers, 1942

Bill Fort - 1955 Daly City Police Department group photo

Trudie Gfroerer - DC employee awards certificates, invitations, newspaper clipping.

Betty Schultz - New, colored art work of the logo design for the Jefferson Union High School District

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

Ken Gillespie	President	755-5123
Mark Weinberger	Vice-President	755-0612
Bunny Gillespie	Secretary	755-5123
Russ Brabec	Treasurer	583-4985
Marilyn Olcese	Director	755-5616
Elaine Riney	Director	992-4696
Walter Riney	Director	992-4696
Albert Teglia	Director	755-1792

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