
Wine Country News

By Dan Davidson

Several years ago I met Charles Sullivan at a wine tasting and learned of his plans to release a history book on the Napa Valley. Little did I know at that time that this would possibly be the best source of information

for those of us who have the privilege and pleasure of conducting wine tours in the Napa Valley.

The book, *Napa Wine, A History From Mission Days to Present* was released in November 1994 and I was finally able to secure a copy several weeks ago. This is not light reading, but 442 pages of authoritative and comprehensive history of Napa Valley wine making. It is the fascinating story of the rise to prominence of what is believed to be the greatest wine producing area in

the western hemisphere. He presents a year-by-year report on the development of the great vineyards, the wineries and the colorful people who made it happen.

From the Franciscan padres, to the pistol-packing pioneers, to the prohibition-era opportunists, to the current celebrity winery owners; the insights into the ethnicity, the politics and high fashion of Napa wine makes exciting reading.

More than 20 tables and maps docu-

ment the details of all vineyards and wineries with owners, production statistics, vintage quality, wine styles, gold medals and more from 1870 to the present. The 22 page index and over 1,000 footnotes will give you answers to any question you may encounter on a tour.

The book is available at two places in San Francisco that I am aware of: The Wine Appreciation Guild, 155 Connecticut St. and The Wine Club, between 5th and 6th Sts. on Harrison. Both of these locations, incidentally, are excellent resources for wine related publications. The Wine Club discounts books as well as wine and the Wine Appreciation Guild has an extensive collection of books on the subject.

Meet the Membership

By Pat Alex

As we enter the second decade of the SFTGG, it's time to reintroduce Ann Meagher. Simply stated, Ann was the founder of our Guild. Before Ann, several attempts had been made to organize tour guides

in the Bay area. By 1983, with experience both here and abroad, Ann also saw the need for a solidly professional organization. She subsequently approached several of the working guides, including Gladys Hansen, who at that time was in charge of the San Francisco Archives at the public library. All the guides she proposed her idea to agreed that there was a need for a more formal association. The founding members of the Guild met and talked for six months. They established the qualifications for membership, structured the rules and bylaws for the organization and chose a name for the group. With a lot of hard work, the San Francisco Tour Guide Guild eventually emerged, more or less in its present form. Ann was the catalyst for the Guild and deserves tremendous credit for its establishment.

Ann Meagher is poised, attractive and bright. Her background is varied. Born in Bath, New York, in the state's Finger Lake region. She attended the University of Buffalo, acquired a degree in History and Education, then went to the Library School at Florida State in Tallahassee. She became a children's librarian in Arlington, VA during the turbulent period of the Martin Luther King and Robert Kennedy assassinations. These events inspired her to travel and work in Europe. Her next step was as an elementary librarian at the International School in Frankfurt, Germany in the early 70's, followed by an adventurous camping trip that ranged from London to Katmandu...in a canvas topped British Bedford truck whose tent top was rolled back during the day.

Thinking she should settle down,

she returned to the States. She worked her way west in search of that elusive home base. Even though San Francisco was eventually her ultimate choice, she could not find a proper job here, so she went back to London. There she took a job with Encounter Overland, the company she had booked the Katmandu trip with. In 1976, when the company decided to open an office in San Francisco in order to promote the South American market, she was the logical choice to represent the company. Naturally one has to know the territory, so she took a three month "fam" trip on a South American safari.

She worked with Encounter for two years. She then decided to go back to school, attending one of the very early classes of ITMI in 1978. Despite the additional training, there was no interesting employment available, which gave her a window of opportunity to fulfill another ambition. She became a Seniors Escort with the Senior Citizens in the Tenderloin. She worked with the

Continued on page 11

Meet the Membership

continued from page 9

Seniors during the week and with Holiday Tours on the weekends.

In 1979, she became a full-time tour guide with Holiday, then went on to free lance with local companies and eventually in-house with Destination Management. When David Mana and Glenn Allison left DM to form their own company Ann was the first person they hired.

Being a guide has its merits and Ann appreciates the experience, but...Superbowl meet and greet is not one of them. However, she remembers high points like personal contact with group members and being able to enjoy the wonders of Northern California.

Ann still has the travel bug and her love of San Francisco is still strong. She takes classes and attends seminars when time permits.

Ann is highly regarded in the industry, has worked both sides of the field, constantly displays the integrity that personify the goals of the Guild that she played a major role in founding...all of us in the Guild are

indebted to for her leadership and influence. Thank you, Ann, for your continued support and we look forward to the next ten years together.

Pilot Program

Continued from page 7

ties and procedures. After a short lunch we were all given a turn on the radio at the positions commonly used at the Airport.

