

Signals from Telegraph Hill

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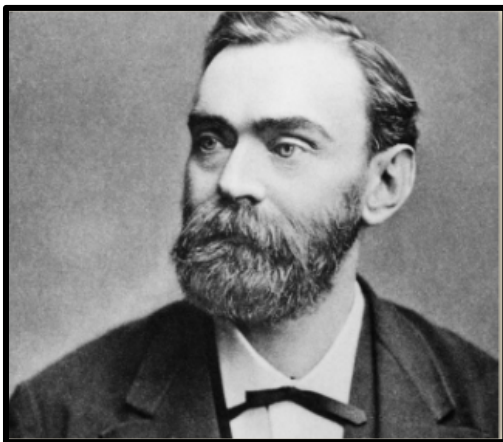


San Francisco Corral – Westerners International

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Please join us on Tuesday, June 27, 2017 at 5:30 p.m. for
The Glen Park Connection with Alfred Nobel and the First Dynamite Factory in America!



In the 19th century, the perceived need to conquer Nature was a powerful driver for development. Black powder was soon deemed inadequate for the task – a more powerful substance able to blast through rock and mountainside was needed. Chemist Alfred Nobel rose to the challenge, discovering that oil of nitroglycerin had five times the explosive power of black powder. He formed an exclusive partnership with a pioneer San Francisco company, Bandmann, Nielsen & Co., to manufacture and sell the new blasting oil in California. Yet, when transport of the unstable substance led to scores of deaths worldwide, Nobel sought a fix, finding it in his new invention he called "Dynamite." After personally licensing his invention to Bandmann, Nielsen & Co., the first dynamite factory in the United States – Giant Powder Works – began operations in 1868 in what is today's Glen Canyon Park. Designated as California Historical Landmark No. 1002 in 1991, Glen Canyon is forever linked with Alfred Nobel, serving as the foundation for the wealth he later bequeathed to establish the prestigious Nobel Prizes.

Our speaker, Evelyn Rose, received her Doctor of Pharmacy at UCSF and is currently working in medical communications. Evelyn moved to San Francisco in 1978 and has been a resident of Glen Park and Diamond Heights in the heart of the City for the past 25 years. In 2002, she became a docent at *Muir Woods National Monument* where she became the monument's volunteer historian, receiving the *President's Volunteer Service Award* in 2011. Evelyn launched

her history blog, *Tramps of San Francisco*, (www.TrampsofSanFrancisco.com) in 2012 to rediscover some of the forgotten histories of the City by the Bay. Evelyn is the founder and chairperson of the *Glen Park Neighborhoods History Project* (www.GlenParkHistory.org), which meets every other month. Evelyn leads history walks in the Glen Park district, and writes a quarterly history column for the *Glen Park News*. The GPNHP received the *Walter G. Jebe, Sr. Neighborhood Award* from the *San Francisco History Association* in 2016.

Meeting Location: Fior d'Italia, 2237 Mason Street, San Francisco

The restaurant provides us with a private room and **valet parking**. We gather at 5:30 and dinner seating begins at 6:15 p.m. A three-course selection is available and costs \$39.00. **RSVP:** Please send checks and dinner reservations by **June 22, 2017** to Judy Van Austen, KOC, 1789 Northwood Court, Oakland, CA 94611.



Round-up! Donations of books, ephemera and other Western-themed memorabilia are needed for our monthly raffle! Your donations will be much appreciated!

Don't you wish they all could be California girls? Postcards of California brides, so appropriate for the month of June, issued in the years 1907 and 1909. California poppy postcards issued circa 1910.



Noteworthy Events



The San Francisco Museum and Historical Society – Tuesday, June 13, 7:30 – 9:00 p.m. PROGRAM: The Early Years of the San Francisco International Film Festival. In 1957, movie theater operator and film aficionado Irving Levin started an international film festival in our cosmopolitan city. Despite meager funding and a complete lack of interest on the part Hollywood studios, the festival became a smashing success. In its 60th anniversary year, film festival historian Miguel Pendás will tell the dramatic story of how the longest-running film festival in the Americas came into being, using photos and film clips that made the festival one of the most respected in the world. Miguel Pendás was the creative director of the SFIFF for nearly 20 years. He is now a freelance writer and editor who contributes articles to the SFIFF and other film festivals. **Roosevelt Middle School, 460 Arguello Blvd. (at Geary; entrance on Palm).** www.sfhistory.org. Admission for non-members is \$10.00 per person or \$5.00 for seniors, students, K-12 teachers, and persons with disabilities. Admission fees may be applied to membership dues within 45 days.



California Historical Society Exhibit – On the Road to the Summer of Love. Through September 10, 2017. This exhibition, a celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Summer of Love, tells the story of the countercultural movement in San Francisco through photographs and ephemera. In the summer of 1967, young people from across the country converged on the Haight-Ashbury district. Guest curators Dennis McNally and Alisa Leslie explore the cultural context – from the Beat poets to the experimental art scene – that put San Francisco at the center of a social revolution. **678 Mission Street, San Francisco.** Tuesday through Sunday, 11:00 to 5:00. Admission: \$5.00; Members and children free.



Conference of California Historical Societies – Annual Meeting – June 22-24. The CCHS 2017 Annual Meeting will be located in both Roseville and Lincoln on June 22nd, 23th, and 24th. The program will include workshops, a bookfest, tours, an Awards of Merit luncheon and other CCHS activities. Visit http://annualmeeting.californiahistorian.com/schedule_of_events to see the complete schedule.



The de Young Museum — April 8 through August 20: The Summer of Love Experience: Art, Fashion and Rock and Roll. In the mid-1960s, artists, activists, writers, and musicians converged on the Haight-Ashbury neighborhood with hopes of creating a new social paradigm. For the fiftieth anniversary of the Summer of Love, the de Young presents an exhilarating exhibition of iconic rock posters, photographs, interactive music and light shows, costumes and textiles, ephemera, and avant-garde films. More information: deyoung.famsf.org/summer-love-art-fashion-and-rock-roll.

S. F. Westerners Posse: 2017

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In order for you and your friends and organizations to continue to receive this publication, send us your email address.

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Mark your calendar for the S.F. Corral of Westerners' meeting dates for 2017 (usually the fourth Tuesday of the month): this month, June 27; (No meeting in July/August); September 26; October 24; (No meeting in November); December 5.



California Registered Historical Landmark No. 1002: America's First Dynamite Factory and the Nobel Prize. *This plaque reads:* On March 19, 1868, under personal license by Alfred Nobel, Giant Powder Company began production of dynamite here in the first manufacturing works of its kind in the United States. On November 26, 1869, a massive explosion seen and heard for miles obliterated the complex, killing and injuring workers. With the great wealth Nobel acquired from his invention he established the Nobel Prize, for those who "have conferred the greatest benefit on mankind."

Photo courtesy of Marshal Bob Lawhon.

THERE ARE NO MEETINGS IN JULY AND AUGUST. Enjoy the summer, wherever you may be! The next meeting is on September 26.