



The Grapevine Newsletter

November 2010

November 2010 President's Message

The 2nd annual Harvest Dinner last month was a great success, hopefully you got in on it. Chef Clay offered his provocative platings and the new mezzanine venue was quite a hit. Thanks to Fred Millar for organizing another fantastic afternoon to celebrate the hard work of a 2010 vintage with friends and wine. Thanks also to John Kehriotis, our unofficial wine Ambassador and owner of the Embassy Suites.

The Board, appointees, and volunteers are going full force into Winter planning for 2011 with elections upon us next week and the Holiday party/fund raiser to top off the year. I am grateful for serving two years as your President and still plan to stick around in the background. But new leadership is on its way with fresh ideas and energy. The slate of Board nominations includes 1) Donna Bettencourt as President, 2) Bill Staehlin, V.P., 3) Mike Touchette, Treasurer, and 4) Sue Sommersett, Secretary. Keep in mind there is still one more opportunity to take nominees from the floor just before we vote. Mike says "be there or be elected" and I respect his wisdom! Also, we get to taste from the Gold Medal Winners and get a tasting tour of Italy. You won't want to miss any of it.

As for your wine in progress, don't forget about it! Remember it is still active in secondary ferment and will taste different from week to week/month to month. As the cold sets in, you may have the opportunity to make slight differences such as "cold stabilize" a carboy or to drop tartaric crystals using cream of tartar to facilitate the process. You may also try some toasted oak cubes to build up complementary character. Or do nothing if you like it the way it's coming along. Keep in mind blending opportunities (not your Club Project wine) that may present later on in the year with finished wines. Winemaking is a never ending pleasure—with luck, good till the last drop! Hope to share some next week.

Cheers!

Lynn Keay

2010 & 2009 SHW President

November SHW Meeting Program - November 17th, 2010 7pm-9:30 pm

Join us at our monthly SHW program at the Turn Verein at 7pm for triad of wine-related presentations. We will start the evening with the presentation of nominees for Board positions for election for the 2011-12 year. Only SHW members may vote. Although we have one nominee for every open Board position, nominations from the floor are welcome at this meeting as well. Following the election, our proud gold medal winners will present their wines for tastings and explain how they came to make these award-winning wines. Finally, club members Judy Pinegar, John O'Dell, Mike Anderson, and Tacia Caroll will take us on a Tuscan wine journey as they present a travelogue of their trip to Italy last spring. Italian varietal wines from this region will be served along with selected cheeses, olives, and breads paired to these wines. Don't miss this exciting meeting!

Remember to bring two wine glasses to the meeting. We gather from 6:30pm-7pm to mix and mingle (and share experiences related to the Club Zinfandel Project). The Turn Verein is located in Sacramento at 3349 J Street. We will meet in our regular room upstairs to the right.

Donna Bettencourt

Vice President/Program Chair

Executive Board Meeting: December 1, 2010

Honoring tradition, the December board meeting will be at Gary Young's home. Bring soup or bread & wine to share, beginning at 6:00 PM. The meeting starts promptly at 6:45PM. This will be the annual transitional meeting with both 2010 and newly elected 2011 board members in attendance. All club members are welcome to attend. Contact Gary if you need directions at gycats@earthlink.net.

Annual Holiday Dinner & Party, Wednesday, December 15, 2010



It's the most WINE-derful time, of the year!! December celebrates the season with the annual holiday dinner and party. Debbie Moreton, your Party Coordinator, has been busy selecting your festive culinary delights, taking care of party planning details, and gathering the Grand Prize Raffle and Silent Auction Items. She is also seeking additional items from Club Members for the \$5 Raffle table. Tickets for raffle prizes will be sold at the party. All proceeds, from these exhilarating fund raising activities, will benefit the Club.

For anyone who would like to participate, bring a gift valued at \$10 and take a gift home as part of the Holiday Gift Exchange. Have fun and be creative!! There are so many great gift ideas for everyone!

The party begins with appetizers @ 6:00PM, followed by our delicious holiday fare dinner @ 7:00PM, then decadent desserts and presentations. As in the past, attendees shared wines will make this event all the more wine-derful!!

Reservations for dinner must be made Friday, December 10, 2010. Please make your reservations early!! The Annual Holiday Dinner & Party Announcement in this newsletter has additional details and a payment form.

