



The Grapevine

Newsletter of the Sacramento Home Winemakers, Inc.

September 2012

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Sacramento Home Winemakers (SHW) monthly meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesdays of the month starting at 7 PM, upstairs at the Turn Verein located at 3349 J Street in midtown Sacramento. For more information on SHW membership, meetings and activities, visit:

www.SacHomeWine.org

September 19, 2012 SHW Meeting The Impact of Oak on Wine

You hear that oak imparts flavors in your wines and that your wine benefits from barrel ageing but what does the oak really do to your wine and what truly are the benefits? How do you get oak into your wine if you don't use barrels?

At the Club's September 19 meeting, Dr. Jeff McCord, Director of Research at StaVin will lead a discussion on the impact of oak – applications, oak products, the evolution of oak, and how oak can even assist in malo-lactic conversion. StaVin is a worldwide leading supplier of premium oak products for both commercial and home winemaking uses.

<http://www.stavin.com>.

Please bring a bottle of wine to share and a wine glass for your use. Thanks to all for helping set up before the meeting. We are to vacate the meeting room by 9:30 PM and your help in facilitating the clean-up is appreciated.

-- **Bill Staehlin, Vice President**

President's Message



Dear SHW Members:

As you read this message, I will be deep in the south of France devouring the landscapes, the foods, and the wines. My travels will take me from Paris, to Arles, then over to Lake Como, and then on to Venice, Florence and, finally, Rome.

There is nothing like travelling the world and munching through their favorite foods and wine. Many of you gave me tips on where to go, and what to sample, and for that I am grateful. Our club members travel extensively and bring back not only a finer palate and spectrum of wine appreciation, but also wonderful tales of visiting regional wineries and vineyards.

(continued on next page)

2012 Boards and Appointees

Executive Board

President - Donna Bettencourt
bettencourt1045@softcom.net

Vice President - Bill Staehlin
bill.staehlin@sbcglobal.net

Treasurer - Mike Touchette
pinotsyrah@yahoo.com

Secretary - Sue Summersett
sbsummer2002@yahoo.com

Membership Co-Chairs
Fred Millar & Gin Yang
fred.millar1@gmail.com
ginyangstaehlin@yahoo.com

Past President - Lynn Keay
lynn.keay@gmail.com

Board Appointees

Chief Judge - D. D. Smith
ddanjo@sbcglobal.net

Cellar Master - Henry Wilkinson
hbwilkinson@jps.net

Club Competition Coordinator
Mentors Coordinator
Web Manager
Judy Pinegar
judypinegar@gmail.com

Hospitality Coordinator-Sonia Baron
soniabaron@hotmail.com

Community Relations
Debbie Moretton
dem1019@sbcglobal.net
John Avila
mail@john-avila.com

Historian - Gary Young
gycats@earthlink.net

The Grapevine Editor - vacant

Board of Directors

Judy Pinegar (Chair)
Mike Touchette
Fred Millar
Lynn Keay
Donna Bettencourt

In November, the Sacramento Home Winemakers traditionally uses this monthly program for presentation by club members of their travels, accompanied often with great stories, and often times, photos, of unexpected treats (we all recall last year's wonderful presentation by Paul and Nancy Baldwin of their travels to Australia and their unexpected dinner at the winery). We have a small fund for the speakers to purchase several wines from the region to share with our members. And, of course, our table snacks match the regional wines. As always, our members enrich our knowledge and appreciation of wines.

If you would like to present for a few minutes about your travels last year, contact SHW Vice President Bill Staehlin at bill.staehlin@sbcglobal.net. The club owns a projector, and we can easily lend you a laptop for your presentation.

I know that I will be sharing my travels when I get back, if I get back.....Volare, oh-oh-oh-oh!!

Happy Winemaking!

-- **Donna Bettencourt**

Thanks for Stepping Up!

