

UNION CITY HISTORICAL MUSEUM

Founded by Myrla Raymundo, MBA • Founding Editor/Writer • raymundomyrla@gmail.com

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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.

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

Visit Us Online:

• <http://www.unioncityhistoricalmuseum.org>

• <http://www.facebook.com/UCMuseum>

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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 June 5, 2017, at the Museum. The Nominating Committee conducted the election. The following officers were elected for a one-year term, from July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018:

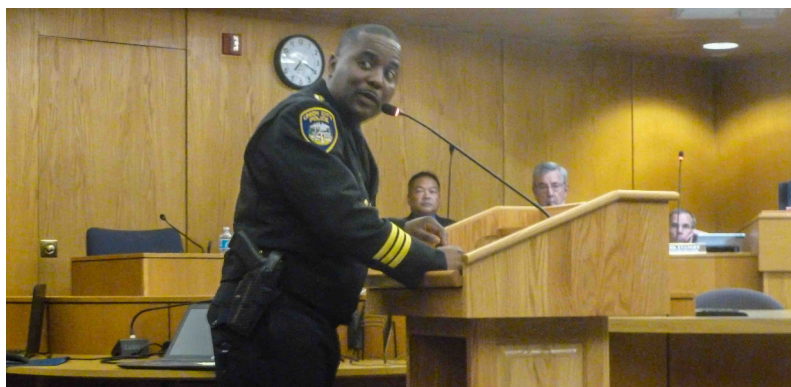
- Dennis Jeffrey – President
- Anthony Lorenzo – Vice President
- Mariza Dyziong – Secretary
- Carlen Gregorio – Treasurer

The following director was elected and will hold his seat for a two-year term, from July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2019:

- Hugh McNamara

The following directors will still hold their office from July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2018:

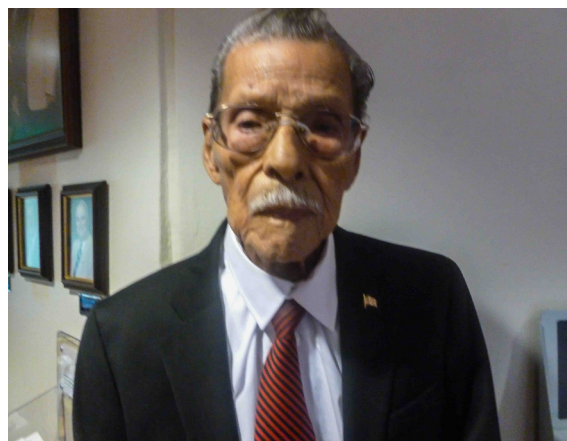
- Dom Filardo
- Sarabjit Cheema
- Lagrimas Bundang
- Angel Villorente



Presentation and proclamation recognizing May 15, 2017 as *Peace Officers Memorial Day*, and May 14-20, 2017, as *National Police Week* in Union City. Police Chief McAllister gave the acceptance speech.

PAST MAYOR OF UNION CITY, BERNIE MORALES, TURNS 100 YEARS OLD

Last May 9, 2017, the Union City Council presented a proclamation celebrating the 100th birthday of Past Mayor Bernie Morales.



Bernie Morales, the first Mexican-American Mayor of Union City, was elected to the City Council on April 1964 and served as a councilman and two terms as mayor until 1968. He said he always has the desire for a commitment to excellence. His long list of accomplishments for Union City and for Alameda County show that he truly is committed to excellence.



Proclamation recognizing the St. Anne Knights of Columbus. Last April 25, 2017, the Union City Council recognized the St. Anne Knights of Columbus, headed by Peter Petit.



Anthony Gualco visited the Union City Historical Museum last May 2017. He donated three big binders filled with stories and information about Alvarado. Come and visit the Museum and read all about it.



Myrla Raymundo and Anthony Gualco

Anthony Gualco grew up in Alvarado in the 1940's and he was always filled with a curiosity about what Alvarado was like 100 years before he was born (1941). He was raised on a farm on the outskirts of town near the intersection of Santa Maria Drive and San Rafael Way, in the Casa Verde tract.

A WALK THROUGH UNION CITY HISTORY

Around 150 Alvarado School 4th graders and some parents had a *Walk Through Union City History* last June 1, 2017, headed by teachers Stephen Partridge and Alyson Leonard. Myrla Raymundo, Founder/CEO of the Museum, did the presentation. The students had a great time and thanked the Union City Historical Museum for their learning of the history of Union City.



