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Newsletter of the Orange County Wine Society, Inc.

Volume 42, Issue 10, October 2018

2018 President's Award



Every year the President has the privilege of awarding the President's Award to people or persons who are the personifica-

tion of amazing volunteers. This year, the President's Award was presented to a couple who singlehandedly raised almost \$6,000 for our scholarship fund at The Courtyard during the 2018 OC Fair by creating and running the Featured Winery Program.

Having been Directors on the Board at one time or another, both of them know exactly what they are doing when they commit to something, and they do it amazingly well. Together they took over receiving and cataloging wine entries for the 2018 Commercial Wine Competition and, for those of you who don't know the magnitude of that commit-

ment, they were responsible for 2,708 entries and 16,248 bottles of wine!

Together they recreated our OCWS merchandise sales program and have selflessly given their time to have a merchandise table set up at nearly all events, including during the Winery Programs, the Commercial Wine Competition, and Annual Business Meeting. These are just a few ways they have contributed to the organization over the years. Words cannot do justice to the kindness and love they exude. No matter how much they are thanked, it will never be enough. So when your paths cross with theirs, please say thanks for their dedication and commitment to the OCWS and, if given the opportunity, pour them just a tad of great wine and raise a glass to them.

Congratulations, thanks and cheers to Liz and Lloyd Corbett.

- Fran Gitsham, Past President

On The Wings of Angels



Often we hear that life is too short to drink bad wine. No matter how long

a life is, it seems life is always too short. In the OCWS, paths cross with so many people and hearts meld in fun and dedicated hard work, which is the first thing that comes to mind in being a part of this organization. Sadly, every once in a while reality still slaps us in the face. The OCWS has been built on the love and labor of countless people over the past 42 years and, as in life and as our group of veteran members age, we are reminded all too often just how truly fragile life

is. This past Board year alone, we have said goodbye to eight members who now sit as angels on our shoulders.

Joan Buchanan
Dave Carter
Chris Cunningham
Tony Marino
Vivien Owen
Paul Peal
Suzy Skoczylas
Carolyn Wolsfelt

Please keep them in your hearts and raise a glass in remembrance. Cheers to our friends, you will be missed.

- Fran Gitsham, Past President



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Oktoberween

Sunday, October 14, 2018 3:00 pm to 7:00 pm at The "Haunted" Courtyard on the grounds of the OC Fair NOTE: New Date & Time



October means Oktoberfest with authentic German Bratwurst, sauer-kraut, potato salad, and beer. But it also means Halloween with costumes, tricks, treats, and wine. So, we are having both!

Come and enjoy the music, dancing, wine, and great food prepared by our Cooks Caucus who will have the grills going for the brats, chicken, and much more.



Put your "creative" minds to work and show up in your favorite Halloween or Oktoberfest costumes, and enjoy some good food,

wine, beer, games, contests, music and, dancing – yes, this includes the *Chicken Dance!*

The cost will be \$45 for members and \$50 for non-members.

Please remember to sign up early as last year's Fall Event was a sell out!

As with all of our events, they only happen because members like you are willing to step forward and volunteer to help. We are still looking for volunteers to help with the set-

up, decorating, food serving, wine serving, clean up, check -in, raffle sales, wine wall, and a few floaters.



You can sign up to volunteer when you register for the event on the OCWS website.

We are also still looking for donations of items to use in our raffle and silent auction gift baskets. If you have items to donate, please contact the Event Chair immediately to arrange for pick-up of items.

Hope to see you there!

-Terry Mclean, Event Chair

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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OCWS Annual Installation Dinner

Sunday, October 7, 2018 @ 5:30 pm Avenue of the Arts Hotel 3350 Avenue of the Arts Costa Mesa, CA

The annual Installation Dinner for the Orange County Wine Society will feature a gourmet, four-course dinner at Avenue of the Arts Hotel.

The evening will begin at 5:30 pm with a champagne reception to allow members to mingle prior to dinner. The Wine Society will provide wines selected from the OCWS cellar to accompany the meal. Members are also welcome to bring a bottle of their own wine (no corkage fees will be charged).

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

Cost: The cost will be \$63 for members and \$68 for guests, inclusive of tax and gratuity.

Do not miss this outstanding evening. This exclusive dining event has limited seating, so sign up early as this event will sell out fast.

Contact the OCWS office or sign up on the OCWS website to attend this event. Remember to wear your nametag.

