



The Grapevine Newsletter

December 2019



Calendar of Events 2020

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.

No General Meeting in December

Wednesday, January 15, 2020

General Meeting

Chik Brenneman

Wednesday, February 19, 2020

General Meeting

White Wine Evaluations



President's Message by Joe McGillivray

Season's Greetings!

We have arrived! The end of a two-year term as SHW Club President! But not really the end of anything because once a person is done being President, they land on the Club's Board of Directors, which consists of the past four Presidents and the current President. So there, I'm not going anywhere and you'll see me at meetings and volunteering for Club functions as you always have. I will try to keep the laughs long and jokes fresh!

Throughout these past two years, I've had lots of support to help me get to this point. First and foremost, I want to thank the "First Lady", my wife Lynne, who has given me the encouragement and support at home to let me do what I've done for the Club. I've been blessed by her sharp mind and caring nature. She has provided good suggestions when I have writers block or need someone to proof read my article and has never let me down. Thank you, Lynne!



The other support group I belong to is called the SHW Executive Board! Vice President Terry Piazza-Perham has served as VP for the past two years and has taken care of coordinating the fine programs you get at our monthly Club Meeting. Treasurer Bob Peake has judiciously handled the Club's financial books and Secretary Mike Menard effectively captures the details of Executive Board meetings. I've enjoyed the reliable service of Gin Yang and Christa Ring as Co-Membership

President's Message, Continued

Chairs, Donna Bettencourt as Chief Judge, Joe Morgan-Cellar master, Kendall Johnson-Equipment Manager, Judy Pinegar-Web Master, Bruce Currie-Education Chair, Vickie Rosalli-Hospitality Chair, Stephanie Wilson-Newsletter Editor, Thad Rogers, Jerry Roark, Angie Cassidy and Robert Wharton as Members at Large. And finally the Board of Directors-Fred Millar, Gary Young, J.D. Phelps and Donna Bettencourt. These fine individuals have been the backbone of SHW, coming to board meetings, providing input and guidance and most of all, their TIME. I thank you and appreciate, more than you can know, your service support and professional way you help this Club stay strong. Hat's off to you all!

Take a moment to recognize these individuals and thank them for their service. This club would not be what it is without these folks. Their selfless act of volunteerism is what makes this the best winemaking club! It's pretty darn awesome!

The Club Holiday Party is fast approaching. I hope you sent in your registration form. I announced at our November meeting that the cut-off date to register is December 8. That date still remains as our final date to accept any registrations. At that meeting I also explained that in the past, the Club has been able to manage late registrations, however, this year we do not have that flexibility. If you try to register after that date, the Club will have to deny it and you won't be able to attend the event. As you can imagine, telling someone they can't attend isn't a comfortable position so I ask that you think about it and if you're planning to attend, I hope you acted before this Newsletter hit's your inbox.

I also announced at the November meeting that no one stepped up to coordinate the silent auction and raffle for the Holiday Party. We will have extra tables available so if you have an item for a silent auction and wish to oversee the bidding process, please let me know

so I have an idea what to expect and I'll promote it. A silent auction item is very easy; you donate the item, set a minimum bid, have a bidding sheet available and let me know when you want the cut-off time to be so I can announce it.

It has been extremely rewarding being President of SHW. It has enriched me and I'm honored that many of you expressed your appreciation for what I'm doing. I look forward to more meetings and events to get to know more of you better. As we enter 2020, let's all do our part to build this club and contribute what our time and talents allow. Thank for allowing me to be your club President and steer this ship we call SHW! Happy Holidays and hope to see you soon!

Cheers,
Joe McGillivray



2020 Membership Dues are Due

We're almost there! The 2020 membership form planned to be up on the Club's website soon and we'll let you know when it's ready. The annual dues are again held at \$50 per household and \$10 for UC Davis Viticulture and Enology students.

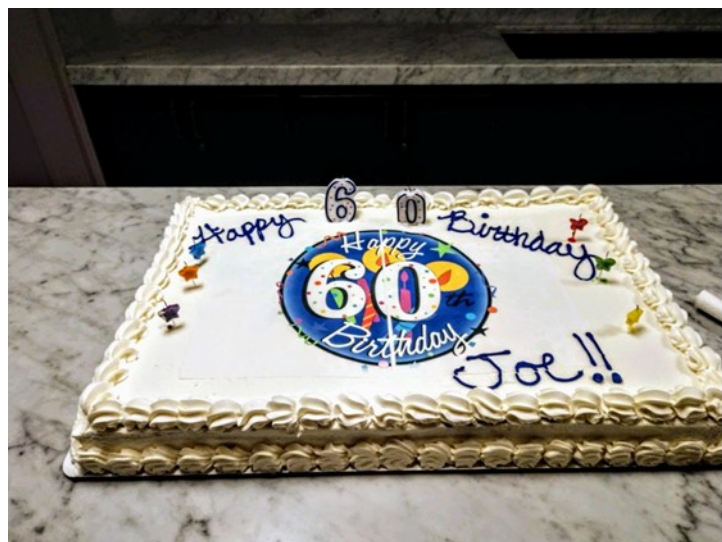
Check out the perks that come with Club membership. Thanks for your support!



THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS AND SUPPORTERS!

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

- Luke Laubaugh for evaluating members' fruit/fortified/dessert wines at November's meeting;
- Club members who generously brought their wines for evaluation to November's meeting;
- Members for coordinating hospitality at the October meeting and the Club members who helped set-up and clean-up;
- Gary Young for hosting December's Executive Board meeting; and
- Darcy Wharton, Mike Menard, and Robert Wharton for surprising President Joe McGillivray with a milestone birthday celebration at November's meeting.



Competition Corner

Chief Judge Donna Bettencourt



Get your engines running! The home wine competition season is beginning. 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 in both the 2020 Sacramento Home Wine Jubilee Competition and the 2020 California State Fair, and one other recognized 2020 home wine competition. The deadline for entering WOY is November 30, 2020.

On another note, the evaluations of your 2019 white and rose wines will be happening at the February 19 2020 regular SHW meeting. Because you will probably be making finishing decisions and even bottling soon after February, bring 2 bottles of your wine to the February meeting and receive important feedback prior to bottling. Please do not sulfate your wine samples just prior to the evaluation.

California State Fair Home Wine Competition

The California State Fair has announced that the 2020 Home Wine Competition will be judged on May 30, 2020. Look to this column for more details as they are known.

