



THE HEART BEAT

Issue 8 June 2013

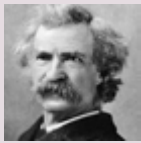
CALIFORNIA, HERE WE COME!

You've registered. You have your tickets. Now what? In this issue we'll give you some last minute tips for a great Convention experience.

WHAT TO PACK

First of all, *especially* if this is your first Convention, read Allan Hurst's [Guide to IAGSDC Conventions](#) for the basics on what to pack for a Convention weekend. Don't forget your badge, your club uniform, sunscreen and a hat, at least two pairs of shoes and *plenty* of tee-shirts, socks and underwear.

The coldest winter I ever spent was a summer in San Francisco.



attributed
to Mark
Twain

Dress in layers. It gets cold here in summer! On the Fun Badge Tour, in the evening, or anytime you're near the Bay, you'll want a sweatshirt and/or jacket. Be prepared to peel them off when the sun suddenly peeks out from behind the fog.

Specialty tips. Bring your gear for the Leather Tip, the

Kilt Tip, the Drag Tip, and maybe something colorful for the Glow-Stick Tip (*new this year*),

GETTING TO THE HOTEL FROM THE AIRPORT

The hotel does not provide shuttle service.

FROM SFO: BART: \$8.25 one way. much less than shuttles (\$17) or taxis (\$45). An elevated tramway circles the airport and connects to the BART station.

FROM OAK: BART: \$6.85 one way. The AirBART shuttle bus connects to the Coliseum/Oakland Airport BART station every 10 minutes during the day.

Check the [BART Airport Connections page](#) for details.

FROM SJC: San Jose does not have good mass transit connections from its airport. Not recommended.

Our hotel is at **55 Fourth Street (780 Mission)**, a block from the Powell Street BART station. Powell Street is a major transit hub where you can catch BART and the [San Francisco Municipal Railway \(MUNI\)](#) light-rail cars, buses and cable cars to go all over town.



The BART (Bay Area Rapid Transit) system



Powell Street BART station and the hotel

DRIVING INTO SAN FRANCISCO

TRAFFIC IS GOING TO BE A MESS on Convention Weekend. Other city events ([the America's Cup](#)) will close off main streets and cause traffic to be re-routed from its normal patterns. If you can possibly avoid driving, we highly recommend leaving your car at home.

Possibly the best option is parking in a BART lot and riding in to the hotel. If you arrive after 3:00 pm on Wednesday, July 3rd, you'll only pay for Friday (\$1-\$5 per day) and possibly Monday (depending on when you leave) because holidays and weekends are free at BART lots.

If you're planning on taking the **Golden Gate Bridge**, be aware that the bridge has gone to all-electronic toll payment. [Check the bridge's web site](#) for advance toll-payment options, or you'll get a bill in the mail!

GETTING AROUND IN SAN FRANCISCO

SUGGESTED ALTERNATIVES to driving in the city:

Muni. San Francisco's much-maligned but extensive transport system ([SF Muni](#)) is the best option for medium distance trips outside the hotel. Trains, buses, subway, historic trams, you name it, it's just \$2/ride with transfers. 1-, 3-, and 7-day Passports can be bought at the Powell Street Station.

Subways. **BART** (our subway system - *see p.1 map*) is a no-brainer for either airport and trips to the East Bay, and it's also good for in-town hops to the deep Mission District where lots of good, cheap restaurants are located.

WHEN YOU ARRIVE AT THE HOTEL...

- Confirm the start times of any tours you're taking. The tours desk opens ½ hour before the tour leaves.
- Sign in! Registration will be open Wednesday from 3pm to 7pm, Thursday from 9am to 10pm, and Friday from 8am to 10am and 1pm to 3pm.
- Select your table for the banquet and brunch. One seat assignment covers both.
- Check the photography schedule for the time of your club's photo session.
- Got questions? The **Castro Ambassadors** will be on hand to help with general San Francisco questions, or ask the hotel's knowledgeable **concierge** staff. Our **registration desk** volunteers can help with Convention-related questions.

