



# Pinole **Historical** Society

## E-News

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*Attendees at the dedication of the Pinole mural at Wells Fargo Bank's office at 1374 Fitzgerald Drive.*

## **WELLS FARGO PINOLE MURAL DEDICATED JULY 25**

**W**ells Fargo Bank unveiled its mural of Pinole's history on July 25 in a ceremony that featured descendants of prominent Pinole residents in the mural in a video, talking about their families and their contributions to the city's history.

Mike and Michele LeFebvre, son and daughter of Lawrence

“Big Red” LeFebvre, manager of the Pinole Merchants baseball team, and Susan Fernandez, great-granddaughter of Bernardo Fernandez, one of the founders of Pinole, were featured in the video produced by the bank's communications department. All three attended the event.

The 12-foot by 4-foot mural was installed on the back wall of the bank

at 1374 Fitzgerald Drive.

Pinole Historical Society President Marcia Kalapus and Vice President Jeff Rubin, along with Councilman Roy Swearingen, Chamber of Commerce President Dina Rosales, and Wells Fargo Bank Regional President Micky Randhawa, made brief remarks before the nearly six-minute video was shown to attendees.

The video will be shown on Pinole Community TV, channel 28, beginning July 29.

The mural includes images of a map of the El Rancho Pinole land grant, the Martinez Adobe, downtown Pinole in the 1920s, Lawrence “Big Red” LeFebvre, who managed the Pinole Merchants baseball team, the Pinole-Hercules School (the Old School),

## WELLS FARGO PINOLE MURAL DEDICATED

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 Bank welcomes visitors to its Pinole branch to view the mural, which is accompanied by a legend that explains the history of each image.

This mural is one of many in Wells Fargo’s Community Mural Program, which provides a unique visual enhancement to the customer experience in the bank’s branches. Designed to be a snapshot of Turn-of-the[Last]-Century America, historic images are chosen that convey a sense of history, tradition, stability, longevity, optimism, and progress.

A typical mural design combines Wells Fargo images and local images that reflect the history and diversity of the community. An accompanying mural key describes each historical image used in the mural, and credits the source. The Pinole Historical Society provided Wells Fargo with all of the local photos and images.

In return, Wells Fargo donated \$500 to the Pinole Historical Society, for which we are very grateful.



**Jim Fernandez, Margaret (Faria) Prather, Susan Fernandez, Wells Fargo Bank Senior Vice President/Regional President Micky Randhawa, Michele Lefebvre, and Mike LeFebvre pose under the 12-foot by 4-foot Pinole mural.**

***Pinole Historical Society co-founder George Vincent points to a 1904 photo of Pinole school children. His aunt Elsie is third from the right, near teacher Frances Ellerhorst.***





## WE HAVE A NEW SHIPMENT OF 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. Made for outdoor use, they also look great indoors.

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 you live out of the area 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, CA

We also sell these flags at our Pinole Farmers' Market booth. We'll be there August 3, 17, and 31.

## PHS BOARD MEETS AUGUST 14 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 Wednesday, August 14.

## SEPTEMBER 6 PHS PROGRAM INFORMATION

**O**ur September 6 membership meeting will feature a program by Lucien Sonder, Outreach Specialist/VIP Manager for the Rosie the Riveter/World War II Home Front National Historical Park, who will speak about the

October 12 Richmond Home Front Festival and fall programs at the national park.

The meeting will be held in Conference Rooms 2A and 2B of the Kaiser Permanente Medical Office Building, 1301 Pinole Valley Road, from 6:30 to 8 p.m.

