



Pinole **Historical** Society

E-News

EIGHT STUDENTS WIN ESSAY-CONTEST GRAND PRIZES

Students at Collins, Ellerhorst, Shannon, and St. Joseph schools were awarded certificates of merit for their participation in the fifth annual Pinole Historical Society Essay Contest. Awards were given June 3 and 4.

This year, students were asked to write essays about "What Makes a Community Like Pinole so Special?"

Eight students won grand prizes — a Target gift card and a copy of the book, *Images of America: Pinole*, for their superior essays. The grand-prize winners were:

- **Shannon Elementary School:** Madisonn Browning (second grade) and Isabelle Tehrani (fifth grade). This was the second time Isabelle won the contest's grand-prize. She also won in 2012.
- **Collins Elementary School:** Jonathan Tesfa, Andrea Perez, and Justine De La Cruz. All are in the fourth grade.



SHANNON WINNER ISABELLE TEHRANI (FIFTH GRADE): *Teacher Tresa Marie Smith, Pinole Mayor Debbie Long, Isabelle Tehrani, Principal Elaine Brady. Isabelle was a repeat grand-prize winner.*

• **St. Joseph School:** Sabir Seth (kindergarten), Ashley Maravilla (third grade), and Carlyn Wisherop (eighth grade).

MORE PHOTOS ON NEXT PAGE

OLD SCHOOL BELL INSTALLED

The school bell that rang several generations of Pinole and Hercules students to class was installed next to the Collins Elementary School multi-purpose room by a crew of expert West Contra Costa Unified School District maintenance workers on June 26.

The bell is all that remains of the Pinole-Hercules School #1, the "Old School," which was in service from 1906 to 1966. It was demolished in 1968.

The school district is working on a bronze plaque that will be placed at the base of the bell. The Pinole Artisans has been commissioned to paint a mural that will be hung on the wall behind the bell. When all this is done, the PHS will have a formal dedication ceremony.



ESSAY CONTEST

ST. JOSEPH WINNERS: (Rear, L-R): Principal Arlene Marseille, Pinole Historical Society President Marcia Kalapus; (Middle, L-R): Camille Bolos, Dean Dimalanta, Carlyn Wisherop, Pinole Mayor Debbie Long; (Front, L-R): Sydney Madayag, Joshua Tibay, Ashley Maravilla, Donovan Salvador. Winners not in picture: Sabir Seth and Kylee Fernandez.



COLLINS WINNERS: (Rear, L-R): Pinole Mayor Debbie Long, Pinole Historical Society President Marcia Kalapus, Collins Elementary School Principal Anne Shin; (Front, L-R) Grand Prize winners Jonathan Tesfa, Andrea Perez, and Justine De La Cruz.

Pinole **Historical** Society

P.O. Box 285, Pinole, CA 94564

www.PinoleHistoricalSociety.org info@PinoleHistoricalSociety.org

(510) 724-9507



WELLS FARGO PINOLE MURAL DEDICATION JULY 25

NOTICE WILL BE SENT TO CONFIRM DATE AND TIME

The dedication of the Pinole historical mural in the Pinole office of Wells Fargo Bank at 1374 Fitzgerald Drive, tentatively has been scheduled for Thursday, July 25, at 11 a.m.

Historic images of Pinole's rich history, beginning with the El Rancho Pinole land grant of 1823, are featured in the dramatic mural, part of the bank's Community Mural Program.

A typical mural design combines Wells Fargo images and local images that reflect the history and diversity of the community. An accompanying legend describes each historical image used.

The Pinole mural includes images of a map of the land grant, the Martinez Adobe, downtown Pinole in the 1920s, Lawrence "Big Red" LeFebvre, the Pinole-Hercules School (the Old School), the Pinole Fire Department (and Chief Wallace "Pepper" Martin) in the early 1950s, the 1904 class of the Plaza School (featuring teacher Frances Ellerhorst), the original Santa Fe depot, Hercules Powder Works employees, Bernardo Fernandez, and the seal of the city of Pinole.

Wells Fargo donated \$500 to the PHS for providing all of the local images for the mural.



West County Times columnist Chris Treadway donates photo

The PHS thanks *West County Times* columnist Chris Treadway for donating this wedding photo of Louise Allen Tennent, who married James Hugh Tennent, son of Dr. Samuel J. Tennent. The photo dates to around 1880.

