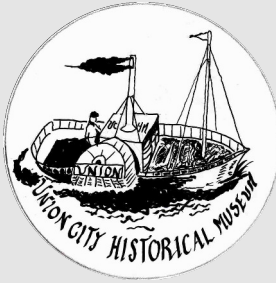


UNION CITY HISTORICAL MUSEUM

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>

Vol. 20 No. 6 • April / May 2018

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS/DIRECTORS

The General Membership Meeting and Election of Officers/Directors will be held on June 4, 2018 at the Museum at 7:00 pm. All members are invited to attend. The next slate of elected officers (President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer) will be for a one-year term, from July 1, 2018 through June 30 2019. The next slate of elected directors will hold their seats for a two-year term, from July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2020.

The Nominating Committee will accept written nominations either in person or through the mail. Nomination forms are available at the Museum. The Museum, 3841 Smith Street, Union City, must receive nominations no later than May 30, 2018.

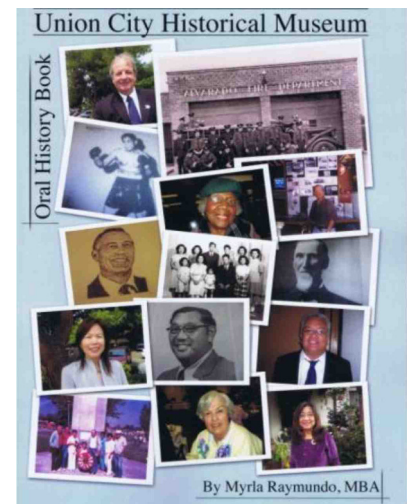
UNION CITY MUSEUM WANTS YOUR MEMORIES

The "Union City Oral History Book", written by Myrla Raymundo, Founder/CEO of the Union City Historical Museum, is a collection of about 200 interviews that she conducted with Union City leaders, city staff members, and civic-minded people both past and present. For the early founders of what is now Union City, she of course had to rely on documents in the Union City Historical Museum and/or reference materials given to her by living relatives of these pioneers.

She is again seeking personal stories from residents for her third book. Residents are asked to submit tales of growing up in Union City, attending school, going to the stores, their memories of the old towns Alvarado and Decoto.

Residents can send their stories to the Union City Historical Museum, 3841 Smith Street, Union City. Or they can send their names and telephone numbers to Myrla Raymundo at the Museum for interview, so she could write the story.

Your stories are very important for the continuance of Union City history.



**"Union City Oral History Book",
by Myrla Raymundo, 214 pages**

THE HAPPENINGS

The Annual Portuguese Festival was held last April 28 and 29 at S.D.E.S Hall, 30846 Watkins Street. There was the annual parade passing through Watkins Street, Tay Avenue, Vallejo Street, Horner Street, Fredi Street, and Smith Street. There was free food on that day.

Gertrude Corchero passed away last March 2018. She was Union City's City Treasurer for 24 years. It was in the early 70's when then Mayor Kitayama frantically called her and asked that she fill the position of City Treasurer. She complied and stayed as Treasurer until 1997.

UNION CITY, CALIFORNIA, CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS: 2014

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

2014 (January) - The City of Union City has named Darryl McAllister as the new Deputy Police Chief.

2014 (January) - Union City welcomed Gloria Ortega, the City's new Economic Development Manager.

2014 (January) - Alameda County Fire Chief Demetrious Shaffer retired at age 42.

2014 (January) - Helen Kennedy was appointed as Executive Director, New Haven Schools Foundation.

2014 (January) - Paul E. Gallegos, a Museum member for many years, passed away at age 85.

2014 (January) - Ruth Orozco, wife of Jess Orozco, passed away. Both of them were long-time members of the Museum.

2014 (January) - Former Superintendent Guy Emmanuelle, "the most important person" in the history of the New Haven Unified School District, passed away at age 83. He served as Superintendent of Schools from 1976 to 1998.

2014 (May) - Coffee With Cops held at Ola's Coffee & Tea at Smith Street, Union City.

2014 (June) - The Union City Historical Museum Election of Officers/Directors was held at the Museum. Roy Panlilio was elected President.

2014 (June) - Union City Apostolic Church 7th and 8th Graders had a Historical Tour of the Museum.

2014 (June) - The Alvarado Historic District Merchants Association (AHDMA) was officially launched and is now a registered non-profit organization.

2014 (June) - The Ola's Exotic Coffee and Tea, located at 3900 Smith Street, opened.

2014 (June) - Rebekah Johnson is our City's UCPD Crime analyst.

2014 (June) - Mighty 4 Arts Foundation Awards held at Old Alvarado Park. Myrla Raymundo was one of the awardees.

2014 (July) - The Union City Historical Museum Induction of Officers/Directors was held at the Museum. Mayor Carol Dutra-Vernaci was the Inducting Officer.

2014 (August) - Mattie F. Rousseau, a longtime member of the Union City Historical Museum, passed away.

2014 (September) - Shirley Thompson Garcia, wife of Manuel "Shorty" Garcia, passed away.

2014 (September) - Regena Anita Schneider Dennie, longtime Museum member, passed away.

2014 (September) - The State of the City Address was held at the Masonic Home.

2014 (September) - Buffalo Wild Wings opened.

2014 (September) - The City hosted a General Plan Community Workshop at Union City Senior Center.

2014 (October) - Darryl C. McAllister was sworn in as Union City's Police Chief.

2014 (October) - East Plaza Farmers' Market, located behind the Union City BART Station off of Decoto Road, opened.

2014 (November) - Union City Superintendent Dr. Richard Sealana was elected President of the Alameda County Fair Board.

2014 (November) - Hugh McNamara received a City of Union City Proclamation honoring him as a Union City Senior Commissioner.

