

Pinole Historical Society Newsbriefs



P.O. Box 285, Pinole, CA 94564

www.PinoleHistoricalSociety.org info@PinoleHistoricalSociety.org

NEW BOOK ON PINOLE'S HISTORY TO BE PUBLISHED IN FALL 2015

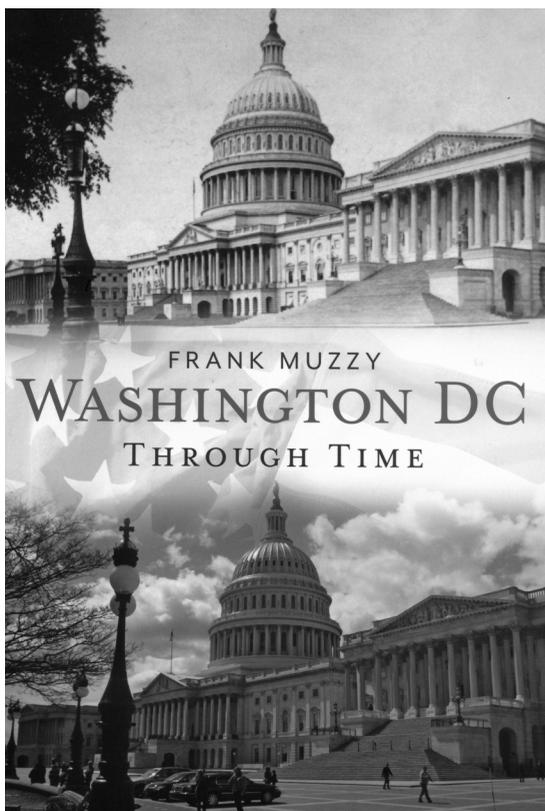
The Pinole Historical Society will see its second book on the history of Pinole published in the fall of 2015.

The society has signed a contract with Fonthill Media, a specialty book-publishing company in the areas of general history, local and regional history, military history, transport history, and biography (www.fonthillmedia.com).

The society will be producing *Pinole Through Time*, a title in Fonthill's "America Through Time" series.

The book will feature photos of old Pinole buildings and landmarks and current photos of what exists on those sites today. In several cases it will be the same building, some restored and others nearly identical.

Visit the Pinole Library for our exhibit "Pinole...Then and Now" to



The Pinole book cover will be similar to the Washington D.C. book.

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Published quarterly by the Pinole Historical Society

WHERE TO FIND NEWSBRIEFS

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It's also posted on the PHS website.

FOR ADVERTISERS: 2,000 printed copies of *PHS Newsbriefs* are distributed every quarter, generating readership among thousands of Pinole and West County residents. Hundreds more receive the newsletter directly from the PHS via its database and website. **If you're interested in advertising, please contact Jeff Rubin at info@PinoleHistoricalSociety.org or call him at (510) 724-9507.**

PHS CALENDAR

MEETINGS

August 13, September 10, October 8: Monthly Board of Directors meeting. The public is invited to attend and speak on any of the items discussed at these meetings. Pinole Senior Center, 6:30 to 8 p.m.

September 5: Program: "A Date with the Rosies." Meet the six Rosie the Riveters who went to Washington, D.C., and got kissed by President Obama! The public is invited to this FREE event from 6:30 to 8 p.m. in conference rooms 2A and 2B of the Kaiser Permanente Medical Office Building, 1301 Pinole Valley Road. Refreshments will be served.

ONGOING

Pinole Library history exhibits. Two exhibits are at the library, 2935 Pinole Valley Road. Library hours are: Monday (10 a.m. to 6 p.m.), Wednesday (2 to 8 p.m.), Friday and Saturday (12 to 5 p.m.).

PHS booth at Pinole Farmers' Market. We are at the farmers' market every other Saturday from April through December.

PinoleHistoricalSociety

Board of Directors:

Marcia Kalapus, President; Jeff Rubin, Vice President; Mary Drazba, Treasurer; Jo Ann Gannotti, Secretary; Norma Martinez-Rubin; Mary McMains; George Vincent.

