



# Pinole **Historical** Society

## E-News

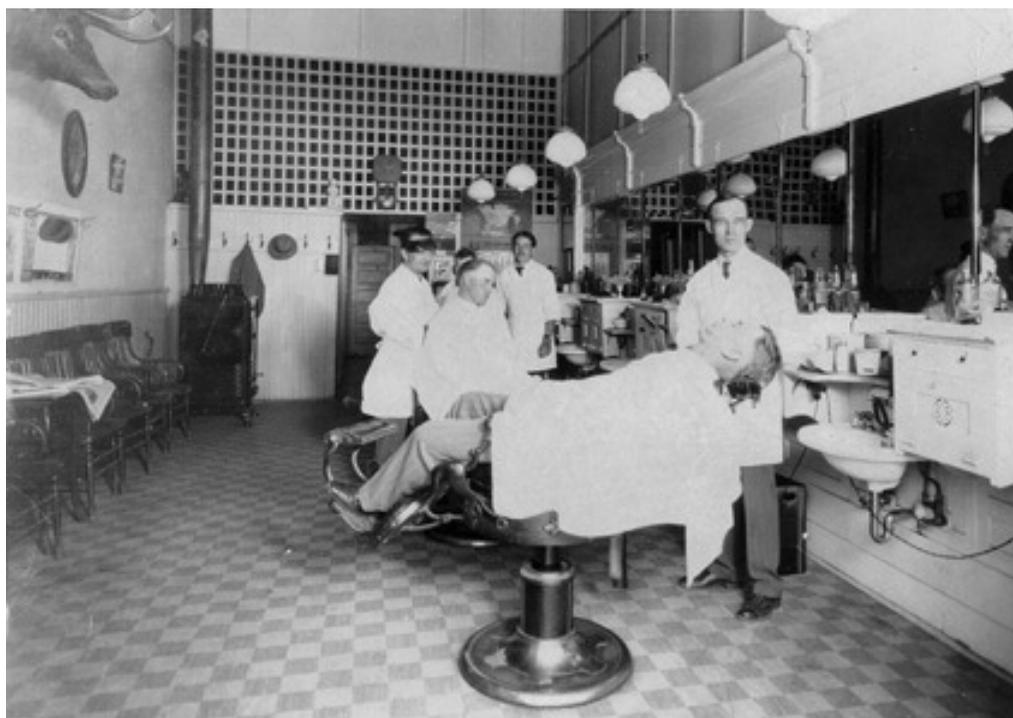
*February 7 PHS program at Kaiser*

## **BARS, BARBERS AND CHARACTERS OF EARLY PINOLE**

**P**inole's early history as a bawdy, brawling town with a bar on every street corner will be brought to life by PHS co-founder and historian George Vincent on February 7 when he hosts the Pinole Historical Society's quarterly meeting from 6:30 to 8 p.m. in conference rooms 2A and 2B of the Kaiser Medical Office Building, 1301 Pinole Valley Road.

The public is invited to attend this free event. Refreshments will be served.

By the turn of the 20th century, a thriving community had been born in the old downtown with businesses, hotels, churches, and numerous saloons.



***Manuel "Span" Vincent, uncle of Pinole Historical Society co-founder George Vincent, is the barber in the front in this photo, c. 1945.***

John and Julia Collins arrived in Pinole in the late 19th century. They and their eight children lived above the family business, the Klondike Saloon, on Tennent Avenue. The building still stands, next to the former Blackie's restaurant.

The historic Four Corners was created where

Tennent and San Pablo avenues intersect, sporting a saloon or hotel — or both — on each corner.

And, did you know the rear section of Antlers Tavern, on the Tennent Avenue side, was once a barber shop? It's true!

We'll have great photos and great stories to share. Please join us.

**Published by the Pinole Historical Society**

**February 1, 2014**

*The Pinole Historical Society promotes awareness and appreciation of history through preservation and education, and chronicles the city's heritage for current and future generations.*



## WELLS FARGO PINOLE MURAL VIDEO ON OUR WEBSITE

Click this link: [www.pinolehistoricalsociety.org/PinoleMural.mov](http://www.pinolehistoricalsociety.org/PinoleMural.mov)

## PHS TAKING PINOLE FARMERS' MARKET HIATUS



**A**s we do every year, the Pinole Historical Society will be taking a break from its Pinole Farmers' Market booth in the first quarter of 2014.

