

The MIRROR

The Richmond Museum Association Newsletter

Richmond Museum of History

Spring 2018

SS Red Oak Victory Ship



Harry Stroll on the cover of the December 31, 1943, *Fore 'n' Aft*, the weekly newsletter for employees of the Kaiser Richmond Shipyards during WWII. Stroll, a Hungarian Jew, escaped Nazi Germany, came to Richmond and helped build ships for the U.S. war effort. He was a burner in Yard No. 1.

A FORTUITOUS FIND

by Lynn Maack

Going through issues of "*Fore 'n' Aft*" magazines, I found the above issue picturing Harry Stroll on the cover. Being a Genser family in-law, I recognized the name from the Genser family history—Harry Stroll was the late Joseph Genser's uncle. Joe Genser was a prominent Richmond attorney in the 1950s and '60s and later a Contra Costa County Superior Court judge. Stroll was also great-uncle to the late Sandi Genser-Maack and Joshua Genser, both prominent Richmonders. Clara-Rae Genser, Joe's widow and former Richmond-based community activist, will be speaking at the fundraiser advertised above. Joe and Clara-Rae's son Josh and his wife Elaina will be hosting the fundraiser at their home in Richmond. This "*Fore 'n' Aft*" was a lucky find and a perfect addition to the Museum's upcoming exhibit on Jewish history in Richmond.

HELP US SHOW "PIONEERS TO PRESENT: JEWS OF RICHMOND AND CONTRA COSTA COUNTY"

You'll read about the upcoming exhibit in this newsletter; here's your chance to support its presentation and have some fun in the process. On **Saturday April 21, 2018**, please come to a preview and help us raise funds for "*Pioneers to Present: Jews of Richmond and Contra Costa County.*" Clara-Rae Genser, who will be 100 years old this year, and Rabbi Dean Kertesz of Richmond's Temple Beth Hillel will speak about their personal histories of being Jewish in Richmond. If that's not fun enough, there will be wine! This fundraising event will be hosted by Joshua and Elaina Genser at their home at **5222 Barrett Avenue from 3:30 to 5:30 pm**. Please RSVP to Museum Director Melinda McCrary at melinda@richmondmuseum.org or 510-235-7387.

If you can't make it, you can still donate by sending a check to:

Richmond Museum of History
P.O. Box 1267
Richmond, CA 94802

In This Issue:

Free Museum Field Trips p. 3
President's Message p. 8
Director's Message p. 2
Jewish Community in Richmond pp. 1, 2
New Acquisitions p. 3
Movies on the *Red Oak* p. 3
Red Oak Report p. 4
Red Oak is a Classroom p. 5
Upcoming Events pp. 9, 11
Join the RMA p. 7

FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends:

How time flies! Spring is nearly here and soon enough it will be summer. The Museum has been quite busy as we are now hosting several field trips per week until the end of the school year. Additionally, it seems as if the Museum in general has been busier because we have more employees and more visitors. Many thanks to all who joined us on February 25, 2018, for the Richmond Museum Association Annual Meeting.

I was deeply honored to be chosen by the Jewish Children and Family Services (JCFS) Holocaust Center to be a faculty member for the “*Day of Learning*” on March 4. The day-long event for teachers and students was held at Galileo High School in San Francisco. The theme for 2018 *Day of Learning* was “Breaking Points,” commemorating the forthcoming 80th anniversary of *Kristallnacht* (Nov 9-10, 1938). The *Day of Learning* is a free workshop teaching about the Holocaust and genocide and is geared for educators and high school-aged students. JCFS brings in scholars from all over the country to teach workshops for *Day of Learning*, so it was indeed a great honor to be part of the faculty.

