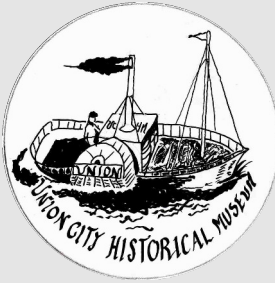


# UNION CITY HISTORICAL MUSEUM

Founded by Myrla Raymundo, MBA • Founding Editor/Writer • [raymundomyrla@gmail.com](mailto:raymundomyrla@gmail.com)

3841 Smith Street, Union City, CA 94587 • Telephone: (510) 378-6376



**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.*

**Three Components:** (1) Museum & Artifacts; (2) Oral History; (3) Preservation of Historical Homes.

Museum Board meets quarterly at the Museum at 7:00pm.

Visit us at <http://www.unioncityhistoricalmuseum.org>  
Dennis Jeffrey, PhD, Webmaster.

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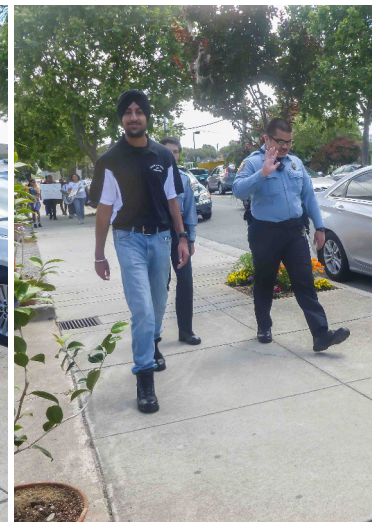
## UNITY WALK + BLOCK PARTY

May 14, 2016, a *Unity Walk and Block Party* was hosted by the Union City Youth Violence Prevention Coalition.

The walk began at Union Landing. Then the Block Party was held at the Alvarado Park. Different organizations joined the event. There was entertainment, speakers, food, and community resources. A lot of people enjoyed the event.

Thanks to the *City of Union City Youth Commission, Union City Community & Recreation Services, Union City YFS, Filipino Advocates for Justice, African American Cultural and Historical Society, Inc. and Congregations Organizing for Renewal (COR).*

Vice Mayor Emily Duncan graced the event.





## GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS/DIRECTORS

The Union City Historical Museum General Membership Meeting and Election of Officers and Directors was held on Monday June 6, 2016, at the Museum. The Nominating Committee conducted the election.

The following officers were elected for a one-year term from July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017:

- Dennis Jeffrey - President
- Anthony Lorenzo - Vice-President
- Mariza Dyziong - Secretary
- Carlen Gregorio - Treasurer

The following directors were elected and will hold their seats for a two-year term from July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2018:

- Dom Filardo
- Fely Garcia
- Sarabjit Cheema
- Lagrimas Bundang
- Ed Roldan
- Angel Villorente

The following will still hold their office from July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2017:

- Ligfinio (Ray) Raymundo
- Rey Mendiola
- Anthony Pabros
- Hugh McNamara
- Oliver Olano



# ANNUAL REPORT (FISCAL YEAR 2015 - 2016) JULY 1, 2015 - JUNE 30, 2016

**UNION CITY HISTORICAL MUSEUM**

3841 Smith Street  
Union City, California 94587

**Presented by:**

**Myrla Raymundo, MBA, Founder/CEO**  
July 1, 2015

## **INTRODUCTION**

On behalf of the Union City Historical Museum, I am presenting this FY2015 - FY2016 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.

## **CHRONOLOGY OF THE UNION CITY HISTORICAL MUSEUM PAST ACTIVITIES: 2015**

Induction of the Union City Historical Museum Officers/Directors with Councilmember Pat Gacoscos as the Inducting Officer.

Swearing in of the Officers of the Alvarado Historic District Merchants Association with Union City Police Chief Darryl McAllister as the Swearing In Officer.

CAPS Ambassadors Myrla Raymundo, Vicky Guzman and Carlen Gregorio helping seniors with services at the Farmers Market.

Museum members Carlen Gregorio and Myrla Raymundo attended the Divine Mercy Event.

Museum members Ray and Myrla Raymundo attended the St. Anne's Church Festival.

Myrla Raymundo, President of the Friends of the Union City Library, managed a Library Book Sale.

The Adobo Festival was held at the Kennedy Park.

Restaurant *Pinoy Handaan* was opened at the old Bank of Alameda County building on Smith Street.

The Union City Historical Museum released the Chronology of Events 1770 - 2015 that contains all the happenings in Union City from that date.

11th Anniversary of the Sister City Festival was held on August 30, 2015 at Mark Green Sports Center.

The Alvarado Historic District Arts and Wine Fest was held last October 11, 2015 at the old Alvarado Park.