Your Club appreciates your help in keeping the organization running smoothly and extends special thanks to:

- Deb Moretton for coordinating and bringing the hospitality cheese and bread for June's meeting; and
- Lynn Keay for hosting September's executive board meeting.
- Mike Harris for coordinating the Club's September bottle buy.

September Executive Board Meeting – October 3 Wednesday, 6:30PM –8PM in Tahoe Park (Sacramento)

All SHW members are encouraged to attend the Club's Executive Board Meeting at least one time, so why not make October's Board meeting the one to attend? The October meeting will be held in Tahoe Park, off of 65th Street Expressway.

This is a great way to get involved and to learn more about your Club, with absolutely no commitment (lucky you!). At the October meeting, we will be finishing up our planning for the final events of the year – the Harvest Dinner and the Holiday Party, as well as polishing the programs for October and for November.

If you can't make the board meeting at 6:30pm, come around 8:00pm for the potluck that follows and the sharing of wine and fellowship. Contact Donna Bettencourt, President at bettencourt1045@softcom.net or (916) 548-3199, for exact location.

-- **Donna Bettencourt, President**

2012 SHW Calendar

September 19 Wednesday	General Meeting: Oak Impacts on Wine <i>Speaker: Jeff McCord, Director of Research, StaVin</i>
October 3 Wednesday	Executive Board Meeting, Sacramento <i>Contact President Donna Bettencourt – 916 454-5487; bettencourt1045@softcom.net</i>
October 17 Wednesday	General Meeting: Sparklers, Desserts, Fruits and Ports Evaluation and Wine and Food Pairing <i>Evaluator and Speaker: Gerald Cresci</i>
November 3 Saturday	Winemakers Harvest Dinner Frasinetti Winery and Restaurant, 4 PM
November 14 Wednesday	General Meeting: Annual Elections, Gold and Silver Winners Tasting, and Travelogue Members Invited to Present: 2012 Gold and Silver Awardees, and Travelers <i>Contact VP Bill Staehlin – 916 216-1753; bill.staehlin@sbcglobal.net</i>
December 16 Sunday	Holiday Party and Silent Auction, Delta King, 4PM <i>No General Meeting in December</i>

Monthly meetings generally start at 7 PM on the 3rd Wednesdays of the month, upstairs at the Turn Verein, 3349 J Street, Sacramento. Show up at 6:30 PM with your wine glass and a bottle of wine and enjoy wine making camaraderie. Please bring 2 wine glasses for evaluation meetings. Thanks for helping set up and cleaning at the meetings.

Board meetings start at 6:30 PM on the 1st Wednesdays of the month.

Harvest Dinner – Saturday, November 3



The annual Winemakers Harvest Dinner is a relaxing time when members take time from the rush of the crush and share their harvest adventures and home wines.

Harvest Dinner Coordinator Fred Millar has negotiated a special evening for SHW at Sacramento's Frasinetti's Winery and Restaurant on Saturday, November 3 starting at 4 PM. Corkage is waived for the evening so bring as many of your wines as you'd like.

More details to follow in next month's newsletter including the reservation form. For additional information, please contact Fred Millar at fredmillar1@gmail.com or 916 576-9596.

Mentors

Looking for a winemaking mentor?
Judy Pinegar can help you find one.

Judy Pinegar, Loomis (Coordinator)
916 652-5198
judyvinegar@gmail.com **F,R,W**

Carl & Lili Brust, Loomis
916 652-9001
lcburst@garlic.com **S,W**

Debra Moreton, Auburn
916 296-1115
dem1019@sbcglobal.net **V**

Mike Touchette, Diamond Springs
530 748-9677
pinotsyrah@yahoo.com **R,W**

Gerald Cresci, Herald
209 748-2122 **F,P,VM**

Paul & Nancy Baldwin, Elk Grove
916 684-2086
pbaldwin@frontiernet.net **R,VM,W**

Henry Wilkinson, Sacramento
916 446-6276
hbwilkinson@jps.net **R**

Jim Margolis, Sacramento
916 451-4279
jamadapa@att.net **R,W**

Donna Bettencourt, Sacramento
916 454-5487
bettencourt1045@softcom.net **R,W**

D. D. Smith, Gold River
916 638-8849
ddanjo@sbcglobal.net **I,P,R,W**

Lynn Keay, Gold River
lynn.keay@gmail.com **F,R,W**

Rex Johnston, East Bay
925 930-2897
Wine4rex@yahoo.com **F,R,W**

Mentor Wine Specialties:

