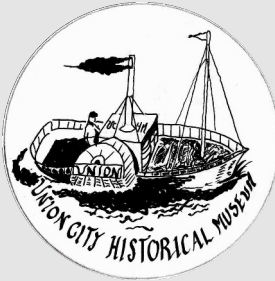


UNION CITY HISTORICAL MUSEUM

Founded by Myrla Raymundo, MBA • Founding Editor/Writer • 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.

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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BERNIE MORALES PASSED AWAY

Bernie Morales, the first Mexican-American Mayor of Union City, passed away at age 100 last Dec. 21, 2017. He was elected to the City Council in April 1964 and served as Councilman and two terms as Mayor until 1968.

Last May 8, 2017, the Union City Council presented a proclamation celebrating his 100th birthday. He said he always had the desire for a commitment to excellence. His long list of accomplishments for Union City and for Alameda County show that he truly was committed to excellence.

We thank Bernie for all the great works that he has done for the City of Union City.



17-YEAR ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF THE UNION CITY HISTORICAL MUSEUM – FEBRUARY 2018



Myrla Raymundo with Museum members.



Thank you Museum Member **Ricardo Avelino** for providing refreshments!



Union City Historical Museum members and volunteers.



UNION CITY, CALIFORNIA, CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS: 2013

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

2013 (January) - The Alameda County Board of Supervisors appointed Chief Demetrious Shaffer as the new Fire Chief. He replaced Chief Sheldon Gilbert.

2013 (January) - Elvin A. Rose, the first volunteer Fire Chief stationed at the Alvarado Fire Department and a very active member of the Union City Historical Museum, passed away.

2013 (March) - Museum members Fely Garcia, Myrla Raymundo, Bess Filardo and Dom Filardo manned the Union City Historical Museum's table at the Logan High School Community Service/Job Faire.

2013 - Anthony Gualco, a longtime resident of Union City and now lives in Oregon, visited the Union City Historical Museum and gave Myrla Raymundo some CDs on the history of Union City.

2013 - Gil Garza, President of the Washington Township Historical Society in Fremont, visited the Union City Historical Museum.

2013 - Mary de Cesare, a descendant of James Logan, visited the Union City Historical Museum and told stories about the Logan family and donated some Logan photos.

2013 (March) - Myrla Raymundo, writer and member of the California Writers Group, attended the Fremont Writers Club General Membership Meeting at DeVry University.

2013 (March) - The Union City Sports Center is now named after the City's Mayor of 19 years, Mayor Mark Green.

2013 (March) - Our beloved lifetime member and former Museum Board Director Georgia Megue dela Cruz, passed away.

2013 (June) - The Union City Historical Museum Election of Officers/Directors for FY 2013-2014 was held and Froilan (Roy) Panlilio was elected President.

2013 (June) - The Mighty 4 Arts group held a Fundraising Drive at the Mountain Mike's Pizza in Union City.

2013 (June) - The Mighty 4 Arts group held their second Annual Free Park Jam at the Alvarado Park.

2013 (June) - Myrla Raymundo joined the Union City Patch with her blog "The Historian." Her writings are all about the history of Union City.

2013 (June) - The S.M.A.R.T. (St. Anne Medical Action Response Team) was formed at St. Anne Catholic Church.

2013 (July) - The Union City Historical Museum Induction of Officers/Directors was held. Mayor Carol Dutra-Vernaci was the Inducting Officer.

2013 (July) - St. Anne Catholic Church celebrated its 40th Festival Anniversary.

2013 (November) - The Friends of the Union City Library had a Book Sale.

2013 (November) - Myrla Raymundo received the City of Union City Resolution which reads "Honoring Myrla Raymundo For Her Ongoing Service to the City of Union City".

2013 (November) - Congressman Eric Swalwell presented Myrla Raymundo with a Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition that reads in part: "In Honor of Your Service Preserving and Enriching the Community of Union City. I applaud your dedication to our citizens".

2013 (December) - Museum Christmas Party.

2013 (December) - The California Writers Club Authors had a Book Signing and Sale at the Newark Mall in Newark. Myrla Raymundo is one of the authors.

2013 (December) - Hampton Inn, a 90-room, 4-story hotel opened on Alvarado-Niles Road.

2013 - Alameda County Fire Chief Demetrious Shaffer retired at age 42.

PACIFIC STATES STEEL CO.



Contributed By
Anthony Gualco

Joseph Eastwood Jr. of San Francisco founded the *Pacific States Steel* on May 29, 1937. Mr. Eastwood chose a location between the Western Pacific and the Southern Pacific Railroad lines in Decoto just north of the Niles town limits. The location had been the site of manufacturing plants for the Oakland Paving Brick Co. and the California Brick Co.