Myrla Raymundo was invited to do a Presentation of Union City History to 75 Guy Emmanuel Elementary School first grade students on November 3, 2015.

The family of Al Rose, first Fire Chief of the Alvarado Fire Department, visited the Union City Historical Museum.

Union City Mayor Carol Dutra-Vernaci presented a Certificate of Completion with UC Citizens Academy to Museum President Dom Filardo.

Museum President Dom Filardo congratulated Myrla Raymundo, who celebrated her 80th birthday during the CAPS regular meeting.

Union City Police Chief McAllister received the prestigious NAACP Awards last November 6, 2015.

Alvarado Middle School was renamed *Itliong-Vera Cruz Middle School* in honor of Fil-Am labor leaders.

Christmas Tree Lighting was held at old Alvarado Park on December 5, 2015.

The Union City Historical Museum introduced Dennis Jeffrey as one of the Members of the Museum Board of Directors and the Museum Newsletter Editorial Assistant and Webmaster.

Bruce Goldstein, a Museum Volunteer, is the creator of the Museum Logo.

Dom and Bess Filardo at the Union City Historical Museum booth during the Logan High School Job Fair.

Volunteer Ed Roldan landscaped the Museum front yard with beautiful plants and flowers.

Myrla Raymundo, President of the Friends of the Union City Library, and Mariza Dysiong, Secretary, announced the start of the Union City Library Lobby Book sale.

The Union City Historical Museum celebrated its 15th year anniversary last February 20, 2016. A commemoration reception honored 15 years of saving history. Assembly member Bill Quirk and some of the Union City and Fremont officials attended the occasion.

Alvarado Historic District Merchants Association held the second Spring Festival Egg Hunt last March 19, 2016 at the old Alvarado Park. Assembly member Bill Quirk graced the occasion. Hundreds of kids enjoyed the event.

Museum Officers Ray and Myrla Raymundo manned the Union City Historical Museum's Table at Logan High School's Community Service and Jobs Faire on March 22, 2016.

*The Silver Dollar*, owned by Antone (Tony) Santos, was featured in the May 2016 issue of the Museum Newsletter.

The General Membership Meeting and Election of Officers/Directors was held on June 6, 2016 at the Museum.

Readers were invited to visit the Union City Historical Museum Community on Facebook:

<http://www.facebook.com/UCMuseum>

We welcome the new Museum Lifetime Members Adrian Swartz, Ann Bess Chanco, Ed Roldan, and Evelyn Abellera.

**Fiscal Year 2015-2016 was a very busy year for the Union City Historical Museum as noted in the above chronology of past activities.**

## **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. I would also like to thank the City of Union City for their assistance.

The Museum is a unique 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**

# UNION CITY, CALIFORNIA 94587 CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS: 1964-1969



**Compiled by Myrla Raymundo, MBA**

**1964** - Charles F. "Chuck" Kennedy became Union City's first Park and Recreation Director.

**1964** - Unification of schools failed by 369 votes.

**1964** - Pacific States Steel in fifth month of strike.

**1964** - Irv Williams won Council seat. Bernie Morales and Will Davis were also chosen.

**1964** - Will Davis selected mayor.

**1964** - Henry Franco, Norman Silivera, Aurio Nieves, Charles Maraman and John Monohan chosen as Planning Commissioners.

**1964** (December 8) - City voted 2 to 1 for unification.

**1964** - Trustees John L. Samarron, Frank J. Borghi, Jr., Gail Pagan, Elliott N. Paulsen and Stan Richards were appointed.

**1965** - New Haven Unified School District was formed.

**1965** - The City of Union City rented an industrial building at Whipple Road and Central Avenue, then moved to H Street and Decoto Road in Decoto.

**1965** - Police Department formed.

**1965** - Dr. Harold Schoenfield chosen Superintendent of Schools.

**1965** - Harry Spooner dies.

**1965** - First Western Bank hit again: took \$24,284.

**1966** - Union City Drive In opened. Six movie screens stood next to 880. Loren Pinto and his entire family were associated with the Union City Drive-In Theater from the time it opened in 1966 until it closed in 1998. Over the three decades in between, it seemed that almost all the Pinto family worked there at one time or another, tending or managing the snack bar, selling tickets, or turning away kids who tried to hide in car trunks.

