

Vol. 24, No.2 Nov. 2005

Journal of the History Guild of Daly City/Colma

# HISTORY GUILD MEETING 7:30 PM, NOV. 16 101 LAKE MERCED BL. DC

## LISA ANGELOT TO SALUTE RICCO LAGOMARSINO

Continuing the Guild's tradition of presenting reminiscences and histories of local families, the Wednesday, Nov. 16, 7:30pm, History Evening at Doelger Center's multi-use room will focus on local developer and business leader, **Ricco Lagomarsino**.

As arranged by vice-president and program chair, **Richard Rocchetta**, the guest speaker will be **Lisa Angelot**, a member of the current Board of Directors of First National Bank of Northern California, formerly First Northern Bank of Daly City. **Ms. Angelot** is the grand-daughter of **Mr. Lagomarsino**, one of the founders of the bank.

With his brother, William, Mr. Lagomarsino was instrumental in development of homes and apartments on the east side of Junipero Serra Blvd. after WWII. Their "Lagomarsino Insurance Building" was a Mission Street landmark for years. Both entrepreneurs were wellknown and highly respected in local business circles.



# <u>Greetings From</u> President Mark:

I am very pleased to report that at the September general meeting, the membership voted to ratify a board "The Guild officially recommendation: goes on record as supporting a permanent home for our museum...and that the preferred location is the John Daly Library at the Top-of-the-Hill." The city will be vacating that location when the new War Memorial Multiservices Building Mission St. is completed and the library relocated to that site. This is now the Guild's foremost priority.

We urge anyone who is so motivated to voice their support to our City Council. Whether you attend Council meetings, write a letter, telephone, or speak to Council members who are about in the community, it is essential that they hear from residents. The board plans to repeat its interest in the John Daly site to the Council, and hopefully impress upon it the importance of having a dedicated, permanent home for our collection of the community's shared history. Bv maintaining the focus and working all together, we can turn our long-cherished dream into a reality.

## FORMER RANGER DELIGHTS HG AUDIENCE

Donald M. Scott, a former ranger stationed at Thornton State Beach on the Daly City coast, was the guest speaker for the Sept. 21 meeting of the History Guild of Daly City/Colma at Doelger Center.

A former Skyline College instructor, **Mr.** Scott is in the process of writing a definitive biography of the late **George Rippey Stewart**, the noted author and UC professor whose literary works, include "*Earth Abides*" and "*Storm*".

Mr. Scott hopes to see restoration of the George Stewart trail on the SF/San Mateo coast. Stewart was a frequent visitor to Thornton Beach, according to Mr. Scott.

Mr. Scott was introduced by Program Chair/Vice-president Richard Rocchetta and presented with a Guild Certificate of Appreciation by President Mark Weinberger at the conclusion of his talk. Copies of Stewart's "Storm" and "Earth Abides" were generously inscribed and donated to the Guild by Mr. Scott.

## **Raffle Prizes Welcome**

The Raffle is a very important part of the Guild's fund-raising. Ticket-seller **Director Walter Riney** and prize-shepherd **Director Marian Mann** are the pleasant people that oversee availability of prizes and purchase of lucky tickets at Guild meetings. Donation of presentable takehome condition prizes is encouraged. Tix are three for \$1.00, or \$.50 each. Prizes may be brought to Guild meetings. For information, contact Marian. You, too, can get lucky!!!

#### Mark Your Calendar (Subject to change.)

<u>Nov.</u> 19, Noon, Holiday fea Time in Colma, fund raiser for Colma Historical Assn. at Colma's new Community Center, 1520 Hillside at F. St. \$20. per person. For reservations call (650) 757-1676.

Jan. 15, '06, 2 pm, Annual party for duespaid/paying Guild Members, Doelger Center.

#### Mini-Museum Volunteers And Donations Appreciated

"I would like to thank the regular Mini-Museum docents, **Don Manning, Betty Schultz, Russ Brabec, Ken Gillespie,** and **Bunny Gillespie,** for their continued support, and of course, we would like new docents to come in. Our training is quite simple, and we do not hold anyone to certain days. We just like to have coverage there. Thanks." Marilyn Olcese.

Recent contributions of interesting historical items relating to Daly City or Colma have been received, with appreciation, from the following:

Shirley Plank: 2004-5 Susan B. Anthony Elementary School "Silver Wolf Pride" yearbook and photo of Mrs. Plank's 3<sup>rd</sup>. grade class; Program from San Mateo County public safety memorial service, including local honorees.

Al Belotz: Chronicle clipping re Jefferson Award honoring former DC Mayor Al Teglia.

Jack and Naomi Jones: Unique and fragile school memorabilia, autograph books, and small photo albums made and carefully documented by the late beloved Jefferson School District educator,

## <u>Treat Donors</u> For November Meeting

Those who signed up to bring finger food for the Nov. 16 meeting are Judy and Eleanor Hnilo, Marie Brizuela, Janice and Angela Uccelli, Annette Hipona, Ken and Bunny Gillespie. Additions to the refreshment table are always welcome. Elinor Charleston, Hospitality Chair, will phone donors with a gentle reminder.