PARKING (IF YOU MUST DRIVE)

The best parking you will find is across the street from the hotel at the [Fifth and Mission Garage](#) (\$3.50/hour; \$32/park maximum).

The hotel has self parking (\$20/hour; \$65/day with in/out) and valet parking (\$62.28/day).

Because of one-way traffic patterns, you **must** approach the hotel from 3rd Street on Mission Street to use the hotel's valet parking or unload baggage in the porte cochere at 780 Mission.

Street parking is scarce in San Francisco and meters operate seven days a week!

Taxis are difficult to hail, but the hotel should have taxis waiting (\$3.50/flag + \$2.75/mile|minute).

Cable Cars, more amusement ride than serious transportation, are \$6/ride with no transfers (and are NEVER called "trolleys" by locals), but CAN be ridden with a Passport. The Powell Street cable car line takes you to Fisherman's Wharf. Expect long lines of tourists.

Trains. From the South Bay, take [CalTrain](#) and transfer to BART at the Millbrae station. [Amtrak](#) has direct connections to BART at the Richmond and Oakland Coliseum stations from many parts of California.

Buses. SF is also served by SamTrans (to San Mateo), Golden Gate Transit (to Marin and beyond), and AC Transit (to Oakland, Berkeley and beyond).

Car service ([Uber](#)) and ride share ([Lyft](#)) are more and less expensive, respectively. But we suggest [Homobiles](#) ("Moes gettin' hoes where they needz to goes!") for a true SF experience (your driver is likely to be Lynnee Breedlove, front transman of the dykepunk band, "Tribe 8"): just text where you are and where you are going to 415-574-5023, and a volunteer will pick you up! A \$1 per minute donation is suggested.

IF YOU'D STILL LIKE TO DRIVE YOUR OWN CAR, there are several good car share options: [City CarShare](#), [Zipcar](#), [RelayRides](#), and [GetAround](#) all have cars near the hotel (traditional car rental is harder to find). Car share lets you rent a car for a few hours or a few days. We've secured a special Weave Your Heart offer from [Zipcar](#) for free membership and \$25 driving credit! Just enter Weave2013 when you sign up. Then rent a Cooper MINI Convertible (available 1 block away) for a couple hours and have a blast cruising up and down the hills with the top down!

SAN FRANCISCO'S NEIGHBORHOODS

WITH 49 SQUARE MILES and over 100 named neighborhoods in San Francisco, it's no wonder visitors' heads spin when locals give recommendations! Get yourself a map or guidebook and check out some of the neighborhoods within easy walking distance of our hotel. Ask our concierges for details.

DOWNTOWN MID-MARKET/UNION SQUARE

S.F.'s shopping destination. Big department stores like Macy's, Nordstrom, and Bloomingdales are in the [Westfield San Francisco Center](#) and around [Union Square](#), just a few blocks away, along with upscale specialty stores. For more practical shopping, there's a Target right next door to the hotel.

CHINATOWN

Just north of Union Square, the original [Chinatown](#) along Grant Street is a fascinating maze of narrow streets and pagoda-style architecture. Great for strolling but a bit touristy, so for a more authentic Asian dining experience, head over to Clement Street in the Avenues (Richmond) district.