My workshop focused on the Museum’s effort to support the “*History Unfolded*” project led by the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum (USHMM). *History Unfolded* is a crowdsourcing project that asks citizen historians to seek newspaper coverage of 32 Holocaust-related events that took place in Europe between 1933 and 1945. Here in Richmond, a team of volunteer citizen historians spent months combing through the Richmond Independent and Richmond Record Herald newspapers in the Museum’s permanent collection. I demonstrated to a group of high school teachers how to participate in *History Unfolded* and detailed the ways in which their students would benefit from this unique experience. The goal of the workshop was to recruit teachers to join the project and stimulate further participation in *History Unfolded* throughout Northern California. The information was well-received by the teachers, and several agreed to implement the project in their classrooms. Thanks again to the JCFS for inviting the Richmond Museum of History to participate in the 2018 *Day of Learning*.

Many thanks to you, our new and longtime supporters, for we couldn’t do our important work without the support of the community.

Sincerely,

Melinda McCrary, Director
Richmond Museum of History

SEEKING JEWISH COMMUNITY HISTORY IN RICHMOND

Following on the Director’s message, the Richmond Museum of History is planning its own exhibition called “*Pioneers to Present: Jews of Richmond and Contra Costa County*” to open in November 2018 honoring the contributions of the Jewish community in Richmond and greater Contra Costa County. The exhibition developed out of our work on the “*History Unfolded*” project in support of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. We searched through the Museum’s collection of the Richmond Daily Independent and Richmond Record Herald newspapers for coverage of Holocaust-related events. The results of our efforts in support of the *History Unfolded* project will be part of the exhibition in November.

The exhibition committee is developing biographical information about significant Jewish individuals in Richmond and greater Contra Costa County. We also want to hear from you! Do you have information related to local Jewish people in the past and present? We welcome information about Jewish-owned businesses and people from all walks of life.

The Museum seeks community support in uncovering local Jewish history and is asking people who know about aspects of Jewish history in the area, including stories about individuals, communities and businesses, to contact the Museum at melinda@richmondmuseum.org or (510) 235-7387.

(See box on p. 1 for fundraiser for this exhibit.)

HISTORY UNFOLDED

The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum (USHMM) is asking citizen historians to help them track coverage of events in American newspapers leading up to the Holocaust in Europe. The Richmond Museum of History has contributed coverage from the Richmond Daily Independent and the Richmond Record Herald and is seeking people to search Oakland, San Francisco and other newspapers. We will share the results of the research with the public in the form of an exhibit opening in November 2018.

Learn more here:

<https://newspapers.ushmm.org>

WW II ON FILM ON THE *RED OAK VICTORY*

Movies of the World War II era shown on our own World War II ship is one of the great pleasures of being part of a National Historical Park. Add to that the Ranger in charge, Craig Riordon, who shares insight and secrets about the movies, the stars and the times, and it is an adventure.

Boarding is at 6:30 p.m. There is no fee, but you are encouraged to make a donation of \$10 to help maintain the Ship. And don't forget the popcorn and other refreshments available.

Two films remain in the spring lineup for the Historic Film Festival on the third Thursday of the month ending on May 17, 2018. The theme of this spring's series is "***From Other Perspectives: WWII films from Other Points of View.***" As always, please verify the film by calling (510) 237-2933 prior to arriving on board.

April 19: "***Das Boot***" (1981) Jürgen Prochnow, Herbert Grönemeyer, Klaus Wennemann.

The claustrophobic world of a WWII German U-boat; boredom, filth, and sheer terror. Riveting. Adventure, drama, thriller.

May 17: "***Memoirs of a Geisha***" (2005) Zhang Ziyi, Ken Watanabe, Gong Li, Michelle Yeoh.

The story of a young Japanese girl who is sold by her impoverished family to a geisha house and becomes one of Japan's most celebrated geisha. Drama, romance.

THE *RED OAK* NEEDS YOU...

...to be a greeter. It's a hard job—you have to smile and welcome visitors to a great adventure. We especially need help on Saturdays and Sundays. Call the Ship at (510) 237-2933 for more information or to volunteer.

