



Major New Planning Studies Ahead for Waterfront

By JUNE A. OSTERBERG

A vastly important new approach to how San Francisco's great waterfront should develop is at hand.

The Port and the BCDC are in the process of undertaking "specified Planning Studies" that will have far-reaching consequences for the City's historic waterfront.

The need for a comprehensive new plan emerged earlier this year because the Port's major Cruise Terminal project had to obtain the approval of the SF Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC) to proceed. Some elements of the project required amendments to the BCDC's 2000 Special Area Plan.

IT WAS IN the course of obtaining approval of the new terminal's becoming the *primary* cruise terminal (succeeding the long-serving Pier 35) when finished in 2014, and other matters, that realizations about current planning occurred.

Staffs of both agencies could see in the many fast-moving events taking place on the waterfront, that there was an opportunity for the two entities which oversee the waterfront--the Port an arm of the City, and BCDC a State agency--to *take a new look at what should happen.*

The two staffs have been working together to develop a work plan and process to carry out the Planning Studies. This involves identifying key stakeholders, contacting them, and convening a Working Group which will have its first meeting in January.

Waterfront residents take note.

THE PORT'S October 4 Memorandum stated in addressing Planning Study issues, "may yield new insights and an advanced understanding of the requirements for waterfront development that inform amendments or updates to the Port's Waterfront Land Use Plan and BCDC's SAP.

The BCDC Staff Report stated:

"Over the last decade, the San Francisco waterfront has undergone a



TAKING SHAPE—Construction of the America's Cup headquarters, which later will become the City's new Cruise Terminal, is moving forward on schedule and has triggered a massive new study of the Waterfront affecting the BCNA in a major way.

Exploratorium Set to Make Big Move April 17

By JUNE A. OSTERBERG

The Exploratorium, born in San Francisco, ran out of space in its historic Palace of Fine Arts location years ago. It sought a new home for years before deciding to relocate at Pier 15 on San Francisco's legendary waterfront.

Now it is almost home-free, bigger than ever at 300,000 sq. ft., and set to open on The Embarcadero April 17.

MOVING TO a new place with its 600 exhibits is a daunting undertaking, but the hands-on scientific institution is up to the task, and has been successful in fund-raising for the Port lease and move, as well.

Exploratorium executives have announced that 80 per cent of the funding needed is in hand, having raised \$250 million of the \$300 million needed for the relocation and huge renovation of old Pier 15.

Because of its prestige there was a minimum of opposition to The Exploratorium's conversion of Pier 15. In fact, many people appreciate that one of the waterfront's trademark finger piers is saved. And glad that the Exploratorium occupied the grand old

Palace for 44 years.

The unique museum will remain open there through the holidays, closing January 2 for the big move.

FOR THOSE new to the City, The Exploratorium is a museum of science, art, and human perception.

"Following your curiosity and asking questions can lead to amazing moments of discovery, learning, and awareness, and can increase confidence in your ability to understand how the world works," according to Exploratorium leaders.

The Exploratorium hosts hundreds of explore-for-yourself exhibits; a Web site with more than 25,000 pages of content; film screenings; workshops for lifelong learners, including day camps for kids and family investigations; evening art and even science events for adults.

THE FACT that The Exploratorium has raised more than \$250 million is testimony to their excellence. They also create professional development programs for educators, and are at the forefront of changing the way science is taught worldwide.

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New Planning Studies Ahead for Waterfront

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number of changes. There are more public spaces, more restaurant and retail, better views and public access, and many areas that the public could not access are now popular, well-loved spaces."

THE REPORT stated that concerns had been created that, "rather than being comprehensively planned, the waterfront is being planned with a project-by-project approach.

"Rather than projects fitting into a well-considered network of open space, Bay views and public access and adhering to comprehensive approaches to parking, transportation and historic preservation, some people believe these issues are being addressed as an afterthought."

The two point persons are BCDC Senior Planner Lindy Lowe and Diane Oshima, Asst. Deputy Director, Planning and Development, for the Port. They are engaged in identifying broad categories and topics and likely stakeholders for the Working Group.

The timetable is as follows:

January: Staffs will present background and overview material, including the objectives of the planning process and needed outcomes. An analysis of the shed condition and elevation. The costs and opportunities for various strategies, including rehabilitation and re-use or removal of all or a portion of the piers and sheds, will be presented.