Chris found the photo while rummaging through his grandmother's heirlooms. Chris tells us:

"My grandmother knew their daughter, Margaret, growing up in Tulare. I met Margaret Tennent Botts, born in Pinole in 1893, in 1981.

"The photo is from the Louis Stein collection. I don't know if you already have it [we didn't]. Louis Stein and my grandmother both graduated from Cal in 1924."

James Tennent built a two-story home for his bride, Louise, on land across the street from his father's ranch on Pinole Valley Road. That home was later sold to Joseph and Maria Faria, whose children and grandchildren were reared in that house. The Faria House was moved to 2100 San Pablo Avenue in 2005 to make room for the Kaiser Permanente Medical Office Building.



CELEBRATE OUR INDEPENDENCE ABOARD THE RED OAK VICTORY

Tickets are being sold for the annual July 3 BBQ with fireworks aboard the historic SS Red Oak Victory at the Port of Richmond.

Tickets are \$25 per person and can be purchased at the following locations:

- the Red Oak Victory Gift Shop
- Richmond Museum of History Gift Shop (400 Nevin Avenue), and
- by phone at (510) 237-2933 or (510) 235-7387.

Launched on November 9, 1944, as the SS Red Oak Victory, and commissioned as the USS Red Oak Victory (AK235) in December 1944, the Red Oak Victory is the only vessel built by the Kaiser Shipyards in Richmond that is being restored.

The ship saw service in World War II, Korea,



The SS Red Oak Victory was launched on November 9, 1944. Photo courtesy of the Edna R. Moeller Family Collection, Richmond Museum of History.

and Vietnam, and has the distinction of being the only ship operated by both military and civilian personnel during her career.

In 1996, by an Act of Congress, title to the SS Red Oak Victory was conveyed to the Richmond Museum Association.

One of the primary goals of the museum is to preserve, restore and develop the Red Oak Victory into a viable asset that can be used, enjoyed and appreciated

by the citizens of Richmond and the surrounding Bay Area communities.

The historic World War II cargo ship is owned and maintained by the Richmond Museum of History. The ship opens to visitors 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday, and Sunday.

The last docent tour of the day begins at 2 p.m.

PHS INTERVIEWS ON CITY OF PINOLE WEBSITE

Miss 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 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

Got 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).

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. We'll return your film; we just want to borrow and digitize it.

UPCOMING PINOLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETINGS

The 2013 quarterly membership meetings of the Pinole Historical Society are being held on Friday evenings at the Kaiser

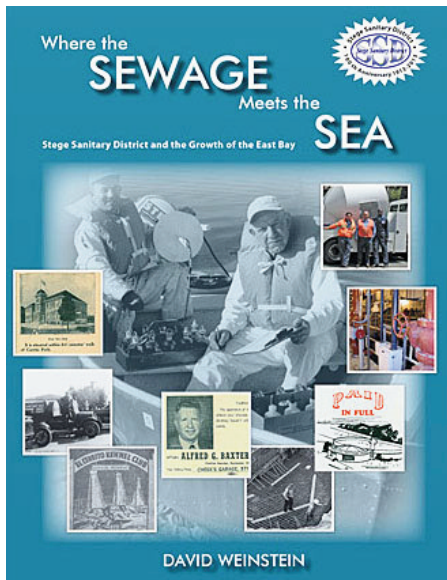
Permanente Medical Office
Building on Pinole Valley Road.
The remaining 2013 meeting
schedule is:

• **September 6**

• **November 15**

As always, we will have an interesting program for you at each meeting. Tell your friends!

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.



NEW BOOK BY EL CERRITO HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBER

A new book, the story of Stege Sanitary District, *Where the Sewage Meets the Sea: Stege Sanitary District and the Growth of the East Bay*, by El Cerrito Historical Society Vice President David Weinstein, was just published by Stege on the occasion of its centenary.

The book tracks the growth of El Cerrito and surrounding areas, talking about gambling, the rise of the Good Government League, etc.

It is available for free download at the Stege website: www.stege-san.org/who-we-are/ebook.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE TO COMMEMORATE THE 69TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PORT CHICAGO EXPLOSION

Join the National Park Service and the Friends of Port Chicago National Memorial to honor the 320 men who lost their lives in the largest WWII military disaster on the home front. Visitors are invited to attend the ceremony at 10 a.m. on Saturday, July 20, 2013 at the site of the catastrophe, which occurred on July 17, 1944, at Port Chicago Naval Magazine in Concord, when two ships being loaded with ammunition exploded.

