



March 2019

The Grapevine Newsletter



2019 SHW Calendar of Events

Executive Board Meetings:

Generally held on the first Wednesday of the month at 7 PM; locations vary.
Contact President Joe McGillivray at pyramid-lake59@gmail.com for details.

General Meetings:

Held on 3rd Wednesday of month unless otherwise noted, starting at 7 PM upstairs at the Turn Verein meeting hall located at 3349 J Street, Sacramento.

Wednesday, March 20, 2019

General Meeting - 2018 White and Rose Wines Evaluation Evaluators: Craig Haarmeyer

Wednesday, April 3, 2019

Executive Board Meeting Folsom

Wednesday, April 17, 2019

General Meeting – Red Wines Roundtable Discussion

Wednesday, May 1, 2019

Executive Board Meeting– location TBD

Wednesday, May 15, 2019

General Meeting- Non-Bordeaux Red Wines

June 1-2 SHW Jubilee!

**Wine Competition and Picnic
(Save the Date!)**

Monthly Meeting- March 20th 2018 White and Rose Evaluation

Join your fellow Home Winemakers on Wednesday, March 20th at 7pm for our Monthly Program upstairs at the Turn Verein located at 3349 J Street in Sacramento. There is additional parking in the back.

This month's program will be devoted to the evaluation of members 2018 Whites and Rose wines. Please bring two 750ml bottles of wine. If you haven't yet prepared your bottles please do so without adding sulfates. Clearly mark your bottles with varietal and your name. Check in your wines with Cellar Master Joe Morgan before the meeting starts and be prepared to give a brief summary of your winemaking journey with this wine. To help with your winemaking summary go to the SacHomeWine.com website and on the home page you will find a link to the Wine Evaluation form on the right side of the page. Your wine will be poured for all the members in attendance, and presented to our guest evaluator for the evening, Craig Haarmeyer. This is your opportunity to learn about how you can improve (or "fix" in the case of a faulted wine) your Whites and Rose's prior to bottling. If you have already bottled, Craig will no doubt help you to understand how you can improve your technique for White and Rose' wines for next harvest.

All members remember to bring your wine glasses for tasting. Your help in setting up and cleaning up at meetings is always appreciated.

Contact Vice President Terry Piazza-Perham if you have program questions: [piazza-perham @att.net](mailto:piazza-perham@att.net)

Please consume responsibly.

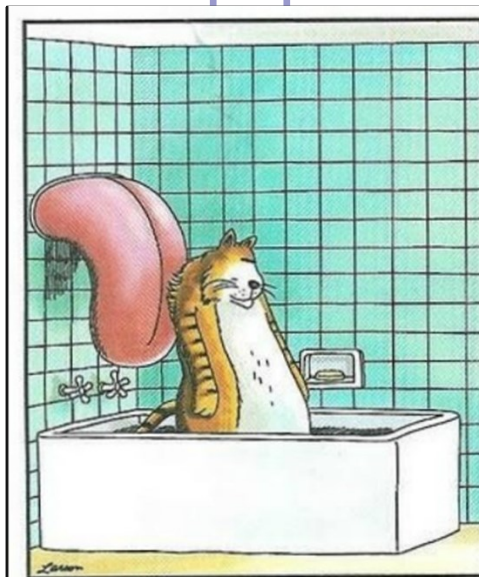
President's Message by Joe McGillivray

Greetings my fellow winemakers!

What a treat we had at our February meeting with Scott Harvey leading us on a journey of exploring Austrian wines. A big THANK YOU to Scott for his wisdom, selection of wines to sample and your finesse in knowing how to make a presentation fun and engaging. Way to Scott! I can't wait for the next opportunity when you share your history and wit with our dynamic group of winemakers.

And how about those Sac Home winemakers' members! The room cleaned up nicely and we got positive marks for showing Turn Verein we're a responsible group. Thank you, David Ichikawa, for taking out the trash. I hope it wasn't too much of a pain. Did you know we had 104 members and guests in attendance for Scott's presentation? We're becoming a skilled enthusiastic group and know a good thing when we see it; like Scott Harvey talking to us about Austrian wines. That's the kind of stuff you find in this club. Top quality speakers and programs that focus on education and broadening our own knowledge of wine. It makes me feel like a kid again, but then if I was a kid, I couldn't partake of the wine, so I grow up again... real FAST!