F = fruit; **I** = ice; **P** = port; **R** = red;
S = sparkler; **V** = viognier; **VM** =
vineyard management; **W** = white

November Meeting - Your Wine Travels and Show Off Your Golds and Silvers



SHW members are invited to be the “program” for the November 14 meeting when you can share your wine travel adventures to distant lands. Share your trip’s winery finds with slides or Power Point presentations. SHW has can assist in purchasing wines of the region for tasting by our members.

Also at the November 14 meeting, you’ll have an opportunity to bring for tasting your wines that earned golds or silvers in competition this year. So that we can coordinate the evening, please drop VP Bill Staehlin an email to let him know how many of your medalists that you’ll be bringing to share.

Travelogue, Gold or Silver wines - VP Bill’s waiting to hear from you. Contact him at (916) 216-1753 or bill.staehlin@sbcglobal.net.

SHW is Recruiting for 2013 Officers (and appointed chairs)

Elected officers include President, Vice President – Programs, Treasurer, Secretary, and Membership Chairman. A very important position we need for next year is the Vice President - Programs where you get to select and make arraignments for the speakers for monthly meeting. This is a job that can be shared, by two or more people if desired.

Also needed are appointive positions Newsletter Editor, Coordinators for parties and events, like the Holiday Dinner, Winemakers Dinner, Fieldtrips, Passport Weekends, Cellarmaster or assistant, Hospitality Coordinator (monthly meetings) and more.

Please join our Executive Board, these positions are fun and rewarding. We normally meet as a Board on the first Wednesday of every month at a member’s home.

If you are interested contact me, Judy Pinegar (916-652-5198) or judypinegar@gmail.com ... Contact me before I contact you!! Nominees will be finally selected by the Board of Directors (last 5 Past Presidents). Elections will be held in November.

- Judy Pinegar, Chair, Board of Directors

Save the Date! SHW Holiday Party and Silent Auction

Sunday, December 16 at Sacramento’s Delta King

Happy Hour starts at 4PM, no corkage fee, complimentary valet parking, 15% discount on rooms (includes breakfast) - more info to follow in the next newsletter.

If you’d like to donate for the silent auction, please contact Judy Pinegar – contact info above.

Technical Meetings in Real Time



We’re thinking about video recording meetings or Skyping them or something similar to capture the Clubs’s monthly programs so that they can be viewed remotely and/or at a later time. If you have ideas or resources to help bring this together, please contact Prez Donna Bettencourt: (916) 454-5487 and bettencourt1045@softcom.net.



Seeking a new SHW Chief Judge

My wife, Jo and I have made the decision to relocate to Southern California sometime next spring or summer. Jo has her roots there, and it's time for her to return after roaming the U.S. for 37 years with me. But the prospect of leaving the finest viticultural area in North America to stare at some Temecula fruit causes me foreboding, indeed. You might see me up here from time to time raiding local vineyards.

The upshot for the Club is that the new President-elect will be faced with appointing a new Chief Judge late this year for duty beginning in January, 2013. We have a couple of excellent candidates on the Executive Board, but we all think it wise to canvas our membership to see if there might be some good Chief Judge talent out there somewhere.

Here are some qualifications an ideal candidate might have:

- Graduate of an advanced tasting course at UCD or elsewhere
- Some reasonable experience in making good wines
- Previous judging experience
- Broad knowledge of wines (U.S. and foreign)
- A deep, abiding and energetic pursuit of anything WINE
- Time available to work with the Board and to run the Jubilee wine competition

If you think you might qualify, let's chat about it. Please call me at 916-638-8849 or email at ddanjo@sbcglobal.net.

