

Alameda Museum

Quarterly

GO TEAM! by Brian McDonald



The DiMaggio brothers; Joe, Dom, and Vince wearing Bay Area team uniforms. The boys were from a family of nine children born to Giuseppe and Rosalia DiMaggio, immigrants from Sicily.

AFTER A FOUR YEAR HIATUS, the Alameda Museum welcomes the Alameda Sports Project back to our gallery for the Fourth Annual Alameda Sports Exhibit. By next year, we will know if they are once again able to live up to the "annual" in their name.

As in the past, the exhibit will feature photos and memorabilia from many aspects of Alameda sports history, and from the careers and lives of athletes who grew up here and went on to fame and fortune in college, pro sports and the Olympics.

Alumni from Alameda, Encinal, and St. Joseph Notre Dame high schools will be lending items for display. In particular, Shirley Sachsen, who has extensively researched the history of Hornet football, will be contributing a substantial exhibit on the great and glorious athletes who have made that history.

Back from the first annual show, and substantially expanded, will be a display of photos and programs from the storied Alameda Elks charity all star baseball game, which pitted major and minor league stars every October from the thirties through the fifties. Featured will be seldom seen photos of the DiMaggio brothers, Dick Bartell, and dozens of other major leaguers representing the Alameda Elks.

Since the last show, a new team has come to call Alameda home. In

Continued on page 2 . . .



Go Team! . . . Continued from page 1



Alameda sports figures include Jason Kidd (left) and Dottie Stolze (right). Kidd attended St. Joseph Notre Dame High School. He played college basketball for the California Golden Bears before being drafted for the Dallas Mavericks in 1994.

Dottie played for the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League from 1946 – 1952. She is shown in her Muskegon Lassies (Michigan) uniform.

the summer of 2013, the 34th America's Cup, an international sailing regatta and the third most watched worldwide sporting event, was contested on San Francisco Bay. The various racing syndicates established base camps at local waterfront locations. Most were in San Francisco, but the Swedish contender, Artemis Racing, had its base camp at Alameda Point.

The team was deeply embedded in the Alameda community, with about 150 team members, plus their families, living in town for nearly two years (and their design and fabrication teams, along with various administrative groups, are still here). With their kids in local schools, their involvement in community groups, and with their patronage of local restaurants and watering holes (sailors drink; who knew) they were among us and of us. When one of their racing yachts capsized, tragically taking the life of crew member Andrew "Bart" Simpson, the island lived up to the banner hung from the hangar next door to theirs: "We are all Swedes Today". Artemis Racing has kindly lent us some artifacts and photos for this year's display, including the racing helmet of skipper Paul Cayard, a Bay Area native who had Alameda connections decades before his association with Artemis, having sailed in youth races out of Encinal Yacht Club.

Each year, the Alameda Sports Project dedicates its show to figures from local sports history who passed away since the last show. Mr. Simpson will be among this year's dedicatees, along with two Alameda High School grads, major league baseball player Andy Carey and tennis great Whitney Reed.

Record Your Oral History!

The Alameda Museum is recording oral histories of Alameda residents, and **we are looking for all volunteers willing to share their stories** with us on video. Everyone is welcome, from age 2 to 102, lifelong residents, former inhabitants and recent transplants; please share your stories with us about our beloved Alameda!

It would take about an hour of your time. We can meet at the Museum or a location of your choice. Or we can provide directions to record yourself. Message us for more information through our Facebook page or send an email to membership@alamedamuseum.org. Please provide some background information about yourself and the best way to contact you.

Thank you for contributing to Alameda's history.

Want to get rid of some **STUFF?**

The Alameda Museum can help.

If you need items boxed and transported please inquire. Donated items are sold in our gift shop and helps the museum continue to educate our members and the public alike about Alameda's rich historical past. Plus, your donation is tax deductible!

For information call Evelyn Kennedy at 510-504-5612

Please no electronic equipment or appliances.





BE A MUSEUM DOCENT

MAKE SOME NEW FRIENDS

Please contact the
Docent Coordinator

volunteer@alamedamuseum.org

510-504-5612

Alameda Museum Quarterly is published in the spring, summer, fall, and winter of each year and is available in electronic form on the museum website.

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Valerie Turpen, Secretary
Bob Risley, Treasurer
Olivia Bauman
Evelyn Kennedy

THANKS TO OUR HERITAGE PARTNERS

Alameda Sun

DAMES AUX GATEAUX



From the President's Podium

by Dennis Evanosky

Curator George Gunn is giving the museum a facelift. Stop by and see for yourself. The gift shop has a new, refreshing look. The walls have fresh paint and some of the exhibits have new descriptions. George has also had some interesting objects framed and put on display, including souvenirs of Neptune Beach and a photo of Denis Straub's family.

