



Pinole **Historical** Society

E-News

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY TO CELEBRATE OPENING OF ITS NEW HOME IN MARTINEZ ON APRIL 20

The Contra Costa County History Center will celebrate its recent move to 724 Escobar Street in Martinez with a Grand Opening on Saturday, April 20, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

County Supervisor Federal Glover and Contra Costa County Historical Society President John Burgh, together with other members of the historical societies board, will kick off the event at 10:30 a.m. with a ribbon cutting to mark the opening of the history center's new location, as well as the beginning of the history center's 31st year in existence.

"The Contra Costa County History Center has been in existence for 30 years, and I am delighted to be in a position to oversee this transition to a larger and more expanded facility," said Burgh. "We welcome this opportunity to share with county residents the historical resources that the history center has to offer."

The ribbon cutting will be followed by tours of the history center at one-half-hour intervals



and a chance to view the facility's new exhibit — *Contra Costa County: More than the Opposite Coast*, curated by Beverly Lane and Andrea Blachman. Refreshments and activities for children and adults will also be available,

and the book store will be open.

Contra Costa County's history is a microcosm of California's. The exhibit reflects this fact with information about the original Indian tribes, Spanish exploration, Rancho era and the Gold Rush population explosion. The agriculture, industries, and World War II county transformations are featured. Seldom-seen maps and a section on the county's 40-year flamboyant sheriff R.R. Veale get special attention.

For further information, please contact the history center at (925) 229-1042, or e-mail info@coco-history.com.

The Early Ranches of Pinole

The Early Ranches of Pinole will be the program at the Pinole Historical Society's next membership meeting on Friday, May 17, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. in conference rooms 2A and 2B of the Kaiser Permanente Medical Office Building.

The upper and lower Pinole Valley attracted 19th-century settlers whose livelihood depended on farming and ranching. The geography of rolling hills and fertile soil produced a ranching culture that

Continued on next page



WELLS FARGO BANK HISTORICAL MURAL COMING SOON

Wells Fargo Bank has informed the PHS that the remodeling of its Pinole office and the installation of the Pinole historical mural has been delayed. The estimated construction

completion date is June 19, so it looks as if the event we're planning around the unveiling of the mural will not take place until late June or July. We'll keep you apprised.

PHS BOARD MEETS WEDNESDAY, MAY 8, AT SENIOR CENTER

In 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 Wednesday, May 8.

The Early Ranches of Pinole

Continued from front page
drove Pinole's economy before and after the town's incorporation in 1903.

Cattle drives and caravans of hay and grain wagons from the valley hinterland were familiar sights for Pinoleans. This yearly parade came along Tennent Avenue through downtown to the bay-front railroad, warehouse, and wharf complex called Pinole Landing. The practice continued

until the mid 1940s and 1950s.

Surrounding dairy farms provided locals with milk, butter and cheese. However, in the 1920s and 1930s, tomatoes became the new cash crop of the Pinole Valley. By the 1950s and 1960s, the tomato fields and cattle-covered hillsides were replaced with homes as Pinole became part of the new suburbia.

The streets of Pinole are a roll call of hard-working pioneer

ranch names — Martinez, Tennent, Fernandez, Ellerhorst, Fitzgerald, Simas, Rose, Faria, Scanlan, Buckley, Silva, and Mohring.



The PHS will be installing an exhibit on The Early Ranches of Pinole at the Pinole Library in the next few weeks.

Pinole **Historical** Society

P.O. Box 285, Pinole, CA 94564

www.PinoleHistoricalSociety.org info@PinoleHistoricalSociety.org

(510) 724-9507

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/scppioneers).

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.

PINOLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETINGS MOVED TO FRIDAYS

The quarterly membership meetings of the Pinole Historical Society will be held on Friday evenings in 2013 at the Kaiser Permanente Medical Office Building.

Thursday evenings were no longer available, so we thought we'd try Fridays and see how they work for our members. We hope you'll be able to join us.

The remaining 2013 meeting schedule is:

- May 17
- 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.



