

# THE MIRROR

The Richmond Museum Association Newsletter

Spring 2010

## CIVIC CENTER, BANK OF RICHMOND AND MID DORNAN RECOGNIZED FOR PRESERVATION

by Sandi Genser-Maack

The long-awaited revitalization of Richmond's Civic Center heads the list of people and projects being recognized at this year's Historic Preservation Awards.

### AWARD: STEVE DURAN AND THE RICHMOND CIVIC CENTER

Steve Duran, Director of Community and Economic Development for the City of Richmond, and the Civic Center were each nominated for the Historic Preservation Award. "When he was hired...Steve Duran might not have realized that he would become such a champion of historic restoration. But that is exactly what happened when he became lead City staff person on the Civic Center Revitalization project....By the time summer 2009 came...Steve was eloquent in his promotion of the rehabilitated Civic Center."

And in his nomination of the project, Duran says "The Civic Center Revitalization Project restored the Timothy Pflueger-designed Civic Center to its original glory, achieved LEED Gold Certification and maintained the site's historical significance as 'America's first modern Civic Center.' The goal for the exterior was to make it 1949 again, but better."

### AWARD: MID DORNAN

Mildred (Mid) Dornan, who is currently the long-serving President of the Pt. Richmond History Association, was nominated for her lifetime efforts toward preserving what is now the Pt. Richmond Historic District, and for her book, *Point Faithful: A 100-Year History of the First United Methodist Church, Point Richmond, California, 1900 - 2000*. Her nomination reads, "Mid has been actively involved in every activity and project involving the preservation of historic Point Richmond."

### AWARD: EL CERRITO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

"The Japanese nursery community in El Cerrito and Richmond traces its origins to 1900...by the time of World War II, there were 19 separate Japanese nurseries in the area." During that war, members of the Japanese community, including the flower growers, were evicted from the West Coast. Of those who returned, many found their homes and nurseries vandalized and their greenhouses shattered. Shortly after they restored their nurseries, the State announced plans to run the Eastshore

*Continued on page 7*

## FATHER'S DAY SALE: BOOKS AND MORE.....

Father's Day is Sunday, June 20th, and two exciting things are happening on the *Red Oak Victory Ship*!!!!

The first thing is the Father's Day Pancake Breakfast from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. for only \$6 per person, mimosas extra. The second thing is a sale of books and equipment in the #3 hold during the same hours.

On sale will be a large selection of nautical and military books and some maritime equipment not useful to the restoration of the Ship but of interest to collectors. Visit the Ship, enjoy the breakfast, and browse through a wealth of books and other things, at very reasonable prices.

## HISTORIC PRESERVATION AWARDS, RECEPTION

You are invited:

Monday, May 24th

5:00 p.m.

Richmond City Council Chambers

440 Civic Center Plaza

Reception following across the Plaza in the Lobby of the Auditorium

Book-Signing and Reception:  
*Building Richmond's Schools*

by Helen Pence.

Sunday, June 13th,

2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Seaver Gallery,

Richmond Museum of History

Refreshments served.

See p. 4 for more information

## FROM THE PRESIDENT...

We wish to thank you for your many phone calls and donations of historical documents in response to the recent article regarding the Travalini fire found on the front page of our Winter edition of *The MIRROR*. A careful review of that material and other research documents indicates that the article contained serious misunderstandings of the events that occurred in Richmond during that tragic four-day period of turmoil in 1968.

Jack Bradshaw, writer for *The Richmond Independent*, wrote, "A total of 17 fires were reported between 9 p.m. and midnight on the second night of rioting. Many were quickly snuffed by police-protected firemen. Others burned out eventually by themselves. Travalini's Furniture Store, a landmark in the city's business history, was destroyed by a fire bomb hurled through a window."

And, John D. O'Connor, staff writer for *The Times*, wrote, "Ned Carter, a 35-year-old Viet Nam veteran from North Richmond, said 'At night you see the glow in the sky and you know the buildings are burning. You're hoping that when daylight comes they'll be gone and something good and new will be here instead. But that's not the way it works; in the end all you've got left is a lot of land with burned-out buildings on it.'"

