



Beaujolais in My Blood: Author Talk and Signing

Thursday, May 18, 4pm–5:30pm

\$5 for members, \$7 for non-members.

Purchase tickets at the door.

Wondering how the acclaimed Café Beaujolais got its start? Find out at this book signing and slideshow with Eric Neil Pitsenbarger, author of the new book *Beaujolais in My Blood: Growing Up Gay and Well-Fed in a Family-Run French Restaurant*. The son of Café Beaujolais' original owners, Gerald and Ellen Pitsenbarger, Eric will be interviewed by local writer Eleanor Cooney, and copies of his book will be for sale, with proceeds benefiting the Kelley House Museum. After the event head over to The Waiting Room for champagne and small bites from Cafe Beaujolais' original menu.

**LEARN
MORE**

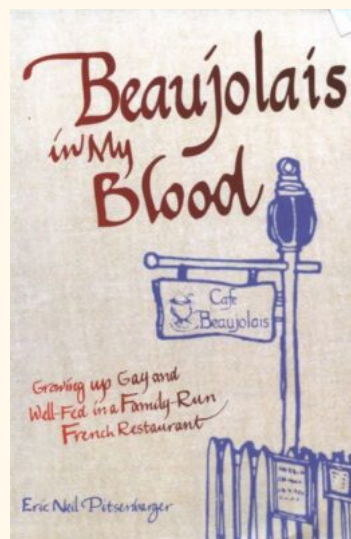


BOOK SALE!

Shop, Donate, Volunteer

Sunday, May 28

10am – 3:00pm



BOOK OF THE MONTH
Beaujolais in My Blood

Stop by the Sunday of Memorial Weekend for our annual book sale, featuring a great selection of history and art books at low prices. We could also use donations of books (no fiction please) and volunteers to help set up or pack up. Drop off donations at office or museum during [open hours](#) by noon on May 26.

VOLUNTEER

by Eric Neil Pitsenbarger
\$20.00

Told from the perspective of a closeted adolescent, this memoir is a revealing and humorous account of a complex family story, intertwined with the creation of a renowned French restaurant. Pitsenbarger captivates readers with tales of rustic 1970s Mendocino: eccentric old-timers and hippie new-comers, ingenuous tourists, and demanding movie stars.

BUY

Grant Funding for Research Project on Nathaniel Smith

We were just awarded a small grant to conduct research into the life of Nathaniel Smith, an early settler who was thought to be the first black man to arrive on the Mendocino Coast (1850), but who may in fact be Pacific Islander. During his lifetime he was a household servant, whaler, ferry operator, blacksmith, hunter, horse racer, landowner, and stage driver. He arrived in Mendocino with a Portuguese man, and according to his obituary in the *Mendocino Beacon* (Nov. 5, 1904), was "always proud of the distinction that he and Frank were the first white men to settle on the Mendocino Coast" (referring to their status as non-indigenous settlers). He owned land, was married three times (two of his wives were Pomo), and had three children. Grant funding will support research, exhibits, and discussions in partnership with the Mendocino Theater Company. This project is made possible with support from California Humanities, a non-profit partner of the National Endowment for the Humanities.



We will be updating you on our progress on this project, but at present we would love to hear from you if have any history about Nathaniel Smith (either documented or oral history) that you would like to share with our researcher. Call us at 707-937-5791 to make an appointment or send your story or a referral [by email](#).

**CONTACT
US**

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

4TH OF JULY

Enjoy a great view of the parade while helping us host our annual lawn party. We could use assistance with set up and take down, plus servers for wine, beer, soda, and soft drinks.

DRIP IRRIGATION SLEUTH

We need someone who can troubleshoot the drip irrigation around our landscaping. We know we have a leak and need to find and repair it before those gorgeous flowers get too parched!



VOLUNTEER

A PEEK INTO THE PAST

"M" IS FOR THE MANY THINGS SHE GAVE ME

by Marguerite O'Brien

Curious about the origins of Mother's Day? In 1858, Ann Reeves Jarvis of West Virginia organized the first of her "Mothers' Day Work Clubs," which served as parenting classes for women to learn how to care for their children. In 1868, she helped to plan "Mothers' Friendship Day" to bring together mothers and former Union and Confederate soldiers to aid in reconciliation after the Civil War.



The idea of mothers and women working to create peace was also the primary focus of Julia Ward Howe's Mother's Day Proclamation of 1870. Howe, the pacifist/abolitionist who penned "The Battle Hymn of the Republic" in 1862, advocated for a day when women of all nationalities would gather together "to promote the alliance of the different nationalities, the amicable settlement of international questions, the great and general interests of peace." The goals of both women were to reach a time when no mother would have to mourn the loss of her children to war.

[Read more.](#)

**READ THE
BLOG**

MENDOCINO FILM FESTIVAL

Three Minutes: A Lengthening

Saturday, June 3 at 10am, Matheson Theater, Mendocino



The Kelley House Museum is proud to sponsor this documentary film by Bianca Stigler, as part of the Mendocino Film Festival. Just a few minutes of footage are the only moving images left of the Jewish inhabitants of Nasielsk, Poland, before the Holocaust. An

exhaustive study of what can be discovered from closely examining frames of a 1938 home movie, a tiny record of a lost moment in time. 69 minutes. The festival runs June 1-4.

GET TICKETS

THANK YOU!

We had a great night celebrating the legendary Angela Lansbury and were able to raise \$4,000 for our education program, thanks to your support.

To help keep Angela's memory alive, Marguerite created a [beautiful online exhibit](#), which you can enjoy and share with friends and fans.

Much gratitude to our generous sponsors who made the evening so special: [Blair House Inn](#), [Café Beaujolais](#), [Trillium Café](#), [Murder Ridge Winery](#), [Roederer Estate](#), [Scharffenberger Cellars](#), [Mendocino Chocolate Company](#), [GoodLife Cafe & Bakery](#), [North Coast Brewing Co.](#), and [Mendocino High School](#). Photo: Blair House



Innkeeper Helen Mackenzie and Anne Semans ready to greet guests! For more photos from the event check out our [Facebook](#) page.

**Kelley House Museum &
Research Center**
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**EMAIL
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