

UNION CITY HISTORICAL MUSEUM

Founded by Myrla Raymundo, MBA

3841 Smith Street, Union City, California 94587, Tel. (510) 324-3298

Three Components

**(1) Museum & Artifacts, (2) Oral History (3) Preservation of Historical Homes
Museum Board meets quarterly at the Museum at 7 PM**

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Visit us at www.unioncitymuseum.com/

**Myrla Raymundo, MBA, Founding Editor/Writer
e-mail: ligfinio.raymundo@sbcglobal.net**

MISSION STATEMENT

The Union City Historical Museum is a non-profit organization committed to the preservation, maintenance and protection of, and the education of the public about the architectural, cultural, natural and historical heritage resources of the City of Union City.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS/DIRECTORS

The Union City Historical Museum General Membership Meeting and Election of Officers and Directors were held on June 2, 2009, at the Museum.

The Nominating Committee conducted the election.

The following officers were elected for a one-year term from July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010.

Dom Filardo – President
Allen Cecil – Vice-President
Hugh McNamara – Treasurer

Nobody ran for the position of Secretary that day.

The following directors were elected and will hold their seats for a two-year term July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2011.

Ligfinio (Ray) Raymundo
Joey Golaw, Jr.
Georgia Megue dela Cruz
Angel (Jun) Villorente
Carlen Gregorio

The following will still hold their office from July 1, 2008 thru June 30, 2010.

Rodrigo Galindo
Rorie Rabuy
Al Rose

ON THE HELM



DOM FILARDO

Dom Filardo is the new President of the Union City Historical Museum, winning by a landslide in the last election.

Dom is presently a Union City Senior Commissioner, a deputy Marriage Commissioner, a board member of the Filipino-American United Catholics of the East Bay (FAUCEB), a director of the Filipino-American Association of Alameda County and an active member of the Mission San Jose Santo Nino Prayer Group. He is a member of the Knights of Columbus. He is also a Community Senior Ambassador for St. Anne Catholic Church.

At present, Dom, an engineer, is a project manager and a consultant for an engineering company. He is also a pilot.

Dom is also involved in civic and community activities too many to mention.

He is married to Bess and they have two sons, J. Dominic and Aristotle, and three grandchildren

ANNUAL REPORT
(FISCAL YEAR 08-09)
July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009

**UNION CITY
HISTORICAL MUSEUM**
3841 Smith Street
Union City, California 94587
(510) 324-3298

**Presented by:
Myrla Raymundo, MBA
Founder/CEO
July 1, 2009**

INTRODUCTION

On behalf of the Union City Historical Museum, I am presenting this FY08-09 Annual Report.

This document contains information about our goals and objectives, our activities and accomplishments for this fiscal year and the people who contributed to make the past fiscal year productive and successful and to fulfill the city's request to account for our activities.

Our Mission Statement – The Union City Historical Museum is a non-profit organization committed to the preservation, maintenance and protection of, and the education of the public about the architectural, cultural, natural and historical heritage resources of the City of Union City.

Our Board of Directors

Myrla Raymundo, MBA, Founder/CEO
Tessie Gatan, President
Joey Golaw, Jr., Vice-President
Marina Bamont, Secretary
Hugh McNamara – Treasurer

Directors- July 1, 2007- June 30, 2009
Dom Filardo

Ray Raymundo
Angel Villorente
Georgia Megue dela Cruz
Allen Cecil
Dana Hernandez
Directors – July 1, 2008-June 30, 2010
Rodrigo Galindo
Rorie Rabuy
Al Rose

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

We welcome the new members to the Museum.

The Museum continues with its objective of educating the community on the history of Union City. We did presentations on history for students of the New Haven School District. We conducted Museum Tours for visitors. Visitors did their research work in the Museum.

We continuously receive artifacts from Union City residents. We continue clipping and filing newspaper articles about Union City. In connection with the City’s Preservation Ordinance, which identifies and encourages preservation of historical homes and buildings, the Museum sent out letter to owners for possible historic designation of their properties. We received some replies. We will continue to work on the Cultural Resources Inventory.

We interviewed Union City old-timers and Union City officials for the Oral History component of the Museum.

We published the Museum Newsletters on a bi-monthly basis.
We have a new Museum website with information about the Museum.

CONCLUSION

In closing, I would like to thank all the officers, members and volunteers of the Union City Historical Museum and the community for their valuable contributions during the past fiscal year 2008-2009. I would also like to thank the City of Union City for their financial assistance.