Director Emeritus: Jack Meehan

Newsletter Editor: Jeff Rubin

NEW ADVERTISERS

The PHS welcomes these new advertisers:

- Cafe Marrón
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- TMF Accounting Services
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PHS videos on city of Pinole website

Miss one of our history programs on Pinole Community TV?

Not a problem. The city's website now 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 www.ci.pinole.ca.us/about/videos.html and scroll down to PINOLE HISTORY. You'll find our interviews, Veterans Day programs, both of George Vincent's 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!

President's Message

Marcia Kalapus, President, Pinole Historical Society

ODE TO OHLONE COSTANOAN INDIANS

I'd like to introduce you to the earliest native aboriginal Coastanoan (coastal) Indians of the San Francisco-Monterey bay areas.

More than 250 years ago they flourished in a region rich in all kinds of sustainable resources — wildlife, fish, food, (grains, seeds, fruits/berries, acorns, freshwater creeks full of fish).

They lived without any major complications in their lifestyle. They were food gatherers and hunters, part of a vast complex of about 50 or more distinct groups in Northern California. Their language is part of the Utian family.

Pinole's Coastanoan Indian tribe was known as "Karkin" or "Carquin." They lived on the south side of the Carquinez Strait as we know it today.

On the map we see their territory was about the size of the El Rancho Pinole land grant.

Their language dialect was different than the

rest of the other bands. According to research, these bands were very sociable, interacting peoples. They inter-married, traded goods and other items, and practiced their religions and cultural activities together. Their religion was Kuksu.

Their population was more than 10,000, in villages ranging from 50 to 200 people.

They excelled in basket weaving, and used their skills in making boats/canoes out of the tules (waterproof reeds that lined the waterways).

They had ceremonial dances. The women were involved in body tattooing and other piercings.

There is not much recorded about their actual religious rites, but



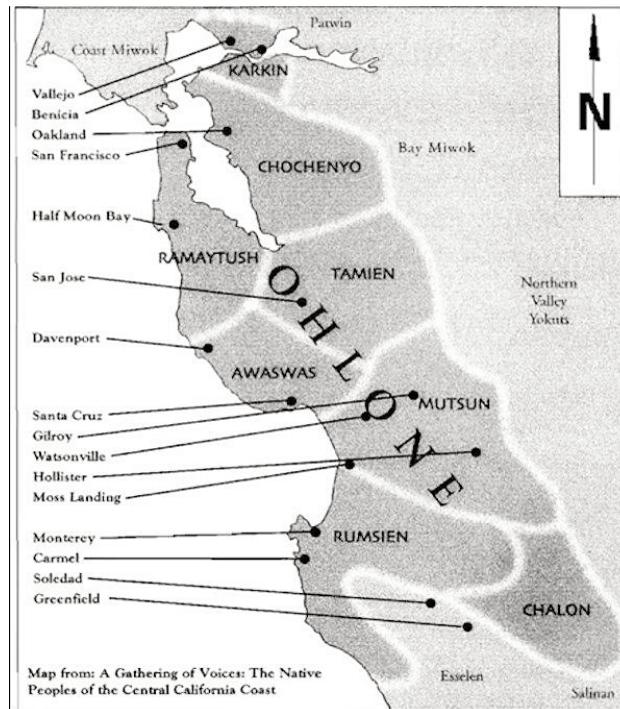
Marcia Kalapus

it is believed that they used shamans for their spiritual ceremonies, mourning, and coming of age, with highly decorated costumes and dances. Shamans were also healers and supplied herb remedies.

As with many of the Indian tribes throughout America, shamans also represented a form of spiritual mysticism in their practices. Modern-day Ohlone tribal members are working to bring back their sacred and religious narratives and folklore about the coyote, eagle, and hummingbird, all very important in their storytelling.

