



The Albany Historical Society

Volume 3, Number 1

January - March 2013

You're Invited
Sunday, January 13, 2013
Annual Albany Historical Society Meeting
2:00 – 2:30 Annual meeting & Board elections
2:30 Premier of the video, "Tales of Albany Little League".

President's Message

The Albany Historical Society wishes you a very Happy 2013!

We would like to express our gratitude and thanks to all our friends for their support. Due to their generosity, the Albany Historical Society was able to continue efforts and events to discover, preserve, and disseminate knowledge about the Albany area. Here is a look back at some of our 2012 highlights:

At our January, 2012 Annual Meeting, we welcomed new Board member Doug Eaton and returning Board members, Joan Larson, Ruth Ganong, Marsha Skinner, Peggy McQuaid, Jack Rosano, Kim Denton, and Brian Parsley.

This meeting also provided an opportunity for hosting guest speakers and an open forum about the history of Albany Hospital. The group exchanged wonderful stories about the site, from its beginning as Humbolt Hospital, through its days of Albany Hospital and later Alta Bates Annex.

In the Spring, we held an Albany Little League Storytelling day. This organization has had a fabulous history of volunteer commitment and dedication to our Albany youth. If you missed this event, see the announcement above for the premier showing of a video of the event, complete with a sing along of ***Take Me Out To The Ballgame.***

This past Summer, the Albany Hospital Plaque was installed in front of the Community Center (Marin and Masonic Avenues).

The seventh Albany Historical Society plaque was installed in the Fall of 2012. It commemorates the notorious "Garbage Wars" and is located in the southwest corner of San Pablo Ave. and Buchanan St.

Joan Larson

SPOTLIGHT

This SPOTLIGHT remembers our friends, neighbors, and community members who passed away in 2012. We thank them for their contributions to the fabric of Albany history.

Donald (Don) Armstrong

Retired City of Albany and AUSD Maintenance staff member

Louis Banducci

Born in Albany May 1935

Marguerite Banks

Albany resident (555 Pierce St.)

Elisabeth Bell

Board Member, Albany Chamber of Commerce

Beatrice (Bea) Besette

Albany Crossing Guard

Elizabeth (Pat) Gidney Blair

Former Albany resident

Mary Butler

Albany Library Literacy Programs

Mary Golinveaux Cascio

Retired AUSD cafeteria worker

Joseph Grant Chamberlain

Pilot, LDS Bishop and District President

Olga Coggiola

Resident who moved to Albany as a bride in 1941

Domenic Cola

Born in Albany November 1925

Lou Cola

Born in Albany November 1915

Diane Reagan Colbert

Born in Albany September 1942

Richard Neil Cooledge

Albany High Class of 1945

Florence DeProspero Dalton

Former Albany resident

Clarence (Pete) DeHaven

World War II veteran, Albany resident since 1954

Dr. Fred Doxsee

Dentist in Albany 1964-1985

Jeffrey (Jeff) Essex

Musician, raconteur, PTA volunteer and wearer of ubiquitous hats

Bill Gilreath

Banker, father, grandfather

George R (Dick) Goranson

Born in Albany February 1947

John Francis Griffin, Jr.