February-December 2013: Bi-monthly meetings. Topics and issues to be addressed will include:

(1) waterfront public spaces, Bay views and recreation (including public access, open water basins, shed removal, public plazas, water-oriented recreations) - two meetings;

(2) financing strategies for public improvements and historic resource preservation;

(3) historic resources and the Embarcadero Historic District;

(4) transportation and parking;

(5) Fisherman's Wharf public plaza and open water basin opportunities;



WHARF CHANGES—The Port and BCDC are undertaking a major planning effort that will affect many parts of the Northeast Waterfront, including Fisherman's Wharf, where improvements are already underway, including a major rebuild of Pier 33.

New Water View Replaces Pier 1/2 Near Ferry Building

By JUNE A. OSTERBERG

Pier 1/2, the Port's first pier north of the Ferry Building, has been demolished as planned. The area consists of about 25,000 square feet of open water not seen for a very long time.

Onlookers may stand at a new guardrail on the new wharf and see a part of San Francisco Bay up close. Motorcycles may resume parking where indicated.

As the demolition took place the debris was brought by barges onshore

NE SF Book Club Invites Members

The Lily Hitchcock Coit Literary Society, a well established and successful book club, meets every second Monday of the month for dinner and discussion. Locations of the meetings rotate around the area.

Novels and non-fiction are picked from Award Winning Books. To join please call Carol Peterson 415-956-7817.

(6) opportunities for an open water basin at Piers 29-33 or other site between Piers 35 and China Basin, and
(7) current and future Port projects and development plans.

The Working Group will provide regular updates to the Port Commission and BCDC.

The last goal is listed as "a strategy for maintaining the integrity of the Embarcadero Historic District."

at Pier 96 to separate materials, then sent off to landfill.

Pier 1/2 did not resemble the old piers that have been vanishing, since it did not have a shed. It was a flat open space long used for parking vehicles before it was red-tagged in 2008 because of severe deterioration and consequently unsafe even to walk upon.

At the end Pier 1/2's removal was tied to two other major developments along the waterfront that BCNA Record has been reporting--the America's Cup activities in 2013 and later, the Downtown SF Ferry Terminal Expansion Project (See Fall Issue 2011).

In the case of AC34 Pier 1/2 was on the list of Port Capital Projects "prior to 2013" events in the Lease Disposition Agreement between the City acting through the Port and the America's Cup Event Authority.

Under the LDA the Port agreed to undertake "several infrastructure requirements to support Venues programmed for Port waterfront facilities, including public access, to meet BCDC's permitting requirements."

In the long-range plan for the Ferry Building Expansion, the area that Pier 1/2 formerly occupied next to Pier 1 will be an open space with covered walkway Ferry Gate A for ferry passengers.

This is a project of WETA, the Water Emergency Transportation Authority, and will be completed in 2020.

8 Washington Foes Get A Break—But How Long?

After turning in more than 31,000 signatures in late July to get the “Stop the Wall on the Waterfront” referendum on the ballot, supporters of the Golden Gateway Tennis and Swim Club and those fighting luxury condo development have a little time to take a breath.

But how much time is now the question. Initially, because of the timing of the Board of Supervisors’ votes on the 8 Washington project, it was thought the referendum would go on to the November 2013 ballot.

BUT ON NOV. 8, foes of embattled Sheriff Ross Mirkarimi announced they were starting an effort to oust him from office. If they succeed in getting the 50,000 signatures needed for a recall petition quickly, there could be a special election scheduled for June 2013. It’s then possible that could also be the voters’ judgment day for 8 Washington.

In an attempt to get the Board of Supervisors to reverse their initial 8-3 vote approving the 8 Washington development, the Board had a chance at a “do-over” at their Sept. 4 meeting. No Supervisors switched sides, despite an impassioned plea by Board President David Chiu that indicated that the City could save one to two million dollars if the referendum did not have to go to the voters.

HOW? The “dirty trick” that the City and the developer’s lobbyists used to try to thwart the referendum signature gathers, now will require a 500+ page reprinting of the entire issue in the Voter Information Guides for the City.

The pro-8 Washington folks wanted to make it as hard as possible on the referendum signature gatherers, requiring they tote around the entire 500+ page piece of legislation with every signature obtained. Now that same phone book-size document will be a part of the election documents.

