



Journal of the History Guild of Daly City/Colma

Musical Comedy Bows at May 20th Guild Meeting

The big shew will now go on. Having been postponed by the forces of Mama Nature last January 18th, the all-stare cast of "DEAR OLD COLMA!" will hit the boards of the Doelger Center Theater on Wednesday, May 20th at 7:30 pm.

Couched in radio-style, with actors/singers at the microphones, "DEAR OLD COLMA!" tells the musical story of the Gumm family of Colma in the early 1950's, when developers were gobbling up the choice Colma farm lands at tempting prices, and the effect of such purchase offers on the farm dwellers, including 3 talking pigs, who feared for their future existence.

The play was first produced at Broadmoor Presbyterian Church on 87th Street in 1960, and several of the original cast are back in the farm traces again. Del Severy, long time choir director at BPC, Ken and Bunny Gillespie will pick up the musty manuscripts once again, ably assisted by Russ and Eunice Brabec, Doug and Bonnie Cobb, Lee Robinson, Shirley Love, Marian Hardin, Kirk Kelly, BobSalazar and Mark Weinberger.



Picture taken in 1960 of the original cast of the show.

THE HISTORY GUILD of DALY CITY/COLMA
PROUDLY PRESENTS ANOTHER

HISTORY EVENING!

WEDNESDAY, May 20, 1998 at 7:30 pm

A Musical Comedy
about life in
"DEAR OLD COLMA!"
with an all - stare cast of
local extroverts!

Doelger Center Multi- Purpose Room
101 Lake Merced Blvd., Daly City

ADMISSION FREE!

Donations Gratefully Accepted ♦ Phone 901-8025 for Information

Del Severy will be the accompanist on his keyboard, and also recreating his original role as "Dad Gumm", Colma farmer. Ken Gillespie portrays "Jollie Ollie", big-time real estate developer who buys up Colma and Daly City acreage and fills the place with "houses from the mountains to the sea", because "everything's up to date in Daly City!"

The show has lots of laughs, lots of references to our farmlands off Hillside Boulevard, the Skyline Dump, and, if you wish to see the area about which the play was written, just drive along Hillside past the turnoff to the Cypress Hills Golf Course and note the flower and vegetable patches that line the north side of the road, with stands of eucalyptus trees as windbreaks.

Besides the show, there will be the nomination and election of officers for the ensuing Guild Year of 1998-1999. Below is a preliminary listing of nominees as presented by Nominating Chair **Betty Schultz**.

President	Ken Gillespie
Vice President	Mark Weinberger
Secretary	Bunny Gillespie
Treasurer	Russ Brabec
Board Member	Marilyn Olcese
Board Member	Walter Riney
Board Member	Al Teglia

Additional nominations may be made from the floor, with the proviso that any persons so named must have agreed to have his/or her name placed on the ballot. Such persons must be present at the meeting or have delivered a statement of assent.

Rec Department Meet a Winner

The history of the Parks and Recreation Department was beautifully delivered on March 18th by Director **Mike Stallings**, who, with the assistance of **Ed Barney** and **Steve Geramoni** laid out the remarkable growth of the once modestly-sized City of Daly City and the resulting needs for parks and recreation.

The display tables were groaning with scrapbooks and photographs, lovingly collected over the years in testament to the games, tournaments, arts, crafts, races, outings, and all the differing programs that the P & R people have enriched our lives with over the last 60 years.

Guild Vice-President **Mark Weinberger** and Director **Al Teglia** acted as co-auctioneers for the sale of several Daly City street signs which had been replaced by the smart, new seagull jobs. There was a starting price of \$25 for each of those signs selected, and some spirited bidding. Persistent bidders and winners were **Marilyn Olcese** (*Olcese Court*), **Angela Uccelli** (*Station Ave.*), **Jedeiah Esteves** (*Junipero Serra*) and **Pat Hatfield** (*Mission Street*).

Cake which had been purchased for the January 18th Birthday Bash at Colma Town Hall was taken home that stormy afternoon and put in the **Gillespie** freezer for future use. The cakes were brought to life for the March meeting and served tastefully by **Mary Hutchings'** livewire Hospitality Committee, **Bob/Enid Williams** and **Marilyn Olcese**.

Present and former City officials are regular in attendance at our meetings and March 18th's was no exception. We were pleased to greet former mayor/councilman **Bill Schumacher**, current councilwoman **Carol Klatt**, former mayor/councilman **Al Teglia**, City Clerk **Helen Flowerday**, JUHSD Trustee **Betty Schultz**.

