



A "Reason" to Celebrate



See Page 4 for details



THE FORCE OF FANDOM EXHIBIT HAS LANDED!

An Unforgettable Day!

After our Feb. 24 Opening Event was cancelled due to the big Calistoga Snowstorm of 2023, the Jedis/Docents of Rancho Obi-Wan held our Grand Opening on Mar. 10 – and it was pure joy. A towering Darth Vader and his scowling

Imperial Guard scared and thrilled CES 4th-6th graders (then signed autographs and dispensed fist bumps), accompanied by an Imperial Stormtrooper & Bounty Hunter Boba Fett. The kids proudly found their own hand-drawn trading cards among the prized objects on display, and learned about museum docents, building with Legos, hand-crafted creativity, storytelling, collecting, 3D printing and the multi-generational community of Star Wars fans. Thanks to Marc Morita, Steve Sansweet, Dwayne Smith and Anne Neumann of Rancho Obi-Wan, Jackie Lang of the Sharpsteen Museum Board and the 501st Legion for their exceptional enthusiasm and commitment to this event. Come see it for yourself now through May 5th. More event photos on page 2.



Eden Umble, *Media/Exhibits Chair*

York Cabin Monument Rediscovered

Hidden from sight for many years is the monument dedicated to pioneer John York, born 1820. York, his wife, Lucinda, (nee Hudson), as well as additional family members came west via wagon train in 1845, ultimately settling in Hot Springs Township more than 20 years before Calistoga was established. According to the California Office of Historic Preservation, York's log cabin is among the first homes in this area, constructed in October of 1845. Thankfully, due to the constant vigilance of local historian and direct descendant, Betty McCormick Malmgren, the current property owner took it upon himself to clean the monument, removing all plant life and debris. California State Historic Landmark #682 is the

Continued See YORK pg 2



Before



After

More Scenes from the March 10 Exhibit Event . . .



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Calistoga, CA 94515
Tel: (707) 942-5911

Web: Sharpsteenmuseum.org
Email: info@sharpsteenmuseum.org

Museum House Tel: 942-5916
Museum Hours:
12-3 pm M-F; 11 am-4 pm Sat-Sun
(Closed Thanksgiving and Christmas)

BOARD MEMBERS:

Alan Rogers- President
Kathy Bazzoli- First VP
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Bev Barnes- Collections Chair
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Eden Umble- Media/Exhibits Chair

This Member Newsletter is a bi-monthly publication of the Sharpsteen Museum Association, a non-profit 501(3)c organization.

Shari Hanson- Newsletter Editor

MISSION STATEMENT:

The Museum's mission is to preserve and to provide for public exhibitions and study of the history of the community of Calistoga and the upper Napa Valley.

YORK *continued from pg 1*

site of John York's log cabin built in October 1845. The home was rebuilt as part of the home of the Kortum Family and was used as a residence until razed in 1930. Location: SW Corner of Hwy. 29 (Foothill Blvd.) and Lincoln Ave. A monument was erected on this site in 1959. Please see sidebar at right for a list of landmarks in the Calistoga area.

Nearby was the cabin of David Hudson, also built in 1845. Although no monument or memorial plaque has yet to be set, the site of the Hudson Cabin, California State Historic Landmark # 683 is located at: NE corner of Hwy. 29 (Foothill Blvd.) and Lincoln Ave.

Both men were well known, stalwart pioneers of the finest kind who helped develop the upper portion of the Napa Valley by purchasing land, clearing it, planting crops and building homes, to say the least.

John and Lucinda York and David Hudson, along with generations of descendants are interred in the St. Helena Cemetery.

California Historical Landmarks In and Near Calistoga

No.	Landmark
359	Old Bale Mill
561	Schramsberg
682	Site of York's Cabin
683	Site of Hudson Cabin
684	Sam Brannan Store
685	Sam Brannan Cottage (at Museum)
686	Site of Kelsey House
687	Napa Valley Railroad Depot
710	Robert Louis Stevenson State Park
915	Petrified Forest

Source:

https://ohp.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=21387

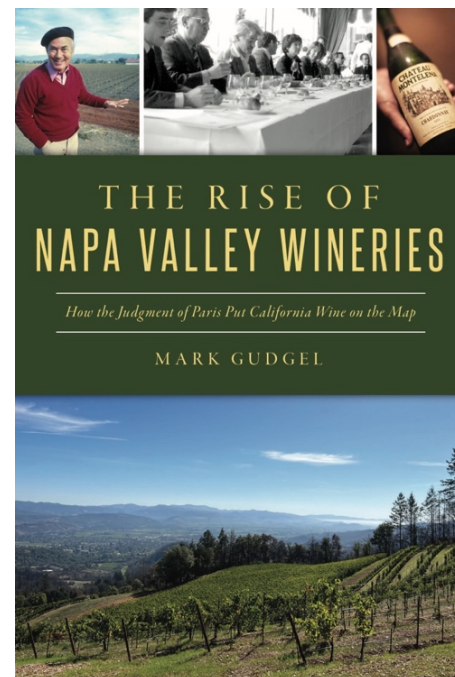
(Office of Historic Preservation-
California State Parks)

Meet the Author Event: **SAVE THIS DATE:**
Saturday, May 20th, 12-1:30 PM

“The Rise of Napa Valley Wineries: How the Judgement of Paris Put California Wine on the Map” by Mark Gudgel.