CHIU ALSO presented the results of a survey done by referendum supporters indicating that City wide, the voters are two-to-one against the increased height allowed for the 8 Washington project. In October, a second poll was reportedly undertaken by pro-development forces that asked the same basic question: “Would you vote to raise height limits along the waterfront from 84’ to 136’ to

build 8 Washington” and the results were practically identical to the earlier poll. About 56% NO and 25% YES.

“It’s hard to imagine how the developer can reverse that,” said Coalition Consultant Brad Paul.

AT THE SAME TIME, the slow wheels of justice are grinding along on the issue of the anti-8 Washington Coalition’s lawsuit against the City and the developer for shirking environmental law when the “Northeast Embarcadero Study” was used as a basis for development deals at Seawall Lot 351.

“We have all our briefs in and are just waiting for a court date,” said Coalition Attorney Susan Brandt-Hawley. “It could be a few months, or even a year before we get to present our oral arguments. There is no specific court timetable or deadline for appeals,” she added.

ALSO STILL on the “front burner” is a request for an investigation into whether Port of San Francisco officials misused city resources for political purposes.

“No Wall on the Waterfront” campaign chairman Jon Golinger sent a letter Sept. 19 to City Attorney Dennis Herrera requesting that he investigate the claims, providing him with an Aug. 6 email sent by Port Commission President Doreen Woo Ho to Port Director Monique Moyer.

Golinger wrote that Ho’s email “is an apparent violation of California state law prohibiting City agency officials

from using public resources to oppose ballot measures or engage in unauthorized political campaign activity.”

Ho, a Mayor Ed Lee appointee, emailed Moyer requesting Port staff “recommend to the commission how we can help defeat this ballot measure and what strategy/structure can we employ within proper guidelines,” according to Golinger’s letter.

IN RESPONSE, Moyer replied via her City email account: “Yes, we are talking about that and how to handle the litigation although we have to defer to the City Attorney on the latter.”

Both the City Attorney’s office and the Port declined to comment officially. “We cannot confirm nor deny the existence of an investigation,” Herrera’s spokesman Jack Song said in an email to *The Record*. However, other sources have indicated that this investigation is “progressing.”

AND IF THE “Stop the Wall” referendum succeeds in overturning the Board of Supervisors project approval, (whether the vote is in June or November) what happens then?

“My understanding is that the developers would have to start completely over with a new project and go through the whole approval process again,” said Paul. “A new Environmental Impact Report (EIR), new hearings at the Planning Commission, new hearings at the Board of Supervisors, etc.”

This could take some time, to say the least—if the developers don’t decide to throw in the towel.



8 WASHINGTON’S HEIGHT ISSUE—Allowing this controversial project to exceed the 84-foot height limit for the development parcel opened the door for 8 Washington foes to let voters decide the issue as a referendum, the first in nearly 50 years.

Piers 19 & 23 Added To America's Cup Location Arsenal

Piers 19 and 23 on the northeast waterfront are among Port properties being turned over to the America's Cup for their use in 2013 activities.

Regarding Pier 19, the Port project allows AC34 the use of the pier's south apron, the area between Piers 17 and 19, when repairs are completed.

The work at the south apron is comprehensive, according to Jonathan Stern, Asst. Deputy Director, Waterfront Development, at the Port.

Repairs needed include replacement of asphalt, compound beams, cap beams, piles, stringers and decking. New plastic fender piles also are being installed, according to Stern.

Turner Construction Company was to purchase the piles for the project, and the Port Maintenance Staff is performing the construction.

The upgrades that Pier 23 required were limited to electrical utilities, and America's Cup staff already are occupying the pier and have set up for the expected turnout of Media for coverage for worldwide attention.

BCNA To Hold Sunday Social Event At Tosca

Another fun-filled and informative Sunday Social is set for Dec. 2 at Tosca Bar at 242 Columbus Ave.

Hours are from 4-6 pm.

The BCNA will be providing complimentary appetizers, and Tosca will offer \$5.00 well drinks \$2.00 beers. (Cash only please)

Also on the program a presentation from NEXT Village San Francisco.

NVSF is a grassroots organization founded by community members and part of a nationwide movement to help senior citizens remain in their homes and communities as they age.

NVSF is focused on several areas including the Barbary Coast.

No need to RSVP. BCNA members and friends are welcome to attend. See you there!



AWAITING A SPRING DEBUT—The new Exploratorium is shown in this rendering featuring a new glass-clad Observation Center, and a refurbished Pier shed.

