

# The Wine Press

## Brown's Bits & Bytes...

Volume 35, Issue 5 ~ May 2011

I am writing this article shortly after our 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Tasting that was held at the Double-Tree Hotel. It was a lovely evening with an interesting presentation and great wines from Marcello Monticello from Gallo Vineyards. Every attendee received a souvenir glass and we began the evening with a toast to our history and to our future.

At the April meeting, Craig Rowe who is our Election Chairman this year, was introduced and explained the election process to our members. It is not too early to consider running for the board. See Craig's article in the newsletter for more information about

the election. Being a member of the Board of Directors is a very rewarding experience. It provides the opportunity to meet and work with our membership which has been the highlight of my three years as a board member.

May promises to be a very busy month as we prepare for the Commercial Competition, the Homewine Competition, and the Courtyard at the Fair. We are busy recruiting volunteers to work at both the Commercial and Homewine Competitions. If you haven't volunteered, but are interested in helping at the Commercial

Competition, please contact me as there may be some positions still available. The Commercial Competition Cataloging Committee is busy unpacking, organizing, sorting, and labeling the wines for the Competition. The Verifying Team then double checks all the information to make certain that the data is correct. The wines will be bagged the week before the Competition and then transported to the hotel for the Competition which will be the first weekend in June. These are monumental tasks which could not be completed without the

*(Continued on page 3)*

## 2011 Wine Auction & PYOL ~ "Last Chance"

It's not too late to sign up! Come out and join us for some great wine bargains!

**OCWS Wine Auction**

**Saturday, May 7**

**Building 16**

**OC Fairgrounds &**

**Event Center**

**12:00 noon to 6:00 p.m.**

\*\*\* Please expect to be present for the entire event. No early check-outs! \*\*\*

**OCWS PYOL**

**Sunday, May 22**

**Hanger Building**

**OC Fairgrounds &**

**Event Center**


**10:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**

This year's Wine Auction budget has just been approved for a huge increase in dollars available to provide food for the event.

We understand that this is a long day and we want to ensure that your tummy leaves satisfied with lots of food along with our out-

*(Continued on page 3)*

# May 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7 
8	9	10	11	12	13	14 
15	16	17	18	19	20 	21 
22 	23	24	25	26	27	28 
29	30	31 				

## May

- 7 Wine Auction ~ Building 16, OC Fairgrounds & Event Center ~ See newsletter article ~ 12:00 noon
- 14 Homewine Judging Seminar ~ See newsletter for details ~ 9:00 a.m. to noon
- 20 - 21 Winemaker Group ~ Conference ~ Fess Parker Double Tree Resort ~ Santa Barbara
- 22 PYOL ~ Hangar Building, OC Fairgrounds & Event Center ~ See newsletter article ~ 10:30 a.m.
- 28 Mini-Tasting ~ Meritage Wines ~ OCWS Members' Residences ~ 6:00 p.m.
- 31 Wine Bagging Parties ~ Details TBA

## June

- 1 - 2 Wine Bagging Parties / Move wine to Hilton Hotel / Set-Up for Commercial Competition ~ Details TBA
- 4 - 5 Commercial Competition ~ Hilton Hotel ~ Costa Mesa
- 11 Homewine Competition ~ OC Fair & Event Center ~ Details in newsletter

## July

- 15-31 The Courtyard Activities ~ OC Fair & Event Center

## August

- 1-14 The Courtyard Activities ~ OC Fair & Event Center

## 2010 ~ 2011 Board of Directors

President ~ Leslie Brown  
714.921.2717

Vice President ~ Kevin Coy  
562.243.3234

Treasurer ~ Mel Jay  
714.544.6287

Secretary ~ Kevin Donnelly  
714.779.6293

Director ~ Chris Cunningham  
714.751.6731

Director ~ Greg Hagadorn  
714.526.9260

Director ~ Bob Prill  
714.692.9463

Director ~ Sam Puzzo  
714.547.3877

Director ~ Ed Reyes  
949.360.7954

*The Wine Press* is the official newsletter of the Orange County Wine Society, Inc. If one procrastinates too much, it is published monthly. The opinions expressed herein are those of the editor unless he can find someone else to blame.