## **OF HISTORICAL INTEREST**

Westlake was the focus for HG member Rob Keil's feature article with lots of photos in the Fall issue of *AtomicRanch* magazine. Among those thanked at the end of the article were Guilders Betty Schultz, Sam Chandler, Bunny & Ken Gillespie, and library ladies Carol Simmons and Chela Anderson. Mr. Keil has thoughtfully donated a copy of AR for the minimuseum's collection of things interesting.

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According to the SF Chronicle, "St.Clair:1'll Take It Raw", self-published by Kristine Setting Clark, is now available. In it, Daly City's 1961 Mayor Robert St. Clair, is identified as "The Geek". DC Historians Ken & Bunny Gillespie, taking exception, fired off a letter to the Chron, pointing out that "here in Daly City, we still address Mr. St. Clair as "Mr. Mayor." The letter was published.

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Guild director Marilyn Olcese was quoted in Gourmet Magazine's October issue regarding her family's business (since 1930), Daly City pioneers in food recycling-from restaurant scraps to piggie yummies to compost/fertilizer for trendy gourmet gardens. Always eye-catching when parked near the Olcese residence on Edgeworth was member Alan Olcese's unique "Makin' Bacon" spic, span and shiny swill-pickup truck.

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Guild secretary Dana Smith's unique art was displayed at the 2005 Open Studios event in San Francisco's Fort Mason, mid-October. Her home-grown dahlias colorfully embellished the HG's Gateway Festival display table.

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Trader Joe's of Westlake has been supplied with captions by DC Historians Ken & Bunny Gillespie to embellish the store's display of six photos of local historical interest. The display, toward the rear of the shop, is in the passageway to the restrooms. "Interest is high," reports store manager Tiffany.

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Daly City Business Center, managed by HG Member Tess Lagandaon, will host an Open House on Thursday, Nov. 17, 2-4 pm, 355 Gellert Blvd., Suite #230, DC. <u>YOU ARE INVITED</u> to view the History Guild's "Arby Collection" of historic photos, currently on loan to the Center. The framed photos were donated to the Guild when Arby's Restaurant closed in Westlake. Light refreshments will be served. For infg: phone Tess or Menia Cato at 650-757-2060

## GATEWAY FESTIVAL VISITORS ENJOY HISTORY GUILD DISPLAY

Vintage newspapers, laminated for preservation, were among historic items displayed by the History Guild at the 2005 Gateway Festival in October. Again this year, visitors to Serra Bowl parking area were pleased to view our exhibits, ask questions, and even receive answers to some of their questions about local history.

Among those braving less than wonderful weather conditions to staff the display at the twoday event were John and Jean Gallagher, Jeanne Nelson, Elinor Charleston, Russ Brabec, Dana Smith, Rich Rocchetta, Don Manning, Mark Weinberger, Marilyn Olcese, Ken Gillespie and Bunny Gillespie. HG director Marion Mann was again Chairperson for the community activity.

## Memorial Book

Monetary tributes honoring living loved ones, and those in our memories, may be sent to the History Guild, 40 Wembley Dr., DC, 94015. Donations benefit realization of a proper/larger Daly City/Colma History Museum or for Guild operating expenses. Our beautiful Memorial Book may be viewed on request at the Mini-Museum. A memorial page, noting donors, is placed for each honoree. All contributions are appreciated and acknowledged as soon as possible. Recently-placed pages honor the memories of Elizabeth (Beth) Feeney and Ralph Jordan.

#### Looking Back In DC History

Perhaps YOU remember 1955, 50 years ago, when the local newspaper gave a potpourri of community news, including the following:

January – Mission Circle is being widened from 24' to 34' to allow two-way travel...Holy Angels Athletic Club has applied for a state license to sponsor wrestling matches...An Olivet Cemetery digger fell into a 6' deep grave, and waited ten minutes for rescue...Two local boys were nabbed by DC Police at the Serra Theatre. They had drained a quart of beer while watching Van Johnson "in a drunken stupor" on the screen.

March -- Police responded to a "Peeping Tom" complaint by a Frankfort Street resident.

April – Two silver dollars, six sweaters, and golf clubs were stolen from a Moltke Street home.

May—"Acropolis" won \$28,000 for a Brunswick Street bettor on the Irish Sweepstakes.

June – Parents of a Jefferson High student complained that their son had received his first alcohol at the "Misbehaven Teen Club."

July – Janet Watson won the Miss Daly City Contest, competing against seven other candidates.

August—Two Jefferson boys were selected to play in the first-ever East-West All-Star Prep football game at Kezar ....Police picked up an "unwanted visitor" to a Knowles Avenue garden. The chinchilla was returned to its owner.

October—Thornton Beach was ruled out by the DC Council as a fill and cover dump site.

November—The granddaughter of pioneer John A. Sutter (of Gold Rush fame) appealed to Congress for settlement of a 100-year old financial case. She lived on Acton Street.

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