

# The Grapevine

Newsletter of the Sacramento Home Winemakers, Inc.

October 2012

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**Sacramento Home Winemakers (SHW)** monthly meetings are held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> 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](http://www.SacHomeWine.org)

## October 17, 2012 SHW Meeting

### Sparkling, Dessert, Fruit and Port Evaluation and Wine and Food Pairing

Does chocolate go well with white wine? What about a port (fortified) wine? How does cabernet sauvignon pair with nuts, chocolate or cheese? Come and find out at our October 17<sup>th</sup> meeting and determine your sensory preferences and dislikes.

Pairing of wine with food follows our regular session devoted to the evaluation of your sparkling, dessert, fruit and port wines. SHW member, wine judge, grower, educator, and winemaker Gerald Cresci is the night's evaluator and presenter.

- Please bring two 750 ml bottles of wine that you'd like evaluated and contact VP Bill Staehlin at bill.staehlin@sbcglobal.net or 916 216-1753 to let him know you'll be part of the evaluation line-up.

- The best results of wine and food pairing will be obtained by bringing **FOUR** glasses to the meeting. Back and forth comparisons can be best accomplished if several glasses are used. Four is ideal. Fewer number of glasses will give your memory a more difficult workout when tracking the pairing results.

- 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.

**Special Note:** the Turn Verein's annual banquet is on the same night as SHW's meeting. We will meet in the room across the hall from our regular meeting room. Parking near the Turn Verein will be extremely limited with availability several blocks away. Thanks for planning accordingly.

-- **Bill Staehlin, Vice President**

## President's Message

Dear SHW Members:

Ooh, la, la! I am back from my travels, cavorting and lollygagging in France and Italy. Eat your heart out Henry!



As your President, I am obliged to let you in on a little secret – travel is wonderful, and don't wait to do it until you retire! I turned 62 in the

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## **2012 Boards and Appointees**

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### **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 Moreton  
dem1019@sbcglobal.net

John Avila  
mail@john-avila.com

*Historian* - Gary Young  
gycats@earthlink.net

*The Grapevine Editor* – *Gin Yang*

### **Board of Directors**

Judy Pinegar (Chair)

Mike Touchette

Fred Millar

Lynn Keay

Donna Bettencourt

south of France, and I have to tell you that it gives me pause – retire, collect social security, and travel, OR, return to the grind of daily work?? What to do?

Our October program will consist of the presentation of the slate of nominees for office for the Sacramento Home Winemakers, the evaluations of dessert, sparkling, and fruit wines, and a very special presentation by our veteran member, Gerald Cresci, on dessert wine and food pairings. Don't miss this one!

As my Presidency winds down, I find myself becoming wistful. 2013 represents the Club's 40th anniversary, and I honor the many President's and officers who came before me. It takes more than a bank account filled with dues to make a club last this long – the oldest home wine club west of the Mississippi. Be proud, and, step up!! We need volunteers to keep the club running at the high level of quality it has always had. Let me know if you have any time at all, and I will charge you with a simple task that will help out the club (and one that won't commit you to being President!).

Happy Winemaking!

-- **Donna Bettencourt**

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### **Thanks for Stepping Up!**

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

- Holly Heggli and Amy Gregory for bringing the hospitality cheese and bread for June's meeting; and
  - InAlliance for hosting October's executive board meeting.
  - Former member Bob Peak for designing and printing the 2012 crush T-shirts.
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### **November Executive Board Meeting – November 7 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 November's Board meeting the one to attend? The November meeting will be held at a member's home in Rancho Murieta.

This is a great way to get involved and to learn more about your Club. At the November meeting, we will be finishing up our planning for the November meeting, putting the final touches on our Holiday Party, and visualizing what our 40th Anniversary Year might look like. Stay for the board meeting, help out with our activities, and later join us for a potluck and sharing of wines. Contact Donna Bettencourt, SHW President, for location, at (916) 548-3199.

If you would like to host a future Executive Board Meeting at your home, or place of business, let me know.

-- **Donna Bettencourt, President**

## 2012 SHW Calendar

October 17 Wednesday	<b>General Meeting: Sparklers, Desserts, Fruits and Ports Evaluation and Wine and Food Pairing</b> <i>Evaluator and Speaker: Gerald Cresci</i>
November 3 Saturday	<b>Winemakers Harvest Dinner</b> Frasinetti Winery and Restaurant, 4 PM <i>See reservation form in this newsletter on page 6</i> <i>Contact Coordinator Fred Millar – 916 576-9596</i>
November 7 Wednesday	<b>Executive Board Meeting</b> <i>Contact President Donna Bettencourt – 916 454-5487; bettencourt1045@softcom.net</i>
November 14 Wednesday	<b>General Meeting: Annual Elections, Travelogue, and Gold and Silver Winners Tasting</b> <i>Travelogue: Our Visit to Catalonia</i> <i>Presenters: J.D. and Erin Phelps</i> <b>Members Invited to Present:</b> <i>bring two 750 ml bottles of your gold and silver winners. Contact VP Bill Staehlin – 916 216-1753; bill.staehlin@sbcglobal.net</i>
December 16 Sunday	<b>Holiday Party and Silent Auction, Delta King, 4PM</b> <i>No General Meeting in December</i> <i>See Holiday Party announcement in this newsletter</i>
January 16 Wednesday	<b>General Meeting: Rhone Ranging – terrior driven and organic/biodynamic wines – What Does This All Mean?</b> <i>Speaker: Randall Graham, Bonny Doon Vineyard</i>

**Monthly meetings** generally start at 7 PM on the 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 evaluations meetings. Thanks for helping set up and cleaning at the meetings.