RECENT ACQUISITIONS TO THE PERMANENT COLLECTION:

Lynne Abrams for Kimmie James Estate
Richmond High School track & field award plaques,
1980-'82

Louise Cook
Richmond Union High School yearbooks 1942-'46

Brook Locklin
Contra Costa County Township 1 Justice of the Peace
documents 1880s

William Kolaites
Rolled photograph of Pullman Shops staff, ca. 1936

MUSEUM WISH LIST

Yarn
Extension cords
Power strip
Garden hose

If you can donate these items or contribute to their purchase, please call the Museum at (510) 235-7387.

FREE MUSEUM FIELD TRIPS FOR SCHOOLS

Do you know of a teacher in Richmond who would like to bring his or her class to the Richmond Museum of History? If so, please pass along the message that we are offering scholarships for bus transportation to and from the Museum in spring 2018. The program is made possible by a grant from the Economic & Community Investment Program. Interested teachers please contact Melinda at melinda@richmondmuseum.org or (510) 235-7387.

FROM THE *RED OAK VICTORY* SHIP

by Johannes Hoech, ROV Director of Ship Operations

First off, 2017 was a spectacular success for the *SS Red Oak Victory*, and credits go first to our great crew that has ramped up to an unprecedented year of income generation and technical progress. Heartfelt thanks also to our donors who have stepped up greatly in 2017, and to the Richmond Museum Association and its Board, as well as to the Mayor, the City Council and the Port of Richmond. Without all their help, last year's success would not have been possible.

Rather than writing a lot of text, below you will see a selection of photos to celebrate the achievements of last year:

- From events sales, ticket sales, gift shop sales and donations, **we grew our total 2017 income over 2016 by 84%**, which follows an 81% increase of 2016 incomes over 2015.

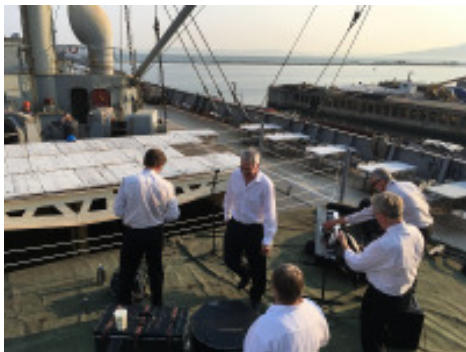
- We put on a **record-setting number of 11 major events** last year, consisting of six pancake breakfasts and five major events starting on Memorial Day and ending with a Fleet Week event.

- We were able to **attract first-rate Bay Area**



Angelo Barone flipping 'cakes.

entertainers to perform and help us draw crowds at our events; **well-known musicians and dancers**, such as Stompy Jones, the SF Jitterbugs, the John Kalleen Group, and the Strange Angels



San Francisco-based jazz quartet The John Kalleen Group on hatch above Hold #4.

Blues Band, who have become regulars at our pancake breakfasts.

- And we had a **huge collection of historic cars, buses and military vehicles**, and even a genuine Huey helicopter grace the entrance to the *Red Oak Victory* during our major events.

- We **launched new technologies to help us grow and track our various sources of income**, including Eventbrite

(for event ticket sales), **QuickBooks Online** (financial management), and **Peerspace** (for online rental of our meeting spaces), and the list continues.

- On the online rating service **Yelp**, for much of 2017, the *SS Red Oak Victory* was the **highest-rated historic ship in the San Francisco Bay Area**

And all this progress will continue this year as well:

Most exciting is the real prospect that **the *SS Red Oak Victory* will light off between July and August this year** (i.e., fire up the boilers and engine). We are grateful to have been invited by the California Maritime Academy to use their dock while their training ship *USTS Golden Bear* is at sea.

We have **three major events planned**: another **Swing Dance** on May 26 with the well-known Lavay Smith & Her Red Hot Skillet Lickers, our usual July 3rd event, and an Oktoberfest on October 27, as well as **five pancake breakfasts** (May 13, June 17, August 12, September 9, and October 14).

o **Please note** there is no April pancake breakfast, and that the August 12 date is pending our likely move to the *Golden Bear*'s dock during that time.