**1966** - City moves to new City Hall in February.

**1966** - New post office dedicated.

**1966** - Kenneth Huck chosen as Police Chief.

**1966** - Kitayama and Leo Alvelais won council seats.

**1966** - Bernie Morales new mayor.

**1966** - Sharon Merryfield - Maid of Union City.

**1966** - Constanzo development was approved.

**1966** - Nine (9) School Bond defeated.

**1966** - Irv Williams married Margaret Pfau.

**1966** - Union City expanded to 18 square miles. Hill areas annexed. Population reached 6,103.

**1967** - Rev Adam G. Lopez, Jr. served as pastor of the Union City Apostolic Church.

**1967** - James Logan's field and stadium named after Jud Taylor.

**1967** - School board hassle erupts over film "Nothing But a Man."

**1967** - Board member Rev. Elliott Paulsen's home bombed.

**1967** - Application filed for recall of Paulsen.

**1967** - Petition received sufficient signatures for recall ballot.

**1967** - Recall passed 1261 to 1232 to oust Paulsen.

**1967** - Dr. Syd Furman won vacant seat.

**1967** - Council pay hiked to \$150 a month.

**1967** - Park bond passed.

**1968** - Union Plaza opened.

**1968** - Joe Turturici named Citizen of the Year.

**1968** - Teresa Zambrano crowned Queen of Union City.

**1968** - Stella Caldeira died.

**1968** - Irv Williams re-elected, as "Shorty" Garcia and Henry Franco also got Council seats.

**1968** - Leo Alvelais elected as Mayor.

- 1968** - Lynn Swift chosen Maid of Union City.
- 1968** - Council approved \$1.2 million budget.
- 1968** - Harold Schoenfield fired as Superintendent of Schools.
- 1968** - Oscar Dowe died.
- 1968** - Guy Emmanuel named acting superintendent.
- 1969** - Alvarado Station torn down.
- 1969** - Holly Sugar closed.
- 1969** - Colleen Prette chosen Maid of Union City.
- 1969** - Dr. Duane Bay picked as new Superintendent of Schools.
- 1969** - Casa Verde homes opened in Alvarado.
- 1969** - City Council approved SASSO housing rezoning in 3-2 vote.
- 1969** - City residents circulate petition and force low-cost housing rezoning to vote.
- 1969** (July 31) - City voted to override Council approval thus leaving the Baker Rd. property up in the air.
- 1969** - SASSO appealed the referendum to Federal Courts.
- 1969** - City hires John V. Trump as attorney to defend vote.
- 1969** - Plans began for Union City Park off Decoto Rd.
- 1969** (September 11) - Manuel White, one of Union City's leading citizens, died at age 74. He was Trustee of the Decoto School District from 1941 through 1957. In his honor, the Manuel White School was named after him.

## The Filipinos in Alvarado

Contributed by Anthony Gualco



Alvarado has had, for many decades, a close relationship with the Filipino people. Looking back through the records I find that the first Filipino citizen recorded in Washington Township was Alexander R. Calante, 19, who was as servant for James Trimmingham, an English farmer living in Centerville.

The first recorded appearance of Filipinos in Alvarado was in the 1920 census when 10 Filipinos were reported; in 1930 that number swelled to 32 and in 1940 that number increased to 53 Filipinos.

During this period there was only one name that appeared in consecutive censuses in Alvarado and that name was Roldan (or Raldan). Pedro Roldan appeared in the 1930 census and then again in the 1940 census. In 1930 he was living with Salvador Roldan and in 1940 he was living with Marinciano Roldan.

The first Alvarado Filipino to be mentioned in newspaper articles was Francisco (Frank) Macahilas when his draft classification was printed in the *Oakland Tribune* in November 1940. He was mentioned in the *Alvarado Pioneer* in November 1941 when he donated 2 ½ pounds of linguica to help feed the men who were cleaning up the Alameda Creek bed of brush and debris.

In April 1943 Frank wrote to the *Alvarado Pioneer*:

“Dear Sir:

I have been on this rock for a year next month and I longed and missed news of our hometown, but I didn't realize this until this day. I think it wise to get hometown news like most of the boys here in Hawaii. I have been in that town (Alvarado) for eight years and it seems to me that it's now my hometown to me. So please send me every copy of the *Alvarado Pioneer* and I'll certainly appreciate your kindness.

You can count me as one subscriber and let me know the price to subscribe for a year.

Respectfully yours,

Francisco Macahilas, 18th Infantry Co. K, April 12, 1943”

Frank would return to Alvarado after the war and he would become a businessman, opening the New Manila Pool Hall at 1045 Levee Street, just south of the Alvarado Meat Market at Maiden Lane. Here in 1949 his establishment would be raided for alleged illegal gambling, which Mr. Macahilas testified that the games were straight and the house had no take in proceeds other than renting out the tables to gamblers.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



**Dennis Jeffrey, PhD**

Hi everyone - I'm Dennis. I'm a software engineer by profession and I also edit a monthly newsletter for my family in my free time. My wife and I have only called Union City home for about two-and-a-half years so far, but we're very happy here and are looking forward to calling Union City home for many more years to come.

A little more than a year ago, I was visiting the Farmer's Market at Old Alvarado Park and decided to wander into the Union City Historical Museum for the first time. I remember meeting Myrla and being immediately struck by her passion for the Union City community and the history of our city. I was inspired by the mission of the Union City Historical Museum, largely because it's the only organization to my knowledge that is committed to preserving and educating the community about the history of the city I now call home.

