



The Wine Press



Newsletter of the Orange County Wine Society, Inc.

Volume 40, Issue 10, October 2016

President's Message: Jim's Journal

During our Annual Business Meeting held on September 9th, Charles English, OCWS Bookkeeper, and I presented the OCWS Year-in-Review (October 2015 - September 2016).

During this meeting, Stacey Taylor, Terry McLean, and George Cravens were elected by a majority vote of the members present at the meeting as provided in the current bylaws. Stacey, Terry, and George will join the remaining six Directors for the upcoming October 2016 - September 2017 Board year. We look forward to many innovative ideas our newly elected Directors will bring forth.



George Cravens, Stacey Taylor and Terry McLean

Amended and Restated OCWS Bylaws: Michelle Philo discussed the proposed "amended and restated" OCWS bylaws that

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Upcoming Events:

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Oktoberween

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2016 President's Award

The OCWS presented its prestigious 2016 President's Award to Wendy and Stacey Taylor at our Annual Membership Meeting last month. As many of you know, the President's Award honors and recognizes those members who have made exceptional contributions to the OCWS.



Since joining the OCWS as newlyweds in 2003, Wendy and Stacey have devoted countless hours promoting the Wine Society, and advancing its brand recognition within the California wine community.

website further brings the Wine Society to the forefront of providing its membership and the public with the most accurate and up to date information.

As Steve Jobs once said "innovation distinguishes between a *leader* and a *follower*," and we can agree that the Taylors fall within the former, rather than the latter reference. Stacey's conceptual design and construction of our newly launched and customized

As a content curator, Wendy's social media savvy taps into powerful platforms to increase our visibility and enhance our relationship with California wineries.

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Membership Report



Our recent membership drive was a **HUGE** success. Between July 15 and August 31, we recorded and approved 97 new memberships: 65 Dual and 32 Single, totaling 162. A colossal **THANK YOU** to the OCWS Marketing Committee for their promotional ideas and to everyone who worked The Courtyard in promoting the OCWS in enrolling new members.

The Wine Society extends a warm welcome to its newest members! Below is a partial listing of new members who were recorded and approved by the Board of Directors at the September meeting. The OCWS will continue to recognize new members in future newsletters.

Louis & Shelley Cohen | Candee Hoecker | Cathy Miller | Leonard Re Brigitte & Brian Charles | Thomas Reilly | Nikki Duplisea | Nicole Avil Jeff Cahow | Steven Cometa | Gage & Cindy Hoffman | Melissa Hogle Derek Jaggars | Austin Varnton | Sean McCormack | Aly Ben-Joseph Scott Bourquin | Mark Bridge | Elizabeth Calafiore | Karen Craft | Louis DeSipio | Dennis Frazier | Patti Goughary | Debra Harre | Colletta Kirtley | Ramie Niederkorn | Theresa Salazar | Nancy Spiegel | Robin Weissberger | Sheri Ellen Schwartz & Ron Morton | Tim Bruton Wayne Scott & Manuela Harral | Delaine Herbert | Fred Herzog | Lorraine Lytton | Kelly McCarthy | George Patterson | Francine Rivas | Mike Varly Maria Del Pinto | Cristina Kikkert | Mark Koenig | Gianna Laiola | Sally Packard | Jacqueline Roeder | Tracy Shwaery | Christy Slanaker | Dave Still | Windi Walsh | Hank & Chris Bruce

At September 8, the Orange County Wine Society had 1,022 members.

- Brian McDonald, Director & Membership Chair

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

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will bring us into compliance with California Corporations Code, eliminating any ambiguities, and bring us in line with our current business practices. On September 13, these bylaws were mailed to the OCWS general membership for a yes or no vote. Results of the vote will be posted on the OCWS website and in the November edition of *The Wine Press*.

Mini Tasting: Bill Redding is putting together a Cabernet Sauvignon Mini Tasting scheduled for November 12th. Please refer to subsequent article for more information.

Oktoberween: There's still time to sign up for Oktoberween. Our October 2nd party at *The Courtyard* promises to be another fun-filled event with food, wine, beer, dancing, raffles, and a wine wall. Please refer to subsequent article for more information.

40th Anniversary Dinner: The OCWS will be celebrating its 40th Anniversary at this year's Installation Dinner, scheduled for October 9 at Yves' Restaurant. At this year's

Installation Dinner, we will present OCWS outgoing Directors with plaques stating their accomplishments, and introduce our newly elected OCWS Directors and Officers. Lastly, but certainly not least, the OCWS will acknowledge Janet Hammond for her many years of service. Please refer to subsequent article for more information.