The Museum is a good vehicle to make us aware of our beautiful heritage and culture. This is the only way to preserve our history. The Union City Historical Museum pledges to continue to provide services to the residents of Union City.

Myrla Raymundo, MBA
Founder/CEO

NEWEST MEMBER OF THE BOARD



CARLEN GREGORIO

Carlen Gregorio is the newest member of the Board, also winning by a landslide in the last election.

Carlen is married to Gertrude Gregorio, the New Haven Board of Trustees President. They have two boys.

Welcome to the Museum, Carlen.

THE STORY OF ARTHUR AND DOROTHY SCHWAB

By Paul Francisco



Paul Francisco

In 1951, my grandparents, Arthur and Dorothy Schwab, moved from San Francisco to the South Hayward neighborhood of Fairway Park. There, in a small three bedroom house on Oswosso Place, they raised what would become a family of ten children (nine girls and one boy.)

They joined the parish of Our Lady of the Rosary and became part of a community that would eventually become Union City. When the original Our Lady of the Rosary Church burned down, my grandfather was one of several volunteers who worked along side Father Duggan to move the church to its present location.

In 1960, Logan High School was built. My aunt Elaine, the eldest of the ten Schwab children, graduated in 1965 becoming the first of eight siblings to graduate from Logan High School, including my mother, Katie Francisco, Class of 1975.

Sometime during the late 50's my grandfather, Arthur Schwab, bought an 8mm video camera to capture the

milestones in the lives of his children as they grew up, including baptisms, first communions, graduations and various clubs and athletic activities.

In doing so, he preserved some of the earliest moments in Union City's history. This footage includes my aunt Janice Saputo marching in a newly rebuilt Our Lady of the Rosary parade, aunts Sandy Tibbets and Lori Sanchez making their first communions at Our Lady of the Rosary, a Logan High Football game (featuring my aunt Elaine's boyfriend at the time and now husband, Alameda County Superior Court's Honorable Dan Grimmer as quarterback), Logan's class of 1965 Junior Prom, Senior Ball, and graduation ceremony, my uncle Mark Schwab, marching in Union City's Little League parade down H Street, and early footage of Bernard White Middle School site of Union City's first city council meeting.

The Schwab family is donating this footage to the Union City community, as it celebrates the City's 50th anniversary, in memory of my grandfather, Arthur Schwab whom, while capturing the memories of the family and community he loved, preserved a unique glimpse of the city's early history.

(Editor's Note: The Union City Historical Museum has the footage and is available anytime to visitors in the Museum.)

A LITTLE BIT OF HISTORY....

Taken from old and yellowed newspaper
clippings

**August May Founded Bank of
Alameda Co.**

Too often the pioneer is not given the credit that is due him. Take for instance August May – how many people coming into the township realize he was the most important financial figure for around half a century. He was the driving force with a group of men who started the Bank of Alameda County, with the head office in his hometown of Alvarado and branches at Niles and Irvington. Mr. May sold his interests to the Central Bank of Oakland. He was the equal of the best San Francisco bankers. Alvarado should always be proud of him and commemorate his achievements.

March 20, 1975

Buddhists To Dedicate Church Hall

UNION CITY - Dedication will be at 2 pm Sunday for the newly completed Sangha Hall of the Southern Alameda County Buddhist Church, 32975 Alvarado-Niles Road.

The hall contains classrooms, a large social hall and a gym complex. It is the culmination of an expansion program initiated by members of the temple two years ago.

Bishop Kenyu Tsuji of the Buddhist Churches of America will officiate at the dedication. Special clergy and civic guests will be in attendance.

The altar for the Sangha Hall was dedicated recently in memory of the late Mr. Tak Fudenna.

A special hour and banquet in the hall will follow the service.

The evening’s entertainment will include songs by Mrs. Yukiko Sakakura and musical selections by the “Thor Throats”, a student group from Irvington High School of Fremont directed by Mrs. Lee Stevens.

November 21, 1975

**Publication of Union City Outlook
Ends**

UNION CITY - The Union City Outlook, a weekly newspaper, which began publication last April, printed it’s final edition this week.

Richard G. Ford, Outlook editor and publisher, said there had been inadequate advertising revenue to justify printing the newspaper. He said that readership in the community, however, had been “heartening” and that he and his staff had been debating for the last month whether to discontinue the newspaper.