Following the ceremony, all visitors are welcome to attend a short ranger-led program and a screening of "...into forgetfulness," a documentary film about Port Chicago. Visitors will have an opportunity to share stories and learn more about the explosion, the desegregation of the United States Armed Forces, and the birth of the civil rights movement in our country.

As the event will be held on an active military base, all visitors must have reservations and a security check. Visitors age 18 and under must be accompanied by an adult, but do not need to provide the infor-



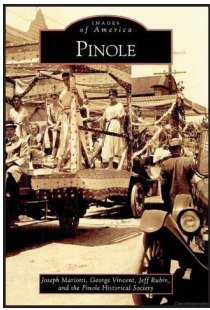
mation below. When reserving a spot, please be ready to give the following:

- First and last name
- Gender
- Date of birth
- E-mail or mailing address
- Daytime phone number
- The identification number of a government issued ID, e.g., driver's license, state issued ID.

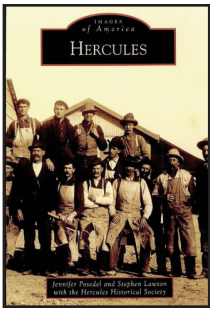
Reservations are required and must be made by July 5. To

make a reservation, please leave a voicemail message at 925-228-8860, ext. 6423, or e-mail Jim_MacDonald@nps.gov. Your reservation is confirmed when you receive acknowledgement from NPS staff. For more information about the event, please visit www.nps.gov/poch.

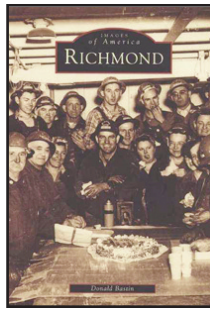
The National Park Service offers guided 1 1/2-hour tours of Port Chicago Naval Magazine throughout the year on Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays at 1:30 p.m. Not all dates may be available, and reservations must be made at least two weeks in advance online or by phone at 925-228-8860 ext. 6520.



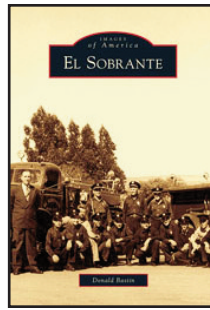
Pinole



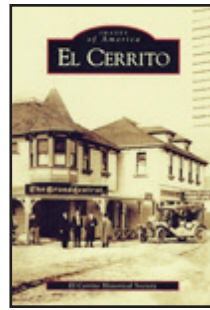
Hercules



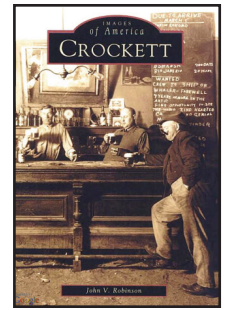
Richmond



El Sobrante



El Cerrito



Crockett

LOCAL HISTORY BOOKS AVAILABLE FROM THE PINOLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The 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.

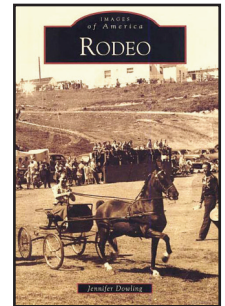
You may purchase one or more of these books from us at the Pinole Farmers' Market—we'll be there every other Saturday through the end of December.

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.

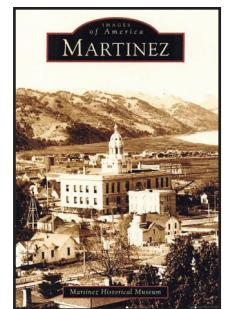
Or, you may order one or more by mail and we'll ship them to you. Send your order to **Pinole Historical Society, P.O. Box 285, Pinole, CA 94564**.

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

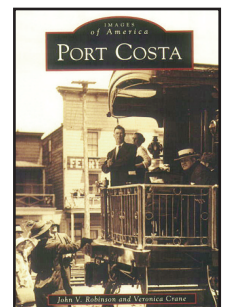
- Pinole:** \$27
- Hercules:** \$27
- Richmond:** \$27
- El Sobrante:** \$27
- El Cerrito:** \$27
- Crockett:** \$25
- Rodeo:** \$25
- Martinez:** \$25
- Port Costa:** \$25



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**



Pinole **Historical** Society

Help us preserve Pinole's history through:

- Exhibits at the Pinole Library
- Pinole history programs in schools
- Pinole Community TV programs
- Walking tours of downtown Pinole
- Veterans' Day event in Fernandez Park
- A proposed municipal museum

Annual memberships are only \$30

Please mail the membership application today!

