

THE LANDMARK

A quarterly publication of the Landmarks Society



PHOTO BY DIANE SMITH

The bell tower at Old St. Hilary's was built at the same time as the church in 1888. The original bell was transferred to the new St. Hilary's Church when the old building was deconsecrated. The old Belvedere School bell was installed, but it was too small, so a used bell from San Francisco was put in its place in the early '90s, and the school bell was taken to the Art & Garden Center.

Corinthian Island Celebrates a Centennial

May Day was a winner for the Landmarks Society and residents of Corinthian Island, several of whom graciously opened their homes to members of the society and their guests in celebration of the neighborhood's 100th anniversary. The Corinthian Island Centennial Tour drew 200 guests, who got an inside look at what a century's worth of diversity brings in 11 homes ranging from cottage to contemporary.



LOOKING DOWN BERNHEIM STAIRWAY. PHOTO BY DIANE SMITH

Among the homes was the Kasanin family's shingled house with its wrap-around porch, which has maintained its original appearance even though it is almost 100 years old. Cameron and Kate Baker's home, which was on the tour, is from the same era and combines several styles.

At the other end of the scale, the Chong house is a post-and-beam constructed house with decidedly modern lines. The Ellison house, also a contemporary design, is a two-story, flat-topped rectangle cantilevered over Ark Row.

Proving that small is beautiful, especially when it is located on Corinthian Island, the home of Marden Plant and Tom Davis is a Carpenter-style cottage, tucked into a hillside with spectacular views.

The Landmarks Society extends its thanks to the Corinthian Island homeowners for generously sharing their places in paradise for a unique and lovely tour. Our gratitude goes to the Kasanin family, Cameron and Kate Baker, Barbara and George Gness, Ron and Shahla Cowan, Hakan and Mona Bille, Robert and Susan Bernheim, Richard and Sallie Griffith, Cherie Baird, Marden Plant and Tom Davis, Brian Chong and Chris Ellison.

SS China Cabin was a busy place on the afternoon of May 1, as tour goers checked in before either heading out on foot to Bellevue Avenue or, if climbing the hill was an obstacle, took the shuttle car that RAB Motors kindly provided. After trekking around the island, they were able to return to SS China Cabin for tea and cookies to complete the tour.

A big thank you to all the volunteers and docents, as well as the homeowners, for making the Corinthian Island Tour possible. We couldn't have done it without you.

Inside:

Making History

Music Rings Out at Old St. Hilary's

Ghosts of Belvedere & Tiburon, a Musical

Got an IRA?

President's Corner

By Dave Gotz, President

The premature, yet beautiful summer we've had, has been a time for the Landmarks Society to reach out to people from our community and beyond with an astonishing variety of events.

In the first three days of April, we had a wildflower walk at Old St. Hilary's Landmark, hosted Bay Area travel writers on a tour of two sites and a guided walk down historic Main Street and Ark Row and presented a thoroughly entertaining history of Corinthian Island.

May Day brought the tour of homes on this year's centennial island, drawing 200 enthusiastic walkers on a spectacular day. And in one night, we hosted a terrific classical jazz and jazz classics concert at Old St. Hilary's and a sprightly 95 year-old at the library telling tales of life above the Railroad-Ferry Depot.

Our wonderfully unique organization provides the opportunity to bring history and entertainment to the people of this peninsula and to our many visitors. But it would not be possible without the dedicated volunteer spirit found in our board, members and docents. Thanks to you all.

Although not as busy as the first half of the year, there are significant events coming this summer and fall. We had planned a Corinthian Island night for Friday Nights on Main on May 25th, but with that weekly party being reconfigured, we now hope to mount the celebration on June 15th. The Centennial Raffle will be drawn that night also, so please be sure to buy some tickets — the 10 prizes are magnificent and the benefit to our Society is great.

Our signature event for the year will be held at the Corinthian Yacht Club on September 27th and 28th. "The Ghosts of Belvedere and Tiburon"

Thank You RAB!

