



# Pinole **Historical** Society

## E-News

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*February 6 PHS program*

### **PINOLE'S HISTORY OF FLOODS REMEMBERED**

**O**n April 2, 1958, a fierce early spring storm that had dropped buckets of rain on the city for several days caused a swollen Pinole Creek to overflow, turning downtown Pinole streets into navigable waterways.

This was the latest of several massive Pinole Creek floods in the city's history. It caused the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to begin a lengthy project to ensure the creek wouldn't overflow again.

Why did Pinole Creek overflow and how did civil engineers solve this problem?

PHS co-founder George Vincent, former mayor (1964-65) Jack Meehan, and Pinole



*1958 flood, 280 Calais Drive. Photo from Ann Snyder.*

Public Works Director/City Engineer Dean Allison will discuss the history of Pinole's watery battles with Mother Nature at our February 6, 2015, program, "A Flood of Memories," from 6:30 to 8 PM in conference rooms 2A and 2B of the Kaiser Permanente Medical Office Building on Pinole Valley Road.

Do you remember the flood of 1958? The flood of 1940?

Please share your recollections with us at this event, the first of four fascinating 2015 PHS programs for members, their guests, and the public. As always, admission is free and refreshments will be served.

**Published by the Pinole Historical Society**

**February 1, 2015**

## Pinole featured on KGO Radio

KGO radio reporter Jennifer Jones Lee interviewed PHS Vice President Jeff Rubin to discover the origin of the word "Pinole."

Listen to the segment here:

<http://www.pinolehistoricalsociety.org/KGOPinoleorigin.mp3>



## PHS PROGRAMS ADDED TO CITY'S WEBSITE

Several PHS programs have been added to the City of Pinole website:

[www.ci.pinole.ca.us/about/videos.html](http://www.ci.pinole.ca.us/about/videos.html)

- 2012 Veterans Day Memorial/Flag Retirement.
- 2013 Veterans Day Memorial/Flag Retirement.
- 2014 Veterans Day Memorial/Flag Retirement.
- Japanese American Internment program (2012).
- Old School bell dedication (2013).

- February 7, 2014, program: "Bars, Barbers and Characters of Early Pinole."
- September 5, 2014, program: "Presidential Rosies."
- November 7, 2014, program: "Maritime Contra Costa County."

We thank Bob Kopp, who recorded most of these events for the society.

Scroll down to PINOLE HISTORY on the city's website to find all the Pinole history programs.

## PANAMA PACIFIC INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION INFORMATION REQUESTED

Do you know the location of any 1915 Panama Pacific International Exhibition (PPIE) buildings that were taken down in San Francisco and moved/barged over to Contra Costa County?

If you do, please contact:

**Carol A. Jensen**

Historian for the Byron Hot Springs

[Historian@ByronHotSprings.com](mailto:Historian@ByronHotSprings.com)

<http://ByronHotSprings.com>



# 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

# Upcoming events

## FRIENDS OF THE PINOLE LIBRARY

### FEBRUARY 4 NorCal Bats

**T**he Friends of the Pinole Library presents NorCal Bats, Wednesday, February 4 at 7 pm at the Pinole Library.

NorCalBats is dedicated to the rescue, rehabilitation, and release of bats throughout Northern California. In addition, the organization is committed to public education regarding the environmental benefits of bats and dispelling fears and myths that lead to the death of roosts and colonies. Located in the Sacramento Valley, trained volunteers care for injured and orphaned bats throughout the valley and surrounding foothills.



### FEBRUARY 7 Pinole Farmers' Market

**T**he Friends of the Pinole Library continues to have a display of selected books at the Pinole Farmers' Market throughout the year.

In operation from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on alternate Saturdays, the sales start on February 7.

Throughout March and April, the Friends will focus on a New Member/Volunteer Drive where interested parties can join the Friends of the Pinole Library group, volunteer for Friends' fund-raising events and activities, and support the Pinole Library. Please bring your talents to the Friends of the Pinole Library.

### MARCH 28 Garage Sale

**T**he Friends of the Pinole Library will host an Upscale Garage Sale, from 8 am to 3 pm at the Pinole Library, 2935 Pinole Valley Road, Pinole, CA.

This sale will feature diverse and unique items from new hand-made crafts to gently used and new objects. This is an important fundraiser for the Pinole Library programs, new books, and other Library events.