Parking: Attendees can either self-park in the hotel garage and get their ticket validated at OCWS check-in or valet park for \$10.

- Rich Skoczylas, Dinner Coordinator

Installation Dinner Menu

~ Appetizer Course (all three) ~ Bacon Wrapped Dates Crab Cake with Cilantro Aioli

Goat Cheese, Tomato, Caramelized Onion Tartlet

~ Salad Course ~

Silver Trumpet Salad

~ Main Course ~

(Choice of one the following) Bone-In Jidori Chicken Breast

Herbs de Provence, Charred Brussel Sprouts, Marble Potatoes, Chicken Jus

OR

Natural Grass-Fed Beef Short Rib Boneless Short Rib, Celery Root Puree, Cipollini Onions, Charred Baby Carrots, Bordelaise

OR

Sautéed Salmon Filet

Wilted Spinach, Bacon and Mushroom Sauté, Baby Arugula, Balsamic Glaze

OR

Wild Mushroom En Croute
Sun Dried Tomato Ragout, Truffle Cream Sauce

~ Dessert ~

(Choice of one the following)

Warm Chocolate Cake

with Pepper and Lime Macerated Berries

OR

Earl Grey Crème Brûlée

Caramelized Sugar, Lemon Sugar Cookies,

Candied Lemon Zest

OR

Affogato Vanilla Gelato

with Espresso Shot, Chocolate Covered Coffee Beans

~ Beverages ~

J Gursey Artisan Coffee, Decaffeinated Coffee & Gourmet Herbal Tea Service

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.

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Oktoberfest at The Phoenix Club

Sunday, October 21, 2018
Brunch—11:00 am to 1:00 pm
Oktoberfest—Noon to 6:00 pm
The Phoenix Club
1340 S. Sanderson Ave., Anaheim, CA

No need to pack or go through security, just dust off your bier steins and join your fellow OCWS members and guests for Brunch and an afternoon of German food, music, and entertainment.

The price for this German inspired Brunch is \$46 for members and \$51 for guests. This price includes tax, gratuity, \$10 in beverage tickets, parking, and entry into the Oktoberfest (a \$12 value). We will place tablecloths on several picnic style tables under the bier tent prior to the event for our group.

Since The Phoenix Club provides sparkling wine as part of their Brunch, there will be a reduced corkage fee of \$7 per bottle, payable at check-in.

Brunch will be held in the Grand Ballroom, accessed from the main entrance. We suggest you arrive by 10:30 am to check-in. Check-in is at the entrance to the Grand Ballroom.

The Brunch includes: Bottomless sparkling wine • Carving Station & Omelet Station • Garden, fruit, potato and pasta salads • German Pancakes, Cheese Blintzes • Schnitzel, Rouladen, Sauerbraten, Fish, Chicken Bavarian, Spatzle and fresh vegetables • Desserts



The Oktoberfest activities will be held in the big tent and the OCWS will reserve tables as stated above.

Bring your own Bier Stein. You can bring your own empty stein or bier mug to Oktoberfest. Please

note that your steins will not be filled directly. Bier is sold and served in a cup and then you pour the bier into your own stein.

Proper Bier drinking etiquette. Mugs are raised and a song belted out. One of the most popular songs played is the German classic "Ein Prosit," translated means "A Toast!" At the conclusion of the song, make sure to give your table mates a hearty "Prost" and clink the bottom thicker part of your glass into theirs.

Since we need to contract with the restaurant with the attendance count, the last day to sign up, make changes or cancel to receive a refund, is Sunday, October 14. Any cancellations after this date would be filled and refunded from the wait list.

For more information on what happens during Oktoberfest at The Phoenix Club, please check their website at www.thephoenixclub.com/oktoberfest.

- Rochelle Randel & Rich Skoczylas, Event Coordinators
"Ein Prosit!"

Winemakers Newsroom



We're in the middle of *crush season!* Thanks to our great Winemakers' Group, we are providing fabulous grapes again this

year. Bill Forsch, Bruce Powers, and Dave Wiegand have stepped up again this year to provide a wonderful selection of wine grapes for OCWS members to purchase. Bill is sourcing grapes from Lucas and Lewellen in the Central Coast, including Sauvignon Blanc, Pinot Grigio, Chardonnay, Syrah, Petite Sirah, and Sangiovese.

