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Food for Thought Presents
Bandido: The Life and Times of Tiburcio Vasquez

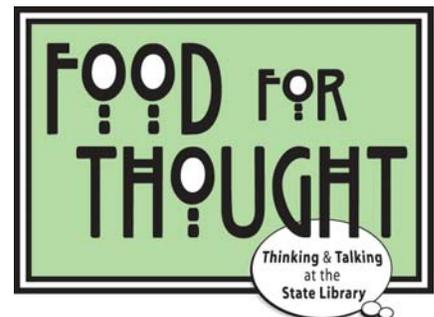
Sacramento – The August event in the California State Library’s cultural series, **Food for Thought: Thinking and Talking at the California State Library**, will be held on Wednesday, August 17. This free evening program includes refreshments and an author talk, followed by a lively discussion.

This month’s speaker is John Boessenecker, author of *Bandido: The Life and Times of Tiburcio Vasquez*. Vasquez was second only to Joaquin Murietta as America’s most infamous Hispanic desperado. Born in Monterey in 1835 and hanged as a murderer in San Jose in 1875, Vasquez’ story was one of violence, banditry, and retribution on the early California frontier. Was he a common thief and heartless killer, or a Mexican American Robin Hood seeking social justice?

Boessenecker pulls back the curtain on a story shrouded in myth—a myth created by Vasquez himself and abetted by writers who saw a tale ripe for embellishment. A San Francisco-based attorney, Boessenecker is an engaging speaker and award-winning author of several books on crime and law enforcement in the Old West.

Historic artifacts associated with Vasquez’ life and death, drawn from the Special Collections of the California State Library, will be on display.

The California State Library launched **Food for Thought** because it believes libraries and the free exchange of information and ideas are essential to a healthy democracy. **Food for Thought** is also a unique venue to showcase rich collections, some predating the Library’s founding in 1850, and to highlight current State Library resources, programs, and services that help build a stronger California.



Join us on Wednesday, August 17, from 5:00 to 8:30 pm at the California State Library, 900 N Street, Sacramento. Doors open at 5:00 pm; the program begins at 6:00 pm. Metered street parking is free after 6:00 pm; 8th and O light rail access is nearby.

Seating in this venue is limited, so attendees must RSVP to Rebecca Ann Fontaine at (916) 653-9942 or rfontaine@library.ca.gov.

***Food for Thought* is made possible by generous donations from the California State Library Foundation**

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