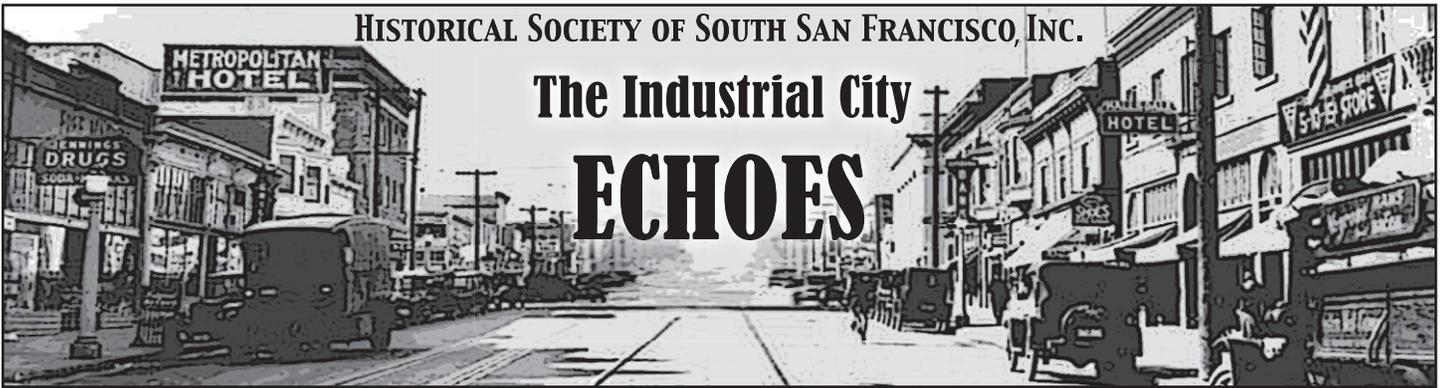


The Industrial City ECHOES



www.ssf.net/history

Newsletter No. 136 - December 2016

Inside This Issue

Old Town Wasn't Always Old	2
Museum Acquisitions	2
New & Lifetime Members	2
Message from the President	3
In Memory	3
Memorial/Honor Donations	3
Meet the Author	3
Membership Renewal	3
Holiday Champagne Reception & Boutique	4
Plymire-Schwarz House Gas Lamps .	4
32nd Annual Banquet	5

2016-2017 Calendar

December 19, 2016	General Meeting
January 23, 2017	Board Meeting
February 27	Board Meeting
March 20	General Meeting
April 17	Board Meeting
May 15	Board Meeting
June 19	General Meeting
July 17	Board Meeting
August 21	Board Meeting
September 18	General Meeting

General meetings are held at:
Magnolia Center, 601 Grand Ave. - 7:00 p.m.

Board Meetings are held at:
Society Museum, 80 Chestnut Ave. - 7:00 p.m.

*Members are welcome to Board Meetings.
Members and non-members are welcome
to General Meetings.*



Program for December General Meeting

December 19, 2016, 7:00 pm

Magnolia Senior Center, 601 Grand Avenue, South San Francisco

THE MESSAGE OF PEACE YOUTH CHOIR from the Message of Peace Church will be singing holiday songs for our enjoyment. The meeting is open to the public so invite your friends and neighbors.

The program will be followed by our traditional holiday refreshments provided by the Hospitality Committee.

Cookie Reminder: If you can contribute cookies for our holiday party, they will be appreciated!

This program is free and open to members and non-members.



September General Meeting

The South San Francisco Historical Society, Public Library and Parks & Recreation had a standing room turnout at the film screening of "Sign of the Times". The film was enjoyed by all. The 2016-2018 Historical Society Slate of Officers were sworn in at the end of the meeting.



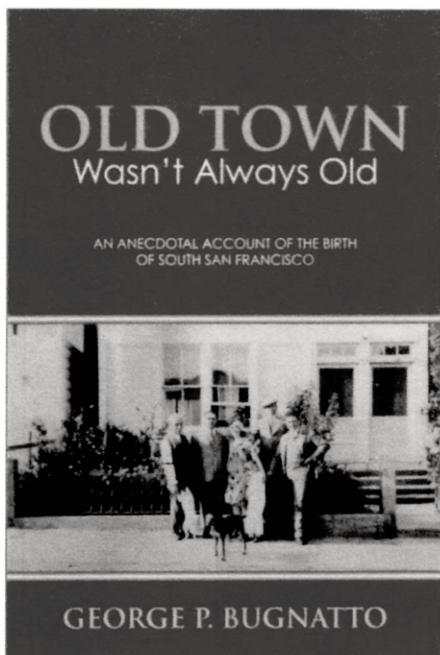
Filmmakers Steve Cohen & Martha Cain



Left to Right - Mary Guisti ♦ Slate of Officers: Sylvia Payne; Cisca Hansen; Bill Zemke; Michael Calbreath; Donna Smith; Julie Chimenti; Sam Bonanno; Gene Hessler; Jeanette Acosta; Ginny Tilton (Valerie Sommer - not pictured)

Old Town Wasn't Always Old

A book about the history of South San Francisco available for purchase at the Chestnut Museum.