These articles, and others, clearly indicate that Travalini's was not singled out for destruction, but rather was one of many in the desperate expression of frustration that many felt at that time.

In regard to the theory that the fire might have been started by an opportunist hoping to get relief from a debt, and was successful, we learned that that was not the case. "The steel fire safe, containing all of our financial records, was the only thing standing there alone in the rubble," said Edith Travalini Paolini.

The following letter was mailed on June 27, 1968, to the Travalini friends and customers of the store: "This is to advise you, in the event you have not already heard, that our main store was destroyed by fire Wednesday night of this week. We were fortunate in many ways – our receivables are intact, our complete warehouse is relatively untouched and our branch store across the street is available as an immediate base of operations.

"We are carrying on 'business as usual' from our branch store and are already searching for additional and larger temporary quarters. This will enable us to continue servicing our many customers without interruption and to maintain our highly skilled staff.

"We have received many, many phone calls and wires, from far away places . . . . Again, we say that we will rebuild a much finer store because of the same staff and your wonderful patronage. We would appreciate your understanding, and in these times, your cooperation.

*Please see Travalini next column*

## MEET NEW MUSEUM

### STAFF

The Richmond Museum Association announces that new faces are staffing the Museum. Inna Soiguine, after a year as a Museum volunteer, is now our Administrative Museum Manager.

Inna's background includes several years of experience from the State Museum of Theatre and Music in St. Petersburg, Russia, and more recently at the Robert V. Fullerton Art Museum at California State University in San Bernardino. Her skills include proficiency in graphic and web design, software management, free-hand art (drawing, sketching, and watercolor), creation of marketing materials—including print ads, posters and exhibit catalogues—and conservation and maintenance of photographs, collection artifacts and related ephemera.

Under Inna's management, the Museum is open Wednesday through Sunday, 1:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m.

Assisting Inna is our new office clerk, Tracy Scott. Tracy comes to us through a County training program, learning office skills and also, under Inna's hand, museum management.

We invite you to visit the Museum during its open hours and welcome them.

## MUSICAL RIVETS TO RETURN

The successful musical production, "*RIVETS*," written by Kathy McCarty and scored by Mitchell Covington, will return in the fall of 2010 for its final showings. In its first run, the musical was performed in upper #3 hold: deck crew had cleared the area, built a hatch cover for the stage, and provided 150 seats for the audience. Another crew success!

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### *TRAVALINI, CONTINUED*

"These past few days have been a nightmare but after a new dawn and a new look at tomorrow has arrived, we are building for tomorrow with confidence."

Elvo Travalini, President; Pete Travalini, Vice President; Victor Paolini, Secretary

Some businesses rebuilt; others could not. The downtown was, of course, never the same.

*Lois Boyle, President*

*John Ziesenhenné, Vice President*

# VISIT THE GOLDEN STATE MODEL RAILROAD MUSEUM!

By John Morrison, General Manager

While the Golden State Model Railroad Museum is only 25 years old this year, the group of people that build and operate the layouts inside it, the East Bay Model Engineers Society (EBMES), is one of the oldest and largest clubs of its kind in the world.

EBMES was founded in 1933. It was located in various locations over the years, including Oakland and Emeryville. The society occupied the same building (on Halleck Street in Emeryville) for 45 years, until the property was sold.

In 1985 we relocated to a much larger space, our current building, located in Miller/Knox Regional Shoreline in Richmond. The original space was very large, but needed substantial renovation. The building had been occupied by various tenants over the years, most recently a paint manufacturer, and we needed to clean, redesign and renovate the interior as well as put on a new roof. At this time, the Golden State Model Railroad Museum was incorporated. Our goals were, and continue to be, to provide education to adults and children interested in model railroading, prototype railroad history and operations. We are a California non-profit corporation and qualify as a tax-exempt 501(c)(3), which means that we can accept tax-deductible donations. The actual layouts are constructed, operated and maintained by EBMES.

Many plans were formulated and examined. These considered not only the layouts, but the public spaces as well, to ensure that visitors would have the best possible experience when visiting our club. Visitors are not shoe-horned in as an afterthought; rather the building has an elevated central walkway, wheelchair access and controlled lighting.

