



The Wine Press



Newsletter of the Orange County Wine Society, Inc.

Volume 43, Issue 5, May 2019

President's Message

In the February edition of *The Wine Press*, I encouraged everyone to try some new things. I am happy to report that I have visited a winery that is new to me and will definitely be added to my list of wineries to revisit.

The OCWS also sponsored our *first* Wine Education Seminar which was well attended and garnered great reviews. The second in the series, "Wines of Bordeaux," was held on April 14. Kudos to Irene Scott, Wine Education Chair, for getting this series going. Do not miss out on future wine education seminar opportunities.

If that was not enough, April was also the month for our Annual Wine Auction that was attended by a record number of members. Thanks to all the dozens of volunteers who made this event such a success, and to the members who purchased auction lots to help sustain us financially.

In rapid succession, April 12 was the Red Soles Winery program, April 27 the Rhone Mini-Tasting, and the Champagne Brunch was held at Newport Landing on April 28. Please thank the Event Chairs, volunteers and hosts when you see them.

There are so many new members attending our events for the first time. If you are one of our "veteran" members, please introduce yourself, invite someone to sit at your table, offer assistance, and make them feel welcome.

With the 2019 Commercial Wine Competition on June 1 and 2 and the 2019 Home Wine Competition on June 15, a lot will be happening on the competition side of the OCWS. If you are interested in volunteering for either of these events, please refer to *The Wine Press* or visit our website at ocws.org for more details. Cheers!

- Bill Redding, President

Upcoming Events:

- May 10 3
Monte de Oro Winery
- May 19 3
Spring Membership Event

Special Points of Interest:

- Welcome New Members 1
- Commercial Competition
Volunteers 2
- Commercial Competition
Hotel Reservations 2
- New Member Mixer..... 2
- Winemakers Newsroom..... 4
- Home Wine Competition
Volunteers Needed..... 4
- Graber Olive House..... 4
- The Courtyard Portal 5
- Save the Date Calendar..... 6

Welcome New Members



The Orange County Wine Society extends a warm welcome to its newest members! Membership for the following new members was approved by the Board of Directors at the April 8 meeting: Lora & Steven Shryock, Marilyn & Wayne Watten, Genevieve Bernatchez & Roger Coleman, and Carolyn Williams. As of April 1, the OCWS had 1,002 members.

Additional New Member Info. If you are thinking about attending an event and are

not sure how to dress, what to bring, how it works, or just want someone to meet and greet, please reach out to any member of the Board of Directors, email the "New Member Hotline" at Brian@ocws.org, or feel free to phone Brian at 714.227.7284.

For the Spring Membership Event scheduled on May 19, the dress is very casual. Feel free to bring your own bottle of wine, if you would like. The OCWS will also be pouring wine from its cellar.

- Brian McDonald,
Director and Membership Chair



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Commercial Wine Competition: Hotel Reservation Information



If you plan on staying at the Costa Mesa Hilton Hotel for the weekend of the Commercial Wine Competition, please make reservations no later than Friday, May 17.

The OCWS has booked a block of rooms for OCWS members at a discounted rate, and this rate is guaranteed only until that date. This special rate does not require advance payment and is \$145 per night, plus \$12 per night parking. If you want to stay on the 7th floor Executive Level, the rate is \$180 single and \$190 double.

Reservations can be made by phone at 714.540.7000 or online by accessing the booking link located at <http://group.hilton.com/CWS2019>. When making reservations, be sure to mention the discount code “OCWS2019 Wine Competition” to receive the guaranteed rates mentioned.

- Bill Redding, President

Commercial Competition Volunteers

We have had great enthusiasm for signing up this year, and we would like to extend a *Thank You* to all our volunteers for your support!

As of this writing, we are still *behind about 10 steward positions* for Saturday and Sunday, June 1 and June 2. If you are able to help, please sign up as soon as possible. Also, please check the OCWS website for any remaining positions that are open.

We will be sending out confirmation of activities during the third week of May 2019. Please look out for emails from Ken@ocws.org. If you are unable to fulfill your volunteer assignment, please contact us directly at Ken@ocws.org or Irene@ocws.org as soon as possible. We are excited to see you at the Competition!

- Ken & Irene Scott,
Volunteer Coordinators

Save the Date: New Member Mixer

If you joined the OCWS after September 1, 2018, you are invited to attend a New Member Mixer on Sunday, June 9 from 2:00 to 4:00 pm. This **free event** is a great way to meet other new members and the Board of Directors as well as learning more about what the OCWS can offer you as a member. The Mixer will be held in a member’s home in Cowan Heights. The exact location will be sent to the RSVPs by email prior to the event.

Since attendance is limited, an RSVP is required—deadline to RSVP is Tuesday, June 4. Wine, water and light appetizers will be served. The dress is casual but it will be held outside so that should be taken into consideration. This event is limited to members only. If you have any questions, contact Brian at Brian@ocws.org.