\$22.50 PER COPY

Proceeds benefit the South San Francisco Historical Society

Historical Society Museum,
80 Chestnut Avenue, SSF
is the only location book is sold.

George Bugnatto (1932-2002) was born and raised in South San Francisco, and lived there his entire life, except for time in the Air Force and short stints in Washington DC and San Francisco. George and Maggie Bugnatto raised their family in the same house George grew up in on Juniper Avenue.

George's love for South City comes across in this charming account of the city's early years and growth during his life and before. George is remembered for his volunteer work in the community and ability to work with civic leaders, for which he received several awards and honors.

George was a people person who loved family, history, humor and storytelling—all of which comes across in this wonderful account of life in The Industrial City. A few of his famous family recipes are also included.

ORDER FORM

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE NO. _____

No. of Copies: _____

\$22.50 per copy—Total enclosed: \$ _____

Mail to: South San Francisco Historical Society, Attn: S. Payne
80 Chestnut Avenue
South San Francisco, 94080

LIKE the South San Francisco Historical Society Museum
Facebook page [facebook.com/SSFHistSocMuseum](https://www.facebook.com/SSFHistSocMuseum)
for historical articles, historical photos, current
Historical Society events and museum exhibits.



Museum Acquisitions

- **Elizabeth Ervin** – Nason Paint Co. (450 East Grand Ave.) wooden paint stirrer.
- **Elsie Pollastrini** – Framed oil painting “Bird of Paradise” (2007) by Elsie Pollastrini, and a San Mateo Times newspaper article (8/12/87) about Elsie’s artwork.
- **Virginia Vogt** – A collection of black & white photographs taken during the 1920’s of California cities & towns, mostly taken in the bay area.

Lifetime Historical Society Members

Al Banfield

The Bugnatto Family

Paul Formosa

Iole Sari

New Historical Society Members

Donna Alvers

Bob & Nancy Bartoli

Leann & Roel Deang

Angela Duldulao

Reynold & Patricia FitzPatrick

Laura Gigi Family

Fran Guevarra

Greg Mediati

Edna Pacheco

Marie Patea

Camille Pozzi

Sharon Ranals

Brian & Beverly Schumacker

Chris and Theresa Tentes

Message from Historical Society President

Hello Historical Society!

If you were at the Annual Awards Banquet last month, then you know, it was well attended and there was lots of salame being raffled off. When this annual affair was first organized it was focused on the awardees...not fundraising, but if a profit was realized everyone was joyous. Unfortunately, we have come to realize that maintaining the Plymire-Schwarz House and a museum takes fundraising. We did have a very nice profit this year and I am extremely thankful to those who made donations and sponsored this worthy event. Also, we gained a few new members that evening...I'll just mention their last names: Mediati, Ranals, Guevarra, Deang, Pozzi, Bartoli, Schumacker, FitzPatrick, Patea, Duldulao, Gigi and Tentés. I sincerely appreciate your membership.

Please continue to read this issue of the Industrial City Echoes and learn what we're doing. Many thanks to our editor, Gloria Lagomarsino, who works diligently to get it published and is rarely put in the spotlight.

Lastly, make every effort to come to the Magnolia Senior Center on December 19th, 7:00 pm, for our annual holiday program with great refreshments and entertainment by Message of Peace Youth Choir. Hope to see you there!

Sincerely,
Sylvia Payne



In Memory

Thomas Bertoldi

Marion Bordi



Memorial Donations

Phyllis Feudale

Donor: Carol Misrack

Tor Holberg-Olson

Donors: David & Margie Casagrande

Marie Pariani

Donors: Michael & Victoria Healy

Rudy Santini

Donors: Iole Sari
Steve, Bryan & Rochelle Ungaretti

In Honor Donations

Clorinda Rocucci Orlovich

Donor: Iole Sari

SETTING DONEGAL ON FIRE

by Diane Lovegrove Bader

Meet the Author

Saturday, January 7th at 11:00 AM
SSF Library - 840 West Orange Ave.

The book is a bio on Ms. Bader's great grandfather, Daniel Sweeney, but also mentions history about her great uncles, Ambrose & Daniel McSweeney. Ambrose was a San Mateo County tax collector, and Daniel was a South San Francisco City Clerk for 20 years.