Affordable Housing Policy Adopted by Port

By JUNE A. OSTERBERG

BCNA members and others may recall that a new policy, "Affordable Housing Development on Port Non-Trust Property," was unveiled by the Port at a NEWAG (Northeast Waterfront Advisory Group) meeting about a year ago.

It soon became apparent that the Mayor's Office of Housing was interested in the concept and especially in Seawall Lot 322.1 at Broadway and Front Street, a controversial site. (*BCNA Record, Winter 2012*)

(Earlier, a hotel project had been proposed for on the adjacent lot and was successfully opposed by waterfront residents and ultimately withdrawn.)

NOW THE key words "non-Trust" assumed particular importance. No problem. Action could be taken by the Mayor's Office for a project in which Mayor Edwin Lee was keenly interested.

Clearly, for Trust property to be developed it must be removed from the Public Trust, thereby facilitating the Port's efforts to create affordable housing on SWL 322.1.

This can be done quite easily by legislative action, and thus parallel efforts were embarked upon in the City and at the State level.

Legislation was crafted by the Port and MOH to amend the City's Jobs-Housing Linkage Ordinance at the Board of Supervisors. The Ordinance requires developers of commercial space to pay fees to fund affordable

housing. Supervisor Jane Kim was willing to act at the Board.

SUPERVISOR Kim introduced proposed amendments that would permit the Port to offer locations that are suitable for affordable housing, such as SWL 322.1, at below market rates, in exchange for credits against affordable housing fees owed by the Port in conjunction with development elsewhere on Port property.

Supervisors passed the amendments, authorizing the Port and MOH to enter into an agreement for the lease of Port property suitable for these purposes.

The Port then can lease the land at below market rent for up to 66 years to MOH and would receive credits for the difference between market rent and the below market rent that MOH and the Port agree on.

THE PORT would be authorized to use these credits to prepay JHLP for future private development on Port lands, including such sites as Pier 70. The Port happens to have a large public/private project under way at Pier 70.

Assemblyman Tom Ammiano sponsored AB 2649 in Sacramento. This legislation permits the Port to offer Port land that is free of Public Trust use restrictions for these affordable housing purposes.

It also lifts the Public Trust restrictions associated with SWL 322.1 after local analysis and community processes are completed. AB 2649 passed and has been signed by Governor Jerry Brown.

Any questions?

Teatro ZinZanni Puts Emphasis on SoCal

It always takes longer to get things approved in San Francisco than elsewhere, especially if you are talking about putting an antique Belgian tent on one of the most visible spots along the Embarcadero.

Earlier this year, representatives of Teatro ZinZanni gave several community outreach presentations in the hopes of gaining consensus for their development plans for their new location at Broadway and the Embarcadero. (They lost their old location at Pier 29 due to America's Cup and Cruise Terminal development.)

Although most Barbary Coasters seem to view Teatro positively, when the matter of the location of their proposed kitchen came up, plus the issue of the nondescript style of the modular buildings around the tent, many local residents wanted Teatro to go back to the drawing board.

Meanwhile, Teatro is putting all its emphasis on its newest touring production which opened October 24 at the Segerstrom Center for the Arts in Costa Mesa, CA.

By mid-November, principals of Teatro ZinZanni will be back in San Francisco to pick up where they left off regarding design proposals for their new Broadway location, according to Managing Director Susan Outlaw.

Commonwealth Club—To Be A New Neighbor

The Commonwealth Club has purchased their own building.

The civic organization has purchased 110 Embarcadero for \$5.5 million, and plans to rehab the space to include multiple auditoriums and meeting spaces, club offices, reception spaces, a members café and roof deck and sky garden.

An additional \$5.5 million to \$6 million would be spent on refurbishing the building.

The club, which was founded in 1903 and hosts debates and lectures, recently has been located within a

shared building at 595 Market.

110 Embarcadero was once to be developed into a new "hanging garden" Pelli Clarke Pelli 123-foot tall office building. But that got shot down by preservationists who said the former home of Local 38-79 of the International Longshoremen's Association was historic.

Steve Chen Becomes Central Police Station Representative

BCNA Board Member Steve Chen has been named official representative to the Central Police Station, and will meet with them monthly.



"We want to get feedback from those in our neighborhood on quality of life and crime issues," said Chen. "And also suggested recommendations we can provide to the Central Station."

If you have any quality of life/crime issues and recommendations on how to have the Central Station best address these issues, please email you comments to: stephenschen@gmail.com

He will organize the comments and bring them up to the San Francisco Police.