We'll be back for a sixth season beginning Saturday, April 5, and we'll be exhibiting our books, postcards, greeting cards, magnets, American flags, and newsletters every other week through the end of the year.

If you want one of our books before we're back, there's an order form in this E-News. We'd be happy to ship the books to you.

# Pinole **Historical** Society

P.O. Box 285, Pinole, CA 94564

[www.PinoleHistoricalSociety.org](http://www.PinoleHistoricalSociety.org) [info@PinoleHistoricalSociety.org](mailto:info@PinoleHistoricalSociety.org)

(510) 724-9507



*Pinole-Hercules School #1 alumni.*

## LARGE GROUP ATTENDS DEDICATION OF SCHOOL BELL

**T**he 100+-year-old Pinole-Hercules School #1 bell, restored and installed at Collins Elementary School by the West Contra Costa Unified School District, was formally dedicated at a brief ceremony January 25.

More than 50 people attended the ceremony, including four members — Charles Ramsey,

*George Vincent speaks at the bell dedication.*



Madeline Kronenberg, Todd Groves, and Randy Enos — of the WCCUSD Board of Directors.

Pinole Historical Society co-founder George Vincent, a graduate of the “School on the Hill,” spoke about the history of the school and some of the people who went there.

Selma Greenfield Riskin, 85, daughter of Jacob Greenstein, who owned Pinole’s only pharmacy in the 1920s and 1930s, drove from her Alameda home to offer an anecdote about how she used the bell as an alarm clock to get up and get ready for classes when she lived on Samuel Street, just down the hill from the school.

The bell is the last remnant of the school that served generations of Pinole and Hercules students from 1906 to 1966. The school was demolished in 1968.

The district also installed a bronze plaque on the wall behind the bell.

The Pinole Historical Society thanks Bob Kopp and Ckyde Maskal for video-recording the event. Watch for it soon on Pinole Community TV.



## SUPPORT THE ACTIVITIES OF THE PHS BY BECOMING A MEMBER IN 2014

For only \$30, you can help the PHS accomplish its mission of bringing the history of Pinole to our residents through exhibits at the Pinole Library, Pinole history programs in schools, Pinole Community TV programs, Walking tours of downtown Pinole, the Veterans' Day event in Fernandez Park — and you'll have the satisfaction of helping promote and preserve Pinole's history for future generations.

**JOIN THE PINOLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY (OR RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP)  
AND HELP PROMOTE AND PRESERVE THE HISTORY OF OUR CITY.**

**Please mail the membership application today!**

# Pinole **Historical** Society

## 2014 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

(PINOLE RESIDENCY NOT REQUIRED FOR MEMBERSHIP)

**PLEASE PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION, AND SEND CASH OR YOUR CHECK,  
TO PINOLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY, P.O. Box 285, PINOLE, CA 94564**

MEMBERSHIPS ARE FOR THE 2014 CALENDAR YEAR (EXCEPT LIFETIME MEMBERSHIPS)

NAME (each person): \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL (please!): \_\_\_\_\_

CIRCLE ONE: Annual (\$30)    Life (\$150)    Business (\$50)    Sustaining \$(500)

AMOUNT ENCLOSED: [  ] Cash \$ \_\_\_\_\_ [  ] Check # \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

DATE PAID: \_\_\_\_\_

# Upcoming events

## FRIENDS OF THE PINOLE LIBRARY

**T**he Friends of the Pinole Library brings back that zany Goofball on Wednesday, February 5, at 7 p.m. at the Pinole Library. This comedy program of balloons, music, and puppets is great for the whole family and promises to be one of the hits of the year. Come early for the best seats.

**The Pinole Library**  
**2935 Pinole Valley Road**  
**(510) 758-2741**



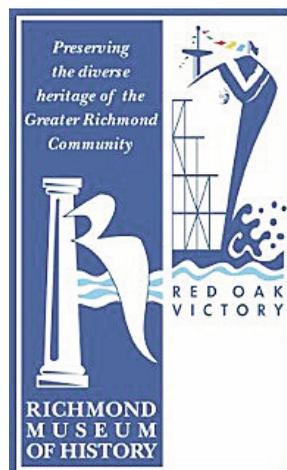
'The Bookworm'

## RICHMOND MUSEUM READYING FIRST 2014 EXHIBIT

**T**he opening reception for the first exhibit of 2014 at the Richmond Museum of History, "For the Love of OUR Ship," will be held February 9, from 2-4 p.m. This event is free to the public.