How the Cookie Crumbles

Volunteers for the Goodie Brigade who signed up at the last meeting are listed below. Chair **Mary Hutchings** will give you a last moment ding-a-ling to remind you to get the cookie pans greased and the Pillsbury Bake-off recipes in hand in preparation for the **May 20th** cookie caravan.

Pat Hatfield
Bianca Caserza
Robert/Eleanor Smyth
Fran Kelly
Helen Flowerday
Angela Uccelli
Julia Padreddii

If there's any problem, as the time approaches, give **Mary** a call at **756-0864** And, continuing appreciation is extended for your generosity and willingness.

Looking to the Future

Looking to the future: Upcoming meetings of the Guild, in case you might wish to mark your calendars, are set for:

Wed. Sept. 16, 7:30 p.m. Doelger Center.

Wed., Nov. 18, 7:30 p.m., Doelger Center.

Sunday, Jan. 24, 2 p.m., Colma Town Hall.

The September program will focus on the history of Daly City's pioneer high school, Jefferson. The November program will host Fire Chief **Bob O'Donnell** who will recall some of the history of that department as well as bringing us up to date on services of the fire laddies and ladies.

Don't Throw It...Show It!

Another reminder : IF you happen to be cleaning out old papers, pamphlets, trinkets, photos, and general stuff that relates directly to life as it has been over the years in Daly City/Colma and the north county please don't just

chuck into a discard bin. Your would-be throwaways just might be a link to the past that would add new dimension to the Guild collection of "archival" material, some of which we have room to display in the Mini-Museum (Tuesdays, from 1 p.m. until 2:30 p.m. in the Reference Room, downstairs, at the Serramonte Branch of the DCPL in Gellert Park.) If you're not sure whether there's an interest in your finds, a phone call to the Board of Directors, or a visit to the MM with them, could put your mind at ease.

Every now and then we are contacted by people who have old scrapbooks of now-defunct local organizations that have been stored in their home for all too long. We thrive on that kind of material, and urge donations of same.

Victorian Days in the Park

Another couple of dates for your book: the annual Victorian Days in Central Park for the benefit of the San Mateo County Historical Assn. will be presented on Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 29 & 30. At the May 20 Guild meeting we shall be passing around a sign-up sheet to collect names and phone #'s of those interested in helping out at the Guild's display booth either or both days. Shifts are usually scheduled in 2-hours increments, allowing lots of time for volunteers to nose around elsewhere in the Park and enjoy the festivities of the event. It's a gala al-fresco party, with lots of crafts, on-stage activities, food stalls, and—our favorite – things to see in History Lane.

Guild Pics Get New Visibility

On April 7th last a brand-new Lucky Store was opened for business on the same location as the former Mission Bell Motel, long a landmark in Daly City. The **Guild** was contacted by a member of the Lucky management, **Gene Toulouse**, who indicated a desire to mount some vintage photo reproductions in key locations of the store. Looking through the files, a dozen and a half of pix were selected and copied by Lucky for current and future mountings. When you visit the huge new store you will see a few of the first pictures located near the north entrances, with more to be placed as time goes by.

Friends of the Library May 12th

An invitation is extended to members and friends of the **Guild** to attend a meeting of the **Friends of the Daly City Library** at their regular meeting on **Tuesday, May 12 at 7:00 pm** in the Café Doelger, which we lovingly refer to as the Multi-Purpose Room of the Doelger Center.

Speakers for the evening will be **Bunny** and **Ken Gillespie**, on the History of the Daly City Library, which dates from February 1916, just 5 years after the incorporation of Daly City itself.

Miscellaneous Stuff

Here's any opportunity to be helpful to a friend of the **Guild**. A questioner is seeking a current contact for the Druids organization, which was, and perhaps might still be active locally. If you have any info regarding this, please contact **Bunny G.**

Did you happen to see that gossip-column item in the SF Chronicle a while back, quoting member **Lanty Molloy** about the most-visited cemetery in Colma?

The answer turned out to be **Pet's Rest!** So, you do learn something new every day!

60 Years Ago in the Record

The May 6, 1938 Daly City Record printed stories about these subjects:

- Jefferson High gymnasium and pool ready for use. Gov. Frank Merriam to be the honored guest speaker at dedication ceremonies.
- Mr. & Mrs. Eddie Dennis are proud parents of a baby boy, nearly 9 lbs., to be named Eddie Jr.
- Don Ameche and Sonja Henie reunited in "Happy Landing" at Daly City Theater.
- Vireno's Market is selling Vireno's DeLuxe Whisky at a price of \$1.00 a pint.
- National Auto Ford at 7370 Mission offers a brand new Tudor sedan. \$729, with mohair or broadcloth upholstery. 123 inch springbase.