The OCWS welcomes your letters and comments. All topics from complaints about the organization, to questions about wine and winemaking may be addressed. Send to: OCWS, Attention: Editor, *The Wine Press*. Your name can be withheld on request.

The OCWS 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. For your convenience, our office is staffed five days per week along with our 24-hour answering and facsimile machines. Additionally, the OCWS has a web site with email and secure event sign-up capability. Visit us online at [www.ocws.org](http://www.ocws.org).

Phone ~ 714.708.1636

Fax ~ 714.546.5002

Web Site ~ [www.ocws.org](http://www.ocws.org)

Follow us on Facebook and Yahoo! Groups

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## Brown's Bits & Bytes (Cont'd)

*(Continued from page 1)*

leadership of Carol Esslinger for cataloging and Maia Pehrson for verifying.

In preparation for the Orange County Fair, a great deal of work is done to prepare The Courtyard and our members so that we can serve and educate the public about the wines entered into the Competition. The sign-up for Courtyard volunteers is in this newsletter as well as a link on the homepage of our website. Fair assignments are made on a first-come, first-served basis, so sign up soon to ensure that you receive your preferred shifts. If you need to complete TIPS (alcohol server training), there is a sign-up located in the newsletter and on the website. It is a requirement from the OC Fair that all of our volunteers complete the TIPS program.

However, prior to the Competitions and the Courtyard, we have three great events taking place in May. The Wine Auction will be held on Saturday, May 7. This is a great opportunity to bid on some great and often hard-to-find wines. The event features both silent and verbal auctions. This year, there will be more substantial food available and of course, great wines to sip while making your purchases. Following the Wine Auction, on Sunday, May 22, is the PYOL. This event moves at a much faster pace. You must attend the Wine Auction to be eligible to attend the PYOL.

The third event, and one that promises to be very entertaining, is our May Mini-Tasting. The theme will be Meritage Wines and hopefully, all attendees will have the opportunity to "make their own Meritage." There will be five Meritage wines to taste and five to mix. It should be a fascinating evening. More information about all three of these events can be found in this newsletter in articles by Kevin Coy (Wine Auction) and Sam Puzzo (Mini-Tasting).

I look forward to seeing you during these busy few months at our events!

**Leslie Brown**

## 2011 Wine Auction & PYOL (Cont'd)

*(Continued from page 1)*

standing wine samples. You just can't go wrong this year!

### The Wine Auction

Silent Auction: 4-bottle Silent Lots of wine in every varietal imaginable; hundreds to choose from.

Verbal Auction: Premium 4-bottle lots for your verbal bidding pleasure.

Bidder catalogues will be available the week before and during check-in at the Wine Auction.

### The PYOL (Pick-Your-Own-Lot)

You must attend the Wine Auction to participate in this event. The PYOL offers all of the wine remaining in the OCWS wine cellar at \$5 per bottle! A great way to pick up some everyday wines at a very reasonable price.

Please see the sign-up form in this edition of *The Wine Press*. For your convenience, it is suggested that you bring wine glasses and pens to the Wine Auction. Limited quantities of individual wine glasses will be available for sale. The price is \$20 per member, which includes admission to both events.

One more thing...only OCWS members may attend the Wine Auction and PYOL. Additionally, please remember that Wine Society events are for adults only. As such, we ask that you please refrain from bringing underage guests and children to our events.

See you at the Auction!

**Kevin Coy**

**Auction/PYOL Coordinator**

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## Mini-Tasting ~ Meritage Wines ~ “Last Chance”

Meritage Wine Mini-Tasting  
Saturday, May 28  
6:00 to 9:00 p.m.  
OCWS Members' Homes

The next Mini-Tasting will be held on May 28, and will feature Meritage wines and their components. A Meritage-designated wine is California's version of a French Bordeaux and consists of a blend of at least two varietals including: Cabernet, Merlot, Cabernet Franc, Malbec, and Petite Verdot. For this Mini-Tasting, five Meritage blends and one each of the component's varietals will be served.