Their clothing was sparse, mostly none. In the cooler weather they used animal skins for warmth; the women wore aprons or skirts made

Continued on page 4



Geoff Torretta

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ODE TO OHLONE COSTANOAN INDIANS

Continued from page 3

from the tule reeds. They made jewelry from bones, beads, abalone, and other decorative shells.

Land custodians

The tribes burned the grasslands annually to get rid of all the old growth so they could get to the new fresh seeds that were part of their daily diet. American Indians were good custodians of the land and used only what they needed to sustain life.

They were good fishermen and had a diet

loaded with mussels, abalone, other shellfish, and freshwater fish (salmon, perch, and stickleback). Grizzly bears, elk, and deer were also available.

They didn't shy away from having all kinds of fowl on their menus, such as geese, duck, quail, and other small birds. Their favorite was waterfowl, which they caught in their nets.

Homebuilders

Fr. Juan Crespi wrote there were "more sea otters, whales, and sea lions than could be counted."

They built their homes out of the same tules, in the form of mats or bundles. They also built sweathouses out of redwood bark.

When the Spanish came and brought the Franciscan missionaries and established the missions, things began to change dramatically for the Ohlone.

They were baptized, their way of life ignored, and moved off their lands to live at the missions. They became workers and slaves to the missions and the Spanish landowners.

Many of them died

from exposure to disease from which they had no immunity. The population dropped to as low as 2,000, almost to extinction. By the 1850s, some of the Ohlones were able to secure land grants and to survive hard times.

Recognition

The Muwekma Ohlone Indians in the Bay Area have worked long and hard for their rights to be a recognized sovereign nation. It is up to all of us to join in and share these stories so that Bay Area children can grow up learning about this rich culture.



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In memoriam



Thomas Cutino Sr.:
February 17, 1927 – July 14, 2014.

A World War II U.S. Navy veteran, longtime Pinole businessman, and former mayor. He was 87.

Tom was a Pinole councilman from 1978 to 1982 – mayor in 1979-80 – with a unique, entertaining sense of humor.

Tom was a member of the Pinole Historical Society and the VFW Post

2798, served 10 years on the board of directors of the Pinole Chamber of Commerce (president and Businessman of the Year in 1969), was fire commissioner of the Pinole Fire Protection District for eight years, and chairman of the Pinole Bicentennial Commission.

Tom managed The Cutino Company, a manufacturers' agency specializing in the design, application, and contract negotiation for custom-built heat-recovery equipment for oil refineries, and chemical,

electric, and food-processing plants.

Knowing the value of heat energy, how to manage it, getting the most value from it – that was his business, his profession, and his avocation, even in public life. Thus, Tom devoted his public energies to the betterment of this community.

The Fitzgerald Drive shopping centers in Pinole might have been annexed by Richmond, as an extension of its adjacent residential developments, were it not for Tom's rallying, defensive energies.

His oft-told stories, embellished with inherited gesticulation, gained "catalog numbers" assigned by his loving wife, Rose Marie. Most painfully difficult was his year-and-a-half term on the Contra Costa County Grand Jury, because of the strict requirement of jurors' permanent silence. Others who have served – and who knew Tom – will understand, but still miss those untold stories.

Tom is survived by his wife of 58 years, Rose Marie; children Judith, Camille, Philip (Elizabeth), Tom Jr. (Dana), Jeanine (Alex) and Maria; and grandchildren Amy, Anna, James, Sami, Gabriel, Giancarlo, and Joseph.

We are so fortunate to have known him.

– Jack Meehan

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 member): _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____

E-MAIL (please!): _____

CIRCLE ONE: Annual-new (\$30) Annual-renewal (\$30) Business (\$50) Life (\$150)

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

DATE PAID: _____

PHS SEEKING FAMILY FILMS FOR HISTORICAL ARCHIVE

Got film? The Pinole Historical Society is embarking on a major project to archive the city's history — family by family and event by event. Our objective is 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 game?

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.