NORTH BEACH

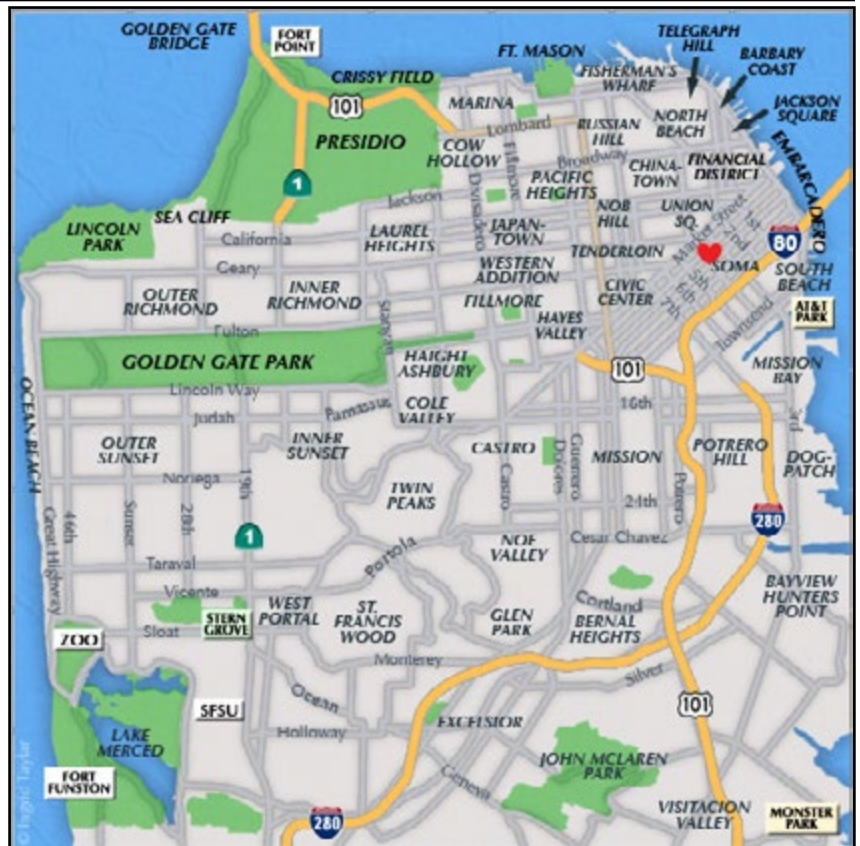
This historic Italian neighborhood along Columbus Street is filled with great restaurants and outdoor cafes. [City Lights Books](#) is home for Beat-era nostalgics and lovers of literature.

FISHERMAN'S WHARF

Go on, do the tourist thing. Take a cable car from Powell Street to [Fisherman's Wharf](#), [Ghirardelli Square](#), and [Pier 39](#), and mingle with visitors and street performers from around the world. Have some *cioppino* in a sourdough bowl, watch the sea lions, and maybe catch a glimpse of the [America's Cup](#) races (starting July 4) out on the Bay.

POLK STREET

Polkstrasse, San Francisco's original gay district, is now filled with trendy dive bars and eccentric restaurants. An easy walk from San Francisco's Civic Center station, past the [Asian Art Museum](#) and gold-domed City Hall, Polk Street passes through the delightfully seedy Tenderloin and scenic Nob Hill all the way to Ghirardelli Square.



THE CASTRO

Variously described as "gay mecca" to "just another shopping street," [Castro Street](#) and nearby side streets are a hotbed of gay history and still vibrantly gay today. The corner of Castro and 18th Streets is ground zero. Take one of the Market Street above-ground trolley cars or underground Muni lines from Powell Street.

SOUTH OF MARKET

Not quite as edgy as it was thirty years ago, the South of Market area (SOMA) still has leather bars, music venues, and specialty clubs along Folsom and Harrison Streets. Easy walking from the hotel. [AT&T Park](#), home of the SF Giants, is a bit farther, on the waterfront between 2nd and 3rd Streets.

THE MISSION

An easy BART ride from the hotel, this diverse, urban neighborhood along Mission and Valencia Streets is home to the best restaurant scene in the city (84 Zagat rated establishments) as well as dance studios, modern lofts, dynamite donuts, a porn fortress, and much more!