Ford said that staff efforts would now concentrate on Ford Publications, a printing business that formerly operated in Newark and now is located in Union City.

“We had to decide which operation should receive our attention.” Ford said. “Although we are sorry to let the Outlook go, the printing business comes first.”

Ford said that most of the editorial and production employees who worked on the Outlook would be assimilated into production operations in his printing business.

The Outlook specialized in local feature stories and sports coverage, as well as general news.

Two years ago, it succeeded the Union City Leader, a weekly newspaper that operated from the early 1960's to May of 1973. Ford, formerly an employee of the publishing company which printed the Leader, said that he did not want to see the Outlook or his publishing company undergo the financial pressures, which faced the Leader before it ceased publication.

Ford said that refunds or rebates would be made to all Outlook subscribers.

An announcement that the Outlook was discontinuing publications was made in Wednesday's edition. Ford did not discuss the possibility that he might be able to publish another community newspaper in the future.

John Sandoval, Historian and Writer

“We dug up facts that would have been lost.” John Sandoval stated in an old newspaper dated November 15, 1985.

For so many years, Sandoval had been a historical writer and community events columnist.

There would not have been any records of our history had it not been for historical writers. Sandoval pushed and pushed and published stories that absorbed people's interest.

He had written numerous books and ran columns in The Review and the Argus.

October 1964

Planning Commission Sworn in Monday

UNION CITY – New Union City Planning Commissioners were sworn in before the City Council at their regular meeting Monday night. City Administrator John Geoghegan administers the oath to the appointees who become Union City's original planning commission. Commissioners were Henry Franco, Norman Silviera, Charles B. Maraman, John Monohan and Aurio Nieves .

Franco works at Union City's Carpet Mill, Silviera is employed at Alvarado School District, Maraman is a pastor at Hillview Baptist Church, Monohan is Assistant Postmaster of Union City and Nieves owns a construction firm.

THIRD GRADE HISTORY WALKS

For the past eight years, the Museum had led third grade school children on history walks.

The children learn that the Ohlone Indians were the first people in Union City, that the Spaniards came and taught the Indians Christianity and trade, that the steamboat "The Union" delivered produce to San Francisco and another areas.

They learn about Old Alvarado, the Decoto area and the early residents of Union City.

Third graders continue to come to the Museum with their teachers and, at an early age, they know a lot about their city.

Materials in the Museum

There are numerous materials available at the Museum.

Pacific States Steel complete files and photographs.

Holly Sugar Factory complete records and photographs.

Individual binders of historical figures in Union City.

News coverage about Union City from the past to the present are clipped and filed by subject matter in binders.

Three big binders about the people and events of Alvarado, California from 1850 – 1959 compiled by Anthony Gualco.

One big binder of collected Tri City history through the years authored by Fremont Historian Philip Holmes and Union City Historian Myrla Raymundo.

Tri City Election binders, Union City Election binders and copies of the City of Union City Annual Reports.

There are also books available:

Myrla Raymundo's book "Union City Through the Years"

Miles Price's book "Union City Incorporation"

Miles Price's book "Union City Scrapbook"

Union City's "Early Glimpse of Union City"

MEETING OF THE OLDTIMERS



Al Rose and Paul Gallegos

Al Rose was the Alvarado Fire Station's first Volunteer Fire Chief. Paul Gallegos, now a Fremont resident, owned the very first pizza place in Alvarado. It was a very sweet meeting of two old friends.

Union City's 50th Anniversary
Celebration

50th Anniversary Parade
May 16, 2009



City Council members in a float

Faith Based Festival
June 27, 2009



The Faith-Based Festival will be held on June 27, 2009, at Kennedy Park in Union City.

As home to over 40 nationalities, Union City enjoys a tremendous diversity of faith-based institutions representing all of the world's major religions. The Union City Faith-Based Festival is a multi-denominational celebration presented jointly by Union City's churches, temples and other congregations featuring music dance and foods.

Join hundreds of your neighbors in this daylong event honoring the many paths to spiritual understanding. Learn about the different faiths and worship practiced in the Tri-City area and enjoy the unique ways of expressing spiritual beliefs that have evolved in each religion over many years.

The major contributors and volunteer organizers of the Faith-Based festival include several local Buddhist churches, Hindu temples, Jewish temples, Sikh Gurdwara, Muslim Mosques, Protestant and Catholic churches, and many others.