Finally, in 1989, construction began on the three layouts you see today. We opened our doors to the public in 1991, and we continue to build and modify the layouts. As our many regular visitors know, there is always something new to see. This year all three layouts, N, HO and O scales—10,000 square feet in total—will be operating simultaneously.

We are now open from April through December on Wednesdays, noon to 5:00 p.m., Friday evenings, 7:00 to 10:00 p.m., and Saturdays, noon to 5:00 p.m. We don't charge admission on those days, but you may not see any trains running. On Sundays, noon to 5:00 p.m., we charge admission and have full crews in each layout with trains running.

We are located at 900-A Dornan Drive in Richmond on the Miller-Knox Regional Shoreline. We are wheelchair accessible.

Come visit us! We know that you will enjoy what you see.

For information, call (510) 234-4884 or check our website at [www.gsmrm.org](http://www.gsmrm.org) for more details.

# MUSEUM TO PUBLISH BOOK ON CHILDREN'S ART

by Clare Fischer

An exciting project based on the Museum's unique collection of children's art produced mainly during Richmond's "home front" years, is soon to be published by the Richmond Museum of History. Its author, Joseph Fischer, has written a book of text and illustration that provides documentation of hundreds of paintings, drawings and cut-and-paste works given to the Museum by Monica Haley, who served as the visionary art director of Richmond's child care centers for many years.

The book's purpose, Fischer writes in his introduction to *Children's Art and Children's Words: Richmond, California, 1943-1966*, is to "affirm the great value and distinctiveness" of

the art created by children who participated in the centers' rich and diverse program of activity.

The book's eight chapters include a comprehensive view of the historical setting of the children's day care centers, thematic elements of the collection, features of the center's educational approach and an instructive classification of the paintings reproduced in the volume. Fischer indicates that he has not written a theoretical study of

children's art. He provides the reader with a basic discussion of painting undertaken by the young artists who painted and drew in well-equipped environments and were supervised by highly-qualified teachers who fostered creativity of expression. Children's comments about their art work as well as that of famous artists they were introduced to are included in the volume. Words spoken by child-care participants and recorded by their teachers are included in the text, providing a sense of the young artists' insight and wit. Almost 200 color plates are reproduced in the text, inviting the reader to appreciate interpretations of: war and the home front, animals, holidays, trains, ships. Jan Brown's graphic design effort substantially contributes to the book's aesthetic value.

The Museum's preservation of and access to the children's art is notable. Several exhibitions (1993, 2007, and 2008) derived from the collection have given the viewing public a sense of the rich imaginative material associated with children's visual expression. Another display is planned in conjunction with the publication of the book. Although no specific date for the exhibition and book-signing has yet to be announced, it is anticipated that it will be in early summer.



One of many train layouts in Golden StateRR Museum

# URGENT NEED – DRYDOCK THE SHIP

Today, Americans have the task of preserving our country’s greatest natural and historical resources from being lost forever. Extraordinary places – from ancient cliff dwellings at Mesa Verde National Park to historic monuments in our own community – are at risk. Our urgent need exists right here with our own property, and we need your help.

Even though the hard work and dedication of the RMA and Ship supporters over the past ten years has enabled the Ship to become a living resource for youth and families in the Bay Area and across the nation, it isn’t enough. She won’t sail without the services that must be provided within the drydock.

We have launched a *Red Oak Drydock Campaign*, to be conducted in two phases:

## CERTIFICATES OF INVESTMENT

Savings Certificates, redeemable for passage on the Ship’s first cruise after drydock, are now being sold at \$20 each. The first cruise requires six (6) certificates, which will have an appreciated value of \$150 -- the cost of the first cruise. Certificates must be purchased by December 10, 2010, and are available in the Ship’s Gift Shop, or by calling the Ship’s office at (510) 237-2933.

