



The Wine Press



Newsletter of the Orange County Wine Society, Inc.
Volume 40, Issue 4, April 2016

President's Message: Jim's Journal

The OCWS offers many fun-filled and educational activities as we move forward toward the 2016 OC Fair. Please refer to subsequent articles in this edition of *The Wine Press* for more information on the upcoming events described below.

WINERY PROGRAM

Kent and Shauna Rosenblum will be hosting the 40th Anniversary Winery Program tasting. I encourage our members to sign up early for the Rock Wall tasting. This program has always sold out in the past.

MINI-TASTING

Bill Redding has put together an excellent list of Meritage wines for the April 23 Mini-Tasting. This varietal is one of my favorites as it really showcases the skills of a winemaker. When that perfect blend of the Bordeaux varieties is achieved, you have a wine that goes with any meal or by itself.

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History of the Orange County Wine Society

As the Orange County Wine Society celebrates its 40th Anniversary, this 2015-2016 year's edition of *The Wine Press* will feature the Wine Society's history.

~ The Courtyard is Born ~

In the early 1990s, the OC Fair expanded to 17 days. In 1991, a committee under the leadership of David Hirstein, designed a new wine booth that was to be located at the end of the Flower and Garden Building. David and his committee fabricated a model that incorporated expanded serving areas, an office, and a wine cellar. The new booth was built by the OC Fair staff just in time for the opening of the OC Fair, and was initially named the Wine Pavilion. A great deal of thanks is owed to

(Continued on page 12)

Save the Date
Sunday, October 9, 2016
40th Anniversary Dinner
Yves' Restaurant & Wine Bistro
Special events are being planned
for this evening.

Celebrating
40
Forty *Years*



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February 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 March meeting:

- James & Pamela Clauss ■ Bob Clark & Katy Carey ■ Flavia DiNino
 Jill & Michael Martin ■ Roberta Morgan ■ Jacqueline Ryan
 Dr. Kal Sharma ■ Terry & Linda Stephenson
 Hank & Susan Vincent

As of the March Board meeting the Orange County Wine Society has 917 members.

- **Brian McDonald, Director
 & Membership Chair**



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.



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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, and suggestions to winepress@ocws.org.

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President's Message: Jim's Journal

(Continued from page 1)

MEMBERSHIP BBQ

On May 15th, Liz Corbett, her volunteers, and the Cook's Caucus are putting together a wonderful menu of food for this event. Our BBQ is one of our most popular events and the OCWS Board of Directors encourages everyone to attend this fun filled event. There is always plenty food, wine, beer, and dancing.

WINEMAKERS' GROUP EVENTS

We have a very active group of home winemakers who host quarterly potlucks, SO2 testing, kit wine making classes, and other classes about home wine making. The next quarterly potluck (which is open to all OCWS members) is scheduled for April 30 and the next kit wine making class is scheduled for May 21.

COMMERCIAL WINE COMPETITION

This year's competition will be conducted on June 4 and 5. This is one of our largest volunteer events. Volunteers have a lot of fun working with our members and at the end of the day, they also have the opportunity to take multiple partially full bottles of wine home (for their volunteer effort). The Hilton hotel also offers us a discounted room rate for this event. Please refer to the article in this newsletter for more information.

HOMEWINE COMPETITION

This year's competition will be conducted on June 11 at the Orange County Fair and Event Center. This volunteer event is a lot of fun for our members. As a thank you for their efforts, volunteers are provided with breakfast and lunch by the Cooks' Caucus.

OC FAIR

Every volunteer who pours wine for a customer at the OCWS wine booth in the courtyard must be TIPS certified. This certification is good for three years. Members are requested to sign up early to timely complete their TIPS training.

OCWS WEBSITE

Our new website will be going online in the very near future. Please look for both a Constant Contact and a US mail release of information to our membership. More details will be provided as they become available.

In closing, the OCWS Board Members encourage everyone to drink responsibly and use a designated driver at all of our events. We look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events!

- Jim Beard, President

2016 Membership Barbeque

Sunday, May 15, 2016 @ 3:00 - 7:00 pm
Orange County Fair & Events Center
Costa Mesa, CA

Join us for our annual membership BBQ featuring the tasty fare of our Cooks' Caucus. Snack on quesadillas, chili lime Pepitas, and chips with salsa and guacamole. Then enjoy our Caesar Salad, Grilled Mexican Corn Salad, Shrimp Ceviche, and watermelon before moving on to Spanish rice, beans, tortillas, Pork Tenderloins with Spicy Applesauce, Beef Tri Tip with Chimichurri Sauce and, of course, for dessert, Tres Leches Cake and Chipotle Spice Cookies. Is your mouth watering yet? We will also be serving Margaritas, Sangria, wine and beer.

