



May 2019

The Grapevine Newsletter



2019 SHW Calendar of Events

Executive Board Meetings:

Generally held on the first Wednesday of the month at 7ish PM; locations vary. Contact President Joe McGillivray at pyramidlake59@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, May 15, 2019

General Meeting- Non-Bordeaux Red Wines

June 1-2 SHW Jubilee!

Wine Competition and Picnic

Wednesday, June 19, 2019

General Meeting– Barrel Care and Use



Monthly Meeting– May 15th

Non– Bordeaux Red Evaluations

Join your fellow Winemakers on Wednesday evening, May 15th 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 the meeting is devoted to Non-Bordeaux Evaluations. Please bring two (2) 750 ml bottles of wine. If you haven't yet prepared your 2 bottles please do so without adding sulfites. 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 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. John Trioano of Wreckless Blenders winery in Carmichael and past President of SHW will be evaluating our wines.

This is your opportunity to learn about how you can improve (or “fix” in the case of a faulted wine) your wine prior to bottling. If you have already bottled John will no doubt help you to understand how you can improve your technique for next harvest.

Your help in setting up and cleaning up is always appreciated. Contact Vice President Terry Piazza-Perham if you have program questions:

piazza-perham@att.net

Please consume responsibly,

Terry

President's Message by Joe McGillivray

Greetings fellow wine-makers! The year is moving fast and there's so much going on with SHW that it's hard to keep up! The Jubilee is just around the corner and May 7 was the final date to submit your wines. I hope you did so. Apart from the prestige of earning awards for your wine and counting towards competing for the Wine Maker of the Year award, you get feedback and get to share that bottle the next day with SHW members at Judy Pinegar's barn. By attending the picnic, you get to experience the comradery and fellowship of socializing with your SHW members. Which leads to meeting new people, making new friends and having a blast while doing it! Be sure to sign up for the picnic by May 22 so we can plan accordingly for you and check our website for more details on the event.

The State Fair event is heating up and we always need volunteers to staff the booth while the fair runs its course. If you like to meet people and talk about making wine, this is the opportunity for you. Many of you have done this in past years and have an idea of how much fun it is. If you plan it right, you can get into the fair with your SHW parking pass and ticket and enjoy the fair either before or after your shift. How can you beat that?! The work the Club performs for the State Fair is on track with the wines collected and ready for the next steps in organizing the wines for flighting and judging. A big thank you to Tom and Rebecca Ramme and Robert Wharton for their roles in seeing this happen. When you stop



and think that SHW has such an important and large role in preparing the Home Winemaking Competition for the State of California, you have to recognize what a monumental opportunity that is. And for you to be part of it by simply volunteering an afternoon or a day to be part of that, I believe is a small price to pay.

A big shout out to Fred Millar, a.k.a. "Mr. Golden Bear", (just a nickname I started calling him after he named me "Mr. President") for putting together the winemaker's dinner at Queen Sheba restaurant. I wasn't able to

attend but I've heard nothing but positive feedback about it. Watch the email blasts to see what's going to happen in the future with this. Yet another way to get our wines out there and pair with foods while we socialize with our wine-making friends. Thank you, Fred, your efforts on this are a positive experience for SHW members and I, personally, am very glad I've met you. And speaking of dinner, the annual Holiday Dinner will be here soon. It seems like a long way off; December, but we all know how quickly the months go by. Plans for the Holiday Dinner are in the beginning stages and it makes me recall the various venues I've attended the dinner. Regardless of the venue, I've always prioritized the opportunity to socialize with my SHW friends. Prepare for that and watch for opportunities to help make it happen.

You've heard me carping about the need for volunteers. Well, I've got news, nothing you haven't heard before, we need volunteers. But I'm not talking about people to help set out cheese and crackers before a General Meeting of the Club, but volunteers to take up the vacancies on next year's Executive Board and someone to

President's Message, Con't

lead the annual fund-raising event. It wasn't long after I joined the Club that I found myself doing things for the club. Maybe that's who I am, maybe someone encouraged me, maybe I'd had too much wine and was feeling happy! Regardless, by volunteering, I found myself around like-minded people who were experienced winemakers, judges, chemists' analysts, computer nerds and racecar drivers. That's only about an eighth of the backgrounds of the people I've met by volunteering and getting involved on a deeper level with this organization. And despite the fact that we make and drink wine, the Club has enjoyed solid leadership for many years and we're doing pretty darn good. However, at the end of 2019, the terms for President, Vice President and Treasurer expire and we need a lead Fund Raiser for the Holiday Dinner. Guess who needs volunteers? For more than crackers and cheese. What you need to do is decide to run for a position, which is voted on at November's General Meeting, mention your interest to a member of the board, and prepare for it by attending Executive Board meetings now. Let me know that you are interested and I'll include you on the meeting details so you can observe first hand how we operate and keep the wheels of this powerful club moving.

Now that you've spent several minutes to read this message, I want to thank you for your participation in SHW. We all have our reasons for being in this Club and we all make up the diverse membership that helps the Club thrive. Plan well for this year's harvest of grapes and may you enjoy the wines that come from your hands. See you on June 2nd at the Jubilee Picnic!

Cheers!

Joe



April Meeting Recap

"Smells like roses!" "It's so dark! How long did you cold-soak?" "This blend is brighter than that one."

SHW's April meeting was filled with loud chatter as members poured, sipped, and talked about the wines in front of them. We got to know each other better, learn a wine making secret or two, and are still wondering: does the blindfold make the wines taste different?



