



**2008 BANG Holiday Dinner
December 14, 2008
6:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.
Monterey Bay Aquarium
886 Cannery Row
Monterey, California
www.montereybayaquarium.org**

Join us for a Monterey Holiday this season. December 14th, the Monterey Bay Aquarium will be hosting a sustainable-themed BANG holiday dinner with a Seafood Watch reception highlighting sustainable seafood practices, then a full banquet in front of the aquarium's Outer Bay Exhibit.

Executive Chef Dory Ford and Bon Appetit Management, the aquarium's food service provider, are co-hosts of the dinner.

Aquarium passes and tours will be available on Sunday. The Monterey County Convention and Visitors Bureau has kindly arranged for the menu of optional activities listed below for Sunday. They have also provided some activities for Monday and Tuesday for Actives and their Spouses that may be arranged SEPARATELY but are outlined at the end of this document with all the details you will need if you wish to participate.

Accommodations

In addition to a small number of complimentary rooms provided at the new Clement Intercontinental Hotel (next to the aquarium on Cannery Row) reserved for selected Actives Saturday and Sunday evenings, discounted rooms for both Saturday and Sunday will also be available at the hotels listed below. Please mention the Society of American Travel Writers event on December 14, 2008 when making your reservation for discounted rooms.

Any Actives wishing complimentary rooms should indicate this on the reservation form. Hank Armstrong will contact you directly and provide you with an answer no later than December 1.

The Clement Intercontinental

Discount Room Rate \$119/night + tax

<http://www.phmhotels.com/monterey-factsheet2.html>

831-375-4500 and ask for Zach Goldman, 831-642-2001

Asilomar Conference Grounds

\$69/night + tax w/breakfast

<http://visitasilomar.com/>

707-255-5997 or CBoirePR@aol.com (Reservations through Catherine Boire)

Martine Inn (B&B)

\$75/night +tax w/breakfast

<http://www.martineinn.com/>

800-852-5588 or Don Martine at don@martineinn.com

Rates apply for both Saturday 12/13 and Sunday 12/14 nights.

The Clement and Martine Inn are walking distance to the aquarium. Asilomar is two miles away.

Schedule for Sunday, December 14, 2008

The Monterey County Convention & Visitors Bureau in conjunction with area tourism partners is offering attendees the following excursions before the evening's events. Please indicate your choices on the registration form. Contacts are listed for information purposes only, your participation will be confirmed after the registration deadline by your hosts. Times are provided when available but please be aware they may conflict with each other so be sure to book accordingly.

Adventures by the Sea – Guided two-hour naturalist kayak tour on Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. Available 1:00 p.m. 50% media rate of (\$25) to be paid directly to Adventures by the Sea on Sunday.

www.adventuresbythesea.com.

Contact: *Michelle Skeen* with questions.

michelleskeen@adventuresbythesea.com.

Asilomar Conference Grounds - Choice of self-guided or naturalist-guided walking tour of the state park grounds, including Julia Morgan architecture, history, flora and fauna. Also, complimentary three-speed bicycles are available for cruising the adjacent Coastal Bike Trail on your own. Tour from 10 to 11 a.m.

www.visitasilomar.com

Contact: *Catherine Boire* with questions.

cboirePR@aol.com

Big Sur Hiking Guides – Complimentary “Paradise of Point Lobos Nature Reserve”

Guided Hike; 2 to 4 p.m.

www.bigsurguides.com.

Contact: *Steve Copeland* with questions about the hike.

bigsurguides@msn.com

Cannery Row – Cannery Row IMAX 3D Theater movie of choice, followed by ice cream sundae at Ghirardelli Chocolate.

www.bellacinema.com,

Contact: *Diane Mandeville with any questions.*

dmandeville@canneryrow.com

Monterey Bay Aquarium – New “Behind the Scenes” tour and/or tickets to the nation’s top ranked aquarium. Tours at 10:30 a.m., 12:00 p.m., 1:00 p.m., 2:00 p.m., and 3:00 p.m. or a special SATW-only group guided tour at 4:00 p.m (maximum 9 people.)

www.montereybayaquarium.org.