Straub and his stepson Fred Fisher built or designed almost 60 homes here in the 19th century. George has also assembled some never-before-seen items in a new gallery that features Alameda's schools, the Red Cross in town, the Alameda Police Department and Alameda's participation in World War I.

The museum recently received a generous gift from the estate of the late Frank Perkins. George tells me that the Perkins family has lived in Alameda for more than 125 years. Frank's grandfather James H. Perkins made his living here as a painter. He paid \$2,400 for a home for his family on Taylor Avenue in 1893. The Perkins family say that their relatives had lived in Alameda long before that date. Indeed, the 1880 federal census shows James living on Pacific Avenue with his wife Sarah and children Lottie, Frank and May. "We will use Frank's generous gift to fund our new gallery and other work we plan for the museum," George said.

I'd like to reach out to our members to find anyone interested in writing for the quarterly newsletter that you hold in your hands. I am particularly interested in writers with an interest in Alameda history. There remains a lot of history that needs either a first look or more research. I have lots of ideas but little time to follow through on many of them. Anyone interested in taking up a pen or pounding out a story or two on the keyboard can give me a call at 510-772-5209 or email me at editor@alamedasun.com.

I would also like to ask our members to consider joining our board of directors. We are particularly interested in someone with a fundraising background, but the invitation is open to all members. Board members must be willing not only to attend a monthly meeting the third Wednesday of the month from 6:00 to about 7:30 p.m., but to get involved in helping move the museum forward.

The museum recently got the keys to pair of wonderful portals: the Online Archive of California and Calisphere. These keys allow us to share the museum's collection with the digital world. We would like to find people who can volunteer just four hours a month to help get the collection online. I'll provide some training over a couple of Saturdays in mid-July and get you started on digitizing the collection in early August.

Dennis Evanosky
President, Alameda Museum



Mayor Trish Spencer confirms 2016 Board Members Adam Gillitt, Dennis Evanosky, Olivia Bauman, Bob Risley, Valerie Turpen, and Evelyn Kennedy. Image: Chad Barr.

Docents Celebrated and the Museum Board Sworn-in *by Olivia Bauman*

OUR DOCENTS ARE INVALUABLE at the Alameda Museum. We are a volunteer run organization and we rely on volunteers to keep the museum staffed and running. Our knowledgeable and friendly docents can be found answering questions and helping with gift shop sales at the museum and providing tours at the Meyers House. They are a dedicated group, some are new this year and some have been volunteering at the museum for over 20 years. They are rock stars!

Docents and the Alameda Museum Board of Directors gathered for the

annual luncheon Saturday, April 9 at Pier 29 Restaurant at Ballena Bay to celebrate the hard work they do every year. We had a delicious lunch selection of grilled salmon, chicken terriyaki, or eggplant parmesan while the attendees got to know each other or reconnected.

It was an honor to have Mayor Trish Spencer, a docent at the Alameda Museum, swear in the 2016 Board of Directors. George Gunn, curator extraordinaire, spoke and thanked many volunteers for their work around the museum and Meyers House, including those who helped

redo the historic Meyers carriage house last year. Also, there was a silent auction showcasing items donated from local businesses and members that helps to raise money for museum projects and collections.

We love and appreciate all our volunteers and if you are interested in becoming a docent at the Alameda Museum, please send an email to volunteer@alamedamuseum.org or call (510) 521-1233. Training is ongoing and we are always looking for more help!

Thank you again to all our amazing volunteers and docents for your dedication and hard work!

YOU'RE APPRECIATED!

Thanks to the Alameda businesses, residents, and museum members who donated wonderful items to the Silent Auction.

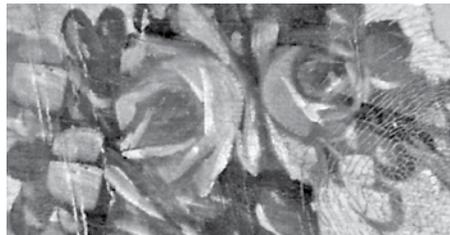
- St. George's Spirits
- Dan's Fresh Produce
- AGL (All Good Living)
- Santoro's Italian Market and Deli
- Julia Park Tracey
- Whales & Friends
- Green Fare Cafe
- Liz Rush
- Dennis Evanosky
- Sun Publishing
- Alameda Museum

A grand time was had by all attending the luncheon at Pier 29, Ballena Bay. Image: Adam Gillitt.





This mirthful putti sits amid bouquets of roses. What was sold at this Neptune Beach concession stand may forever remain a mystery. Image: Valerie Turpen.



FROM THE COLLECTION

Putti Previously Frolicked at Neptune Beach *by Valerie Turpen*

NEW TO THE MUSEUM IS A PLAYFUL THREESOME hand-painted on canvas found by curator George Gunn over twenty years ago at an Alameda antique shop. The set of mischeivous winged children were once displayed at a concession stand at Neptune Beach.

