



# The Wine Press



Newsletter of the Orange County Wine Society, Inc.

Volume 41, Issue 9, September 2017

## President's Message: Jim's Journal

My term as President of the OCWS is drawing to a close. I would like to express my appreciation to the Board, both past and current, for allowing me to take the helm over the past three years. It has been an honor and a privilege to work with you for the betterment of the OCWS.

I would also like to take this opportunity to extend my appreciation to the many talented and committed OCWS members for dedicating so much of their free time to volunteer for this wonderful organization.

It goes without saying, many thanks to Liz Corbett, Brian McDonald and Bill Redding for their outstanding support of The Wine Society, and for their service on the Board this past term. We look forward to honoring them at the upcoming Installation Dinner.

### 2017 Annual Business Meeting

Preparations are underway for the Annual Business Meeting at Baja Blues on Friday, September 8. If you have not signed up, please do so by logging in to [ocws.org](http://ocws.org). This meeting is free to all members. I encourage everyone to attend, ask questions and talk to those candidates running for the 2017/20 Board. Food and wine will be served at the end of the meeting.

### Membership BBQ

I would like to invite all members to sign up for our Annual Membership BBQ to be held on Friday, September 24. This is always a fun event with wine, beer, great food and dancing.

### OCWS Installation Dinner

We are preparing for the Annual OCWS Installation Dinner on Sunday, October 8. At

that time, newly elected Board members will be introduced.

### Volunteer Recognition Program

Over the past couple of months, George Cravens submitted an article regarding the volunteer recognition program which was published in *The Wine Press*. This article is now permanently posted on the OCWS website.

### Winemakers' Group Activities

The next Winemakers' Group Quarterly Meeting & Potluck will take place at Ed Reyes' and Debbie Renne's home on Saturday, October 14, in Laguna Hills.

For more information on all Winemakers' Group events, please log in to the OCWS website at [ocws.org](http://ocws.org).

### Mini-Tasting Program

Bill Redding and George Cravens are planning an outstanding Mini-Tasting on Saturday, November 11. Cabernet Sauvignon is a very popular varietal among our members and these wines are usually paired with outstanding food prepared by members attending the event. I encourage all members, especially our new members, to sign up for this event. You will not be disappointed. Please refer to a subsequent article for additional information on our Mini-Tasting event.

In closing, the OCWS Board Members encourage everyone to drink responsibly and use a designated driver at all of our events. We look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events!










- Jim Beard, President

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## 2017 Annual OCWS Business Meeting

2017 OCWS Annual Business Meeting  
 Friday, September 8, 2017 @ 7:00 pm  
 OC Fair & Events Center  
 Baja Blues Restaurant



This year's meeting, beginning promptly at 7:00 pm, will be held on Friday, September 8, at Baja Blues and is complimentary to all OCWS members. There is no limitation on the number of members who may attend; however, the meeting is strictly

for members only. There is no charge to attend, although any member who signs up and does not attend will be charged \$25. The OCWS commits to pay for the number of meals confirmed which is based on the actual number of members who have signed up.

Please sign up at the OCWS website. All reservations must be received no later than Sunday, September 3. The OCWS is required to have an accurate count to the caterer the following day.

This is the most important member meeting of the OCWS year as it offers an overview of the year's activities and a financial summary of the 2016/17 OCWS Board year. Volunteer awards will be presented after the business presentations. Thereafter, the current OCWS Board of Directors will be available to answer questions and listen to any comments from the general membership. The meeting is conducted in accordance with OCWS Bylaws and government regulations for 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations.

At this meeting, candidates for the 2017/20 Board term will be introduced and will present their qualifications and interests as potential OCWS Board members. This meeting provides the best opportunity for members to meet the candidates and learn about their interests and objectives for the next Board term.



No food or drinks will be served until the conclusion of the business portion of the meeting (approximately 90 minutes). The evening will conclude with a light catered meal, accompanied by wines from the OCWS cellar. Some members choose to bring their own wines to this event and, if you do so, we ask that you please refrain from opening your wine until the meal has commenced following the end of the meeting.

Your OCWS Board of Directors look forward to seeing you as we review our 41st year and look forward to our 42nd.

