



The Wine Press

Newsletter of the Orange County Wine Society, Inc.
Volume 38, Issue 11, November 2014

Jim's Journal

As you are reading this newsletter, the 2014-2015 OCWS Board is progressing into its 2nd month of activities and it appears there will be a fun-filled year ahead of us. I would like to thank outgoing board members, Kevin Coy, Greg Hagadorn, and Wendy Taylor, for their commitment and support to the OCWS over the last three years. I would also like to introduce our new board members, Liz Corbett, Brian McDonald, and Bill Redding to the 2014-15 OCWS

Board. Officers for 2014-15 Board year are as follows:

- Jim Beard, President
- Rich Skoczylas, Vice President
- Fran Gitsham, Treasurer
- Liz Corbett, Secretary

There are several fun-filled OCWS

(Continued on page 2)

Upcoming Events:

- Nov. 15**1
Cabernet Sauvignon
Mini-Tasting
- Dec. 5**1
Holiday Dinner Dance
- Dec. 20**.....5
Winemakers' Group
Holiday Potluck

Also in this Issue:

- Board of Directors2
- Election Results7
- Installation Dinner6
- Membership Report3
- OCWS Calendar8
- Scholarship Update3
- Sign-Up Sheets7
- Winemakers Newsroom .6

Cabernet Sauvignon Mini-Tasting

Saturday, November 15, 2014
Various Locations
6:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Our next Mini-Tasting theme is Cabernet Sauvignon. It is favored by many to accompany fine dinners, and especially dinners featuring red meats. Cabernet Sauvignons are typically full bodied with wonderful nuances of black currants, green bell pepper, cedar, smoke, and tannins. The aging of this varietal is gen-

erally recommended to balance the wine to its precious point of perfection. This grape was developed in the 17th century with the crossing of Cabernet Franc and Sauvignon Blanc grapes.

Locations: Mini-Tastings are held at various host home sites around Orange County. Host sites and directions will be announced to those attending approximately one week prior to the event. We

(Continued on page 5)

Last Call! 2014 Holiday Dinner & Dance

Friday, December 5, 2014
Santa Ana/OC Airport
DoubleTree Hotel
201 E. MacArthur Blvd.
Santa Ana, CA
6:30 pm

The Holiday Season is right around the corner! Get in the holiday spirit and join your fellow Wine Society members at the Holiday Dinner and Dance!

The evening begins with champagne and passed appetizers from 6:30 to 7:30 pm. Dinner will follow accompanied by a variety of fine wines provided by the Wine Society. Coffee and tea will also be available. The hotel has a new chef who has created a new menu for this year's



(Continued on page 4)

Jim's Journal... cont.

(Continued from page 1)

events remaining on the 2014 calendar that I encourage everyone to sign up for. Please refer to the articles in this newsletter for additional details:

- **November 15:** Cabernet Sauvignon Mini-Tasting at various member homes
- **December 5:** Holiday Dinner Dance at Double Tree Hotel (Santa Ana)
- **December 20:** Holiday Potluck and Wine Tasting in Yorba Linda

Assignments for the 2014-15 director responsibilities are currently underway and results will be published in the December edition of *The Wine Press* and on the website. During the upcoming year, I urge anyone who has a desire to serve on a committee or work a particular event to contact the director in charge of that event (email contact and phone numbers are listed in both the newsletter and on the website). The OCWS is a volunteer group that depends on membership support for each of our events throughout the year. In addition to having fun, volunteers work alongside a lot of wonderful people and learn more about the operations of Wine Society events.

It will be a pleasure meeting each of you at our upcoming events. I wish everyone a happy and safe Thanksgiving holiday! Please use a designated driver if you have been drinking.

- **Jim Beard, President**

2014-2015 Board of Directors



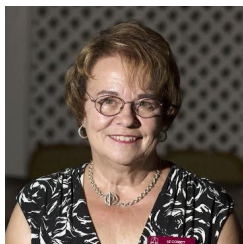
Jim Beard
President
jim@ocws.org
949.302.7286



Rich Skoczylas
Vice President
rich@ocws.org
714.891.0737



Fran Gitsham
Treasurer
fran@ocws.org
714.287.9663



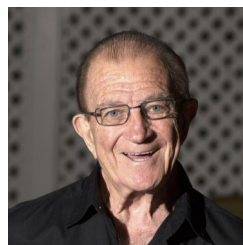
Liz Corbett
Secretary
liz@ocws.org
714.342.6652



John Carnes
Director
john.carnes@ocws.org
818.515.5702



Dennis Esslinger
Director
dennis@ocws.org
714.328.0454



Tony Marino
Director
tony@ocws.org
949.209.7115



Brian McDonald
Director
brian@ocws.org
714.227.7284



Bill Redding
Director
bill@ocws.org
949.248.1125

The Orange County Wine Society is a non-profit 501(c)(3) educational organization incorporated under the laws of the state of California with its principal place of business in Costa Mesa, California.