ANNUAL REPORT (FISCAL YEAR 2016-2017)

JULY 1, 2016 - JUNE 30, 2017

Presented to the Union City Council by Myrla Raymundo, MBA, Founder/CEO: July 1, 2017

On behalf of the Union City Historical Museum, I am presenting this fiscal year 2016-2017 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.

UNION CITY HISTORICAL MUSEUM PAST ACTIVITIES:

Union City Mayor Carol Dutra-Vernaci conducted the Installation of Officers/Directors of the Union City Historical Museum for Fiscal Year 2016-2017 last July 11, 2016. Congratulations to the new slate of Officers/Directors headed by President Dennis Jeffrey, PhD.

The Annual Adobo Festival (Celebrating Filipino Food and Music) presented by JSCamins Productions was held last June 18-19, 2016 at Kennedy Park in Union City. Special guest was Jessica Sanchez, American Idol Season Finalist.

Pure Juice & Smoothie Lounge was opened on Smith Street.

The annual Walk Into Union City History event for Alvarado School 4th graders was held June 2, 2016 at the Museum.

Rita McBride, a retired Alvarado Elementary School teacher, donated her work of art (an AFS quilt) to the Museum.

Logan High School students manned the Museum Book Sale at the Museum.

Native American descendants Roberta Moniz Chew and Jose Gonzales visited the Museum.

The Union City Police Dept. celebrated its 50th Anniversary last July 2, 2016 at the William Cann Civic Center Park.

Museum contributor Anthony Gualco wrote about the Filipinos in Alvarado.

Union City Chronology of Events 1970-1977 was published in the Museum Newsletter.

The Alvarado Historic District Merchants Association (AHDMA) officers were installed by Union City Mayor Carol Dutra-Vernaci last August 11, 2016.

The St. Anne's Filipino Senior Association celebrated the birthday girls and boys at the monthly meeting last August 8, 2016.

The retired organization St. Anne's Filipino Group had a reunion.

The Museum said goodbye to two wonderful people: Ligfinio (Ray) Raymundo, Museum Past President, who passed away last November 18, 2016; and Museum Lifetime Member Frank Borghi, Jr., who passed away last November 12, 2016.

The winners in the Union City Election last November 8, 2016 were the following: Union City Council: Carol Dutra-Vernaci, re-elected Union City Mayor; and Gary Singh, Union City Councilmember. NHUSD School Board: Lance Nishihara, Jeff Wang, and Sharan Kaur.

The Alameda County Water District had the Ribbon Cutting and Dedication Ceremony for APPIAN TANK located at the Top of Appian Way in Union City last April 28, 2016. Special guest was our very own Museum member Frank Borghi.

Rev. Father Rosendo R. Manalo, Jr., Pastor of Saint Anne Catholic Church in Union City celebrated his 22nd Anniversary of Ordination last August 27, 2016.

The Community Ambassador Program for Seniors was invited to have a table at the Senior Fitness Day at the Mark Green Sports Center last September 6, 2016. CAPS Ambassadors Myrla Raymundo and Carlen Gregorio helped in the outreach to the seniors.

The Alvarado Historic District Merchants Association held an ARTS AND WINE FESTIVAL last October 8, 2016 at the Old Alvarado Park.

The Open House of the Masjid at Huda, located in the Old Alvarado area, was held last October 23, 2016.

Alvarado school children had a Union City History Tour at the Museum.

The Alvarado District welcomed the new businesses in Union City.

Myrla Raymundo was awarded the MADIC (Making A Difference Award) given by the Union City Human Relations Commission last October 26, 2016.

Robert A. Garfinkle, former Union City Councilman, gave a book review on the two books on Union City history, written by Myrla Raymundo.

Museum contributor Anthony Gualco published the article "Alvarado Prepares for July 4, 1946" in the Museum Newsletter.

The Union City, California Chronology of Events: 1998-1999 was published in the Museum Newsletter.

On January 16, 2017, which was Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, as well as a National Day of Service, volunteers in Union City helped to clean up litter at the new rain gardens in Decoto.

Elvamae Marie Borghi, a member of the Museum, passed away last January 5, 2017.

