

640
HERITAGE PRESERVATION
FOUNDATION

THE 640 REPORT

ISSUE 24 | WINTER 2015

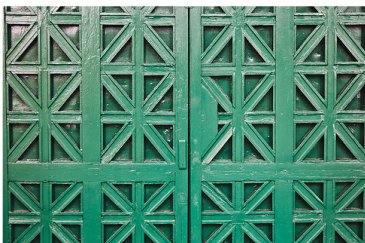
GLADYNE K. MITCHELL: “I GIVE TO THINGS THAT I LOVE.”

In December, the 640 Foundation received a gift of \$500,000 from one of its most generous supporters, Gladyne K. Mitchell. This contribution fulfilled Gladyne’s aspiration, expressed at the time of her previous (2012) gift of \$500,000, to donate a total of \$1 million. This recent gift, like the earlier one, was restricted to paying down principal on the loan that financed the Club’s important seismic and life safety preservation project completed in 2008. As a business woman, Gladyne is a strong advocate for paying off the loan as rapidly as possible, and she has been at the forefront of making that happen.

Gladyne’s business acumen and philanthropy were inherited from her parents, Mitchel L. and Emma K. Mitchell. “My father was a self-made man,” states Gladyne, “buying properties and building shopping centers on them.” He favored corner lots, advising Gladyne, “If you own the corner, you have the key to the block.” In talking about the importance of giving back to the community, he also shared with her that “all fingers naturally point to self, but you need to point them outward and think of other people.”

Gladyne’s maternal family can trace its roots back to Charlemagne. They came to America early and settled in Philadelphia where Gladyne’s mother was brought up as a Quaker. She recalls that her mother loved serving on committees and being a leader. She was one of the founders of St. Anthony’s Dining Room, an organization that Gladyne still supports. Both parents were involved with the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco, and Gladyne continues that involvement as well. Together with her friend Carmen Castro Francheschi, Gladyne also established in 2013 the Neurohospitalist Distinguished Professorship at UCSF currently held by Dr. S. Andrew Josephson. Influenced by her experiences caring for her father following a stroke, Gladyne is deeply interested in protecting the brain and ensuring proper care of patients hospitalized with brain injuries.

The Palace of Fine Arts is another landmark that has benefited from Gladyne’s generosity. When the restoration of this magnificent building from the 1915 Panama Pacific International Exposition was undertaken by the Maybeck Foundation, in partnership with the City, and under the leadership of Donna Huggins, Gladyne noticed the magnificent exterior doors and asked, “Is anyone restoring those?” Learning that no one was, she offered to fund their entire restoration. ***“Doors are so important. They open to the heart and soul of a building,”*** she notes, saying that the Palace of Fine Arts doors are magnificent and remind her of the doors that once graced such monuments as the Coliseum in Rome and the temples of ancient Greece.



The Panama Pacific International Exposition and the Metropolitan Club share not only a 100th birthday this year, but they both owe a great deal to a determined group of women. The Woman’s Board of the PPIE and our own “House That Women Built” benefited from the vision, enthusiasm and hard work of some of the same women. According to the National Register Nomination for the Woman’s Athletic Club (now the Metropolitan Club), eight of its founders were active on the PPIE’s Woman’s Board and others were stockholders of the Board.

In addition to the \$500,000 loan principal pay down made possible by Gladyne’s gift, the 640 Foundation in 2014 paid down an additional \$215,000 in principal through its Annual Appeal and Heritage Fair revenues, for a total contribution of \$715,000 from the Foundation to the Club in 2014.

“It is so important to get that loan paid off,” Gladyne believes. When asked about her personal philanthropy, she explained, “I give to things that I love. One should give when alive, not wait until you die.”

A Message from the President, Misty Tyree

It is a great honor to serve as the 640 Heritage Preservation Foundation President. I follow in the footsteps of **Carol Ann Rogers** and **Karen Rose** who did a superb job leading the Foundation. They were assisted by extremely good Board Members and by the many Club Members who have supported the Foundation.

We are entering the centennial year of the Metropolitan Club and there are many activities planned by the Foundation. I will mention just two. There will be a luncheon/fashion show sponsored by Saks Fifth Avenue **Thursday, March 19** at Saks Fifth Avenue store featuring Armani as the designer. This is always a great event. Also mark your calendars for **November 5** for the **Centennial Gala** extravaganza that will be held in the Clubhouse. This will be the “big fun” event of the year. It is not to be missed.