Putti in the ancient classical world of art were winged male infants believed to influence human lives. In other cultures the figures are known as Cherubs and also Cupids. These characters generally use playful antics to meddle in a person's love life.

In the museum depictions each pudgy figure comes with a bouquet of

flowers. The Victorian era was a time of proper etiquette and conventions restricting open conversation on many topics. Flowers increased in popularity as a way of sending subtle messages to others. It will likely remain a mystery what this concession stand was selling and what these playful *putti* were conveying with their bouquets.

Since their purchase, these art pieces have been stored in the museum warehouse. After professional framing by Alameda Custom Framing at 2445 Santa Clara Avenue, the group has found a new home in the museum reception area. Be sure to come by and see them!

In the Museum Art Gallery

■ **JUNE & JULY**

**4th Alameda Sports Exhibit
June 11– July 31**

Public Reception:
Saturday, July 9
1:00 – 3:00 pm

An exhibit covering aspects of Alameda sports history.



■ **AUGUST**

**10th Annual Cross Currents Show
Island Alliance of the Arts
August 5 – 27**

Reception: Saturday, August 13
1:00 – 3:00 pm

Closing Reception & Artist Talk:
Saturday, August 27
12:00 – 2:00 pm

■ **SEPTEMBER**

Chinese Painter Wei Ma

Reception: Saturday September 3
1:00 – 3:00 pm

Third exhibit of mythological creatures.

■ **OCTOBER**

**23rd Annual Alameda Women
Artist Exhibit
October 7 – 29**

Reception: Sunday, October 9
1:30 – 3:00 pm

Closing Reception:
Saturday, October 29
12:30 – 2:30 pm

Watch the Alameda Museum Quarterly for more details on these and other shows and events in the gallery.
Or visit alamedamuseum.org/alameda-museum/art-gallery/



THANK YOU

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ALAMEDA MUSEUM**

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**To sponsor a museum lecture call
Valerie Turpen at 510-522-3734
or email v.turpen@att.net
Sponsorships are \$150**

A. A. Cohen's Fernside Estate

by Dennis Evanosky

IN SEPTEMBER 1869, THE TRANSCONTINENTAL RAILROAD was set to arrive at San Francisco Bay. There was one problem; the San Francisco & Oakland Railroad's wharf at Gibbons Point was not yet ready to accommodate the trains. A. A. Cohen was happy to learn that the history-making train would travel arrive not in Oakland, but in Alameda on "his" tracks—on the Cohen line.

Cohen was a transportation man. He built the San Francisco & Alameda Railroad (SF&A) in 1864. By 1868, Cohen had also acquired interest in the Oakland Railroad and Ferry Company. He sold both to the Central Pacific Railroad's Big Four: Leland Stanford, Charles Crocker, Collis Huntington and Mark Hopkins.

The sale made Cohen a wealthy man who could afford the best. In 1872, He and his wife, Emilie, hired the architectural firm of Wright and Sanders to help express their affluence.

The following year John Wright and George H. Sanders (variably spelled Saunders) completed the 70-plus-room mansion that anchored the Cohen's palatial estate. In social registers, such as the *San Francisco Blue Book*, the Cohens listed their residence as "Fernside, Buena Vista & Versailles Avenue, Alameda."

The Cohens had hired no ordinary men to build their home. Five years before they submitted their design to the Cohens, Wright and Sanders had designed the State Asylum for the Deaf, Dumb and Blind in Berkeley (today's Clark Kerr Campus at the University of California.)

The architects first designed a stone Gothic Revival building for the asylum. When a fire destroyed the structure in January 1875, Wright and Sanders returned to the drawing boards. They designed new buildings that included an educational building, dormitories, support facilities and a private residence for

Osborne House is a former royal residence on the Isle of Wight, United Kingdom. The house was built between 1845 and 1851 for Queen Victoria and Prince Albert as a summer home and rural retreat. Prince Albert designed the house himself in the style of an Italian Renaissance palazzo.





the principal. The asylum's successor, the California Schools for the Deaf and Blind, used these and other, later facilities until 1980.

In 1868, Wright and Sanders won the prestigious competition to design the buildings for the University of California's new campus in Berkeley. The pair backed out when they learned the regents would not permit them to be involved in the building process, a step that would have considerably reduced their fee.

Wright and Sanders' Italianate design for the Cohens towered over the 109-acre estate. The home with all its trappings was said to have cost the staggering sum of \$300,000. In *Ultimate Victorians*, Elinor Richey described the Cohens' home as, "the most splendid of all Italian villas in the East Bay." Richey says that Wright and Sanders — no doubt with some input from London-born A. A. Cohen — used Queen Victoria's summer home on the Isle of Wight as a model.

Richey describes the home as a "vast towered three-story rectangular structure with its sweeping carriage entrance and double porte-cochere. She says it "rather resembled a luxury hotel at a luxury spa."