HAIGHT ASHBURY - GOLDEN GATE PARK

The Haight-Ashbury (Haight St. and Ashbury St.) today is mostly chic boutiques and head shops, but it was once the center of the Summer of Love. It ends at beautiful [Golden Gate Park](#), a huge urban park home to specialty gardens, miles of trails, and the famous [deYoung Museum](#).

OUR CALLERS

*Wrapping up our biographies of the calling staff of **Weave Your Heart in San Francisco**, here are two much-beloved callers whom we're glad to welcome back.*

ANNE UEBELACKER

WHAT WOULD AN IAGSDC CONVENTION BE without Anne Uebelacker? Her wry sense of humor, sweet singing voice, and flowing choreography have made her a top draw for Convention-goers at all dance levels.



Anne was born and raised in Peterborough, Ontario, of Scottish parents. After she finished high school, her parents began taking square dance lessons, which led to her joining them on a weekend dancing campout,

where she was drafted to fill in a square. By the end of the weekend she was hooked, and continued dancing with a local club. She advanced to higher levels and began calling for a children's group in 1976. She now calls all levels from Basic through C4.

Anne's LinkedIn profile states that she's "Jill of all trades :-)" at South Burnaby Vet Hospital and Square dance caller at Everywhere". She currently teaches an intro class at her home club, Vancouver's Squares Across the Border, and weekends could find her almost anywhere in the world calling at a dance or fly-in. She is a frequent staff caller at the Canadian Challenge Convention, the National Challenge Convention, the Academy of Advanced and Challenge Enthusiasts, and, of course, IAGSDC. **Weave Your Heart** will be her 24th calling appearance at an IAGSDC Convention.

While she may not be able to top last year's appearance in a beaver costume at Vancouver's **Dance Up a Storm**, Anne and fellow partner-in-mischief Sandie Bryant will have their own specialty tip this year, the "Evil Twins Tip" on Saturday afternoon, right before cocktail hour, which somehow seems appropriate – you may need one after these two get through with you.

DAVE WILSON

THIS YEAR DAVE WILSON celebrates his 44th year of calling. From his early teenage years he traveled the East Coast of the USA calling as far north as Kittery,



Maine to as far south as Daytona Beach, Florida. In 1981, he moved to Florida, opened his own square dance hall, and became a professional square dance caller. While in Florida he called 16-18 sessions per week for 17 years. He moved from Florida to Sweden in 1998 and in 2010 moved back

to the United States. He now lives in Mesa, Arizona with his wife Alex.

Dave has been on staff at the National (now AACE), American, Canadian, and Southern Advanced and Challenge Conventions as well as the Swedish National Challenge Convention, Heartland Jubilee, PACE Extravaganza, PACE Spectacular, Sweden's Ericsson Jamboree, the Swedish National Convention, the European Square and Round Dance College, and Germany's iPAC Convention and even called once in Japan. He also has conducted caller's schools and clinics in Germany, Sweden, Denmark, Seattle and Los Angeles. This will be his sixth IAGSDC convention.

Dave has written one of the most popular square dance music computer programs available today for callers called SQmp3Gold (sqmp3.com) that will soon be available for the iPhone and iPad.

In January of 2012, Dave announced his retirement from square dance calling. During the winter months, Dave will continue to call a limited program in Mesa. We are honored to have him at one of his rare away-from-home appearances.

THE NOW GENERATION

Thanks to Michael Wills and Fred Loehr, **Weave Your Heart's** Wizards of the Web, we have a new way for smartphone and laptop users to keep up with what's going on at the Convention. Soon you'll be able to point your browser to now.sanfrancisco2013.org to see what's happening and who's calling where, **right now**. Two more taps will show you what's coming up next, or at any future time during the weekend.

This site will go "live" the week of the Convention. It won't show much until things really get under way, but we think you'll find it to be a handy alternative to the paper schedules in your registration packet.