The Landmarks Society extends its thanks to RAB Motors for providing a shuttle car for the Corinthian Island House Tour on May 1.

RAB generously provided a car and an expert driver, Hap McGill, allowing patrons needing assistance to get to the top of the hill to start the tour. When Piper Berger saw the name on his badge, she recognized him as an early Corinthian Island resident and has made contact with him to do an oral history.



PHOTO BY DIANE SMITH

Hap McGill driving the RAB shuttle

should prove to be a terrific night of music and mirth. On the closing night, a black tie fund-raiser will hopefully generate the much-needed funds to complete all the major exhibits at the Railroad-Ferry Depot Museum.

With the overwhelming success of the history lectures at the library, we are hoping to have at least one more this year, and a full series of concerts at Old St. Hilary's is developing quickly,

with the beautiful voices of Musae already confirmed for December 19th.

In addition to all these wonderful events, I always like to remind everyone that on Wednesdays and Sundays there are four great places to go and learn about the history of our area and to enjoy some of the best views that this peninsula can offer. So get out and see our great landmarks and meet our dedicated docents — and bring your friends!

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(Type "Landmarks" into the blank, right, top box and click on "go.")

Making History



PHOTO BY DIANE SMITH

Jack Fiorito helps third-grade students from Bel Aire School raise the flag at the SS China Cabin during a field trip.

Landmarks' new season opened on April 1, a perfect day for **Helen Muirhead's** wildflower walk at the nature preserve at Old St. Hilary's. Helen's watercolors grace the *Wildflower Guide* and *Wildflower Poster* that she generously produced and donated to the Landmarks Society. Both are available at the Landmarks office and the History Collections on the Boardwalk.

Bel Aire School's third-graders visited SS China Cabin in April, and a group of travel writers also took in the sights. Their first stop was the Railroad-Ferry Depot Museum, where **Phil Cassou** shared some history, then they took an historic walk along Main Street with **Jim Allen**, **Carolyn Oller** and **Dave Gotz**. **Jack Fiorito** did double duty at the China Cabin, with spiels for the adults as well as the little kids on the same day.

Weather had taken its toll on the flagpole at the Railroad-Ferry Depot Museum, so in March, **Gary Lucas** and **Phil Cassou** took it down, and **Hank Easom** restored it to shipshape condition. It's back up with new white paint and the gold finial ball shining. Thanks to Hank for making the flagpole look like new and contributing materials and his time.

Amy Wolf, who grew up here and is now *Sunset Magazine's* travel editor, visited the Art & Garden

Center with her mother in April and marveled at the views. As a result, *Sunset Magazine* did a photo shoot, and an article will appear in the August issue. San Francisco's **7X7 Magazine** is doing a feature on wedding sites and included Old St. Hilary's Landmark... A garden club from **Ross** visited in May.

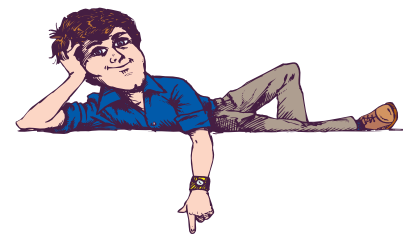
Barbara Gnos, **Jeanne Price** and **Dick Slottow** entertained a full house at the library with tales of the history of Corinthian Island in April. In May, **Florence Bent Palmer**, whose father was the stationmaster at the Tiburon depot when she was a child, joined **Beverly Bastian** and **Mary Eklund** for a lecture titled "Upstairs at the Depot."

Dave Gotz, president of the Landmarks Society and chairman of the Tiburon Heritage & Arts Commission unveiled his multimedia DVD *Turning the Tide*, chronicling efforts to save Richardson Bay, at Town Hall this spring.