The home so impressed Hopkins that he hired Wright and Sanders to design his Nob Hill home. Crocker and Stanford included some features of the Cohen villa into their own Nob Hill homes.

One impressive feature: visitors could stroll through the Cohens' art gallery — which took up an entire floor — and ogle paintings by such artists as Albert Bierstadt. Portraits of the Cohen family by Charles Nahl also graced the gallery.

Cohen remained the president of the SF&A. He also served as the Central Pacific's attorney. Richey says that he could scarcely abide members of the Big Four. He looked

down on them as, "men whose habits, modes of thought and conversation were not calculated to advance me."

Cohen often clashed with these men: once over how they forced him to leave his private rail car in an out-of-the-way place in the rail yards near today Fruitvale BART station. He resigned as the Big Four's counsel in 1876 in protest over what he called unfair tariffs and practices. He advocated the first bill in California to regulate freight rates.

A. A. Cohen died on November 6, 1887, aboard his private railroad car near Sydney, Nebraska. He was on his way home from New York. He was laid to rest at Oakland's Mountain View Cemetery.

On March 23, 1897, the *New York Times* reported the Cohen family's second devastating loss in 10 years: the fire that destroyed Fernside. "The handsome residence of the late A. A. Cohen was destroyed by fire from a defective flue," *The Times* told its readers. "The house was filled with elegant furniture and works of art. Many of the pictures in the art gallery had been bought in Europe, and represented a large outlay."

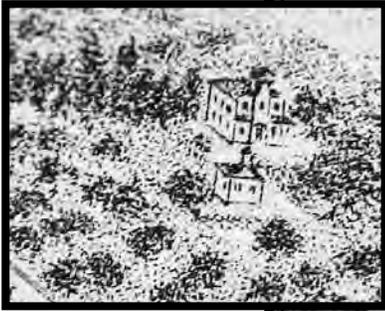
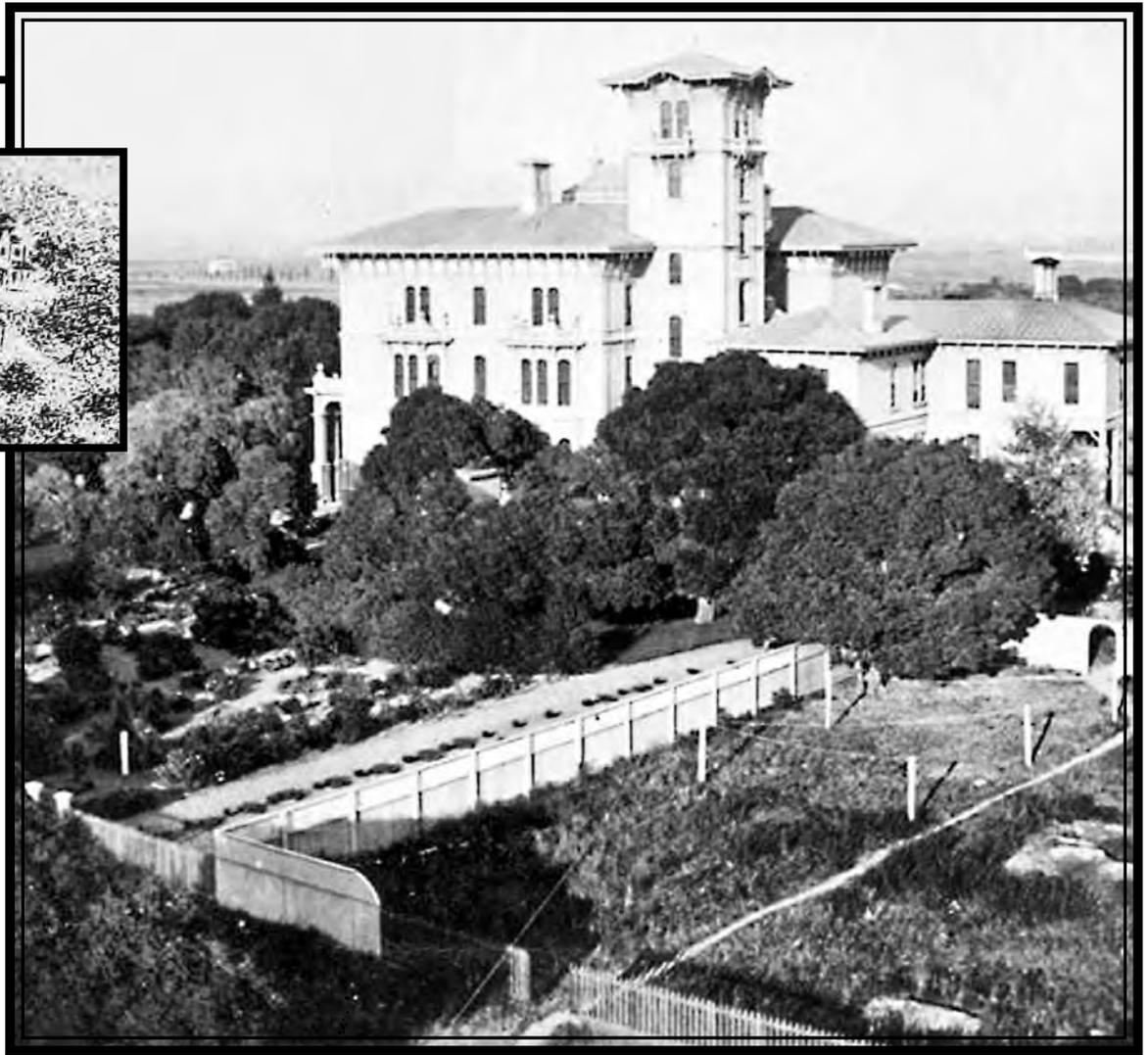
Fortunately Emilie was living across Versailles Avenue with her son Edgar at the time of the fire and the mansion was vacant when the fire broke out. Emilie remained at Fernside after the fire moving into a less-elegant building on the estate grounds—the bowling alley. She had survived the death of her husband, now she survived the fire.