Bruce and Dave are managing the grapes through Solterra Winery from the Russian River, including Merlot, Zinfandel, and Cabernet Sauvignon.

We can all look forward to a fabulous 2018 vintage from the Winemakers' Group in a few years.

Winemakers' Fall Quarterly Meeting. The Fall meeting will be held on Saturday, October 20. Please log in to the OCWS website at ocws.org and click on the tab entitled Winemaker at the top of the landing page for more details and sign-up information.

The Winemakers' Group mentors many new winemakers. If you are interested in getting into winemaking, talk to us so that we can help you through the learning process.



Be sure to frequently visit the OCWS website for upcoming Winemakers' Group events.

If you have any questions, contact Kevin at KevinDonnelly@ocws.org or by phone at 714.457.7229.

- Kevin Donnelly

Mini-Tasting: Food-Worthy Reds

Saturday, November 10, 2018 6:00 pm — 9:00 pm Various Members' Homes



With the holiday season fast approaching, there will be ample opportunities to enjoy wines that complement holiday meals. The November Mini-Tasting will feature a range of red wines that pair well with holiday feasts. The

guests will rate the wines tasted blind in pairs and then discuss their ratings. Overall ratings from each site will be published in the wrap-up article.

Hosts: Mini-Tastings are held at various host sites around Orange County. If you would like to host this event, please email George at George@ocws.org or phone him at 949.510.5318. 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. The dish ideally should be designed to match the theme of the tasting. 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. so the event can get started on time. You are invited to bring your own wine glasses for tasting, keep in mind the wines are served in flights of two.



Cost: The cost to attend the tasting is \$30 for members and \$35 for guests.

We are planning a maximum of six sites for this mini-tasting, so the limit is 96 attendees (plus hosts). Due to the high attendance at our Mini-Tasting Programs, we encourage you to sign up early as sites tend to fill quickly.

Cut-Off/Cancellation/Refunds: The cut-off date for online sign-up is Friday, November 2. After this date, please contact George or the OCWS office to determine availability. The cancellation deadline is November 2 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, George Cravens

The Loss of a Friend: Kent Rosenblum



Many of you may not have heard, the OCWS lost a friend and supporter early last month. Kent Rosenblum died at the age of 74 from complications after knee surgery.



Spending the early part of his career as a veterinarian, Kent made wine as a hobby in his garage after relocating to northern California. Kent and his wife, Kathy, enjoyed Riesling and Gewurztraminer, wines they only started to drink after their relocation. They decided to purchase a vineyard and planted those two varietals, along with Merlot and Zinfandel. Kent's daughter, Shauna, was quoted as saying, "things kept chugging along, but they were not making a profit." Things took a turn when they purchased Zinfandel grapes from a Napa Valley grower. This decision changed the course of their winemaking and made them a profit their first year of distribution. And it was only uphill from there. Today, the Kent Rosenblum name is synonymous with California Zinfandel.

Many members of the Wine Society knew Kent personally and enjoyed his tremendous sense of humor, his generosity, and appreciated his support of the Wine Society. Over the years, Kent was a Judge at our Commercial Wine Competitions and hosted many milestone OCWS Winery Program events. Anyone who had

the opportunity to attend these celebratory events can attest to his sense of humor and will chuckle when they hear "Sven and Ole," a wild and crazy pair of Scandinavians who Kent brought to life through his jokes. Kent definitely knew how to tell a joke and made everyone laugh until it hurt!

The Wine Society extends its heartfelt condolences to his wife, Kathy, daughters Shauna and Kristen, and their friends on their loss.

New Member Corner



The Orange County Wine Society extends a warm welcome to its newest members! Membership for the following new members was approved by the Board at the September 4 meeting.

As of September 1, the OCWS had 1,028 members.