The Green Natives are returning to provide us with music to dance your cares away. We will feature raffles, silent auction baskets and The Wine Wall where you can purchase a mystery bottle of wine for \$20. All proceeds from The Wine Wall go directly to our Scholarship Fund.

Donations Needed:

Assistance is needed with donations for the raffles, silent auctions and wines (valued in excess of \$20). You will receive not only the satisfaction of donating to the Scholarship Fund but also a tax deductible receipt.

Volunteers Needed: Volunteers are needed for set-up, decorations, registration, serving food, pouring wine and clean up. Shifts are available before, during and after the event. Please contact Liz Corbett for donations and volunteer assignments at liz@cws.org or at 714.342.6652.

The cost for this fun-filled event is \$38 for members and \$48 for guests.



- Liz Corbett, Secretary

OCWS Wine Auction

Saturday, April 9, 2016
11:00 am - 5:00 pm
OC Fair & Events Center
Huntington Beach Building (next to The Courtyard)

*** Please expect to be present for the entire event.
No early check-outs! ***



Got Wine? Have enough?
No....there is never enough!

The OCWS Wine Auction is right around the corner...a terrific venue to purchase outstanding wines of all varietals at great prices! Place your bid in our silent auction, offering several hundred, 4-bottle lots of wine in every varietal imaginable.

You can also raise your bidder paddle for many premium lots in the verbal auction.

The Wine Auction affords the OCWS Cellarmaster a chance to clear out the cellar to make room for all the wine arriving for the 2016 Commercial Wine Judging Competition. The event also helps provide funding for this year's Commercial Wine Competition.

We will also be placing four wine bottles in a sealed box that you can pick up during Auction checkout. Each bottle in the box will be valued over \$10 (many worth much more). You will receive 4 bottles, for just \$20 – that's a \$40 value! At just \$5 per bottle, it's a great way to pick up some nice everyday wines at a very reasonable price.

Sign up now on the OCWS website or send your personal check to the OCWS office, along with the Wine Auction sign-up form in this edition of The Wine Press. Bidder catalogues will be available the week before and during event check-in.



It is an outstanding event, with wine bargains galore! Everyone leaves happy and comes home a winner. There will also be a nice selection of wines poured for your pleasure and plenty of food to keep you smiling through the day.

For your convenience, it is suggested that you bring wine glasses and pens to the Wine Auction. Limited quantities of individual wine glasses will be available for sale. The price is \$20 per member.

One more thing... only OCWS members may attend. Additionally, please remember that Wine Society events are for adults only. As such, we ask that you please refrain from bringing underage guests and children to our events.

See you at the Auction!

- Dennis Esslinger, Auction Director



Meritage Mini-Tasting

Saturday, April 23, 2016
6:00 pm - 9:00 pm
OCWS Member Homes

Our next Mini-Tasting theme is Meritage Reds.

Meritage, pronounced like heritage, first appeared in the late 1980s after a group of American vintners joined forces to create a name for New World wines blended in the tradition of Bordeaux. These wines are prized for their smooth, silky texture and complex, robust structure. A Red Meritage is a blend of two or more of the red "noble" Bordeaux varieties - Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc, Malbec, Merlot, Petit Verdot and the rarer St. Macaire, Gros Verdot and Carmenère. To qualify as a Meritage, no single grape variety can make up more than 90% of the blend and can not include any other varietal. Source: Meritagealliance.com

Hosts: Mini-Tastings are held at various host sites around Orange County. If you would like to host this event, please e-mail Bill Redding at bill@ocws.org or call him at 949.248.1125. You will need to sign up and pay until hosts are selected. Reimbursement will be made for all host sites.

Locations: Host sites and directions will be announced to those attending approximately one week prior to the event. We try to place you at the location nearest your home or to accommodate your specific site 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 brings a potluck dish (appetizer, entrée, side dish, or dessert) to serve a small portion to 18 people. The dish ideally should be designed to match the theme of the tasting, in this case Cabernet Sauvignon. Please coordinate your food selection with your host site to assure an appropriate balance of food types served during the even-



ing. There will be a special bottle of wine that evening as a prize for Chef of the Evening.