**Board meetings** start at 6:30 PM on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesdays of the month.

### 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, Passport (continued on next page)

## 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

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## ***Club Equipment***

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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.

Weekends, Cellarmaster or assistant, Hospitality Coordinator. 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 at [judyvinegar@gmail.com](mailto:judyvinegar@gmail.com) or (916-652-5198). 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

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## **SHW 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 buffet dinner 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.

Please use the reservation form on page 6 to make reserve your spot. The dinner is \$40 per person for members (household) and \$45 per person for non-members. For additional information, please contact Fred Millar at [fredmillar1@gmail.com](mailto:fredmillar1@gmail.com) or 916 576-9596.

P.S. We also hear that Frasinetti's has a well-stocked gift shop.

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## **November Meeting - Show Off Your Golds and Silvers**

So, how'd ya do in wine competitions this year? The November 14 meeting is an opportunity to "strut your stuff". Pour your gold and silver for tasting and tell us about them!

Please bring two 750 ml bottles of each wine you'd like to showcase. 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. Contact him at (916) 216-1753 or [bill.staehlin@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bill.staehlin@sbcglobal.net).

The meeting will start with the annual election of officers for 2013. Then relax as J.D. Phelps takes you on his travel adventure through Spain and southern France. We'll then rearrange the furniture and ask winemakers who bring their gold and silver winners to share a little about their wines and winemaking techniques.



## **Amateur Wine and Label Competitions**

**US Amateur Winemaking Competition** – The Los Angeles Cellarmasters home winemaking club invites entries to their 39<sup>th</sup> annual competition. Entries are due November 8. For more information, contact 818 923-1361 or go to their website at <http://cellarmastersla.org>.

## 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 the October 2012 *The Grapevine* newsletter, so don't delay! Turn in the completed form to the Chief Judge or any board member.



### SAVE THE DATE!

**The Annual Holiday Party is Coming Sunday, December 16, 2012!**

The Club's December meeting will celebrate the annual SHW Holiday Party on board the Delta King Riverboat in Old Sacramento. The party begins with appetizers followed by a holiday fare dinner, desserts and presentations.

For those of you who would like to reserve a room at a 15% discounted price (includes breakfast in the Pilothouse Restaurant), visit [www.deltaking.com](http://www.deltaking.com) and make your reservation under rate type “discount” and enter the special group code SHWHP. This discount is valid until November 1, 2012.

The party is coordinated by Debbie Moretton, Community Relations Co-Chairperson/Member, and Judy Pinegar, Mentor Coordinator/Web Master/Board of Directors. This is the Club's major fundraising event where all proceeds from our Silent Auction will benefit the educational programs, field trips, tours, presentations and winemaking experiences offered to our members.

Debbie and Judy need help from as many club members as possible in the following areas: Silent Auction Items (club members can collaborate together for gift baskets, dinners, trips, handmade crafts, etal); Volunteers (monitoring the silent auction tables).

So don't be shy and get involved with this fun and festive event. You may reach them directly at (Debbie) [dem1019@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dem1019@sbcglobal.net) and (Judy) [JudyPinegar@gmail.com](mailto:JudyPinegar@gmail.com) or at any Club meeting. More on the Holiday Party in the November 2012 *The Grapevine*.

# Sacramento Home Winemakers 2012 Harvest Dinner



November 3, 2012 – Saturday  
4 PM Doors Open – 5 PM Buffet Dinner

Frasinetti's Winery and Restaurant  
7395 Frasinetti Road  
Sacramento 95828

Please bring a bottle of wine per person

### *Buffet Menu*

#### **Appetizers**

Mixed Green Salad with Balsamic Vinaigrette

Baguettes, Rolls and Breads

Seasonal Fresh Vegetables - Roasted with Butter and Seasonings

Rosemary Potatoes - Quartered and Oven Roasted

Penne Napoleon - White Wine, Mushrooms, Sundried Tomatoes & Basil

Grilled Chicken Marsala - Boneless Chicken Breast in a Marsala Demi-glace

Baked Salmon with Caper Sauce - Atlantic Salmon Filet topped with a Lemon Caper Cream Sauce

Braised Beef Delmonico - Beef Sirloin braised with Mushrooms, Onion, Chianti and Demi-Glace

Assorted Desserts -- Coffee and Tea

\$40 per person for members

\$45 per person for non-members

Dinner cost includes sales tax and gratuity

Corkage is waived – bring as many bottles as you'd like

Reservations must be received by Friday, October 26, 2012

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Please make reservations for \_\_\_\_\_ person(s) for the November 3, 2012 SHW Harvest Dinner.



Enclosed is a check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (\$40 member / \$45 non-member)

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Info: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check out to SHW and mail with form to:

Mike Touchette, SHW Treasurer

P.O. Box 894

Rancho Cordova, CA 95741