PO Box 11059, Costa Mesa, CA 92627

Phone: 714.708.1636

Fax: 714.546.5002

Website: www.ocws.org www.facebook.com Twitter: @OCWineSociety

Office Administrator: Janet Hammond

Web Site Administrator: Judy Fox

OCWS Photographer: Jim Burk

Membership Report

The Orange County Wine Society extends a warm welcome to its newest members! Membership for the following members was approved by the Board of Directors at the October Board meeting:

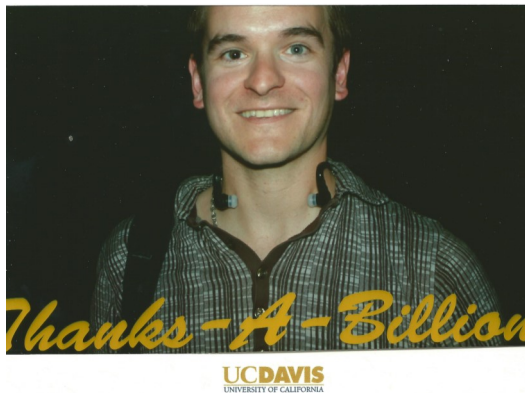
Zach & Zale Anderson ■ Richard & Patricia Chatham ■ Gregory Empey & Audrey Chen
Margaret Gail Diebel ■ Harold & Rosalind Fox ■ Joe Giordano & Rosie Bermudez ■ Chuck & Jo Dee Goetz
Mitch & Lori Junkins ■ William & Katrina McGovern ■ Cal & Sue Rietzel
Mike Selyem & Sheri Bremec ■ Jack & Elizabeth Syage

As of the October Board of Directors' meeting the Orange County Wine Society has 959 members.

- John Carnes, Membership Chair



Scholarship Update



Hello,

My name is Christopher J. and I am a recipient of the Orange County Wine Society Scholarship. I am very grateful since this afforded me the opportunity to focus on my studies and research. Now I'm on my way to graduate school and have you to thank for your generosity.

Warm Regards, Chris J.

The Wine Press is the official newsletter of the Orange County Wine Society, Inc. The newsletter is published monthly. *The Wine Press* welcomes input from the OCWS membership. Forward comments, questions, event reviews and suggestions to winepress@ocws.org.

Editor-in-Chief: Michelle Philo

Contributing Writers:
Board of Directors, Larry Graham,
Wendy Taylor

Contributing Editors:
Chris Cunningham, Judy Fox,
John Goodnight, Larry Graham,
Janet Hammond, Janet Marino,
Linda Mihalik, Ron Nickens, Karen Ward

Contributing Photographers:
Jim Burk, Michelle Philo, Wendy Taylor

Copyright © 2014 Orange County Wine Society, Inc. and its licensors. All rights reserved.

Last Call - 2014 Holiday Dinner & Dance

(Continued from page 1)

event.

After dinner, be prepared to have a good time dancing the night away. The Shari Puerto Band will provide this year's dance music. You can listen to their music at www.bluesrockmusic.com. This Blues/Rock/Roots Band "with a whole lotta soul" has been touring together up and down the west coast for years, sharing the stage with the likes of: Jimmy Vivino, Dickey Betts, Johnny



Winter, Dave Mason, Barry Goldberg, Robin Trower, Coco Montoya, Larry Carlton, and Ike Turner, among others. Even if you do not enjoy dancing, you will be entertained and have a great time too. And yes –

they promise to play some "slow dance" music.

The cost for this fun-filled evening is \$85 per person, inclusive of tax, tip, and gratuity. Non-members accompanied by an OCWS member are welcome! Invite your friends, neighbors, or co-workers to join the party. The hotel's self-parking rate for our event is \$8. Please sign up for this event on the website or mail a check to OCWS office along with the sign-up slip on the last page of this newsletter. Sign up deadline is December 1.

We are taking table reservations. Each table holds ten people. When your group of 6 to 10 has signed up, simply contact the OCWS office to reserve your group's table. Additional seats will be filled by 1 to 4 individuals on the night of the event.

The Doubletree Hotel was not able to provide a satisfactory discounted rate this year for a block of rooms. Therefore, you will need to book rooms directly through Doubletree's website or go to a travel discount website (such as Expedia, Travelocity, Orbitz, or Trivago).

