



The Grapevine Newsletter



November 2019

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, November 20, 2019

General Meeting

Elections and Evaluations of Port, Dessert, Sweet and Sparkling Wines

Sunday, December 15, 2019

Annual Holiday Party and Dinner

See inside newsletter for details and make your reservations now!—no general meeting in Dec

Wednesday, January 15, 2020

General Meeting

Chik Brenneman

Monthly Meeting— November 20, 2019 Elections and Ports, Dessert, Sweet and Sparkling Wine Evaluation

Once again its time for our Home Winemakers Monthly Program, Wednesday November 20th at the Turn Verein located at 3349 J Street in Sacramento. There is additional parking in the back off I Street.

This month's meeting is devoted to evaluations of club members Ports, Dessert, Sweet and Sparkling Wines. Please bring 2 bottles of wine if possible. Clearly mark your bottles with the varietal and your name. Check in your wines with Cellar Master Joe Morgan before the meeting starts and be prepared to give a summary of your winemaking journey with this wine. To help with your summary go to the SacHomeWine.com website on the home page you will find the link to the Evaluations Form.

Your wine will be poured for all members in attendance, and presented to our guest evaluator Luke Laubaugh, Winemaker at St. Amant.

This is your opportunity to learn about how you can improve or fix faulted wine, or hear what a great wine you have made. Remember to bring your glass and wine to share if you choose to.

Your help in setting up and cleaning up at the meetings is always appreciated. Contact Vice President Terry Piazza-Perham if you have questions at: piazza-perham@att.net, or 916 806-1621

Please consume responsibly
Terry Piazza-Perham



President's Message by Joe McGillivray

It's funny how when a person gets into wine tasting and wine making, many of our friends like to WOW us with comical wine sayings on refrigerator magnets and other knick-knacks that are gifts really designed to let us know the gift giver just wants to come over and drink wine with us. I have lots of these trinkets now and even my wife gives them to me. For example, each year for Christmas, Lynne gives me a "Wine

Bible" calendar put out by Karen McNeil, author of the Wine Bible. The calendar is filled each day with some tidbit of info from the wine world. It's actually quite enjoyable and contains lots of obscure info about wine and the wine world. Things I learn I use to WOW those gift givers with how much I know about wine (very little actually). Recently, on Halloween, the calendar explained what a "Garagiste" (gare-a-JEEST) is. Evidently, the term originated in Bordeaux in the 1990's and is affectionately applied to describe a potentially renegade, innovative winemaker who makes small lots of fine wine in garages. Hmm, sounds like a good description of a few renegade winemakers I know from this club!

The 2019 SHW Harvest Dinner was a smashing success. Those who attended at Vince's Ristorante got to taste delicious roasted leg of lamb, chicken saltimbocca, roasted potatoes and butternut squash ravioli. Washed down with homemade wines made for a very cool and enjoyable Harvest Dinner. A big shout out the Fred Millar and board members who scouted the venue and worked with the owner to put the event together. Thank you to those that participated by attending. Great fun!



Hard to believe we're fast approaching Thanksgiving! November is turning out to be another busy month and there's lots of club business to take care of. At the November meeting we'll be electing new officers; you can view the slate of nominees in this newsletter. Please attend the meeting to vote and show your support for the club. If you can't make it to the meeting but want to cast your vote, contact Membership Chairs Gin Yang or Christa Ring. We'll also be evaluating sweet, fruit and sparkling wines. Luke Laubaugh from St. Amant Vineyards will be the evenings evaluator.

If you're bringing a wine to evaluate, please have two 750ML bottles and complete the club's evaluation form online prior to coming. Print two copies; one for you and one for the evaluator. Be clear and direct with your presentation and use the "Question for Evaluator" section at the bottom of the form to ask specific info about what you want out of your wine. We do have forms at the meeting if you need to complete it when you arrive.

November is a thankful month. I'm very grateful to have spent this year as the club President and to be among many astute and savvy individuals. We get to take time this month to gather with our family and friends to enjoy Thanksgiving and many of us get to relish in the glow of knowing we're good cooks, good winemakers and were great people. Happy Thanksgiving to everyone, I hope you get time to enjoy family and friends surrounded by good food and great homemade wines!

As we slide into December, the main club activity will be our Holiday Dinner. Plans are being solidified with Embassy Suites in Sacramento to host the event. Once again, Fred Millar is pivotal in organizing the venue and planning details. Fred has done these dinner events for the club

President's Message, Continued

for quite a while and in speaking to Fred about the events and seeing how much pre-planning goes into it, I found out that many of our members who do attend send in their reservation forms or make a phone call at the "eleventh hour" to secure their place. The Holiday Dinner is always a fun event and typically is the annual fundraiser for the club. (No members have stepped up to lead the fundraising efforts this year so unless a miracle happens between now and December 15, we'll just be having a fun time at the Holiday Dinner.) Back to the reservation forms, we urge you to submit your reservation early so it is received by the deadline of December 7th. In the past, the club has allowed some late reservations, however, this year, we don't have that flexibility. If you don't have your payment and registration form submitted by the seventh, you'll not be able to attend. I can't stress this enough, sign up early! When it comes to Holiday Parties, to some of these venues, SHW is small potatoes compared to the corporate organizations that have big \$\$\$ and pay premium price to entertain their employees. We're fortunate as a club to have a member like Fred who puts a lot of effort into the planning. Let's show him how we appreciate that by signing up early and committing to the event. We'll have a sign-up sheet at the November meeting and there are reservation forms in this Newsletter. Thank you for your support of SHW and your commitment to being exemplary members.

