

# THE MIRROR

The Richmond Museum Association Newsletter

Winter 2010

Vol. 58

No. 3

## THE TRAVALINI FURNITURE STORE FIRE:

### THE REST OF THE STORY

by Donald Bastin

In August of this year, the Museum opened our newest exhibit, "*Richmond Remembered*," which was put together from interviews with 15 long-time Richmond residents. One of those



interviewees was Fraser Felter who was employed as a reporter for the *Richmond Independent* from 1961 until 1980. Thus he was uniquely positioned to observe and record the activities that took place in Richmond, particularly on Macdonald Avenue, in the latter days of June, 1968. Those who were present in Richmond during that turbulent time will remember that Macdonald Avenue was the scene of what has been described as rioting and looting by angry residents, mostly African-American. Richmond was certainly not unique in this experience, as rioting, politically motivated, was occurring all over the world, and there was much anger and frustration over the recent assassinations of Martin Luther King and Bobby Kennedy.

But of all the events that took place during Richmond's three days of rioting, none is more memorable than the burning of the Travalini Furniture Store at 15<sup>th</sup> and Macdonald on the evening of June 26. Whenever that time is discussed, this event invariably is mentioned. For many Richmond residents, it has come to symbolize the end of the old Richmond that they knew and the birth of a town that was no longer familiar.

Naturally, it was assumed that the "rioters" had torched the

building, even though there was never any real evidence for this. And why this store was singled out was never explained, as the Travalini family had been in business at this location for years and had enjoyed good relations with the community. Was something missing?

During our hour-long interview with Fraser, we naturally came to the riots and the fire. In his own words, this is what he told us:

*"The fire was, of course, blamed on the rioters. And I don't know that this has ever been revealed before, but I had intelligence from a chief homicide inspector . . . who had been assigned to follow up on this and he told me – I'm not burning any sources now because he's been gone for a long time – that a U.S. Sailor and his girlfriend who lived in San Pablo, white people, owed a great deal of money to Travalini . . . so they took advantage of the situation to throw a Molotov cocktail, knowing full well all the records are lost. . . . And it worked perfectly. . . . But you don't have the evidence to bring it into court. So, these people got away with it."*

Hearing this story, both Clem and I looked at each other in astonishment.\* We had expected some historical insights

See *Travalini*, continued on page 4

## ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

### YOU ARE INVITED:

**56<sup>th</sup> Annual Membership Meeting of the  
Richmond Museum Association**

**Sunday, January 24, 2010**

**2:00 p.m.**

**Seaver Room, Richmond Museum of History  
400 Nevin Avenue**

**On the agenda: (see page 4)**

**Election of Board of Directors  
Adoption of 2010 Budget and Calendar**

**Join us as we begin another busy year in the  
life of the museum.**

# THE GIFT OF MUSIC

by John Ziesenhenn

On a warm summer evening I had the pleasure of interviewing one of Richmond's most entertaining people, and I mean entertaining! The wonderful band leader Sam Lico sat down at the kitchen table along with his wife Josephine, and they shared memories of Sammy's band days at the USO in Richmond during WWII.

Sammy was born in Colorado, the oldest of five children. His father worked for the railroad so the family moved to South San Francisco when he was a youngster. Sammy started taking accordion lessons two days a week when he was 12 years old and he was pretty good at playing it. When his parents moved to 16<sup>th</sup> & Cutting in Richmond, he continued taking his lessons by riding the Ferry to San Francisco! Sammy was a talented musician and played the accordion whenever he could. He entered an accordion contest in San Francisco at the age of 15. It was a very, very popular event as the great accordionist Duido Deiro (who was the Champion Accordion Player in the world in the '20s and '30s) would present the Silver Cup for First prize to the best accordion player. When the winner of the contest was announced – Sammy Lico was presented with the Silver Cup by the world renowned Mr. Deiro as the best accordion player on November 1, 1931. Sammy showed me his prized award that is still on grand display in his family room.

