



## Message from the President



Dear Sharpsteen Members,

With this newsletter, we bid farewell to 2024 and welcome the new calendar year. I'm looking forward to what's ahead for the Sharpsteen Museum -- YOUR museum!

Over the past half year as your board president, I've focused on becoming more

familiar with our programs, files, and collections. There's a lot to absorb, and I still have much more to learn. I deeply appreciate all our volunteers who have generously shared their knowledge with me. I couldn't ask for a better group of folks to help me gain familiarity with all that goes on behind the scenes at the Sharpsteen Museum. It takes a combination of creativity and business expertise to operate a museum, and we are extremely fortunate to have both! Thank you for making my transition into office go so smoothly!

As we look to the coming calendar year, I have some ideas that I'm hoping to put in motion. One personal goal is to restore the Sharpsteen Museum Lecture Series. We used to host these free public lectures in the springtime at the museum. I remember being a guest lecturer in 1985, 1987, and 1995, when I gave talks on geology topics ranging from Calistoga's geothermal history to the history of mines in our area. Many other interesting historical topics were covered by talented lecturers over the years. The events were well attended and a lot of fun. We already have one lecturer who has expressed interest in doing a presentation, and I'm sure there are many more out there. It may take some time to bring the lecture series back to what it was twenty or thirty years ago, but I'm willing to try! So, please spread the word that we are looking for volunteer guest lecturers, and we'll see

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Our Next Special Exhibit—

## Destination Napa: *Philosophies of Wellness*



Thanks to our generous friends at the Napa County

Historical Society, we're grateful to present their comprehensive and timely exhibit exploring the history of wellness practices in Napa Valley, with Calistoga's natural hot springs playing a significant role. In addition to their extensive research materials, signage and photographs, an array of historic objects will bring this exhibit to life for viewers. Framed as an anticipatory experience, the exhibit poses questions about the subject and answers them through detailed stories from all over Napa Valley. The Sharpsteen Team has also uncovered some prime pieces of wellness ephemera, such as Dean Enderlin's incredible "Warner's Safe Kidney & Liver Cure" bottle (including 1880s advertisements with health claims which would never pass muster today), an 1890s bathing costume, a partial window glass advertisement for Fulton's Compounds and many other treasures.

"Destination Napa: *Philosophies of Wellness* explores Napa Valley's oldest commercial industry, that builds upon the Valley's bucolic environment and 19th century

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MESSAGE *continued from Pg 1*

what we can do to get that program back on track. If we can't get the series up and running this spring, we will for sure have a guest lecturer at the June Annual Membership Meeting.

Of course, our regular activities and programs will continue in 2025. These include our always-captivating special exhibits (including opening receptions), student and general public tours of the museum, holiday wreath sales, the Instant Wine Cellar, and more.

I'm particularly looking forward to working with our Scholarship Committee this coming year. Our scholarship program (emphasizing local history) has expanded recently, and I see great potential for it to continue to grow. We'll have more to say on that in 2025!

Happy Holidays from the Sharpsteen Museum, and best wishes for the New Year!

Dean Enderlin, *President*



*Left:* At a recent Board meeting Dean told the story about this bottle found in the walls of his family's home, and its probable connection to a Civil War Veteran who once owned the home. This Warner's Safe Kidney & Liver Cure bottle is part of the new "Wellness" Special Exhibit. See story on page 1.