Union City, Fremont and Newark residents walked together in a show of unity and a call for peace last January 22, 2017.

The Installation of the 2017 Union City Chamber of Commerce Executive Officers and Board of Directors was held on January 26, 2017 at the Nakamura Clinic in Union City.

The Union City Chronology of Events booklet, written by Myrla Raymundo, was published and is available for sale at the Museum.

Museum Contributor Anthony Gualco published the "4th of July Celebration" in the Museum Newsletter.

The Union City, California Chronology of Events: 2000-2002 was published in the Museum Newsletter.

The Union City Council now has overhead monitors to follow the presentations of the staff during council meetings.

The L'AZIZ Bakery and Eatery is now open to the public. It is located at 3834 Smith Street in Union City.

Union City sponsored a Spring Egg Hunt for the kids at the Old Alvarado Park on Smith Street.

Tessie Gatan, past president of the Union City Historical Museum, passed away last February 20, 2017.

Long time Union City (Alvarado) resident and prominent community member, Isabel Barlaan Loyola, passed away last March 27, 2017 at the age of 95.

Remy Fortier wrote about an interview with Myrla Raymundo, Founder/CEO of the Union City Historical Museum.

Museum columnist Anthony Gualco wrote about "Father Duggan."

The Union City, California Chronology of Events: 2003-2005 was published in the Museum Newsletter.

The General Membership meeting and Election of Officers/Directors on June 5, 2017 was announced.

UNION CITY, CALIFORNIA, CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS: 2006-2007

By Myrla Raymundo, MBA, Founder/CEO, Union City Historical Museum

2006 - The big addition in healthcare in Union City is the Washington Hospital Healthcare System, the Nakamura Clinic, in honor of the family that had owned the land. One of the new features is a classroom for health-related education. The room can seat 70 for academic-style instruction, or the chairs can be removed and replaced with mats for classes on childbirth, or cardiopulmonary resuscitation.

2006 - Carlos Rodriguez was hired as the Union City Fire Chief.

2006 - Billy Agundez, the first boxer of Union City, passed away. From Arizona, Billy came to live in Union City in the Decoto area in 1928. He was born on January 30, 1911.

2006 - The city is taking the lead in developing a regional intermodal facility center on the existing BART Station.

2006 - Oscar Munoz is the new Postmaster of Union City.

2006 - First United Credit Union opened on Alvarado-Niles Rd.

2006 (February) - The Union City Historical Museum, located in the historic Alvarado area, celebrated five (5) years of saving history. It commemorated a period of saving the culture and heritage of our city.

2006 - The book "UNION CITY THROUGH THE YEARS," written by local historian and author Myrla Raymundo, was published. A book signing was held at the Union City Library.

2006 (March 11) - Frank Perez turned 100. He is one of the original residents of the Alvarado District.

2006 (May 4) - The Mission Gateway Apartments, located at the corner of Whipple and Mission streets, opened. There are 120 rental units of affordable family housing, with commercial retail space and a community building with a community hall, art room, computer lab, resident services office, and gym. Other resident amenities include a BBQ area, swimming pool, and children's play area with tot-lot and basketball half-court.

2006 - Renee Elliott was hired as the City Clerk. Gertrude Corchero was Union City's City Treasurer for 24 years. Councilmember Manny Fernandez is the longest-term Councilmember in Union City. Mayor Mark Green is the present mayor of Union City.

2007 - Greg Stewart was sworn in as Union City's Police Chief.

2007 (March) - The Sports Center opened on Union City Blvd.

2007 - Maynard Estrellado is in charge of the sports activities in the newly opened Sports Center in Union City.

2007 (June) - Al Rose, first volunteer Fire Chief of the Alvarado Fire Department and one of the officers of the Union City Historical Museum, celebrated his 89th birthday.

2007 (June) - Tom Kitayama, former Mayor of Union City, passed away at the age of 83.

2007 (June) - Fred Castro, a member of the Union City Parks and Recreation for 32 years, passed away at the age of 88.

2007 (September) - The Faith-Based (Spiritual) Committee of the Union City's 50th Anniversary, headed by Chairperson Myrla Raymundo, presented a Dinner Concert at the Southern Alameda County Buddhist Church on Alvarado-Niles Road. It was a kick-off of Union City's 50th anniversary, which will be celebrated in 2009.