And we are continuing our strategic planning and budgeting efforts for our key priorities into 2018 as well: 1) recruiting, 2) fundraising, 3) lighting off, 4) compliance, and 5) marketing.



Johannes Hoech admiring 1938 Dodge pickup on the dock beside the ROV.

So, you can see, 2017 was a busy year with many new initiatives and events, which will continue – plus more – in 2018.

Come on down! Come visit the *Red Oak Victory* on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Weekends from 10 to 4.

Arrive curious, leave in awe!

(Photos by Dori Luzbetak)

A HISTORIC VESSEL SERVES AS A MODERN CLASSROOM

by Fred Klink, ROV Marketing Director

(Photos by Dori Luzbetak)

After a long period of service to her country, the *Red Oak Victory* ship is now serving her community as a classroom. Bay Area schools are discovering what a tremendous educational resource this historic ship is. During a two-week period in late February and early March, the ROV hosted four school visits comprising more than 150 students, plus teachers and parents.

A historic vessel is a unique and engaging learning experience. Students who are taught about the operation of the steam turbine engines are learning about physics, chemistry and mechanical engineering. A lesson about how the Ship was navigated is also a learning



ROV docents Eric Poussard, Alan Burns, Gordon Seligson and Rich Chivers.

experience in astronomy and geometry. The Ship's original, operating radio with its vacuum tubes and Morse Code key teaches about the history of electronics, which is so much a part of the story of the modern Bay Area. And, of course, the Ship herself and the surrounding shipyards tell the history of World War II and the larger story of societal change that that conflict initiated.

On February 22, thirteen students and four adults from the HEARTS Homeschool Co-op visited the Ship and enjoyed a complete stem-to-stern tour. Thirty students, teachers and parents from the Woodland Christian High

School came to the Ship on March 1 and also received the complete tour.

Students from the Nueva School in Hillsborough visited the ROV on March 6. In addition to touring the Ship, they were treated to an engaging talk by Jeff Wright, President of the Richmond Museum Association. Jeff told the story



Jeff Wright addresses Nueva School students in the Lois Boyle Theater, Hold #3 on the ROV.

of how his grandfather left the segregated Jim Crow south to take a job at the shipyards in Richmond. In telling his family history, Jeff also told the larger story of African-

American migration to the West Coast to take jobs in the war industries and how this migration changed the face of American society forever.

On March 9, nearly 70 students and their teachers from the Making Waves Academy in Richmond visited the Ship.

While half of the group was touring the Ship, Fred Klink, ROV Director of Marketing, entertained the other half with a talk about the history and science of "old-school" celestial navigation which was so vital to the operation of World War II ships.



HEARTS students on ROV Bridge sounding the Ship's horn.

Crew members Steve Hawes, Cliff Sojourner and Steve King had the original Ship's radio in operation for the students from Nueva School and the Making Waves Academy. The ROV's radio crew was in communication via Morse Code

(Continued, p. 10)

ADDED BENEFITS FOR RMA MEMBERSHIPS

The RMA is always looking for more ways to give back to our friends, supporters and members. During a review of our membership program, it was decided that we can offer even more incentives for our most ardent supporters. So now you will receive even more from your membership in addition to the most important benefit—the feeling you receive from knowing you are among a community of like-minded individuals who recognize the importance of historic preservation and education. New benefits include one free digital image from our permanent collection, an hour of staff research time, or an advertisement in the MIRROR newsletter. Learn more about the benefits that you qualify for on page 7.

EMAIL PLEASE...

Like many organizations, the Richmond Museum Association needs to cut costs where we can. And as much as I personally prefer to hold a newsletter in my hand, that hard copy is expensive to print and mail.

So let us email you your copy of *The MIRROR*. For those members who do not have email, we will continue to print and mail your newsletter. But many of you have email addresses and we hope you will share them with us. We promise not to sell them or share them with anyone else.

