



FIRE & VINE

HOSPITALITY

Fire & Vine Hospitality Announces Sales Strategy Director Position and New Chef and General Manager at AQUA by El Gaucho

SEATTLE, WA – April 1, 2021 – Fire & Vine Hospitality is proud to announce a new leadership role for former AQUA by El Gaucho general manager, Sivi Mennen, and a new team at the company’s waterfront gem on Seattle’s Pier 70. After 21 years at AQUA, Sivi will take on a new role as sales strategy director at the Fire & Vine Hospitality home office. David Kim will serve as AQUA’s general manager and Ken Palmer leads the kitchen as executive chef.

“This is a time of hopeful beginnings in our world, industry and our team. We are excited to begin a new era for AQUA with David Kim and Ken Palmer at the helm,” said Chad Mackay, CEO, Fire & Vine Hospitality. “We are optimistic about the future of hospitality and special events and have confidence in Sivi’s abilities to create exceptional experiences for our guests.”

New Sales Strategy Position Reflects Opportunities Ahead

Sivi has spent her career building relationships with guests, corporate clients, and the Seattle community. As general manager of AQUA by El Gaucho, Sivi’s commitment to building a strong team and loyal guests resulted in her being named a Tourism Ambassador by Visit Seattle, the city’s Convention and Visitors Bureau.

Her new role as sales strategy director will enable her to provide unique experiences for both corporate clients and celebratory diners showcasing the full portfolio of Revelers Club properties and partners throughout the Pacific Northwest. Sivi will also serve as a mentor and work collaboratively with the private dining teams at each of the Revelers Club properties to provide a seamless and exceptional level of service at every event.

“I am excited about this new opportunity to work with our team and partner with our clients to create memorable experiences including corporate retreats, wine tasting trips and other celebrations,” said Sivi Mennen, sales strategy director, Fire & Vine Hospitality.

Celebrating 21 Years of AQUA by El Gaucho

For 21 years, AQUA by El Gaucho has been the setting for birthdays, anniversaries and many of life’s celebrations. When it opened in 2000 as Waterfront Seafood Grill, it dazzled with walls of glass to frame views of Elliott Bay, the Olympic Mountains, Mt. Rainier and the Space Needle. The restaurant was rebranded to AQUA by El Gaucho in 2011 to reflect the synergy between the two. Then and now, the Puget Sound serves as both the backdrop and the inspiration for the menu at AQUA.

David Kim, General Manager, AQUA by El Gaucho

David joined Fire & Vine Hospitality in 2019 as a captain at El Gaucho Bellevue and became general manager at AQUA by El Gaucho in 2021. Prior to joining Fire & Vine Hospitality, David served as the general manager for the Goldfinch Tavern at the Seattle Four Seasons Hotel and as service director at Canlis.

Ken Palmer, Executive Chef, AQUA by El Gaucho

As a spiritual scholar, musician, and an accomplished chef, Ken has earned degrees in music theory from the Atlanta Institute of Music and Media, and in sound engineering from the Recording Workshop. Recently, he earned a degree in religion from the Rawlings School of Divinity and is working toward a master’s degree in theology. His culinary career includes New Orleans’ restaurants Commander’s Palace and Arnaud’s as well as JaK’s Grill and 509 Management.

About Revelers Club and Fire & Vine Hospitality

Each Revelers Club location is unique to the community it serves, and all share the following attributes.

- Service – We provide every guest with a unique, unparalleled experience. We revel in celebrating lives.
- Quality - Our mission is to source the best in the world for our guests to enjoy.
- Community – Building a strong community through financial giving and sharing time and resources is a core company value.

Revelers Club is the industry’s most generous rewards program designed to reward and honor our guest’s loyalty and provide benefits at each location in the collection, including El Gaucho Seattle, Bellevue, Tacoma, Portland and Vancouver (opening 2021), AQUA by El Gaucho, Aperlume, Basel

Cellars Estate, Walla Walla Steak Co. and Crossbuck Brewing. Free to join, the Revelers Club shares birthday and anniversary gifts at each level of the program and members receive points for every dollar spent.

Revelers Club is managed by the Fire & Vine Hospitality team which provides operational leadership, culinary expertise and product sourcing, marketing and technology support for some of the Pacific Northwest's most iconic lodging and restaurants.

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