Finally, I encourage everyone to drink responsibly and use a designated driver. I look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events.

- Jim Beard, President

2016 President's Award

(Continued from page 1)

We extend our heartfelt congratulations to Wendy and Stacey on being named President's Award recipients and thank them for their many contributions to the Wine Society in various leadership roles over the past years and most importantly for their friendship!

Oktoberween

Sunday, October 2, 2016
12:00 pm - 5:00 pm
The Courtyard
OC Fair & Events Center

There's still time to join our unique combination of Oktoberfest and Halloween festivities. We will be proudly serving:

- Authentic German Bratwurst
- Sauerkraut
- Potato Salad
- Beer
- Wine (we are the Wine Society are we not?)
- Halloween costumes (optional) and, of course, a costume contest
- A DJ to play any music genre desired (did

someone say Chicken Dance?)

So put on your lederhosen, your party face and come prepared for good food, wine, beer, and dancing.

The cost is \$43 for members and \$48 for non-members.

- Brian McDonald,
Director



40th Anniversary Dinner

October 9, 2016 @ 5:30 pm
Yves' Restaurant & Wine Bar
5753-A East Santa Ana Canyon Road
Anaheim Hills, CA

Sold Out Event

The 40th Anniversary Dinner has sold out. If you would like to be placed on the wait list, please contact the OCWS office. Details for this event are in previously published Newsletters.

- Rich Skoczylas, Director

Winemakers Newsroom

Now that the Fair is behind us, the Winemakers' Group is moving ahead with its education, winemaking, and social events. We had two fabulous events during September: John Willis and John Fuhs trained 16 people on making White Wines, and Jim Graver taught 13 people about Blending Wines. Thanks to these guys for their efforts! Also thanks to Germaine Romano and Sharyn Cable with EMS Development for arranging the conference room for the classes.



Wine class in session

It's Crush Season

Many thanks to Gus DeFalco for donating two 1000-pound bins to the group! This allows us to pick up grapes without paying rental fees.



(L) Bill Forsch & Gus DeFalco; (R) Solterra Winery & Kitchen owner, Chris van Alyea and Dave Wiegand keep a watchful eye as Lodi Zinfandel is being crushed

Our Road Warriors have been picking up grapes for our winemakers! Rob Romano has made two trips to **Solterra Winery & Kitchen** in Encinitas to pick up Dry Creek Merlot and Lodi Zinfandel grapes from **Lucas Vineyards**. Rob has also arranged for Chardonnay juice from the Russian River. Solterra has been providing grapes to the OCWS winemakers for many years. Stop by their winery and gastropub for a visit!

Bill Forsch and Noel DeSota are making SEVERAL trips to bring us grapes from Solvang and Paso Robles. Again this year, **Lucas and Lewellen Vineyards** of Solvang provides

Upcoming 2016 Planned Events

Oct. 22: Quarterly Potluck & SO2 Testing

Dec. 18: Holiday Party & Potluck

us Chardonnay, Sauvignon Blanc, and Sangiovese. Other vineyards in Paso Robles' Templeton Gap and Estrella AVAs provide Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Cabernet Franc, Syrah, and Malbec.

Many thanks to Mike McCormick for loaning beer kegs to us for transporting the juices, and Rick Nelson for use of his home as our distribution point in OC.

Winemakers' Group Quarterly Meeting
October 22, 2016 @ 1:00 pm
Home of Roger & Janice Mattar
1071 Vista Lomas Lane, Corona, CA

The OCWS Winemakers' Group next Quarterly Meeting will be held at the beautiful home of Roger and Janice Mattar in Corona. The general meeting starts at 1:00 pm, with Sulfite testing of our members' wines beginning at 11:00 am.

As always, this event is open to ALL OCWS MEMBERS and guests. If you would like to learn to make wine, or just want to learn the basics without actually making wine, our events are a great and welcoming place to learn. **This is a Potluck event**, and we ask everyone or couple to bring a food item to serve 8 people, and one bottle of wine per person, either homemade or commercial.

If you would like to attend the Potluck, please RSVP to Kevin Donnelly at kevindonnelly@ocws.org or 714.457.7229 or on the OCWS website by October 19. If

you would like to test wines, please let Kevin know how many wines you will bring so we can have enough chemicals.

Just Around the Corner . . .

Mark your calendars, our Winemakers' Holiday Party and Pot Luck will take place on Sunday, December 18 in Yorba Linda. Our venue this year has a 100 person capacity, so please plan to sign up early! The cost is \$15 per person. Further details will be forthcoming, and reservations will be open in November.