Sammy met his beautiful wife, Josephine, at the Cavalcade of Bands at Alvarado Park. It didn't take long before he proposed to her at the Cliff House in San Francisco. They were married on January 12, 1947, at St. Paul's in San Pablo. Josephine's sister Pauline Banducci was the Maid of Honor and Sammy's brother John Lico was the Best Man. The wedding reception was held at the historic Galileo Club. Josephine was born and raised in Richmond. She graduated from Richmond High in 1933 and went to work at IBM in the Payroll & Statistics Department. There she kept track of every penny spent by the company during the war and was the last employee of IBM when they closed after the war.

Sammy played in many bands during the '30s but the Sammy Lico Band stands out in Richmond's history because Sammy's band played every Friday and Saturday night at the USO club from 8-12 p.m. Thousands of young GI's danced to his band that included a piano, trombone, saxophone, drums and, of course -- the accordion.

The first song of the evening was always "God Bless America," and the last song of the night was the "Star Spangled Banner." In between those two songs the band played all the popular dancing hits of the '30s & '40s, like Benny Goodman, Tommy Dorsey, Glenn Miller, Duke Ellington, Louis Jordan and

many more. Sammy said there were never any problems at the USO Club, which was located at 10<sup>th</sup> & Virginia. He said if some GI came into the club a little tipsy, the other GI's would take him into the shower for a little wake-up call. Most of the GI's that danced at the Richmond USO were being shipped out to the Asian Theater so the USO was a great way to get a young man's mind away from war for a few hours and to dance the night away. One of the USO hostesses' rules was that if a GI asked for a dance, you danced. "No thank you" was never heard by a serviceman wanting a dance partner at the Richmond USO. Another interesting point is that Local 424, the Musicians Trust Fund, paid the bill for Sammy's band for the four years that they played for our servicemen.



In addition to his USO gigs, Sammy had interesting lunches. During the war he worked in the Kaiser Shipyards at Yard 2. He was in charge of the merchandise leaving the yard. Sometimes, maybe two or three times a week, Mr. Henry Kaiser himself would come to the shipyard and would have lunch in the cafeteria. Mr.

Kaiser had heard that Sammy played the accordion so Mr. Kaiser's chauffeur would pick Sammy up in Mr. Kaiser's car, drive him home to get his accordion and then back to the cafeteria where Sammy would play for Mr. Kaiser – which he did very often. Sammy also saw the Liberty ship Robert E. Peary that was built and launched in a record-setting four days 15.5 hours.

After the war, the Kaiser Shipyards closed. Then Sammy worked in the grocery business for many years and still played the accordion.



When Sammy played in the band, Josephine could be found on the dance floor. After retiring, he and Josephine took their first cruise in 1973 to the Caribbean. This summer they just came back from their 105<sup>th</sup> cruise, this time with the whole family, to the Mexican Riviera.

Smiling Sammy the Accordion Player and Josephine Lico reside in Richmond and enjoy their family and friends. "Have accordion, will travel," says Sammy. Thank you, Sammy and Josephine for sharing your memories with the Richmond Museum of History.

# COE RETIRES AT 90

by Sandi Genser-Maack

After 20 or more years of being the Corresponding Secretary of the Richmond Museum of History Executive Board, Mary Tom Coe is retiring. "I feel I can't be of any use anymore," she says, "I'm realizing my limitations. And it's time. Time for change."

But, she continues, "If you need someone to sit at the door and register people as they come in, or maybe take money and make change, I can still do things like that."

Mary Tom retired the last time about 27 years ago, but that was just the beginning of a new life as a volunteer. She has done "whatever was needed" at the County Library in El Sobrante and got an award for that.

But Marian Sauer, a retired teacher and native Richmonder, needed something to do on Sundays while her husband, George, watched football on TV. So Marian became a Museum volunteer, leading tours and eventually becoming Treasurer. And then Marian recruited Wilma Winter, another retiree from the school district, who was Richmond Museum Association (RMA) Recording Secretary for many years, and Wilma recruited Mary Tom, with whom she had worked in the School District Special Services office.

In fact, "For many years," Mary Tom remembers, "the RMA Board was made up of little old ladies. But we got things done."

Mary Tom came to Richmond in 1927 with her family: her grandparents had visited relatives here and decided to move, and her mother, their only child, was not going to be left behind in Oklahoma. So two grandparents and a bachelor great-uncle, two parents and three little girls packed everything into a Ford truck and a car and took off for Richmond, sometimes camping by the side of the road. Mary Tom was eight years old and her sisters were younger, and, although the family didn't know it yet, her Mother was pregnant with twins.