Copies of the documentary are available for \$20 each from either the Landmarks Society History Collections or office. Proceeds benefit Landmarks, Richardson Bay Audubon Center and Tiburon Heritage & Arts Commission... Landmarks supporter **Bran Fanning's** new book on the history of Angel Island is now available, joining his book on the history of the Tiburon Peninsula.

New Members FEBRUARY TO MAY 2007

Mogens Bach
Susan C. Beech
Greg Breedlove
Michael Byrnes
David & Nancy Callaway
Janet Coleman
Geoffrey M. Collins
James & Velda Demmert
Susan & Bruce Edwards
Gustavo Ezcurra
Maureen Filmer
Cheryl & Michael Guheen
Andrea Johnson
Richard Kalish
Sandra Killmeyer-Kran
Lisa Klairmont
Art & Nicole Kliensky
Helen Lange
Suzanne M. Lewis
Robert P. Liburdy
Pam Martori
Carol Miller
Kathryn & Peter Niggeman
Robin L. Pryor
Gus A. Raney
Sara & Dennis Sakai
Ernest Ware
Katharine Whittaker



Leave Your Mark – Visit a Landmark!

Old St. Hilary's, The Railroad-Ferry Depot Museum, SS China Cabin and the Art & Garden Center

All are open every Sunday and Wednesday, 1 to 4 p.m., April through October.

Marin Women's Hall of Fame Honors Beverly Bastian

By Jeanne Price

On March 22, Beverly Bastian, a founder of the Belvedere-Tiburon Landmarks Society, was inducted into the Marin Women's Hall of Fame in ceremonies held at the Embassy Suites in San Rafael. She was honored for her work in environmental protection. She shared the evening with four other Marin women who excelled in the area of the arts, education, community service and social change.

Before dinner, the large audience, which included at least 40 of Beverly's friends and family, enjoyed montages of each woman's life taken from their family photo albums. After dinner, a current member introduced each new member of the Hall of Fame and then spoke herself.

After Patty Garbarino introduced her, Beverly spoke extemporaneously about what motivated her life of achievement. "There is no such thing as unselfishness," she said. "There is only constructive and destructive selfishness. I've tried at least to be constructive." She quoted William James, the American philosopher, who wrote, "The great use of life is to create something that will outlast it."

She delighted the audience with her off-hand remarks and sharp wit. She didn't relinquish the microphone until she had suggested that her epitaph read, "A conservationist of the natural world, a traditionalist for social behavior and a liberal for social reform."

As part of her award, Beverly received \$1,000 to give to a nonprofit organization of her choice. She donated it to the Landmarks Society for the bathroom (not the water closet) upstairs at the Railroad-Ferry Depot Museum.

The Ghosts of Belvedere & Tiburon, a Musical

We hope you'll join us for a walk through time in September for *The Ghosts of Belvedere and Tiburon*, a musical, part of our continuing celebration of Corinthian Island's centennial. The play will feature two young hikers who will explore the Tiburon Peninsula and Belvedere and encounter ghosts of days past, singing and dancing their tales as the visitors visit local landmarks.

With playwright Maria Woodward, director Shirley Bonbright, Debbie Fisher overseeing technical production and local residents as members of the cast, it promises to be a fantastic show for the entire community.

The curtain will go up on Thursday, September 27, for Family Night with traditional theater seating. Tickets will be \$20 for adults and \$10 for seniors and students.

Dinner theater is on the menu for Friday, September 28, for a gala fund-raiser that includes the show, dinner from Corinthian Catering and a silent auction. The evening will be a benefit for the Landmarks Society, with the proceeds going to the Railroad-Ferry Depot Museum to help complete its transition into a full-fledged museum. Tickets are \$100 a person.

If you would like to join the cast or help with the production, please call Judy Wilson at 435-0305. To provide underwriting for the production or to make a donation to the silent auction, please call Leslie Doyle at 435-1853.

You can visit www.landmarks-society.org and click on Activities or call the Landmarks office, 435-1853. Call to make your reservations now.