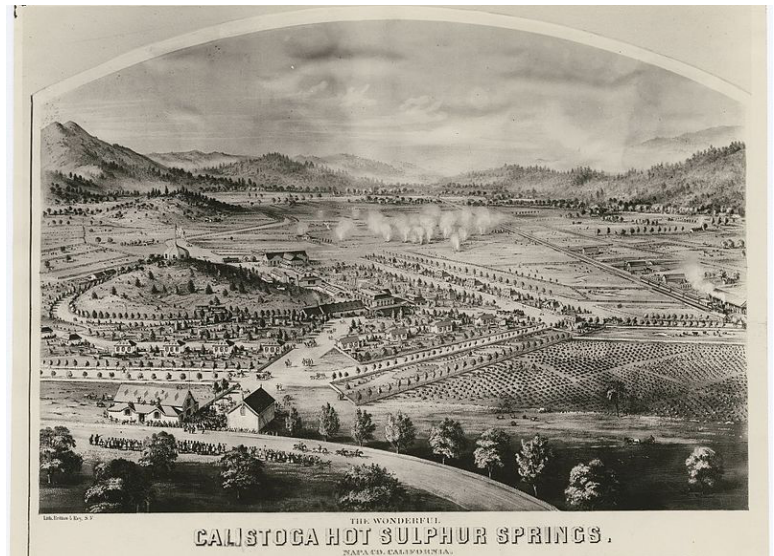
SPECIAL EXHIBIT *continued from Pg 1*

philosophies of wellness. Resorts quickly sprang up marketing the curative benefits of the hot springs, fresh air, climate, and pastoral vistas. The "wellness" economy provided jobs and opportunities for local residents and put Napa Valley on the world map.

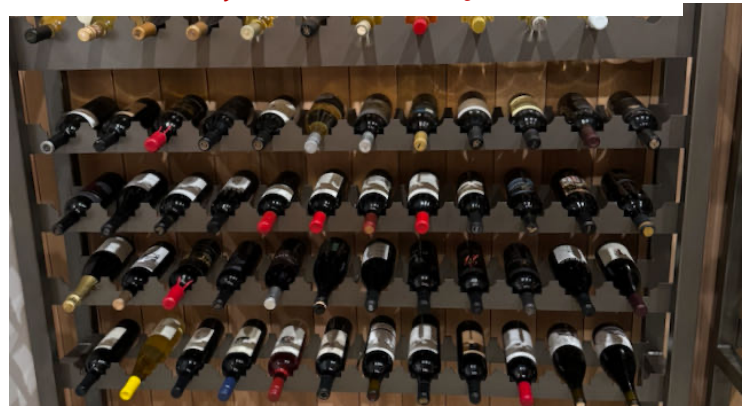
In the 172 years since the first hot springs resort, the natural resources of Napa Valley have sustained multiple industries, and although the resort industry has shifted over time from wellness to a holistic experience the industry continues to capitalize on the Valley's beauty and climate, incorporation the excellence of wine and food that drives modern tourism and draws upon Napa Valley's heritage." -- *Napa County Historical Society*

This exhibit will be on display from the first week of December through April 2025, with a grand opening event in early January. Stay tuned for details. Our special thanks to Sheli Smith at NCHS for her help in sharing this exhibit with the Sharpsteen.

Eden Umble, *Media Chair/ Special Exhibit Committee*



*Just in Time for the Holidays...*



Talk about *Instant!* Madonna Day's brand-new wine "cellar" is now stocked with her Instant Wine Cellar Grand Prize winnings.

**WELCOME  
NEW MEMBERS**

Emily Bucchianeri,  
Olivia Elam  
Susette Stickel-Kufer

**GENERAL DONATIONS:**

Barbara Nechis

Sharpsteen Museum Association Board Meetings are held monthly on the second Wednesday, at 10:00 am. No meeting in December. Next meeting is on Wednesday, January 8, 2025. All members are welcome to attend.



**Ben Sharpsteen  
Featured in New  
Exhibit at  
Walt Disney  
Family Museum**

**DIRECTING AT  
DISNEY**

Another honor of sorts has been bestowed upon Ben, in the form of a special exhibit at the Walt Disney Family Museum in San Francisco. According to the WDFM website- “Directors featured in this special exhibit- including Disney Legends Ben Sharpsteen ... each brought a distinctive style to their films. As Disney productions became bigger, costlier, and more complex, so did the work of these directors. Directing at Disney guides guests through each stage of an animation director’s role and highlights how the work and legacy of the Studios’ original directors have influenced the Disney filmmakers of today.”

“Directing At Disney” is titled and inspired by a new book released in September, co-written by Pete Docter, CCO of Pixar, and Don Peri, Disney historian. This book is further described on page 5 of this newsletter. The authors guest-curated this exhibition along with WDFM’s Director of Collections & Exhibitions Marina Villar Delgado. More info can be found at:

<https://www.waltdisney.org/directing>

WDFM is located at 400 Montgomery St., San Francisco (inside the Presidio). The exhibit which runs through March, 2025, is located in the Lower Lobby and Galleries and is free to the public.