Contact: *Tara Gardner, tgardner@mbayaq.org for all tours or *Hank Armstrong**

harmstrong@mbayaq.org if tickets only are needed.

National Steinbeck Museum – Complimentary tickets to this world-class center focusing on the legacy of John Steinbeck.

www.steinbeck.org.

Tickets are good for December 12 to 16.

Contact: *Amanda Holder aholder@steinbeck.org to arrange a visit on dates other than December 14 and for questions.*

Rancho Canada Golf Club – Complimentary round of golf with cart at this Carmel Valley hideaway.

www.ranchocanada.com.

Contact: *Mark Darby, mdarby@lagunasecagolf.com with questions.*

Ventana Vineyards - Enjoy a complimentary wine tasting of estate grown wines from “The Most Award Winning Vineyard in America” at Ventana’s historic tasting room in Monterey.

Contact: *Barbara Pluth at (831) 372-7415 or at Barbara@ventanawines.com.*

www.ventanawines.com with questions.



Evening Program

6 p.m. to 7 p.m. Winetasting and reception at Scheid Vineyards Wine Lounge, 751 Cannery Row (in the Clement Intercontinental Hotel)

6:45 p.m. to 7:15 p.m. White Elephant Gift Exchange Game – Optional at the Aquarium

Once again this year Carole Terwilliger Meyers will be your hostess for this event. To participate bring a gift to exchange.

7 p.m. to 7:45 p.m. Seafood Watch Sustainable seafood reception presented by Chef Dory Ford and Outer Bay Wing gallery viewing in the Monterey Bay Aquarium

8 p.m. to 11p.m. BANG banquet hosted by the Aquarium and co-hosted by Bon Appetit Management Company and Ventana Vineyards.

**SOCIETY OF AMERICAN TRAVEL WRITERS
SUNDAY DECEMBER 14TH, 2008**

STATIONARY HORS D'OEUVRES 7:00 PM

SUSTAINABLE SEAFOOD BAR

TSAR NICHOLAI CAVIAR
Gougere, Chive Crème Fraiche

MONTEREY FARMED RED ABALONE AND GEODUCK CLAM SASHIMI
Sugar Snap Pea, Daikon Sprouts, Micro Wasabi, Yuzu Vinaigrette

FRESH SHUCKED FARMED OYSTERS ON THE 1/2 SHELL
Selection of Three Types - changes seasonally, Champagne Mignonette, Tabasco Sauce

OREGON SHRIMP AND FARMED BAY SCALLOP
Pico de Gallo, Salsa Roja, Avocado Salsa

DUNGENESS CRAB FRITTERS
Spicy Remoulade

SIT DOWN DINNER – 8:00 PM

PRESET AMUSE

SPICED CARROT PUREE
Almond Flat Bread, Nicoise Olive, Capers
Parsley Yogurt Dressing

SECOND COURSE

PAN FRIED ABALONE
Braised Endive, Salsify Confit, Roasted Shallots
Butternut Squash Coulis, Watercress Puree

THIRD COURSE

VENISON OSSO BUCO
Roasted Root Vegetables, Velvet Cream Biscuit

DESSERT

APPLE, PEAR AND POMEGRANATE TART TATIN
Chantilly Cream

Please note: A vegetarian alternative will also be offered.



THE FOLLOWING IS NOT A BANG EVENT

The following post-fam is available to you through:
Monterey County Convention & Visitors Bureau
Contact: Koleen C. Hambli/KOLI COMMUNICATIONS
800.487.9057; link2koli@aol.com
or Celeste White, MONTERE COUNTY CVB
831.657.6402; celeste@mccvb.org

If you have any questions about the following itinerary or to participate,
please contact Koleen directly.