The family lived in a house on what is now Amador but then was Key Blvd. It was unfinished and had only four rooms, but they kept building and eventually it had five bedrooms. It was torn down when they built the freeway, but that was much later.

Mary Tom's Father went to work for the Piggly Wiggly market on 9<sup>th</sup> and Macdonald and worked his way up. By the time he became Store Manager, it was a Safeway. Sometimes Mary Tom would leave school (Richmond High), stop at the Safeway where her father would give her a dime to buy a treat at the bakery at 4<sup>th</sup> and Macdonald. She would eat her treat before going to the Library (our Museum) to do homework and then her father would take her home with him at the end of his work day. There was a path from the school to the library, worn by the many kids who went there often.

Mary Tom enrolled at Grant Elementary School because that's where her cousins went, but switched to Woodrow Wilson when it opened a year later. She went to Longfellow Junior High and then to Richmond High School where she graduated in 1937.



During high school, she took elocution lessons and gave readings for lodges, church groups, and anyone who wanted a program. She was a member of Junior Club Mendelssohn, the younger version of a women's club devoted to drama and music.

After graduation, Mary Tom stayed home to cook, clean and do laundry because her mother worked. This was a lot of hard work, so Mary Tom took a class at the Berkeley Adult School on being a buyer and got a job at Capwell, Sullivan & Furth, a department store in Oakland, as a stock girl.

She had taken six months' worth of typing in school, so when the shipyards came she filled out an application, and on December 8, 1941, they called. She worked at Yard 3, typing purchase orders, then filing, until February of 1943, ending up in the office of Shipyard Manager Clay Bedford.

With a little money and "an itchy foot," Mary Tom went to Seattle. She had taken shorthand at Miss Shannon's School on Macdonald Avenue, upstairs. She worked for Boeing for three months, then came back to Richmond to work for M.A. Hays Co., which sold insurance and real estate and was developing houses in El Sobrante.

She and a friend went to Los Angeles where her career included working for an attorney with no clients, Lockheed for six weeks at the end of the war, when she got laid off, and a job as an assistant to a CPA/attorney who was the business manager for many famous people. (Remember Vincent Minelli?)

Mary Tom married Chuck Coe in January of 1948 and off they went, cross-country by train to visit his family, and then, because Chuck was in the Navy, to Japan, where they lived on the Navy base for almost four years and produced one son. The trip to Japan by Army transport put Mary Tom with the passengers and Chuck with the troops, so there was very little time and almost no place on the ship for them to get together. And the trip took three weeks!

Mary Tom loved their time in Japan, in part because the apartment came with household help, and in part because there were friends all around, including her sister, who lived with her Navy husband across the hall.

Back from Japan, Mary Tom went back to M.A. Hays Co. and then to the Richmond Chamber of Commerce for 10 years. In 1962 she went to work as the secretary to the superintendent of the Sheldon Elementary School District, which included schools in San Pablo, Pinole and parts of Richmond. But soon came unification and the West Contra Costa Unified School District, and she followed Ralph Harris to Special Services where she stayed for 20 years and one day.

Two of Mary Tom's siblings died at age 52 and the other two died at age 72. "I got all the good genes," she smiles. Her family lived in central Richmond until they decided they needed more

See *Coe*, continued on page 4

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

# '09 CLOSES WITH A BANG

by Lois Boyle

While the memory is still fresh in my mind, I must say that the last event of the year on November 8<sup>th</sup> was outstanding. The Air National Guard Band of the West Coast gave a rousing, emotionally stirring concert, opening our celebration. Veteran members of our armed forces stood at attention as their military branch song was sung. Boy Scout Troop #146 of El Sobrante engaged our spirit as they marched in, twelve members strong, carrying this country's flags. Mayor James Johnson of Red Oak, Iowa, concluded the memorial service with a beautiful rendition of *God Bless America*. Guests laid their flowers on the bay in private memory of their loved ones.

In Congressman George Miller's words, "It is very appropriate to celebrate the Red Oak Anniversary and Veterans Day when we honor and commemorate the millions of men and women who have served our country, including those young men from Red Oak, Iowa, for whom the ship was named. Since the birth of our great nation, our military has fought to secure the rights and liberties of democracy, stabilized the lives of millions throughout the world, ensuring that security and freedom continue to reign across the land."