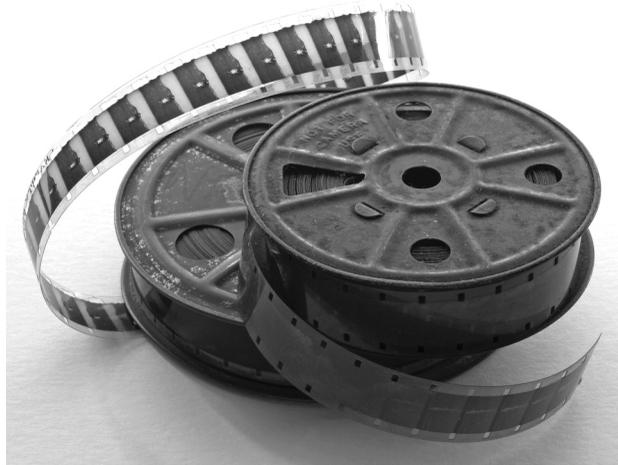
Nearly everyone has taken home movies. That makes everyone who has taken film a historian.

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).

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

Got film? Please contact us at info@pinolehistorical.com




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The Pinole Historical Society is grateful for donations of artifacts, photos, newspapers, memorabilia—anything of historical significance.

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How you can help us preserve the history of Pinole

Always seeking to improve and add to the society's collection, the PHS welcomes inquiries from individuals owning objects which are significant to the history of Pinole.

Though we do not have a museum, we have three exhibit spaces at the Pinole Library and conduct history programs for service organizations, retirement residences, and schools.

Artifacts are an important part of these programs.

Please contact us at info@pinolehistoricalsociety.org or call (510) 724-9507 if you have an object you'd like to donate.

Also, 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 and scroll down to PINOLE HISTORY. Several recent programs have been added.

In memoriam

Norman Doidge: July 23, 1949 — May 8, 2014

Norman Joseph Doidge, 64, long-time resident of Pinole and an early Pinole family. Norman was preceded in his passing by parents, Allan K. Doidge and Alice Mae Doidge, and brother, James A. Doidge.

Norman's father was a former mayor of Pinole and Doidge Avenue in Pinole Valley bears his name. Norman's mother, Mae, was a long-time teacher in the old Pinole-Hercules District, teaching many years at the Old Pinole Hill School and at Ellerhorst School in the valley.

Norman lived in the old-town area of Summit Drive and was a familiar figure on the streets of Pinole and Hercules.

He hailed from the old Pinole neighborhoods and knew everyone in town. He walked daily, greeting all in his travels with a pleasant smile and handshake. No one who met Norm will forget his kind nature and willingness to go out of his way to help. He made instant and lasting friendships and will be missed as a young old-timer who loved Pinole and its history.

Norm is survived by his children, Sean Doidge, Leah Perez (Vincent), Kelly Doidge, and Taryn Doidge. He is also survived by grandchildren Lillian Perez, Sean and Sierra Doidge, and Jayden and Ralvyn Getts.

— George Vincent

Jerry Cates Sr.: August 13, 1942 — May 21, 2014

Jerry Cates Sr., 71, brought together hundreds of community groups, businesses, and individuals to raise funds and build Amber Swartz Park on Savage Avenue. It was a project born and catalyzed by local service clubs (Rotary, especially) and vested in Jerry.

The park is a permanent reminder of the death of Pinole Police Officer Floyd Bernie Swartz in 1980 and the tragedy of the kidnapping of his and his wife Kim's daughter, Amber in 1988 — who to this day is missing.

Jerry was deeply involved in the Pinole community: Jaycees, Roosters, director of Doctors Hospital, Rejects, P.I.G.S., and Rotary Club.

Jerry died at home following a long illness. Born in Carter County, Missouri, Jerry's parents, Henry and Henrietta Cates, preceded him in death. Jerry arrived in California before his second birthday. He graduated from Richmond High School in 1960.

Jerry was a Farmers Insurance agent in Pinole for more than 40 years.