Albany High Class of 1965

Evelyn Grover

Secretary, Jacuzzi Bros., Albany

Alice June Knight Hardie

Albany High Class of 1946, resident of Albany for 67 years

Florabelle Blank Hildebrand

PTA President, Albany Middle School teacher

Patricia Hirabara

Albany High Class of 1963

Lorraine Virginia Hurley

U.S. Postal Service employee

Donald Gene Hutson

Inventor, Albany resident

Roslyn Isseks

Red-haired Albany library lover, former dancer

James Izumizaki

Albany High graduate, Albany Middle School teacher

Jennifer (Jessica) Kingter

Former Albany student, dancer, aspiring chef

Horace (Mike) Koepke

Albany Fire Chief from 1975-1994

Lois Larsen Lair

Albany High Class of 1942

Florence (Pat) Lindstrom

Albany Crossing Guard

May Ruth Ling

Travel agent, Albany community activist

Armond Macchi

Albany resident since 1942

Swarna Matz

Director, Bright Star Montessori School
Albany Chamber of Commerce Board Member

Ronald McCausland

Born in Albany May 1943

Patty McKay

PTA, Friends of the Albany Library Volunteer

Gerald (Gerry) Moore

Born at home in Albany in 1927

Doris Loretta Moore

Sister Mary Julia Bertrand

Anna Lucille Pacheco

Albany resident for 47 years

Diane Perry

Born in Albany April 1939

Irene Alpegene Piasente

89 year resident of Albany

Pauline Purvis

Theater, music lover

Cathy Qiu

Albany High student

Katherine Kaufman Schaffer

Albany teacher

Eugene (Gene) Serex

Born in Albany, Albany High Class of 1955

Dr. Lee Roy Spencer, Jr.

Retired from his Albany dental practice in 1990

Stuart Teitler

Dancer, musician, collector, scholar

Frank Thelen

Born in Albany April 1934

Arnold ("Arnie") Waxman

Operated "House of Kitchens" on Solano Avenue,

Mayland Wilcox

Albany High Class of 1938, Navy veteran of World War II

Pauline Williams

Albany resident (Spokane Avenue)

Jack Wing

Albany resident (Peralta Avenue)

Joseph Zarri

Owner Zarri's Delicatessen, Solano Avenue, Albany

Joseph Zupo

Little League coach, born in Albany December 1940

75 Years Ago

50 Years Ago

January 7, 1938

Funeral services were held for Leroy Weaver, aged 52. Involved in the real estate business, Mr. Weaver "aided greatly in securing the trees and shrubbery which now adds to the beauty of the playground" at Jewel's Terrace Park, the facility originally being called Weaver Park in recognition of his efforts to establish the park.

Charles Hardie, who joined the Police Department as a Deputy Marshall in 1915, announced that he was a candidate for Chief of Police. An Albany resident since 1907, Sergeant Hardie and his wife lived at 716 Madison.

January 14, 1938

Golden Gate Stucco, with offices at Brighton and Masonic, purchased four 1 1/2 ton dump trucks from the local Chevrolet dealer.

The French Laundry, located at 626 Cornell, picked up laundry and delivered it dry and finished.

The Albany Wood Yard, located at 415 Evelyn, offered coal at \$18 per ton, with free delivery.

January 21, 1938

Eleven cases of whooping cough had been reported in the prior six months. City Nurse Norma Carr had made 66 home visits during the same period upon report of contagious disease.

Albany High planned graduation exercises for 41 students.

February 11, 1938

Having spent 10 years without a raise, the salary of the Chief of Police was increased from \$200 to \$225 per month.

March 4, 1938

The Carmel Liquor Store at 1401 Solano offered delivery for telephone orders.

January 2, 1963

The City budget was cut 2% due to decreased tax revenues. Among the planned expenditures eliminated was the \$50,000 budgeted to re-install the Easter Cross on Albany Hill.

Direct dialing of long-distance telephone calls was planned for later in the year. Albany residents received leaflets instructing them about the planned addition of a three-digit geographic code, which would be dialed prior to dialing the telephone number.

Postal rates increased from four cents per ounce to five cents per ounce.

An inspection by the Office of the State Engineer found that four buildings on the Albany High campus did not meet new state earthquake standards: band building, homemaking cottage, the annex, and the wood shop.

January 16, 1963

John Richardson opened the American Opinion Book Store at 904 San Pablo, featuring conservative anti-Communist books and periodicals. A room was available on the premises to play tapes "revealing the inroads subversives have made in this country"

February 27, 1963

The Board of Education agreed to place a \$995,000 Bond issue on the ballot. Construction of a new shop building and an art/music building was planned.

March 6, 1963

Dagna's Market celebrated its 30th anniversary. The store was opened in 1933, by Joe and Mary Dagna, and doubled in size in 1940. The parking lot was created in 1956, and expanded in 1960.

March 13, 1963

The Albany High Basketball team won its first championship in six years.