Gail Sharpsteen



PHOTOS: Top- Catherine Sharpsteen, Don Peri, Gail Sharpsteen; Middle- Each featured Director had a section of wall with sample animation viewing screen; objects & ephemera; Bottom Left- Graphic display of directors and their career timelines; Right- One of the interactive kiosks, you decide & record the duration of each frame in an action sequence from *Peter Pan*, then you get to view your finished work.

**Hats Off  
to Our  
Docents!!!**



**BEST OF THE BEST**  
**Team Docent for Sept-Oct 2024**

- |                   |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| Angelina Arreygue | Sally Houk        |
| Rose Beck         | Karen Legeyt      |
| Jane Bennett      | David Lomax       |
| Lloyd Best        | Corliss Meyer     |
| Judith Cornils    | Jo Ellen Noble    |
| Bridget Ely       | Carla Taylor      |
| Anika Fair        | Pierette Therene  |
| Bruce Gardom      | Lauren Thollander |
| Deanna Gardom     | Molly Towey       |
| Lorne Glaim       | Wendy Watson      |
| Marilyn Glaim     | Jean Williams     |
| Pat Larsen        |                   |

**Group and School Tours**

This fall the museum has been alive with visitors. Three schools from Napa have visited. 18 women from Sonoma Newcomers group enjoyed all our exhibits, especially Chick & Yvonne’s photography. Four Seasons Resort continues to bring their new employees monthly as part of their job orientation. A large group from across the country (called Friends of Ancient Road Transportation, also known as FARTS) along with many of their fabulous antique automobiles spent a day in Calistoga. Besides enjoying our museum, they toured Chateau Montelena Winery. You may have seen some of them around town.

Jackie Lang, *Education Chair*



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Web: [Sharpsteenmuseum.org](http://Sharpsteenmuseum.org)  
Email: [info@sharpsteenmuseum.org](mailto:info@sharpsteenmuseum.org)

Museum Hours:  
12-3 pm M-F; 11 am-4 pm Sat-Sun  
*(Closed Thanksgiving and Christmas)*

- Dean Enderlin- President
- Dave Larsen- First VP
- Marcia Ciarlo - Second VP
- Peggy Berlin- Recording Secretary
- Barbara Lencioni- Treasurer
- Jane Bennett- Docent Chair
- Jackie Lang- Education Chair
- Bev Barnes- Collections Chair
- Pat Larsen- Ways & Means Chair
- Eden Umble- Media Chair

This Member Newsletter is a bi-monthly publication of the Sharpsteen Museum Association, a non-profit 501(3)c organization.

Shari Hanson- Newsletter Editor

**MISSION STATEMENT:**

The Museum’s mission is to preserve and to provide for public exhibitions and study of the history of the community of Calistoga and the upper Napa Valley.



# Notes from the Bookstore

It is nearly Christmas and this year we highlight a brief review of a newly released children's book.

A must buy, "To Childhoods, Small and Tall, Everywhere", it is *Round Town Hound*, by local author and educator Anna Gottreich, illustrated by Robin Ahlgren.

The story of the homeless Hound is beautifully written in flowing poetry. Gottreich has a lifelong connection to the Coastal Miwok, a tribe with thousands of years of lore & legend. This lifelong inspiration was the beginning of the story of the Hound's life & struggles.

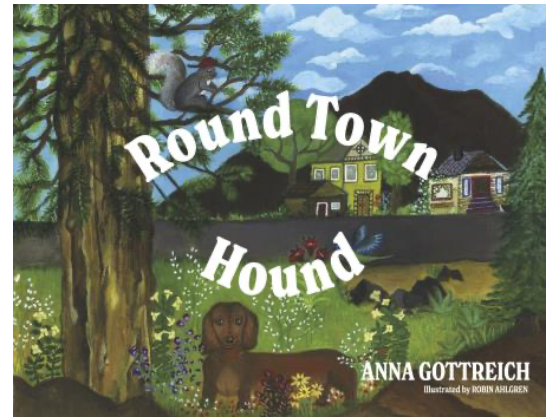
The little, lost Hound managed many friends during her travels through town and forest, an aged fragrant redwood tree Lu'me called "Childhood"; the squirrel Lil Wiz; the woman that often visited the redwood forest with the crazy hair, Miss Molly, although the animals called her "Coiffée avec un Pétard", meaning "combed with a firecracker".