We are planning a maximum of five sites for this mini-tasting, so the limit is 90 attendees. The cost to attend the tasting is \$30 for members and \$35 for guests. Due to the high attendance at our Mini-Tasting Programs, we encourage you to sign-up early as sites tend to fill quickly. The cut-off date for online sign-up is Monday, April 18. After this date please contact Bill or the OCWS office to determine availability. The cancellation deadline is April 15, 2016 for a refund. After that date, due to the advance purchase of wines, you will not receive a refund unless there is a waiting list.

Help Wanted: We are in need of host sites. If you have attended Mini's in the past and can accommodate 18 persons at your place **WE NEED YOU**. The paper goods, plates, etc. are all provided - even the wine glasses if needed.

Bon Appetit, Bill Redding, Vice President



OCWS Members enjoy the March Rhone Mini-Tasting.

February Mini-Tasting Results: Rhone Wines

A total of 71 members and guests attended the February Mini-Tasting at four host sites. The blind tasting consisted of five flights of two wines each. The following Rhone wines were tasted as either a single varietal or as white or red blends - Counoise, Grenache, Marsanne, Mourvedre, Rousanne, Syrah, Tannat, and Viognier. The top three favorite wines of the host sites are listed below:

Placement	Winery	Vintage	Price	Description
1st	J. Lohr	2013	\$30.00	Syrah - Gesture <i>Silver: 2016 New World International Wine Competition</i>
2nd	Cline	2013	\$17.00	Mourvedre - Ancient Vines <i>Double Gold: 2015 San Francisco Chronicle</i>
3rd	Halter Ranch	2013	\$32.00	Rhone Blend - CDP-54G/22Mv/18S/6T <i>Double Gold: 2016 San Francisco Chronicle</i>

In addition, attendees brought a dish to share and then voted on a Chef of the Evening. The results of the Chef of the Evening at each host site are:

- Hosts **Dave & Tami Stancil**: Chef **Sheila Tedesco** "Chocolate Brownie with Strawberries"
- Hosts **BJ & Tina Fornadley**: Chef **Linda Downey** "Coaur d' la Crème with Raspberry and Grand Marnier sauce"
- Hosts **Karl & Virginia Kawai**: Chef **Jim Burk** "Salmon Chowder"
- Hosts **Stacey & Wendy Taylor**: (tie) Chef **Germaine Romano** for "Short Ribs" and Chef **Bill Forsch** for "Tri Tip and Pork Roast with 3 Sauces"

- **Bill Redding, Vice President**

Featured Member: Jim Burk



Jim Burk has been a long time member of the Orange County Wine Society. You can often find him behind the camera at Wine Society events, encouraging members to smile and pose for the camera. Jim's pictures are made available on the OCWS website for all members to view.

Jim's fascination with photography began when he was a young boy, about 10 or 11, when he observed his father. Throughout his lifetime, he has maintained the hobby and is always seeking to improve his skills. In the last couple years, he has taken a couple courses at the community college.

In June 2015, Jim took a photography tour of Portugal. He

is presenting an exhibit of his photo safari at Orange Coast College. The exhibit will be held April 4 to April 29, 2016 in the Student Exhibit area of the Fine Arts Building. The exhibit area opens at 11:00 am on Monday, 10:00 am on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, and 1:00 pm on Thursday, and stays open until 10:00 pm. All are invited to see his printed work.

If you are not able to make it to the Exhibit, be sure to congratulate Jim the next time you see him at a Wine Society event. You can often find him at a his favorite event, the Mini-Tastings where he has walked home as Chef of the Evening multiple times. He also enjoys volunteering at the Commercial Competition and chatting up the winemakers, especially those creating his favorite varietal, Zinfandel. Jim also enjoys fishing and will often share his famous smoked fish dips with fellow Wine Society members when he volunteers at the OC Fair.

- **Michelle Philo**

May Winery Program: Rock Wall Wine Company

40th Anniversary Tasting
Friday, May 6, 2016 @ 6:15 pm
Avenue of the Arts Hotel
3350 Avenue of the Arts
Costa Mesa, CA

This May we will hold a special 40th Anniversary tasting with one of the most famous winemakers in the world, Kent Rosenblum. Kent, the CEO of Rock Wall Wine Company, has provided us several enlivened tastings in the past, regaling and amusing us with stories of Sven and Ollie, and providing us tastes of his fantastic wines.