- Fran Gitsham, Director

## Annual OCWS Membership BBQ

Sunday, September 24, 2017

3:00 pm to 7:00 pm

OC Fair & Events Center

The Courtyard



Now that summer is drawing to a close and another successful Fair is behind us, it's time to relax, unwind and celebrate our success with friends at the Annual OCWS Membership BBQ .

This year's theme is a traditional Western BBQ. So put on your boots, western attire and come and join the fun!

There will be music, dancing, beer, wine and great food, as our own Cooks

Caucus will have the grills going and ready to serve great BBQ (slow roasted beef brisket, pulled pork and chicken), as well as baked beans, corn on the cob and other items.

We are also planning to hold a raffle, silent auction and a wine wall. What could be more fun?

Tickets are \$43 for members and \$48 for non-members.

If you sign up on or before September 10, you will receive a \$5 discount, reducing the price to \$38 for members and \$43 for non-members.



Help is needed to make this, as with many OCWS events, a success. Your consideration in joining the team for set up, decorating, registration, serving, pouring or clean up

will be greatly appreciated. Short shifts are available before, during and after the event.

For more information, please contact George Cravens at [George@ocws.org](mailto:George@ocws.org) or Terry McLean at [Terry@ocws.org](mailto:Terry@ocws.org).

- *George Cravens & Terry McLean, Event Co-Chairs*

## Volunteers Step Up to Tear Down The Courtyard



The 2017 OC Fair has now ended, and we had another banner year – thanks to all of the volunteers who worked at The Courtyard!

Each year on the Monday after the Fair closes, volunteers help tear down, box up and store items for next year.

We would like to thank Kevin Donnelly and the Home Wine crew for all their work disassembling and storing the Home Wine awards display for another year. We would also like to extend a sincere

thank you to the approximately 30 members who stepped forward to help us tear down The Courtyard this year:

Scott and Kelly Bourgan, Hank and Chris Bruce, Courtney, George Cravens, Marcine and Georgia Crane, Dennis Esslinger, Lorrane Hammonds, Dan Hayes, Leslie Hodowanec, Karl and Virginia Kawai, Janet Marino, Jay Newell, Paul Peal, Bill Redding, Cal Rietzel, Peter Schlundt-Bodien, Judi Taylor, Richard Ward, Wendy Eld, Scott Sayer and JaNae Unruh.

The OCWS Board of Directors wishes to thank everyone for their efforts toward another successful year at the OC Fair!

- *Brian McDonald, Courtyard Co-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](mailto:WinePress@ocws.org).

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## New Member Corner: Membership Report

The Orange County Wine Society extends a warm welcome to its newest members! Membership for the following members was approved by the Board of Directors at the August 16 meeting. As of August 1, the OCWS had 977 members.

