

**Dashiell Hammett Society of Studs (DHSOS)
San Francisco International Headquarters**

Officers

President (DUH PREZ)	Bill D_____
Communications Czar (Czar)	Geoff Noakes
Procurer of Venues (PoV)	Lee Tyree
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Minutes of Meeting

Original Joe's

Thursday, April 12, 2012

A Manly Meal at Original Joe's



The DHSOS was summoned to meet by the Procurer of Venues:

As previously announced at the last gathering, we will have a manly meal at the new Original Joe's in North Beach.

The place is hot, hot, hot! I called three weeks in advance, but still could not name my time for the reservation. I was given a choice of 6:45 or 7:45. The rumor is that they did a million dollars in business the first month. I'm told by a guy who is in the restaurant business that a million in a month is unheard of in the business. Only very high end restaurants like Gary Danko can do that kind of business, and then not every month either. Joe's got rave reviews in the Sunday Chronicle two weeks ago. I had planned to start the evening with drinks somewhere other than Joe's. But after reading the article and noticing that martinis go for \$6 (not \$14, like up the street) I think we will just make a night of it at Original Joe's.

"Fabric of the City"

According to their website, Original Joe's is the quintessential, classic San Francisco dining experience. They say their restaurant has been a "fabric of the City" for 75 years, located in "the heart of the historic and majestic North Beach, a mecca for natives, tourists, and culinary aficionados alike."

Lumbering out of the darkness of the great depression, Original Joe's opened its doors in 1937. The restaurant was operated by Tony Rodin, whose legendary work ethic and love for his restaurant grew Original Joe's from a 14-stool counter to one of San Francisco's culinary landmarks. Three generations later and counting, Tony's family ensures that classic Italian-American cooking with healthy portions and reasonable prices are prepared behind its iconic counter, exhibition style, for all to see.

Bar Talk (or Not)

Joe's bar is loud, loud, loud! We were crowded around three bar stools amidst a couple hundred after-work patrons drinking \$6 cocktails and shouting. Those who weren't shouting were screeching with alcohol-fueled laughter.

One harried-looking tourist sidled up next to us, complained about the noise, and said his son had used a cell phone app to

measure the noise in the bar at 98 decibels, which is equivalent to a passing subway train at 10 feet or a gas lawn mower at 3 feet. At least that's what we thought he said, but we couldn't be sure through the noise.

There were several attractive bar patronesses nearby, so we sipped our drinks, enjoyed the scenery, and engaged in bar talk as best we could.

Semi-Round Table

We were eventually seated at a prime table, in a quiet space next to the windows. It wasn't a round table, but two of the corners had been rounded and the other two were square. It was a semi-round table.

As our faithful readers know, the DHSOS likes round tables, and this one was good enough. The DHSOS raised their glasses in a toast to the PoV for securing a hot table in a hot location in a hot restaurant.

Call to Order

At 7:42 pm, DUH PREZ banged a knife on his martini glass and called the meeting to order. All DHSOS officers were present, as was Da Burd. Da Burd sat at attention in the middle of the table and presided over the rest of the meeting. Surprisingly, no one at the restaurant commented on our feathery mascot.

Joe's Special

Joe's menu features traditional dishes and comfort food; including Joe's Special (ground beef, scrambled eggs, spinach, and cheese), Joe's Hamburger Sandwich, Liver & Onions, and Pot Roast. This is food the DHSOS can sink its fangs into, and we gladly ordered up.

Joe's Special: This San Francisco creation includes basic ingredients like scrambled eggs, mushrooms, ground beef, and spinach. To do it San Francisco style, serve it with sourdough toast.

The Rain in Spain



DUH PREZ regaled us with stories of his recent trip to Spain during Easter week (Semana Santa). He told of massive parades with floats made of silver and flowers carried on the shoulders of men, and he told of people throwing flower petals, or kneeling before the floats and touching them. He related stories of flamenco dancers, and music, and good food, and trips to small towns and major cities. And yes, he told of rains, but mainly on the plains. It sounded like a great vacation!

To the Nationals ... then Paris!

The Communication Czar updated us on his daughter's charmed life. Her ultimate frisbee team drove from Minnesota to Virginia over spring break to compete in a tournament – and came in 3rd of 16 teams! And now, Eclipse (her ultimate frisbee team) is going to NATIONALS! They went undefeated at midwest regionals, so they will be heading to Wisconsin mid-May to play for the national championship. Czar follows Eclipse's progress on Twitter at @eclipsehethedisc.

This is the same DHSOS daughter who has plans to study abroad next fall. She will be going through a program called IFE (Internships in Francophone Europe) which has offices in Paris and Brussels, and she will be one of about thirty students that will take classes for five weeks (on French

culture, history and politics) then intern for twelve weeks (a real nine-to-five job!), and end with a research paper on her findings. They assign internships based on the student's interests, and while she hasn't heard what she's going to be doing, it is definitely going to involve food (marketing, economics and/or nutrition and public policy). The program runs from August 20-December 20, and Miss K would be delighted to be a Parisian tour guide to anyone who flies across the Atlantic!