Kent will present and discuss the following Rock Wall wines:

- 2015 Sauvignon Blanc, Lake County
- 2013 Zinfandel, Harris-Kratka Vineyard, Alexander Valley
- 2014 Zinfandel, Julies Vineyard, Russian River Valley
- 2014 Zinfandel, Alegria Vineyard, Russian River Valley
- 2014 Zinfandel, Rockpile AVA, Mauritson Vineyard
- 2014 Zinfandel, Monte Rosso Vineyard, Sonoma Valley
- 2013 Papa's Syrah
- 2013 Tannat, Yolo and Solano Counties, "The Palindrome"
- 2014 The Romancer
- 2012 Le Mur De Roche, Napa Valley

This evening we will feature a special sit-down dinner instead of our usual buffet. In addition, the OCWS will present gifts to attendees that have not been offered before in Wine Society tastings. The price for this event is \$50 for members and \$55 for guests.

Attendees can park in the garage and either get their ticket validated at OCWS check-in or pay \$10 for valet parking. Dinner



Kent Rosenblum, CEO, and
Shauna Rosenblum, Winemaker

Rock Wall Wine Company

begins at 6:45 pm with the meeting following at 7:30 pm.

Sign up on the website or use the sign-up sheet in this newsletter and mail it to the OCWS with your check and meal selection. All sign-ups must be received and any cancellations must be made no later than by Friday, April 29.

Be sure to bring and wear your nametag.

Members may bring their own wine to enjoy and share during the dinner; however, we do ask that you remove your bottle from the table during the tasting.

Menu

~ Starter ~

Baby Mixed Greens Salad

Served with goat cheese, candied walnuts, fresh raspberries, and raspberry vinaigrette.

Warm Artisan Rolls with Sweet Butter

~ Entrée ~

(choice of one)

Grilled Flat Iron Steak

Served with Pinot Noir reduction, Cipollini onions and cremini mushrooms; twice baked potato with cheddar and chives, and sautéed asparagus

Heart Healthy Option: Grilled Salmon

Served with Spring artichoke, wild mushroom, Cippolini onion ragout, Spring herb beurre blanc with edamame risotto and spring vegetables,

~ Dessert ~

Apple Tart

with toasted almonds and caramel

Winemakers Newsroom

Winemakers' Group Quarterly Potluck
April 30, 2016, 1:00 pm
Hosted by: Bruce & Jeannine Powers
Orange, CA

The next Winemakers' Group Quarterly meeting will be held at the home of Bruce and Jeannine Powers in Orange. As with all our Winemakers' Group events, ALL OCWS members and potential "newbies" are invited to attend and learn about winemaking, and to enjoy the camaraderie of our wonderful group. Our meetings are always a fun gathering of our people to show off their wine-making and culinary skills, and everyone has a great time! This is a potluck, so please bring a dish that will serve 10 to 12 to share and a bottle of wine, homemade or commercial. The meeting will be preceded by Sulfite testing so our winemakers can monitor their sulfites, which protect their wines from oxidation and bacteria.

Kit Wine Making Class
May 21, 2016
Lake Forest, CA

Bill Forsch and Kern Vogel will be presenting the popular Kit Wine Making Class on May 21st in Lake Forest. The cost of the class is \$25 to cover expenses. You will walk away with a bottle of wine and you will be able to taste several kit made wines after the class. This is traditionally acclaimed as one of the best values we offer! Space is limited, and we have always had a wait list, so get your spot reserved ASAP! Reserve and pay on the OCWS website, or email bforsch@cox.net or call Bill at 949.981.9087.

Homewine Competition
June 11, 2016
Orange County Fair & Events Center

Our OCWS Homewine Competition will be held on June 11. We are always looking for stewards and judges, so please let us know if you would like to volunteer. A new

Upcoming 2016 Planned Events

April 30: Winemakers' Quarterly Meeting & SO2 Wine Tasting

May: Homewine Judges Training Seminar

May 21: Kit Wine Making Class

June 11: Homewine Competition

July 15 - August 14: OC Fair Wine Seminars

menu with both a full hot breakfast and lunch will be served this year by our Cooks' Caucus group. It is a great way to spend a Saturday and benefit the OCWS!

We will be conducting our mandatory Judges Training Seminar at the home of Lynn Hess again in May. This training assures we get consistent judging by everyone, and provides the best value and feedback to the winemakers.