PINOLE SPRING FESTIVAL 2013

**Presented by: Pinole Community Television
in partnership with
Pinole Youth Foundation & Senior Foundation**

**Sunday, May 19th
10am-6pm
Fernandez Park, Pinole**

- **Live Music**

**Tom Rigney & Flambeau (1pm-3pm)
Jun Simundo Band (4pm-6pm)**

- **Dance Performances**

Anjee's Dance Etc. (12pm & 3pm)

- **Pancake Breakfast**

Pinole Senior Center (8:30am-10:45am)

- **Food & Business Vendors**

- **Beer & Wine Patio**

**All you can eat Pasta Feed by:
Bob Kopp of The Redneck Cooking Show
*Proceeds to benefit PCTV**



Admission to the Park is Free
For more information, contact Dave Snell
(510)741-3862 dsnell@ci.pinole.ca.us



PROGRAMS AT ROSIE THE RIVETER/WWII HOME FRONT NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK

Speaker series explores legacy of American WWII homefront

The National Park Service is hosting a series of guest speakers who will explore the legacy of the American World War II homefront on Saturday afternoons this spring.

Saturday, April 27 at 2 p.m.

Location: Rosie the Riveter/WWII Home Front National Historical Park Visitor Center, 1414 Harbour Way South, Suite 3000, Richmond

Program: "From A Silk Cocoon" — screening of an Emmy Award-winning film.

Guest: Dr. Satsuki Ina

This docu-drama chronicles the wartime story of Satsuki Ina, Professor Emeritus in the School of Education at CSU-Sacramento and a psychotherapist, whose parents refused to sign the so-called loyalty questionnaire imposed by the US government. Dr. Ina will discuss the long-term consequences of the Japanese American incarceration during World War II and its relevance for social justice issues today.

Saturday, May 18 at 2 p.m.

Location: Maritime Center, 1014 Florida Avenue, corner of Harbour Way, Richmond.

Program: "Caring for Rosie's and California's Children"

Guest: Dr. Natalie Fousekis

The program will include a short film of interviews

with teachers and former students who were involved in the federally funded childcare system that emerged in the San Francisco Bay Area during World War II.

The film was produced by the Regional Oral History Office at UC Berkeley.

Following the film, Dr. Natalie Fousekis will discuss this cross-class and cross-race group of women who saved public child care in California from World War II to the 1970s. Dr. Fousekis is Associate Professor of History and Director of the Center for Oral and Public History at California State University-Fullerton, and author of the recent book, "Demanding Child Care."

* * *

The Rosie the Riveter Visitor Education Center at 1414 Harbour Way South, Suite 3000, Richmond, is open seven days a week between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. For more information and directions to the Visitor Education Center, please call (510) 232-3108, or go to this website: www.nps.gov/rori/planyourvisit/directions.htm.

There is no charge for admission to the Visitor Center. The Maritime Center exhibit is open by appointment only. Public tours of the

exhibit are planned periodically. They will be listed at www.nps.gov/rori under "Free Ranger Tours."

Contact Lucien Sonder, National Park Service Outreach Specialist/VIP Manager, at (510) 232-5050 ext. 6622, or by e-mail at lucien_sonder@nps.gov, for more information.



TWO NEW DOCUMENTARIES BEING SHOWN DAILY

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."



ROSIE THE RIVETER

WORLD WAR II HOME FRONT NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK

March and April, 2013

FREE TOURS AND PROGRAMS

Daily Program @ Visitor Center

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

Meet a ranger or docent at front desk of the Visitor Education Center for a 45 minute program (topics vary). On most Tuesdays and Saturdays, Ranger Betty Soskin presents. On Thursdays, "Blossoms and Thorns" film, about the Japanese American WWII experience, presented by a special guest.

DAILY

Daily Program Topics Vary
(Tue. and Sat.: Betty Soskin)
(Thur.: Blossoms + Thorns)

Home Front Legacy Series

Saturdays: 2:00pm

NPS hosts a monthly speaker and film series presented by special guests. All programs at the Visitor Center. Sat. 2/23: Presentation of Richmond Blues, Gospel and Soul, 1940s-1970s, Sat. 3/9: "A League of Their Own" film screening/discussion, Sat. 4/6: Port Chicago Naval Magazine History, Sat. 4/27: "From A Silk Cocoon": Film Screening about Japanese American Internment.