## BECOME A DRYDOCK INVESTOR

Special gifts for you or your friends as drydock investors (depending on investment level):

- 1 - candle-lit dinner for two & overnight stay in the Captain’s Quarters;
- 2 – personal tour of the ship with a WW II home front historian
- 3 – complimentary tickets to Ship performances

Ask them to give now and join the growing number of Ship’s officers:

- Admiral ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ \$15,000 & above
- Commodore ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ \$10,000 & above
- Captain ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ \$7,500 & above
- Commander ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ \$5,000 & above
- Chief Engineer ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ \$2,500 & above
- Lieutenant ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ \$1,000 & above
- Ensign ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ \$500 & above
- Salty Sailor ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ \$100 & above

Call the office at (510) 237-2933 for details.

## HELP RAISE THE ANCHOR!

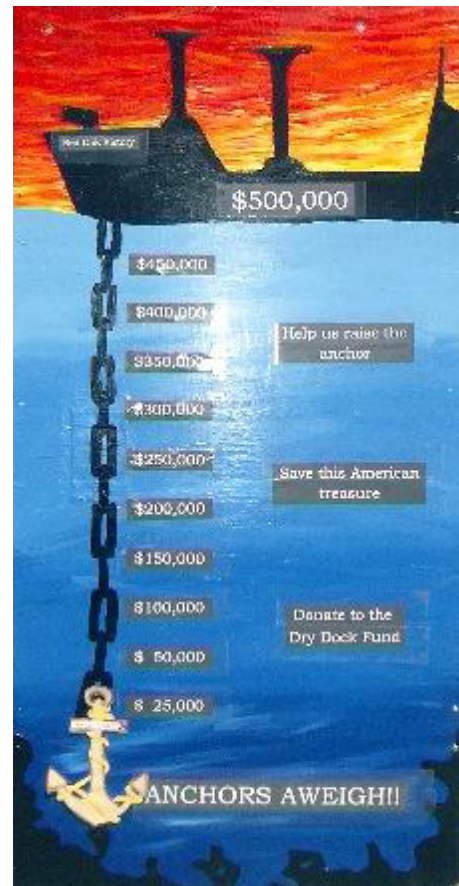
# HELEN PENCE TO AUTOGRAPH NEW BOOK

by *Maria Sakovich*

Between 1996 and 2005, former Richmond school teacher Helen Pence contributed articles to *The MIRROR*, the newsletter of the Richmond Museum of History, about the development of Richmond’s schools and the superintendents who oversaw the changes that took place from the beginning of the twentieth century through the 1990s. These articles draw from a variety of accounts as well as Pence’s experience as teacher, principal and director of elementary education between 1948 and 1973. They provide an overview of the physical growth of the schools and some of the challenges which leaders, teachers and students had to meet, especially during the war and postwar years. They also document changes in district administration, especially in the 1980s and 1990s.

In this narrative of growth and eventual shrinkage, bankruptcy and recovery, the reader will become acquainted not only with some of the history of Richmond’s schools but also with issues that have relevance for today. During our current era, for example, when the question of building reuse vs. demolition is at the fore, noting the history of the district’s decisions may offer lessons for today’s decision-makers.

Meet Helen and celebrate her history of the local schools at a book-signing and reception on Sunday, June 13, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. at the Museum. Refreshments will be served.



# NEWS FROM THE RED OAK VICTORY

## A FINAL REPORT FROM THE CHIEF

by Chief Bill Jackson

Just in time for Veteran’s Day, the stern flag pole was mounted, now proudly flying our country’s flag. Restored completely by volunteers from the Deck and Engineering Departments, the flag pole is a work of art.

On November 8<sup>th</sup>, the Ship combined its Veterans Day Memorial Program with the 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the launching of the *SS Red Oak Victory*. The program began on time with the Boy Scout Honor Guard from El Sobrante placing the Colors; the United States Air National Guard Band of the West performed beautifully, and the weather did, too. The flowers were beautiful.

Before the ceremony, volunteers set up tables, chairs and tents. Food and information booths were provided, and rangers from the National Park Service were present. When it was all over, the same volunteers returned everything to the Ship, using the winches and other Ship’s gear. All tents were taken down and stowed. The dock was again quiet as the sun set over the water in the west.