OC Fair Wine Seminars
July 15, 2016 - August 14, 2016

Again this year, we will be conducting Winemaking seminars every Saturday at the OC Fair. Bill Forsch will be giving his free "3 X 3 in 3 Kit Winemaking" presentation, demonstrating how to make 30 bottles in 3 total hours in 3 square feet of space, and Kevin Donnelly will follow with his "Winemaking for Mere Mortals" from fresh grapes discussion, which has become popular the last 5 years at the OC Fair. Both of these presentations vividly show winemaking for the home winemaker, and how we compare to commercial wineries.

If you are interested in participating in any of these events, or learning more about the Winemakers' Group, please contact Kevin Donnelly at or KevinDonnelly@ocws.org or 714.457.7229.

- Kevin Donnelly & Stacey Taylor, Director



Alcohol Server Training for The Courtyard



The 2016 OC Fair is right around the corner which means it is time to start scheduling Alcohol Server Training (TIPS). TIPS classes will be held in April and May with only a few classes in June. Do not wait

until June to schedule a class! If classes do not fill, they are cancelled and you will not be able to volunteer in The Courtyard. If you were TIPS certified in 2013 and are planning on volunteering to pour wine at The Courtyard this year you will need to take the class again. A letter has already been sent notifying you that your TIPS card has expired and you will need to re-take the class. If you have never taken a TIPS class, you will need to attend and successfully complete the training. Once successfully completed, you are certified for three years.

The 2016 OC Fair starts on Friday, July 15 and ends on Sunday, August 14. As a concessionaire of the OC Fair, the OCWS must adhere to contractual requirements established by the OC Fair Board of Directors and staff. Before

any of us is able to volunteer in The Courtyard during the OC Fair, everyone must be "professionally trained and certified in alcohol awareness techniques."

The Alcohol Server Training sign-up form can be found in *The Wine Press* and on the website. Please use this form to indicate your availability and email to TIPS@ocws.org. You may also mail the sign-up form, or fax to the office at 714.546.5002. When selecting your availability, please remember that the 2nd choice date cannot be prior to the 1st choice. The classes are held on the grounds of the OC Fair & Event Center. Confirmations and maps will be sent one week prior to the class.

If you have any questions regarding TIPS training, please email TIPS@ocws.org or call 714.235.6459.

See you at the Fair!

**- Marcy and George Ott
Alcohol Server Training Coordinators
2016 Courtyard Committee**

Commercial Competition Award Book

It is that time of the year to start putting together the 2016 Commercial Competition Awards Book. This year, the OC Fair theme is "Put On Your Fair Face."

We are now looking for that "perfect" picture to adorn our 2016 Awards Book cover. Special consideration will be given to pictures which represent the Wine Society's 40 year anniversary.

If you would like to submit a picture for consideration, please email a digital version to dwdeeble@cox.net. Digital submittals must be 300 dpi or better in portrait orientation. Alternately, if you have a 5 x 7 photograph, slide, painting, or hand drawing that you think may make for good cover art for the book, mail them to the OCWS office to my attention. If you wish them returned, kindly enclose a SASE.

Remember, pictures may not include people or private property and must be of a public scene. Pictures will only be accepted from OCWS members. The winner will be given two tickets to a Wine Seminar of their choice at the OC Fair, plus recognition in the Awards Book. All pictures must be submitted by May 1st to be considered.

Good luck to everyone!

~ Award Book Advertisers ~

We are now making plans for the 2016 Wine Awards Book. I solicit your help in finding new prospective advertisers for this year's award book.

Kindly email the business name, address, contact person, and telephone number of any new business you feel I should contact for advertising in our Awards Book. My email address is dwdeeble@cox.net. Your help would be appreciated.



- Dan Deeble, 2015 Award Book Chairman

Commercial Competition Volunteers

The 2016 Commercial Competition will be held June 4 and June 5, 2016 and your assistance is crucial to its success! This event offers many opportunities: to meet winemakers, add to your wine knowledge, and enjoy getting to know your fellow OCWS members, just to mention a few.

There are many areas where volunteer help is needed, including stewarding, glass washing and drying, and computer verification. As we only have six computers available for computer input, those tasks will be assigned.

A sign up form is included in the newsletter that identifies stewarding days, bagging nights, and other work parties with times and dates. In order to qualify for stewarding, we need you to sign up for two additional work parties. We can offer bagging, and moving of wine to and from the competition site. In addition, volunteers can elect to join

the sorting party in June. Due to the restraints on space, the ribbon mailing crew will be assigned. We need your support for our work parties in order to run a successful competition. The good news is that we will have hired help for heavy lifting. No training is necessary as newer members will be teamed with competition veterans.