Jerry is survived by his wife Judy and his children Jerry Jr. (Darla) Cates, James Cates, Kristy (Patrick) Cates-Frankfort, and two step-daughters, Michelle Mendes and Cindy Dzierman. A daughter, Tammy Fleharty, preceded him in death. He is also survived by two brothers and two sisters.

— Jack Meehan



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Back in the day

DO YOU QUALIFY AS A PINOLE OLD-TIMER?

By George R. Vincent

What makes for an authentic old-time Pinolean?

To qualify, do you have to be born in the Pinole village? Is it one's great memory of events and peoples since coming to Township #11? Or is it simply the courtesy reserved for one's age measured in golden years, such as children standing in respect at the dinner table until the oldsters are seated?

The following exercise is a quiz in Pinole's recent history to see if you measure up as an old-timer or otherwise.

The year is 1955. Since 1901, there has

Club Alibi, corner of Fernandez and San Pablo avenues.



been a bench on the Tennent Avenue side of Antlers Tavern for elderly Pinole gentlemen to gath-

er, gab, and watch ladies pass, as well as the cars going by on old Highway 40. Do you remember

these bench-sitters' names: Joe Barron, Frank Faria, Ed Silva, Antone Rodrigues,

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DO YOU QUALIFY AS A PINOLE OLD-TIMER?

Emmet Walton, John Scanlan, Clifford Hughes, Charley Ruff, Louis Francis, or Harry Amos?

Or perhaps Pinole politics in 1955 will give you a memory jolt.

The five-man Pinole City Council was then heavily engaged in transforming the sleepy hamlet of 1,500 into a city of 20,000.

Sub-dividers had options on hundreds of acres of farm and pasture lands in Pinole Valley and on the rolling hills east and west of the town. The new I-80 freeway would soon split the valley from old town, and the new De Anza High School in El Sobrante was almost ready to welcome bused Pinole kids.

Waiting to be in step with the huge new transformation of the building boom they were charged with were Councilmen Chester Wright, Gerald

Stokes, Guy Savage, Louis J. Ruff, and Mayor Allan K. Doidge.

Ruff died unexpectedly, leaving a vacancy after serving 31 years as a councilman. City Treasurer George Dutra also sat on the council.

Do any of these last names ring a memory bell as you drive Pinole Valley's streets?

Events in the 1960s are more recent but still more than 50 years ago. Folks in town were still enjoying the small-town comforts of Antlers Tavern on Tennent Avenue or the Club Alibi on Fernandez Avenue.

Joe Lunghi at Antlers Tavern served the best shrimp and crab cocktails as you sat on the high, blue-seated barstools.

Mike Lewis and the Club Alibi were famous for "the lady in the blue evening gown," a life-like

mannequin in the men's room entrance, seated on a toilet. When first-timers went to use the rest room she moved realistically, getting laughs as the fellow ran from what he thought was the ladies room.

Remember the spectacular accident on Highway 40 in October of 1963?

Do you recall the dual trailer Wards truck sliding off the slick road on the bridge by the Pinole Santa Fe Depot?

It fell over the side and down 45 feet to the

Santa Fe tracks. Half of the truck stuck on the railing and the other half dangled to the tracks. The driver miraculously suffered only a broken arm and cuts.

Or perhaps you recall four years later in 1967 when sleepy Pinole again made big news.

Pinole resident Gerard A. Gill, an amateur geologist, discovered and uncovered between Pinole and Rodeo the fossilized remains of a prehistoric mammoth

Continued on page 10

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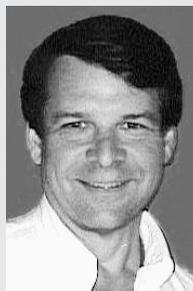
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DO YOU QUALIFY AS A PINOLE OLD-TIMER?

Continued from page 9

(elephant) some 25,000 years old. The huge hip-bone was 34 inches by 47 inches and weighed 250 pounds.