Principal among the volunteers were Ray Sitton, Steve Hawes, Lorraine Regier, Marjorie Hill, Phyllis and Bob Doering, Dick Schultz, Ardie Smith, Jerry Souza, Richard Arnold, Dave Penn, Cliff Warren, Rich Chivers, Dee Davison, Harold Wagner, Betty Souza, Anita Black, John Bates, Ron Jones, Lou Berg, Richard Smith, John Mestas, Jack Nolan, Chuck Davis, Angelo Barone, Dick Bezman, Tom Bottomley, Jim Waite, Jason Atkins and others working through the month and year to make it possible to host such events

And, now . . . .

It’s time to make an important announcement – the *S.S. Red Oak Victory* and members of the Richmond Museum Association Board of Directors are proud to announce the appointment of the Ship’s new Chief Engineer, Greg Blasquez, and thank him for the manner in which he has taken on his duties as head of the Engine Department. He brings with him a marine engineering background, with experience in all phases of Merchant Marine vessel operation. He came through the ranks as I did, and has the respect of all the volunteers with whom he works.

It has been my honor to recommend Greg for the position, and my pleasure to step down knowing that he is now the Chief. He will successfully steer the Ship into drydock. [Crew note: Bill Jackson will always be “*The Chief*” in our hearts.]

<h3>SEA CHARTS FOR SALE</h3> <p>More than 2,000 sea charts of country coastlines and islands from all over the world are available for sale at \$5.00 each on the <i>Red Oak Victory</i>. For information, contact the <i>Red Oak Gift Shop</i> at (510) 237-2933.</p>
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## REFLECTIONS OF A PROUD MERCHANT MARINE VETERAN

by Bill Jackson

This paper contains only a few of the many reflections of a proud Merchant Marine veteran who grew up in the Bay Area, was educated here, and went to sea in 1935 at the age of 16-1/2.

I started as a mess boy in the Stewards Department. In time, and during World War II, I began to rise through the engine room ranks. I reached the position of Chief Engineer of the hospital ship *S. S. Hope*, serving on this ship from 1963 to 1974. It was the “hardest job I ever loved.” I was so proud to be part of “Project Hope.”

My most rewarding job, though, has been over the past ten years as Chief Engineer of the *S. S. Red Oak Victory*, as we have worked our way through this restoration project. During this process, we have shared comradeship and skills. I am truly honored at having had you all as my shipmates.

With fondest regards,  
William A. Jackson  
Chief Engineer Emeritus  
*S. S. Red Oak Victory*



“They come – from every point of the compass – from the 48 states – thousands of them – of all colors and creeds, to man the ever growing fleet of Liberty ships that carry the goods to the men of the fighting fronts of this global war.

At schools and training ships throughout the nation, trained men are going out to win the battle of the seven seas against the submarine, the dive bomber and the surface raider. Upon these men rests the task of passing the ammunition. To all these men, this song, written by one of their number at the United States Maritime Service Training Station in Brooklyn, New York, is dedicated.” - Jack Lawrence, 1943, (composer of *Ciribiribin*, *Sleepy Lagoon*, *Sunrise Serenade*, *All Or Nothing at All*).

Dedicated to our Chief Bill Jackson –

HEAVE HO! MY LADS! HEAVE HO!  
Heave Ho! My Lads, Heave Ho!  
It’s a long way to go.  
It’s a long, long pull with our hatches full,  
Braving the wind, bracing the sea,  
Fighting the treacherous foe;  
Heave Ho! My lads, Heave Ho!  
Let the sea roll high or low,  
We can cross any ocean, sail any river.  
Give us the goods and we’ll deliver,  
Damn the submarine!  
We’re the men of the Merchant Marine!

## GOOD THINGS COMING

Because of the constant effort on the part of Harold Wagner, a Museum member and Assistant Chief Electrician on the *Red Oak Victory*, two major decisions have been made that may eventually benefit the Ship. The Central California Chapter of the American Merchant Marine Veterans, with headquarters in Fresno, California, has added to its bylaws an addendum which states, "If there is a dissolution of the Central California Chapter of the American Merchant Marine Veterans, all remaining funds in the treasury will be donated to the *Red Oak Victory*, based in Richmond, California."