Competition Corner

Chief Judge

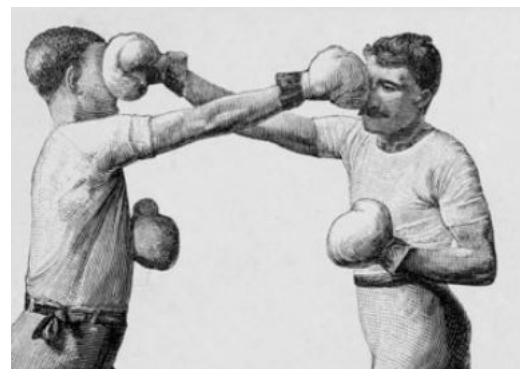
Donna Bettencourt

The 2019 home wine competition season is well underway. Bottleshock and the El Dorado County Fair home wines have been judged!

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.



Battle of the Bottles



Orange County Fair Home Wine Competition

Entries are being accepted between April 8 – May 27th. For more information, go to www.ocws.org. We have just clarified that all 3 Brewmeister locations will be accepting entries (Roseville, West Sacramento, and Folsom). While you are at the Folsom Brewmeister shop, be sure and have a cold beer at the adjacent Red Bus Brewery, Erik Schmidt's most recent enterprise.

Amador County Fair Home Wine Competition

The deadline for entering the Amador County Fair Home Wine Competition is May 31st. Entries (one bottle per entry of real wine, and one bottle of water/colored water, for display) must be delivered to the Amador County Fair office in Plymouth, 9am – 4 pm. Entry fee is \$15.00. Judging is June 8th. Entered wines **must** be made from produce of the Sierra Foothills AVA, including the counties of Amador, Calaveras, El Dorado, Mariposa, Nevada, Placer, Tuolumne or Yuba. For more information, go to <https://www.amadorcountyfair.com/2019-exhibitor-guide-entry-forms>

Cellarmasters U.S. Amateur Wine Competition

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

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

Ethiopian Wine Dinner – Queen Sheba Ethiopian Cuisine

Two dozen members and guests dined on Ethiopian dishes, paired wines, and shared stories on a late April Sunday at Queen Sheba's Ethiopian Cuisine on Broadway in Sacramento. Restaurant owner Zion shared the history of Ethiopian food and drink including the importance of turmeric and teff in the culture's diet. Thanks to Zion and to Fred Millar for coordinating a fun dinner.



THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS AND SUPPORTERS!

Your Club appreciates your extra efforts to help keep meeting and activities running smoothly:
Volunteers who helped with hospitality, setting up, and cleaning up at April's general meeting – Fabiola Cardenas, Marty Wilde, David Hicks, Olga Lukin, Nancy Zarenda, Rob Pock, Ester Pock, Kevin Murphy, and Lyle Peddicord;

Robert Wharton for coordinating SHW's responsibilities for the State Fair home wine competition and home winemaking booth;

Members who have helped or are helping out in the cellar at the State Fair's home winemaking competition;

Ron Loder for bringing together the popular Clos du Lac cab franc group buy for Harvest 2019;

Fred Millar for coordinating the April 28 Ethiopian wine dinner at Queen Sheba's;

David Hicks for planning the Lake County winery tour and tasting weekend; and

Vickie Alvarez and Rick Reynolds for hosting May's executive board meeting.

June Jubilee Picnic and Awards Party 2019

The Judging will be June 1, 2019, so the **Jubilee Picnic will be Sunday June 2, 2019** ...Mark your calendars. The location will be Judy Pinegar's Back Yard and Barn as in past years. The actual picnic/BBQ will begin at 1 PM with the main course planned for about 2:30 PM. **Please!! Lend a hand with set up or clean up... call Judy at 916-224-6742. Sign up today or rates come up!!**

The club will provide BBQ meat, Chili Beans, French bread, and lots of water. All wines from the competition will be available for tasting, including the Golds and Best of Shows. **Last year there were 183 Bottles!!**

Please bring a dish to share at the potluck: appetizer, salad, entree, or dessert according to the following list based of your last name (first initial): A – G = Entree; H – O = Desserts and P– Y = Appetizers. I try to switch this around every year to keep it even!

Remember to bring your own wine glasses.

For those of you who are new to the event, Judy's place has 2 ½ acres with room to explore nature in the spring. Some of Judy's lawn chairs are available, but club members should bring their own lawn chairs, blankets, or whatever if they want to be sure to have a place to sit on the lawn under the trees.

The swimming pool also will be open, so bring your suit, hat, sunscreen, and sunglasses (if it is warm enough!), but even if it Rains, the barn will be open. We will have pop-up tents around and there is an upstairs to the barn also (billiards anyone?) !

The event is great fun, lawn games will be available, and the party sometimes goes until dark... so plan on making a day of it! Children, guests and pets (only if they are friendly to others) are welcome!

Please use a Reservation Form to secure your spot. Reserve by May 22 for best pricing. No walk-ins accepted.



SHW Picnic and Awards Party Reservation Form

YES! I will be attending the Jubilee Picnic and Wine Tasting:

(Price is the same as last year!) Great Food!

Name(s) _____

Reserving by May 22, 2019

_____ Number of Members @ \$12 per person

_____ Number of NON Members @ \$17 per person

_____ Number of children under 13 (free)

Reserving between May 22 , 2019 to May 29, 2019 - **None after 5/29!**

_____ Number of Members @ \$22 per person

_____ Number of NON Members @ \$27 per person

_____ Number of children under 13 (free)

NO DAY OF REGISTRATIONS WE HAVE TO GET THE FOOD EARLY!

Send form and check to:

Bob Peake, SHW Treasurer || PO Box 691 || Folsom, CA 95763

Jubilee Location:

Judy Pinegar Winery and Barn and Yard

Facebook Location: "The Barn"

9195 Vista Ct, Loomis, CA 95650

CALL : (916) 224-6742... if lost!