Everyone felt that we had supplied the participants with basic knowledge and practical application of this knowledge which provided a sense of self-confidence and better ability to handle Airport/Radio situations in the future. We are scheduling a second Airport/Radio Training Seminar for Fall 1995. I wish to express my many thanks to Martin Scott, Michael Stortz, Susan Dollberg, Sharon Cardiff, Bear Radios and Franciscan Lines for helping to make this an extremely successful pilot Airport/Radio Training program for the Guild.

Did You Know?

- California's agricultural industry is worth \$20 billion.
- As of July 1, 1994, the population of California is 31.4 million.
- The SF Model Yacht Club was founded in 1898. Spreckles Lake was created for model boats in 1906 with a mud bottom and concrete shore. It is approximately three feet deep.
- UCSF is one of nine campuses operated by the University of California and the only one devoted solely to the health sciences. Within its boundaries are four schools—medicine (1864), pharmacy (1872), dentistry (1881), and nursing (1939). Stanford University is the oldest medical school in the far western US, chartered in 1858.

1995 Tour Guide Frequently Called Number List

Courtesy of the San Francisco Tour Guide Guild
All numbers are Area Code 415 unless otherwise noted

HOTELS		CABS, COACHES, MINI-BUSES, VANS	
Alta Mira	332-1350	De Soto Cab	573-1414
ANA	974-6400	Veterans Cab	552-1300
Bedford	673-6040	Yellow Cab	626-2345
Cantebury-Best Western	474-8464	Airporter	495-8404
Carlton	673-0242	Bayporter	467-1800
Casa Madrona	332-0502	Marin Airporter	461-4222
Cathedral Hill-Quality	776-8200	Super Shuttle	558-8500
Claremont Resort & Spa	510-813-3000	AC Transit	510-839-2882
Cliff-Four Seasons	775-4700	BART	992-2278
Comfort Inn By The Bay	978-5000	Golden Gate Transit	332-6600
Fairmont	772-5000	Muni	673-6864
Galleria Park	781-3060	Sam Trans/CalTrain	1-800-660-4287
Grand Hyatt	398-1234	Cable Car Charters	922-2425
Handlery Union Square	781-7800	Destination Systems	347-5300
Hilton	771-1400	Express Tours	755-7377
Holiday Inn Chinatown	433-6600	Express Tours	or 1-800-995-9889
Holiday Inn Civic Center	626-6103	Franciscan Lines	495-7570
Holiday Inn F.W.	771-9000	Grayline	558-7300
H. I. Golden Gateway	441-4000	Mercury	588-1448
Holiday Inn Union Square	398-8900	Quo Vadis	922-0220
Howard Johnson's F.W.	775-3800	Royal Coach	408-279-4801
Huntington	474-5400	Scenic Hyway Tours	647-1400
Hyatt F.W.	563-1234	TTC	871-0962
Hyatt Regency	783-1234	UCS	255-2177
Kensington Park	788-6400	SELECTED TOUR OPERATORS	
King George	781-5050	Brier & Dunn	846-7801
Mark Hopkins	392-3434	Cable Car Seminars	328-5898
Marriott F.W.	775-7555	Cappa & Graham	543-3484
Miyako	922-3200	Deltours	510-444-7343
Miyako Inn-Best Western	921-4000	Domenico Tours	981-6293
Nikko	394-1111	Galavents	510-253-9556
Pan Pacific	771-8600	Mana Allison	474-2266
Parc 55	392-8000	Pacific Agenda	433-4312
Parc Oakland	451-4000	Riser-Almeida	891-1446
Park Hyatt	392-1234	Safaris	433-7722
Ramada F.W.	885-4700	USA Hosts	986-2202
Ramada Inn Union Square	673-2332	AIRLINE INFO DIAL "1-800" THEN:	
Raphael	986-2000	Air Canada (AC)	776-3000
Richelieu	673-4711	Alaska (AL)	426-0333
Ritz-Carlton	295-7465	America West (HP)	235-9292
St. Francis-Westin	397-7000	American (AA)	433-7300
San Francisco Marriott	896-1600	Canadian Air (CP)	426-7000
San Francisco Ramada	626-8000	Continental (OO)	525-0280
Savoy	441-2700	Delta (DL)	221-1212
Shannon Court	775-5000	Northwest (NW)	441-1818
Sheraton F.W.	362-5500	Southwest (SW)	435-9792
Sheraton Palace	392-8600	TWA (rw)	221-2000
Sir Francis Drake	392-7755	United (UA)	241-6522
Stanford Court-Souffer Ren.	989-3500	US Air (US)	428-4322
Travelodge F.W.	392-6700		
Triton	394-0500		
Tucan Inn F.W.	561-1100		