**The Missouri Winemaking Society Newsletter for June 2020**

Hello Missouri Wine Society Members:

We will be hosting a Zoom meeting this Thursday with Mike Ward of Syncopation Wines.

 We encourage members to purchase a bottle or two of Syncopation wine to be enjoyed during the meeting.  Syncopation wines are available at The Wine Barrel, (3828 South Lindbergh; 314-842-9463) Schnucks; and Lukas.

 We are finding the following Syncopation wines are available but pick up what you can find:

2017 Acoustic Blend (white); Vignoles 45%, Aromella 35%, Traminette 10%, and Valvin muscat 10%.

2017 Rhythmic Blend (red); Chambourcin 40%, Norton 40%, and Vignoles 20%.

 Here is some information re Mike from the “Ward on Wine” website:

Mike Ward is a Certified Sommelier, Certified Specialist of Spirits, Certified Wine Educator and has successfully completed the Wine and Spirits Education Trust Level 2 Intermediate exam. Mike completed certification at the Napa Valley Wine Educators Academy. His passion and expertise have led him to become a member of the Society of Wine Educators.

Mike began his career in the restaurant industry managing such establishments as Mike Duffy’s Pub and Grill, Remy’s Kitchen and Wine Bar and Cafe Eau and Eau Bistro in the St. Louis Chase Park Plaza. He also served as Director of Purchasing at The St. Louis Adam’s Mark Hotel and Food and Beverage Director at The River Port Doubletree Hotel.  From early on, Mike had a fascination with and a passion for all things wine. This fascination and passion led him to his position as Missouri State Wine Educator for Major Brands, Inc. a distributorship in St. Louis.  .

Mike’s philosophy is that wine is not only to be paired with food, it is to be paired with people.  There is a wine out there for everyone, no matter what their story may be.  Wine is to be celebrated, respected and enjoyed. There is a wine for every occasion, every journey, every place in time.  Ward on Wine is designed to help you discover those wines, learn about those wines and share those wines.

And from the Syncopation website:

With over 35 years in the industry, much of that as a wine educator, the natural next step for Mike Ward (CSS, CWE, CS) was to blend his own private label wine.

Syncopation Wine is a dream come true brought to you by Mike & Mary Ward owners of **Ward on Wine**and **WOW Promotions**. Mike’s knowledge and passion for all things wine and Mary’s talent for song bring together a harmonious blend of viticulture and devotion. Mike and Mary truly believe, that there is a wine out there for everyone.

Mike and Mary worked closely with winemakers Brandon Dixon and Gabriel Miller, of Noboleis Winery and Vineyards, to create these unique blends.

With a focus on local businesses, Syncopation wines are small production, limited release wines available only in Missouri, at select restaurants and retail stores.

Our Motto is “Pairing Wine with People”

We like making blends, it’s our signature. We taste through the grapes we have available to us and put together the best wine we can make. From our first wine in 2014 we started blending red and white grapes together. That’s where our name comes from. Like a Syncopated rhythm in music, we match uncommon grapes together in our blend. Since that first blend, we’ve developed a white wine blend, a rosé, and an off-dry red and white blend.

We always try to stay true to the region, respect the grapes we are provided and tell a story through the taste of the wine. We rely on the vineyards to provide us with quality fruit, we count on our winemaking team to make great wines. We listen to our loyal customers and react to their comments. We always have food pairings in mind when we create our blends. We know that wine is a perfect match with food if made correctly. Nothing is more important to us than to pair Syncopation wine with people.

 May Meeting • On May 21 we had 14 participants in our Zoom Meeting on Chardonnay.

Steve Brunkhorst shared some interesting information re Chardonnay, the most planted wine grape variety in the United States.  Interesting that in contrast it is the fifth most planted grape in the World.

 Those participating in the Chardonnay project shared details re the grapes or juice they are utilizing, the style of wine they are shooting for and their progress.

 We remain on hold for meetings in person but will continue to engage in Zoom meetings for the time being.