Embarcadero Center Owner Is New Transbay Tower Partner

Boston Properties, the company that owns our nearby Embarcadero Center, has become a partner to develop the 1,000-foot Transbay Tower.

The real estate investment trust announced that it had formed a 50/50 joint venture with Hines to build the 1.4 million square foot tower at 101 First St.

The partnership expects to close on the \$190 million land acquisition in the first quarter of 2013.

Boston Properties President Douglas Linde said the tower would likely be completed in 2017.

It's Time For YOU To Join The

BARBARY COAST NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Yes, I want to JOIN OR RENEW my membership in the Barbary Coast Neighborhood Association for 2013. I have enclosed my check made payable to the BCNA corresponding to my membership type.

Name _____

Address _____

San Francisco, CA Zipcode _____ Phone _____

Email Address _____

@ _____

Please Mail To:
BCNA
640 Davis Street #28
San Francisco, CA 94111



(Please Clip and Mail)

Type of Membership:

- Individual Membership..... \$25
- Family Membership..... \$35
- Small Company Membership
(Fewer than 10 employees)..... \$50
- Large Company Membership
(10 or more employees)..... \$150

Additional Contribution \$ _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____

June
Osterberg's

On The Waterfront

Allowing the five-member Port Commission to continue for prolonged periods without appointing anyone to the fifth position seems to have become a not-laudable tradition of San Francisco mayors.

But of course passing out political plums takes a little longer in this much-changed old town.

BCNA

Let's talk about sea level rise, a much more worrisome situation in our time.

Fortunately, the BCDC can be counted on to inform its Commissioners and the public at large about the threat and try to come to grips with what's ahead for people who live near an ocean and on a big bay.

On September 21st the Joint Policy Committee of the BCDC adopted a work plan developed by BCDC and ABAG, the Association of Bay Area Governments, to develop a regional sea level rise strategy that incorporates seismic hazards and emergency response issues.

BCDC and ABAG staffs will lead the effort in collaboration with the Metropolitan Transportation Commission and the Bay Area Air Quality Management District, according to the October 26 BCDC staff report.

A briefing outlining the work plan was presented to BCDC at its November 1 meeting. Those concerned probably could learn more about it and the projections on BCDC's website: www.bcdc.ca.gov.

Not to lie awake at night about, but not a laughing matter, either.

BCNA

Many waterfront dwellers keep an eye on the Bay to enjoy the sight of ships passing by. (Living near the water has delights as well as uncertainties.)

This is about the maiden call of the Norwegian Pearl, which took place when the Norwegian Cruise Line's ship docked at Pier 35 September 25th as part of a voyage from Vancouver to Los Angeles.

The occasion was marked by the Port when Executive Director Monique Moyer presented the ship's Captain Idar Hoydal with a plaque. In an elegant exchange Captain Hoydal gave one to her, too.

BCNA

Although the final vote tally is not official, it looks as if those opposed to the 8 Washington development may have picked up at least one supporting vote at the Board of Supervisors. London Breed, the apparent Supervisor-elect in District 5 and a so-called "moderate," has been quoted as saying she is against the 8 Washington development.

BCNA

On the Waterfront is pleased to carry news of the vestiges of glory days of shipping, shipbuilding, and ship repair that remain and are functioning.

The Port still has excellent people promoting world trade, for instance, and there still are facilities for such activities on the southern waterfront.



The Sea Princess coming into Pier 70 dry-dock. Photo—Dave Rauenbuehler, Port of SF

Therefore, we note the local arrival of the Princess Cruises' Sea Princess, which came into the Port's fine big dry-dock at Pier 70 in September for a 10-day refit.

Work on the main propulsion system and bow-thrusters went on, together with hull preparation and painting, as well as an upgrade and overhaul of the ship's life safety equipment.

All this work kept hundreds of skilled union shipyard workers busy around-the-clock for 10 days. BAE Systems San Francisco Ship Repair operates this Port property marine asset.

BCNA

BCNA members and ferry riders probably have noticed and wondered about unusual construction going on behind the Ferry Building. It is the BART San Francisco Ferry Plaza Barrier Project --the installation of barriers to protect BART facilities.

There will be 27 barriers in place when the nine-month job is done, and it is well under way. A great many people will have noticed that pedestrian detours are sometimes necessary.