The Executive Board met on March 6, at the



Cat showers

home of Craig and Jacque Brown. A big THANK YOU to them for opening their home to us, letting us meet around their large dining table and hang out for several hours while we plan the club's business. One of the neat things about this club is our strength in numbers. By that I mean when we have coordinated "Group Buys" of grapes, we get a better price on high quality grapes. To do that, we need to know who wants what varietals and we also need VOLUNTEERS to reach out to growers to coordinate the

purchase. This is coming up soon so get ready and if you can't volunteer to be the President of the club, maybe this is something you can do, especially if you know someone with grapes. Other things to remember are that we have the crush shirt purchase coming up, we have SHW corkscrews for sale as well as a few SHW hats' left. Even the Harvest Dinner plans are being put together at this early in the year. It's going to be a great year!

In closing I want to remind those that are bringing in a white or rose for our March program, to fill out a form in advance. You can find them on our website. This helps our esteemed CellarMaster Joe Morgan check in the wines quickly and orderly. Cheers!

Joe McGillivray



COMING EVENTS WATCH FOR THE DEETS!

Group Buy - Cabernet Franc. Clos du Lac, Loomis. Ron Loder is coordinating this Club Buy. \$1,500 ton. Contact him before March 15 to ensure availability and price. Ron: 916 417-3085.

Ethiopian restaurant wine dinner is about to be finalized for a weekend day in April. Bring your wine to pair with traditional Ethiopian food. This event is destined to be fun and interesting!

California State Fair Home Wine Competition. SHW plays an important part in this statewide competition. Cellar volunteer opportunities are on weekends in April and May. Watch for sign-up opportunities.

SHW Jubilee June 1-2 Club members only wine competition. Wine judging on Saturday, June 1, in Sacramento. Awards ceremony and picnic on Sunday, June 2, in Loomis. We're looking for your wine entries and volunteers.

Lake County Wine Tour and Weekend. David Hicks has meticulously planned a fun weekend for you to enjoy Lake County wines and scenery. Find David at the March 20 Club meeting if you haven't already signed up. July 12-14

MOVIES ABOUT WINE AND WINEMAKING

By Donna Bettencourt

Last month, this corner of the newsletter featured fictional books that featured wine, and winemaking. This month, we look at films about wine and winemaking. Sure, there is lust and love and crime and passion also in these movies, but the setting is always in the land of wine and winemaking. Here are some films you may enjoy:

Films

The Secret of Santa Victoria
Year of the Comet
A Walk in the Clouds
Sideways
Bottleshock
A Good Year
A Heavenly Vintage
You Will Always Be My Son
Red Obsession



Documentaries

SOMM
SOMM into the Bottle
Sour Grapes
A Year in Burgundy
A Year in Port
Back to Burgundy
Burgundy People
Without Passion for Wine
Three Days of Glory

Competition Corner

Chief Judge Donna Bettencourt



The 2019 homewine competition season is well underway. Bottleshock has been judged and results are available on their website. Bear in mind that if you wish to enter the Sacramento Home Winemakers Rex Johnston Winemaker of the Year competition for 2019, you must have entered at least two separate and distinct wines (as far as variety and harvest year) in both the 2019 Sacramento Home Wine Jubilee Competition and the California State Fair, and one other recognized 2019 home wine competition. The deadline for entering WOY is November 30, 2019. If you hear about other home wine competitions, let me know and I will include it in this article next month (donnab1045@gmail.com)

California State Fair Home Wine Competition

The California State Fair Home Wine Competition is accepting home wine between March 18th and April 23rd (**Not April 26th as reported in this column last month**). The competition will be held at Cal Exp on May 18th this year. For more information e-mail coordinators at home-wine@calexpo.com. Registration information will soon be available at www.castatefair.org. SHW will be involved once again in assisting with the pick up of entries, so look for details about the date for accepting registered wines at our regular monthly meeting. Registered and paid entries can be brought to the April 17th meeting.