*This 1975 aerial photograph of Pinole was a gift to the society from an anonymous donor. We are very appreciative.*



## PHS INTERVIEWS 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.

## UPCOMING PINOLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETINGS

**T**he 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!

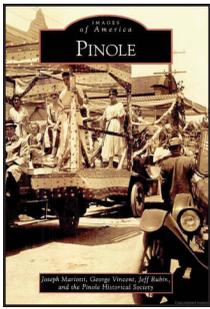
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# Pinole**Historical**Society

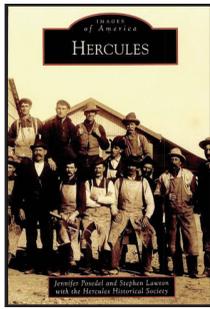
P.O. Box 285, Pinole, CA 94564

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

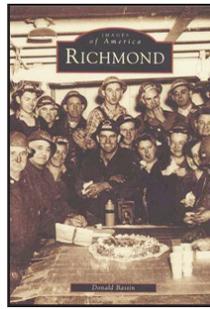
(510) 724-9507



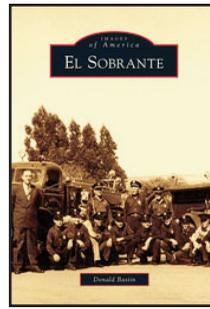
**Pinole**



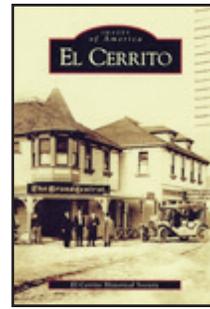
**Hercules**



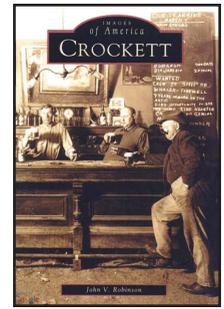
**Richmond**



**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.

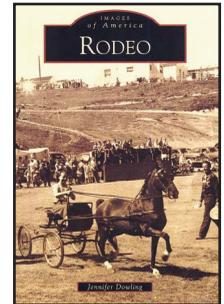
You may purchase one or more of these books from us at the Pinole Farmers' Market—we'll be there every other Saturday through the end of December.

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.

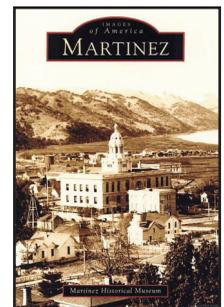
Or, you may order one or more by mail and we'll ship them to you. Send your order to **Pinole Historical Society, P.O. Box 285, Pinole, CA 94564**.

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

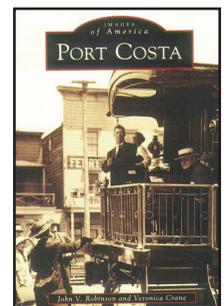
- Pinole:** \$27
- Hercules:** \$27
- Richmond:** \$27
- El Sobrante:** \$27
- El Cerrito:** \$27
- Crockett:** \$25
- Rodeo:** \$25
- Martinez:** \$25
- Port Costa:** \$25



**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**



## 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: \_\_\_\_\_



## Richmond Home Front Festival will feature kids' activities

**T**he 7th Annual Home Front Festival on Saturday, October 12, will feature interactive activities for family members of all ages.

Piggy-backing on Rosie the Riveters' motto, "We Can Do It," the festival will present "Kids Can Do It," and focus on engaging youth in their Richmond history.

The event will be held from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Craneway Pavilion, located in the historic Ford Point Building.

The event will again sponsor the Historic Duck, an amphibious vehicle from the WWII era, to take families on water tours, with an oral history of the nearby shipyards of Richmond, other historic landmarks. Historic WWII buses will shuttle festival-goers from the main festival site to the SS Red Oak Victory Ship.

The festival includes the YMCA's Rosie the Riveter Family Run/Walk.

For more information, go to <http://rcoc.com/current-events/home-front-festival-2013/>.

## THE EL CERRITO HISTORICAL SOCIETY PRESENTS:

### "The Search for Health on the Overland Trail"

A talk by historian Sarah Keyes

Thursday, August 22. 7 p.m. Free.