Please email us at melinda@richmondmuseum.org with *The MIRROR* in the subject line, and don't forget to tell us your name.

Thank you for helping us keep our costs down.
[Ed.]

WHO'S THIS?*

by Lynn Maack

This may be the beginning of a new series in *The MIRROR* in which we seek the identities of unidentified people in local, historical photographs in the Museum's collection (or soon to be). The historical record is fuller when we can identify the people and places in our photographs. We will give some background on the photograph's content to the extent we can to assist in jogging memories.

For our first photo, we have a World War II identification badge from an employee of Kaiser Richmond Shipyard No. Two. This badge belonged to a "Rosie," a common term for women who worked in the shipyards



during the war (from "Rosie the Riveter" fame). From the height scale behind the woman, she appears to have stood about 5 ft., 6 in. tall, presumably with shoes on. We're hoping someone out there will recognize the person in this photograph. If you do, please email the Museum at melinda@richmondmuseum.org, or call 510-235-7387 and let us know whom she is and any details you may know about her life and her duties in the shipyard.


Thank you for your help.

* Yes, the headline should read "Whom's This" to be grammatically correct, but "Who's This" just sounds better, doesn't it? [Ed.]

WRIGHT REALTORS®
"The Right Choice Since 1968"

Jeffrey Wright
 Broker – CalBRE #00697289

10290 San Pablo Avenue, Ste. 101
 P.O. Box 1398
 El Cerrito, CA 94530
 jeff@thewrightbrokers.com
 (510) 232-2901 Direct
 (510) 526-0121 Office




M.A. HAYS CO., INC.
Quality Insurance and Service Since 1912

John Ziesenhenn
 Broker
 Lic # 0675383

232 BROADWAY JOHNZ@MAHAYS.COM
 RICHMOND, CA 94804 WWW.MAHAYS.COM
 (510) 235-0353 EXT. 14 FAX (510) 235-5058

COMMERCIAL • RESIDENTIAL • LIFE • MEDICAL

Your ad could be here.

For \$100, your business card can appear in 4 issues (a year's worth) of *The MIRROR*. Current distribution is 2,000 copies sent and growing.

Send an email to l.maack@comcast.net to reserve your space.

Become a Member Today

And receive these Benefits:

- « Free admission
- « Quarterly newsletter
- « 10% discount in gift shops
- « Membership card
- « And more:

___ \$35 **History Ally**—Seniors aged 62 and over—Benefits include quarterly e-newsletter and free admission for one to the Richmond Museum of History and the SS Red Oak Victory

___ \$50 **History Enthusiast**—Benefits include one digital file of a photo in the permanent collection for personal use

___ \$100 **History Advocate**—2 adults/2 youth—Benefits above and one hour of staff research time

___ \$250 **History Guardian**—Benefits above and “Behind the Scenes” tour of permanent collection

___ \$500 **History Patron**—Benefits above and one ad in *The MIRROR* newsletter

___ **New** ___ **Renew** ___ **Gift**

___ **I would like to Volunteer!**

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Date: _____

Join at www.richmondmuseum.org or mail a check to RMA at:

Richmond Museum Association
 P.O. Box 1267
 Richmond CA 94802

FROM THE PRESIDENT

As president of the Richmond Museum Association (RMA), I'd like to thank everyone who attended our Annual Meeting, which was held on February 25, 2018, in the Seaver Gallery at the Richmond Museum of History. The Annual Meeting provides the Museum leadership with an opportunity to update our members as well as the public at large about what we've accomplished over the past year and an opportunity to share our future plans.

The Annual Meeting is also the occasion whereby the organization holds the election for positions on the board of directors in accordance with our bylaws. Congratulations to incumbent board members Rich Chivers, Steve Gilford and Lydia Stewart on their re-election to the RMA board and a big thank-you for your continued service to the organization.