The reception honoring the Red Oak Victory will be held at the Richmond Museum of History, 400 Nevin Avenue, Richmond. Call (510) 235-7387 or (510) 237-2933 for more information.

The Richmond Museum of History owns many collections of interest to the casual researcher and the scholar alike.



These include:

- **Photographs:** Prints, negatives, and slides dating from the late 19th century to the present day.
- **Maps and brochures:** From the late 19th century to the present day.
- **Genser-Maack Collection:** Lynn and Sandi Genser-Maack have amassed a unique collection of Richmond memorabilia. A small part of their treasure is on display in the museum, and includes many promotional items given away by Richmond businesses over the years and other items of Richmond nostalgia.

## PHS SELLING BEAUTIFUL AMERICAN FLAGS

**W**e have purchased 25 made-in-the-USA American flags, with beautifully embroidered stars and sewn stripes.

These durable flags, resistant to fading and fraying, are made of Dupont Solarmax nylon fabric. They look great and fly well in low wind.

They have brass grommets attached to heavy canvas pole ends and combine lustrous beauty with superior wearing quality and excellent fly ability.

These flags are made by the Valley Forge Flag Company, and are directly comparable in both



quality and durability to flags sold by leading home improvement and retail stores for up to \$30. This size is suitable for flagpoles from 15 to 20 feet.

These flags are only \$25, including sales tax. We'll deliver if you live in West Contra Costa County. If not, we will ship the flag to you

for an additional \$5. We also have flag poles for \$5. We do not ship the poles.

To order, send a check payable to the Pinole Historical Society to P.O. Box 285, Pinole.

We also sell these flags at our Pinole Farmers' Market booth.

## PHS VIDEOS ON CITY OF PINOLE WEBSITE

**M**iss one of our history programs on Pinole Community TV? Don't despair. The city's website has a dedicated section devoted to PINOLE HISTORY on its "Videos Online" page.

You can view the numerous PHS programs right on your computer. Go to the city's

website [www.ci.pinole.ca.us/about/videos.html](http://www.ci.pinole.ca.us/about/videos.html) and scroll down to PINOLE HISTORY.

You'll find our interviews, Veterans Day programs, George Vincent's two walking tours of historic downtown Pinole, and the very fine PCTV-produced, 12-part series based on the Historic Walking Tour brochure. It's great TV!

## PHS SEEKING FAMILY FILMS FOR HISTORICAL ARCHIVE

**G**ot film? The Pinole Historical Society is embarking on a major project to archive the city's history. We want to establish a permanent, digitized collection of Pinole's history.

Do you have film of past Holy Ghost parades, Pinole Valley High School Homecoming parades, Memorial Day or July 4 parades?

How about important athletic events, such as a high-school football, basketball, baseball, softball, or volleyball games?

Perhaps you have film of an important event that took place in Fernandez Park, or a ribbon cutting or an event that has a place in Pinole's history — such as the 1958 flood?

We're looking for any video or film you have — VHS, Beta, camcorder, DV tape, 8mm, Super 8mm,



16mm, 35mm, motion picture.

Nearly everyone has taken home movies. That makes everyone who has taken film a historian.

We want to collect, digitize, catalog, and preserve old movies on DVD (and whatever formats are to come) to exhibit, educate, and entertain.

The PHS will share these videos on a film archive that we will establish, similar to the The Pioneers Film Archive on YouTube created by the California Pioneers of Santa Clara

([www.youtube.com/sccpioneers](http://www.youtube.com/sccpioneers)).

Film connects with the past in a unique way. It's immersive, educational, and entertaining. It's a way to get young people interested in history.

Got film? Please contact us at [info@pinolehistoricalsociety.org](mailto:info@pinolehistoricalsociety.org). We'll return your film; we just want to borrow and digitize it.

## PHS BOARD MEETS JANUARY 8 AT SENIOR CENTER

**I**n addition to our quarterly general membership meetings, the Pinole Historical Society Board of Directors meets monthly on the second Wednesday from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the Pinole Senior Center.