Contact Kevin Donnelly at kevindonnelly@ocws.org or 714.457.7229 with questions. Cheers!

- Kevin Donnelly

Cabernet Sauvignon Mini-Tasting

Saturday, November 12, 2016 @ 6:00 pm
Various Members Homes

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. The cost to attend this tasting is \$30 for members and \$35 for guests.



Lora Cross presenting her Chocolate Mousse Strawberry Cake

Etiquette at Mini-Tastings:

Each person attending brings a potluck dish (appetizer, entrée, side dish, or dessert) ready 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 evening. There will be a special bottle of wine that evening as a prize for Chef of the Even-

ing. Our winning Chefs of the Evening may have their recipe published on the OCWS website. Please plan on arriving promptly at 6:00 p.m. so the event can get started on time. You are invited to bring your own wine glasses for tasting; keep in mind the wines are served in flights of two.



Noel De Sota, Debbie Renne and Germaine Romano

We are planning a *maximum* of five sites for Cabernet Sauvignon mini-tasting, so the limit is 90 attendees.

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 Sunday, November 6, 2016. After this date please contact Bill or the OCWS office to determine availability. The cancellation deadline is November 4, 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.

Bon Appétit!
- Bill Redding, Vice President

Congratulations

It was a lovely evening with stars dotting the night sky coupled with the calming rhythm of a warm breeze gently touching the perfectly situated vineyards at South Coast Winery in Temecula, where members Sara (Gitsham) Yeoman and Nathan Yeoman became husband and wife on September 9th. The membership of the Orange County Wine Society raises its glass in a toast to "love and laughter and a happily ever after; to remember to lean on each other's strengths, to forgive each other's weaknesses, and to always enjoy a glass of wine together!"

Our best wishes and most heartfelt congratulations to the newlyweds.

Do you have a member announcement? Email your news to winepress@ocws.org.



Introducing Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Yeoman

2016 Holiday Dinner & Dance

Saturday, December 3, 2016
@ 6:30 pm
Atrium Hotel
18700 MacArthur Blvd., Irvine, CA

The holiday season is right around the corner! Get in the holiday spirit and join your fellow Wine Society members at our annual Holiday Dinner & Dance. The festivities take place on Saturday, December 3rd at **The Atrium Hotel** in Irvine.

The evening begins with champagne and passed appetizers from 6:30 to 7:30 pm. Dinner follows accompanied by a variety of fine wines provided by the Wine Society. The dinner menu for this event is as follows:



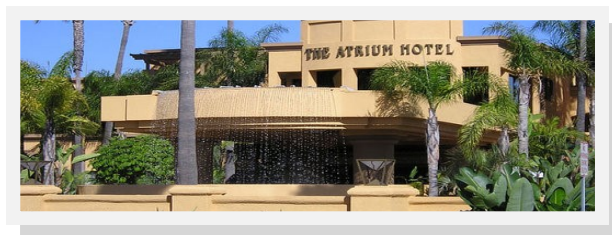
Following dinner, be prepared to have a good time “dancing the night away.” The “*Three 2 Sevens*,” a crowd pleaser last year, will return to provide this year’s dance music. Even if you don’t dance, you will be entertained and have a great time too. Yes – they promise to play some “slow dance” music and Holiday rock tunes.

The cost for this fun filled evening is \$90 per person which includes tax, and tip. Valet parking is available at a discounted rate of \$5. Non-members accompanied by an OCWS member are welcome at the same price! Invite your friends, neighbors, and co-workers to join the festivities.

We are taking table reservations - each table holds eight people. When your group of 4 to 8 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 evening of the event.

Once again we encourage you to bring an unwrapped gift to place under the tree for donation to a charitable organization.

A special room rate of \$119 per night, inclusive of self-parking is included in this incredible rate.



The **Atrium Reservations Line** is now open. Please call **1.800.854.3012** and mention the “**OC Wine Society Dinner**” to secure your room at the \$119 per night rate.

- Bill Redding, Vice President

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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OCWS Website Administrator: Wendy Taylor
OCWS Photographer: Jim Burk

Looking Ahead to the 2017 Winery Program

The Orange County Wine Society will be starting its 2017 Winery Program in February. As many of you know, the purpose of our annual Winery Program is to promote the knowledge of winemaking, viticulture, and introduce quality wines to our membership. Our members have an opportunity to be introduced to a variety of wines made by award winning wineries from some of the best wine producing regions in California.