- *Brian McDonald, Director & Membership Chair*



Doc & Baby Doll Adams	Robert & Kathy Hall	Randy Mullane & Justa Otto
Greg & Ann Adams	Helene Handler & Patricia Chisam	Susan Murphy
Barry & Sue Adams	Don & Cora Hermans	Karen & Doug Murphy
Chris Baker	Julie Holt	Noelle Napora & Nick Grani
Greg & Debra Mendoza	Dan & Carol Howard	Joanne & David Oldfield
David Bennett & Alma Camacho	Anne & Steve Hudson	Morgan Pace & Phil Roberto
Diane Bennett	David & Ainara Huisinga	Kenneth & Peggy Pao
Kathrynn Benson & Zachary Golda	David & Apryl Imboden	Stephen Parks
Nancy & Mark Benz	Alisa Irwin & Dana Velazco	Lisa Popper & Janet Wells
Mary Ellen Bowman	Donna & John Jackson	LaTonga & Timothy Prather
Mark & Lynda Britton	Andrew & Denise Janoski	Cynthia Quiel
Douglas Burlison & Michael Tompkins	Bruce Johnson & John Mendonca	Terry & Shelly Rather
Gina Capitano & Nancy Chaer	Laurie Kjar & Roger Reiss	Lisa Retzlaff
Mary K. Carlo & Lois Highwood	Lynn Konrad	Juve "J" Reyes & Natalee Fouladi
Fred & Eileen Cimino	Theresa & John Lane	Michael & Kathryn Ross
Sam & Kim Clark	Heidi Langway	Catherine Rowlett
Cheryl L. Coleman	Kirk & Jennifer LaPean	Cathy Ruiz
David Cowdrick & Brittany Buscombe	Therese Lemieux & Larry Nutter	Allison Scaife & Jacob Cassianni
Jacqueline Cram	Robyn Liger	Amanda Seaberg & Kris Coulter
Erika Crane & Michael Gonzalez	John & Dena Lombardo	Marie Serna & Jorge Erazo
Dan & Liane Donati	Heather Madrigal	Jen Shubin & Mike Tincup
Greg & Ruth Evans	Patty Malone	Marca & Brian Singer
Chrystal Farrell & Connie Buckley	Greg & Lilia Manhart	Matthew Spencer & Lisa Metcalf
Karolyn Fencil	Ted & Stacy Matson	Bette & Roger Sprague
Patrick Flynn	Mike Matyjs & Ana Behzadzadeh	Ngoc Ta & Treg Weythman
George & Jan Fontes	Yvette Mayville	Darnella & Terryon Taylor
Anna Maria Frias	Megan McCall & Levi Tast	Mylene Tisserat & Suzanne Rosas
Stuart & Nancy Fricke	Gregory McCann	Lynn Toohey
Robert & Cynthia Frost	Linda & Rich McCarthy	Peggy Tsunoda
Arnie Gamboa	Howard & Ellen Mirowitz	Jose & Lisa Veloz
Adam Garcia	Steve Mohns & Sandra Miller	Cynthia Villasenor
Chuck & Dana Gendry	Diane Monroe & Sue Mamer	Christine Warren & Gretchen Bornhop
Ian Goquingco & Brooke Sapp	Cristie & Mark Montgomery	Elaine & Les Watrous
Stacy Green	Suzette Montgomery & Ubaldo Ponce	Paula Williams
Robert Hagan & Jessica Parker	Linda Morningstar	
Kelly Haggard	Heidi Morrison	

## Making It Happen: Featured Winery Program



From conception to execution, Lloyd Corbett made it happen. Lloyd organized the highly successful Featured Winery Program held at The Courtyard during the OC Fair this year. He extended invitations to those

wineries who support the OCWS and entered the 2017 Commercial Wine Competition.

The Express Bar, located within The Courtyard, was set up from noon to 4 pm. At this dedicated location, owners and/or winemakers were able to provide tastings or pour full glasses of their currently featured wines, share their winery history, and offer wine club memberships. The participating wineries also had the opportunity to meet OCWS members and its customers.

The OCWS had the pleasure and honor of hosting the following wineries:

- Greg and Pamela Martin of Seven Angels Cellars in Paso Robles. Seven Angels Cellars made a second appearance.
- Curt and Kate Dubost of Dubost Winery in Paso Robles

- Phil Kaplan of Velvet Bee Winery in Santa Ynez Valley
- Doug, Debbie and Joseph Wiens of Wiens Family Cellars in Temecula and Orange Coast Winery in Newport Beach
- Michael Cox of Dark Star Cellars in Paso Robles

We extend our heartfelt thank you to all of the wineries that participated in our Featured Winery Program this year. A special note of appreciation is also extended to these participating wineries for providing additional wine for our use behind the service bar, for special events in The Courtyard during the OC Fair and for our Wine Wall (with proceeds going to our Scholarship Fund).

Due to the tremendous success of this year's Featured Winery Program, we plan to present this new program again next year and add more guest wineries to our lineup, elevating The Courtyard experience for everyone.

If any member has a favorite winery you would like to see participate in our Featured Winery Program next year, please have them contact Lloyd and Liz Corbett at [Lloyd@ocws.org](mailto:Lloyd@ocws.org) or [Liz@ocws.org](mailto:Liz@ocws.org).

- Liz Corbett, Director

## 2017 Courtyard Breaks All Records

The 2017 OC Fair, although now just a memory, is still very fresh in the minds and hearts of the 316 OCWS volunteers whose dedication and enthusiasm made this year's Courtyard the most successful in OCWS history! With over 1,440 shifts worked at The Courtyard during the Fair, and thousands of hours spent behind the scenes before and after, this year found us smashing records from previous years. The Courtyard grossed the largest income in OCWS history.