- Brian McDonald,
Director and Membership Chair

May Winery Program: Monte de Oro Winery

Friday, May 10, 2019
Dinner starts @ 6:30 PM
Avenue of the Arts Hotel
3350 Avenue of the Arts
Costa Mesa, CA



The final Winery Program this year brings to the OCWS another award winner, Monte De Oro Winery. Their current wine selection, with numerous awards, reflects their goal to produce

the best possible wine from grapes grown in Temecula Valley. New members who joined after May 2018 and have not yet attended one of the 2019 OCWS Winery Programs this year have a last chance to attend and receive a bottle of wine from the OCWS Cellar as a special thank you.

Sign up on the OCWS website to attend this event. Attendees can either self-park in the hotel garage and get their ticket validated at OCWS check-in or pay \$10 for valet parking.

Dinner begins at 6:30 pm with the meeting following about 7:15 pm. The cost of the buffet meal is \$40 for members and \$45 for guests.

This buffet meal includes:

Tequila lime chicken with Cotija cheese
Mexican style rice

Grilled spring vegetables with red and green peppers
Santa Fe salad with baby wild greens, black bean and corn salad, roasted red peppers, tortilla strips and spicy Ranch dressing

Warm Artisan breads and rolls with sweet butter

We offer a separate option of a "Heart Healthy" sit-down meal for \$45 for members and \$50 for guests. This selection includes:

Grilled Chile salmon with lime crema
Mexican style rice

Grilled spring vegetables with red and green peppers
Santa Fe salad with baby wild greens, black bean and corn salad, roasted red peppers, tortilla strips and spicy Ranch dressing

Warm Artisan breads and rolls with sweet butter

Members may bring their own wine to enjoy and share during dinner. Be sure to wear your nametag.

As we need to contract the meals with the hotel, **the last day to sign up or cancel and receive a refund is Sunday, May 5.** Any cancellations after this date would be filled and refunded from the wait list.

- Rich Skoczylas, Winery Program Coordinator

OCWS Spring Membership Event

Sunday, May 19, 2019
3:00 PM to 7:00 PM
The Courtyard at the OC Fairgrounds
Costa Mesa, CA



The Rolling Stones said it best when they sang "Talkin' 'bout my generation"! Whether you're of the Silent Generation, a Baby Boomer, GenXer or Millennial, there is tons of fun to be had at the OCWS Spring

Membership Event.

Was your first wine experience Chianti, Blue Nun, Boone's Farm or Bartle & James Wine Spritzers and your fondest memories of games hoola hoops, Twister, Barbie or GI Joe dolls, Pong, Tetris or Donkey Kong? Come take a trip down memory lane with great people over super food, wine, games, and dancing to generations of music by the 3 to 7 Band.

Join in the fun! Sign-ups are open online at ocws.org. Don't miss sharing the fun and memories from your past and making more in the present!

- Sara Yeoman & Fran Gitsham, Event Co-Chairs

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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Winemakers Newsroom

May is upon us, and there is just one month left until our two OC Fair Wine Competitions!

Home Wine Competition. The Winemakers' Group is in charge of the Home Wine Competition which will be held on Saturday, June 15. We anticipate nearly 600 wines to be entered. Our color brochure is available for download on the ocws.org website under "Competitions."



Winemaking Class Recap. Kern Vogel hosted his 7th Kit Winemaking Class on Saturday, April 13. Nineteen beginning winemakers were taught the intricacies of turning grape juice into the wonderful beverage we all enjoy! Thank you, Kern, for your years of dedication to teaching our new members.

Quarterly Winemakers' Group Meeting & Potluck Recap. On April 20, we had our Quarterly Winemakers' Meeting & Potluck with 60 people attending. Thank you to Lynn Hess for opening her beautiful home to our members!

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



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

- Kevin Donnelly

Home Wine Competition Volunteers Needed

Calling all volunteers! The 2019 Home Wine Competition will be held on June 15th in the OC Fair Courtyard, and volunteers are needed to ensure our success!



We need your help to make this year's OC Fair/OCWS Home Wine Competition successful. We need over 100 volunteers to run this event on Saturday, June 15 from 7:30 am to about 1:00 pm (or later if you stay to taste the wines). Winemakers and non-winemakers are invited to volunteer

before the general membership so you can get the position you want.

To sign up, please go to the ocws.org website and click on Competitions, then Home Wine, and fill out the form.

You will get two great meals made by the Cooks' Caucus and get to taste all the great wines after judging is complete.

In addition, there will be a "thank you" party for all volunteers and persons that submitted wines to be held at The Courtyard on Sunday, June 16 with food and all the gold and double gold wines to taste!

*Jim Downey,
Volunteer Coordinator*

Graber Olive House, a Longtime, Valued Supporter of the OCWS



The Wine Society would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge Graber Olive House for their friendship, generosity and continued support over the years.