More information can be found at: <http://www.ifeparis.org/Description>

SS. Peter and Paul's

Our semi-round table overlooked Washington Square Park and the twin steeples of the beautiful Saints Peter and Paul Church. This historic church traces its original foundation to 1884, and the first location was on the corner of Filbert Street and Grant Avenue, but the San Francisco fire and earthquake of 1906 burned that structure to the ground.

The present church, with its twin lofty spires was completed in 1924. For over a century, the church of SS. Peter and Paul has served parishioners, charmed tourists, and been an inspiration to the members of the North Beach community.

The most famous event at Peter and Paul's? Well, it involved the wedding of famous San Francisco baseball player, Joe DiMaggio, but it was his marriage to Dorothy Arnold, not Marilyn Monroe (Joe and Marilyn were later married at City Hall). On November 19, 1939, 20,000 well-wishers jammed the streets of North Beach as Joe and Dorothy were married at SS Peter and Paul's church.



Entertained by Sophia



To help keep its customers shooting straight, Original Joe's installed a photo of the beautiful Sophia Loren above the urinal in the men's room. ListMan and DUH PREZ reported success doing their business while admiring the photo.

Ralph the Mouth

On Tuesday, April 10, 2012 Ralph (the Mouth) Barbieri, who had long been a fixture in Bay Area radio sports talk, was summoned into the Market Manager's office and told that he was terminated, effective "immediately." He was stunned, and after 28 years it was over in a flash. He was then escorted off the premises "like a common criminal."



Notorious San Francisco attorney (and former mayoral candidate) Angela Alioto denounced the radio station for what she deemed a wrongful termination, setting the stage for a lawsuit. Alioto said Barbieri was dismissed from the station because he is 66 years old and has Parkinson's disease, and she vehemently disputed KNBR's given reason that Barbieri was fired for showing up late.

The DHSOS was divided on this issue. Some officers couldn't stand Ralph the Mouth, while others "didn't hate him," and thought he had a good knowledge of sports and ran a good show.

Stay tuned; this should be interesting!

The PoV's New Do

The PoV is sporting a new hair-do, featuring longer locks and a part. It was admired by the group, and questions were posed. We were told it is an experiment, which will be curtailed if he receives any grief about it, or if it begins to require maintenance. "There will be no shampoo," he declared, "And no blow dryer, no styling gel, no spray, and no comb." When a golf friend asked why he was growing his hair out, the PoV responded, "Because I can." 'Nuff said.

Jury Duty

"So many people, especially in San Francisco, love to complain about everything that's going on," declared the *San Francisco Examiner*, "But what do they do? How can they do anything? Well, if you serve on the civil grand jury, you can have a voice. You can see how the government works, and you can see where something is going wrong."

The PoV is considering signing up.

The 19-member civil grand jury — required of each county under state law — convenes for a year, conducting investigations of city and county government and its agencies, and issues policy recommendations in reports. Jury service requires a commitment of around 15 hours per week.

Sonoma

DUH PREZ announced he has secured weekend accommodations in the Sonoma Wine Country for three weekends this summer (the first weekends of May, June, and July) and he invited the DHSOS to join he and his family.

The weekends are for Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. The house consists of three bedrooms plus an office with a double bed.

ListMan's Medical Situation

ListMan announced his intention to have surgery June 5. The DHSOS raised their glasses in a toast and wished him well.

Adios, Solar System

ListMan discussed the impending departure from the solar system of the Voyager spacecraft. He reported that the twin Voyager 1 and 2 spacecraft continue exploring where nothing from earth has gone before. In the 35th year after their 1977 launches, they each continue to travel away from the sun and toward the edge of the solar system. The Voyager spacecraft are now in the "heliosheath," which is the outermost layer of the heliosphere where the solar wind is slowed by the pressure of interstellar gas. Both spacecraft are sending scientific information about their surroundings through the Deep Space Network.

Baseball Weekend

Notes discussed the possibility of an out-of-town baseball weekend for the DHSOS. The dates have been set, and Notes is researching airfares, hotels, and tickets. The details:

Dates: September 28-30 (Friday - Sunday)

Location: San Diego

Games: Friday, Sept 28, 7:05 PM
Saturday, Sept 29 5:35 PM

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www.2012calendardates.com

Happy Birthday, Golden Gate Bridge

Notes announced the upcoming 75th anniversary of the Golden Gate Bridge on May 27. There will be celebrations throughout the City, culminating in a massive fireworks display over the bridge. Unlike the initial opening of the bridge and the 50th anniversary, the bridge will not be closed, and pedestrians will not be allowed on the bridge bed.

The DHSOS will be attending a play on Mt. Tamalpais that day and should be heading home across the bridge about the time the fireworks begin. It should be quite a sight!

Adjournment

It had been an enjoyable evening with an appropriate mix of fine food, good drink, and noble friends. Outside the restaurant a terrific rainstorm raged while we dined, and there were several bright flashes of lightening and loud claps of thunder. Shortly after the waiter brought our check, the power went out in the restaurant and in the neighborhood.

So we paid the check in the dark, issued hearty handshakes all around, and walked out into the stormy, black night.

That's it for now, man.

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