This is a great one! History begins and ends in Calistoga. Starting with our Wappo History, this book flows forward to the Judgement of Paris in favor of Chateau Montelena. The Sharpsteen was in early contact with the author. Dr. Gudgel had many questions and felt that he could not author a book about Calistoga History without first honoring the Wappo. Chapter after chapter, this is your history, with more to learn with every page you turn.

About author Dr. Mark Gudgel, we can't say enough. An 18-year veteran of teaching English, Humanities, and Genocide Studies in public schools, presently serving as Professor of Education at the College of St. Mary in Omaha, a Fellow of US Holocaust Memorial Museum, a Fulbright Distinguished Award Winner as Teaching Recipient, his credentials are endless. Why he became interested in Calistoga and the wine industry we can only learn at this upcoming, amazing Meet the Author Event.



What others are saying:

“What an incredible book, my head is spinning with histories and lives of those pioneers.”

Bella Spurrier

“Mark Gudgel’s book is the story of pioneers, farmers, and winemakers that landed north of San Francisco in the mid-1800’s and persevered with grit, passion, and a vision for over a hundred years to make wine to rival France...” *Barry Waitte, Oakville Winegrowers Assoc.*

“Mark Gudgel’s one-of-a-kind, careful, brilliant and historical reconstruction...” *Francesco Saverio Russo, Wine Blogger, Wine Educator & Creator of Arche 2020 by F.S.R.*

“The Rise of Napa Valley Wineries” is a real page turner. I’ve read it three times and plan on a fourth. Well-written, the passion for the author’s subject reflects in every word.” *K.D. Bazzoli, Sharpsteen Museum, Calistoga*

“Mark Gudgel has captured the essence of Napa Valley’s storied history and eventual renaissance through game-changing historical events...” *Laura Larson, Editor, Napa Valley Life Magazine*

Published by History Press, books will be available for purchase prior to and at the event. Please check our website for further details in the weeks to come.

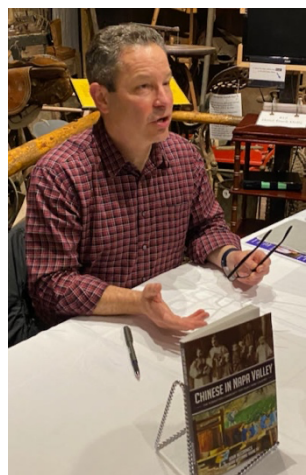
This event, as always, is free and open to the public. Thank you for supporting the Sharpsteen Museum.

You did it...

Our Meet the Author event of March 11th featuring *The Chinese in Napa Valley* by author John McCormick was an astounding success and was so well attended we literally had “standing room only”. We found ourselves pulling chairs & settees from our exhibits to allow people to sit. It was incredible! McCormick’s media presentation along with his lecture and Q&A period were simply over the top.

This title remains in our Book Store for purchase. When you visit the museum be sure to ask for other museum-published titles, that will give you more information regarding this era in our town.

Be looking forward to our next Author Event on May 20th (see article above). And be sure to use our website sharpsteenmuseum.org and our Face-book page for updates. Let us know what you think!



A “Reason” to Celebrate

Carolyn and Rich Czapleski, owners of Canard Vineyards, have generously offered the Sharpsteen an opportunity to host a tour of their historic property and a tasting of their fine wines. The property, at the corner of Dunaweal Lane and Silverado Trail, was settled by Donner Party Rescuer and Calistoga Pioneer Reason P. Tucker. The timing of this event will coincide with the Museum’s next Special Exhibit about Tucker and his legacy. Save Saturday, May 13 for the chance to tour the gardens in their spring glory, and sample wines from Canard’s heritage vines, some of which were planted by Tucker in the 19th century. Visitors will be greeted by resident pigs Peaches and Wilbur, and Buddy, the dog.

Carolyn is a Master Gardener, and her garden has been featured on many Napa County garden tours. Canard’s award-winning red wines are served at some of the country’s most prestigious restaurants.

Date: Saturday, May 13, 1 pm-4 pm

Tickets:

Garden tour (self-guided) only: \$40

Garden tour (self-guided) and wine tasting paired with charcuterie: \$75

Stay tuned (check the website, Facebook, or call the museum (707-942-5911) -- tickets will go on sale soon. Don’t miss this very special way to celebrate Mother’s Day weekend!

Pat Larsen, *Ways & Means Chair*



The timing of this event will coincide with the Museum’s next Special Exhibit about Reason Tucker and his legacy.