The deadline for signing up is May 1, 2016. You may fax your form to OCWS at 714.546.5002 or mail it to PO Box 11059, Costa Mesa, CA 92627. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at 562.822.3382 or email at strompharms@earthlink.net.

We look forward to your participation in this very important event.

- Robyn Strom, Volunteer Coordinator

Hotel Reservations for Commercial Wine Competition

If you plan on staying at the Costa Mesa Hilton Hotel for the weekend of the Commercial Wine Competition, please make reservations no later than May 10, 2016. The OCWS has booked a block of rooms for OCWS members at a discounted rate and this rate is guaranteed only until that date. The special rate does not require advance payment and is \$139 per night plus \$12 per night parking. If you want to stay on the 7th floor Executive Level, the rate is \$175 per night for up to 2 persons in the room.

Reservations can be made by phone at 714.540.7000 or online at www.Hilton.com/Costa_Mesa. When making reservations, be sure to mention the discount code "OCWS16" to receive the above rates.

- Lora Howard & David Hirstein

The Courtyard at the 2016 OC Fair Coming Soon!

The OC Fair will be open Wednesdays through Sundays
July 15th through August 14th

Do not miss out on all the fun! Sign-up early and help make our biggest fundraiser of the year a huge success!

See the TIPS training article and TIPS sign-up form in this edition of the *The Wine Press* and look for information about signing up for shifts at The Courtyard in next month's edition of *The Wine Press*.



Call for New Member Ambassadors

Imagine walking into a room of over 100 people and not knowing a single person. It sounds a little daunting! That is currently what happens when a new member attends his or her first Wine Society event.

What if that new member knew at least one or two other people in the room? Does that make the event a little more appealing?

The Orange County Wine Society is looking for members to volunteer as ambassadors to new members. It does not take a great deal of time. You will be given one or two names each month and your job will be to call the newest

members and welcome them to the Wine Society, talk to them about upcoming events, and tell them about the protocol for the events they are interested in attending (bring wine or not, bring glasses or not, dress, etc.). If you are planning on being at an event, ask them to join your table and introduce them to other Wine Society members. In other words, make them feel welcome.

If you would like to be on the ambassador list, just drop me an email at brian@ocws.org.

- **Brian McDonald, Director
& Membership Chair**

Save the Date: New Member Mixer



A mixer for new members will be hosted by the Board of Directors on Sunday, April 17, 2016 from 2:00 to 4:00 pm. This is a free event for new members. It will give you the opportunity to meet the Board of Directors, other new members and learn more about the activities and events hosted by OCWS. **An RSVP is required.**

If you joined the Wine Society after September 15, 2015, you are considered a new member and should have received a flyer and or email with the details of the Mixer. If you have not, please contact the OCWS Office at 714.708.1636.

Scholarship Fund Thank You Note

I wish to extend my greatest appreciation for your generous gift in support of my education as a Masters student at the UC Davis Department of Viticulture and Enology. It has given me the opportunity to attend one of the best schools and departments in the nation. I intend to work diligently to excel academically and become a contributing member of the viticulture and winemaking community. Through my research in grape pathogens, I will strive to further the understanding of the problems faced by grape growers and work towards solutions that will benefit growers, wine-makers, and consumers.

Thank you again for your generous contribution on my behalf.

Best Regards, Jerry L.

History of the Orange County Wine Society

(Continued from page 1)

Clint Hoose who served on the Orange County Fair Board of Directors and Norb Bartosik, who served as the General Manager of the Orange County Fair during that time.

The new Wine Pavilion allowed the OCWS to increase its sales while providing an ideal environment for subsequent events on the fairgrounds and a permanent storage area for its wines. The Wine Pavilion was managed by either day or night managers who worked every day of the OC Fair.

In 1992, the Orange County Fair celebrated its 100th Anniversary and the Wine Society donated the sparkling wine for a wedding that was held during the OC Fair. In 1994, cheese plates were sold to accompany the wines but were subsequently discontinued due to the problems in assembling and packaging the trays.

~ Wine Competitions Continue to Grow ~

The Commercial Wine Competition averaged 2,300 entries and 800 awards with over 50 different varietals and styles of wine. In 1991, the host hotel for the Competition was moved to the Red Lion in Costa Mesa, and remains at the same facility today under its new owner, the Costa Mesa Hilton. In the mid-1990s, various Rhône and Italian type varietals were added and Sparkling Wines were subdivided into five separate categories. It was also during this period, that the first Label Competition was planned and conducted thanks to the efforts of Carol Esslinger and Carol Stiglbauer. The number of judges averaged 75.