It was explained that "as with many facilities in major cities, adding protection is now a prudent practice...to protect public assets."

BART anticipates commencing construction on a future marine project in the fall of 2013.

P.S. after "just the facts." Some mature residents may remember that in the prolonged building of BART many decades ago, there was a little whimsy. Some wag suggested that a train connection in the East Bay should be named Humphrey GoBART.

Evidently locals were tired of the impact of construction, and the idea went nowhere.

Bill Sauro's **RESTAURANT ROUNDUP**

Levi's Plaza has a new lunch spot: **Parlor 1255**, a "creamery and eatery" from former Bungalow 44 sous chef Kait Bauman. The space is very small—a glass-encased lunch counter backed by a wall of barn wood with stenciled-on signage. The menu has about a dozen sandwiches served on Acme bread (including a lobster roll with celery and lemon aioli, a Parmesan-crust Gouda grilled cheese with poached figs, and a pork belly with cucumber kimchi and chicharones from 4505 Meats, four salads, six types of froyo (like dulce de leche, pumpkin, and Straus vanilla), and five smoothies. They're doing breakfast too, with "a menu of smoothies and breakfast sandwiches, including one that features "homemade bacon." 1255 Battery St. (415) 249-0802.

It won't be open until next year, but normally "fancy" Michael Mina Group has taken quite a culinary departure — casual, with an Indian twist coming to "restaurant row" on Steuart Street. It's to be called **The Company Bar & Kitchen** in the former Shanghai 1930 space. Veteran Sommelier Rajat Parr is heading up the new concept. The 5,200-square-foot space will seat 130 guests. East Indies-inspired cocktails and contemporary Indian small plates will be on the menu. 133 Steuart St.

I guess we can't get enough of those food trucks! Get ready for even more **Off the**

Grid, in North Beach Wednesday nights (5-9 p.m.) The fun started October 24. The seemingly unstoppable food truck market will bring a rotating group of eight trucks and live music to Joe DiMaggio Playground every week. Off The Grid now has a network of more than 70 different vendors! 661 Lombard St. www.offthegridsf.com

From NY to SF! The Big Apple's **Rosa Mexicano** is now open in the One Market building. The 211-seat restaurant features indoor tables, an outdoor patio, a private dining room, and an expansive bar area. Although technically a "chain" with ten locations open or planned, Rosa Mexicano is aiming for a higher level of decor, service and food, according to their spokesman. 30 Mission St. 415-874-4300. www.rosamexicano.com

Although we normally only feature traditional sit-down restaurants in this column, we need to make an exception for a cool new spot at the Ferry Building—**Biscuit Bender**. Owner Van Dao started selling his goods on a folding table inside the Ferry Building. After expanding to provide his indulgent "biscuit pastries" to spots like Mission Cheese and Hollow Cafe, he now has his own proper kiosk, located across the hall from Blue Bottle Coffee. Biscuits (\$1.50-7.50) range from sweet to

savory, with a frequently changing menu. Dao also serves classic buttermilk for those who want to play it safe, or you can choose to go crazy with sandwich creations like an open-faced pulled pork with bourbon glaze. Dao has added house-made jams, fruit butters, and drinks to this new venture. 1 Ferry Building.

That most European of venues in our area, Belden Place, has several new restaurants. First there's **Darn Good Food (DFN)** which serves reasonably priced breakfast, lunch and dinners. "Slow food—fast," is their motto. 322 Kearny (415) 402.5209. www.darngoodfood.com. Then there's **Sauce**, actually their second location. Nice American comfort food, open for lunch and dinner. 56 Belden Place. (415) 397-8800. www.saucesf.com.

Reveille Coffee—The truck that has been serving up a mean Four Barrel drip for almost two years now in Jackson Square is opening a spiffy bricks and motor spot very close to it's current location. The day will start with assorted breakfast pastries made from scratch in the mornings. Lunch options will move into "simply prepared seasonal antipastas and sandwiches." The menu will start small and grow as the cafe does. Regulars at the truck should note that the truck location will stay put at Sansome and Pacific Streets. 222 Columbus. www.reveillecoffee.com.

Turkish Treasures at Machka

By Carol Peterson

Having spent two weeks in Istanbul recently, I was delighted to hear that an upscale Turkish restaurant has opened in our neighborhood. Dropping by Machka, I had hopes that the food would be as scrumptious as the wonderful treats we had in Turkey. I was not disappointed.