Graber Olive House has provided their specialty olives to the Commercial Wine and Home Wine Competitions for many years. As you know, palate assault can be extreme even though wine judges may expectorate every sip. The acidity in white wines and tannins in red wines can be a painful experience after a full day of tasting. A small cup of Graber olives is placed alongside each judge, and the olives neutralize the elements in both reds and whites, work wonders for the palate and taste fantastic, too.

Graber olives are hand-picked when they've ripened to a cherry-red color, then "cured in covered vats without being oxidized," according to Graber Olive House. After the curing and canning processes, the olives are of varying shades of nut-like color.

Graber Olive House is located in quiet, serene surroundings. Visitors will be delighted to discover a bit of early California when they visit. Along with olives, Graber Olive House offers many other products, such as crisp California almonds and pistachios, olive oils and elegant gift baskets. You can also visit their website at GraberOlives.com to have products shipped directly to you.

Graber Olive House is located at 215 E. Fourth Street, Ontario, CA 91764.

The Courtyard Portal during the 2019 OC Fair

Courtyard Volunteer Sign-ups

By the time you read this article, The Courtyard sign-ups will be in full swing. **Thank you** to all who have already signed up to support The Courtyard, OCWS's biggest fundraising event. Last year, donations received at The Courtyard and allocated to the scholarship fund amounted to over \$16,000.

Just remember, you can only sign up online once. That does not mean you cannot sign up for more shifts or change your shifts. Any additional sign ups or shift changes must be done by emailing CourtyardSignup@ocws.org.

*Fran Gitsham & Brian McDonald,
The Courtyard Co-Chairs*

Seeking Volunteer Chair for Courtyard Set Up/Tear Down

I have chaired The Courtyard set up and tear down the last two, possibly three years. It has been my honor and privilege to have worked with Paul Peal who, if you knew Paul, could make anything happen.

I now have a back condition which is not allowing me to take an active role in either of these roles. We are looking for someone who will step into this leadership role. Fortunately, over the years, there is a core group of people who know what needs to be done and could easily do it themselves—it is just organizing the order in which things are done, and purchasing the lunch and beer.

I can be present, but I probably will not be able to do much as I'm 72—it's time for a younger person to take this on!

If you have any interest or would like to discuss this role, email me at Brian@ocws.org or call 714-227-7284.

*Brian McDonald,
The Courtyard Co-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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■ Twitter: [@OCWineSociety](https://twitter.com/OCWineSociety)

OCWS Website Administrator: Wendy Taylor

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OC Fair Server Responsibility Statements

The OCFEC requires each person pouring alcohol to sign a Server Responsibility Statement. This is an OC Fair form, not an OCWS form. Therefore, please **do not** write any messages on the form. The form states that you have attached a copy of your server certificate to the form; this step is handled by The Courtyard Committee prior to submitting all signed Server Statements to the OCFEC.

The form is located on our website at www.ocws.org at menu item "OCFair Courtyard." Please only fill out one name per form, sign and date where indicated, and email to TIPS@ocws.org or fax to the OCWS office at 714.546.5002 (**not the fax number indicated on the form**).

The 2019 Courtyard Committee

Alcohol Server Training—Intervention Procedures

The OC Fair is right around the corner! It's time to schedule Alcohol Server Training (TIPS); there are just a few classes left in May and June. TIPS certification is valid for three years. If you were TIPS certified in 2016 and are planning to volunteer at The Courtyard this year, you will need to re-certify. If you have **never taken** a TIPS class, you will need to attend and successfully complete the training.

The 2019 OC Fair starts on Friday, July 12 and ends on Sunday, August 11. As a concessionaire of the OC Fair, the OCWS must adhere to contractual requirements established by the OC Fair & Events Center Board of Directors. Prior to working in The Courtyard during the OC Fair, everyone must be "professionally trained and certified in alcohol awareness techniques."

The Alcohol Server Training sign-up form is located on our website at www.ocws.org. Please log in to your account and use the online form located at menu item "OCFair Courtyard>Alcohol Server Training (TIPS)." When selecting your availability, please indicate your 1st **and** 2nd choice dates. The classes are held in the Admin Bldg. on the Fairgrounds. An email confirmation with a map will be sent within **one week** prior to the class.

If you have any questions regarding TIPS training, please email TIPS@ocws.org or call either Rochelle at 714.272.3780 or Marcy at 714.235.6459. See you at the Fair!

*- Rochelle Randel – TIPS Trainer
- Marcy Ott – Badging Coordinator
The 2019 Courtyard Committee*



The Wine Press

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

OCWS Save the Date Calendar

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| May 10 | Winery Program: Monte de Oro Winery |
| May 16 | Wine Education Seminar: Wines of Burgundy & Beaujolais |
| May 19 | OCWS Spring Membership Event |
| June 1-2 | Commercial Wine Competition |
| June 15 | Home Wine Competition |
| June 23 | Wine Education Seminar: Wines of the Rhône Valley |
| July 12 to August 11 | Orange County Fair |



www.ocws.org