CHEAP EATS (AND NOT SO CHEAP)

WHETHER IT'S GROCERIES from the City Target or food to go from one of 18 gourmet eateries, you only have to cross the street to the [Metreon Food Court](#) to fill your belly with the best! For more variety, venture over to the two food parks in the [Westfield San Francisco Centre](#); no McDonalds or Sbarro here, but you'll find over 40 places to eat. From [San Francisco Soup](#) to gourmet sandwiches at [Wichcraft](#), there's something for everyone. And Nordstrom Cafe serves bread pudding to die for,

For diner food, check out [Mel's Drive-in](#) at 801 Mission Street. A few doors down, you can find yummy, savory pot pies at the [Cravery](#) (829 Mission), authentic Vietnamese delicacies at [Green Papaya](#) (825 Mission), and fresh sushi at [Tokyo Express](#) (814 Mission),

More local favorites are Vietnamese sandwiches at [Muffins Muffins](#) (123 2nd St. between Mission and Howard), the [Chieftain Irish Pub](#) (198 5th St. at Howard), and [Yank Sing 2 Go](#), the low-price to-go window of the renowned Chinese restaurant (49 Stevenson St. between 1st and 2nd), [Mo's Grill](#) for burgers (inside Yerba Buena Gardens above the Bowling Center), and sourdough crust pizza at [Goat Hill Pizza](#) (171 Stillman St. at 3rd).

A little harder to catch, but a cinch if you're on Twitter, are the food trucks that camp out around the hotel. The best are the [San Buena](#) taco truck at the corner of Bush & Sansome, [Curry Up Now](#) also at Bush & Sansome several days a week, [JappaCurry](#) (various locations), or any truck at Truck Stop Food Alley (Mission & 1st), Monday - Friday 11am - 2pm. Follow them all at [roaminghunger.com/sf](#).

If your tastes are more upscale, make reservations at [Annabelle's](#) (68 4th St., directly across from the hotel main entrance) or at [Lark Creek Steak House](#) or [M.Y. China](#) (both upstairs in Westfield SF Centre.) At the hotel's back entrance, dine al fresco gourmet at [Tropisueno](#) (Mexican, 75 Yerba Buena Lane), [Amber](#) (Indian, 25 Yerba Buena Lane) or the [Press Club](#) (California food and wine, 20 Yerba Buena Lane).

If you don't want to go outside, there are [three restaurants](#) in the hotel: Bin 33, Mission Grille, and The View, plus the lobby Starbucks sells sandwiches and snacks.

Here's a complete [Travel Guide listing of restaurants near our host hotel](#).

CHEAP THINGS TO DO

SAN FRANCISCO HAS LOTS OF FREE MUSEUMS to explore! From the [Octagon House](#) to the [Musee Mecanique](#) and the [Pier 24 Photography Museum](#), our concierges have directions to all the free-everyday museums.

We also have **free museum days**: first Tuesday (July 2nd) is de Young, Legion of Honor, and Yerba Buena Galleries; first Wednesday (July 3rd) is the Exploratorium and the Bay Area Discovery Museum; and the Asian Art Museum is free on the first Sunday (July 7th). For a full list, see [freemuseumday.org/sf.html](#)

In addition to the [free walking tours](#) mentioned last issue, here are a few more low-cost things to do in San Francisco.

1. Climb one of San Francisco's famous [stairway streets](#)
2. Walk across the [Golden Gate Bridge](#)
3. Visit the [Tien Hau Temple](#) in Chinatown
4. Hike up one of the [47 hills](#) in San Francisco
5. Enjoy the view from the skybridges of the [Mandarin Oriental Hotel](#) (floors 39-48, 222 Sansome St. between Pine and California).

CHEAP SIGHTSEEING

FOR GETTING AROUND ON A BUDGET, buy a 1, 3, or 7 day [Muni Passport](#) - you can travel on all forms of San Francisco's Municipal Transit: buses, trains, subways, historic trams, even cable cars (normally \$6 per ride) as much as you want. This is the cheapest way to see the largest amount of the city. Passports can be bought at the Powell Street Station.