San Diego County Fair Home Wine Competition

Entry deadline is March 29th, with delivery date deadline of April 16th. \$20 per entry; one bottle. Call (858) 792-4207 or go to <https://sdfair.com/exhibits/homemade-wine/> for more information.

El Dorado County Fair Home Wine Competition

Forms and entries must be received at the El Dorado County Fair office in Placerville between April 1 and May 1, Monday through Friday, 9am - 4 pm. Judging is Saturday May 4th. For more information and for rules and entry information go to www.eldoradocountyfair.org/homemadewine.html

Winemaker Magazine International Amateur Wine Competition

Entries must be received in Vermont by March 15, 2019. \$25 entry fee; 1 bottle. Wines will be judged April 12-14th, with results announced at the Wine-Maker Magazine Conference in Michigan on May 18, 2019. For online entry, and for more information, go to www.winemakercompetition.com

Orange County Fair Home Wine Competition

Entries are being accepted between April 8 – May 27th. For more information, go to www.ocws.org after April 7th. Most likely Brewmeister in Folsom will once again serve as an entry drop off location.

Cellarmasters U.S. Amateur Wine Competition

Judging will take place on November 16, 2019. Go to www.cellarmastersla.org for details.

Sacramento Home Winemakers Jubilee Competition

This year, the competition date has been set for June 1st, with the annual picnic scheduled for the next day. Entries will be accepted at the April meeting and up through May 11th at selected drop off locations. Look for details in upcoming newsletters.

CLUB RESOURCES FOR MEMBERS

The Club's website www.sachomewine.com has a bunch of wine making resources on the Members Resources page to help you make really good wine.

Mentors. Need help with wine making or in the vineyard? Club mentors, experienced winemakers and / or viticulturists can help you make the right decision. A list of mentors can be found under Member Resources.

Trouble shooting. Maybe your wine has a little something going on it with and you'd like another opinion. At most meetings, there is a troubleshooting somewhere in the back corner that is staffed by an experienced winemaker. Bring in your wine sample for some conversation.



Equipment Rentals. SHW has available for rent to members: crusher-destemmer, basket presses, and corks. If you haven't been certified on the care and use of the larger equipment pieces, watch for Winemaking 101 where training happens. Please use the Reservation Form on the Equipment Rental page.

Lab Analysis. SHW's in-house chemist, Bruce Currie, can perform basic analysis on your wines. Bruce collects the samples at most of the Club's monthly meetings. Be sure to follow the sample and paperwork protocol found on the Wine Analysis page.

Oak Beans. Club member Bill Staehlin purchases oak beans (cubes) in big bags and sells small quantities to SHW members at cost. American, French, Hungarian. 916 216-1753

Special Offers. Several wine making supply, wine analysis, and related businesses provide special offers to Club members. Check out the Wine Education and Wine-making Supplies page.

If you have an idea for the newsletter, feel free to reach out to Stephanie Wilson at wilssteph@gmail.com

FEBRUARY MEETING RECAP THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS AND SUPPORTERS!

Sacramento Home Winemakers February meeting was abuzzin' with lots of activity! This was one of the better attended meetings with 106 members and guests.



Scott Harvey presented on Austrian wines plus brought a fun sample of Austrian wines to taste. Scott Harvey was also presented with the Club's 2018 Community Supporter award for his strong support of home winemakers. Thank you, Scott!



David Blitstein blew out the competition for the 2018 SHW Winemaker of the Year award and was presented his plaque by Chief Judge Donna Bettencourt and Board of Directors Chair Fred Millar at the meeting.

Everyone's help is appreciated at the meetings and for your extra steps:

- Don Koehler for staffing the troubleshooting table in the back of the room;
- Meeting Hospitality: Olga and Grennadiy Lukin and Marty Wilde for set-up; Larry Zinky and Robert and Darcy Wharton for clean-up; Vickie Rosalli for bringing the cheese and crackers;
- Sandy Sakata and Stephanie Wilson for greeting all and helping with membership dues;
- Cellar Master Joe Morgan with his crew members Jim Ring and Alan Piccardo for their effortless pours of 6 wines throughout the evening.