More from the Chief Judge...

2012 Winemaker of the Year

Just a reminder – **Winemaker of the Year** entries are due by November 30th! The basic format mandating entry in three competitions, which must include our Jubilee and the Orange County Fair (this year only), remains the same.

1. Candidates must enter a minimum of TWO "separate and distinct" wines in each competition.
2. To encourage club members to enter multiple wines in each competition (even knowing that some may not be medal winners), we have set up a means of excluding the scores of some wines from counting in the Winemaker of the Year competition:
 - a. When four wines are entered in any competition, the score of one wine may be excluded from the Winemaker of the Year competition.
 - b. When five wines are entered in any competition, the score of up to two wines may be excluded from the Winemaker of the Year competition.
 - c. When more than five wines are entered in any competition, the score of up to three wines may be excluded from the Winemaker of the Year competition.

The **Winemaker of the Year** criteria sheet and entry form are included in this newsletter, so don't delay! Turn in the completed form to the Chief Judge or any board member.

Club Equipment

Club equipment can be borrowed by SHW members. Reservations are handled on a first come, first served basis with a signed "Release Agreement" on file.

Destemmer-Crusher

Contact:

Andy Walter, 916 955-6373
andrew.walter@sbcglobal.net

Basket Press

Contact:

Lynn Keay, 916 969-4924
lynn.keay@gmail

Filter

Contact:

Donna Bettencourt, 916 454-5487
bettencourt1045@softcom.net

Please help keep Club equipment in optimum shape for everyone to use.

- Thoroughly clean and return equipment within 24 hours.
- Notify equipment coordinator of equipment malfunctions or damage.
- Provide your own paper filters for the filter.
- Schedule thoughtfully during peak season as several members may need to borrow the equipment on the same day.

"Release Agreements" are available at the monthly SHW meetings. Be proactive: if you're planning to borrow Club equipment, attend the equipment training and complete the form. See Prez Donna Bettencourt for additional information.

Club Resources

Logo Glassware

Large clear wine glasses deep-etched with the SHW logo are available for purchase.

Logo Wear

Get your own SHW polo shirt and baseball cap. Please contact Sue Summersett (see above for contact info).

For details on both SHW glassware and logowear go to www.sachomewine.org and click on "Member Services." Contact Sue Summersett with inquiries: sbsummer2002@yahoo.com and 916 354-2050.

Oak Beans

Vice President Bill Staehlin volunteers to coordinate the purchase of oak cubes/beans for the Club. He can be reached at (916) 216-1753 or bill.staehlin@sbcglobal.net

Bottle Awards

Bottle stickers for Jubilee award-winning wines (gold, silver and bronze) are available for purchase at meetings. 6 stickers for \$3 or 12 for \$5.

Bottle Buy

Mike Harris is coordinating a September bottle buy. He'll be at the September 19 meeting with bottle samples. For additional information, go to: <http://www.sachomewine.com/category/classified-ads/2012-equipment-for-sale>.

SacHomeWine.org

As a current member, you should be receiving regular notifications of blog posts including the monthly Club newsletter, *The Grapevine*. If you're not, please web manager, Judy Pinegar at judyvinegar@gmail.com.



Sacramento Home Winemakers is on facebook!

"Like" SHW's fb page. Send Gin your crush and squeeze pics and get them posted. ginyangstaehin@yahoo.com



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. *For the 2012 competition, the Orange County Fair is substituted for 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:*

- *When four wines are entered in any competition, the score of one wine may be excluded from the Winemaker of the Year competition.*
 - *When five wines are entered in any competition, the score of up to two wines may be excluded from the Winemaker of the Year competition.*
 - *When more than five wines are entered in any competition, the score of up to three wines may be excluded from the Winemaker of the Year competition.*
- 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 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 _____

ORANGE COUNTY 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).