Shown here is a schoolbell from the Tucker School which was located on Larkmead Lane.



It's Back!!!

The Instant Wine Cellar Raffle will be back in August for its 35th year! Once again, the event will be a raffle only, with the grand prize winner receiving 5 mixed cases of premium wines from Napa Valley producers. Tickets will go on sale in May, with the actual drawing scheduled for Saturday, August 26th. As always, Event Chair Pat Larsen can use your help soliciting donations of wine. Call her at 707-341-3313 if you want to donate personally or know a producer who is willing to donate two bottles.

Pat Larsen, *Ways & Means Chair*

Gift Shoppe for Kids & Grown-ups

The Kids' Section of our Gift Shoppe seems to grow and grow - old time kaleidoscopes, bubble bottles, dominoes, art & history books, sticker books to collect, Native Indian kits, doll kits and more, more, more. Authentic arrowheads are only \$.50 each while supplies last!

And always at prices less than you will pay elsewhere. We do not have the overhead that retail outlets need to deal with. Our mission is to give you a good and sound museum experience without having to scrape for pennies. Treasure Boxes remain @ \$9.00, archival-styled pencil sharpeners still only \$5.00 each. A full line of Cardthartic Greeting Cards for any occasion, still only \$3.50.

The Sharpsteen Museum magnets and all others remain @ \$4.50. The ever-popular Tapestry bags in 3 sizes, coin purses & cases for your glasses, I just don't know where you can get this quality of product for less, in fact I know you can't.

A few months ago a sweet lady from Marin County visited the museum during a family visit to Calistoga. She bought one tapestry bag for \$17.00. Once she got home and examined the bag more closely, she recognized the quality and contacted us, asked for pictures of various tapestry patterns. (We have 10). Of course we complied and she ordered 6 more different patterns as gifts. We packed and shipped them to her charging only the exact shipping amount we paid. See how simple life can be at the Sharpsteen?

Best shopping in Calistoga. See you soon...

Becky Turner- Gift Shoppe Chair; Sierra Turner- Co-Chair



BEST OF THE BEST

Team Docent for January & February

Rose Beck	Lorne Glaim	Patricia Murphy
Jane Bennett	Marilyn Glaim	Jo Ellen Noble
Lloyd Best	Sally Houk	Lauren Thollander
Sara Boggs	Cathy Keag	Doug Webb
Emily Bucchianeri	Pat Larsen	Lamar Webb
Judith Cornils	David Lomax	Jeannie Williams
Anika Fair	Michael Mannion	Ron Yost

Interested in becoming a docent? We are always looking for smiling faces to greet visitors. Please contact Jane at (757)-536-1146. Yes, that is 757 area code, not a typo!

Calendar

Sat. May 13, 1-4 pm.

Garden Tour & Wine Tasting, Canard Vineyards. Coincides with new Special Exhibit about Reason Tucker.

Sat. May 20, 12:00-1:30 pm.

Meet the Author, Mark Gudgel- "The Rise of Napa Valley Wineries."

May 35th Annual Instant Wine Cellar Raffle Tickets go on sale. Drawing takes place August 26. Buy tickets early and often! Early Bird Special.



SHARPSTEEN MUSEUM AWARDED “BEST MUSEUM IN NAPA COUNTY”

The votes were tallied by *Northbay Bohemian* and your Sharpsteen Museum became the “Reader’s Choice” for “Best Museum of the North Bay for Napa County”! This is our 4th such distinction over years past. We have also won in the categories of Best Children’s Museum, Best Interactive Museum, and Best Educational Museum.

Voting always begins each October with the official winners unveiled the following March.

As a reminder, in 2014 we were honored by the Native Daughters of the Golden West, receiving their most coveted “Image Award”, given in recognition to businesses, organizations and individuals that portray a

positive image of California and its history. You can thank Kathy McCloskey, a member of Calistoga Parlor No. 145, for the nomination. The Award is on display at the museum.

In 2015 we were honored yet again by the Napa County Historical Society. We accepted this designation on behalf of Samuel Brannan as he was inducted into the “Napa Valley Lodging Industry Hall of Fame”. This award is found in the museum.

Twice in years past, Samuel Brannan and the museum received commemorative awards from E Clampus Vitus. Plaques adorn our outdoor garden area.

When we speak of the Sharpsteen as an award-winning museum, we mean it. Be proud. This is your museum.

IT’S BALLOT TIME AGAIN Time to Vote

The Sharpsteen’s fiscal year begins June 1, which means you need to vote for your Board of Directors covering the period June 1, 2023-June 1, 2024. Inserted within this newsletter you will find the annual 2-sided ballot. Family members are allowed 2 votes. Simply mark “Yes” or “No” for each person running and return to the museum as directed on the ballot by May 10th.

We send out over 400 ballots and we would love seeing a 75% return!

Votes will be tallied and winners announced in the June/July Newsletter.

Thank you for voting. Your ongoing support of the Sharpsteen is important to us all.



CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

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