The year 2009 has been a good year – our membership has grown, and the work of our volunteers has exceeded all expectations. Dream goals have been met. Our programming reached hundreds from all over the Bay Area. We have, indeed, promoted and encouraged the study and research of Richmond's history.

## *Coe, continued from page 3*

room. They met a couple who wanted to pare down and they traded houses. Mary Tom still lives in that home in the El Sobrante area of Richmond.

Mary Tom has three sons, six grandchildren (five boys and one girl), four step-grandchildren, and six step-great-grandchildren. She is quite amazed that her granddaughter is planning a career in the California Highway Patrol.

Mary Tom has continued to travel to such places as China, Southeast Asia, and Europe. She has gone to many Elder Hostels, her favorites being New Orleans and Quebec.

The interview I thought might take an hour took three, and we could have gone on talking. Of course, she told me lots of interesting things that I am not sharing with you. You will just have to take Mary Tom to tea some day soon and have your own chat.

Any parting words? "I've had a good life," she said. Any advice? "Make younger friends."

*The Richmond Museum Association notes the passing of Bernice Carnes, a long-time museum volunteer and Board member, who was especially involved in the Annual Junque Sale and starting the Museum Gift Shop.*

# REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

In accordance with the amended bylaws adopted at the Annual Meeting in January, 2009, the Annual Membership meeting will elect members to the board of directors only, who will among themselves elect the officers of the association for the following year. The report of the Nominating Committee is as follows:

Directors, three-year-terms:

- Lois Boyle, Incumbent President
- George Coles, Incumbent Director
- Sandi Genser-Maack, Incumbent Recording Secretary
- Lorraine Regier, Incumbent Financial Secretary
- William Rochester, Incumbent Treasurer
- John Ziesenhenné, Incumbent Vice President

Directors, two-year-terms:

- Rich Chivers, Incumbent Director
- Joe Fischer, Incumbent Director
- Marjorie Hill, Incumbent Director
- Steve Gilford, Incumbent Director
- Karen Stephenson, Incumbent Director

Director, one-year-term:

- Karin Hart, retired employee of SEI Union, now a volunteer for the union's nonprofit organization

## *Travalini, continued from page 1*

in this interview, but this was pure gold. Admittedly, this was one man's account. But that man was a trained observer: a "primary source," as historians say. And I think we felt honored that we were perhaps the first to hear this story, outside of a close circle of confidantes.

Historical "truth" is always elusive. We must always be prepared to discard what we think we know, in the face of contrary evidence. The burning of the Travalini furniture store has



for over 40 years been a painful sore in the collective memory of our town. It is, for me, comforting to know that, whatever expressions of anger and violence took place on the evening of June 26, 1968, our citizens were not guilty

of mindless destruction. More likely, that act was one of old-fashioned self-interest and greed.

*\*Donald Bastin, the Executive Director of the Richmond Museum of History, and Clementina Diaz, the Museum Exhibit Coordinator, have collaborated on several projects for the Museum as well as a personal collaboration: their long-time marriage.*

# READING RICHMOND'S HOME FRONT

by Clare Fischer

Sitting adjacent to the Red Oak Victory at the 11<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration "She Came Home" on November 8<sup>th</sup>, I reflected on two books I had recently read about construction of Liberty and Victory ships at the Richmond shipyards during WWII. Both were written as semi-fictional accounts of a group of workers drawn from thousands responsible for a host of jobs that culminated in the launching of more than 700 ships. Published 37 years apart (1945 and 1982, respectively), *Skip to my Lou* by William M. Camp (N.Y.: Doubleday Doran & Co.) and *Swing Shift, Building the Liberty Ships* by Joseph Fabry (S.F.: Strawberry Hill Press) are worth reading today by those curious about the environment of the shipyards many years ago. Although neither book can be said to offer historical documentation as such, both serve as an imaginative recasting of a time and activity central to Richmond's history.