The Orange County Fair & Event Center allowed us to partner with them to run both the Commercial and Home Wine Competitions and also gave us the opportunity to run The Courtyard. Income generated from The Courtyard has paid for both competitions and will cover OCWS' overhead for the following year. Generous donations made by the general public contributed significantly to our Scholarship Fund.

Aside from The Courtyard requiring a lot of hard work and dedication, there's always the fun factor. Here are some fun facts from this year:

- Varietal Wines Sold: 17,536 glasses
- Red & White Cellar Specials Sold: 9,302 glasses
- Champagne Splits Sold: 4,439 bottles
- Award Tastes Sold: 13,179
- GoVino Glasses Sold: 3,870

- The Express Bar: 5,977 transactions
- Top 4 pm to 9 pm shift transactions: Saturday, July 15, 1066 transactions within 5 hours, or 213 transaction per hour, or 4 per minute
- Largest credit card shift transactions: 4 pm to 8 pm, Saturday, August 12, 139 transactions within 4 hours, or 1 every 2 minutes
- Largest credit card shift: 4 pm to 8 pm, Wednesday, August 9, totaling \$2,366
- Most shift transactions: 4 pm to 8 pm, Saturday, August 12, 447 transactions, or 1 every 31 seconds
- Largest Scholarship Donation Day: Saturday, July 15, \$1,320 in donations

The success of The Courtyard is due in no small part to all OCWS volunteers who manned or maintained The Courtyard in any number of capacities, or by simply lending moral support. It took each and every one of our volunteers to make The Courtyard a success and provide the OCWS with a fabulous financial foundation going into the next year.

Thank you to each and every one of our volunteers!

- Fran Gitsham, Brian McDonald & Lloyd Corbett  
The Courtyard Co-Chairs

# Annual Installation Dinner

Annual Installation Dinner  
Sunday, October 8, 2017 @ 5:30 pm  
Yves' Restaurant & Wine Bar  
5753-A East Santa Ana Canyon Road  
Anaheim Hills, CA

The annual Installation Dinner for the Orange County Wine Society will feature a gourmet, four-course dinner at Yves' Restaurant.

The evening will begin with a sparkling wine reception to allow members to mingle prior to dinner. The OCWS will provide selected wines from our cellar to accompany the meal. Members are welcome to bring their own special cellar-quality bottle of wine (no corkage fees).

Due to the wide variety of wines being shared, members are strongly encouraged to bring their own champagne and wine glasses.

The event will provide members the opportunity to welcome the newly elected Board members, as well as honor the hard work of the outgoing Board members.

## Menu

### Appetizers

*Hawaiian Lobster Cake*  
*Prosciutto Wrapped Mini Brie*  
*Stuffed Mushroom*

### Salad Course

*Orange Pecan Endive*

European greens tossed in a sweet orange vinaigrette dressing, topped with homemade candied pecans and crumbled Montrachet chevre cheese

### Main Course

Choice of one of the following:

*Filet Mignon*

Cognac demi glace, with Cremini & Shiitake mushrooms; served with creamy mashed potatoes and fresh vegetables

### *Grouper with Tropical Salsa*

Fresh grilled Grouper topped with fresh tropical fruit, served on a bed of Israeli cous cous with fresh vegetables

### *Duck Breast Montmorency*

Served with wild mushroom risotto and lightly herbed fresh vegetables

### *Poulet con Risotto*

Lightly seasoned breast of chicken with sun dried tomatoes, crispy prosciutto, Cremini mushrooms, finished with a touch of cream, served with mushroom risotto

### Dessert

Choice of one of the following:

### *Chocolate Lover's Soufflé*

*A decadent chocolate soufflé and chocolate chunks served with chocolate ice cream & a rich chocolate sauce*

### *Bananas Foster*

*Bananas flamed in a sauce of butter, brown sugar, cinnamon, and dark coffee rum served over caramel-sea salt ice cream*

### *Crème Brûlée*

*Creamy custard topped with caramelized sugar served with fresh berries*

The cost will be \$59 for members and \$65 for guests, inclusive of tax and gratuity. Coffee, tea and soda are available separately for \$2.95, with unlimited refills.

Do not miss this outstanding and exclusive dining event. Seating will be limited, so sign up early at [ocws.org](http://ocws.org) as this event will be a sell out!

Please wear your nametag and drink responsibly.