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 site-specific request. However, your assigned host site is also based on the order in which your sign-up is received in the OCWS office. If you are interested in hosting the event, have attended at least one Mini-Tasting and can easily accommodate 16 people plus yourself, call Janet Hammond at 714.708.1636. If you serve as hosts, you attend the Mini-Tasting for free. The cost to attend this tasting is \$35 for members and guests.

Each person attending is requested to bring a potluck dish (appetizer, entrée, side dish, or dessert) to serve at least 8 to 10 people and designed to match the theme of the tasting (couples may need to double the recipe). Please call your host site with your food selection to assure diversity in food pairings with the wines. As usual, there will be a special bottle of wine that evening as a prize for Chef-of-the-Evening. Our winning Chefs-of-the-Evening may have their recipe published on the OCWS website.

To attend, just complete the sign-up in this newsletter or on the OCWS website. We are planning a maximum of six sites so the limit is 96 attendees. Due to advance purchase of wines you will not be refunded your money if you cannot attend unless there is a waiting list. The cut-off date for event sign up or cancellation is Wednesday, May 18.

Due to high attendance at our Mini-Tasting Programs we encourage you to sign-up early as some sites tend to fill quickly.

Bon Appétit,

*Sam Puzzo & Jim Beard*  
*Co-Chairpersons*

## Pinot Noir Mini-Tasting “Wrap”

Thanks to all who hosted and prepared such wonderful foods for the Pinot Noir Mini-Tasting held on March 26. Co-chairs Jim Beard and Director Sam Puzzo picked out favorite wines that we had tasted recently. All wines tasted were deemed favorites. The wines tasted and our Chefs-of-the-Evening are listed below.

Thanks again for your support. We look forward to seeing you at the May Mini-Tasting which will feature Meritage wines. The May Mini-Tasting is scheduled for Saturday, May 28. Please be sure to see the related article.

SITE	HOSTS	CHEF-OF-THE-EVENING	DISH
Santa Ana	Carol Frank & Sam Puzzo	Rita Koval	Rumaki
Lake Forest	Craig & Ronna Rowe	Linda Martin	Stromboli
Fountain Valley	Frank & Pat Solis	Dean Strom	BBQ Pork Sliders
Laguna Niguel	Bob & Judy Koebnitz	Louise & Pat Gilliam	Mushroom Lasagna
Los Alamitos	Ken Shishido & Tammy Newland	Ken Shishido	Joe's Bolognese Sauce
Santa Ana	Armen Shahbazian	Linda Kilponen	Lasagna

WINERY	YEAR	VARIETAL	DESCRIPTION
Paul Hobbs	2009	Pinot Noir	Russian River Valley
Loring	2009	Pinot Noir	Rosella's
Fog Crest	2008	Pinot Noir	Laguna West
Keefer Ranch	2008	Pinot Noir	Estate
Clouds Rest	2008	Pinot Noir	Femme Fatal
Siduri	2009	Pinot Noir	Rosella's
OC Custom Wine	2009	Pinot Noir	Carneros
Talbott	2008	Pinot Noir	Sleepy Hollow
DeLoach	2007	Pinot Noir	Green Valley
Piedra Creek	2009	Pinot Noir	Estate

## Membership ~ “Who’s New?”

The Orange County Wine Society welcomes our newest members whose membership was approved by the Board of Directors at the April Board meeting:

*Vanya Alaama*  
*William and Diana Cavanaugh*  
*Sara English*  
*Steve Fusco and Catherine Morrison*  
*John and Tamara Greet*  
*Ken and Kathy Hammond*  
*Jenifer Hedrick*  
*Patrick and Jeanne Kelly*  
*Richard and Margie Riggs*  
*Lena Ross*  
*Chris Shapiro and Natasha Alibulla*

Newcomers get to know us by attending and volunteering at our many events. We need your help at our next major event, the Commercial Wine Competition, to be held on June 4 - 5. You'll be teamed with competition veterans and have many opportunities to connect with others, make new friends, and see how the OCWS works. Look for the sign-up form in this month's newsletter.

As of the April Board of Directors' meeting, there are 941 members with 367 dual and 207 single memberships.