Visitors will enjoy colorful, traditional dancing and music that accompanies

these venerable faiths, the different information booths, and game booths. Quiet and contemplative times will also be observed, offering opportunities for group meditation and spiritual thought.

To volunteer for this committee, contact Chairperson Myrla Raymundo at (510) 489-0133.

MORE ON THE CITY OF UNION CITY'S GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY

The City of Union City continues to celebrate its golden anniversary, 50 years after the city's incorporation in January 1959.

There are more events and festivities to come. Here are the big events:

June 27 – Faith-Based (Spiritual) Festival at the Kennedy Park.

July 18 – Gathering in the Park – Celebrating 50 years of Community - to be held at the Kennedy Park.

September 12-13 – 50th Anniversary Festival & Fireworks.

December 31– New Year's Eve Closing Celebration.

There will be sports activities and history lectures and tours throughout the year.

YEAR 1959.....



Tom Kitayama and five others petitioned for incorporation of the City of Union City on January 13, 1959. That was when some cities began to eye the townships of Union City, New Haven, Alvarado and Decoto for potential inclusion into their city boundaries.

On January 26, 1959, the City of Union City Council duties began in the Alvarado Fire Department building, now the Union City Historical Museum. The councilmembers were Joseph Seaone Jr., Joseph Lewis, Tom Kitayama, John Ratekin and Oscar Dowe. Tom Kitayama was unanimously elected mayor of Union City by the City Council. Union City operates under a "Council-Manager" form of government.

YEAR 2009



Mayor Mark Green and four others now have the City of Union City Council duties at the Civic Center located at Alvarado-Niles Road.

FOUNDER'S NOTES



A new election year means a fresh start, a clean slate, and a chance to begin again.

There is no better time than this time to talk about improvements in the operation of the Museum and to take action on our plans for the year.

As we begin our 2009-2010 term, we are facing many challenges.

How can we better present our residents with more exciting Museum displays?

How can we get more volunteers to assist us in our day-to-day work?

How can we attract more people to visit the Museum?

How can we invite the school district to participate in our Presentation of History Program?

How can we get more funding for the Museum?

These are the big challenges facing us on this new Fiscal Year.

I enjoined the new Board of Directors to think of ways to make these things happen.

Let's work on the following tasks to meet these challenges:

- Increase membership.
- Get more volunteers.
- Learn ways to conserve our artifacts and materials.
- Preserve Union City's history by collecting news articles, maintaining and adding to the Museum's library.
- Continue interviewing residents, particularly the old-timers for our oral history.
- Continue working on the preservation of historical homes and buildings.

Our Museum officers, members and volunteers will be busy working this year to preserve and share Union City's history.

The challenges will never stop coming; we look forward not only this fiscal year but also to the next 100 years.

Let's all keep up the good work!

Myrla Raymundo



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Myrla Raymundo, MBA,
Founder/CEO**

Officers - July 1, 2009-June 30, 2010

Dom Filardo, President
 Allen Cecil -Vice-President
 Vacant-Secretary
 Hugh McNamara, Treasurer

Directors – July 1, 2008-June 30, 2010

Rodrigo Galindo
 Rorie Rabuy
 Al Rose

Directors- July 1, 2009- June 30, 2011

Ligfinio (Ray) Raymundo
 Joey Golaw, Jr.
 Georgia Megue dela Cruz
 Angel Villorente
 Carlen Gregorio

MUSEUM LIFETIME MEMBERS

Phil & Leila Verzola
 John & Cathy Tester
 Eva Kamakea
 Georgia Megue & Mike dela Cruz
 Ligfinio (Ray) & Myrla Raymundo
 Gina Lewis
 Reiner & Sheryl Glausch
 Al & Marsha Badella
 Barbara Scheifler
 William & Dorothy Hubbard
 Bob & Leslie Swartz
 Steve Miller & Diane LaMountaine
 Fernando & Helen Cabiles
 Allen & Simona Cecil
 Josephine Pando
 Frank, Jr. & Elvamae Borghi
 Angelo dela Cruz
 Marcos. Jr. & Tessie Gatan
 Joey and Vilma Golaw
 James Celcer

BUSINESS MEMBER

**Tri-City Voice
 (What's Happening)
 William Marshak
 Publisher**

EDITORIAL BOARD

FY 2007-2008
 Myrla Raymundo
 Jo Ann Lew
 Ligfinio (Ray) Raymundo
 (Layout Artist/Production)

**Myrla Raymundo, Editor
Union City Historical Museum
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Union City, California 94587**