Thank you!!! Plymire-Schwarz House Donation

Donors: Robert & Kathleen Giorgi

September Newsletter

Correction

Happy Birthday Evelyn Martin and
Elizabeth Ervin. Evelyn is 98.
Elizabeth is younger.



It's Time to Renew Your Membership!!!

We have made it very easy this year!

Just fill out the envelope provided in this newsletter,
enclose a check, mail, and you're done!

You will continue to receive the Historical Society Newsletter and you will
help to preserve the storied history of South San Francisco.

Also...looking for an idea for a Christmas gift?

Give the gift of history and buy memberships for friends and family.

The Historical Society's Plymire Schwarz House

Holiday Champagne Reception & Boutique

We kicked off our holiday season at the Historical Society's Plymire Schwarz House on Saturday Nov 5. The weather gods blew away the early morning chill and the sun came through just as our guests arrived. After touring the festive house, they sampled savory and sweet bites, sipped some bubbly, and got started shopping for the holidays at our boutique.



Moving forward the House will be open from 1 to 4 PM on Wednesdays and Saturdays for viewing as well as shopping in the boutique right up to Christmas. If you haven't seen it, please come visit. We think it is our best display yet!

Many thanks to all who support the house, either by donation or volunteering. We love our volunteers!! A special thank you to Thrivent Financial who have provided grants this year for both our Victorian Tea as well as our Holiday Reception & Boutique. Also, another special thank you to Giorgi Brothers for their generous cash donation. There is still much preservation work to be done and the financial support from the business community is greatly appreciated.

Margie Casagrande



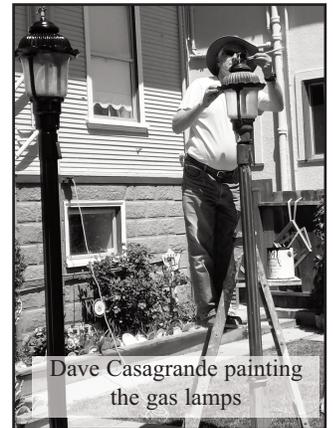
The Gas Lamps

In 1999, most of the stepping stones in the garden were sold, made and placed in the garden. The lawn was in and the planter boxes planted, but still something was missing. I remembered that on the corner of Linden and Miller, there was a PG&E Office that had been closed for several years. Located outside the PG&E office were two gas lamps that burned day and night. (I'm sure their gas was free!) When they closed the office PG&E took the lamps and sold the building.

I thought those two lamps would look great in the garden, but where do you start? My son-in-law, the late Joe Fernekes said to call Council Member Helen Fiscaro because she was very active in the Colma Historical Society and she worked for PG&E. As it turned out, Helen was one of the people that approved donations from PG&E.

She was very receptive to my request for the lamps and said she would have people search the warehouses. Three or four weeks went by and I was giving up hope. Then I got a call from Mrs. Fiscaro and she said a search of the warehouses turned up no lamps, but if I could find lamps like the ones that were in front of the old office, PG&E might pay for them. I could not get on line fast enough and found a company that made gas lamps in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The cost of the lamps and shipping to South San Francisco would be \$2000.00. I was a little apprehensive about the cost, but I called Helen and she asked if they were the same type that were in front of the office. I said yes and told her the price. The following words were music to my ears. She said order them and PG&E will cut you a check. The lamps arrived, I poured the foundation and with the help of the retired firemen, we installed the lamps. The next step was the installation of the gas line from the meter to the lamps followed by having PG&E come out to put in the shut off valve. The city inspector said things looked good, but be sure you use the below grade piping, and call us when it's in. None of us knew a thing about below grade plumbing. Joe suggested I call someone from the local union because they might be able to help. A few days later, three representatives came to the house to look things over. They said, "Don't worry! We will get a plumbing company to put it in and pay for it." Next day, Jim from Minucciani Plumbing said he would install all the piping and we got the go-ahead from the city inspector.

But, the lamp story is not quite over yet! The lamps have sensors that make them burn dim in the day time and bright at night. Because we are closed at night, I never turned on the gas. The lamps have never been lit. Maybe some summer evening, we could have a party by lamp light?



Roy Bava

Plymire Schwarz Steering Committee Director

32nd Annual Historical Society Banquet

We thank the following contributors for their gifts - without their support we would have a difficult time accomplishing our goals. Please remember to support our sponsors and contributors!