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History Collections Welcomes Jim Davenport

“The right person,” is the way Landmarks Archivist Piper Berger describes her newest volunteer, Jim Davenport. “It’s such a gift to have the right person at the right time,” she said. “It couldn’t be a better fit.”

Jim has only been working about two months at the History Collections, but he works every day, three hours a day, as a volunteer. He is using the new Past Perfect software for museums, setting up the database that will eventually contain everything about every item in the collections. He currently is entering the data on every piece of artwork — its date, condition, creator, donor, dimensions, value and even its image and that of the artist. It is painstaking work that requires him to be diligent and meticulous. Jim said he thrives on detail, and the work keeps his mind sharp. He likes the relaxed atmosphere and meeting “such nice people.”

Jim is a paralegal and has worked in the legal field for 10 years, specializing in intellectual property law. He enjoys working for Landmarks while he is between jobs. In order to broaden his education, he returned to school for a liberal arts education and graduated last year from Sonoma State with a BA in Liberal Studies. For his senior project he researched Marin County’s long-lost electric train system and became captivated by local history. He was born in San Francisco and now lives in Mill Valley with his wife and a kitty.

Jim already had an interest in archiving, and after admiring the history plaques along the bike path, he decided to contact Piper to see what he could do. She had the perfect job for him.



PHOTO BY PIPER BERGER

Donations to the History Collections – January to April 2007

Joe Avella

- Photo of NWPR shops

Keith Bartel

- 1920s metal and glass floor lamp, watches and clock, to support the History Collections

Suzi Beatie

- Records from the late Railroad-Ferry Depot Museum model maker Harry Jacobs

Bruce Bodaken

- eMac computer
- HP Photosmart all-in-one printer
- Macintosh Powerbook computer
- Macintosh color Stylewriter printer

Frank Buscher

- Coping saw used in NWPR shops by shop foreman Fred Buscher

Maureen Buscher

- Antique desk and ladder back chair for the Railroad Depot Museum

Jack Fiorito

- 1890 uncirculated silver dollar to support History Collections

James Geiger

- Railroad model-making parts, cars, track and buildings

Muriel Harris

- Four vintage postcards of Mill Valley

Joanne Horton

- Artwork to support History Collections

William Kuhns

- Two etchings by the late Esther C. Meyer for the Artist as Historian Collection

Ted Lehman

- Civil Defense items from WW II: helmet, Geiger counter and arm badge.

Diane Lynch

- Antique Singer sewing machine and two vintage oak chairs to support History Collections

Pamela Maley

- Two collectable postal issues: Bicentennial City of Belvedere, 1776-1976 and Tiburon anniversary year, 1974

Hildegard Manley

- Sterling silver jewelry and collectables to support the History Collections

Justine Oyster

- Artwork for sale to support History Collections

Florence Bent Palmer

- Photograph album with images of Bent family and friends in Tiburon, 1915-1940

Kit Palmer

- Numbered print of Old St. Hilary’s by Diana Bradley
- Two framed photographs of Old St. Hilary’s
- Oil Painting of Old St. Hilary’s by Ellie Weakley

Terry Samilson

- 1973 local school assignment on local wildflowers with flower pressings

Janis Stitt

- Two earthenware crocks for the Depot House Museum

Tiburon Heritage and Arts Commission

- Photo album of the development of Belveron, c. 1950

Laleh Zelinsky

- Solid wood Baker Furniture wall-unit bookcase with rolling ladder from the late Edward Zelinsky’s office on Ark Row.

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Music Rings Out at Old St. Hilary's

This season's Old St. Hilary's concert series concluded on Thursday, May 10, with a lively performance of jazz classics and jazzy classics by music teachers from the Bel Aire and Reed schools and the Hot Club of Marin.

Jeb Gist on piano, Kit Eakle on violin, Jeff Narell on steel pans and student Zachary Ostroff on upright bass put on a great show for the first set, and Eakle joined fellow band members Dore Coller and Ned Ripple from the Hot Club of Marin for some rousing gypsy jazz in the second.