Ride one of San Francisco's Open-Top Hop-On/Hop-Off buses. There are 3 different companies with 5 routes, and tickets do not transfer. Mrs. Whateveryouare recommends [Big Bus Tours](#), which offers the best route for the best price (24 hour: \$35; 48 hour: \$45) with a guide!

Ride all three Cable Car lines for a turn-of-the-century



view of the city, and visit the [Cable Car Museum](#), where you can see the workings of this amazing contraption. Cable Cars are pulled by cables in the streets, and are the only ones of its kind left in the world.



It's NOT TOO LATE TO REGISTER!

Tell your friends! Register online thru July 1

Dancer	\$265
Non-Dancer	\$120
First-Time Dancer	\$165
Single Day (or at the door)	\$75
Fun Badge Tour (until sold out)	\$50

EVEN FURTHER TRAILS TO THE CITY

MORE REGISTRATION TRIVIA! Here are the top clubs by number of people registered.

CLUB	# REGISTERED
El Camino Reelers	64
Times Squares	53
DC Lambda Squares	48
Midnight Squares	45
Hotlanta Squares	44
Rocky Mountain Rainbeaus	42
Chi-Town Squares	38
Puddletown Squares	37
Finest City Squares	32
Triangle Squares	29
Western Star Dancers	29
Squares Across the Border	27
Independence Squares	27

HAVE A HEART: VOLUNTEER!

A CONVENTION RUNS ON VOLUNTEERS. Without them, nothing gets done. So *please volunteer* to help out at *Weave Your Heart* this July. Your efforts will be greatly appreciated!

- [Find out how you can volunteer - and see where we need help - on the WYH Volunteers page: volunteer.sanfrancisco2013.org/how-volunteer.](http://volunteer.sanfrancisco2013.org/how-volunteer)
- [Check the WYH Convention Schedule at www.sanfrancisco2013.org/schedule](http://www.sanfrancisco2013.org/schedule)

And there's a raffle! For each slot you volunteer for and work, you'll get one ticket for the *Weave Your Heart Volunteer Raffle*.

Top prize: *an iPad Mini!*



PICNIC UPDATE: PRE-ORDER LUNCH

AS MENTIONED IN OUR LAST ISSUE, the Great Square Dance Family Reunion Picnic on Saturday, July 6 will have **box lunches for pre-purchase** so you can grab your lunch quickly and spend more time in the sun with your friends instead of waiting in line. You can choose from ham, turkey, and vegetarian sandwiches.

Box lunches are only \$10 if you pre-order before July 2nd at <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/378687>. You'll get a ticket in your registration packet.

A Final Note from Mrs. Whateveryouare



Hello again, dears! We are so looking forward to welcoming you all to San Francisco! Like every IAGSDC convention, we'll have plenty of dance floor time, but for this very special 30th Anniversary we also have some new and special activities you won't want to miss!

- A funniest-convention-stories welcome video
- Opening Ceremony with CheerSF and Japanese Taiko drummers
- Intro to Round Dancing on Friday night
- Debut of the "Now" dance schedule for smartphones
- A huge Glowlight dance on Saturday night
- IAGSDC's first thirty year medallion ceremony
- The Family Reunion Picnic
- Showtune comedy at the Saturday evening banquet
- A lady deejay at the Country & Western Dance
- A special reception for women square dancers
- Live jazz at the Sunday brunch
- LGBT retirement planning seminar
- The Barbary Coast Cloggers
- Chillax Station - relaxing chair and table massage area

And darlings, watch for me on the Fun Badge Tour!

Whateveryouare, Whereveryouare!

You'll find hearts by local artists all around town. This one is in Union Square, where our Opening Ceremony will take place (weather permitting).



Follow us on Twitter!
[@WYH2013](https://twitter.com/WYH2013)



Like us on Facebook!
www.facebook.com/WeaveYourHeart