I quickly became a lifetime member. Around the same time, I also realized that the Museum needed help to continue achieving its mission, and I realized that I could provide some of that help. I took an opportunity to join the board of directors and served as a member of the board during the previous fiscal year 2015 - 2016. During that time, I took up responsibilities to help Myrla to provide layout for and help proofread the content of the Museum's bi-monthly newsletter, and to take over maintenance of the Museum's website.

For upcoming fiscal year 2016 - 2017, I feel both excited and humbled to have been elected to serve the Museum as President. I'm at a stage in my life when I don't currently have much free time, but I'm committed to helping the Museum where I can. We're lucky to have some really great folks serving as officers and directors for the Museum this next year, and I'm confident that together, we'll have an even better Museum one year from now than we do today.

I believe strongly that the Union City Historical Museum makes our community a better place, and it's my goal to help ensure that the positive impact our Museum has on our community continues to grow for many years to come. If you feel the same, and if you feel like there's something you can do (no matter how small) to help the Museum to be an even stronger positive influence on our community, please come and find us. We'll see you at the Museum!

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## FOUNDER'S NOTES

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY, UNION CITY HISTORICAL MUSEUM

February 23, 2016 is the Museum's 15th year.

The organization's primary goals are to maintain a museum containing artifacts, historical documents and historical books, record an oral history from people living in the community and encourage preservation of historical homes and buildings.

The artifacts that are displayed in the Museum tell us how the early residents lived. They tell the story of our city.



**Myrla Raymundo, MBA**  
**Founder/Chief Executive Officer**

By recording the oral history of the people of Union City, we are preserving the most precious gifts of the wisdom and traditions that make up the culture of Union City. The stories of our residents tell us the way people lived.

The preservation of historical homes and buildings help us remember the past.

Fifteen years of collecting history makes the Museum what it is today, a very special and thriving Museum.

The Union City Historical Museum, in its 15th year of existence, will continue to provide services to our residents and visitors from outlying areas and will continue to present history to young minds, to instill in them their culture and heritage.

<p><b>2016 - 2017</b> <b>Museum Meetings</b> <b>Mondays 7:00pm</b> <b>at the Museum</b></p> <p>-----</p> <p><b>July 11, 2016</b> <b>(Induction of Officers/Directors)</b></p> <p><b>October 3, 2016</b></p> <p><b>January 2, 2017</b></p> <p><b>April 3, 2017</b></p> <p><b>June 5, 2017</b> <b>(Election of Officers/Directors)</b></p>
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# THE UNION CITY HISTORICAL MUSEUM



## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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

**Officers: July 1, 2016 - June 30, 2017**

Dennis Jeffrey, President  
Anthony Lorenzo, Vice-President  
Mariza Dyziong, Secretary  
Carlen Gregorio, Treasurer

### **Directors:**

**July 1, 2016 - June 30, 2018**

Dom Filardo  
Fely Garcia  
Sarabjit Cheema  
Lagrimas Bundang  
Ed Roldan  
Angel Villorente

**July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2017**

Ligfinio (Ray) Raymundo  
Rey Mendiola  
Anthony Pabros  
Hugh McNamara  
Oliver Olano

## **EDITORIAL BOARD**

Myrla Raymundo, MBA  
Dennis Jeffrey, PhD  
Ligfinio (Ray) Raymundo

## **WELCOME NEW LIFETIME MEMBERS**

Evelyn Abellera  
Ed Roldan

## **MUSEUM LIFETIME MEMBERS**

Phil & Leila Verzola  
John & Cathy Tester  
Eva Kamakea  
Mike dela Cruz  
Ligfinio (Ray) & Myrla Raymundo  
Gina Lewis  
Reiner & Sheryl Glausch  
Al & Marsha Badella  
Barbara Scheifler  
William & Dorothy Pearce Hubbard  
Robert & Leslie Swartz  
Steve Miller & Diane LaMountaine  
Fernando & Helen Cabiles  
Allen & Simona Cecil  
Josephine Pando  
Frank, Jr. & Elvamae Borghi  
Mrs. Angelo dela Cruz  
Marcos Jr. & Tessie Gatan  
Joey & Vilma Golaw  
James Celcer  
Sarabjit Kaur Cheema  
Emily Duncan  
Richard & Barbara Aro Valle  
Kathy Logan  
Manuel & Lita Abad  
Elmer & Vicky Guzman  
Alice Robie  
Alvarado Historic District Merchants Association  
Dennis Jeffrey & Smruti Parichha  
Adrian Swartz  
Ann Bess Chanco  
Ed Roldan  
Evelyn Abellera