Pinole **Historical** Society

2013 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 2013 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: _____

TWO DOCUMENTARIES BEING SHOWN AT ROSIE THE RIVETER/ WWII HOME FRONT NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK

A new documentary film called “The War At Home” is being shown daily at the Rosie the Riveter/WWII Home Front National Historical Park. The 25-minute film screens hourly at the park’s Visitor Education Center, starting at 11 a.m.. The last screening is at 4 p.m. It’s shown seven days a week.

“The War At Home,” produced in collaboration between the National Park Service and Signature



Communications, uses oral histories, archival materials, and personal diaries to illustrate the diversity and complexity of the World War II homefront experience, from the perspective of a number of real people who lived in different cities across the United States.

Another 16-minute documentary film, “Home Front Heroes,” which outlines the history of defense manufacturing in Richmond, during World War II, is also screened regularly, alternating with “The War At Home.”

5TH ANNUAL HOME FRONT FILM FESTIVAL PRESENTS 6 WWII-ERA FILMS ABOARD THE SS RED OAK VICTORY

The Rosie the Riveter/World War II Home Front National Historical Park and the Richmond Museum of History Association will present the 5th Annual WWII Home Front Film Festival on Thursdays in July and August. The film festival will feature popular, full-length movies that were shown on the Home Front during the WWII period.

Six movies will be screened aboard the SS Red Oak Victory, a beautifully restored ship built in Richmond during World War II. The ship is located in historic Shipyard #3, where thousands of Americans labored to build 747 ships over the course of the war. Ship address: 1337 Canal Blvd., Berth 6A, in Richmond. For directions to the shipyard, call 510-237-2933 or visit www.ssred-oakvictory.com/contact.htm.

Boarding is at 6:30 pm and the films begin at 7. 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 gangplank (40 feet, of stairs with railings) and steep steps once aboard ship.

The movies include:

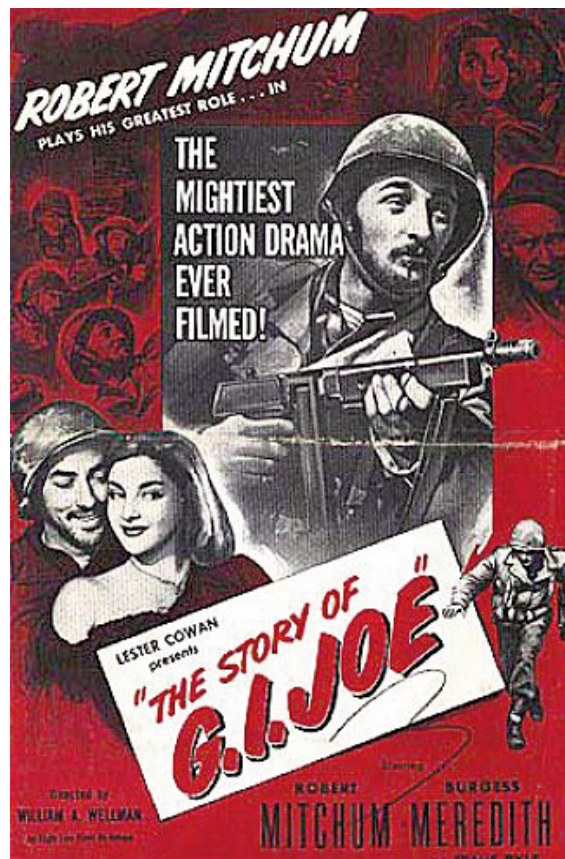
July 11: Casablanca (1942). Starring Humphrey Bogart and Ingrid Bergman: This “viewer’s choice” film is being reprised this year, as it was chosen by the festival audience as a favorite from the last four years. Casablanca is considered the greatest romance film of all time.

July 25: Lifeboat (1944). Written by John Steinbeck and directed by Alfred Hitchcock: This film was also a top audience choice, full of twists and turns only Hitchcock can deliver.