Our members, and the public, are invited to attend these board meetings and speak on any item that is discussed.

Our next meeting is January 8.

## *2014 quarterly meetings at Kaiser continue on Friday evenings*

**T**he 2014 quarterly membership meetings of the Pinole Historical Society will be held Friday evenings in conference rooms 2A and 2B of the Kaiser Permanente Medical Office Building.

Attendance on Fridays was good in 2013, so we thought we'd continue on this day in 2014. As always, we will have an interesting program for you at each meeting.

**The 2014 meeting schedule is: February 7 • May 2 • September 5 • November 7**



# PROGRAMS

## FEBRUARY 2014

Tours  
&  
Events

*All tours and programs take place at the Visitor Center unless otherwise noted.*

### SUNDAYS

#### **“Women, Get a War Job!”**

**February 9, 16, 23 – 2 p.m.**

Learn about the campaign that called women to “do their part.”

#### **The War Takes a Toll at Home**

**February 9, 23 – 3 p.m.**

What questions were civilians asking when one million pounds of explosives blew up at Port Chicago in 1944?

### MONDAYS

#### **Intro to the Park**

**February 10, 17, 24 – 11:30 a.m.**

Docents offer a brief introduction, walk past a few exhibits, and comment on the installation of permanent exhibits in Spring 2014. Learn about the history of the park and the future of the new visitor center.

#### **Love During Wartime**

**February 3, 10, 24 – 2 p.m.**

Join a ranger for stories of wartime romance and heartbreak, and learn how couples bridged the miles through correspondence during World War II. View images of vintage Valentines and love letters from the park’s museum collection.

### TUESDAYS

#### **“Of Lost Conversations”**

**Ranger talk by Betty Soskin**

**February 4, 11, 18, 25 – 2 p.m.**

Ranger Betty Soskin discusses her experience as a young African American woman during World War II.

### WEDNESDAYS

#### **Richmond Bus Tour with Ranger Betty Soskin**

**February 19 – Call for time**

Board the bus with ranger Betty Soskin to visit key park sites while reflecting on African-American homefront experiences. Space is limited, reservations are required: call (510) 232-5050, x0, for start time and location.

#### **Wartime Playtime: Toys and Games in World War II**

**February 5, 19 – 2 p.m.**

Docent Brad Bunnin will discuss how American children played their way through World War II, often with kid-sized uniforms, toy guns, model airplanes, and ships. After the talk, view examples of historic toys on display in our visitor center.

### THURSDAYS

#### **The Rosie the Riveter Memorial**

**February 6, 20 – 11:30 a.m.**

Meet a docent at the Rosie the Riveter Memorial in Marina Bay Park for a 45-minute program exploring civilian contributions to the World War II American homefront.

#### **Blossoms and Thorns**

**February 6, 13, 20, 27 – 2 p.m.**

Docent Flora Ninomiya screens the film “Blossoms and Thorns,” and shares her childhood experiences in a World War II internment camp.

#### **Who Will Care for the Children?**

**February 20 – 1 p.m.**

Tour a wartime preschool classroom and learn about the vital role of federally-funded child care in bringing women into the World War II work force. Tour location: 1014 Florida Avenue (corner of Harbour Way), Richmond. *RSVP: lucien\_sonder@nps.gov*

### FRIDAYS

#### **Rosie Meet and Greet!**

**February 7, 14, 21, 28 – 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.**

A perfect opportunity for the public to meet a group of actual Rosies who worked in the Kaiser shipyards during World War II.

#### **Rationing for the Home Cook**

**February 7, 21 – 2 p.m.**

During World War II, Americans were asked to sacrifice in support of the troops, and this was evident daily at the dinner table. Learn about rationing and share a sweet treat invented by wartime cooks.