*Skip to My Lou* significantly differs from Fabry's narrative, offering the reader a compelling story of one family's migration from an isolated rural community in the Ozarks in 1942 to Richmond. It serves as a melancholy testimony about the ill-fated consequences associated with the massive recruitment of workers from many regions of the nation; from relative self-sufficiency to urban dependence on wage and the services provided by employee and government. Camp makes a strong argument throughout his text that recruits were tantalized by promises that proved empty, arriving in Richmond to discover that basic needs were unmet and that many of the host community were less than hospitable. The Hoxie family's housing in "trailer town" was unhygienic, crowded and difficult for children. Prejudice against "Okies" was not limited to the humiliating words of some Richmond long-time residents, but included a variety of not-so-subtle acts of discrimination. The second half of *Skip to My Lou* offers the reader a glimpse of small satisfactions experienced by workers in learning skills and assuming some leadership at the worksite. Camp tells the story of a former neighbor of the Hoxie family in Arkansas, an African American worker, who disproves stereotypes embedded in racial bigotry and gains the respect of many workmates despite the ever-present tension of racism at the shipyard.

Fabry's story focuses on a dozen men and women who work together in the assembling of Liberty ships. His narrative is clearly derived from his own experience at the Richmond shipyards, inserting himself into the text as "a nosey sort of a guy." His characters are affectionately portrayed with sensitivity to the complex circumstances of their personal and work lives. What distinguishes *Swing Shift* is its informative depiction of building ships: job descriptions, production process, social relations at the yard, and the moments of achievement with the "launch." Just as Camp inserted emotional tensions and social dysfunction in his narrative of the dislocated worker, Fabry describes both gender and racial/ethnic (regional) prejudice. His account is a satisfying read through its interweaving of work task and personal engagement in production of wartime ships. Although neither book is in print, I recommend both and suggest that a visit to the library is in order.

## SAIL THE BAY ON THE SS RED OAK VICTORY!

Sail? On the Red Oak? Across the San Francisco Bay? Sign me up! What do you mean, later?

OK, here's the deal: The final push for restoration of the Red Oak involves placing her in Dry Dock for hull and engine room work, and that won't happen until there is money to pay for it.

The Richmond Museum Association has applied for a Save America's Treasures Grant and part of that includes raising matching funds of \$100,000. So the RMA Board decided to sell seats on the first sailing to help raise those funds.

You can easily participate in this fund drive and be making an investment for yourself in the process by buying *Red Oak Fund Certificates* which can be redeemed at an increased value when the ship has her first sail after restoration.

Certificates are \$20 each, and six certificates will be required for this first sail. The fee for the first sail is expected to be \$150 per person, so by buying certificates now you save money (\$30), share in the final restoration push for the ship and enjoy her first sail when she returns home to us.

Certificates can be purchased by check or credit card by contacting the Special Events office at (510) 232-6593 or mailing a check to 608 – 40<sup>th</sup> Street, Richmond, CA 94805.

Certificates will be available for purchase at the Annual Meeting on January 24<sup>th</sup>.

### **"MISTER ROBERTS"** **BOARDS THE RED OAK**

March 26 thru April 18

A play produced by the Galatean Players

Showtimes are Fridays at 8 p.m., Saturdays at 3 p.m.  
and 8 p.m., and Sunday matinees are at 3 p.m.

For tickets call (925) 676-5705

Based on the book by Thomas Heggen, the play was the winner of the 1948 Tony Award. The film version starred Henry Fonda, James Cagney, William Powell and Jack Lemmon, who won an Academy Award for Best Supporting Actor for his performance.

# HISTORIC PRESERVATION AWARDS 2010

The Richmond Historic Preservation Advisory Committee invites nominations for the Richmond Historic Preservation Awards, 2010. The nomination form will be available in February and is due March 31, 2010.

The purpose of the awards program is to increase public awareness of Richmond's heritage by recognizing individuals, organizations, businesses, and agencies whose contributions demonstrate outstanding commitment to excellence in historic preservation, local history or promotion of the City's heritage. Awards will be presented at a reception in May, National Preservation Month.

In addition to public and private buildings and structures, historic preservation projects may include media, publications, presentations and exhibits, parks, burial grounds, public art, oral history, theater productions, events and video presentations.

Any individual, group, organization or agency involved in historic preservation or promoting Richmond's heritage is eligible to receive a Richmond Historic Preservation Award.