- Brian McDonald, Director and Membership Chair

Beth McGee • Sandra Ryan • Barry Freund & Merja Connolly • Lori & Tom Oesterreich • Jennifer Holmes • Denise & Zenovy Jakymiw • Theresa & Damon Lee • Brandon Rainone • Cathy & Bob Meschuk • Rebecca Redfern • Holly Moore & Christine Hopp • Kelly & Bill Stephens • Arden & Donald Daniels • Rudy & Angela Corral • Ashley Keller & Christian Ruiz • Catherine Weinlader • Bryant & Marilyn Manley • Jerri Jo Elliott • Sandra & Larry Metoyer • Rob & Stephanie Spurlock • Barbara & Al De La Pena • Don Vochelli & Julie Dean • Joel B. Cort • Monte Fieldstein & Lorin Jackson • Ethan & Veronica Kroll • Alicia Rice • Daniel Vlahovic • Natalie & Charles Keatley • Bryan & Michelle Walker • Fran & Bill Klovstad • Randy Ferguson & Roz Galvez • Bill & Pamela Hewitt • Gina & Dave Brinegar • Therese Heinfeld • Diana Avons • Penelope Anton & Millie Gobble • Katherine Crist • Tess & Jim Lovett • Sean & Tammy Evans • Lisa Siever & Matt Liffreing • Jourdan Manfred & Eric Rodriguez • Kathy Uribe • Markey Neighbors • Monica Naegle & Susie Smith • Todd & Laura Lockwood • Christopher & Laura Kelly • Emily Myhre & Ashley Bonham • Rose Marquez • Rodrigo Julian Marquez • Ian & Laurie Norton • Justin Boatright & Julie Kaplan • Laurie & James Johnson • Dale & Myrta Morin • Dante & Ashley Matthews • Bruce & Mary Koenig • Cindi Sanchez • Brad & Kathy Russo • Dave & Tracy Melton • Worth Houghton & Dara Bowman • David & Ashley Kofler • Jeannine VanBuren • Rebecca Weber • Alicia Lopez & George Kerr • Tiffany & Michael Lockshaw • Julane Helm & Diane Unangst • Alison Cotter & Kristi Kahl • Alexa Tsongranis & Kevin Valade • Daniel & Lisa Baldwin

2018 Annual Holiday Dinner & Dance

Friday, November 30, 2018 6:30 pm — 11:30 pm The Atrium Hotel 18700 MacArthur Blvd. Irvine, CA



The holiday season is right around the corner! Get in the holiday spirit and join your fellow Wine Society members at the 2018 Annual Holiday Dinner & Dance. The festivities

take place Friday, November 30, at The Atrium Hotel in Irvine. Sign-ups are now available online at ocws.org.

The evening begins with champagne and passed appetizers from 6:30 to 7:30 pm. Dinner will follow accompanied by a variety of fine wines provided by the Wine Society. Of course, you are free to bring your own wine to share – corkage is included.

The dinner menu for this event is:

Salad

Spinach Salad with Feta Cheese, Green Apples & Black Pepper Lemon Vinaigrette

Choice of Entree:

- Roasted Chicken Breast with assorted Mushrooms, Shallots, Pancetta Red Wine Jus served with fresh Herbed Risotto & Broccoli
 - Grilled Salmon with Lemon Dill Sauce
- Flat Iron Steak topped with Gorgonzola Butter & Crispy Shallots, Roasted Garlic Mashed Potatoes & Candied Baby Carrots

Dessert

Flourless Chocolate Cake with Raspberry Relish



After dinner, be prepared to have a good time "dancing the night away" with the "Three 2 Sevens," a crowd pleaser for the past two years. Even if you don't dance, you will be enter-

tained and have a great time, too. Yes, they promise to play some "slow dance" music and Holiday rock tunes.

The cost for this fun-filled evening is \$90 per person which includes tax, tip, gratuity, and self-parking. Valet parking is available at the discounted rate of \$5. Non-members accompanied by an OCWS member are welcome at the same price! Invite your friends, neighbors, or co-workers to join the party.

- Brian McDonald, Event Chair

A Big Hand for Bigger Hearts



Last month at the Annual Business Meeting, many of our volunteers were recognized for the hours of service and efforts they dedicated to the Orange County Wine Society over the last Board year. As the organization has only part-time employees, it relies on our volunteers for everything from guiding and

managing our organization to planning and running our events. Most volunteer work is done "behind the scenes" and unnoticed by many.

In recognition of the hours of service, the Wine Society rewards its volunteers with gift certificates redeemable for admission to OCWS events. Thank you to the following volunteers for their efforts during the 2017-2018 Board year.

Our volunteers make this the successful organization that it is. We encourage you to get involved. It is a great way to see how the OCWS works and meet new friends.

NOTE: This year, instead of printed coupons, the coupon amount will be posted as a credit on the member's account.