- **Jim Beard, President**



We will also once again take donations for the Spark of Love toy drive. Gifts are especially needed for children ages 8 - 14. Gifts should NOT be wrapped and can be brought with you on the evening of the event.

2014 Holiday Dinner Dance Menu

Starter

Garden Salad

With choice of dressing

Main Course

(Choice of the following)

Roasted Turkey

Prosciutto bread stuffing with sausage and basil cranberry sauce, served with sweet potato soldiers and sautéed green beans with mushrooms and bacon

Prime Rib

Seasoned with fresh Rosemary, garlic, and cracked pepper, and served with creamed spinach and mashed potatoes

Halibut

Baked in parchment paper with cilantro lime butter and served with wild rice with bacon and fennel and scalloped potatoes with ham

Dessert

(Choice of the following)

Six Layer Carrot Cake

Decadent carrot cake with rich cream cheese frosting, pecans, and toasted coconut

Choc'late Spoon Cake

Two layers of chocolate covered chocolate cake with a rich chocolate pudding center

Soft Beverages

Coffee & Iced Tea

Holiday Potluck & Wine Tasting

Holiday Potluck & Wine Tasting
Saturday, December 20, 2014, 4:00 - 9:00 pm
East Lake Village Association Clubhouse
5325 Village Center Drive
Yorba Linda, CA



The OCWS Winemakers Group invites ALL Wine Society members to join them on December 20th for its annual Holiday Party at the East Lake Village Association's Clubhouse in Yorba Linda. This is a beautiful venue, and the view will be beautiful overlooking all the Christmas lights on the lake.

There will be a nominal charge of \$12 per person. In order to keep the cost down, the Group conducts a potluck. Each attendee is requested to bring enough food to feed eight people and at least one bottle per couple. Plates, napkins, and tableware will be provided. (OCWS will not be providing food or wine for this event.)

Join the Winemakers on December 20th, enjoy some fabulous food, and learn why the group is so enthusiastic about its award-winning homemade wines! You'll be amazed to learn more about the group!

The Winemakers Group hopes to see you there!

- Rich Skoczylas, Director

November Mini-Tasting: Cabernet Sauvignon

(Continued from page 1)

try to place you at the location nearest your home or to accommodate your site-specific request. However, your assigned host site is also based on the order in which your sign-up is received in the OCWS office.

Dish: Each person attending is requested to bring a potluck dish (appetizer, entrée, side dish, or dessert) to serve a small portion for 18 people and designed to match the theme of the tasting. Please coordinate your food selection with your host site to assure diversity in food pairings with the wines. As usual, there will be a special bottle of wine that evening as a prize for Chef-of-the-Evening. Our winning Chefs-of-the-Evening may have their recipe published on the OCWS website.

Hosts: If you would like to host this event, please email Wendy Taylor at wendy@ocws.org or call her at 949.521.2229. Selected hosts attend the tasting at no cost. You may need to sign up and pay until hosts are selected. Reimbursement will be made for all host sites.

The cost to attend this tasting is \$30 for members and \$35 for guests. To attend, just complete the sign-up in this newsletter or on the OCWS website. Due to advance purchase of wines, you will not be refunded if you cannot attend unless there is a waiting list. The cut-off date for online sign up is Monday, November 3rd. After this date, please call Wendy to determine availability. The cancellation deadline is November 7th.

Bon Appétit,
- Wendy Taylor, Mini-Tasting Chair

Winemakers Newsroom

Wine Blending Seminar & Workshop

Kevin and Sylvia Donnelly hosted a wine blending seminar and workshop for several of our members last month. During this seminar, Jim Graver conducted an educational tutorial to provide an understanding of the why's and the how's of wine blending. With dramatic flair, Jim demonstrated how a few percentage changes of the blending of one wine varietal with another can make a huge difference in the final taste in a blended wine.

The workshop used some of the Meritage components including Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot and Petite Sirah to make various wine blends. The members used various combinations of oak tea, acids, alcohol, grape tannins and other additions. The focus was to select a wine that may be enhanced with the addition of one or two of the other wines. Members were assigned into small groups that tried different combinations to create their best wine "Blend." After this experiment, the groups participated in a competitive judging to determine the best blend. Mike and Dawn Iglesias produced the winning blend and received a bottle of (unblended) wine.

