**The Missouri Winemaking Society Newsletter for October 2019**

**Next Meeting:  Thursday October 17th      7:00pm**

**Location:**St.Gerard Majella Church 1971 Dougherty Ferry Rd   St Louis, MO 63122

 **Theme**  :   Vignoles Project led by Lisa Nordman.

Club Business :   We would like to take a vote for approval of the Amended Bylaws as attached.  Again, this is the latest version and contains all changes discussed.

 Also, this is the meeting at which the officers are to nominate officers for next year and the President calls for nominations from the floor.

 **September Meeting Review**:   Merlot Project

Our Treasurer reports $2,824.37 in the bank.

 We welcomed a guest and maybe new member – Anne Cath (I hope I have the spelling correct).  Anne is a new winemaker.  She has a friend, I believe she said in CA, who she hopes to lean on as she embarks on her journey into winemaking.  Steve provided her some valuable insight for her initial steps.

 For our Merlot project Phil Rahn first presented background and details re Merlot and then we enjoyed a combination of 10 Member made and commercial Merlots without knowing which was which until after scoring.  Once again our members stood up strong against commercial wines.  Scoring resulted in the following order of top votes:

1.      Duckhorn

 2.     Phil Rahn  -  87.5% Merlot (CA); 12.5% Malbec (CA)

 3.     Steve Brunkhorst – 75% Merlot (CA); 25% Cab Sauvignon (CA)

 4.     Silver Sage  -  Columbia Valley WA

 5.     John Merkle – Merlot, Cab Sauvignon and Petite Verdot

 **Note from Steve Brunkhorst**:

 The window is now open for amateur wine makers to submit wines for the American Wine Society "National Amateur Wine Competition".   Deadline for wine receipt is October 25th.  Go to [http://www.americanwinesociety.org](http://www.americanwinesociety.org/) and open the "events" tab to download the competition brochure.   This competition is well regarded because the organization trains and certifies the wine judges.  The judges score and comment on each wine and those results are sent to the winemaker.

**Looking Ahead*:***

November -   Thursday 11/21  -   Favorite Red

 December -  Holiday party at Phil Rahn’s  -  12/14.

 ***Missouri Winemaking Society Facebook Page***

A benefit to being a member of the Missouri Making Society is being able to join our closed Facebook page for members only.  We have had a great year with many members sharing valuable information.  It is also fun to see what all of our members are up to in their vineyards and wine cellars.  If you have not joined yet, log into Facebook and search for Missouri Winemaking Society.  Ask to join and I will let you in.  Remember though, **this is a closed group just for MWS members.**

 ***Wine Making Tips:***

Don’t forget, there are lots of useful files 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.

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

 Submitted by: Dan Peters