### SATURDAYS

#### **Love During Wartime**

**February 8 – 3 p.m.**

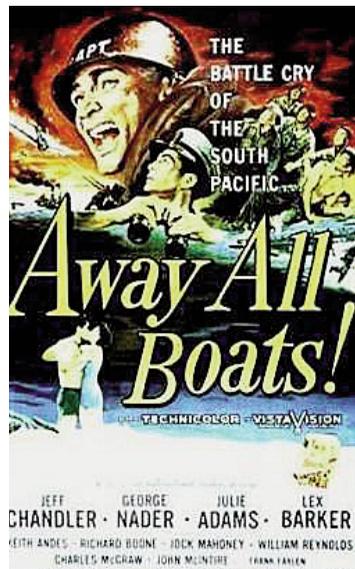
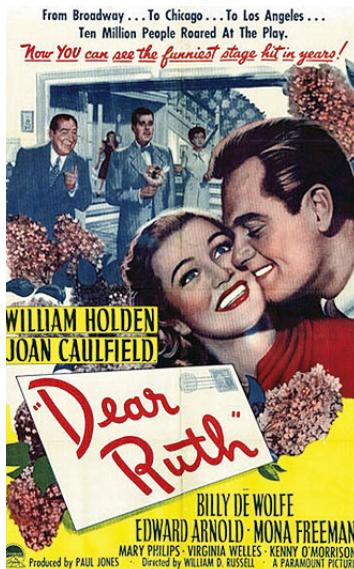
Join a ranger for stories of wartime romance and heartbreak, and learn how couples bridged the miles through correspondence during World War II. View images of vintage Valentines and love letters from the park’s museum collection.

#### **The Life and Art of Chiura Obata**

**Presentation by Kim Kodani Hill**

**February 22 – 3 p.m.**

Kimi Kodani Hill is the granddaughter of artist Chiura Obata, and the author of *Topaz Moon: Chiura Obata’s*



## National Park Service/Richmond Museum film festival presents post-war films about World War II home front

**T**he National Park Service (NPS) and the Richmond Museum of History announce a new film festival on the third Thursday of each month.

The movies will be screened as part of the “Third Thursday Historic Film Series” aboard the SS Red Oak Victory, a beautifully restored cargo ship built in Richmond during World War II.

The ship, now part of Rosie the Riveter/WWII Home Front National Historical Park, is located in historic Shipyard #3 at 1337 Canal Blvd., Berth 6A, in Richmond. For directions, call (510) 237-2933 or visit [www.ssredoakvictory.com/contact.htm](http://www.ssredoakvictory.com/contact.htm).

Boarding begins at 6:30 p.m. and the films begin at 7 p.m. There is a donation of \$5 to board the ship and enjoy ship exhibits prior to the film. Please note: the ship is not ADA accessible. Visitors must be able to climb the gangplank (40 feet of stairs with railings) and steep steps once aboard.

Remember to dress warmly, as it can be chilly aboard the ship.

### The featured movies are:

- **Thursday, February 20:** *Dear Ruth* (1947), starring William Holden and Joan Caulfield. Caulfield discovers her younger sister has been using her name and picture in correspondence with a soldier who comes to visit.
- **Thursday, March 20:** *Away All Boats* (1956), starring Jeff Chandler and George Nader tells a quintessential story of WWII in the Pacific from the viewpoints of a career Navy officer and a drafted Merchant Marine officer.
- **Thursday, April 17:** *The Sea Chase* (1955), starring John Wayne and Lana Turner. Merchant captain John Wayne tries to evade and escape from enemy ships and take his crew home.
- **Thursday, May 15:** *Swing Shift* (1984), starring Goldie Hawn and Kurt Russell. California aircraft workers support the war effort and find romance on the home front.

## Rosie the Riveter programs

*continued from previous page*

*Art of the Internment.* Her slideshow and talk will focus on Obata's body of artwork from the Topaz War Relocation Center, where he and his family were forcibly incarcerated during World War II, along with thousands of other Americans of Japanese descent.

**“Of Lost Conversations”**  
**Ranger talk by Betty Soskin**  
**February 8, 15, 22 – 2 p.m.**

Ranger Betty Soskin discusses her experience as a

young African American woman during World War II.

All tours and programs take place at the Visitor Center, 1414 Harbour Way South, Richmond, unless otherwise noted. For directions and information, call (510) 232-5050 x0 or visit [www.nps.gov/rori](http://www.nps.gov/rori).

The Visitor Center is open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Visitor Center is located behind the historic Ford Assembly Building – through the security gate.



# Volunteer

to be a National Park

# Docent

**Rosie the Riveter/WWII Home Front National Historical Park**, a unit of the National Park Service in Richmond, CA, seeks volunteer docents to assist with operations at our Visitor Education Center.