Joseph's father had established a company that produced heavy mining and machinery called the American Forge Co. in 1888. The senior Eastwood died in 1930 and Joseph Eastwood Jr. took over the company and continued its operation. Joseph Eastwood would use the plant at Decoto to supply American Forge, which had become a subsidiary of Pacific State Steel, with steel for forging.

World events would lead to the growth of Pacific States Steel. April 1941 found Joe Eastwood Jr. in Washington D.C. where his Pacific States Steel Co. was awarded a large defense contract amounting to 150,000 tons of alloy steel a year, thus quadrupling the size of the steel plant manufacturing capacity. At this time Pacific States Steel was the only steel manufacturing plant on the west coast with an electric furnace capable of producing alloy steel ingots and forging quality steel for military and Maritime Commission jobs.

When peacetime returned to the United States, the importance of steel was not lost on our leaders in Washington D.C. The American Forge Company in Berkeley and the Pacific States Steel Company in Decoto were among the war industries the U.S. Navy wanted to keep in operation during peacetime. In November 1947 it was announced that the American Forge Company would relocate to Decoto on property owned by its parent the Pacific States Steel Company.

In the ultimate irony, the country that helped Pacific States Steel grow would be one of the countries that led to its downfall. In the 1970's Japan exported low cost steel to the United States (along with European countries) and the American steel industry started to suffer.

Layoffs started in the middle of 1976. Some workers were laid off and then called back to work for short periods of time while others laid off later in the year were not called back. If the government could prove that the layoffs were due to imports then the workers would be able to collect benefits.

Government officials would not name the countries that were involved in the purported dumping of steel in the U.S., although they did acknowledge that Japan had increased their exports of steel to the U.S. early in 1976. By 1977 the company was out of business.

A number of businesses leased the sites over the years; one of them stored and processed transformers on a small portion of the site, contaminating the soil with PCB's (polychlorinated biphenyls).

The PCB's, along with slag and other by-products of steel making over the decades, required environmental cleanup by government agencies to negate ground contamination.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dennis Jeffrey, PhD

Happy spring and a very happy 17th birthday to the Union City Historical Museum!

A few weeks ago I had stopped by the Museum and was awe-struck at how clean and refreshing the inside of the Museum had become. One of the back rooms especially caught my eye: what had traditionally been little more than a storage space was now much more open and bright, and it felt very inviting. It was clear our wonderful Museum members and volunteers had been

hard at work improving the Museum's interior space, and while their work was still in progress, I was inspired by what I saw. The term "spring cleaning" has really taken on special meaning for the Museum this season thanks to our terrific volunteers! I encourage anyone who hasn't visited the Museum recently to drop by and give it another look -- it's truly worth it. We'll see you at the Museum!

IN MEMORIAM

Heidi Kitayama, wife of Union City Past Mayor Tom Kitayama, passed away on February 12, 2018 at the age of 95.

First Lady of Union City and the Carnation Queen, she always felt excitement in a world that she felt gave her so much. She will be truly missed.

FOUNDER'S NOTES



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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, UNION CITY HISTORICAL MUSEUM! The Union City Historical Museum is now in its 17th 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.

We thank the community for continuously donating artifacts. These artifacts tell us how the early residents lived and tell the story of our city. The Museum has historic photos, magazines, maps, newspaper clippings from 1700 through the present, personal papers, photographs, school yearbooks, scrapbooks, telephone books, city directories, and many more.

We are proud to say that we have a published book on Oral History. More than 200 people were interviewed and their stories were published in the book. We know very well that stories from people tell the city's history. The preservation of historical homes and buildings also helps us remember the past. We continue to work on the preservation of these homes and buildings.

Seventeen years of collecting history makes the Museum what it is today, a very special and thriving Museum. We 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 their minds the culture and heritage of Union City. **Happy Birthday, Union City Historical Museum, and many more to come!**

THE UNION CITY HISTORICAL MUSEUM

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Myrla Raymundo, MBA, Founder/CEO

Officers: July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018

Dennis Jeffrey, President
Hugh McNamara, 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

Gloria Cardon

EDITORIAL BOARD

Myrla Raymundo, MBA
Dennis Jeffrey, PhD

MUSEUM MEETINGS FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018

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

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Ian Condon
Edmund So
Rossana Leonardo

MUSEUM LIFETIME MEMBERS

Phil & Leila Verzola
John & Cathy Tester
Eva Kamakea
Mike dela Cruz
Myrla Raymundo
Gina Lewis
Al & Marsha Badella
Barbara Scheifler
William & Dorothy Pearce Hubbard
Robert & Leslie Swartz
Steve Miller & Diane LaMountaine
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
Edgar Roldan
Evelyn Abellera