A more recent memory jogger occurred in May of 1969. News of the Vietnam War and later the first man on the moon dominated the headlines, except for a time in May it was Pinole's turn again. One Sunday, a massive slide of the I-80 freeway occurred from heavy winter rains. The great crevice became known as "the hole over Pinole." The crevice grew to be 100 yards long and 30 feet deep.

All freeway traffic was re-routed back to the old Highway 40 (San Pablo Ave.) and through old town Pinole once again after an 11-year absence of heavy traffic. Traffic at one point was backed up to Sacramento, 70 miles away. A new detour to be constructed was estimated to have 100,000 cubic yards of new fill at a huge (back then) cost of \$360,000. Imagine the price tag today!

See how you scored as a Pinolean going back some 60 years. Take an honest memory count

and rank yourself on the following scale:

1. Total Recall (like it happened yesterday) (100%): "Solid Gold Oldest Old-Timer Level."

2. Half-Remembered (50% or better):

"Advanced Older-Timer Level."

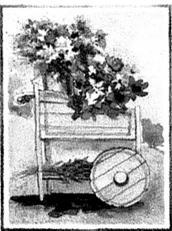
3. One-Fourth Remembered (25%):

"Part-Timer Old-Timer Level."

4. Less Than 25% Remembered: "No-Timer Level." Time to join the Pinole Historical Society!



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NEW PINOLE BOOK

Continued from front page

get an idea of the content of the book.

Fonthill Media publishes in the USA, UK, France, and Spain.

Its titles are published simultaneously as printed books and e-books and supplied to the general book trade. Most titles are aimed at general readership level, but with a more specialist, or in-depth focus on the subject matter in hand.

The PHS would love to see old photos that residents might have of their homes, their family's homes, and buildings that once existed or currently exist in Pinole, for possible inclusion in the book. Please contact us at (510) 724-9507, or via e-mail at info@pinolehistoricalsociety.org.

The PHS published its first book, *Images of America: Pinole*, in 2009, with Arcadia Publishing. The book has done remarkably well; it's in its second printing and has sold 2,059 copies (as of July 18), including 793 directly by the PHS at the Pinole Farmers' Market, mail order, festivals, and at our meetings and history programs throughout the community. The society stocks 10 area books; an order form is on page 14 of this newsletter.

George and Emma Sandoval, former owners of Walker's Restaurant & Pie Shop welcome you to

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WHAT'S IN THE NAME?

Ramosmania rodriguesi (café marrón) is native to the island of Rodrigues in the Indian Ocean.

Thought extinct until a single surviving tree was spotted in 1980 by a schoolboy, who was shown a drawing of the plant by his teacher.

Although the plant regularly flowers, it never produced seed until horticulturalists discovered how to pollinate the flowers. In 2003, the café marrón bore its first fruit with viable seeds. Slow-but-steady efforts have been made to grow more café marrón trees and speed up the pollination process.

Ramosmania rodriguesi is a critically endangered plant species.

Café Marrón in Venezuela

Like the Italians, Venezuelans also have a wide array of ways to drink their coffee.

A marrón, or Marroncito is a term used by Venezuelans to ask for a single shot of espresso-like coffee to which milk is added, giving it a marrón color.



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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.

City adds history videos

Five PHS programs have been added to the city's website. They include:

- 2012 Veterans Day
- 2013 Veterans Day
- Japanese American Internment (9/6/12)
- School bell dedication
- Bars, Barbers and Characters of Early Pinole (2/7/14).

We thank Bob Kopp for shooting the video for all of these events.

To view these, and others, go to the city's website www.ci.pinole.ca.us/about/videos.html and scroll down to PINOLE HISTORY.

The Pinole Mural

A Community Legacy



Watch The Pinole Mural video at this link:
<http://www.pinolehistoricalsociety.org/PinoleMural.mov>

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2014 quarterly meetings at Kaiser continue on Friday evenings

The 2014 quarterly membership meetings of the Pinole Historical Society will be held Friday evenings from 6:30 to 8 p.m. in conference rooms

2A and 2B of the Kaiser Permanente Medical Office Building, 1301 Pinole Valley Road.

