

November 22, 2009

OUR REGION

DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO | FESTIVAL HIGHLIGHTING CULINARY BOUNTY CONCLUDES TODAY



Cathy Shank, assistant corporate chef for Brandt Beef of Brawley, (above) grilled kabobs made with the company's all-natural, hormone-free, corn-fed beef at the San Diego Bay Wine & Food Festival at Embarcadero Marina Park yesterday. Dennis Noggle of Oceanside (below) sampled some wine. John Gibbins / Union-Tribune photos

'Wine heretic' lives for good food, drink

By Jennifer Davies
STAFF WRITER

As he stood near the entrance to the San Diego Bay Wine & Food Festival yesterday, it was clear that John Alongé was in his element.

Friends, acquaintances and former attendees of his many speaking engagements all came by to say hi and to ask the self-

anointed "wine heretic" where his drink was.

To one of his admirers, Alongé joyfully described the rows of food and wine tents at the festival's grand event as "the liver of no return. Once you come here, there is no turning back."

That sort of patter is pure Alongé.



SEE Food, B4