2007 - The Dry Creek Garden opens to the public.

2007 - The three sisters Edith, Mildred, and Jeanette Meyers owned the 1200 acre Dry Creek Ranch, located at the end of May Road off Mission Blvd. It was a popular summer home during the early and mid-1900s. It was donated to the Park District in 1979.

2007 - Myrla Raymundo was invited by the Alma Via Retirement Home to present the history of Union City to their residents and hold a book signing of Myrla's books.

2007 - Skydiving Simulator Opens: iFLY SF Bay, in the Union Landing Shopping Center on Alvarado-Niles Road, is the first skydiving simulator to make its way to Northern California.

2007 - The Union City Historical Museum officers/directors were inducted into office by Union City Mayor Mark Green and blessed by St. Anne Church Pastor Geoffrey Baraan last Oct. 20.

2007 (November) - Happy 85th birthday to Isabel Sarmiento-Barlaan Loyola. She was among the earliest Filipino families who came to then Alvarado, now Union City, California.

2007 - Two nominees in the List of 100 Most Influential Filipina Women in the United States came from Union City, California. They were Gertrude Gregorio, under the category of POLICY MAKERS AND VISIONARIES; and Myrla Raymundo, under the category of FOUNDERS AND PIONEERS. The event was held at the White House in Washington, D.C.

2007 (December) - The Union City's Flight 93 Memorial was dedicated at Sugar Mill Landing Park, near Union Landing.

2007 (December) - After almost two years stay in the Union City Historical Museum, the Union City Chamber of Commerce moved to the 2nd story of historic Holly House, 3939 Smith St.

2007 - The first meeting of the Union City 50th Anniversary was held at the Tropics Mobile Home Park, 33000 Almaden Blvd.

2007 - Union City Councilmember Jim Navarro was instrumental in spearheading the issue of civil wedding ceremonies in Union City.

WWII

Contributed by Anthony Gualco



Four days after the attack on Pearl Harbor (December 11, 1941) the Filipino community in Stockton announced that they would not, under any consideration, harvest the crops of Japanese farmers. Then at the beginning of February 1942, Japanese, Italian and German immigrants had to register as enemy aliens.

This was followed on February 22nd when California State Attorney General Earl Warren stated, "We too (California) will have a Pearl Harbor unless something is done immediately." Warren hinted of a possible mass evacuation of Japanese aliens from California and other Pacific coast defense areas to abandoned CCC Camps. Warren declared, "California is the most likely objective of the first blow of fifth columnists."

This was followed by the Chief of the Alameda County Sheriff's Department, Jack Gleason, revealing portions of the contents of the Tokyo published dictionary of the Kendyusha Japanese Language School at Alvarado. Gleason was the authority for the statement that the text had been in the Japanese School and had been found in the possession of M. Tsutsui, secretary of a Japanese association who was taken into custody on February 21st.

After stating in the foreword "should emergency arise, offer yourselves courageously to the State; and thus guard and maintain the prosperity of our Imperial Throne co-equal with heaven and earth," the text added, "The way here set forth is indeed the teaching bequeathed by our Imperial Ancestors, to be observed alike by their descendants and the subjects, infallible for all ages and true in all places." The text was apparently written primarily for Japanese subjects but had been utilized, Gleason said, in local language schools.

At the beginning of March 1942, The American Civil Liberties Union of New York City asked its California branches to seek moderation in evacuating Japanese to internment camps. It stressed its position that the Japanese should receive individual hearings before relocation.

But the call of moderation by the ACLU was to no avail and F.B.I. Agents and deputies from the Hayward Sheriff's Substation, armed with presidential warrants, conducted raids in Southern Alameda County Friday and arrested two Japanese aliens. Arrested was Jingo Takeuchi, 54, Box 215, Alvarado, father of eight children, who said he formerly taught in a local Japanese language school, but now is a carpenter by trade. The only contraband found in his home, it was reported, was an eight-inch dagger. The other was Tsuno Minoru, a 57 year-old farmer of Alvarado, father of six children, of Box 154 Alvarado. The two men were booked enroute to immigration authorities.

The hysteria continued on March 9, 1942 when speculation grew over whether the Southern Alameda County hamlet of Alvarado was the pre-war nerve center of the dreaded Black Dragon Society. From one quarter came the report that while Alvarado was the "ostensible" National Headquarters of the half-century old group whose "front" organization was the mysterious Military Virtue Society or Botoku-kai, San Francisco furnished the actual directive force.