- Rich Skoczylas & George Cravens, Event Co-Chairs



*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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## Winemakers Newsroom

With both Competitions and the OC Fair over, it's time to sit back, relax and catch our breath. Oh, wait a minute, it most certainly is not — crush season is well underway! It is a busy time for winemakers, as grapes are ready in Southern California. The winemakers have already started to pick up local grapes to begin crushing and destemming, fermenting, and pressing wines. Commercial grape deliveries are about to start very soon. There is no rest for the winemaker!

**Varietal Sourcing.** This year the Winemakers' Group is sourcing six varietals from commercial vineyards in regions to the north. Bill Forsch always leads the drive for grapes. This year, Bill is sourcing Sangiovese and Syrah grapes from Lucas and Lewellen Vineyards in the Los Olivos AVA near Solvang. Bruce Powers and Dave Wiegand are sourcing grapes from our longtime supplier Soltera Winery, and Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Zinfandel and Chardonnay from the Dry Creek AVA in Sonoma. In 2016, we supplied 10 tons and nearly 250 gallons of juice to our winemakers. We hope to exceed those amounts this year. These top quality grapes have allowed our winemakers to improve the quality of our home wines and to be able to compete with commercial wineries. We appreciate

everyone's hard work in sourcing, transporting and distributing grapes to our people. And thank you to our wonderful suppliers.

**Quarterly Meeting & Potluck Dinner.** Our next meeting is scheduled for Saturday, October 14, at Ed Reyes' and Debbie Renne's house. This meeting is a potluck, and we ask all attendees to bring enough food for 8 to 10 people and a bottle of wine, either homemade or commercial. As always, these events are open to all OCWS members and their guests. Sign up at the OCWS website at [ocws.org](http://ocws.org).

**Winemakers' Group Holiday Party.** Our holiday party is scheduled for Saturday, December 23, at the Eastlake Clubhouse in Yorba Linda. Sign up for this event will begin in November.



More details on upcoming events will be featured in an upcoming edition of *The Wine Press* or posted on [ocws.org](http://ocws.org). Kevin Donnelly can be contacted by email at [Kevindonnelly@ocws.org](mailto:Kevindonnelly@ocws.org) or by phone at 714.457.7229 to answer any questions.

- Kevin Donnelly

## Mini-Tasting: Cabernet Sauvignon

Saturday, November 11, 2017

6:00 pm — 9:00 pm

Various Members' Homes



The most popular grape among American wine drinkers is Cabernet Sauvignon. Cabernet Sauvignon produces wines with deep, dark colors that offer complex scents and concentrated flavors ranging from blackber-

ries, crème de cassis, black cherries, boysenberry, blueberry and chocolate when young, to fragrances of tobacco, truffle, cedar wood, earth, lead pencil and leather when mature.

**Hosts:** Mini-Tastings are held at various host sites around Orange County. If you would like to host this event, please email Bill Redding at [Bill@ocws.org](mailto:Bill@ocws.org) or phone him at 949.248.1125. You may 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.

**Mini-Etiquette:** Each person attending brings a potluck dish (appetizer, entrée, side dish or dessert) ready to serve a small portion to 18 people. Ideally, the dish should be designed to match the theme of the tasting, in this case Cabernet Sauvignon. Please coordinate your food selection with your host to assure an appropriate balance of food types served during the evening. There will be a special bottle of wine awarded that evening as a prize for Chef of the Evening. Our winning Chefs of the Evening can have their recipe published on the OCWS website. Please plan on arriving promptly at 6:00 p.m. You are invited to bring your own wine glasses for tasting, keeping in mind the wines are served in flights of two.

**Cost:** The cost to attend the Mini-Tasting is \$30 for members and \$35 for guests.

We are planning a maximum of five sites for this 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 5. After this date, please contact Bill or the OCWS office to determine availability. The cancellation deadline is Friday, November 3, 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

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## OCWS Save the Date Calendar

September 8	Annual Business Meeting at Baja Blues
September 24	Annual OCWS Membership BBQ
October 8	Annual Installation Dinner
October 14	Winemakers' Group Quarterly Meeting & Potluck Dinner
November 11	Mini-Tasting: Cabernet Sauvignon
December 1	OCWS Holiday Dinner & Dance
December 23	Winemakers' Group Holiday Party



[www.ocws.org](http://www.ocws.org)



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