As we enter the Metropolitan's Club's very significant year, the tendency is to focus on the future. When standing in the doorway that leads forward, it is important to take a moment to look back from where we have come. The 640 Heritage Preservation Foundation is a new organization, incorporated and approved for 501(c)(3) tax exempt status in 2004. Our mission is:

- Funding development in support of the Metropolitan Club.
- Preserving and memorializing the history and architecture of the Club.
- Researching the importance of the woman's athletic movement
- Providing opportunities for public education about our Club's history.

The 640 Foundation was very busy in 2014 with many activities, many firsts, and many milestones. As Frank Sinatra's song goes, “it was a very good year”.

- A tremendous thank you and heartfelt appreciation go to **Gladys K. Mitchell** for her gift of **\$500,000**, bringing her total donation to over **\$1,000,000** to be used to pay down the debt incurred from the seismic and fire safety renovation project. We are most grateful for her generosity.
- The first ever Heritage Fair was spearheaded by **Cathy Goodman** and scores of committee members and volunteers made it a very successful fundraiser.
- The Heritage Fair, Tribute and the Annual Appeal programs together allowed the 640 Foundation to grant **\$215,000** to the Metropolitan Club. We sincerely thank all of the donors who participated in these programs.
- Many more members have included the **Elizabeth Pillsbury Society** in their estate planned giving program.
- Through the generosity of the **Bland Family Foundation**, **Alice Ross Carey** and an anonymous donor, the Foundation engaged Michael Corbett, the architectural historian who prepared our National Register Nomination, to research the body of work of Bliss & Faville, who designed our Club building.
- The Foundation joined with the San Francisco Heritage Society to sponsor the **Alice Ross Carey Memorial Lecture**. Fellow Club Member **Anthea Hartig**, California Historical Society Executive Director, was the guest lecturer. The event was a huge success and a wonderful tribute to Alice.

I know I can speak for the entire 640 Foundation Board of Directors when I say we are dedicated to the growth and continued success of the Metropolitan Club. We will work tirelessly for the benefit of the Club, and hopefully, have a little fun along the way.



640 FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Misty Tyree

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Molly Brant

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Karen Rose

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Denise Decker

Helene Ettelson

Margaret Handelman

Peggy Mitchell

Gee Gee Platt

Carol Ann Rogers

Jo-Ann Rose

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415.872.7272

director@640hpf.org

Saks Fifth Avenue
and the
640 Heritage Preservation Foundation
Invite you to an exclusive presentation of the



ARMANI COLLEZIONI
Fall 2015 Collection

Thursday, March 19
at 11a.m.
Round Room on Two
384 Post Street

ARMANI
COLLEZIONI

Shop the Armani Collezioni to benefit the 640 Foundation.
Saks will donate 10% of sales, up to \$5,000.

To purchase your \$175 Fashion Show Luncheon ticket,
please visit the Foundation office or 640hpf.org.
Space is limited.

RAFFLE: Win a week-long stay in Italy!

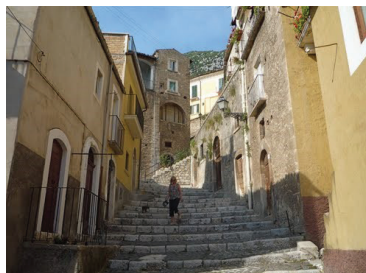
This one bedroom apartment is located in the medieval village of Pacentro, just steps away from the best restaurants, bars and markets in town. Located in the central part of Italy, with a breathtaking view of the Italian Alps, Pacentro is known as one of the most beautiful villages in Italy!

1 ticket for \$50 or 3 tickets for \$125

Purchase your Raffle Tickets today at the kiosk in the lobby or at
www.640hpf.org

Drawing will take place at the Armani Fashion Show on March 19.
Winner need not be present.

¡Buona Fortuna!



Tribute Program: November 2014 - February 2015

THE 640 FOUNDATION GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGES THE FOLLOWING TRIBUTE GIFTS:

Honorary Gifts

In honor of the 640 Board

Misty Tyree

In honor of Susan Andrews

Elizabeth Devlin

In honor of Drue Ashford

Peggy Brown

Gay Yamagiwa

In honor of Barbara Backer

Sue Molinari

In honor of Ramsay Behnam

Sue Molinari

In honor of Peggy Brown

Gay Yamagiwa

In honor of Jeanine Catalano

Greta McKinney

In honor of Deihleen Claffey

Lisa Harris

Stephanie Reynaga

In honor of Courtney Clarkson

Verna Shaheen

In honor of Helen Culiner

Carol Ann Rogers

In honor of Kaki Desautels

Heidi Kennedy

In honor of Delia Ehrlich

Carol Ann Rogers

In honor of Helene Ettelson

Peggy Brown

Donna Krupp

Sue Molinari

In honor of Felcia Feng

Stephanie Reynaga

In honor of Claudia Feurey

Lisa Harris

In honor of Maureen Fox

Gay Yamagiwa

In honor of Olivia Gardner

Stephanie Reynaga

In honor of Susan Gearey

Molly Brant

Sue Molinari

Patrice Motley

In honor of Linda Golm

Peggy Brown

Gay Yamagiwa

In honor of Margaret Handelman

Donna Krupp

Laurabeth Grieneeks Nelson

In honor of Lisa Harris

Molly Brant

Patrice Motley

In honor of Janet Higgins

Amy Corbett

Lisa Harris

In honor of Sylvia & Marina Keller

Stephanie Reynaga, Stella & Olivia

In honor of Christine Linnenbach

Lisa Harris

Stephanie Reynaga

Evelyn Schlosser

In honor of Adelma LoPrest

Carol Ann Rogers

In honor of Ayn McGee & Chris Grillo

Helene Ettelson

In honor of Gladys Mitchell

Carol Ann Rogers

In honor of Sue Molinari

Lisa Harris

Patrice Motley

In honor of Nora Monfredini

Lisa Harris

In honor of Patrice Motley

Lisa Harris

In honor of Roberta Neustadter

Carol Ann Rogers

In honor of Stella Parker

Stephanie Reynaga

In honor of Sue Paul

Carol Ann Rogers

In honor of M.E. Phillips

Carol Ann Rogers

In honor of Marilyn Presten

Shirley Coyne

In honor of Stephanie Reynaga

Lisa Harris

In honor of Anya & Jean

Riney-Niewiadomski

Stella Parker & Olivia Gardner

In honor of Susie Rodriguez

Stephanie Reynaga, Stella & Olivia

In honor of Carol Ann Rogers

Molly Brant

Peggy Brown

Peggy Mitchell

Marianne Rocca

In honor of Jo-Ann Rose

Kathryn Lawrence

In honor of Karen Rose

Molly Brant

Peggy Mitchell

In honor of Marcia Schneider

Molly Brant

In honor of Camilla Smith

Marion Robertson

In honor of Victoria Sutton

Lisa Harris

In honor of Mariana & Ciana Tzuo

Stephanie Reynaga, Stella & Olivia

In honor of Sylvia Wilkerson

Lisa Harris

Memorial Gifts

In memory of V. June Daly

June Behrendt

In memory of Marie Galanti

Suzanne Muntzing

In memory of Gene Gilmartin

Barbara Backer

In memory of Kathleen Hulburd

Eve Wertsch

In memory of Elli Sax

Peggy Brown

Judith Haslam

Margaret van der Reis

In memory of Diane Ward

Molly Brant

Judith Haslam

Patrice Motley

Margaret van der Reis



Annual Appeal Campaign

THE 640 FOUNDATION GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGES THE FOLLOWING DONORS,
LISTED HERE ALPHABETICALLY, TO OUR ANNUAL FALL APPEAL

A

Anne Adelmann
Carolyn Alexander
Anonymous
Pat Ascher

B

Carol Babcock
Beverly M. Folger Foundation
Molly Brant
Germaine Brennan
Nancy Burrill

C

Beverly Castagna
Ruthann Conway
Amy Corbett
Ruth Cowan
Lucinda Crocker
Helen Culiner

D-E

Denise Decker
Elizabeth Devlin
Mary Ellyn Dufek
William Edlund
Edward Joseph Daly
Foundation
Helene Ettelson

F

Claudia Feurey
Charlotte Flanagan
Karena Fowler
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Ilse Gaede
Katharine Gilmartin
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Nancy Greer
Laurabeth Grieneeks Nelson
Angelyn Grillo
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H

Jung Eun Ha
Anthea Hartig
Terry Huggins

J

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K

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Tamra Keen
Heidi Kennedy
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Jill Kramer
Katherine Kriken (Koelsch)
Donna Krupp

L

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Joan Larkin
Kathryn Lawrence
Frances Leavitt
Gisela Lewald
Barbara Liddell

M

Beverly Marlow
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Kathryn McNeil
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Peggy Mitchell
Nora Monfredini
Elizabeth Morris
Suzanne Muntzing

N-P

Marlene Nanus
Susan O'Brien
Olga Olson
Sandy Otellini
Suzanne Perkins-Gordon
Gee Gee Platt