Museum Executive Director Melinda McCrary provided a great report about the progress of the upcoming new permanent exhibit and increased engagement with the community, including an exciting new program that will provide local school children field-trip opportunities to visit the Museum at no cost, with transportation to and from the Museum included. This is possible through grant funding which has increased considerably as a result of Melinda's diligent efforts pursuing a variety of grant funding sources that will allow the Museum to reach more people in a meaningful way.

The single largest artifact in the RMA's collection is the *Red Oak Victory* ship (ROV), a vintage WWII cargo carrier that was built in Richmond's Kaiser Shipyards. We are very pleased and fortunate to have a volunteer Director of Ship Operations in the person of Johannes Hoech, who also serves on the RMA board of directors. It is no small feat keeping the Ship afloat in all respects. Johannes reported that the operations aboard the Ship, including events such as the pancake breakfasts as well as special music-oriented events, film-related activities, etc., have not only raised the profile of the Ship but have also added to the bottom line in a positive manner. He also delivered encouraging news about the prospect of the Ship "lighting off" this year. For the benefit of the layperson, and to simplify the terminology, it has been 50 years since the Ship last sailed the high seas. As an analogy, think about an old car that's being restored and the motor hasn't been started since 1968. More is involved than simply turning the ignition key and stepping on the accelerator pedal; things have to be checked out first—oil and coolant levels, the electrical system, spark plugs, hoses, belts, fuel pump, water

pump and so on. So it is with the ROV; there are a lot of complicated steps, procedures and trials that have to be undertaken in order to "start her up." The great news is



Aerial view of the ROV and whirley crane at Shipyard No. 3.

that we now seem to be close to being able to start those trials. Thank you and congratulations to Johannes and the dedicated volunteer crew aboard the *Red Oak Victory* ship for your tremendous efforts thus far.

Operating the entire organization in a fiscally-responsible manner is of paramount importance. I am pleased to report that RMA Treasurer John Ziesenhenne informed meeting attendees of our positive financial status and that our audited financial statements covering 2015 and 2016 meet all Generally Accepted Accounting Practices as determined by James P. Richardson, MBA, CPA, of the James P. Richardson, CPA, Inc., Accountancy Corporation. Making certain that the books are in order is of vital importance because we want our donors to feel confident that we are making financially-sound decisions with the resources provided to us. In fact, many grantors require audited financial statements from grant applicants as a criterion in their selection process. Besides that, we want to comply with all applicable reporting regulations. Let me take this opportunity to publicly thank our volunteer treasurer John Ziesenhenne along with Museum staff person Evelyn Santos and ROV purser Dave Penn, who both work very closely with John Z in an effort to keep the financial reporting on track.

(Continued, p. 10)

CURRENT AND UPCOMING MUSEUM PROGRAMS

Ongoing, through August 2018

“Legacy Businesses”

Richmond Museum of History, Seaver Gallery

Don't miss your chance to learn more about the Legacy Businesses that shaped the development of our great City. The exhibit is open through August 2018 and is included with general admission.

April 2018

“Women’s History Month Outdoor Exhibit”

Richmond Museum of History

March was Women's History Month and we celebrated with an exhibit hung on the exterior fence of the Museum grounds. Richmond history includes numerous stories of ordinary women accomplishing extraordinary things. We are extending the exhibit through April to honor Black Women's History Month. The exhibit highlights just a few of the women who made their mark on history, including Novelean Harris, Mattie Chandler and Patricia McKinley and will be on display through the month of April.

April 21, 2018, 3:30 - 5:30 p.m.

Special Fundraising Event for “Pioneers to Present: Jews of Richmond and Contra Costa County.”

(See details on page 1.

Saturday May 12, 2018

“Family Free Day at the Richmond Museum of History”

Don't miss your chance to visit the Museum on one of our quarterly family free days! Bring the kids and go on a scavenger hunt through the gallery or write a note to kids of the future to include in our time capsule!