Thus it continued and eventually all of the Japanese in California were interned in camps like Tulle Lake, California, Central Utah, and Gila River, Arizona. Despite the indignities imposed on them by the Americans, the Japanese stayed loyal to the U.S. during their internment. After the war they returned to American society and the likes of Tom Kitayama who, 14 years after the war, would become the first mayor of Union City.

What of the Italians and Germans? Well both my mother and father were immigrants from Italy and they had to register as alien enemies during the war. They were also visited by agents of the Federal Government in early 1942 and were questioned as to their activities and beliefs. Our console radio had a short wave unit, which was confiscated, leaving the console behind. Other than that my father was free to continue farming in Alvarado.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dennis Jeffrey, PhD

July marks the start of the next fiscal year at the Museum. As Myrla notes below, this is a great time to think strategically about the plans and goals for the Museum over the next year.

Besides plans around education of the community, preserving history, community events, and fundraising -- all very important endeavors that Myrla highlights below -- I'd like to encourage us to also work on at least one more strategic plan this year: finding ways to win the hearts of even more community members and getting them more involved in the works of the Museum. If there's one thing I've learned over the past 2 years being involved in the Museum myself as a member of the Board of Directors, it's that the Board cannot achieve all its goals for the Museum without considerable help from passionate volunteers in

our community. We're extremely lucky to have the help of existing volunteers like the students from Logan High School, and it would be great to continue increasing community involvement with the Museum so that we can scale our efforts to effect positive change in our city through the Museum.

The Museum also needs to continue searching out folks with particularly strong passion for the mission of the Museum to assist with the works of the Board of Directors. Board members like myself are just volunteers who have a particularly strong desire to see the Museum succeed. If you support the Museum's mission and feel you may be able to help the Museum to succeed, please come talk to Myrla, myself, or another board member. We truly appreciate the help. As always, we'll see you at the Museum!

FOUNDER'S NOTES



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

This year, we elected a new set of officers and directors, which means a fresh start, a clean start, and a chance to begin again.

This is an opportune time to think of the following strategic plans:

Educational Programs: Groups of students come to hear presentations of Union City history.

Researchers from different state universities and colleges and other organizations and groups do their research work in the Museum.

Let us continue to educate the community.

Preservation of Historical Homes and Buildings: In connection with the City's Preservation Ordinance, which identifies and encourages preservation of historical homes and buildings, the Museum has a list of 400 historical homes and buildings. Let us continue to work on this project.

Oral History: Let us continue interviewing residents, particularly the old-timers, for our Oral History.

Artifacts: Continue to collect and maintain artifacts and maintain the library of books and historical documents.

Open House: Conduct several open house events.

Fund Raising: Conduct fund raising events.

These are the big challenges facing us this new Fiscal Year. I enjoined the new Board of Directors to think of ways to make these things happen. We look forward not only to this fiscal year, but also to the next 100 years.

Let's all keep up the good work!

THE UNION CITY HISTORICAL MUSEUM



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Myrla Raymundo, MBA, Founder/CEO

Officers: July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018

Dennis Jeffrey, President

Anthony Lorenzo, Vice-President

Mariza Dyziong, Secretary

Carlen Gregorio, Treasurer

Directors:

July 1, 2016 - June 30, 2018

Dom Filardo

Sarabjit Cheema

Lagrimas Bundang

Angel Villorente

July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2019

Hugh McNamara

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Patricia Barr

Crediton E. Ojigho

MUSEUM LIFETIME MEMBERS

Phil & Leila Verzola

John & Cathy Tester

Eva Kamakea

Mike dela Cruz

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 Cecil

Angelo dela Cruz

Marcos Gatan, Jr.

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

EDITORIAL BOARD

Myrla Raymundo, MBA

Dennis Jeffrey, PhD

MUSEUM MEETINGS FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018

July 10, 2017: Induction of Officers and Directors

October 2, 2017: Quarterly Board Meeting

January 8, 2018: Quarterly Board Meeting

April 2, 2018: Quarterly Board Meeting

June 4, 2018: Election of Officers and Directors

All Meetings on Mondays, 7:00pm at the Museum