2014 (December) - Larry Cheeves retired as Union City's City Manager.

2014 (December) - Renee Elliott, City Clerk for Union City, retired.

2014 (December) - Museum members Grace Boston Olano and Dom Filardo manned the Union City Historical Museum table at the Community Service, held at the Decoto School for Independent Study, #600 G Street.

2014 (December) - The Sister City Festival was held at the Mark Green Sports Center.

2014 (December) - Washington Healthcare Foundation and the Union City Chamber of Commerce presented the Trees of Angels for Hospice 232014 Tree Lighting Ceremony at the Nakamura Clinic.

2014 (December) - Christmas Party at the Union City Historical Museum.

2014 (December) - The Chinese Restaurant, Pine Garden, is now open for business after so many years of inactivity.

2014 - Ashley Birch and Grandfather Ken Birch, longtime resident of Union City, visited the Union City Historical Museum.

2014 - Jean F. Fickle, founder of the Afro American Cultural and American Society, Inc., visited the Union City Historical Museum.

THE SUGAR MILL AT ALVARADO

THE CALIFORNIA BEET MFG. COMPANY: 1870-1874



**Contributed By
Anthony Gualco**

Ebenezer H. Dyer came to Alvarado to settle permanently in 1858. He settled near his brother's farm along with his family. In 1859 Ebenezer Dyer was elected surveyor for Alameda County. He would later be appointed as a U.S. Deputy Surveyor.

At this time in U.S. history there was intense interest in manufacturing sugar from the sugar beet. The sugar beet had been cultivated and made into sugar since the time of Napoleon I of France. Before that time almost all sugar came from sugar cane, which England held a near monopoly on because of her colonies located in the tropics. When it was discovered that sugar could be made from beets and that beets could be grown throughout Europe (as far east as Russia) Napoleon fully backed the growth of this industry so as to break the stranglehold that Britain held on sugar production.

This was not lost on the U.S., who like the European Continent had to import almost all of their sugar. Various entrepreneurs in the U.S. tried manufacturing sugar from beets as early as 1838 without any success.

In 1852 three Englishmen came to Utah to establish a beet sugar mill with equipment they had brought with them from England. The only product that came from that mill appears to have been some substandard molasses. These were men of means so the lack of money was not the cause of their failure.

The Germania Sugar Company at Chatsworth, Illinois shipped 27,000 pounds of sugar to the Chicago market as the result of their business operations for the year 1867. They planned to grow more beets in 1868 but because of the lack of water in their area they eventually failed.

Ebenezer Dyer saw the need for sugar produced continentally as our country was young and not yet wealthy, sugar was expensive at this time and almost all had to be imported. Some cane was grown in Louisiana; but sorghum, maple syrup and honey supplied what little sweetener was available at the time other than the expensive imported sugar.

Ebenezer Dyer experimented with the sugar beet on his brother's farm (Ephraim H. Dyer) and found that the beet thrived in the Alvarado soil. He grew a large test plot and in 1868 sent samples of his beets to Fond du Lac Wisconsin where two German entrepreneurs (Bonesteel & Otto) had opened a small beet sugar mill with \$12,000 in capital. Even with their limited capital investment the two German's had attracted the attention of interested parties from various parts of the U.S. They received an offer from Philadelphia to move their factory and carry on the work where they had been marginally successful at Fond du Lac.

From Alvarado they received the sample of beets from Dyer and found the sugar content to be more than acceptable. Mr. Dyer also informed the pair that he had lined up a group of investors and had \$250,000 in capital to invest in a beet sugar mill at Alvarado.

In 1869 Bonesteel and Otto accepted the offer to come to Alvarado to begin the process of turning beets into sugar. They would also move some of the sugar making equipment from Fond du Lac to Alvarado in 1870. This was the beginning of the sugar making business at Alvarado.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dennis Jeffrey, PhD

THANK YOU!

I wanted to thank the Museum community -- especially Myrla and the rest of the Museum Officers and Directors -- for giving me the opportunity to serve as President for the Union City Historical Museum over the past 2 years. It has been a great experience getting to know the people involved in the Museum and working with the Museum board members and volunteers to help the Museum to continue working toward its mission: to preserve, maintain and protect, and educate the public about the architectural, cultural, natural, and historical heritage of Union City.

It's time for another volunteer to take up the role I'm leaving behind, and I'm excited about the changes that will come from the upcoming elections to choose the next set of Officers and Directors for the Museum. I hope to continue being an active part of the Museum community going forward and helping wherever I can, as I strongly feel -- as I did 3 years ago when I first visited the Museum and had the chance to talk to Myrla -- that the Museum is a vital resource and a strong force for good in our community. The Museum and its people are one of the big reasons why Union City truly feels like home to me.

As always and forever more: we'll see you at the Museum!

FOUNDER'S NOTES



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

WHAT WE OFFER

Do you want to know more about Union City history? These are what the Union City Historical Museum has to offer:

Archival materials related to Decoto and Alvarado districts. We have complete binders of history of both districts way back to 1700.

Complete collection of newspaper articles about Union City from 1700 to present.

Photographs, magazines, maps, school yearbooks, telephone books, scrapbooks, city directories, reference books, old letters.

Published book "Union City Oral History" featuring around 200 Union City residents. We know very well that history comes from the mouths of people.

Published book "Union City Through the Years" about Union City.

Old household items from Union City residents such as sewing machines, typewriters, cash registers, refrigerator, stove, and many more.

Historical Tours and PowerPoint Presentation about Union City for Museum visitors.

We conduct historical tours to students. They learn history through historic photos around them, by looking at the artifacts, and listening to the personal stories. They also learn history through the PowerPoint presentation about the whole history of Union City.

So, visit us at our location and you will enjoy your visit here.

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

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

Marlene O. Benedict