MEET MICHELLE & MIMI

We are so excited to announce two new additions to our staff. **Michelle Jenkins Reeder** has been hired in the position of Curatorial Assistant. Michelle has been a Museum volunteer for over a year and holds a Master of Library and Information Science degree from San Jose State University. Highly skilled at genealogy and historical research, Michelle was brought on board to assist with exhibit research and program development in the Seaver Gallery. She lives in east Contra Costa County and has two adult children.

Mimi Vitetta has been hired in the position of Museum Educator, the first in the history of the RMA. Mimi volunteered at the Museum in 2016, helping with the collection inventory process, public programs and graphic design. She holds a Master of Fine Arts degree and is currently pursuing a Master of Library and Information Science degree from San Jose State University. Funded by the Economic & Community Investment Agreement (ECIA), Mimi is creating an updated teacher's guide and leading field trips for local K-12 classrooms. Mimi is a resident of Richmond, speaks English, Spanish & Italian, and has a school-aged son.

Please say hi to Mimi and Michelle next time you visit the Museum.

Welcome to the team, Ladies!



The Carnegie Library ca. 1910 at 4th Street and Nevin Ave., currently the site of the Richmond Museum of History.

PRESIDENT *(Continued from p. 8)*

We closed the meeting with a great PowerPoint presentation by RMA board member Lynn Maack about the 1944 fire truck that the RMA acquired several years ago. This vehicle actually was in service at Yard 3 of the Richmond Shipyards in the heyday of the wartime shipbuilding effort. It was discovered in a Utah salvage yard and subsequently acquired by the RMA and brought back to Richmond. It is a major restoration undertaking.



Richmond Shipyard No. 3 fire truck as found in Utah.

Lynn has graciously taken the restoration investigative process under his wing and provided a thorough, no-holds-barred, highly-informative presentation as to what this project really entails. Thank you, Lynn, for your efforts as well as your willingness to put the presentation together for the Annual Meeting.

I am proud to be the president of an organization that is operating in a fiscally-responsible manner, as challenging as that is for a small non-profit organization, and I am pleased to acknowledge the hard work and efforts of our staff, volunteers and board members who desire and envision our organization to not only have a positive impact on our local community, but the world community as well.

Pressing forward!

Jeff Wright, President
Richmond Museum Association

CLASSROOM *(Continued from p. 5)*

with other radio operators in Oregon, Los Angeles and Point Reyes. They asked the students what questions they wanted to put to the other radio stations. One student chose to ask the operator in Oregon, “How old are you?” and, after a flurry of Morse Code went back and forth, received the surprising answer that he was 84 years old and earned his first radio license in 1940!

Of course, none of these education efforts would be possible without the ROV’s docents. These remarkable people conduct small group tours on board and are knowledgeable about every aspect of the Ship. Head docent Alan Burns and his team, Eric Poussard, Ron Jones, Ron Servin, Rich Chivers, Graham Perrett, Gordon Seligson and Karen Short, worked hard to entertain and educate the visiting students.

Education is a vital part of the *Red Oak Victory’s*



ROV docent Gordon Seligson explains Ship layout to visiting students in the ROV Officers' Mess.

mission as a historic vessel. We have additional school visits on the calendar for the rest of this year, but there’s always room for more! Tell your friends and your children’s teachers about this fantastic Bay Area resource. Schools interested in organizing a field trip to the Ship should write to info@redoakvictory.us with a proposed date and the number of students and adults in the group.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS ON THE RED OAK VICTORY

Here are the coming attractions....

April 19: Movie Night

6:30 pm: *Das Boot* (1981) This famous German film follows a U-boat on her final patrol. Admission to the ship and the movie are free. Suggested donation of \$10 goes to the preservation and maintenance of the ship.

May 13th: Mother's Day Pancake Breakfast

9:00 am – 12:30 pm

\$12 for adults, kids \$5

Tickets will be available on-line and via phone; or just pay at the gate.