2/23, 3/9
4/6, 4/27

Bus Tour

Fridays: 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

3/8 and 4/19

Home Front History on your Bike!

Saturday: 10:00pm-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: Lucien_sonder@nps.gov

RSVP Requested

3/9

Maritime Child Dev. Center

Wed., Thur. and Fri. : 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

3/6 (Wed.)
3/22 (Friday)
4/18 (Thursday)

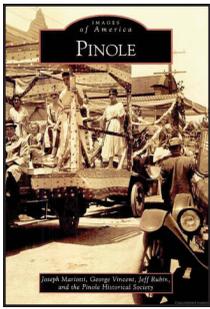
Rosie the Riveter Memorial

Wed., Sun.: 11:30am

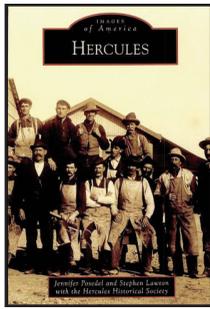
Meet a ranger at the Rosie the Riveter Memorial in Marina Bay Park for a 45 minute program exploring civilian contributions to the WWII American Home Front.

Wed.: 3/6, 3/20, 4/3, 4/17
Sun.: 3/10, 3/24, 4/14, 4/28

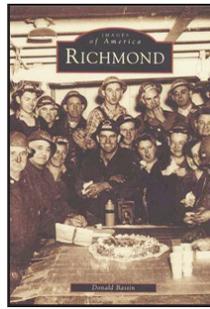
For more information: 510-232-5050 x0 or call the Visitor Center at 510-232-3108 or visit www.nps.gov/rori. The Visitor Center is open every day from 10:00am to 5:00pm at 1414 Harbour Way South, Richmond, CA 94804



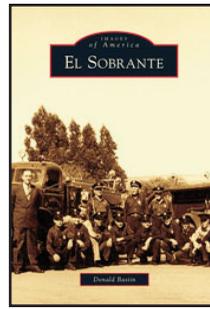
Pinole



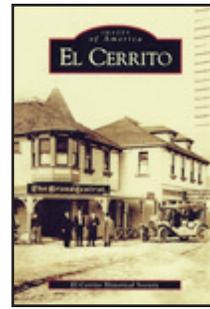
Hercules



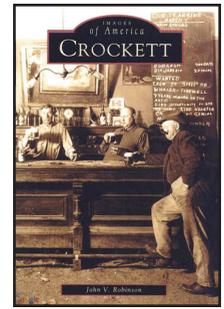
Richmond



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.

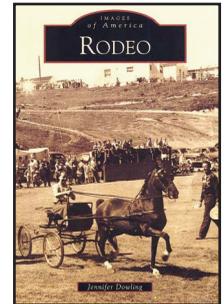
You may purchase one or more of these books from us at the Pinole Farmers' Market—we'll be there every other Saturday through the end of December.

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.

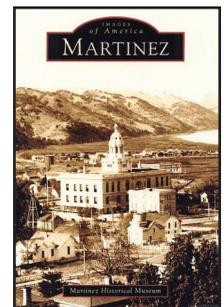
Or, you may order one or more by mail and we'll ship them to you. Send your order to **Pinole Historical Society, P.O. Box 285, Pinole, CA 94564**.

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

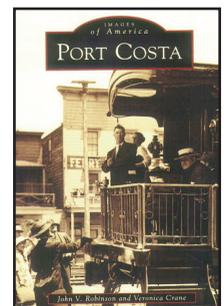
- Pinole:** \$27
- Hercules:** \$27
- Richmond:** \$27
- El Sobrante:** \$27
- El Cerrito:** \$27
- Crockett:** \$25
- Rodeo:** \$25
- Martinez:** \$25
- Port Costa:** \$25



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: _____