It was particularly gratifying to see so many young people in the audience enjoying the music. A special thanks goes to *The Ark* crew for its help, with Barbara Gness handling ticket sales at the door, and Diane Smith and Judy Wilson driving the shuttle.

This year's series marked a new focus for concerts at Old St. Hilary's with youth as the focus. Concerts were either for or by

Jeb Gist (left) and Kit Eakle, popular music teachers at Bel Aire and Reed schools, shared jazz with an enthusiastic audience at Old St. Hilary's.



PHOTO BY DIANE SMITH

young people, and we were fortunate to attract some very talented musicians. On the lineup were the Itchy Mountain Men and Christine Donaldson in November, Musae in December, Crunchy Frog and Young Performers International in March and Jeb Gist, Kit Eakle and company in May.

Thanks to Helen Lindqvist, Phil Cassou, Dave Gotz, Judy Wilson and all the volunteers who helped to drive the shuttle, sell tickets and

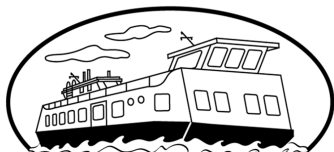
assist in making the concert series run smoothly. Special thanks to Joan Palmero at Tiburon Town Hall and Chris Morrison at the Attic for selling tickets.

This year's series was in collaboration with the Tiburon Heritage & Arts Commission, a partnership that we plan to continue next year. We will be posting next year's lineup as we book acts. Please go to www.landmarks-society.org and click on activities to check for updates.

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Get on Board — Be a Docent

A new season is here, and the Landmarks Society needs docents. If you'd like to share local history with visitors, this is your chance. Docents work April through October, on Wednesdays and Sundays, from 1 to 4 p.m.

To volunteer or to find out more, please call one of the following:

Art & Garden Center

Cottage	Jeanne Price	435-1121
Garden	Anne Kasanin	435-4553

Railroad-Ferry Depot Museum

Railroad-Ferry Museum	Ida Mae Berg	435-3238
Depot House Museum	Mary Eklund	435-2279

SS China Cabin

	Jack Fiorito	435-0217
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Old St. Hilary's Landmark

	Helen Lindqvist	789-0703
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Landmarks Society Donations – MARCH TO MAY 2007

Janice Anderson-Gram, for the model of building #11 at the Railroad-Ferry Depot Museum

Mr. and Mrs. Bassett, in memory of Grace Gomez

Beverly Bastian, in honor of Eugene Rauscher

David Becker, for the Depot House Museum

Arthur and Judy Bisig, in memory of Eugene Rauscher

John F. Boneparth

Ed & Sandy Bower, in memory of Eugene Rauscher

Mimi Clarke, for Depot House Museum bathroom restoration

Olive F. Cook, in memory of Eugene Rauscher

Ron and Sheila Cowan, Corinthian Island House Tour

Josephine Duff, in memory of Grace Gomez

Leslie Doyle, donation for the Holiday Art & Crafts Fair

Frank M. Dumm, for the blacksmith shop model at the Railroad-Ferry Depot Museum

Phyllis Ellman, in honor of Beverly Bastian's induction into the Marin Women's Hall of Fame

Jennifer and Scott Goddard, in memory of Eugene Rauscher

Marjorie Gordon, underwriting for the Corinthian Island House Tour

Lawrence Guinness and Telli Marin, tickets and posters for Old St. Hilary's concerts

Francella T. Hall, in memory of Eugene Rauscher

Janice M. Hall, in memory of Eugene Rauscher

Anne Kasanin, Corinthian Island House Tour

Gabrielle D. Keil, in memory of Eugene Rauscher

Gabrielle D. Keil, in memory of Grace Gomez

Gabrielle D. Keil, underwriting for The Ghosts of Belvedere and Tiburon

Susan and Darrell S. Klingman, in memory of Eugene Rauscher

Mary J. Lang, in memory of Eugene Rauscher

J.B. Lavigne, in memory of Eugene Rauscher

Suzanne Lewis, for the endowment fund

Helen Lindqvist, for Depot House Museum bathroom restoration

Marin Women's Hall of Fame and the Marin Community Foundation, in honor of Beverly Bastian