- George Cravens, Director

George Ott

\$50 Discount Coupon

Leslie Brown Elizabeth Corbett Lloyd Corbett Courtney Kevin Coy Georgia Crane Marcine Crane **Kevin Donnelly** Jim Downey Lynda Edwards Charles English Kate English Carol Esslinger Dennis Esslinger Sharon Finkle Yale Finkle Bill Forsch Carol Frank Jane Goodnight John Goodnight Larry Graham Jerry Guerin Kim Guerin **Gregory Hagadorn** Janet Hammond Fred Heinecke Donna Hisev Leslie Hodowanec Helga Hrowal Michael Iglesias Karl Kawai Virginia Kawai Michael Koval Kathy Krieger Theresa Lane

Kevin Lite Roger Mattar Linda McLean Shirley McManus Linda Mihalik Mo Naraghi Betty Jo Newell Jay Newell Marcy Ott Paul Peal Sam Puzzo Rochelle Randel Walter Reiss Ed Reves Robert Romano Craig Rowe Ronna Rowe Karen Russell Scott Sayre Peter Schlundt Bodien Irene Scott Jack Shepard Linda Shepard Frank Solis Dave Stancil

\$25 Discount Coupon Laura C Acocella

Tami Stancil

Dean Strom

Wendy Taylor

Bob Topham

Richard Ward

Barbara White

David White

David Brown James Burk Kelly Carnes Pam Carter Judy Chapel Carolyn Christian Kim Clark Sam Clark Maria Cov Dan Donati Nancy Edwards Stephen Edwards Wendy Eld Linda Flemins Jan Fontes Jim Fox Kathy Fusaro **Beverly Genis** Alison Godleski Mark Godleski Chervl Heinecke Will Holsinger Lynelle Hustrulid Dawn Iglesias Cheryl Knapp Ken Knapp John Lane Robin Lang Janice Mattar Sue McDonald John Molina Leland Mote Mary Mulcahey John Nation Mike Paz Maia Pehrson **Eddie Petros**

Bruce Powers
Carolyn Redding
Debbie Renne
Cal Rietzel
Janet Riordan
Greg Risling
Melanie Schiffman
Robyn Strom
Bob Unruh
JaNae Unruh
Taren Weber
Sara Yeoman
Jolen Zeroski

\$10 Discount Coupon

Anke Bajhart Nancy Ball Linda Barreda Robert Barreda Rav Bartlett Shilo Bartlett Greg Basile Janet Birch Chris Bruce Hank Bruce John Carnes Rosemary Christen Damian Christian **Greg Collins** Michael Cox Noel De Sota Mark DeWitt Liane Donati

Linda Downey

Lois Durning

Paul Durning

Mark Eggebrecht Jim Flores Ellen Flynn George Fontes B.J. Fornadley Tina Fornadley Jo Ann Fox Claude Fusaro Mary Giedzinski Kay Gooding Suzanne Green Agnes Grogan Kelly Haggard Kathryn Hansen Nancy Harman Elise Haussler Paul Haussler Marie Hawthorn Lynn Hess Ernie Hnatiuk Jim Hume David Imboden Melvin Jay Nancy Jeu Rodney Jeu Roxanne Korzeniowski Kendall Madsen Don Mason Mike Matyus David McCann Robin McCormick Debra Mendoza **Deborah Mines** Carol Miura Dr. Richard Nelson

Ron Nickens

Marsha Owen Lee Painter Janet Peal Tom Peterson Jane Ptucha **Gregory Rager** Juve "J" Reves Sue Rietzel Elisa Roddy Wilton Roddy Germaine Romano Irene Serna Raul Serna **Doris Severs** John Severs Pat Solis Don Sowers Karl Tani Walt Thurner Tom Tippett Bernard Torbik Shelly Trainor Jean Vetri-Wilson Lisa Vicerov Deborah Webber Rick Weber Dave Wiegand Spencer Wilson Robert Wittmond Nathan Yeoman



The Wine Press

Orange County Wine Society, Inc. PO Box 11059 Costa Mesa, CA 92627

OCWS Save the Date Calendar

October 7 Annual Installation Dinner

October 14 "Oktoberween" themed Fall Membership BBQ

October 20 Winemakers' Group Fall Quarterly Meeting

October 21 Oktoberfest, Phoenix Club, Anaheim

November 10 Mini-Tasting: Food-Worthy Reds

November 30 Annual Holiday Dinner & Dance, The Atrium Hotel



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