



San Francisco Westerners International Signals for January 2017

WEBSITE: www.westernerssf.org

EMAIL: westernerssf@gmail.com

The San Francisco Corral of The Westerners is pleased to host on January, 2017 a return engagement by Taryn Edwards. Taryn presented a wonderful talk on the industrial exhibitions of the Mechanics' Institute during the 1800's. Now we are most fortunate to have her back to start our year of "food". Her topic will be : Wine at the Fairs: the wines, brandies, and "vinous products" at the Mechanics' Institute's Industrial Expositions, 1857-1899

What do the Kohler and Frohling, Beringer, Landsberger & Co., and Buena Vista wineries have in common? They all won accolades at the Mechanics' Institute's Industrial Expositions. In an effort to encourage local industry, the Mechanics' Institute – a pioneer San Francisco library and vocational training center - hosted thirty one Industrial Expositions between 1857 and 1899. These month-long extravaganzas featured the products, food stuffs, art and inventions produced locally and the innovations of the day such as steam engines, cable cars, flying machines, locomotives and California wines. Serving both the public and business communities, these Exhibitions bolstered the state's infant economy, encouraged the demand for local goods, and enabled many entrepreneurs to get in touch with the capital they needed to develop their businesses. In this presentation, Taryn Edwards will provide an overview of the wine producers that exhibited at the Expositions, the birth of California's wine industry and the Expositions' impact on California.

Taryn Edwards is Strategic Partnerships Manager for the Mechanics' Institute of San Francisco. She hosts events for the Library, leads the tours of the Institute, and spends a lot of private time digging up history of the place and people associated with it. In addition to her professional duties she is embarking upon her first biography of a major San Francisco figure. She has an MLIS from San Jose State and is a fifth generation Bay Area. She lives in the beautiful East Bay with her husband, daughter, and two energetic dogs. You can find her in the stacks or at tarynedwards.com.

Location: L'Oliver French Restaurant
465 Davis Court, San Francisco

The restaurant provides us with a private room, fine dining and an attentive staff. A no-host full bar is available. L'Oliver is located between Jackson and Washington Streets. Parking is available in the area. We gather at 5:30 and dinner seating begins at 6:15 P.M. A three course selection is available and costs \$38.00. Please send checks and dinner reservations by November 29, 2016 to: Judy Van Austen, KOC, 1789 Northwood Court, Oakland, CA 94611

Current Posse:
Sheriff: Robert Chandler, PhD
Trail Boss: [Ask how you can help us here!](#)
Registrar of Marks & Brands: [We also need help here!](#)
Keeper of the Chips: Judy Van Austen (510-339-1298)
International Rep: Gerhard Brostrom
Marshall: Bob Lawhon (415-519-3972)
Inkslinger: Tom McLaughlin (415-931-1598)
Inkslingers Emeritus: Richard F. Olson; Mary Lou Lyon, HM

Other items and events of interest:

Congratulations to Rose Marie Beebe and Robert Senkewicz...they were awarded 2nd place for the Westerners International 2015 CoFounders "Best Book" Award for their book: *Junipero Serra: California, Indians, and the Transformation of a Missionary*. The awards were presented at the Westerners Reception during the Western History Association Conference in Saint Paul, Minnesota, October 20. Rosemarie and Robert gave our group a presentation on their book last March.

We were saddened to learn of the passing of Norm Tutorow on September 2nd. Norm was the author of the important two volume history of Leland Stanford, *The Life and Legacy of Leland Stanford, A California Colossus*.

Other Events:

JACK LONDON- A CALIFORNIA RADICAL- A Panel Discussion on Wednesday, November 16, 2016 - 6:30pm

at the Mechanic's Institute, 2nd Floor (members free/others \$15)

This tribute to one of the Bay Area's most iconic celebrity writers will be moderated by Heyday founder Malcolm Margolin and will include authors Jonah Raskin (*The Radical Jack London: Writings on War and Revolution*) and Gerald Haslam (*Jack London's Golden State: Selected California Writings*), science writer Mary Ellen Hannibal (*Citizen Scientist*), California Director of the National Wildlife Federation Beth Pratt-Bergstrom (*When Mountain Lions are Neighbors*), Heyday's Steve Wasserman, and special guest librarian Tarnel Abbott, great granddaughter of Jack London.

The panel will cover London's fiery personality and the radical themes of his writing including his views on socialism, war and revolution, unions, incarceration, environmental issues, as well as his ideas about "man vs nature" that he is noted for.

The Annual Meeting and Holiday Luncheon of the Contra Costa County Historical Society will be held at the Diablo Country Club on December 3 at 11:00 AM until 2:00 PM. If you wish to make donations or make reservations, please contact Tara Weber at 510-501-0342 or at www.cocohistory.com.

San Francisco's beloved older buildings aren't simply treasures to be preserved, they're lenses through which we can view how this city and its cultures continue to evolve. Join **the Book Club of California and John King on November 14, 2016 from 5-7 PM** for an eye-opening look at what the landmarks around us reveal about where we might be going next, and how our treatment of the past can alter San Francisco's future. **John King** is the *San Francisco Chronicle's* urban design critic, where he casts his sharp eye on everything from the design of major towers to the value of rooftop public spaces.