August 8: The Story of G.I. Joe (1945). Starring Burgess Meredith and Robert Mitchum. As WWII came to an end, this film was a realistic look at what it was like to serve as a soldier in the European Theater. It’s based on the life of the famed war correspondent Ernie Pyle.

August 22: Dear Ruth (1946). starring William Holden and Joan Caulfield. Based on the 1944 play, a borrowed identity has hilarious consequences.

Popcorn and refreshments will be available for purchase. A National Park Service ranger will provide an introduction to the films in the context of the WWII Home Front.





ROSIE THE RIVETER

WORLD WAR II HOME FRONT NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK

July and August, 2013

FREE TOURS AND PROGRAMS

Daily Program @ Visitor Center

Every Day: 2:00pm to 2:45pm

On Tuesdays and Saturdays, Ranger Betty Soskin discusses her experience as a young African American woman during WWII. On Thursdays, docent Flora Ninomiya shows "Blossoms and Thorns", and shares her childhood experiences in a WWII internment camp. Sundays, the program, "Women, Get a War Job!" explores the media campaign that called women to "do their part" for the war effort.

DAILY

2:00pm
Visitor Center Theater
Topics Vary

Rationing for the Home Cook

Fridays: 2:00pm

During WWII, Americans were asked to sacrifice in support of the troops, and this was evident daily at the dinner table. Come to the Visitor Center, learn about rationing and share a treat - invented by wartime cooks - with our very own "Rosies".

7/12, 7/26
8/9, 8/23
Visitor Center Theater

Bus Tour

Wednesday: 10:00am-12:30pm

Take a city bus tour with park ranger Betty Soskin to visit key park sites while reflecting on African American home front experiences. Space is limited, reserve early. Starts at the Visitor Center. Call 510-232-5050 x0 for reservations.

Reservations Required

7/17, 7/24 and 8/7

Home Front History on your Bike!

Saturday: 10:00am-12:00pm

Explore Richmond's WWII-era history along the Bay Trail. Bring your bike and meet park rangers at the Visitor Center. Bring a bike lock so you can see the introductory film. (Easy, Helmets Required). RSVP: Raphael_Allen@nps.gov

RSVP Requested

7/13

Who Will Care for the Children?

Wednesday: 11:00am

Tour a wartime preschool classroom within the Maritime Child Development Center and learn about the essential role of childcare in the home front effort. Tour begins in the lobby of 1014 Florida Avenue, Richmond. (RSVP: 510-232-5050 X6622)

RSVP Requested

8/21 (Wed.)

Rosie the Riveter Memorial

Sundays: 11:30am

Meet a ranger at the Rosie the Riveter Memorial in Marina Bay Park for a 45 minute program exploring civilian contributions to the WWII American Home Front.

7/7, 7/14, 7/21
8/4, 8/11, 8/18, 8/25

For more information: 510-232-5050 x0 or call the Visitor Center at 510-232-3108 or visit www.nps.gov/rori. The Visitor Center is open every day from 10:00am to 5:00pm at 1414 Harbour Way South, Richmond, CA 94804

BLOSSOMS & THORNS

A COMMUNITY UPROOTED



A POWERFUL NEW DOCUMENTARY FILM BY KEN KOKKA,
ABOUT THE WWII EXPERIENCES OF JAPANESE AMERICANS
FLOWER GROWERS IN RICHMOND

THURSDAYS

JULY 11TH THROUGH DECEMBER 19TH 2013

Time: 2:00pm

Location: Rosie the Riveter Visitor Education Center

Duration: 45 minute program: 20 minute movie followed by talk and questions/answers.

Presenters: Representative from the Japanese American Citizens League and NPS Ranger.

Program: Overview of the experience of Richmond's Japanese American citizens who were incarcerated during the Second World War.

1414 Harbour Way South, Suite 3000, Richmond, CA (Harbour Way South Exit off 580) Phone: (510) 232-3108

Casablanca Night

July 11 2013

In "Ric's Cafe American" on board the Red Oak Victory 5:30–7:00 pm

Treats served and cocktails (including Shirley Temples) available

Donation of \$15 (this includes the normal \$5 donation to board the ship)

Proceeds to benefit the Red Oak Victory Youth Camp

Participants are encouraged to come in their best Casablanca costume

The Home Front Film Festival screening of "Casablanca" will take place at 7:00

R e d O a k V i c t o r y