The Winery Program provides an opportunity for the winemaker from each featured winery to introduce their wines being poured and answer any questions you may have, be it general or specific. It's truly a rare opportunity to have a winemaker provide firsthand knowledge and perspective on their wines and vineyards' rich diversity. How often do we

have the opportunity to be up front and intimate with a winemaker? Visiting wineries and tasting rooms rarely afford us this opportunity, and it is such a great advantage to be able to present the Winery Program to our membership.

At the conclusion of the evening, members attending the tasting will have an opportunity to order wines poured at a discounted price. The winery will ship your wine orders directly to your home, or other designated delivery address. Each winery participating in the 2017 Winery Program has won numerous awards at the 2016 OC Fair & Event Center Commercial Wine Competition presented by the Orange County Wine Society. Mark your calendars to attend — all dates fall on a Friday!

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Alexander Valley Vineyards, located in northern Sonoma County, started in mostly prune orchards and pastures. Today, they are acclaimed for crisp Chardonnay and luscious Cabernet Sauvignon wines. They brought recognition to the Alexander Valley appellation and became a leading winery in Sonoma County. This year of 2016 marks their 41st anniversary being a winery.

Event scheduled for February 10, 2017

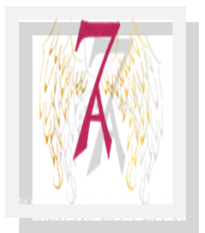


The Brander Vineyard, located in the Santa Ynez Valley, just east of the town of Los Olivos. Fred Brander has earned his place in the wine world, as he is often called the "King of Sauvignon Blanc" in California. This year they won the Chairman's Award for their 2015 Sauvignon Blanc. Another award winner was their Meritage Red "Bouchet." In their long tradition of many classic European vineyards, they encourage biodiversity with a wide range of fruit trees, olive trees, and California native shrubs and trees. *Event scheduled for March 10, 2017*



April will bring our big "Rhone wine" event. We will have the pleasure of having two Rhone producing wineries from the Paso Robles area. This exciting tasting will have **Cass Vineyard & Winery** and **Seven Angels Cellars**. Cass Vineyard & Winery produces superb central coast California wines served unpretentiously and with great enthusiasm. Seven Angels takes the approach that "the less is best approach, meaning that the less human intervention the better and more natural the process becomes."

Event scheduled for April 14, 2017



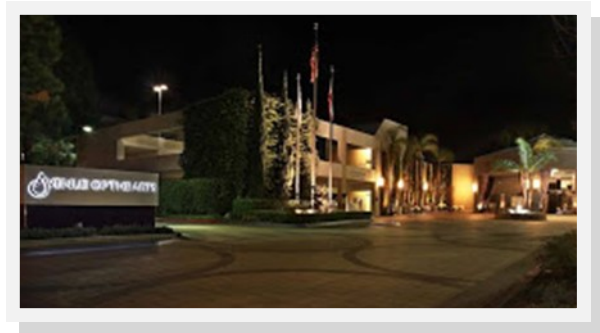
Our May 2017 program will be a special tasting with **Jamieson Ranch Vineyards**. They are the home of several wine labels: Reata, Double Lariat, Light Horse and Silver Spur to name a few. When you search through the 2016 Wine Competition Awards book, you will see these wines won several Gold awards. This will be an exciting tasting with a special dinner; an event you definitely will not want to miss.

Special tasting event scheduled for May 12, 2017

Look for information about each tasting in future *The Wine Press* articles.

Looking Ahead to the 2017 Winery Program

(Continued from page 7)



Entrance to Avenue of the Arts Hotel

Our Winery Programs are held at the **Avenue of the Arts Hotel** in Costa Mesa, and self-parking is included in the event cost. Each tasting starts with a light dinner, brief intro-

duction of the winery and winemaker, and followed by the winemaker describing the characteristics of the wines being presented for tasting.

Please keep in mind that due to our large membership and limited venue space, we encourage you to sign up early.

It has been our past experience that most of our Winery Program events sell out!

The OCWS Winery Program is a great opportunity to attend a tasting in our very own backyard. These tastings are presented by either a well-known winery or a newer winery just starting up. These new market entrants are being applauded for producing outstanding wines.

- **Rich Skoczylas, Director**

Happiness is Retirement and ... Wine!



Janet Hammond

After 19 years as the Orange County Wine Society's Office Administrator, Janet Hammond has recently retired. Although Janet has retired as an employee of the OCWS, we look forward to seeing her smiling face at many of our events as a lifetime member and as a volunteer.

The OCWS Board of Directors looks forward to honoring Janet's many contributions during her 19 year tenure at the upcoming 40th Anniversary/Installation Dinner at Yves Restaurant on October 9th.