When Emilie died in 1925, the children subdivided the estate and sold the property to developers south of a boundary line that became Fernside Boulevard. All that's left to remind us of the grand estate's existence in Alameda is the neighborhood's name that echoes, "Fernside."

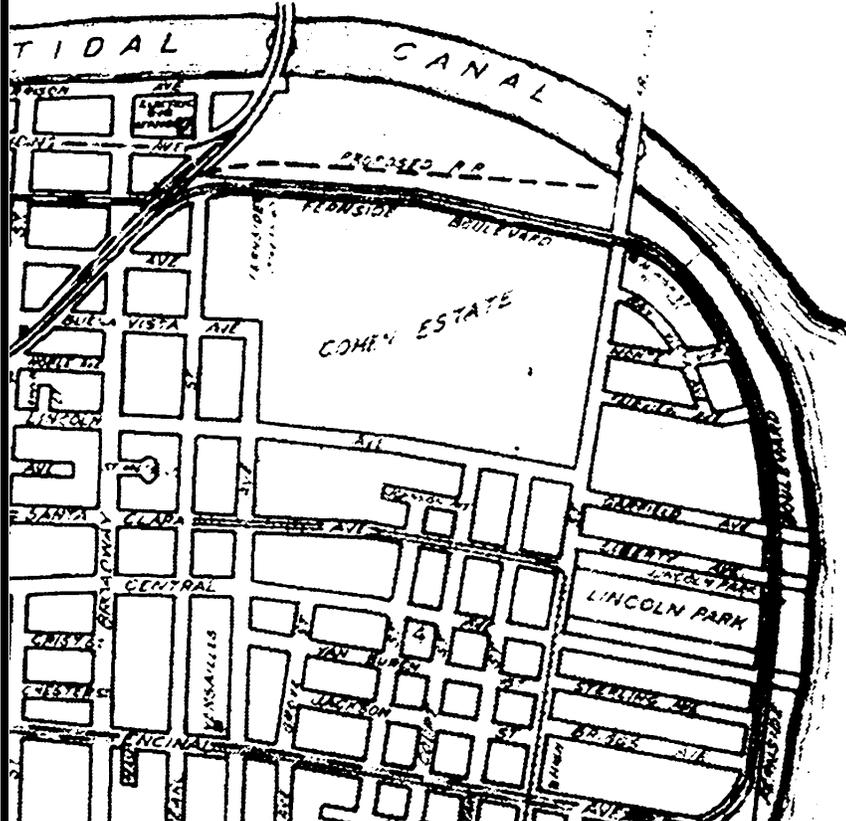


This poster celebrated the opening of the Transcontinental Railroad on May 10, 1869. The Last Spike was the ceremonial final spike driven by Leland Stanford to join the rails of the Central Pacific and Union Pacific railroads at Promontory Summit, Utah Territory.

**THE HOUSE
THAT A. A. COHEN
BUILT**



Sometime in the 1880s Eadweard Muybridge photographed the Cohen estate. In order to photograph the villa in all its glory, the photographer probably stood on the roof of the carriage house, seen in the inset sketch from the 1888 *Alameda Argus* map.



This 1920 map shows the Cohen estate five years before A. A. and Emilie Cohen's children subdivided it and sold it to developers. Image: *Oakland Public Library, Oakland History Room.*

FERNSIDE

Railroad baron A. A. Cohen built a palatial estate on Alameda's East End. The name of his estate, Fernside, survives as the name of a neighborhood built on the site.



A. A. Cohen

This view, part of an Eadweard Muybridge stereoscopic pair, shows the approach to Fernside's double porte-cochere from Versailles Avenue. The entrance to the estate was near the intersection of today's Versailles and Buena Vista avenues.