## WELLS FARGO PINOLE MURAL VIDEO ON OUR WEBSITE

Click this link: [www.pinolehistoricalsociety.org/PinoleMural.mov](http://www.pinolehistoricalsociety.org/PinoleMural.mov)

## 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/scppioneers](http://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](mailto:info@pinolehistoricalsociety.org). We'll return your film; we just want to borrow and digitize it.

***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.***



# PROGRAMS

Tours  
&  
Events

## FEBRUARY 2015

*All tours and programs take place at the Visitor Center unless otherwise noted*

### MONDAYS:

#### **Love During Wartime**

**2/2 at 11 AM (45 minutes)**

Learn how couples bridged the miles through correspondence during WWII. View images of love letters and 1940s Valentine cards from the park's museum collection.

#### **Warbling through the War Years**

**2/2, 2/9, 2/23 at 2 PM (45 minutes)**

World War II produced popular music from jitterbug to broken hearts, which we'll see and hear through samples from radio, records, and the movies.

### TUESDAYS:

#### **Play Hard in the Shipyard!**

**2/3, 2/10, 2/17 and 2/24 at 11 AM (30 minutes)**

Wondering how the shipyard workers spent their free time? From friendly competitions, to intramural sports, the home front workers knew how to have a good time! Join us to learn more about the recreational lifestyles of World War II shipyard workers.

#### **Love During Wartime**

**2/10, 2/17 and 2/24 at 1 PM (45 minutes)**

Learn how couples bridged the miles through correspondence during WWII. View images of love letters and 1940s Valentine cards from the park's museum collection.

#### **"Of Lost Conversations": Ranger Talk by Betty Soskin**

**2/3, 2/10, 2/17, 2/24 at 2 PM (45 minutes)**

Ranger Betty Soskin discusses her experience as a young African American woman during WWII.

For directions and information: Call 510-232-5050 x0 or visit [www.nps.gov/rori](http://www.nps.gov/rori)

**Visitor Center open daily, 10:00am to 5:00pm at 1414 Harbour Way South, Richmond, CA.**

(Visitor Center is located behind the historic Ford Assembly Building – through the security gate).



## AT THE ROSIE THE RIVETER VISITOR EDUCATION CENTER

# NATIONAL PARK SERVICE'S VALENTINE-THEMED PROGRAMS

**K**ids and families are invited to join National Park Service rangers for Valentine-themed arts and crafts on Saturday, February 7 at the Rosie the Riveter Visitor Education Center, part of Rosie the Riveter/WWII Home Front National Historical Park in Richmond, CA.

This free program will begin at 10 a.m., with craft projects running until 1 p.m. The Valentine crafts will use recycled and everyday household items, similar to crafts that children used to make during the World War II years.

Reservations are not required for this event, and families are welcome to drop in anytime during the program. All items for craft projects will be provided. All children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Kids and parents are reminded to wear clothing that they do not mind getting dirty.

Participants are invited to take a lunch break and return for a ranger-led program at 3 p.m. "Love



During Wartime" will teach visitors about love stories and long-distance relationships during World War II. This 45-minute program will be held in the same building as the craft event. Seating is on a first come, first served basis.

The Rosie the Riveter Visitor Education Center, 1414 Harbour Way South, suite 3000, Richmond, is open seven days a week from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information and directions to the Visitor Education Center,

please call (510) 232-5050 x0 or visit our website at: [www.nps.gov/rori/planyourvisit/directions.htm](http://www.nps.gov/rori/planyourvisit/directions.htm). Admission to the Visitor Center and all park sites and programs is free.

If you would like to receive information about upcoming park events, please visit [www.rosietheriveter.org](http://www.rosietheriveter.org) and sign up for the email newsletter. The Rosie the Riveter Trust is the nonprofit partner association that is building a community of support for this national park.