Cheers,

Joe



2019 Executive Board— Slate of Nominees

Sacramento Home Winemakers, Inc by-laws, Article IV, Section 2 states: " Election of Officers by a simple majority vote of those members voting at a regularly scheduled and advertised meeting shall be held in November of each year. Members unable to attend the meeting may vote by presenting their vote to the Secretary prior to the annual meeting."

The Board of Directors presents the following slate of nominees for the positions of president, vice-president, secretary, membership chair and up to five members at large. Please note that the treasurer's position serves a 2– year term.

President: Robert Wharton

Vice President: Fayne Boyd

Treasurer: Wreatha Duverney

Membership Chairs: Gin Yang and Christa Ring

Members at Large: Jerry Roark, Thad Rogers, Angie Cassidy, David Ichikawa

Nominations will also be taken from the floor before the election at the November 20 meeting. If you cannot vote at the meeting, please submit your vote to SHW Secretary Mike Menard at menardm@surewest.net prior to the November 20 meeting.

Please direct questions to the Board of Directors: Fred Millar at fredmillar1@gmail.com and (916) 576-9596 or Gary Young at gycats@earthlink.net and (916) 451-3893.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Oak Park Farmers' Market - Sacramento

Did you see the Club's booth at the Oak Park Farmers' Market on October 12? If you did, you probably ran into SHW's in-house chemist Bruce Currie who displayed a mini-winery under a 10 x 10 pop-up canopy. Bruce chatted wine making with those stopping by the booth. Thank you, Bruce for packing a portable winery and volunteering several hours on a Saturday morning to increase the Club's visibility. And thanks to the Oak Park Farmers' Market for inviting SHW into their community.



TASTE – University of California Davis

How lucky can we be? Not only do we live amongst some of the best wine grapes in the world, we have in our backyards, UC Davis, with its renowned viticulture and enology program and the Robert Mondavi Institute (RMI) for Wine and Food Science. The Club is proud of its relationship with UC Davis and supports its programs including awarding an annual scholarship to a UCD student studying viticulture and enology. SHW also participates in RMI's annual event with donated wines from Club members and staffing the Club's booth for the evening.

Appreciation is extended to Linda Clevenger and Seth Brunner for again coordinating SHW's participation in this event and for being the point persons between UCD and the Club. Special thanks to Jacque Brown for retrieving the Club table banners and to Robert Wharton for help with the handout.



The Club thanks its members for their generous donations of almost 3 cases of wine: Blair Gould, Thad and Heather Rodgers, Fernando Berton, Judy Pinegar, Mike Skeels, Rex Johnston and Barbara Bentley, Sue Summersett, Donna Bettencourt, Luis and Carolina Rodriguez, and Seth Brunner and Linda Clevenger. Thanks are also extended to Donna Bettencourt, Mike, Linda, and Seth for pouring at this sold out event.



THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS AND SUPPORTERS!

Your Club appreciates your extra efforts to help keep meeting and activities running smoothly. Thanks to:

Club members who generously shared their gold medal wines at October's meeting;
Robert and Darcy Wharton for coordinating hospitality at the October meeting and the Club members who helped set-up and clean-up;
Kendall Johnson for coordinating the Club's equipment especially during the busy harvest.
Lynne and Joe McGillivray for hosting November's Executive Board meeting;
Bruce Currie for a volunteer morning at Oak Park's Farmers' Market;
Members who donated wines and time at TASTE; and
Fred Millar for coordinating the Harvest Dinner;
(see Bruce, TASTE and Harvest Dinner in action in this newsletter).





Sacramento Home Winemakers

Annual Holiday Dinner and Party

Embassy Suites Sacramento Riverfront Promenade
On the Terrace
100 Capitol Mall ~ Sacramento

Sunday, December 15, 2019

4:00 PM Social ~ 5:00 PM Buffet Dinner

Spinach and feta cheese phyllo triangles, Swedish meatballs

Roasted salmon with garlic dill sauce, Medallions of beef with peppercorn sauce, Butternut Squash Ravioli with sage cream brown butter sauce, Whipped potatoes, Broccoli, Grilled butternut squash, Garlic bread, New York cheesecake with raspberry coulis sauce, coffee, tea

Bring wines for sharing

Program – Annual Recognitions and Awards

\$50 per person for members ~ ~ \$55 per person for non-members
(includes corkage, sales tax and gratuity)

Please reserve / pay by December 8. Absolutely no refunds or reservations after December 8.

Coordinator: Fred Millar: text 916 576-9596 or email fredmillar1@gmail.com

===== Cut here and mail or bring to November 14 meeting =====

Here's my reservation for the December 15, 2019 SHW Holiday Party

Names Attending _____

Phone # _____

Number of members attending _____ x \$50 per person = \$ _____

Number of non-members attending _____ x \$55 per person = \$ _____

Reserve by December 8 Please mail form with check ("SHW") to:
Jacque Brown ~ 1616 Berkeley Way ~ Sacramento CA 95819