

**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
AgendaMeister (ListMan)	Ken Monk
Archivist of Knowledge (Notes)	Dale Fehringer

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Minutes of Meeting

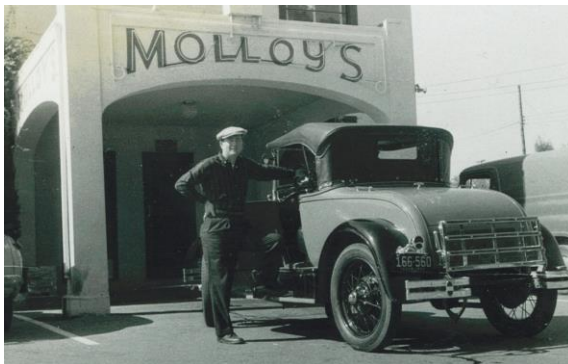
Molloy's and Original Joe's of Westlake

Wednesday, June 22, 2016

Dive Bars and Diners

The DHSOS likes to meet at places our wives wouldn't set foot in. In this case, we succeeded -- the dive bar in which we drank Guinness and the refurbished diner in Daly City are not on our spouses' list of must-goes. But they fit us and it was another sterling meeting of the DHSOS.

Molloy's



As instructed, the officers of the DHSOS convened at Molloy's, an Irish pub amidst the tombstones of Colma, California -- a city that has more dead than alive. As the PoV noted, Molloy's has been in existence for 90 years, all in the same family. He also pointed out that it is a very casual place, and a patron of Molloy's substantiated that as he led his German Shepard past us and told the dog not to get its fur on our "suits." The PoV said some would call it a dive bar, but he thinks of it as more of a Cheers bar, where everyone knows each other. We did see lots of casual

dress, casual conversation, and casual tattoos. And everyone in the joint (including us) was drinking Guinness or Jameson's. .

And, as the PoV noted, the place is a museum, with all sorts of pictures and stuff on the walls. A quick tour verified that, and it was interesting to note an entire wall dedicated to Emperor Norton, and a framed newspaper headlined "World War II Over!" next to another headlined "49ers Beat Miami!"

There were several conversations during our time at Molloy's, but the most memorable one concerned a recent accomplishment by the AgendaMeister, who scored a hole-in-one last weekend at the Laguna Seca Golf Course in Monterrey. He was modest about his success, but the PoV, who witnessed the event, said it was fantastic and reported that it gave "goose-bumps" to one of the women in their foursome. The rest of the DHSOS acknowledged the feat and toasted it.

Original Joe's of Westlake

Following Molloy's, we adjourned to another place our wives wouldn't frequent -- the recently-refurbished Original Joe's of Westlake. We had been there before, but it's been spiffed up since, and we liked what they did to the place. The PoV secured a nice, semi-round booth (it's great to have

connections!), and we were able to sit, relax, and enjoy our big, cheap meals, our big, cheap wine, and each other's company.

Call to Order

DUH PREZ called the meeting to order with a rap on his water glass at 8:25 PM, the latest call-to-order in the society's history. All officers were present and Lil Burd, the plastic offspring of Da Burd, joined us for dinner.

Dub Nation



Well, this was supposed to be the point where we relished another Warriors NBA

championship, and where we retold playoff highlights with glowing smiles. But alas, there was gloom surrounding the topic, following the Warriors loss to the Cavaliers in seven games. There was talk of injuries to Steph Curry, and grumblings of maybe some players weren't up to the challenge, but all agreed that LeBron James was truly a force to be reckoned with, and that he was probably the single biggest reason the Warriors did not repeat. And all agreed that the Warriors have created a new type of basketball -- spreading out the offense, using the whole court, unselfish passing, and canning three-point shots from virtually anywhere. It was a disappointing ending to a remarkable season.

Credit Card and Income Tax Fraud

The PoV reported that his household has had several occurrences of fraudulent use of their credit cards, and he asked if others had similar experiences. He also lamented the fact that many of us now have recurring payments tied to our credit cards, which are affected each time a card is cancelled and replaced. And DUH PREZ reported that his social security information was used to file a false income tax last year.

Fraud is a frequent and nearly-unpreventable occurrence these days, but the Federal Trade Commission has a few things that can be done to minimize it:

- Don't give your account number to anyone on the phone unless you've made the call to a company you know to be reputable. If you've never done business with them before, do an online search first for reviews or complaints.
- Carry your cards separately from your wallet. It can minimize your losses if someone steals your wallet or purse. And carry only the card you need for that outing.
- During a transaction, keep your eye on your card. Make sure you get it back before you walk away.
- Never sign a blank receipt. Draw a line through any blank spaces above the total.
- Save your receipts to compare with your statement.
- Open your bills promptly — or check them online often — and reconcile them with the purchases you've made.
- Report any questionable charges to the card issuer.
- Notify your card issuer if your address changes or if you will be traveling.
- Don't write your account number on the outside of an envelope.

Libations at Drakesbad

It's never too early to start planning drink assignments at Drakesbad, and the DHSOS started tonight. Here's what we decided:

Sunday: McFerries
Monday: Diefendoodles
Tuesday: Noakesters
Wednesday: Kidsters
Thursday: Tyroonies
Friday: Lynn, Barb, Sam
Saturday: Monksters

Irish Coffees



The Czar recently returned from Dublin, Ireland, where he attended a business conference, enjoyed a couple of pints of Guinness, and heard

what he believes to be the true origin of Irish coffee. After he carefully related it, there was a good deal of head-bobbing among the DHSOS, and DUH PREZ was heard to exclaim that he is "totally supportive of that story."