And, at the national level, the Veterans added the *Red Oak* to the list of ship beneficiaries, bringing the number to five: the Lane Victory in San Pedro, CA, the Jeremiah O'Brien Liberty in San Francisco, CA, the American Victory in Tampa, FL, the John W. Brown Liberty in Baltimore, MD, and the *Red Oak Victory* in Richmond, CA.

We are most grateful to Harold Wagner for his efforts to have our Ship acknowledged as part of the national fleet of living examples of how these ships contributed to final victory in World War II.

## TEA GRANT COMPLETE

With the last payment made on the riggings from Carpenter Rigging in San Francisco, the TEA grant is now complete. We have Caltrans to thank for administering this fund of gas tax money, and particularly the State's Account Manager Nam Nguyen. His able, skillful shepherding through the government process made it very easy to manage the careful accounting of project billing, project payment and payment reimbursement.

The entire project, from start to finish, cost \$1,132,949, with \$129,949 being the Association's match to the \$1.03M grant. The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Treatment of Historic Properties (specifically the Standards for Rehabilitation) were applied and followed. By all standards, the project was highly successful, and the men on board the Ship are to be commended for working diligently with the contractor to this successful end. Our hats are off to them.

## AFTER-HOUSE RESTORED; SUCCESSFUL SUMMER CAMP HELD

Four months of intense, cooperative labor among all the departments resulted in the successful completion of the after-house restoration (the armed guards and oilers quarters) so that the summer campers from Lavonya DeJean Middle School could participate in the Ship's first-ever summer camp. Two weeks of overnight stays with day excursions on a tug, the Northland, hiking, Rosie Memorial, the Richmond Museum of History, and crafts and historic movies filled the days and nights of the campers. The campers were ready to do it again when the sessions were over.

## BECOME A MEMBER OF THE RICHMOND MUSEUM ASSOCIATION

### Privileges:

- ◆ Reduced admission to events
- ◆ Discounts on services, books, and gift items
- ◆ Quarterly newsletter, "*The MIRROR*"
- ◆ Advance notice of tours and events
- ◆ Free entrance to Museum and Ship

*Yes, I want to become a member*

*Enclosed is my check for*

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ (payable to RMA)

### Categories of Membership

\$25	Senior/Student
\$35	Individual
\$50	Family/Organization
\$65	Contributing
\$100	Sustaining
\$500	Patron
\$1000	Benefactor/Corporate

\_\_\_ New \_\_\_ Renew \_\_\_ Gift  
\_\_\_ I Would like to volunteer

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ I would like my newsletter sent by e-mail  
(saves money & trees).

Mail to:

**Richmond Museum of History  
PO Box 1267  
Richmond, CA 94802**

# HISTORIC PRESERVATION,

## CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Freeway through the area where many of these nurseries were located.

“Despite all these hardships, the cut flowers from these nurseries, both before and after the War, were the benchmark against which all other cut flowers were measured. . . . even in the 1970s, in the cut flower industry, ‘Richmond’ was synonymous with quality. Given the amazing resilience and accomplishments of the Japanese nursery community, the El Cerrito Historical Society felt it was imperative that the history of this pioneering community be recognized” and to “honor the nursery Nisei (second-generation) and memory of their first-generation parents who were unheralded pioneers in El Cerrito and Richmond.” The exhibit, *“Remembering Our Local Japanese Heritage; The El Cerrito & Richmond Flower Growers,”* which ran from October through December, 2009, and the resulting book of photographs, educate us all and honor those pioneers.

### AWARD: MARK HOWE, OWNER, AND ANDREW BUTT, INTERACTIVE RESOURCES, INC.

Andrew Butt of Interactive Resources, Inc. was the lead in the rehabilitation of the building on the corner of West Richmond and Washington Avenues now owned by Mark Howe. The building was built in 1902 as the Bank of Richmond and was remodeled in 1910. Originally the building had a basement and a small flight of stairs to the front door of the Bank, but later the first floor was lowered, leaving a street level entrance. The storefronts have been home to a variety of businesses such as the People’s Water Co., a billiard hall, a grocery store and a beauty shop. Most current residents remember a notions shop in the front and Sherry’s Boutique in the rear, with fine fashions. Offices upstairs included the early phone exchange and later the Coroner, Dr. Abbott and then his Emergency Hospital.