We are looking for people 18 years old or older, with a passion for history, education, and public service, who can make an ongoing minimum commitment to volunteer at least 8 hours per month.

Each volunteer docent will be required to complete a series of training sessions prior to commencement of responsibilities. Volunteers must be available to attend each training unit listed below:



**Training Unit #1**

**Introduction to the National Park Service and our park:  
Saturday, February 8th, 2014, 9 AM-1 PM**

**Training Unit #2**

**Visitor Center operations and customer service:  
Saturday, February 22nd, 2014, 9 AM-1 PM**

To reserve your spot in our training program, or for more information, please contact Lucien Sonder at [Lucien\\_Sonder@nps.gov](mailto:Lucien_Sonder@nps.gov), or 510 232 5050 x. 6622. If you cannot attend any of the above dates, but are interested in future training opportunities, please let us know.



**ROSIE THE RIVETER**

World War II Home Front  
National Historical Park

Visitor Center



# **BARBECUE FOR THE TROOPS**

**KOPP PRODUCTIONS AND THE CITY OF PINOLE ARE PLEASED TO INVITE YOU TO ATTEND THIS EVENT HONORING OUR TROOPS**

With every ticket purchased you will provide AND enjoy a barbecue with 50 soldiers, their spouses, and children. We believe so many soldiers have sacrificed so much for our country, and we want to thank them for their service.

**SUNDAY, APRIL 6, 2014      11 A.M. TO 5 P.M.**

**FERNANDEZ PARK, PINOLE**

**(RAIN DAYS: APRIL 12 AND APRIL 19)**

**TICKETS: \$20 (ONLY 300 TICKETS WILL BE SOLD)**

**Menu:** Appetizers, NY steak or chicken for adults, hamburgers and hot dogs for children under 10, drinks and desserts, bouncers and activities for children, and live entertainment.

**ADDITIONAL SPONSORS:** Continental Electric, Kopp Productions, Pinole Police Employees Association, West Coast Drilling, W.R. Forde Construction, McGuire Harley-Davidson, Crocketts Premier Auto Body

## **ORDER BARBECUE FOR THE TROOPS TICKETS**

Mail coupon and check payable to KOPP PRODUCTIONS to 2320 Doidge Ave., Pinole, CA 94564.  
Tickets will be mailed to you. For more information, contact Bob Kopp at (510) 772-0016  
or [koppproductions@comcast.net](mailto:koppproductions@comcast.net)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (    ) \_\_\_\_\_

# tickets @\$20 \_\_\_\_\_ Total enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

# The Book Nook

NEW TITLE BY  
CONTRA COSTA COUNTY AUTHOR

San Francisco's "opposite shore" is showcased for its maritime role in securing the city's financial preeminence.

Located minutes from San Francisco by ferry or automobile, Contra Costa County provided deepwater ports for shipping agricultural, mineral, and manufactured goods around the world. Pacific commodity traders made use of these ports to ship products, ensuring California's unique global economic role.