As always, we will have an interesting program for you at each meeting.

The remaining 2014 meeting schedule is: September 5 • November 7

'PRESIDENTIAL' ROSIES GUESTS AT SEPT. 5 MEETING

Six women who distinguished themselves as Rosie the Riveters at the Kaiser Shipyards during World War II — building the ships that helped win the war — had a delightful breakfast visit with Vice President Joe Biden in Washington, D.C., on March 31.

They included several from West Contra Costa County — Pinole's Priscilla Elder among them. They dined with the vice president and received an unanticipated visit and kiss on the cheek from President Barack Obama.

The Rosies will recount their weeklong visit to Washington — and their lives as World War II heroines — at the Pinole Historical Society's quarterly meeting on Friday, September 5, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. in conference rooms 2A and 2B of the Kaiser Medical Office Building in Pinole. The program is free and open to the public. For more information, visit www.pinolehistoricalsociety.org or call (510) 724-9507.



Presidential Rosies (L-R): Priscilla Elder, Marian Wynn, Kay Morrison, Marian Sousa, and Phyllis Gould— Photo courtesy of the Bay Area News Group

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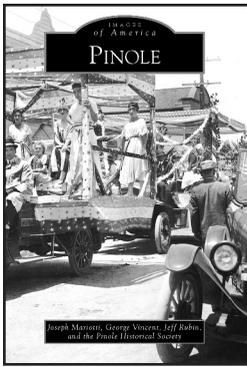
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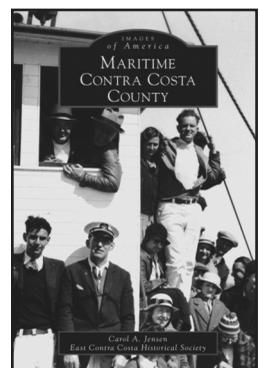
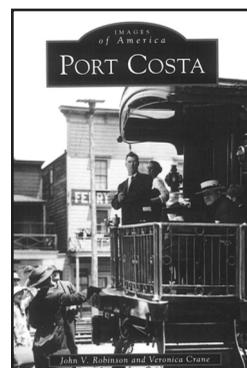
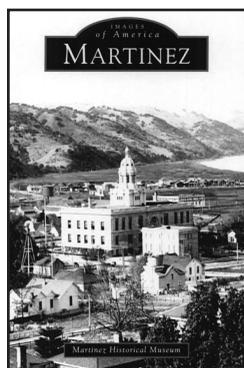
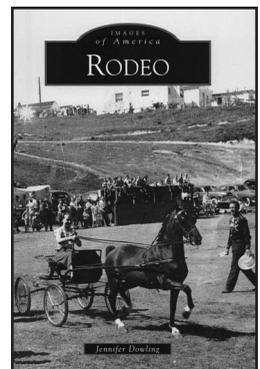
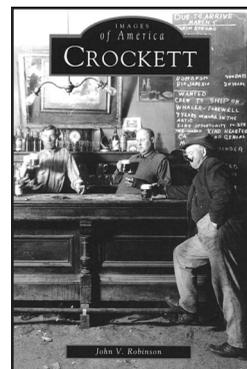
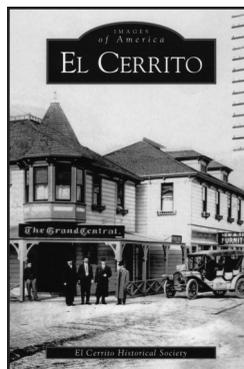
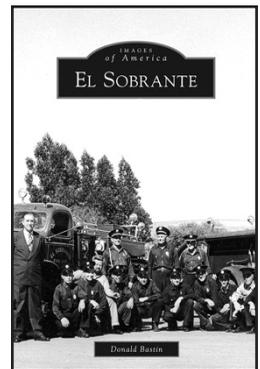
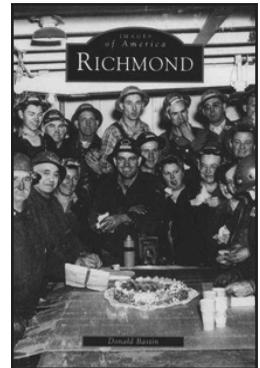
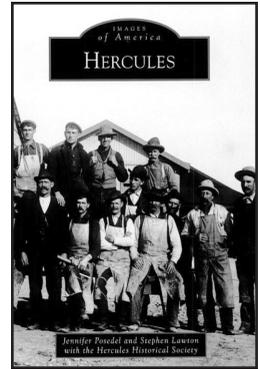
The Pinole Historical Society stocks Arcadia Publishing books about Hercules, Richmond, El Sobrante, El Cerrito, Crockett, Rodeo, Martinez, Port Costa, and Maritime Contra Costa County. And, of course, we have plenty of Pinole books.