Mark Howe bought the building in 2008 and gutted it, removing and then reinstalling many interior features and restoring the exterior to its original appearance. The building is a contributing structure in the Point Richmond Historic District, listed on the National Register of Historic Places. “It is not only an outstanding example of historic rehabilitation,” says Architect Butt, “it is also an example of smart growth, providing mixed use in a neighborhood commercial district. The lower floor houses a real estate office and the Richmond Convention and Visitor’s Bureau. Upstairs is one apartment and a law office.”

### AWARD: DR. RACHAEL STRYKER AND STUDENTS FROM HER PUBLIC INTEREST ETHNOGRAPHY CLASS

Atchison Village is on the National Register of Historic Places and is a stop on a tour of local sites significant to the Rosie the Riveter WW II Home Front National Historical Park. But it is also a neighborhood where people live, and many have lived here since the Village was built as war housing in the early 1940s. It is now a mutual homes corporation, a living example of “affordable housing and community living.” Dr. Rachael Stryker and 13 students from her Public Interest Ethnography Class from Mills College collaborated with the Atchison Village History Project

and wrote a report based on a series of interviews with 12 long-time residents. This work “raises understanding and appreciation about what has been accomplished here. . . . and gives residents a lift about living in Atchison Village. And it has given a boost to continuing activities of the History Project. We’re expecting the work of Rachael Stryker and her students to contribute to prosperity for the Villagers and the Village, as remembering the past can help protect the future.”

### AWARD: SUMMER BRENNER

A second book, *Richmond Tales: Lost Secrets of the Iron Triangle* was published in 2009 and given to every 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grader in the West Contra Costa Unified School District. Author Summer Brenner was nominated for the book as well as for a performance and exhibit entitled, *“Where We’re From.”* Both projects engaged students: Brenner took the book-in-progress to Lincoln Elementary School and enlisted the help of some students for the names of the characters and revisions to the early chapters. After the book was distributed, teachers reported that kids “were reading and discussing the book on the playground, at lunch and during class. . . . Brenner has received dozens of letters from youth and adults filled with appreciation for a book written about Richmond and testimonials on how many times they’ve read it.” [Note: this book is great fun. Copies are on sale at the Museum Gift Shop.]

*“Where We’re From”* engaged high school students in the process of gathering stories from family and community members and translating these stories into poetry. The goal was to “situate youth in the continuum of their community’s history, thus encouraging them to take responsibility for Richmond’s future.” The poems, accompanied by photographs of the students with those they interviewed, were exhibited at the Richmond Museum of History and at Hilltop Mall, where the exhibit reached more than 250,000 people.

### AWARD: TOM DEBLEY AND KAISER PERMANENTE HERITAGE RESOURCES

In 2003, Tom Debley became the founding Director of the Kaiser Permanente Heritage Resources program, created to ensure ongoing support from Kaiser Permanente to the Rosie the Riveter WW II Home Front National Historical Park. Heritage Resources has since archived thousands of documents and conducts regular research on subjects related to the Home Front and to Richmond’s story. Heritage Resources supports the Rosie the Riveter Trust in its ongoing programs and has participated in the annual Home Front Festivals. It has underwritten exhibits and the production of historical images gifted to the National Park Service for its interpretive programs.

Debley authored the first biography of Kaiser Permanente’s founding physician, *Dr. Sydney R. Garfield: the Visionary who Turned Sick Care into Health Care* in 2009.

Each year, the National Park Service sponsors a “Home Front Award” to recognize a program that promotes recognition and understanding of this important historical period in Richmond’s history. The 2010 Award is given to Tom Debley and the Kaiser Permanente Heritage Resources.

