



THE TATTLER

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Journal of the History Guild of Daly City/Colma

The SF Earthquake of 1906: Lessons in Leadership

Neil Fahy, the Guild's globe-trotting former Vice-President, will be the speaker for the Wednesday, May 21, 7:30 p.m. membership meeting at the Doelger Center's multi-purpose room.

Neil has brought his wit and wisdom to the Guild on several previous occasions, and is always a favorite with attendees. At our next meeting, Neil has chosen to discuss "The San Francisco Earthquake of 1906: Lessons in Leadership". (Food for thought: Daly City *might* not have come into city-dom IF that Quake had not happened.)


A popular and informative speaker aboard cruise ships for the past few years, Neil has spoken to the Guild about "People of the Earthquake", "Golden Gate Park", "San Mateo County People and the Klondike", "San Bruno Mountain", and "How to Climb Your Family Tree."

A geologist-historian, Neil is the author of "SMC Sourdoughs in the Klondike & Nome Gold Rushes of 1896-1900", "Simplified Mineral Identification" and many other published articles. He and his late wife, **Clair**, were co-authors (with **Ken & Bunny Gillespie**) of the Guild's organizational by-laws.


A person with strong local ties, his mother was born in 1902 on a truck farm then located near the present site of the DC BART station. She was present to hear her son speak to the Guild in 1992 and was feted with a commemorative plaque from **Mayor Jane Powell** and a rousing version of "Happy Birthday."

THE HISTORY GUILD of DALY CITY/COLMA
PROUDLY PRESENTS ANOTHER

HISTORY EVENT!




Wednesday, May 21, 2003, 7:30 p.m.



Story of
THE
SAN FRANCISCO
EARTHQUAKE

"Lessons In
Leadership....
1906 style"
with Neil Fahy

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



ADMISSION FREE!

Donations Gratefully Accepted • Phone 755-5123 for Information

Vintage Top-of-the-Hill BW Home Movies Delight March 19 Meeting

It was a dark and rainy night, and The War had just been launched.... Even so, a sizeable crowd of nostalgia buffs was at Doelger Center as vintage black & white home movies were shown at our March 19 meeting. Focusing on the **Daly City/Colma Lions Club**, organized in March of 1941, the films are titled "Charter Members at Work". They were shot by the Daly City Record's chief photographer, **Dale Hovey**, just months

before the onset of WW II, and are now part of the Guild's precious archival collection.

Hovey's three vintage film reels were donated to The Guild in May, 1987, by City Hall's **Don Fleming**. They were translated into video tape for the Guild in 1999, thanks to friend-of-the-Guild **Bill Verducci**. **Mr. Fleming**, was among those introduced at the meeting.

Thanks to **Mike Stallings** and the DC Parks & Recreation Dept., the Guild utilized equipment maintained by DCP&R, to show the films.

Members of DC's three current **Lions clubs** received special invitations to attend the presentation. **Lions** responding brightened the meeting hall in their cheery yellow vests, bedecked with badges. Side tables groaned under a generous display of **Lions** materials, shared with the Guild for the evening. A brief overview of current **Lions** activities was given by **Mike Scott**.

The second part of the footage, will be saved for another History Evening, the date to be announced.

Recalling Earlier Days

From **Joe Rinaldi** came a note to **Marilyn Olcese** recently, recalling his family's moving to Colma in the early 1900s. Now a resident of St. Francis Heights, Joe reports that his mother, the late **Mary Louise (Mrs. Italo) Rinaldi** attended Thornton and Jefferson schools. At Jeff, she was one of the "Five Marys", all in one class! Surviving are **Mary Garibaldi Hutchings**, our faithful refreshment chairlady, and **Mary Pagelli**. Others were **Mary Freccero** (his mother); **Mary Gaggero**; and **Mary Ciarlo**.

Born in Fascia, Italy, in 1913, **Mary Rinaldi** came to San Francisco with her mother, **Eda Varni**. **Eda** married **Frank Freccero** two years later, moved out of SF, and started farming in Colma. **Joe's** uncle, **Frank**, was born in 1917, and

became a long-time Colma fireman. Both youngsters helped with farm chores, including the delivery of milk door-to-door on Railroad and Sylvan avenues. **Joe** wrote "My mother met **Italo Rinaldi** at a picnic. They dated for seven years, and were great dancers. She is missed." (We add our sympathy to him, and thank **Joe** and **Marilyn** for his wonderful memories of times past.)

Election Upcoming

Betty Schultz, ongoing chair of the HG's nominating committee, has again searched for members eager to serve with the HG Board. Nominations, elections, and installations are set for our annual meeting, May 21. Our By-Laws state the committee will "report to the Board not less than 30 days prior (ie by April 16) to the annual meeting. The Board shall approve or modify the Roster of Nominees to be recommended to the membership. Additional nominations may be made from the floor at the annual meeting, with prior approval of those so named." So far, so good. Members' votes are requested on May 21.