The Czar reports that the story he heard is very similar to the one on Wikipedia:

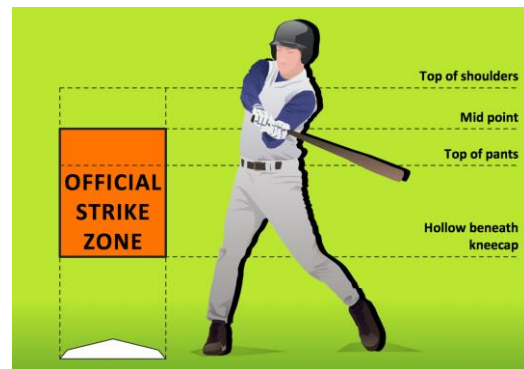
Although different variations of coffee cocktails pre-date the now-classic Irish coffee by at least 100 years, the original Irish coffee was invented and named by Joe Sheridan, a head chef in Foynes, County Limerick but originally from Castlederg, County Tyrone. The coffee was conceived after a group of American passengers disembarked from a Pan Am flying boat on a miserable winter evening in the 1940s. Sheridan added whiskey to the coffee to warm the passengers. After the passengers asked if they were being served Brazilian coffee, Sheridan told them it was "Irish coffee".

Stanton Delaplane, a travel writer for the San Francisco Chronicle, brought Irish coffee to the United States after drinking it at Shannon Airport, when he worked with the Buena Vista Cafe in San Francisco to start serving it on November 10, 1952, and worked with the bar owners Jack Koeppler and George Freeberg to recreate the Irish method for floating the cream on top of the coffee, sampling the drink one night until he nearly passed out. The group also sought help from the city's then mayor, George Christopher, who owned a dairy and suggested that cream aged at least 48 hours would be more apt to float. Delaplane popularized the drink by mentioning it frequently in his travel column, which was widely read throughout America.

Cabo Planning

Plans are being made for a week-long vacation next February in Cabo, Mexico. Dates and a house have been secured, and the PoV reviewed airline possibilities. Notes agreed to contact a chef, and the PoV agreed to research rental car options. Our spouses will be assigned to find and secure reservations at local restaurants. Everyone is looking forward to what will undoubtedly be a wonderful time in Cabo!

Baseball: Changes Coming?



The baseball season is nearing the mid-point, and the Giants are doing well so far (the A's not-so-much.) Listman originated discussions on two baseball-related topics, which the rest of us found compelling (or not).

According to ESPN, A new strike zone could be on baseball's horizon and the old-fashioned intentional walk could be a thing of the past after both were agreed to by the competition committee at Major League Baseball's owners meetings this week, sources said. Changes could be in effect by next season.

The committee agreed on a motion to effectively raise the lower part of the strike zone to the top of the hitter's knees, sources said. The current rules stipulate that the zone begins at "the hollow beneath the kneecap," but the change is a reaction to a trend by umpires to call strikes on an increasing number of pitches below the knees.

The change in the intentional-walk rule would end the traditional practice of requiring the pitcher to lob four balls outside the strike zone. Instead, a team could signify it wants to issue an intentional walk, and the hitter would be immediately sent to first base, sources said.

The two changes can't go into effect unless they are approved by baseball's playing rules committee, which is chaired by New York Mets general manager Sandy Alderson and made up of a cross-section of baseball executives. Sources said the changes would also be presented to the MLB Players Association as part of negotiations for a new labor agreement. However, the playing rules committee isn't required to have the union sign off on the changes. So they could take effect next season whether or not the union agrees to them.

Both changes are designed to address concerns by commissioner Rob Manfred and others about pace of play and one of the commissioner's favorite terms, "pace of action." The end of the traditional intentional walk would eliminate dead time. However, the adjustment in the strike zone is designed to produce more balls in play, more baserunners and more action at a time when nearly 30 percent of hitters in the average game either walk or strike out, the highest rate of "non-action" in history

The question of whether some teams are intentionally building bad rosters in order to improve their standing in subsequent drafts – “tanking” is the term some use -- was raised and for the most part dismissed. It has been discussed at a recent Major League Baseball owners meeting, and steps are being taken to prevent it.

Auto Racing

The PoV and his roomie recently won the bid for an Audi high speed driving experience at Sonoma race track. They attended a pre-driving seminar with a much younger group of fellow drivers, who “were dying to know how old we were,” but who

later were “quite impressed with how we did.” According to the PoV, the high speed driving experience was a thrill, and he would do it again. His wife did extremely well, as did he, and he rode in the car with her and did not yell at her once.

The Twins are Coming to Town

The PoV reported that his 15-year-old twin grand-nephews are coming to San Francisco in August, and he has quite a schedule of activities planned for them. Among the planned activities are:

- > Giants baseball game
- > Tour of Alcatraz
- > Cable car ride
- > Lombard Street
- > Pier 39
- > Aquarium
- > Exploratorium
- > K1 Race Cars
- > Sailing on the Ruby

Diving with the Sharks



DUH PREZ reported on his recent scuba diving experience in the aquarium at Pier 39 “among the sharks.” He had a date along (Miss Patty) and he was quite proud of himself for returning with all his fingers and toes. Although he regrets the “big build-up,” to the dive, he also reported that he loved the experience. Among his admirers on hand as witnesses were friends, other DHSOS officers, and their wives.

School Activities

In our flash-back section, ListMan asked what school activities the DHSOS engaged in. Here's a partial list:

- > Four square
- > Kickball
- > Dodgeball
- > Marbles
- > Hopscotch
- > Jumping rope
- > Trading baseball cards
- > Work-up
- > Over the Line
- > Annie Over
- > Capture the Flag

Adjournment

It had been a stellar evening, with an appropriate mix of good drinks, cheap food, and noble friends. We said our good-nights, issued hearty fist bumps all around, and walked off into the foggy Daly City night.