Ann T. Morrison, in memory of Eugene Rauscher

Mrs. Evan (Barbara) T. Pugh, in memory of Eugene Rauscher

Nancy Rogers, in memory of Eugene Rauscher

Rosemary Royer, in memory of Grace Gomez

Marjorie Samilson

Helen Steinau in memory of Eugene Rauscher

Charles Thompson, for the model of Ark #7 at the Railroad-Ferry Depot Museum

Joyce Wells, in memory of Eugene Rauscher

Janet Williamson, printing invitations for the Corinthian Island House Tour

Maria Woodward, in memory of Eugene Rauscher

On Reflection

The Art & Garden Center would like a freestanding, wood-framed (preferably oak or walnut), full-view vanity mirror for the upstairs library, for brides to use.

If you have one to donate, please call the Landmarks office at 435-1853.

Got an IRA?

By Alan Brune

Here is some good news for individuals aged 70 or older who have IRA accounts. A new provision of the Pension Protection Act allows seniors to give as much as \$100,000 tax-free from an IRA to a designated qualified charity. This charitable IRA rollover provision is set to expire at the end of this year, so please act now.

Here is how it works: Instead of withdrawing money from an IRA and reporting it as taxable income, a donor can transfer the gift directly to Landmarks and circumvent the tax bite. Gifts must go directly to Landmarks rather than to a donor-advised fund, private foundation or trust. Gifts from retirement accounts other than IRAs — such as 401k, 403b and SEP accounts — are not eligible. Donors may be able to make qualified transfers of money from other accounts to their IRA and then make a charitable gift from the IRA.

How do you know if an IRA charitable rollover is right for you?

You are at least age 70, you intend to bequeath the balance of your IRA to a charity and one of the following applies to you:

- You do not need the additional income generated by the minimum required distribution.
- Your charitable gifts already equal 50 percent of your adjusted gross income so you do not benefit from an income tax charitable deduction for additional gifts.
- You are subject to the 2 percent rule that reduces your itemized deductions.
- You do not itemize deductions.

How do you initiate an IRA charitable rollover?

Contact your IRA administrator. The Belvedere-Tiburon Landmarks Society can provide a sample letter of direction. For more information, please contact Alan K. Brune, Executive Director, Belvedere-Tiburon Landmarks Society, 415-435-1853 or lmsalan@sbcglobal.net. This opportunity will expire at the end of this year.

As with any decision involving your financial or estate plans, we urge you to seek the advice of professional counsel when considering a gift.

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Bank of Marin

ON THE CALENDAR

June 12 to July 13	Eloise Rauscher mixed media exhibit	Belvedere-Tiburon Library
June 15	Raffle Drawing at Friday Nights on Main	
September 27	<i>The Ghosts of Belvedere & Tiburon</i> , Family Night	Corinthian Yacht Club
September 28	<i>The Ghosts of Belvedere & Tiburon</i> , dinner theater and silent auction	Corinthian Yacht Club
October 3	Exhibit of Corinthian Island images from the Landmarks Society History Collections	Tiburon Town Hall, runs through November Preview party, October 3, 6 to 8 p.m.
December 1	Holiday Art & Crafts Sale	Art & Garden Center, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
December 19	Musae	Old St. Hilary's Landmark, 8 p.m.

Please visit our Web site at www.landmarks-society.org

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BELVEDERE-TIBURON LANDMARKS SOCIETY HISTORY COLLECTIONS

Florence Bent Palmer at age six and her sister, Zelma, sitting on a Victory train in the Tiburon Railroad Yard, c. 1918. Americans were urged to buy Victory Bonds at the end of WW I to pay for the national debt.