Nominations will be evaluated on the basis of one or more of the following:

- o Active involvement with a relatively wide variety of historic and/or prehistoric resources.
- o Contribution to the preservation and/or promotion of Richmond's historic and/or prehistoric resources.
- o Initiative in pursuing preservation activities that are not required by law and which do not reflect the organization's mandate.

Nomination forms will be available in February on the City's website: [www.ci.richmond.ca.us](http://www.ci.richmond.ca.us) or call the Museum at (510) 235-7387 and ask for a PDF copy to be emailed to you. You may pick up a hard copy at City Hall or at the Museum.

## CELEBRATIONS IN THE SEAVER GALLERY...

Two special events are planned for this spring: On Sunday, February 14<sup>th</sup>, you can bring that special person to a *Valentine's Day Luncheon* at the Museum and then take a short walk up to the Main Gallery and enjoy the Richmond stories it has to offer. Your \$15 luncheon fee includes admission to the museum, and the good stories and fellowship are free.

On Wednesday, April 21, to recognize those special secretaries, the museum will be celebrating *National Secretary's Day* with yet another spring luncheon where you can honor your secretary and enjoy the museum at the same time. Again, only \$15.

Space is limited, so make your reservations now by calling (510) 232-6593.

## BECOME A MEMBER OF THE RICHMOND MUSEUM ASSOCIATION

### Privileges:

- ◆ Reduced admission to events
- ◆ Discounts on services, books, and gift items
- ◆ Quarterly newsletter, "*The MIRROR*"
- ◆ Advance notice of tours and events
- ◆ Free entrance to Museum and Ship

*Yes, I want to become a member*

*Enclosed is my check for*

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ (payable to RMA)

### Categories of Membership

\$25	Senior/Student
\$35	Individual
\$50	Family/Organization
\$65	Contributing
\$100	Sustaining
\$500	Patron
\$1000	Benefactor/Corporate

\_\_\_ New \_\_\_ Renew \_\_\_ Gift  
\_\_\_ I Would like to volunteer

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ I would like my newsletter sent by e-mail  
(saves money & trees).

Mail to:

Richmond Museum of History  
PO Box 1267  
Richmond, CA 94802

# ITEMS IN THE MUSEUM COLLECTION NOT ON DISPLAY

by Lynn Maack

## WICKER BABY CARRIAGE

Wicker baby carriages were extremely popular in an earlier era. Impressive for its wicker body and hood, the Museum's baby carriage is otherwise notable because it was made by a famous and prodigious furniture manufacturer, the Heywood-Wakefield Company. Well-known in the 1950s and '60s for its sleek, streamlined, blond wooden furniture, Heywood-Wakefield's predecessor company was also a major producer of wicker baby carriages in the late 1800s to 1920. A close inspection and a little research suggest that the Museum's carriage was probably made using the Lloyd Loom process. The Lloyd Loom, invented by Marshall Burns Lloyd and patented in 1917, was a machine that created a wicker product resembling reed or rattan by winding strips of paper fabric around steel wire and stringing the strands together in sheets that could be conformed and attached to nearly any frame. The Lloyd Loom process revolutionized the manufacture of wicker items, from baby carriages to chairs, tables and many other household and commercial furniture products, making them affordable for everyday people.

The Lloyd Manufacturing Company was the largest and best-known maker of wicker baby carriages in the country around 1920. At that time the Heywood Brothers & Wakefield Company, one of the country's two largest and best-known makers of furniture, also marketed wicker baby carriages and, challenged by Lloyd in that market, bought the company in 1921, thus gaining the use of the Lloyd Loom. At the same time, the Heywood Brothers & Wakefield Company incorporated as the Heywood-Wakefield Company. The acquisition of Lloyd positioned Heywood-Wakefield as the undisputed leader in wicker furniture production, a position it maintained until the 1930s when wicker's popularity waned and the company turned to producing more wood and metal furniture.



It is difficult to tell the age of the carriage precisely, but a label affixed underneath the body from the "Heywood-Wakefield Co., Chicago, Illinois," helps. The Heywood brothers started the company in 1826 in Gardner, Massachusetts, and produced wicker baby carriages since they became popular in the Civil War era. The company opened its Chicago factory in 1884. Heywood Brothers and Wakefield Co. became the company name in 1897, and the name "Heywood-Wakefield" was used starting in 1921. The company used this style of label until the late 1930s. The painted color band on the carriage body and hood is characteristic of the style in the mid-1920s. So all of this gives us a time frame for the baby carriage of about 1921-1930.