May 17: Movie Night

6:30 pm: *Memoirs of a Geisha* (2005) The story of a beautiful and influential Geisha at the outbreak of World War II. Admission to the ship and the movie are free. Suggested donation of \$10 goes to the preservation and maintenance of the ship.

May 26: Memorial Day Weekend Swing Dance and Dinner

Once again the *Red Oak Victory* will host a 1940s-style Swing Dance featuring hot Bay Area music and dance talent. An optional dinner will also be available. Times and ticket availability will be announced soon.

June 17th: Father's Day Pancake Breakfast

9:00 am – 12:30 pm

\$12 for adults, kids \$5

Tickets will be available on-line and via phone; or just pay at the gate.

July 3: Independence Day Celebration

Again this year the *Red Oak Victory* will hold our traditional Independence Day celebration aboard the Ship. Live music, classic cars, food and drink will be featured, followed by viewing the Richmond fireworks from the best seat in the house. Times and ticket availability will be announced soon.

August 12th: Pancake Breakfast

9:00 am – 12:30 pm

\$12 for adults, kids \$5

Tickets will be available on-line and via phone; or just pay at the gate.

September 9th: Pancake Breakfast

9:00 am – 12:30 pm

\$12 for adults, kids \$5

Tickets will be available on-line and via phone; or just pay at the gate.

October 14th: Pancake Breakfast

9:00 am – 12:30 pm

\$12 for adults, kids \$5

Tickets will be available on-line and via phone; or just pay at the gate.

October 27: Oktoberfest

Red Oak Victory will close out our season with an authentic Oktoberfest featuring local craft breweries, food and live music. Times and ticket availability will be announced soon.

The Ship is open for tours on every Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday throughout the year:

Summer hours (March - November): 10 am - 4 pm

Winter hours (November - March): 10 am - 3 pm

Admission Price:

Self-guided tour (with souvenir booklet): \$10

Docent-guided tour (entire ship except the lower engine room): \$15

Deluxe docent-guided tour (includes the lower engine room): \$20

Large Groups:

For groups of ten or more visiting the ship at one time, please contact us to make arrangements. E-mail us at info@redoakvictory.us or call the Ship's phone (during business hours): (510) 237-2933.

RED OAK WISH LIST:

Spill kit

Emergency locker w/lid, 3' x 4'

2 ink cartridges

AA batteries

LED penlights/laser pointers

and they really, really need SAFETY CONES

If you have questions about these items or about how to get them to the Ship, please call the Ship at (510) 237-2933.



P.O. Box 1267
Richmond, CA 94802

Join the Richmond Museum Association on social media! We are on Facebook under Richmond Museum of History and *SS Red Oak Victory* (two separate pages). We are also on twitter @richmondhistory.

The Richmond Museum Association is a 501 (C) 3 non-profit educational organization. Gifts and donations are tax-deductible to the full extent allowed by law.

Officers

Jeffrey Wright, President
Johannes Hoech, Vice-President
John Zieshenne, Treasurer
Vinay Pimple, Recording Secretary

Directors

Rich Chivers
Micheal Davenport
Steve Gilford
Tom Horsfall
Lynn Maack
Lorraine Regier
Lydia Stewart

Museum Staff

Melinda McCrary, Director
Evelyn Santos, Museum Technician
Michelle Jenkins Reeder, Curatorial Asst.
Mimi Vitetta, Museum Educator

The MIRROR

Lynn Maack, Editor
Contributors
Johannes Hoech
Fred Klink
Melinda McCrary

Red Oak Victory Ship

Open Tues, Thurs, Sat, Sun
10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
1337 Canal Blvd.
Richmond CA 94804
Mail: P.O. Box 1267
Richmond CA 94802
(510) 237-2933 for information and Tour Appointments

Richmond Museum of History

Open Wed-Sun, 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
400 Nevin Avenue
Mail: P.O. Box 1267
Richmond CA 94802
(510) 235-7387 for information and Tour Appointments

Visit our website at www.richmondmuseum.org