

## Ed Reyes' Statement of Candidacy

I am running for the Board of Directors because my energy, enthusiasm, and leadership abilities can make a difference in the Orange County Wine Society. My wife, Debbie, and I have been members for about 5 years. In that time I've gained valuable experience serving with other OCWS volunteers, including past and present board members, at these events:



- Wine Courtyard as manger-in-training and wine server
- Commercial Competition as steward, kitchen helper, and with pre-event hotel set-up, and bagging
- Home Wine Competition as steward, kitchen helper, score verifier
- Wine Extraordinaire and Wine Classic with silent auction
- Wine Auction and PYOL with pre-event set-up
- Member BBQ as a dance instructor
- Mini Tasting as a host
- Chili Cook-off as a judge
- "Wine Trips" committee member, planning, organizing, and attending the successful Santa Ynez trip in March, the first OCWS wine trip in several years

Outside of OCWS, my leadership experience has included organizing and leading camping trips, weekend events, and wilderness hikes for an outdoor activities group. I've worked trade shows in the pool & spa industry conducting training and educational seminars. I now work as an assistant production manager for a manufacturer of water quality sensors and as a group fitness instructor for 24-Hour Fitness.

I know what a great organization the Orange County Wine Society is. Nothing demonstrates this better than the dedicated members who continually attend and volunteer to make our events successful. I think this dedication is the biggest reason for our success. Like any organization, OCWS can be improved upon by building on that success.

We have so much wine knowledge and experience to offer to each other and to new members. I think we don't realize the valuable resource we all are. We must communicate this better, to each other, to new members, and to the general public. We must also do a better job of recognizing and welcoming newcomers to our events.

If elected to the Board of Directors, I will work toward attracting and retaining new members to keep our organization growing. I want to add to our existing events by doing more wine trips and developing new events. I will also work toward better communication among members so we can share our knowledge and experience. I am committed to making the Orange County Wine Society a better organization. Please help me make a difference by giving me your vote.