Open House Senior Center, 6500 Stockton Avenue (behind the library), El Cerrito.

Wheelchair accessible. Information: Dave Weinstein, (510) 524-1737, [davidsweinstein@yahoo.com](mailto:davidsweinstein@yahoo.com).

**E**migrants who traveled the overland trail to California in the mid 19th century hoped the journey would lead to an improvement in their health.

California's reputation for healthiness is well known, but emigrants' discussions of their search for health during the journey adds something new to this story.

These travelers talked about how the journey allowed them to

access the perceived better health of Indians of the Plains, such as the Sioux.

The story of California and health in the 19th century may be as much about the journey to the Pacific as it was about California itself.



**Sarah Keyes**

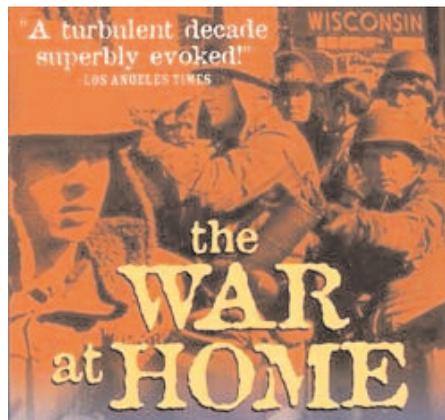
El Cerrito resident Sarah Keyes, a new faculty Fellow in the department of history at UC Berkeley, has researched the 19th-century American West, with a focus on cultural, environmental, and Native American history.

She is writing a book, "Beyond the Plains: Migration to the Pacific and the Reconfiguration of America, 1820s-1900s."

## 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

**T**he 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.ssredoakvictory.com/contact.htm](http://www.ssredoakvictory.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.

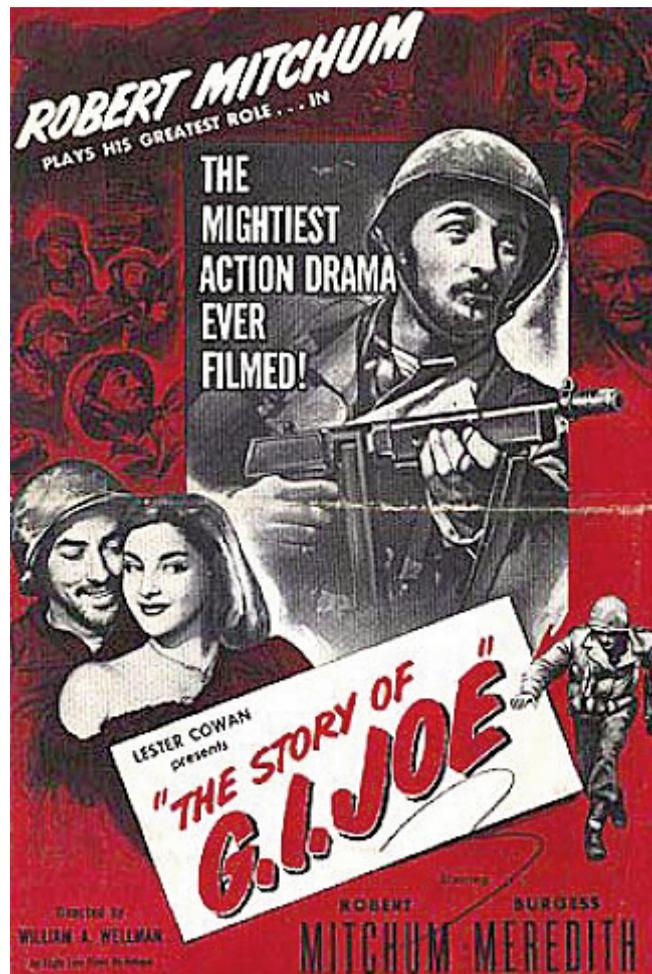
The movies include:

**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, with Meredith playing the correspondent.

**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](http://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