Announcement: Fellow SHW Members

The Club is looking for a member to be Hospitality Chair for the coming year. This is a great way to become involved in the Club, and a relatively light burden. You simply recruit members to bring the bread and cheese for each monthly program, and then remind them of their commitment before the meeting. They will set up the items about a half hour before the meetings. If you are interested in serving the Club in this way, contact Donna Bettencourt, bettencourt1045@softcom.net, or (916) 454-5487.

Good Eats!

The recipe is from San Francisco a la Carte Cookbook by the Junior League of San Francisco (page 38), courtesy of Linda Clevenger (SHW member).

Artichoke Frittata



3 6-ounce jars marinated artichokes, drained and finely chopped	6 single soda crackers, finely crushed
1/2 pound sharp Cheddar cheese, grated	Dash of Tabasco sauce
1 medium onion, finely chopped	Salt and pepper to taste
4 eggs, lightly beaten	

Preheat oven to 325 degrees. Mix ingredients well and pour into a buttered 8-inch-square baking pan. Bake at 325 degrees for one hour. Cut into 1-inch squares and serve hot or at room temperature.



Sacramento Home Winemakers
*Annual Holiday Dinner &
Party*

Turn Verein Main Hall
Wednesday, December 15, 2010
Social Hour 6:00 PM
Dinner 7:00 PM



Please bring wine for your table or wine to share with other Club Members!!

Catered by Calyn McKnight



Appetizers ~ Served during Social Hour

Meatballs, Stuffed Mushrooms, Shrimp Cocktail, Gourmet Cheese Selection

Dinner:


Prime Rib Carving Station with Horseradish and Au Jus, Stuffed Chicken Breast with Wine Sauce, Winter Medley Salad, Sauteed Seasonal Vegetables, Garlic Mashed Red Potatoes, Assorted Freshly Baked Rolls
Served with Fruit Punch and Ice Tea

Dessert:

Assorted Pies and Cheese Cakes, Coffee

\$ 36.00 per person

Please make your reservations early!



Holiday Gift Exchange! ~ Bring a gift valued at \$10
and take a gift home!



No worries if you've been naughty or nice this year!

Grand Prize Raffle (Tickets are \$10 each)

To be Announced Soon!!

Silent Auction Items Secured To Date (Tables Open 6 PM – 8PM)

Private 4-Course Greek Dinner for 6, Prepared by Judy Pinegar

Lone Buffalo Vineyards Private Wine Tasting for 10 with Appetizers and Wine

Beautiful Handcrafted Wood Punch

A Collection of 4 Wine Movie Posters (Laminated and Wood Mounted)

Regional Wine Packages from Lodi, El Dorado, & Amador AVAs

A Wine Adventure with Mike Dunne, Food/Wine Critic

Silver Oak, Alexander Valley Cabernet Sauvignon

2010 SHW Membership

Donated by Club Members and friends of SHW

\$5 Raffle

Gift Baskets, Wines and other Items

Donated by Club members and friends of SHW



Grand Prize and \$5 Raffle Tickets will be sold at the Holiday Dinner & Party



2010 Annual Holiday Dinner & Party ~ \$36 per person

Submit payment no later than Friday, December 10, 2010

Attendee(s) First/Last Name(s)

Number of Persons for Holiday Dinner _____ x \$36 = \$_____

Make check payable to:

Sacramento Home Winemakers

Mail check to:

P.O. Box 894

Gold River, CA 95741

Questions? ~ Please contact Debra Moretton, Party Coordinator
at 916-296-1115 or dem1019@sbcglobal.net

Sacramento Home Winemakers

Winemaker of the Year Selection Criteria

The purpose of the Winemaker of the Year award is to encourage excellence in wine-making among all Club members. The best measure of excellence is the opinion of qualified judges in a structured competition environment. Accordingly, the following criteria were adopted by the Executive Board on July 1, 2009.