Monday, December 15, 2008

- Check In** **Asilomar Conference Grounds**
800 Asilomar Avenue
Pacific Grove, CA 93950
www.visitasilomar.com/831.372.8016
Your contact: Catherine Boire
cboirePR@aol.com/707.255.5997
Complimentary accommodations and breakfast
- 12:00 p.m.** **Optional/Complimentary Lunch**
Asilomar's Crocker Dining Hall
- 1:00 p.m.** **Saddle Up! Bicycle Tour**
Depart from Asilomar on a three-speed cruiser, easy/moderate ride to key sites including:
Point Pinos Lighthouse – the oldest continuously operating lighthouse on the West Coast (1855); Contact: Nancy McDowell; 831.648.5716
17-Mile Drive – scenic loop on this world-renowned drive
Pacific Grove Monarch Sanctuary – prime time for wintering butterflies
Ridge Road, Pacific Grove, CA; 831.648.5716
Retro Inns: Andril Fireplace Lodge, Butterfly Grove Inn, Bide a Wee Inn – peek into some of the area's landmark lodgings
- 4:00 p.m.** **Sunset Swizzle & Sizzle/Inn at Spanish Bay**
Inn at Spanish Bay
2700 17 Mile Drive
Pebble Beach, CA
www.pebblebeach.com/831.625.8557
Contact: David Shonman, Coastal Biologist; 831.917.4817
Your contact: Aven Wright-McIntosh, PR Manager
wrightma@pebblebeach.com
Gear up for a spectacular dune trek along the beachfront boardwalk to one of Pebble Beach's top cocktail stops with a Scottish bagpiper in the backdrop.
- 6:30 p.m.** **Dinner/Fandango**

222 17th Street
Pacific Grove, CA
831.372.3456; www.fandangorestaurant.com
Host: Marietta Bain, Owner
mariettabain@yahoo.com; feast@fandangorestaurant.com
Enjoy an evening of eclectic food and wine in historic Pacific Grove

Tuesday, December 16, 2008

8:00 a.m. - Breakfast/Asilomar's Crocker Dining Hall

9:00 a.m.

Please choose from the following morning adventures:

10:00 a.m. Guided Walking Tour/Asilomar

800 Asilomar Avenue
Pacific Grove, CA 93950
831.372.8016; www.visitasilomar.com
Your contact: Catherine Boire
cboirePR@aol.com/707.255.5997

Choice of self-guided or naturalist-guided walking tour of the state park grounds, including Julia Morgan architecture, history, flora and fauna.

10:00 a.m. Kayak Tour/Adventures by the Sea

Lover's Point
Pacific Grove, CA
831.224.3525; www.adventuresbythesea.com
Your contact: Michelle Skeen
michelleskeen@adventuresbythesea.com

*Complimentary two hour kayak tour of Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary
Wear water-wear, flat shoes, sun-block and a hat.*

10:00 a.m. Paradise at Point Lobos Hike/Big Sur Hiking Guides

Point Lobos State Reserve
Highway 1, Box 62
Highway 1, two miles south of Carmel by the Sea
831.624.4909; 831.658.0199; www.bigsurguides.com
Your contact: Steve Copeland
bigsurguides@msn.com

Experience the jewel of the California park system on a moderate hike led by the region's top trekker. Meet at Point Lobos.

10:00 a.m. Golf/Laguna Seca Golf Ranch

10520 York Rd.
Monterey, CA
831.373.2863; www.lagunasecagolf.com
Your contact: Gary Cursio,
gcursio@lagunasecagolf.com

Enjoy a round of golf with cart for media rate of \$29.00

10:00 a.m. Tour/Monterey Bay Aquarium

886 Cannery Row
Monterey, CA 93940
831.648.4800; www.montereybayaquarium.org
Your Contact: Ken Peterson
kpeterson@mbayaq.org

Please advise if you would like to attend a Behind the Scenes tour available at 10:30, 12:00 1:00, 2:00 and 3:00.

Please Note: Accommodations (except where noted) are compliments of the hotel, however, any incidental charges (i.e., valet, room service, laundry, fax, telephone, parking) will be your responsibility. We ask that you clear your account by checking out at the front desk at the end of your stay.

Armchair Adventures: www.montereyinfo.org