A. A. and Emilie Cohen's son Edgar, who lived in the Cohen mansion as a child, photographed the house after the devastating fire. Emilie was living with Edgar and his family in their home on the site of today's Edison Elementary School when the fire destroyed the mansion.



WE WANT **YOU** TO JOIN US

**Sunday
July 24
1-3pm**

For the Grand Opening of our new museum gallery showcasing:

- Alameda's role in WWI
- Alameda's early schools
- Alameda's police department

Your Museum Needs You!

The Victorians Said it with Flowers *by Staff*

THE LANGUAGE OF FLOWERS, sometimes called floriography, is a means of cryptological communication through the use or arrangement of flowers. Meaning has been attributed to flowers for thousands of years, and some form of floriography has been practiced in traditional cultures throughout Europe, Asia, and the Middle East.

The first dictionary of floriography appears in 1819 when Louise Cortambert, writing under the pen name 'Madame Charlotte de la Tour,' wrote *Le Langage des Fleurs*.

Floriography was popularized in Britain during the Victorian age (1820-1880), and in the United States about 1830-1850. La Tour's book stimulated the publishing industry across Europe, America, and South America. Publishers from these countries produced hundreds of editions of language of flowers books during the 19th century.

Gifts of blooms, plants, and specific floral arrangements were used to send a coded message to the recipient, allowing the sender to express feelings which could not be spoken aloud in Victorian society. Armed with floral dictionaries, Victorians often exchanged small "talking bouquets," called nosegays or tussie-mussies, which could be worn or carried as a fashion accessory.

The significance assigned to specific flowers in Western culture varied — nearly every flower had multiple associations, listed in the hundreds of floral dictionaries — but a consensus of meaning for common blooms emerged.

Often, definitions derive from the appearance or behavior of the plant itself. For example, the mimosa, or sensitive plant, represents chastity. This is because the leaves of the mimosa close at night, or when touched. Likewise, the deep red rose and its thorns have been used to symbolize

both the blood of Christ and the intensity of romantic love. Pink roses imply a lesser affection, white roses suggest virtue and chastity, and yellow roses stand for friendship or devotion.

* * * * *

Other Floral Translations

Forget-Me-Not—True Love

Morning Glory—Affection

Pansy—Thoughtfulness

Periwinkle—Friendship

Violet—Faithfulness

Daffodil—Regard

Daisy—Innocence

Ivy—Fidelity

Lavender—Distrust

Lily—Purity

Marigold—Sorrow

Narcissus—Egotism



Alameda Museum Opens New Gallery *by Dennis Evansky*



Alameda Museum Curator George Gunn holds a medal awarded by the city to Thelma Eisfeldt, an Alameda nurse who died in France while serving with the Red Cross. Gunn is standing in the museum's newest gallery, which highlights, among other topics, Alameda's role in World War I. Image: Dennis Evansky.

THE ALAMEDA MUSEUM RECENTLY UNVEILED ARTIFACTS IN ITS NEW GALLERY.

The displays feature one of the city's founders, the city's early schools and the police department along with one of Bay Farm Island's farmers and his wharf. Of special interest are the displays that highlight Alameda's role in World War I.

Gunn is especially proud of one of the very personal items from "the war to end all wars." Thelma Eisfeldt's service medal is easy to miss nestled among several other medals in a cabinet that Gunn purchased with his own money.

"She served as a Red Cross nurse in France," Gunn said. She died in Le Mau and is buried there. "Thelma's medal is special," he said, pointing out its small star. "That signifies that she died while serving her country."

Other artifacts feature women serving their country during World War I. These include a poster by noted Alameda artist Harrison Fisher, a photo of Alameda

nurses fashioning bandages for the wounded and a piece of "trench art."

"This belonged to an Alameda resident," Gunn said, pointing to the decorated artillery shell. "The shell boasts a floral design with the words 'souvenir de fort, keepsake of the stronghold.'" Gunn said that the words embossed on the shell signify the American's stamina in trench warfare.

A uniform worn by an Alameda resident who served in World War I complements the display.

Pictures on an adjacent wall depict two of Alameda's early schools: Wilson School, which once stood on Van Buren Street and was renamed Lincoln School, and the first Alameda High School that morphed into Haight School.

Other displays, nearly all seeing the light of day for the first time, feature the early

Alameda Police Department and include a sketch of and a vest worn by William Worthington Chipman, one of the founders of the Town of Alameda.



"Have you answered the Red Cross Christmas Roll Call?" asked this 1918 lithograph by Alameda artist Harrison Fisher. This poster depicted an important period in world history with a plea for support of troops fighting in Europe.

Docent Dossiers

Who's aboard, what are they doing, and why?

