

The Missouri Winemaking Society Newsletter for March, 2023

Next Meeting: ***WINEMAKER FORUM: WHAT'S GOING ON IN YOUR CELLAR RIGHT NOW?***

Meeting Place: St.Gerard Majella Church
1971 Dougherty Ferry Rd
St Louis, MO 63122

Date & Time: Thursday, March 16th, 7:00

MWS Website: www.mowinemakers.org

MARCH PROGRAM: WINEMAKER FORUM: WHAT'S GOING ON IN YOUR CELLAR RIGHT NOW? Lead Presenter – Steve Brunkhorst

Steve writes: Our Winemaker Forum has become one of our most popular meetings of the year. Our member survey told us there is a widespread desire to dive into troubleshooting problem wines and advanced winemaking topics. This meeting will touch on both topics. Many of us have been developing wines in our cellar with plans to bottle soon. Many of us also have wines made from the same fruit or juice from the last harvest. This forum will explore what winemakers are doing right now to make sure their wine is as good as it can be. Winemakers will also explain what they have done over the past weeks or months to elevate their wine. Winemakers can explain the type or style of wine planned and explain steps being taken to achieve that type or style.

Join us for this very informative meeting and bring a bottle of your hand crafted wine to share and talk about. It can be a young, mature or even an aged wine. This can be a chance to get feedback on one of your wines that does not fit into one of our other meeting categories.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: DAN PETERS

Oh what a difference a month makes. This time last month, we as wine makers were on vacation, or maybe better said, in dormancy.

Now,

A Light exists in Spring

Not present on the Year

At any other period –

When March is scarcely here

A Color stands abroad

On Solitary Fields

That Science cannot overtake

But Human Nature Feels.

Emily Dickinson.

Dormancy a month ago, now activity flourishes again. 60 degrees outside, and signs of spring starting to show in the yard confirming what we feel. Spring is near, and Bud Burst is beginning in the vineyards. More so for us, are you adjusting your acid, clarifying, or perhaps bottling? While we thoroughly enjoyed our visit with Murph in February we look forward to hearing from everyone re what is going on in their cellar in March.

RE-CAP OF FEBRUARY MEETING: A big thanks to Brian Prunty for securing Tom Murphy, better known as “Murph”, the head winemaker at Defiance Ridge. Murph shared many winemaking tips. We tasted five wines from Defiance Ridge and Murph explained the winemaking process on each one. The five wines tasted were Norton, Chambourcin, Chambourcin Rose’, Traminette, and their award winning Vignoles. Murph surprised us with a delicious, full bodied Norton Port taken right out of the barrel. It was a wonderful meeting enjoyed by all.

CONGRATULATIONS AGAIN TO GREG STRICKER: Greg ranked 9th in the top 50 winemakers for American Wine Society. This ranking is from accumulative awards received from 2018-2022. Greg was also in the top 50 winemakers for 2022. Point totals are calculated by giving 100 points for each double gold or gold medal, 58 for each silver, and 34 for each bronze. Points have been accumulating since 1975, when AWS records began. Congratulations again Greg!!!

DUES ARE DUE NOW Annual membership fees are \$50 for 2023. Bring your check payable to “Missouri Winemaking Society” to the January meeting or send your check to Dave Wert, 1599 Highway 100, Pacific, MO 63069

ODDS & ENDS: WINE COMPETITIONS The WINEMAKER MAGAZINE WINE COMPETITION registration deadline is March 17th. Are your wines ready? The entry deadline is March 17th. Go to www.winemakermagazine.com for the entry form.

If your wines are not ready yet, the AWS competition will be in the Fall so you will have plenty of time to get your wines ready. And as an added bonus provided by Steve Brunkhorst, you can drop off your wines at his house and save several dollars on shipping.

2023 MISSOURI WINEMAKING SOCIETY CALENDAR

January 19 • 7:00 - **Missouri Gold Medal Winners** - Presented by Dan Peters and Steve Brunkhorst

February 16 • 7:00 - **Winemaker Talk** - Murphy from Defiance Ridge

March 16 • **Member Forum - What are They Doing Now?** Planning and actions to insure the best outcome for their wines.

Saturday, April 8 • Time TBD - **Winery VIP Visit and lunch at Stone Hill Winery**

May 18 • 7:00 - **You Too Can Make Award Winning Wines**- Lisa Nordmann and Greg Stricker

June 15 • 7:00 - **Members Wines Produced from St. James Winery**

July 20 • 7:00 - **Favorite White Wine Competition**

August 17 • 7:00 **Favorite Wines ABM** (Anything but wines made from Missouri grapes or juice)

September 21 • **Missouri Wine Board Representative Talk**

Saturday, October 21 • **Picnic** TBD MWS Members only

November 16 • **Favorite Red Wine Competition**

Saturday, December 16 • **Annual Christmas Party** - Place TBD - MWS Members only