The Museum's carriage is not in great condition—its metal undercarriage and wheels are rusty, its solid rubber tires have flat spots from sitting for years, and its frame is bent and crooked—but it is worthy of bringing to light as an example of a very popular style of baby carriage from Heywood-Wakefield's, and quite possibly Richmond's, past.

## QUESTIONS FROM OUR READERS?

Do you have a question about Richmond's history?

If so, send it to us, and we'll try to answer it in the next issue of *The Mirror*.

Maybe you wonder how a street or park got its name, or where a missing landmark went. Or maybe you have an old photograph of a group of people at an event, and you want to find out about the event or the names of the people in the photo.

If we are unable to provide answers ourselves, we may publish the question or photo in the next issue of *The Mirror* and, as they say on TV's "Who Wants to be a Millionaire," "ask the audience." Hopefully, one of our readers will be able to help.

Send your questions and/or photos to the editor at [l.maack@comcast.net](mailto:l.maack@comcast.net), or call 510-237-5670.

**Richmond Museum Association, Inc.**

Museum open Wed-Sun, 1-4 p.m.  
400 Nevin Ave., P.O. Box 1267  
Richmond CA 94802  
(510) 235-7387

[Richmondmuseumofhistory.org](http://Richmondmuseumofhistory.org)

**Officers**

Lois Boyle, President  
John Zieshenne, Vice Pres.  
William Rochester, Treasurer  
Sandi Genser-Maack, Recording Secty  
Mary Tom Coe, Corresponding Secty  
Lorraine Regier, Financial Secty

**Directors**

Rich Chivers  
George Coles  
Phyllis Doering  
Joe Fischer  
Steve Gilford  
Marjorie Roque Hill  
Robert Moore  
Ray Sitton  
Karen Stephenson  
Jeffrey Wright

**Board Member Emeritus**

Donald Hardison

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

**Appointed Chairs**

Leona Derheim, Red Oak Tree  
Lorraine Regier, Membership

**Endowment Fund Board**

Joe Bagley  
Hank Covell  
Ed Downer  
Don Hardison  
Margaret Morkowski

**Museum Staff**

Donald Bastin, Exec. Director  
Clementina Diaz, Exhibit Coord.

**The MIRROR Staff**

Lynn Maack, Editor  
Donald Bastin  
Lois Boyle  
Mary Tom Coe  
George Coles  
Sandi Genser-Maack  
Helen Pence



400 Nevin Avenue, P.O. Box 1267, Richmond, CA 94802

**Admission:**  
*Members: Free*  
*Seniors/Students: \$1.00*  
*General: \$2.00*  
*Children: Free w/adult*

**THE MIRROR IS ON OUR WEBSITE!**  
You can now access *The MIRROR* on the Museum website. We have the last five issues online. The Museum is trying to cut down on mailing expenses by moving to online publication and distribution via email instead of mailed hardcopy.  
Contact Museum Director Donald Bastin at (510) 235-7387 to get on the email distribution list.  
Meanwhile, the website address for *The MIRROR* is [www.richmondmuseumofhistory.org/newsletter.htm](http://www.richmondmuseumofhistory.org/newsletter.htm).

**THE RED OAK VICTORY SHIP HAS A NEW, MUCH STEADIER, GANGPLANK AND BATHROOMS!!!!**  
**IF YOU HAVE NOT VISITED LATELY, IT'S TIME!**  
**SS Red Oak Victory**  
*1337 Canal Blvd., Berth 6A*  
*www.ssredoakvictory.com*  
*Open for visitors on Saturdays, Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.. For group tour and event booking information, call Lorraine at (510) 222-0955.*

Non-Profit Org  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Richmond, CA  
Permit No. 78

**DATED MATERIAL -- PLEASE EXPEDITE DELIVERY**

The Museum is open Wednesday thru Sunday, 1-4 p.m.  
Call (510) 235-7387 for information and tour appointments.  
Visit us online at: **RICHMONDMUSEUMOFHISTORY.ORG**