Many Thanks for the Donations

Items have been donated to the **Guild** in a delightful spectrum from the following sincere donors:

Nancy Dutton - BART display board, mounted with "Gateway Book", program and coins. Also a blank message board for temporary notices.

Lena Ciarlo Rossi - 1926 bill of sale re the Daly City Scavenger Co. and a vintage photo of two men on a two-horse wagon, possibly Albert Silicani with Mike Ciarlo. These items were brought by Marilyn Olcese.

Ernie & Pearl Bloom - 1963-64 Daniel Webster School PTA outside publicity binder.



Mike Stallings - DC Recreation Dept. scrapbooks 1947-50, 1954-64, 1965, 1966-71, 1971-74, 1975-79.

Ed Barney - Vintage Recreation Department group picture taken at the Westlake Bank of America.

Marian Mann - Memorabilia regarding Peter Tolovi, JHS diploma, class pic, deed, US Army paylog, Bank of America passbook, 1919 birth certificate.

Bart & Jane Longo - Book listing local wireless radio stations and operators, ship radio call signs, etc. Included is a full chapter on KPH, a local station at Hillcrest in Daly City.

Frank Franceschini - 24 colored prints of Daly City construction/demolition scenes, Thornton House, Lucky Market, Schoolhouse Station, Clean Up Day, etc.

Mark Weinberger - 1967 show program, Daly City Garden Club, and 3 award ribbons.

Tom & Mary Walter - 1955 Daly City map, delivered from Iowa via Marilyn Olcese.

Marlene Sheridan - Scrapbook of news clips and pictures from 1960 Daly City Players drama presentation, also delivered via Marilyn Olcese.

Marilyn Olcese - History of the Daly City Fire Service, 1974, written by Richard Verducci.

Many thanks to the generous donors who continue to swell the **Guild** collection with their thoughtful gifts.

**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
Walter Riney	Director	992-4696
Albert Teglia	Director	755-1792

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Daly City, CA 94015



THE BROADMOOR BRITTLE PLAYERS
proudly present

* Dear Old Colma! *

an original comedy with music
written and presentd first in 1960
by Ken Gillespie

** THE CAST **

DAD GUMM (a Colma farmer)	DEL SEVERY
TENDER GUMM (Dad's daughter)	BONNIE COBB
FATTY (a Colma hog)	KIRK KELLY
SNUFFLES (another hog)	RUSS BRABEC
MUDPIE (yet another hog)	BOB SALAZAR
CARPENTER FOREMAN	BUNNY GILLESPIE
CARPENTER	SHIRLEY LOVE
CARPENTER	LEE ROBINSON
CARPENTER	MARIAN HARDIN
MA GUMM (Dad's wife)	EUNICE BRABEC
TELLEM & SELLEM McGUIRE (ace real estate salesman)	DOUG COBB
JOLLIE OLLIE (developer)	KEN GILLESPIE
NARRATOR	MARK WEINBERGER
KEYBOARD ACCOMPANIST	DEL SEVERY

** THE STORY **

Dear Old Colma is the story of a Colma farmer, his wife and daughter, his pigs, a real estate developer and his ace salesman and crew in the early 1950's, when the landscape was rapidly changing from nearly all-agriculture to housing tracts. It was presented at Broadmoor Presbyterian Church in May 1960.

**** MUSICAL NUMBERS ****

Oh, What a Horrible Morning Del Severy
(A hog farm in the Colma foothills)

Many a New House Bunny Gillespie
(The carpenters arrive) Lee Robinson
Marian Hardin
Shirley Love

I Won't Say Yes! Bob Salazar
(Hogs get stirred up) Kirk Kelly
Russ Brabec

Out of This House Eunice Brabec
(Ma Gumm reflects on things)

Chrysler with the Canvas Top Doug Cobb
(Salesman turns on charm) Bonnie Cobb

Pore Mud Is Daid The Hogs
(Hogs lament about Mudpie)

Daly City Ken Gillespie
(Jollie Ollie on Daly City) & the cast

The Farmer and the Builder Ensemble
(Let's try to get along together)

People Will Say We're in Love Doug Cobb
(Love begins to bloom in Colma!) Bonnie Cobb

Dear Old Colma Ensemble
(Things may change, but Colma is Colma)

The History Guild of Daly City/Colma expresses sincere appreciation to the Township of Colma for their generous hospitality in the use of the Council Chambers for this meeting which celebrates the 16th birthday of the Guild. Happy New Year, EVERYBODY!