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

Pinole, Hercules, Richmond, El Sobrante, El Cerrito, and Maritime Contra Costa County books are **\$24**, including 8.75% sales tax.

Crockett, Rodeo, Martinez, and Port Costa books are **\$22**, including 8.75% sales tax.

You may order one or more by mail (prices at left include postage) and we'll ship them to you. Send your order to **Pinole Historical Society, P.O. Box 285, Pinole, CA 94564**.



50 years ago — 1964

August 1: The Beatles' "A Hard Day's Night," single goes #1 and stays #1 for two weeks.

August 4: The bodies of civil-rights workers Michael Schwerner, Andrew Goodman, and James Chaney are discovered in an earthen Mississippi dam.

August 7: U.S. Congress approves the Gulf of Tonkin resolution.

August 18: South Africa is banned from the Olympic Games because of apartheid policies.

August 26: President Lyndon Baines Johnson is nominated for president at the Democratic National Convention in Atlantic City, NJ.

September 1: San Francisco Giants' pitcher Masanori Murakami becomes the first Japanese player in Major League Baseball.

September 12: Canyonlands National Park (Utah) is designated as a national park.

September 22: "Fiddler on the Roof," starring Zero Mostel, opens on Broadway at the Imperial Theater in New York and begins a then-record run of 3,242 performances.

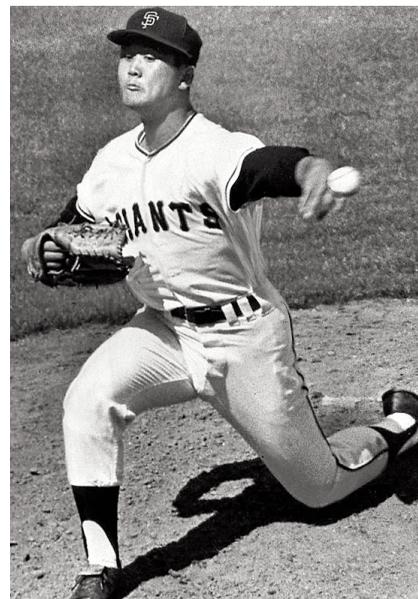
September 24: The Warren Commission Report, the first official investigation of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, is published.

October 1: San Francisco cable cars are declared a national landmark.

October 1: Three thousand student activists at the University of California, Berkeley, surround and block a police car from taking a CORE volunteer

arrested for not showing his ID when he violated a ban on outdoor activist card tables. This protest eventually explodes into the Berkeley Free Speech Movement.

October 14: Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. wins the Nobel Peace Prize.



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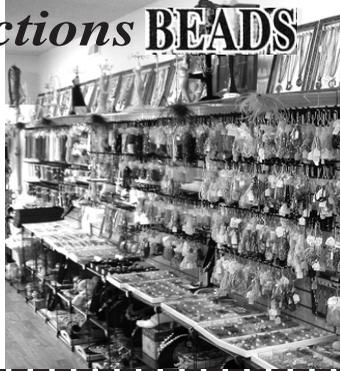
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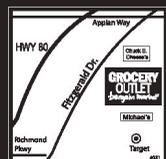
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