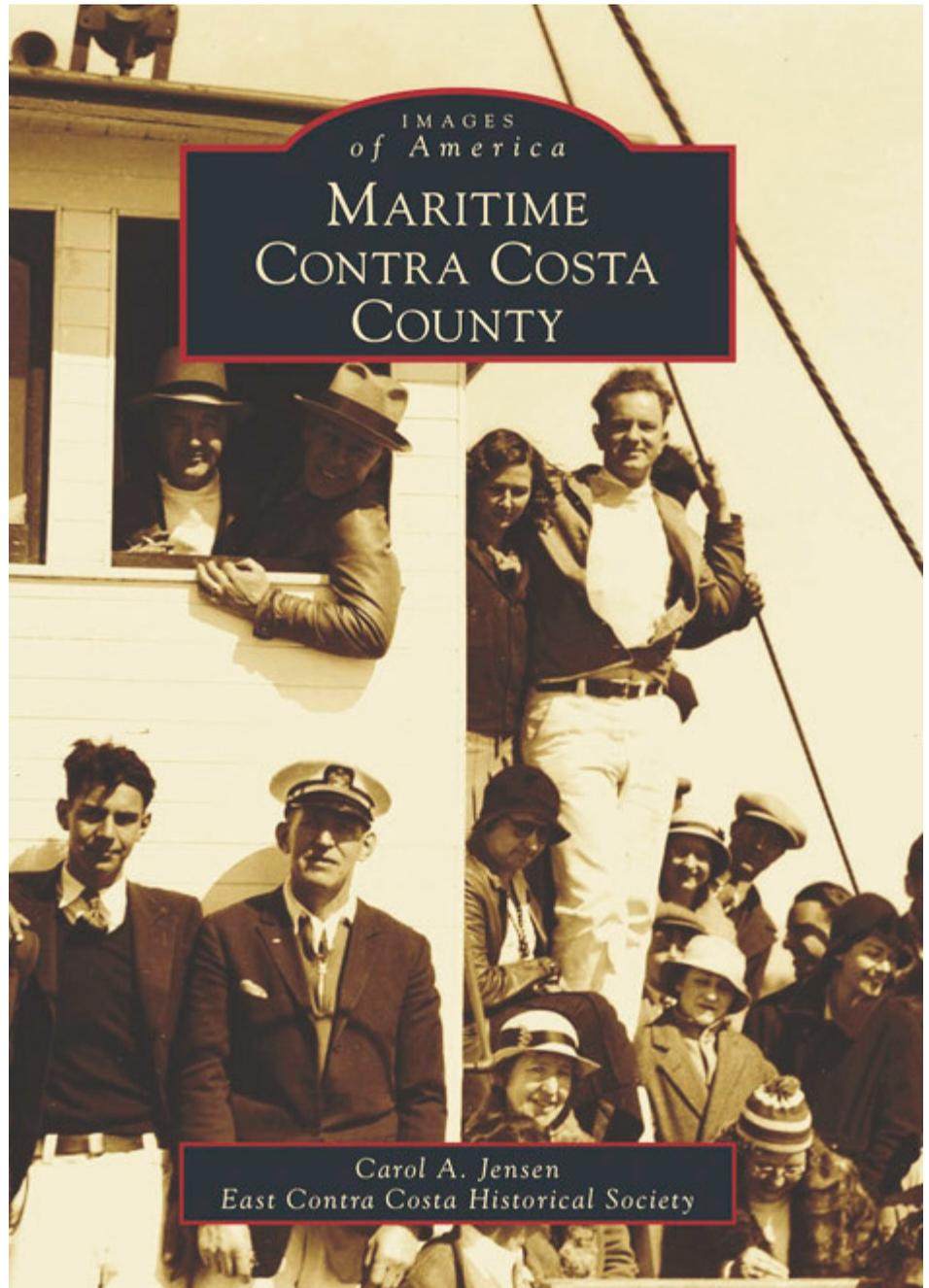
Immense wealth was created from goods shipped from maritime Contra Costa County, securing a vibrant economy from the Gaslight era to the days of Haight-Ashbury.

In these pages, Carol A. Jensen, a member of the East Contra Costa Historical Society, presents the county's vibrant maritime history. She presents images drawn from the Library of Congress, California State Library, San Francisco Historical Photograph Collection, Contra Costa County archives, and important local historical society collections.

Herein we experience in vintage photographs this region's impact on significant California events. Wines to challenge French viticultural supremacy were shipped, grains destined to make Guinness beer great set sail, and soldiers embarked for the World War II Pacific theater from these piers.

Maritime Contra Costa County provides a fresh perspective on the intertwined histories of San Francisco and its "other coast."

The book is available at [www.arcadiapublishing.com](http://www.arcadiapublishing.com), bookstores throughout the East Bay, and from Carol Jensen at

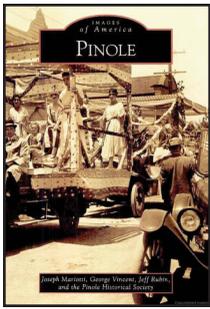


[historian@byronhotsprings.com](mailto:historian@byronhotsprings.com).  
The retail price is \$21.99, plus sales tax.