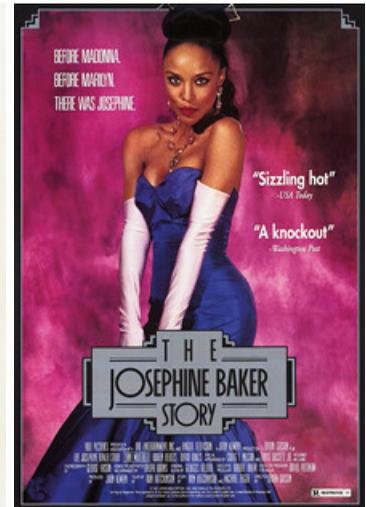
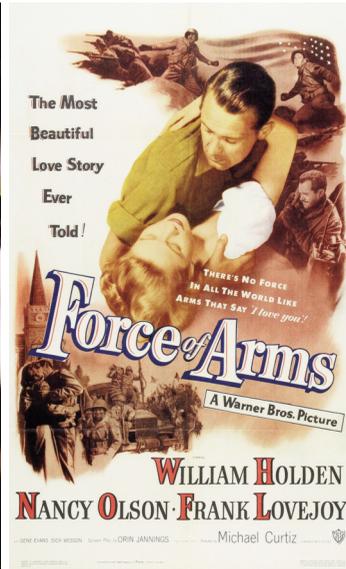
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## PINOLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY 2015 MEETING DATES

**W**e have a great lineup of programs for our members and guests in 2015, beginning on **Friday, February 6**. Details of this program, "*A Flood of Memories*" are on the front page.

Our other meeting dates in 2015, all from 6:30 to 8 p.m. in conference rooms 2A and 2B of the Kaiser Permanente Medical Office Building, 1301 Pinole Valley Road, are:

**Friday, May 8**  
**Friday, September 11**  
**Friday, November 6**



## WOMEN PLAY LEADING ROLES IN WWII FILM SERIES

**T**he National Park Service and the Richmond Museum Association announce a new film festival series aboard the SS Red Oak Victory, a beautifully restored cargo ship built in Richmond during World War II. The ship is owned and operated by the Richmond Museum Association and is also part of Rosie the Riveter/ WWII Home Front National Historical Park. Admission to the films is free, but there is a suggested donation of \$10 to help preserve and maintain the ship.

Four movies will be screened on Tuesdays as part of the “Women on the Home Front and Beyond Film Series.” Boarding begins at 6:30 PM and the films begin at 7 PM.

**Tuesday, February 17:** *So Proudly We Hail* (1943). Veronica Lake and Claudette Colbert are army nurses serving in the Philippines during the early days of WWII.

**Tuesday, March 17:** *Shining Through* (1992). Starring Melanie Griffith and Michael Douglas. Griffith plays a brave woman who goes undercover in Germany for the Allies to discover the secrets of the V2 rocket. This film is rated R; no one under 17

will be admitted without a parent.

**Tuesday, April 14:** *Force of Arms* (1951). William Holden, a soldier, and Nancy Olson, a nurse, find love during war.

**Tuesday, May 12:** *The Josephine Baker Story* (1991). Ingénue and ex-pat Josephine Baker stays in France during WWII and helps Jews escape the Nazis. This film is rated R; no one under 17 will be admitted without a parent.

The SS Red Oak Victory is located in historic Shipyard #3 at 1337 Canal Blvd., Berth 6A, in Richmond. For directions to the

shipyard, visit the Red Oak Victory website at [www.ssredoakvictory.com/contact.htm](http://www.ssredoakvictory.com/contact.htm).

**Please note:** The ship is not ADA accessible. Visitors must be able to climb the gangplank (40 feet of stairs with railings) and steep steps once aboard. Remember to wear warm clothing, as it can be chilly aboard the ship! Inclement weather may force the ship staff to cancel this program for safety reasons.

If it rains, please call the ship at 510-237-2933 by 5:30 PM on the day of the screening to find out if the show will go on.





# Volunteer

to be a National Park

# Docent



**Training Unit #1**

**Introduction to the National Park Service and our park:  
Saturday, March 7th, 2015, 9 AM-1 PM**

**Training Unit #2**

**Visitor Center operations and customer service:  
Saturday, March 14th, 2015, 9 AM-1 PM**

**Training Unit #3**

**Introduction to interpretive techniques:  
Saturday, March 21st, 2015, 9 AM-1 PM**

Rosie the Riveter/WWII Home Front National Historical Park seeks volunteer docents to assist with operations at our Visitor Education Center in Richmond, CA. We are looking for people 18 years old or older, with a passion for history, education, and public service, who can make an ongoing minimum commitment to volunteer at least 8 hours per month.

Each volunteer will be required to complete 3 training sessions prior to commencement of responsibilities. Volunteers must be available to attend all training units listed above.

To apply for our training program, or for more information, please contact Lucien Sonder at [Lucien\\_Sonder@nps.gov](mailto:Lucien_Sonder@nps.gov). or 510-232-5050 x. 6622.