Follow the lost and lonely Hound as she finds love, acceptance, and a home. This story closes with the Miwok blessing "Mu'K-'am Ka 'I-ni'iko", "We are all family."

Consider this title a combination of present-day Miwok legend and Aesop's Fables. Yes, there is a lesson to learn and a moral to the story. A well written, heartfelt legend with exquisite illustrations.

I can envision you sitting in a cozy room in front of the Christmas tree, fireplace warming the room, children in your lap sharing this story, a soon to be Miwok legend.

Book is approx. 40 pages, printed in full color on high-quality paper, includes Miwok notes on words & pronunciations, notes to explain the Hound's friends, history of the Coastal Miwok, etc. Book measures 9"x 7", soft cover, full color. **For December only, discounted price is \$12.00/copy.**



Also new on our shelves is "Directing at Disney", by Don Peri, Disney Historian and Pete Docter, CCO of Pixar Films. Don Peri is the author of "Working with Walt", a book we also carry. If you read the article on page 3 of this newsletter, and you always wondered just what it was that a director did, then this book is for you.

According to the authors "...most of this book is devoted to the careers of the often unknown, unsung directors. Rising from the animation ranks, these men were a wide and varied group of characters. Capable of incredibly demanding precision, some delegated willingly, while others demanded meticulous control."

Hardbound, 8-1/4" x 10-1/2", 349 pages – profusely illustrated, some photographs never before published; jam packed with information and graphics – it will keep you spellbound for a long time. There is one whole chapter about Ben- 27 pages in all.

Just in time for Holiday gift-giving we are offering this title at a **special discounted price of \$42.50**, only during December (no other discounts apply during this special offer). Regular price is \$50.00.

"This is a revelatory book even for a dedicated Disneyphile like me. I couldn't put it down." *Leonard Maltin, critic, historian, author*

**REMEMBER- BOTH TITLES ON THIS PAGE ARE DISCOUNTED DURING DECEMBER.**

Blessings to you all for a happy and glorious holiday season.  
Kathy Bazzoli, *Bookstore Chair*

### SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL MUSEUM

As Christmas approaches and the end of 2024 is not far behind, we at the Sharpsteen send our best wishes to our many devoted members and friends. Throughout the year we try to keep you as members updated with changes, additions, and events at the museum but of course there is always more to be done. Our volunteers, including our Board of Directors, work daily on the never-ending projects, no matter how small or large.

Membership dues, donations, and sales in our gift and bookstore keep us afloat but many projects need to be postponed until we have the funding needed. Projects such as repairs, repainting, constant maintenance, and refurbishing displays and exhibits remain a priority.

We ask that you consider an end-of-the-year gift to assist us in completing these much needed projects. Your donation can be made in honor or memory of a loved one, for instance. Donations in any amount are greatly appreciated and are tax deductible.

The Sharpsteen Museum Assoc. is a tax-exempt non-profit 501(c)3 organization, Federal Tax ID# 94-2639021.

Donations may be sent to Sharpsteen Museum, P.O. Box 573, Calistoga, CA 94515 or through our website @

[www.sharpsteenmuseum.org](http://www.sharpsteenmuseum.org)

You will receive a letter of thanks noting the amount gifted. We wish you all a Happy Holiday Season & an abundant New Year!

Don't forget to include the Museum Gift Shoppe and Bookstore as one of your holiday shopping destinations. Stay local, shop local and support Calistoga businesses. Members enjoy a 10% discount! (Sale items excluded)

FRESH  
**WREATHS**

& other handcrafted items

**SHARPSTEEN MUSEUM**

(Outside under covered entrance)

**Sat., Dec. 7**

**9 am-1 pm**



CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Sharpsteen Museum Association  
1311 Washington St., P.O. Box 573  
Calistoga, CA. 94515

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