SPONSORS:

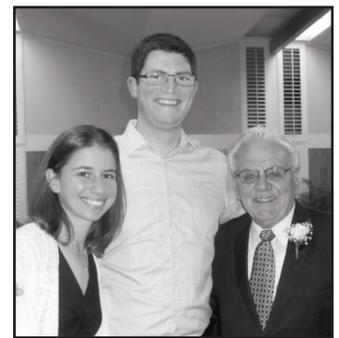
First National Bank of Northern California
Four Star Automotive
Garden Chapel Funeral Directors
HPC-America, Liberty Bank
Simply Floors
SSF Scavengers

CONTRIBUTORS:

Al and Diane Martin	Jack's Restaurant
Antigua Coffee Shop	Jo and Margie/Margie and Jo
Aquarium of the Bay	Kathy Rodgers
Armstrong Brewing Co.	Lunardi's Market
B Street & Vine, San Mateo	Manola Scovel
Barbara Cavalieri	Marie and Ray Yoschak
Best Western Plus - Grosvenor Hotel	Mary Giusti
Broadway by the Bay	Molinari & Sons Salame Company
Buck's of Woodside	Original Joe's of Westlake
Café 382 (Grand Avenue)	Plymire Schwarz Tea Committee
California Academy of Sciences	Ristorante Buon Gusto
Cheesecake Factory (Hillsdale)	Royal Pin Donuts
Cisca Hansen	San Francisco Opera
Costco - El Camino Real	San Francisco Zoo
Costco - South Airport Blvd.	Sanrio
Dave & Margie Casagrande	See's Candies
DiNapoli Ristorante & Pizzeria	South City Car Wash
Dudley Perkins Co./Harley Davidson	SSF Chamber of Commerce
Evelyn Martin	SSF Scavengers
Filoli	Sylvia Payne
Fine Arts Museums of SF	Thai Satay Restaurant
Four Star Automotive	Torani
Gallo Wine Company	Trader Joe's
Garden Club Restaurant	Valerie Sommer
Gimbal's Fine Candies	Val's Restaurant & Lounge
Ginnie Ervin	Walt Disney Family Museum
Ginny Tilton	
Gino and Jackie Pettinari	
Greg Elliott and Krista Martinelli	
Guittard Chocolate Co.	
Hooters of San Bruno	
Inn at Oyster Point	



Left to Right: Victor John Feudale Award Winners Joe Hunziker & Basil Cavalieri, Speaker Ray Yoschak and Lifetime Achievement Award Winner Roy Bava





The Industrial City ECHOES

Historical Society of South San Francisco, Inc.
80 Chestnut Avenue
South San Francisco, CA 94080

NON-PROFIT
Organization
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
San Bruno, CA
Permit No. 750

OR CURRENT RESIDENT

South San Francisco Historical Society

Board of Directors

PresidentSylvia Payne
First Vice PresidentCisca Hansen
Second Vice PresidentBill Zemke
SecretaryMichael Calbreath
TreasurerJulie Chimenti
Financial SecretaryDonna Smith

2015-2017 Directors

Lynn Boldenweck, Dave Casagrande, Victoria Morales Healy,
Gloria Lagomarsino, Lois Mares

2016-2018 Directors

Jeanette Acosta, Sam Bonanno, Gene Hessler,
Valerie Sommer, Ginny Tilton

Ex Officio Members

Roy Bava, Diana Ferrari, Mary Giusti,
Sylvia Payne, Ginny Tilton, Ray Yoschak

Plymire-Schwarz Steering Committee

Director: Roy Bava
Jeanette Acosta, Rose Bava, Louise Brusco,
Julie Chimenti, Elizabeth Ervin, Mary Giusti,
Robbie Huerta, Ray Yoschak

Museum Committee

Co-directors: Elizabeth Ervin and Sylvia Payne
Michael Calbreath, Lois Severi, Vi Weber

The SSF Historical Society is co-sponsored by the SSF Parks & Recreation Dept. It is through the City's generosity that many of the Society's goals are accomplished.

Contact & Location Information

Chestnut Avenue Museum

80 Chestnut Avenue
650-829-3825
Tues & Thurs (2-4:00 p.m.) and
2nd & 4th Saturdays (1-3:00 p.m.)
Office Hours: Weds (10-2:00 p.m.)
Please call if you are interested
in volunteering at the museum.

Historical Society of South San Francisco, Inc.

80 Chestnut Avenue
South San Francisco, CA 94080

History Room / Grand Avenue Branch Library

306 Walnut Avenue
650-877-8533
Thurs (2-4:00 p.m.) or by
appointment

Historical Society's Plymire-Schwarz House

519 Grand Avenue
650-875-6988
Wednesdays (2-4:00 p.m.)

Memberships Expire December 31

Membership runs on a calendar year expiring annually
on December 31st.
Membership is \$15.00 per person - \$20 per family.
If you are interested in becoming a new member contact
the society at 650-829-3825 or
Mail your check to:
South San Francisco Historical Society
80 Chestnut Avenue
South San Francisco, CA 94080

ECHOES: 650-829-3825 • ssfhistorical@gmail.com

Layout & Design: Gloria Lagomarsino • amgraphics25@yahoo.com