*The annual winner of the **Winemaker of the Year** award shall be the candidate who accrues the most Total Points in the Award Year as follows:*

- *Candidates for this award must be members of SHW, Inc. in good standing who are not the owners, winemakers or employees of licensed commercial winemaking concerns, except as set forth below.*
- *Candidates who are owners, winemakers or employees of commercial winemaking concerns, but who are otherwise qualified, may submit wines for competition provided that such wines were made and bottled prior to the effective date of their winegrowers license.*
- *Candidates must certify that the wines they submit for competition are 100% home made wines created by the candidate without any hands-on assistance from a commercial winemaking concern as described above. Consultation with commercial winemakers and educators is encouraged by the Club.*
- *Candidates must compete in a minimum of three (3) recognized wine competitions during the Award Year. Regardless of the number of competitions entered, the results of only three competitions (selected by the candidate) may be entered in the Winemaker of the Year competition.*
- *Among the competitions entered, one must be the SHW Jubilee and one must be the California State Fair.*
- *The "Award Year" extends from December 1st of the prior calendar year to November 30th of the subject calendar year.*
- *A competition is considered to have been in the Award Year if the actual judging is conducted and medals awarded during the Award Year.*
- *Candidates must enter a minimum of two separate and distinct wines (i.e. different varietal or different vintage) in each competition.*
- *Excluding wine scores in the case of multiple entries: The following measures are intended to encourage club members to enter multiple wines in competition:*
 - *If four wines are entered in a competition, only the top three will be scored for Winemaker of the Year Award purposes.*
 - *If five or more wines are entered in a competition, only the top four will be scored for Winemaker of the Year Award purposes.*
- *Points will be awarded as follows:*

No award – 0

Honorable Mention -- 10

Bronze Award -- 20

Silver Award -- 30

Gold Award -- 40
Double-Gold Award – 50

**Best Varietal, Best Red, Best White, Best Dessert, Best Fruit,
Best Sparkling Wine, or Best Other – 20 additional points**

**(Note 1: A wine may win in more than one category, i.e. Best Merlot and
Best Red, in which case 40 points would be awarded).**

**(Note 2: The fact that the award may be termed, “Best of Show, Red”, etc.
does not qualify it for Best of Show points as outlined below).**

**Best of Show (for those competitions which award a SINGLE Best of Show
medal) – 40 additional points**

Points ÷ Number of Entries = Average Points

(Note: Wine(s) excluded from scoring do not count as an Entry)

**Total Points: The sum total of all Average Points from all three
competitions entered.**

**The Winemaker of the Year is the candidate who earns the most Total
Points.**

- *Candidates will be provided forms to fill out which will guide the calculation of the Total Point score.*
- *The Chief Judge will verify all competitive entries and submit the top scorer to the President for approval.*
- *The scores of the top five finishers will be publicized to all Club members.*

Sacramento Home Winemakers

Winemaker of the Year Entry Form

This form contains results of judging conducted and medals awarded during Award Year _____, which ends on November 30th of said year.

Name _____
 Address _____

Phone (day) _____
 Phone (cell) _____
 Email _____

SHW JUBILEE:

Total number of entries _____
 Total adjusted¹ entries _____

CALIFORNIA STATE FAIR:

Total number of entries _____
 Total adjusted¹ entries _____

Total Points for Adjusted Entries

No Award (0) _____
 Hon. Men. (10) _____
 Bronze (20) _____
 Silver (30) _____
 Gold (40) _____
 Double Gold (50) _____
 Best of _____(20) _____
 Best of Show (40) _____
 TOTAL _____

Total ÷ Adj. Entries = Avg _____

Total Points for Adjusted Entries

No Award (0) _____
 Hon. Men. (10) _____
 Bronze (20) _____
 Silver (30) _____
 Gold (40) _____
 Double Gold (50) _____
 Best of _____(20) _____
 Best of Show (40) _____
 TOTAL _____

Total ÷ Adj. Entries = Avg _____

COMPETITION _____

Total number of entries _____
 Total adjusted¹ entries _____

Total Points for Adjusted Entries

No Award (0) _____
 Hon. Men. (10) _____
 Bronze (20) _____
 Silver (30) _____
 Gold (40) _____
 Double Gold (50) _____
 Best of _____(20) _____
 Best of Show (40) _____
 TOTAL _____

Total ÷ Adj. Entries = Avg _____

Turn completed form into the Chief Judge or any Executive Board member. **Final score will be calculated by the Chief Judge.**

I certify that this entry is submitted in conformance with SHW Winemaker of the Year Selection Criteria.

/S/ _____
 Date: _____

To be completed by the Chief Judge:

FINAL SCORE

¹If four wines are entered, one may be excluded; If five or more wines are entered, two may be excluded (see Winemaker of the Year criteria).