The Homewine Group continued during this period under the leadership of Jim Graver and the annual Homewine Competition continued to be held on the fairgrounds. The group also sponsored several events for home winemakers to allow them to test and assess the progress of their wines.

~ OCWS Launches a Website ~

During the late 90s, the OCWS continued to offer the usual events such as the Auction, BBQ, Champagne Brunch, Chili Cook-off, Holiday Dinner and Dance, Installation Dinner, and Mini-Tastings. The Wine Society continued to sponsor the Wine Extraordinaire and Wine Classic, plus both the Commercial and Homewine Competitions. New events were added and an additional college was added to

the Scholarship Program. The OCWS started co-sponsoring events with Zinfandel Associates and Producers (ZAP).

In order to publicize and promote the OCWS, a website was designed and developed to publicize the OCWS. Judy Fox launched the first OCWS "home page" on the Web in April 1996. Judy spent much of the late 90s expanding the services of the OCWS website as the website was experiencing hundreds of "hits" on a monthly basis. Judy volunteered to design the website and has maintained and expanded its services each year until she resigned from this role in 2015.

~ Wine Society Hires a Full Time Administrator ~

The Wine Society membership stabilized at about 1,000 members and Janet Hammond was hired as a full time Office Administrator for the office. She continues to serve the Board of Directors and the membership in this capacity today.

~ Wine Society Travels for Wine Events ~

In 1996, the Wine Pavilion was renamed as The Courtyard, dues were raised, OCWS identification cards were printed for the membership, and the Bylaws were changed to limit the terms of the Board of Directors to two consecutive terms. The OCWS also hosted a Wine Cruise was held to Mexico, and the following year, another Wine Cruise was held to the Yucatan and the Western Caribbean. In 1998-2000, the OCWS hosted a bus trip to Orfila and Witch Creek wineries, and the start of a new OCWS event at sponsoring restaurants that was subsequently called "Grub and Groggers." These events continued in subsequent years under the supervision of Judy Fox with members selecting the restaurant and hosting the event. Judy also organized another bus trip to Paso Robles that included a cave dinner at Eberle Winery. She also started another annual tradition with a trip to Catalina Island to attend the Women's Forum Annual Wine Festival, an annual trip that continued for several years and was a member favorite.

If you have any fond memories of your experiences with the Wine Society that you would like to share, please forward your stories and pictures to winepress@ocws.org for inclusion in a future edition. A special Thank You to Larry Graham for initially compiling the Wine Society's history.



40th Annual Orange County Fair Commercial Wine Competition



Please Contact me if you have any questions. Robyn Strom, 562.822.3382 or email to strompharms@earthlink.net

NOTE: To be a steward, you must volunteer to work a task from both Task List #1 and Task List #2
COMPETITION ~ Saturday, June 4, 2016 and Sunday, June 5, 2016
Hilton Hotel, Costa Mesa, CA

Member	Co-Member	Task	Day	Date	From	To
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Stewarding	Saturday	June 4th	7:30 a.m.	5:00 PM
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Stewarding	Sunday	June 5th	7:30 a.m.	5:00 PM

TASK LIST #1

(Check all dates that you are available)

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bagging	Tuesday	May 31st	6:30 p.m.	9:30 p.m.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bagging	Wednesday	June 1st	6:30 p.m.	9:30 p.m.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bagging	Thursday	June 2nd	6:30 p.m.	9:30 p.m.

TASK LIST #2

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Move wine to hotel	Friday	June 3rd	9:00 AM	1:00 p.m.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Set-up hotel ballroom	Friday	June 3rd	2:00 p.m.	4:30 p.m.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Move wine to Fairgrounds	Monday	June 6th	9:00 a.m.	1:00 p.m.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sorting	Saturday	June 25th	9:00 a.m.	5:00 p.m.
Assigned	Assigned	Ribbon Mailing	Saturday	June 25th	Assigned	Assigned

TASK LIST #3

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Glass Drying	Saturday	June 4th	7:30 a.m.	5:00 p.m.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Glass Drying	Sunday	June 5th	7:30 a.m.	5:00 p.m.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Score Computer Input	Sat 6/4	Assigned	11:00 AM	5:00 p.m.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Score Computer Input	Sun 6/5	Assigned	10:00 AM	4:00 p.m.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Score Verification	Saturday	June 4th	11:00 AM	5:00 p.m.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Score Verification	Sunday	June 5th	10:00 AM	4:00 p.m.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Kitchen Help or Traffic Control	Saturday	June 4th	7:30 a.m.	5:00 p.m.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Kitchen Help or Traffic Control	Sunday	June 5th	7:30 a.m.	5:00 p.m.