Important Date

Colma Historical Society, the Guild's nice sister-organization, will have a 10th Anniversary Celebration on Saturday, July 26, 2 p.m., in the Colma Town Hall. Updates on the moving of its museum to Hillside Blvd. will be reported.

News Notes From Wherever:

HG member **Verona Williams**, a 50-year resident of Colma/DalyCity, has contributed several vintage items to the Guild's collection for the Mini-Museum. Now living in Nevada, **Verona** said in a recent note "...re streets named after DC people, Westdale Avenue (in the Westlake Section of DC) was named after my husband, who was street engineer for **Doelger** at the time.) Thanks, **Verona**, for this fascinating bit of historical knowledge and allowing us to barter **Dale's** name after fifty years.

Thanks to generous people, The Guild's archival and nostalgic collection of locally related items has been enriched by recent contributions from the following :

- **Dick Morosi**—Sixty unique audio tapes of interviews with DC personalities ranging from **Archuleta** to **Zidich**, circa 1987. These have since been labeled by MM Volunteers **Lynne Tondorf** and **Betty Schultz**.
- **Margaret D. Richards** – Historical scrapbook documenting years of Westlake Subdivisions Improvement Assn. (WSIA) plus six glossy photos.
- **Frank Franceschini** -- Progress photos of DC businesses, construction, etc. (These are now sorted by subject matter, thanks to MMV **Lynne Tondorf**.)
- **Mr & Mrs John Slavos** – Permission to copy 1941 SF Chronicle aerial photo.
- **Pat Hatfield** -- BW glossy 1950s photo of uniformed DCPD officers **Sunderland**, **Hanson**, **Welsh** and **Schaffer** at Colma practice gun range. (Schaffer ID thanks to **Jim Bergstrom**.)
- **Brad Weinberger**, brother of **Mark W.**—photo (copy) of Colma Fire District tee-shirt w/ logo among WTC-tragedy memorabilia in New York display.
- **Virginia Simon** – Two 50th Anniversary newsletters re Holy Angels' Church School history and celebration.
- **Mike Markovich** – Six commemorative club badges re DC Host Lions and Skylions.
- **Mike Scott** -- Two 2001 DC Host Lions club badges noting "60 years of service."
- **Marian Mann** – Xerox copy of 1941 DC/Colma Lions' Charter Roster, with

names of 20 original members and officers.

From Library Board Agenda

The March 18 meeting of the Library Board included this City Capital Improvement Project timeline for construction at Serramonte Library, where our **Mini-Museum and archives** are located. Bid authorization is set for August 8, 2003; Construction award, Feb. '04; Construction to begin, April 4,'04, with April '05 noted for completion of Construction.

HG Memorial Book Lists Donors/Honorees

*Remember: Monetary Memorials may be sent to the History Guild Memorial Fund, 40 Wembley Dr., DC. 94015. The fund is earmarked for the benefit of a proper Daly City/Colma History Museum. Donors and honorees are recorded in our beautiful Memorial Book, which may be viewed on request at the Mini-Museum. **Thank You!** To the dear anonymous member that annually remembers beloved parents with a gift.*

Gateway Festival????

At this writing, The Guild has not been invited to participate in a 2003 Gateway Festival. At its April meeting, the HG Board voted to take part if asked. A sign-up board for volunteers will be passed at our May 21 History Evening meeting.

Cypress Lawn Tours 'n Talks

HG members and friends of **Cypress Lawn** are invited to note the dates for **The Heritage Foundation's** upcoming historical tours and talks: May 17, 1:30 p.m., tour of locations within park commences from Newall Chapel...May 18, 2 p.m., historical talk in Newall Chapel. Both events *free*. For reservations: (650) 550-8810 (tour); (650) 550-8811 (talk).



September IS on the Way

After May, the Guild will continue to host the Mini-Museum each Tuesday, from 1-2:30 p.m., at Serramonte Library (volunteers invited).

Our next membership meeting is set for September 17, 7:30 p.m., at Doelger Center.

Goodies For May Meeting

Again we look forward to munchies and beverages after our May 21 meeting. Those who signed the orange sheet at the March meeting and indicated they would bring goodies are **Janice Uccelli, Diane Pitto, and Bunny Gillespie**. As always, additional treats will be welcomed.

Yes, I (we) would like to join the
History Guild of Daly City/Colma.
(please print)

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

YEARLY DUES (renewed each January)

Senior/Student	\$4.00
Individual	\$6.00
Family	\$9.00
Patron/Business	\$26.00 (or more)

HISTORY GUILD OF DALY CITY/COLMA Officers and Directors

Ken Gillespie	President	(650)755-5123
Mark Weinberger	Vice-President	(650)755-0612
Bunny Gillespie	Secretary	(650)755-5123
Russ Brabec	Treasurer	(650)583-4985
Marilyn Olcese	Director	(650)755-5616
Walter Riney	Director	(650)992-4696
Albert Teglia	Director	(650)755-1792
Diane Pitto	Director	(415)584-9876

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