**Richmond Museum Association, Inc.**

Museum open Wed-Sun, 1-4 p.m.  
400 Nevin Ave., P.O. Box 1267  
Richmond CA 94802  
(510) 235-7387  
[Richmondmuseumofhistory.org](http://Richmondmuseumofhistory.org)

**Officers**

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John Zieshenne, Vice Pres.  
William Rochester, Treasurer  
Sandi Genser-Maack, Recording Secty  
Marjorie Roque Hill, Correspding Secty  
Lorraine Regier, Financial Secty

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George Coles  
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Joe Fischer  
Steve Gilford  
Karin Hart  
Robert Moore  
Ray Sitton  
Karen Stephenson  
Jeffrey Wright

**Board Member Emeritus**

Donald Hardison

*The Richmond Museum of History is a 501 (C) 3 non-profit educational organization. Gifts and donations are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.*

**Appointed Chairs**

Leona Derheim, Red Oak Tree  
Lorraine Regier, Membership

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Hank Covell  
Ed Downer  
Don Hardison  
Margaret Morkowski

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Inna Soiguine,  
Administrative Museum Mgr  
Tracy Scott-Alves, Office Clerk

**The MIRROR Staff**

Lynn Maack, Editor  
Lois Boyle  
Clare Fischer  
Sandi Genser-Maack  
Helen Pence



**Admission:**

Members: Free  
Seniors/Students: \$1.00  
General: \$2.00  
Children: Free w/adult

Richmond Museum Assoc., Inc.  
P.O. Box 1267  
Richmond, CA 94802

**THE MIRROR IS ON OUR WEBSITE!**

You can now access *The MIRROR* on the Museum website. We have the last six issues online. We are trying to cut down on mailing expenses by moving to online publication and to distribution via email instead of mailed hardcopy.

Call the museum at (510) 235-7387 to get on the email distribution list.

Meanwhile, the website address for *The MIRROR* is [www.richmondmuseumofhistory.org/newsletter.htm](http://www.richmondmuseumofhistory.org/newsletter.htm).

**THE RED OAK VICTORY SHIP HAS A NEW, MUCH STEADIER, GANGPLANK AND BATHROOMS!!!!**

**IF YOU HAVE NOT VISITED LATELY, IT'S TIME!**

***SS Red Oak Victory***

*1337 Canal Blvd., Berth 6A  
www.ssredoakvictory.com*

*Open for visitors on Saturdays, Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.. For group tour and event booking information, call Lorraine at (510) 222-0955.*

Non-Profit Org  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Richmond, CA  
Permit No. 78

The Museum is open Wednesday thru Sunday, 1-4 p.m.  
Call (510) 235-7387 for information and tour appointments.  
Visit us online at: [RICHMONDMUSEUMOFHISTORY.ORG](http://RICHMONDMUSEUMOFHISTORY.ORG)

**DATED MATERIAL -- PLEASE EXPEDITE DELIVERY**

Return Service Requested



# GRADUATION / BIRTHDAY / "JUST BECAUSE"

Have you considered a Gift Membership to the Museum for those "Hard-to-buy-for" people? Make it easy on yourself and add to that special person's life by giving a Gift Membership to our Museum.

Membership entitles the recipient to regular receipt of our newsletter, "**The MIRROR;**" invitations to special events; discounts on event admissions and 10% off great items at Gift Shops at the Museum and on the Red Oak Victory Ship, along with the special feeling that comes with knowing that membership supports valuable work which benefits the entire community.

The mission of the Richmond Museum of History is to collect, preserve and display the elements of Richmond's past. We cannot do that without the help and support of people like you. Our exhibits are constantly changing and being updated. Our Ship, the Red Oak Victory, has many attractions that appeal to all interests and is open Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays, weather permitting. Here at the Museum we are available to help our members with whatever local history interest they may have.

Please complete the Gift Membership certificate, enclose your check payable to RMA and mail to Richmond Museum Association, P. O. Box 1267, Richmond, CA 94802.

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## Gift Membership Certificate

Senior: \$25.00    Individual: \$35.00    Family: \$50.00

FOR: Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone/Email: \_\_\_\_\_

FROM: Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone/Email: \_\_\_\_\_