PLEASE PRINT

Member _____ My first Competition? Yes No
 Co-Member _____ My first Competition? Yes No
 Address _____ City & Zip _____
 Day Phone _____ Night Phone _____
 Email Address _____

Deadline for sign-up is Sunday May 1, 2016
Assignments will mailed out the second week in May



Fold



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

(Stamp)

Orange County Wine Society, Inc.
Attn: Robyn Strom
PO Box 11059
Costa Mesa, CA 92627

Fold

Sign-Up Sheets

OCWS Wine Auction
Saturday, April 9, 2016
11:00 am - 5:00 pm
OC Fair & Events Center
Huntington Beach Building

Member _____
 Co-Member _____
 Day Phone _____
 Night Phone _____
 Email _____
 No. of Members @ \$20 each _____

Payment

[] Personal Check
 Total Enclosed _____

***** Please expect to be present for the entire event. No early check-outs! *****

****Member Exclusive Event****

Meritage Mini - Tasting
Saturday, April 23, 2016
6:00 pm - 9:00 pm
Locations to be announced

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

Payment

[] Personal Check
 Total Enclosed _____

Cancellation Deadline: April 15
Reservation Deadline: April 18

2016 OC Fair
Courtyard Volunteer
Alcohol Server Training (TIPS)
OC Fair & Events Center
Weeknights @ 6:30 pm
Saturdays @ 10:00 am

Member _____
 Co-Member _____
 Address _____
 City & Zip _____
 Day Phone _____
 Night Phone _____
 Email _____

~ Dates and Times ~

Please indicate your 1st and 2nd choice for training. 2nd choice cannot be before 1st choice. You will receive confirmation within one week prior to the class.

~ Weeknight Training ~

6:15 pm - Check In

6:30 pm - Training Begins Promptly

Mon. Apr. 25	1st []	2nd []
Wed. May 4	1st []	2nd []
Wed. May 11	1st []	2nd []
Mon. May 23	1st []	2nd []
Tue. June 7	1st []	2nd []

~ Saturday Training ~

9:45 am - Check In

10:00 am - Training Begins Promptly

Sat. May 14	1st []	2nd []
Sat. June 11	1st []	2nd []

Mail/Fax/Email reservation to:

OCWS Training Coordinators

Attn: George & Marcy Ott

PO Box 11059

Costa Mesa, CA 92627

Fax: 714.546.5002

Email: TIPS@ocws.org

Membership Barbeque
The Courtyard
Orange County Fair & Events Center
Costa Mesa, CA
Sunday, May 15, 2016 at 3:00 pm

Member (M) _____
 Co-Member (C) _____
 Day Phone _____
 Night Phone _____
 Email _____
 No. of Members @ \$38 _____
 No. of Guests @ \$48 _____

Payment

[] Personal Check
 Total Enclosed _____

Reservation & Cancellation
Deadline: May 11

May Winery Program
40th Anniversary Tasting
Rock Wall Wine Company
Avenue of the Arts Hotel
3350 Avenue of the Arts
Costa Mesa, CA
Friday, May 6, 2016 at 6:15 pm

Member (M) _____
 Co-Member (C) _____
 Day Phone _____
 Night Phone _____
 Email _____
 No. of Members @ \$50 _____
 No. of Guests @ \$55 _____

Entrée Choices: *Please indicate quantity.*
 _____ Flat Iron Steak _____ Grilled Salmon

Payment

[] Personal Check
 Total Enclosed _____

Reservation Deadline: April 29

OCWS Save the Date Calendar

- April 9 OCWS Wine Auction - Member Exclusive Event
- April 17 New Member Mixer - Invitation Only
- April 23 Mini-Tasting: Meritage
- April 30 Winemakers' Group Quarterly Potluck
- May 6 40th Anniversary Celebration
& May Winery Program: Rock Wall
- May 15 Annual Membership Barbeque
- May 21 Kit Wine Making Class
- June 4-5 Commercial Competition
- June 11 Homewine Competition
- July 15 OC Fair Opens
- Oct. 9 40th Anniversary Dinner



www.ocws.org



The Wine Press

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Costa Mesa, CA 92627