The OCWS membership joins the Board of Directors in wishing Janet all the best on her recent retirement. We raise our glasses in toasting Janet in her new retirement status:

"As a chapter closes in your life, and a new one starts for you, may your years be filled with all the things you're looking forward to!"

"May friendship, like wine, improve as time advances."

"May we always have old wine, old friends, and young cares."

"Retirement is wonderful. It's doing nothing without worrying about getting caught at it."

"Retirement, a time to do what you want to do, when you want to do it."

In Appreciation of our Volunteers



At the September Annual Business Meeting, volunteers were recognized for the many hours of service and effort dedicated to the Orange County Wine Society over the past Board year. As the OCWS has only part time employees, it relies on its volunteers to guide and manage our organization in various ways. Most volunteer work is done “behind the scenes” and unnoticed by many. Our volunteers make the OCWS a successful organization, and we encourage every member to get involved. It is a great way to meet new friends while adding value and expertise to our organization. The Wine Society recognizes and rewards its volunteers with gift certificates redeemable for admission to OCWS events. Thank you to the following volunteers for their efforts during the 2015-2016 Board year.

- *Bill Redding, Vice President*

\$10 OCWS Award

Laura Acocella
Nancy Ball
Ray Bartlett
Leah Beattie
David Brown
Irene Burdi
Damian Christian
Noel De Sota
Dennis DeRosia
Linda Downey
Wendy Eld
B.J. Fornadley
Tina Fornadley
Carol Frank
Kathy Fusaro
Steve Fusco
Beverly Genis
Mary Giedzinski
Alison Godleski
Ronald Gray
Kelly Hagadorn
Dan Hayes
David Hirstein
Larry Hislop
Rodney G. Jeu
Robin Lang
Tony Marino
Stanley Matsui
Leland Mote
Mary Mulcahey
Mo Naraghi
Janet Peal
Janet Riordan

Karen Russell
Melanie Schiffman
Irene Scott
Andrea Solis
Pat Solis
Karl Tani
Dolorie Thurner
Tom Tippett
Marcia Vaughan

\$25 OCWS Award

Kelly Carnes
Judy Chapel
Carolyn Christian
Greg Collins
Georgia Crane
Marcine Crane
George Cravens
Kevin Donnelly
Jim Downey
Nancy Edwards
Stephen Edwards
Charles English
Kate English
Yale Finkle
Jim Flores
Mark Godleski
Jane Goodnight
John Goodnight
Agnes Grogan
Paul Haussler
Marie Hawthorn
Michael Koval
Maria Loera

David McCann
Joan McCann
Sue McDonald
George Ott
Vivien Owen
Carolyn Redding
Walter Reiss
Debbie Renne
Greg Risling
Craig Rowe
Scott Sayre
Irene Scott
Linda Shepard
Frank Solis
Walt Thurner
Richard Wolsfelt
Jolen Zeroski

\$50 OCWS Award

Leslie Brown
Lloyd Corbett
Courtney
Kevin Coy
Christopher Cunningham
Lynda Edwards
Carol Esslinger
Sharon Finkle
Bill Forsch
Larry Graham
Gregory Hagadorn
Janet Hammond
Lora Howard
Helga Hrowal
Dawn Iglesias

Michael Iglesias
Karl Kawai
Virginia Kawai
Cheryl Knapp
Ken Knapp
Kevin Lite
Janet Marino
Linda McLean
Terry McLean
Sally Jo Mertz
Linda Mihalik
Marcy Ott
Charley Owen
Paul Peal
Maia Pehrson
Michelle Philo
Sam Puzzo
Rochelle Randel
Ed Reyes
Cal Rietzel
Sue Rietzel
Ronna Rowe
Peter Schlundt Bodien
Ken Scott
Jack Shepard
Dean Strom
Robyn Strom
Wendy Taylor
Bob Topham
Richard Ward

OCWS Save the Date Calendar

Oct. 2 — Oktoberween

Oct. 9 — 40th Anniversary Dinner

Oct. 22 — Winemakers' Group Quarterly Potluck

Nov. 12 — Cabernet Sauvignon Mini-Tasting

Dec. 3 — Holiday Dinner & Dance

Dec. 18 — Winemakers Holiday Party & Potluck

2017 Winery Program:

Feb. 10 — Alexander Valley Vineyards

Mar. 10 — The Brander Vineyards

Apr. 14 — Cass Vineyard & Winery and Seven Angels Cellars

May 12 — Jamieson Ranch Vineyards



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The Wine Press

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