Machka is an intimate restaurant with high stools around square tables. The best seats, however, are at the bar, where all the action takes place. We were able to watch the jovial cook, Jose Luis, work hard behind the bar, preparing one dish after another, making it all look like magic.

On our second visit to Machka, we met the owner, Farshad Owji. Although he is not Turkish, his wife is. They lived in Turkey for 10 years and Farshad grew to love the food.

The menu at Machka is small and enticing. The **Pistachio Crusted Goat Cheese**, with caramelized onions, golden raisins and wild flower honey comes with toasted, slender bread slices. I or-

dered the **Golden and Red Beet Salad** because I love beets, but I was surprised at how well prepared and delectable it was. The plate has a thin layer of feta cream, topped with small bed of arugula. Baby beets are layered with cucumbers, with a sprinkle of pistachios and drizzled with aromatic orange blossom vinaigrette: a unique dish.

Those in search of an authentic Turkish salad, will want to try the **Fat-toush Salad**. It's airy and fresh and just the way I remember this classic from Istanbul.

There is no way you can go to a Turkish restaurant without trying the kabobs. We tried quite a few, but the winner is the **Adana Kebab**. This is marinated ground beef and lamb, onions, garlic, parsley and served with Turkish herbed fries.

Among the entrees the best for us was the succulent **Grilled Marinated Lamb Rack**, served with sautéed spinach, feta potatoes gratin and whole grain mustard sauce. The presentation

is beautiful, the meat cooked perfectly, the potatoes rich and buttery and the mustard sauce, pungent and tangy.

Of course we couldn't leave the restaurant without dessert and had to try their **Kunefe**—shredded filo dough with orange blossom syrup poured over the top, accompanied by almond coconut ice cream.... Exactly like we had in Turkey.

Farhad told me when he decided to go into the restaurant business, he did so with the attitude he was "raising the bar," and there would be no shortcuts in his restaurant. "If there is one bit of burn on the toast, it is thrown out," he told me. "Nothing is to be compromised to make this a very successful restaurant." I believe him and look forward to a gastro-nomic return to Turkey every time we eat at this intriguing new restaurant.

Machka
584 Washington Street,
(415) 391-8228
www.machkasf.com/

Restaurant reviewer Carol Peterson visits many neighborhood restaurants in the course of her duties. She writes only about those she can review positively.

A Message From The Board

In 2012, the BCNA Board of Directors welcomed new members with a diversity of backgrounds and talents. Here is a brief introduction to some of the Board's newest members.

DAVID ALBERT is a new member and also the new BCNA Board President. He is a native San Franciscan who has lived in the neighborhood for the last six years but admits that it feels like he just moved in.

After receiving his bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from the University of California and a Ph.D. in physics from the Catholic University of America in Washington, DC., David embarked on a career in software development and consulting.

David has been a key contributor in developing the market for the enterprise software systems for Product Life Cycle Management (PLM.) He has led development teams and headed marketing activities since 1969 which was when the first such systems became commercially available. He was part of the team leading the development of Computervision's CADDs product line, Calma's DDM product and was founder and President of Vulcan Software. In 1986, David founded the Albert-Battaglin Consulting Group which provides services to the engineering and manufacturing industry, working with the major automotive and aerospace

companies and major PLM suppliers. In addition, the Albert-Battaglin Consulting Group is active in producing software for PLM and graphics applications.

David and his wife, Marcy, live at 101 Lombard.

JIM CUNNINGHAM has Midwestern roots but an international flair. Born in St. Louis, Missouri and raised in Chicago Illinois, Jim attended Yale University before serving a two-year stint in the US Marine Corps. He then joined the The First National Bank of Chicago, rising to the level of Senior Vice President.

Jim's career took an unexpected turn when he was moved by the Bank to London. This was the beginning a 17-year career of working for foreign banks abroad. Jim lived in London until 2009 when he moved to San Francisco because, as he says, "I was ready for something new and am thoroughly enjoying being here." In 2010 he moved into the Golden Gateway Commons.

In addition to his duties as BCNA Board member, Jim volunteers for HICAP, an organization that assists individuals with Medicare issues, and enjoys being the grandfather of five girls and one boy.

—*Mary Lou Licwinko, Board Member*



A PUBLICATION OF
THE BARBARY COAST NEIGHBORHOOD
ASSOCIATION

www.BarbaryNeighbors.org

MANAGING EDITOR — BILL SAURO
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