ROSIE THE RIVETER

World War II Home Front  
National Historical Park

Visitor Center



## SUPPORT THE ACTIVITIES OF THE PHS BY BECOMING A MEMBER IN 2015

For only \$30, you can help the PHS accomplish its mission of bringing the history of Pinole to our residents through exhibits at the Pinole Library, quarterly membership programs, history programs in schools, Pinole Community TV programs, Walking tours of downtown Pinole, the Veterans Day Memorial and Flag Retirement Ceremony in Fernandez Park — and you'll have the satisfaction promoting and preserving Pinole's history for future generations.

**JOIN THE PINOLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY (OR RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP)  
AND HELP PROMOTE AND PRESERVE THE HISTORY OF OUR CITY.**

**Please mail the membership application today!**

# Pinole **Historical** Society

## 2015 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 2015 CALENDAR YEAR (EXCEPT LIFETIME MEMBERSHIPS)

NAME (each member): \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

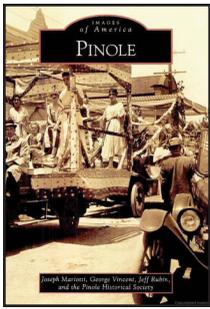
PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL (please!): \_\_\_\_\_

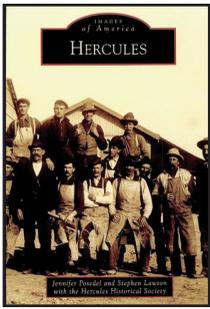
CIRCLE ONE: Annual-new (\$30)    Annual-renewal (\$30)    Business (\$50)    Life (\$150)

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

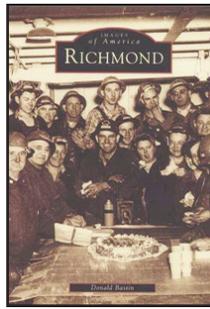
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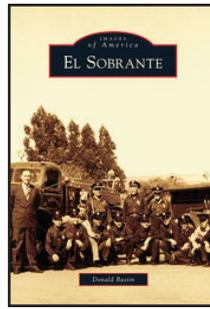
Pinole



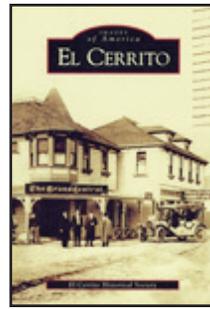
Hercules



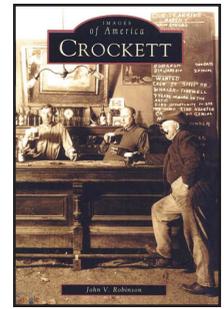
Richmond



El Sobrante



El Cerrito



Crockett

# LOCAL HISTORY BOOKS AVAILABLE FROM THE PINOLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

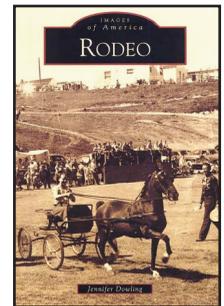
**T**he Pinole Historical Society has Arcadia Publishing books about Hercules, Richmond, El Sobrante, El Cerrito, Crockett, Rodeo, Martinez, Port Costa, and Maritime Contra Costa County. And, of course, we have plenty of Pinole books in stock.

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.

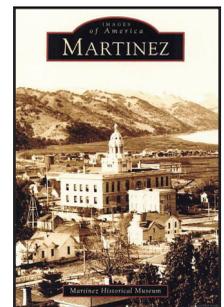
The Pinole, Hercules, Richmond, El Sobrante, El Cerrito, and Maritime Contra Costa County

books retail for **\$24**, including 8.75% sales tax. The Crockett, Rodeo, Martinez, and Port Costa books are **\$22**, including 8.75% sales tax.

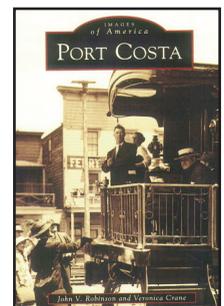
Or, you may order one or more by mail and we'll ship them to you. Send your order to **Pinole Historical Society, P.O. Box 285, Pinole, CA 94564.**



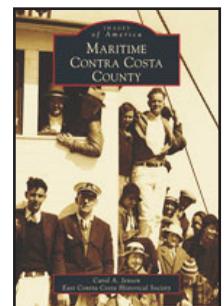
Rodeo



Martinez



Port Costa



Maritime

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 Maritime Contra Costa County 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**