R

Marianne Rocca
Carol Ann Rogers
Jennifer Rogers
Jo-Ann Rose
Karen Rose
Amanda Roth
Marcia Ruben

S

Marcia Schneider
Jane Sebree
Verna Shaheen
Adrienne Sherman
Pat B. Smith
Susan Steer
Maureen Sullivan
Martha Sutherland
Phyllis Sutton

T-Z

Gretchen Thomas
Gayle Tunnell
Misty Tyree
Margaret van der Reis
A. Lynn Winkel
Helene Woolsey

Our Congratulations

We are delighted to report that our accomplished and very busy 640 Foundation Board member Helene Ettelson has been honored yet again, in fact twice recently, first in October 2014 by the Metropolitan Club when she received the designation as a member of the Order of Hestia at the Club's Annual Meeting. The award is presented to a member who, though not a committee chair or member of the board, has made a particularly outstanding volunteer contribution to the club.

Then in November, nominated by the foundation of the California Pacific Medical Center (CPMC), she received the Spirit of Philanthropy award given by the Golden Gate Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP). Helene has served on the CPMC Foundation's board of trustees since 2008 and is their guild president and membership chair. The AFP recognized their honorees at a luncheon at the St. Francis Hotel on National Philanthropy Day.

Our congratulations go also to Club Member Pamela Buttery, who also was honored with the Spirit of Philanthropy award by the AFP. She was nominated by The Arc San Francisco and Pomeroy Recreation and Rehabilitation Center, for founding Friends Like Me, their recreational program for adults with developmental disabilities. Pamela is presently a board member of AASCEND, a non-profit serving adults on the spectrum of autism.

Both of these multi-talented ladies have made and continue to make too many contributions for us to mention. It is a privilege to get to know them and to learn from them.



Elizabeth Pillsbury Society for Planned Giving

Mary Louise Anderson
June Arney
Drue Ashford
Judith Branch
Alice Ross Carey
Mildred Centanni
Chong Cook
Evelyn R. David
Carol Ede
Dr. Cecile Julia Eggens
Helene Ettelson
Susan J. Gearey

Pria Graves
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Janet McLaughlin Higgins
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Effiellen Jefferies
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Chrissie Martenstein
Kathleen M. Meagher
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Suzanne Muntzing

Roberta Neustadter
Elizabeth O'Shaughnessy
Mary Elizabeth Phillips
Emilie Plake
Nancy G. Raznick
Susan D. Scannon
Patricia Bondesen Smith
Misty Tyree
Margrethe Ann Welch
Nancy Weston
Renate-Karin Wunsch
Mary Yetter



The Opening Reception marking the first day of the celebration of the Centennial of the 1915 Panama Pacific International Exposition was held on February 20 at the one surviving building, the Palace of Fine Arts. Among the Core Partners are the 640 Foundation and the Metropolitan Club. Familiar faces in the crowd included **Gee Gee Platt, Anthea Hartig, Gladys K. Mitchell, Dona Crowder, Carol Ann and Nielsen Rogers, Sylvia Wilkerson, Gretchen Kimball, Courtney Clarkson, Margaret Handelman, and Molly Brant.** The building at 3301 Lyon Street is open for viewing of the fascinating exhibits through the end of 2015. Check the website PPIE100.org for information. Also, visit CALHIST.org to learn about the California Historical Society's complementary exhibition *City Rising: San Francisco and the 1915 World's Fair*, open through December 6 at their 678 Mission Street headquarters.

The Centennial Oral History Project:

An Interview with Harriet Ross

Harriet Ross was born April 12, 1925, and will celebrate her 90th birthday next month. She grew up in Northern New Jersey but spent every summer (“from Memorial Day to Labor Day”) at her paternal grandmother’s home in Spring Lake, NJ. She could walk to the beach in about 15-20 minutes and developed her love of swimming, both at the beach and in the pool, beginning at a very early age. By high school, she was swimming competitively and eventually earned the AAU title of champion for the state of New Jersey in free style. Harriet remembers loving her high school years and doing very well as a student. Her father encouraged her to go to college and she went on to graduate from Cornell University. She studied mechanical engineering until her last year when she took an elective in international organizations and “became very fascinated with the debates before the different assemblies and international organizations,” she recalls. Her grand-aunt suggested that she study law.

Harriet’s parents moved to San Francisco while she was at Cornell so she joined them after graduation and immediately loved her new home. She attended University of San Francisco Law School at night, working during the day as an engineer to pay her tuition expenses, including a stint with Bechtel designing power plants in Saudi Arabia.