2014 Group "Crushed" Program

This year, the Winemakers Group selected Petite Syrah and Cabernet Sauvignon as their varietals for this year's group purchase of grapes. Bill Forsch coordinated this purchase through our long time supplier/partner, Lucas & Lewellen Winery in Buellton, California. Over two tons of grapes were purchased, transported and distributed to our home winemakers. We deeply appreciate the extraordi-

Upcoming 2014 Planned Events

November 15 - Post Crush Roundtable/Seminar

December 20 - Holiday Potluck & Wine Tasting

nary service that Lucas & Lewellen provides our group, especially Dan Iness, the Vineyard Manager, Ian Fainer, the Cellar Master and Megan Fox, their Wine Maker.

Several Homewine group members were involved in this effort. We thank our many members, especially Mike Paz for use of his trailer in transporting the grapes, Dave Rutledge for use of his transport bins and Kern Vogel for assisting and helping to distribute the grapes. Richard Nelson, a relatively new member and winemaker, also provided his home for the distribution point for the grapes.

Vadai Wine Barrel Purchase

Bill Forsch coordinated our very first Winemakers Group barrel purchase. The Winemakers Group selected the Vadai Barrel importer based on the quality of their barrels, wide selection of sizes, and Vadai's interest in working with the Wine Society. Many of our members are seriously interested in making wine and purchased barrels ranging in size from 11 to 32 gallons. They were well pleased with the barrels they received, and look forward to future dealings with this company.

- Rich Skoczylas, Director

2014 Installation Dinner

The annual Installation Dinner was held on October 5, 2014 and was a complete success. Sixty seven members enjoyed the ambiance, the food, and the overall pleasure of being a part of the celebration. Everyone in attendance was able to meet the new inductees for the OCWS Board of Directors, Liz Corbett, Brian McDonald and Bill Redding.

The OCWS was also able to pay tribute to and thank outgoing board members Wendy Taylor, Kevin Coy and Greg Hagadorn for their hard work and ongoing dedication to the Wine Society. They each contributed extensive time and effort to the various committees and events that took place over the last three years. I am certain we shall see them at future events as volunteers.

- Tony Marino, Director



Election Results

The Election Results are in!

Congratulations to the newest OCWS Board Members; Liz Corbett, Brian McDonald, and Bill Redding! We are looking forward to another outstanding year.

Thank you to Lynda Edwards, Dennis Esslinger, Jane Goodnight, Janet Hammond, Virginia Kawai, Maria Loera, Ronna Rowe and Sally Toth who helped with the Ballot Mailing process.

A special thank you to the Election Committee members who worked continuously to ensure the accuracy and integrity of the election process.

The 2014 Election Committee members were as follows:

- Kevin Coy & Maria Loera
- Janet Hammond
- Craig & Ronna Rowe

- Larry Graham, Past President & 2014 Election Chair

Sign-Up Sheets

Holiday Dinner & Dance
Santa Ana/OC Airport DoubleTree Hotel
201 E. MacArthur Blvd.
Santa Ana, CA
Friday, December 5, 2014
6:30 pm

Member _____
 Co-Member _____
 Guest _____
 Day Phone _____
 Night Phone _____
 Email _____
 Number of Guests @ \$85 each _____

Select your entrée and dessert courses:
 (M) (C) (M) (C)
 () () Turkey () () Carrot Cake
 () () Halibut () () Chocolate Cake
 () () Prime Rib

Payment
 [] Personal Check
 Total Enclosed _____

Reservation Deadline: Dec. 1

Winemakers Group Holiday Potluck
East Lake Village Assoc. Clubhouse
5325 Village Center Drive
Yorba Linda, CA
Saturday, December 20, 2014
4:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Member _____
 Co-Member _____
 Day Phone _____
 Night Phone _____
 Email _____
 Number of Attendees @ \$12 each _____

Payment
 [] Personal Check
 Total Enclosed _____

Reservation Deadline: Dec. 15

Cabernet Sauvignon Mini-Tasting
Various Locations
Sunday, November 15, 2014
6:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Member _____
 Co-Member _____
 Day Phone _____
 Night Phone _____
 Email _____
 Number of Members @ \$30 each _____
 Number of Guests @ \$35 each _____

Payment
 [] Personal Check
 Total Enclosed _____

Reservation Deadline: Nov. 3
Cancellation Deadline: Nov. 7



OCWS Upcoming Events Calendar

- | | |
|---------|----------------------------------|
| Nov. 15 | Mini-Tasting: Cabernet Sauvignon |
| Dec. 5 | Holiday Dinner |
| Dec. 20 | Winemakers Group Holiday Potluck |



Orange County Wine Society



@OCWineSociety



www.ocws.org



The Wine Press

Orange County Wine Society, Inc.
PO Box 11059
Costa Mesa, CA 92627