Gerry Warner spends her fourth Saturday of the month as many members of the Meyers family did—in the sitting room at 2021 Alameda Avenue. Gerry is a fourth generation Alamedan and knew two of the Meyers sisters. She even attended a few parties at the Dry Creek Ranch, the Meyers' country home in Union City.

Gerry grew up on Garfield Avenue in the East End and attended local schools and churches. "I love Alameda and would never leave", she proclaimed. Gerry was always very involved in the community and local organizations. Her mother was elected City Treasurer and Gerry also worked in various departments at City Hall from 1956 until retiring in 1995 from the City of Alameda.

Gerry was familiar with the Alameda Museum and the Meyers House from working at the City. She eventually became a docent after attending a luncheon with her sister held in the Masonic Hall. They have been docents at the Meyers House four years and the museum one. Gerry and Holly are at the Alameda Museum most Fridays.

"I know a lot about the different displays in the museum since I have lived here my whole life. My favorite is the switchboard", she said. In the early 1960s Gerry worked as the relief operator in the basement of City Hall. All calls coming into the building were routed from this device housed in a tiny room to offices upstairs. Gerry enjoys meeting the people that come to the house and to the museum. "Often they are from other countries visiting relatives here and want to know more about Alameda", she observes.



▲ Gerry spends one Saturday a month in the sitting room of the Meyers House. The room features a Steinway piano and a beautiful fireplace.



▲ Holly welcomes guests to the dining room at the Meyers House where the table is beautifully set for a Victorian-era meal.

Holly Schmalenberger-Haugen notes, "There are a variety of questions guests ask and we can answer most because we grew-up here. We can talk about Alameda intelligently." Holly also attended local schools and churches and worked at several Alameda businesses. She was employed as Executive Secretary for the Medical Examiner in San Francisco for eleven years before retiring in 2009.

Holly speaks to tourists in the Meyers House in the dining room and kitchen. Guests are often amazed to learn how people lived in earlier times. "I like being in the Meyers House. You feel like you are at home here, not in a museum."

Holly and Gerry have many memories and family stories about Alameda. "On Bay Farm Island the golf course used to be the dump. Along Island Drive and Mecartney Road there were farms with cattle and horses. People would go duck hunting in the marshes. Our great grandfather had a farm there. Our mother was allowed to drive a car at 13 since she had to deliver eggs before attending class at Lincoln School. The car was a Model A or Model T".

"Some people think South Shore was always there. They are surprised to learn the island ended where the lagoon is now. There were stairs that went down the bluff to the beach. Stairs can still be found behind buildings along Central Avenue near Webster Street".

The museum is lucky to have such a knowledgeable duo helping out!



STEAM Powered Pinball

by Judith Lynch

THE STAFF AND CURATORS at the Pacific Pinball Museum (PPM) use the game to teach kids and adults Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Math (STEAM). Of special interest to those concerned with historic preservation on the Island: The PPM has a head start on renovating the disused Carnegie Library as their new location.

The Carnegie was completed in 1903 with funds from philanthropist Andrew Carnegie, when the population of Alameda was 16,000. The structure, an official Monument, housed the Alameda Free Library until 1998, when it was closed for seismic upgrading. In the meantime the population grew to more than 78,000. While the library was moved temporarily to nearby Historic Alameda High School, public support swelled for a modern, more spacious, and technologically up-to-date building. The current Main Library opened November 2006 on the corner of Oak Street and Lincoln Avenue.



Families at play at the Pacific Pinball Museum. Images: Pacific Pinball Museum Archives.



Pinball & the Carnegie

A Lecture at the Main Library, Stafford Room, 1550 Oak Street

Free admission, and free parking around the library and in the City Hall lot.

Learn about the history of Pinball and get a glimpse of new possibilities for the historic Carnegie at a Library Talk by Michael Schiess, PPM Founder and Executive Director, and Melissa Harmon, PPM Curator and Program Director.

Can't wait? Visit the Pacific Pinball Museum at 1510 Webster Street near Santa Clara Avenue. For more information check their website PacificPinballMuseum.org.

Library patrons can check out "Discover & Go" on the library website and use a library card to print out a free PPM pass.

"Space Ship" 1960 Williams pinball machine backglass, hand-painted on canvas by Ed Cassel from the original by George Molentin. Image: Pacific Pinball Museum Archives.

**Tuesday
July 19
6:30 pm**

When you finish reading this newsletter,
DON'T THROW IT AWAY.

Pass it on to a neighbor who may not
be aware of all the interesting
activities going on in
our museum.



A Few Good People . . .

The Museum needs new volunteer directors, an important task because the board sets policies and oversees activities at the Museum and the Meyers House. Only members who are paid through the current year or are Lifetime Members are eligible. The board meets the third Wednesday each month in the museum gallery for about an hour. Please consider joining us and bringing new ideas to the table. **Contact Dennis at 510-772-5209 or email editor@alamedasun.com.**



What's New at the Meyers House



The view through the leaded glass into the Meyers Garden from the architectural exhibit.