Harriet quit her engineering job to study for the bar exam and began looking for work as a lawyer. “Women were not too welcome in the practice of law in San Francisco. If you wanted to just do research, you could do that, but to be in contact with clients, they didn’t want women,” she recalls. However, the day the results of the bar exam came out the late Melvin Belli called her up and invited her down to his office, which gave her “some place to hang my hat.”

While at Belli’s office, she had her first experience with politics as the National Co-Chair of Youth for Eisenhower/Nixon in 1956. She traveled around the country campaigning for the ticket and remembers being invited to the Eisenhower farm in Pennsylvania.

Harriet remained with Belli for five years, largely training herself. “They gave you the work, but you had to solve the problems.” She eventually moved to the Public Defender’s Office after a colleague encouraged her to apply. Initially reluctant to take on criminal cases (“The stakes are very high – I didn’t want to be responsible for a person losing time in their lives by going to prison if I lost the case.”) but found that she was very good at it. “I enjoyed the whole thing of arguing to the jury. I found I had the ability to see the issues very clearly and to cross-examine.” She eventually spent 22 years in the Public Defender’s Office and became one of the best trial lawyers in the City.

Speaking of her work during those years, Harriet states, “The jury knows exactly what they are doing. To see how they evolve, how they can hone through all the evidence and apply the law so accurately is just a beautiful thing to witness.”

Although one of very few women doing what she was doing, she didn’t see herself as a pioneer. “I was pursuing my interest, trying to do what I wanted to do.”

In 1974, a friend suggested that Harriet might enjoy joining the Metropolitan Club. She was immediately attracted by the swimming pool and began her 40 year habit of daily swimming. She also liked the idea of belonging to a club for women only. “I was around men all the time. I didn’t need a club with men in it.” Like so many members, she has found the Club to be a personal oasis. Harriet also belongs to the Commonwealth Club and enjoys attending programs of the Pacific Research Institute. One of her treasured experiences was participating in an American Bar Association exchange program to Oxford, England.

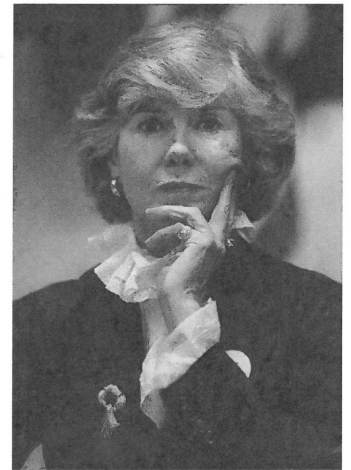
Harriet has had a very full life. She raised a daughter who lives in Cow Hollow and has a grand-daughter who is married and lives in Paris. Once a year Harriet travels to Paris both to visit her grand-daughter and take part in trips and events sponsored by the French Heritage Society.

In 1987, having served as Chair of the San Francisco Republican Party, Harriet ran unsuccessfully for US Congress against Nancy Pelosi. She also ran for San Francisco Supervisor.

Asked to comment on the keys to her success, Harriet responds, “I was kind of a toughie. Things would roll off my back.” Early in her career as a criminal defense attorney, she went to pick up the discovery documents for a case she was working on and was told by the murder investigator’s department that they would give her “what we want to give you.” “You’ll give me everything I’m entitled to,” she informed them.

“There is only one road to success,” explains Harriet. “You must like what you’re doing and work hard. That’s it. It doesn’t change for men or women, or for difference professions. You have to like what you’re doing and spend the time to do it well.”

“You can’t go through life expecting someone to help you. You’ve got to do it yourself. You’re the only one you can depend on.”



The San Francisco Public Defender presents
a special event
honoring pioneering women defenders
Honoree:
HARRIET ROSS



640 Sutter Street
San Francisco, CA
94102

Join us for a very special
birthday party celebration . . .
the Party of the Century!
SAVE THE DATE
November 5, 2015
for
The Centennial Gala
at
The Metropolitan Club
with
Dinner & Cocktails
Dancing & Entertainment
Silent & Live Auctions
& more surprises!



Shop at Saks
Thursday, March 19
10% of proceeds
benefit the 640 Foundation

Even if you cannot join us for the Fashion Show Luncheon (*see details inside*), plan to shop at Saks Fifth Avenue on Thursday, March 19 to benefit the 640 Foundation. Pick up a scan card at the Metropolitan Club front desk, use it at check out anywhere in the store, and Saks will donate 10% of your total to the Foundation, up to \$5,000. Please contact the Foundation office with questions or for more details.