**The Missouri Winemaking Society Newsletter for July, 2017**

Next Meeting:  Yearly Picnic

Meeting Place: Brenner Farm

2151 Walz Rd.

Hermann, MO 65041

Time: July 22 – arrivals starting at 11:00 am

MWS Website: [www.mowinemakers.org](http://www.mowinemakers.org/)

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***July’s Picnic at Mark and Teri Brenners on July 22nd***

Word’s from Mark Brenner

“I am enclosing a map to our farm, the location of the MWS picnic on July 22nd beginning at 11 am.  It is about an hour and a half travel time from our home in Wildwood so folks can use that as a guide.  We will serve lunch at noon to give stragglers an opportunity to gather before the food is set out.

We have a barn with a kitchen, a modern bathroom and a very large screened in porch with seating and tables.  If guests can bring a folding chair, we can insure all have a comfortable place to sit.  If anyone has a portable table or two that may come in handy as well.  We have several and depending on the size of our gathering the additional table may be an asset.

Please have everyone bring the drinks of their choice and pot luck dish to share with the group.  We have fresh water from our well and some glasses.  We will provide paper plates, plastic silverware and plastic cups.  If folks could bring their own wine glasses for their own wine enjoyment that would be great.  We have hot water and a nice farm sink to clean up dishes in before packing things away for the trip back to the city.

The club will provide the meat for the picnic and I will work that out with officers before the picnic.  Please get an approximate count of those planning on attending at the June meeting or by devices of your own choosing.

We have a three acre lake with a nice dock and a ladder that makes it easy for swimmers to enter and leave the lake.  Fishing is great and we have a small row boat with oars for those with a yen to fish the far reaches of the lake.  The field and woods have paths for hiking and checking out nature.  We have an assortment of chiggers and ticks so bring your repellant of choice if you plan on venturing far from the barn.

Teri and I are looking forward to hosting you all at a favorite hangout of ours.  If the weather threatens on the 22nd, don’t throw in the towel, porch the screened porch provides plenty of cover and the barn is not bad for gathering either.  I will not be at the meeting in June and apologize for being in the Sonoma Valley, CA for the week attending a wedding.”

***June’s Program***

**Favorite White Wine Contest**

We had a wonderful evening tasting 10 different wines from our members. There were several different varieties of white wine. We all scored them and guess who was

the winner of our favorite white wine contest is - drum roll please - none other than our president of Missouri Winemaking Society - Steve Brunkhorst. Steve's award winning white wine was his 2016 Chardonel that was absolutely delicious. He purchased his grapes from Shady Oak Vineyards. Our 2nd place winner was Warren Williams with a Peach wine made from a kit. It was delightfully refreshing. And 3rd place went to Phil Rahn with a Chardonnay from frozen juice from Brehm Vineyards. It was his 2012 vintage with a 10% addition of Sauvignon Blanc. We had 10 very interesting and wonderful wines. It was a great wine tasting evening.

***President’s Message***

We are halfway through our program year with six enjoyable and educational meetings behind us and six more ahead.  The officers (Steve, Phil, Lisa, Dave, John) have finished a mid-year review and concluded we are on track with membership (31 paid members) and budget ($2,973 account balance) and mission (share grape growing & wine making knowledge & skills).

The officers have selected two wine making projects for member participation on a volunteer basis.  Interested members will make specific white or red wines, and share results at club blind tastings; the white in 2018 and the red in 2019.  Detailed information will be e-Mailed before the July 22nd picnic and participants will need to commit by the date of the August 17th meeting.

***Grapes For Sale***

If you are looking to purchase grapes this year we have the following contacts:

Shady Grove Vineyards (Clarence Meyer) St. Genevieve, MO  Chardonel, Vignoles, Norton, and Chambourcin  cvjam@aol.com

Vine & Branches Vineyard (Bob Streubing) Defiance, MO   Chambourcin, Norton, Vidal Blanc, Seyval Blanc, Chardonel  bobstruebing@gmail.com

***Society Dues:***

The yearly fee, per person, will be $50 ($25 after June), with no additional meeting fee (or tasting fee, if you prefer) – this is a savings over the course of the year if you attend all the meetings (and you should).  But if you do not want to pay the full $50, you can pay just $25 for a full year’s membership, but then you will need to pay a $5 per meeting “tasting” fee at each meeting you attend.  So it’s your choice to determine which way works best for you. Please pay by check but cash is also accepted.

***Missouri Winemaking Society Facebook Page***

Our MWS Facebook Page is up and running. For all of you Facebook users, log into Facebook and search for Missouri Winemaking Society. If you have not joined please do so.  I am hoping that every Facebook user will join this group.   It is a great way for our members to share with what they are doing in their vineyard and wine cellars.  Also, if you have any files you would like to share with the group please post them. **This is a closed group just for MWS members.**

***Wine Making Tips:***

Don’t forget, there is lots of useful materials and information on our website.

To access all the terrific things in the Library section, click on the website link at the top of this newsletter, scroll down to the *Membership* section, and click on the *Click here* link under MWS Library.  Be sure to check these materials out; they are chock full of knowledge and wisdom – you are sure to glean many gems.

There are many useful publications in the Missouri Winemaking Society Library – be sure to check out the books, papers, past presentations, and articles available in the Library by clicking on the link below.  **The MWS rules for borrowing books is also found there.**<http://www.mowinemakers.org/library.html#_Toc84355471>

We are in the process of updating the books and files we have.  If you are interested in borrowing a book please let me know and I will be happy to bring it to our next meeting.