The architectural display located in the Meyers garage has a new addition. For years a traditional garage door has served as the entrance to the exhibit. This was a chilly location for any docent stationed in that part of the estate.

A pair of beautiful leaded and beveled glass doors in an Art Nouveau style have been standing in the interior as part of a display. They were donated by an Alameda resident, coming from his uncle's former home on Bay Street. The two windows and their original door frames now serve as a grand entrance to the building.



Old Items Find a New Use Around the Estate

Story by Valerie Turpen

This not only protects the historical contents of the space from wind and rain, but our cherished volunteers, as well.



Recently an image was found showing the back garden at the Meyers House. Jeanette Meyers stands in the center of the photo while an unidentified female is bending over to the right. The year is estimated to be about 1911.

To the left is the original structure just large enough to store a wagon. This building was later enlarged and after being restored last year, the Carriage House now serves as a gallery and exhibit space.

The back of the Meyers estate. Image: Meyers House Collection.



VOLUNTEERS: ALAMEDA MUSEUM & MEYERS HOUSE & GARDEN

- | | |
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| Mary Lou Kurtz | Karen Zimmerman |

Volunteer docents are the folks who keep our doors open. An enthusiastic group, they help run the gift shop, and on occasion, do tasks like help with mailings. Training is available. Do you have three hours to make new friends? Come and spend that time with us!

Docent Coordinator for Alameda Museum
Evelyn Kennedy
volunteer@alamedamuseum.org
510-504-5612

Docent Coordinator for Meyers House
George Gunn, 510-521-1233

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2324 Alameda Avenue
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- *A.A. Cohen's Fernside Estate*
- *The Victorians Said it with Flowers*
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ALAMEDA MUSEUM
2324 Alameda Avenue

HOURS

Wed. – Fri., Sunday
1:30 pm – 4:00 pm

Saturday
11:00 am – 4:00 pm

510-521-1233

MEYERS HOUSE & GARDEN
2021 Alameda Avenue

HOURS

2nd & 4th Saturdays
1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

(Last tour at 3:00 pm)
510-521-1247

alamedamuseum.org

ALAMEDA MUSEUM LECTURES 2016

❖ MAY 26

Early Pinball Art from the '30s to '50s

Michael Schiess of the Pacific Pinball Museum will feature examples of early pinball art with a rare glimpse into a forgotten world of once illegal albeit beautiful gambling machines. During prohibition thousands of pre-flipper machines were banned and destroyed. Because of this, few example survive. Thanks to the efforts of collectors and historians we are able to examine these incredible forgotten cultural art pieces. *Sponsor: Pacific Coast Community Services and Green Fare Cafe.*

❖ JUNE 23

History and Mystery: Freemasonry & the Alameda Masonic Temple

CANCELLED

Island City Lodge, Number 215 will enlighten us about freemasonry and temple on Park Street was built in 1895. The newer lodge on Alameda Avenue was constructed in 1926 and the street level is home to the Alameda Museum.

❖ JULY 28

A.W. Pattiani: Alameda Designer/Builder

Paul Roberts, former Alameda Main Street director and past president Alameda Architectural Preservation Society (when it was AVPS), will return to the story of A.W. Pattiani and the houses he built in Alameda from 1879 through 1902. He will discuss a number of new discoveries that provide insight into Pattiani's early designs and his contributions to the grand residential street of Alameda, Central Avenue. Paul will also illustrate Pattiani's short excursion into building a new town (El Verano) from scratch in Sonoma County. *Sponsor: Peter Fletcher, Broker, Windermere Real Estate.*

❖ AUGUST 25

East End Arts & Crafts

Alameda author and historian Woody Minor. The lecture will focus on Craftsman houses as they developed in the East End, from the bungalows of Robert C. Hillen to residences by Delanoy & Randlett, and will include designs by architects like A.W. Smith and T.D. Newsom. The talk will also delve into the area's history, from Indian mounds and Gold Rush cottages to vanished Victorian mansions. *Sponsor: Jim Smallman, Alameda Preservationist.*

❖ SEPTEMBER 22

Jack London

Oakland historians Annalee Allen and Gene Anderson will discuss writer Jack London's early days in Oakland and Alameda. 2016 is the 100th year since his death at age forty at his Beauty Ranch in Glen Ellen, Sonoma County, California. *Sponsor: Evelyn Kennedy, Alain Pinel Realtors, and Alameda Museum Board Member.*

NOTE: Lectures take place at the Alameda Museum, 2324 Alameda Avenue off Park Street. Admission is free for museum members and \$10 for others. No reserved seats. We open at 6:30 pm on lecture nights. Come early to save a seat and enjoy the displays in the History and Art Galleries. For information check alamedamuseum.org.