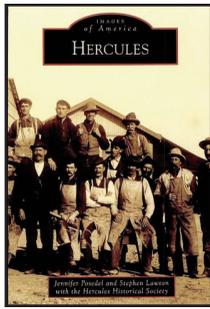
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**About the author:** Carol A. Jensen is a native daughter of the Delta and East Contra Costa County. She is a history graduate of the University of California at Santa Barbara. She delights in discovering Delta ephemera and

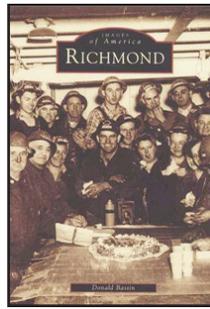
documenting the cultural history of the area from those who lived, visited, or farmed. Jensen is a member of the California Historical Society, Contra Costa County Historical Society, East Contra Costa Historical Society, and John Marsh Historic Trust. She also serves as vice president of The Contra Costa Historic Landmark Advisory Committee.



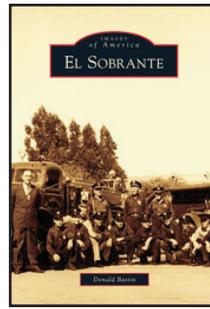
**Pinole**



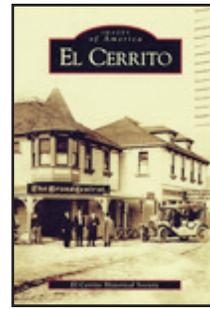
**Hercules**



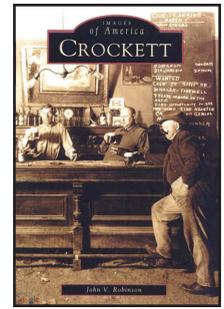
**Richmond**



**El Sobrante**



**El Cerrito**



**Crockett**

# LOCAL HISTORY BOOKS AVAILABLE FROM THE PINOLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

**T**he Pinole Historical Society has Arcadia Publishing books about our surrounding communities of Hercules, Richmond, El Sobrante, El Cerrito, Crockett, Rodeo, Martinez, and Port Costa. And, of course, we have plenty of Pinole books in stock.

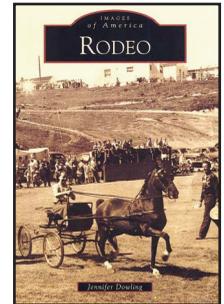
You may purchase one or more of these books from us at the Pinole Farmers' Market—we'll be there every other Saturday through the end of December.

The Pinole, Hercules, Richmond, El Sobrante, and El Cerrito books retail for **\$24**, including 8.75% sales tax. The Crockett, Rodeo, Martinez, and Port Costa books are **\$22**, including 8.75% sales tax.

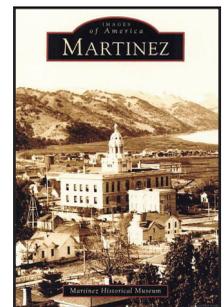
Or, you may order one or more by mail and we'll ship them to you. Send your order to **Pinole Historical Society, P.O. Box 285, Pinole, CA 94564**.

The prices, including 8.75% sales tax and postage are:

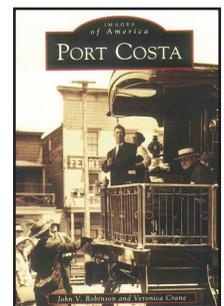
- Pinole:** \$27
- Hercules:** \$27
- Richmond:** \$27
- El Sobrante:** \$27
- El Cerrito:** \$27
- Crockett:** \$25
- Rodeo:** \$25
- Martinez:** \$25
- Port Costa:** \$25



**Rodeo**



**Martinez**



**Port Costa**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (    ) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

# of Pinole books @ \$27 (book, sales tax, postage) \_\_\_\_\_

# of Hercules books @ \$27 (book, sales tax, postage) \_\_\_\_\_

# of Richmond books @ \$27 (book, sales tax, postage) \_\_\_\_\_

# of El Sobrante books @ \$27 (book, sales tax, postage) \_\_\_\_\_

# of El Cerrito books @ \$27 (book, sales tax, postage) \_\_\_\_\_

# of Crockett books @ \$25 (book, sales tax, postage) \_\_\_\_\_

# of Rodeo books @ \$25 (book, sales tax, postage) \_\_\_\_\_

# of Martinez books @ \$25 (book, sales tax, postage) \_\_\_\_\_

# of Port Costa books @ \$25 (book, sales tax, postage) \_\_\_\_\_

Total amount enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Please mail your check for the total amount due,  
payable to Pinole Historical Society, to:  
PINOLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY, P.O. BOX 285, PINOLE, CA 94564**