Our Spring Membership Drive continues! Since February 1, we have 28 new members. Our goal is 100 by June 30. Sign up the most new members and win two tickets to this year's Annual Barbecue and two tickets to the 2012 Wine Extraordinaire. To get credit, your name must appear on the membership sign-up form as the person who recruited them. Right now, the leaders are Kris Julin and Kathy Krieger!

Watch for more updates in upcoming issues of *The Wine Press*. Thanks and we look forward to seeing you at our events!

***Ed Reyes***  
***Membership Chair***

## Alcohol Server Training

If April showers bring May flowers what do May flowers bring? No, not pilgrims, but the start of Alcohol Server Training (TIPs) classes.

If you haven't previously done so, it is time to sign up for a TIPs class. If you were TIPs certified in 2008 and you are planning on volunteering to pour wine at The Courtyard during the Fair this year you will need to take the class again. If you have never taken the TIPs class you will need to attend and successfully complete a training class.

The OC Fair starts on Friday, July 15 and ends on Sunday, August 14. As a concessionaire at the OCF, the OCWS must adhere to contractual requirements established by the OC Fair Board of Directors and Staff. Before any of us can work in The Courtyard during the Fair, everyone must be “professionally trained and certified in alcohol awareness techniques.” Once this class is completed successfully, a volunteer is “certified” for three years. The Alcohol Server Training sign-up form can be found in The Wine Press as well as on the website.

Please use this form to indicate your availability to attend the training and either mail or fax the form to the office at 714.546.5002. When indicating your first choice and second choice dates the second choice date cannot be prior to the first choice date. Remember, we require at least ten attendees for the class to be held. The classes are held in the Administration Building of the OC Fair & Event Center in the Orange County Room. Unfortunately, as we are not permitted to have food in the room, we ask you to please eat before you come. This is a new location for the training and will be more convenient as you enter the fairgrounds at Gate 4. You can park in front of the building. Confirmations are mailed out one week prior to the class.

If you have any questions about the alcohol server training, please call me at 714.342.1557 (if your call is blocked, enter \*82 then the phone number) or e-mail me at [karen@ocws.org](mailto:karen@ocws.org).

See you at the Fair!

***Karen Ward***  
***TIPS Trainer***

## 2011 Orange County Fair ~ “The Courtyard”

The 2011 Orange County Fair is fast approaching and planning is underway for our annual, number one fundraising effort, The Courtyard. The Orange County Fair starts on Friday July 15, and ends on Sunday, August 14. The event again includes four full weeks and five weekends, the same as last year. Income received at The Courtyard helps the OCWS fund our two OCF Wine Competitions—the Commercial Competition and the Homewine Competition, as well as helping to defray our office expenses and partially funding our Scholarship Program.

“Let’s Eat” is the theme of the 2011 Orange County Fair. Whether you are a new volunteer or a veteran of The Courtyard, this is your opportunity to experience the Orange County Fair while helping our OCWS staff The Courtyard. Again this year we will conduct Wine Seminars and they will be held on Saturday and Sunday afternoons at 3:00 and 5:00 p.m. Also, the Winemaker’s Group will be conducting free Saturday seminars at noon in The Courtyard.

As a concessionaire at the Fair, the OCWS must adhere to contractual requirements established by the OCFEC Board of Directors and Staff. For 2011, a continuing requirement has been included requiring all OCWS volunteers be “professionally trained and certified in alcohol awareness techniques.” Individuals who took TIPS training in 2009 and 2010 have fulfilled the requirement for this year’s fair. New OCWS members and members who completed TIPS training in 2008 are required to take the 2011 TIPS training. The Alcohol Server Training sign-up form can be found at the end of *The Wine Press*. Please use this form to indicate your availability to attend training. If you have any questions about alcohol server training, please call Karen Ward at 714.964.3881. New trainees will need to have their picture taken following TIPS certification.

On the next page, please find the Wine Courtyard Sign-Up form for volunteering at The Courtyard. Included with this form is the Server Responsibility Statement. Please review and sign this statement and return with the sign-up form to the OCWS Office. Please take this opportunity to sign up now as a volunteer in The Courtyard. Every effort will be made to assign you to the shifts and duties that you select. You can expect that your requested shifts will be assigned unless you are notified of a conflict. You will only be called if your requests cannot be honored or you are needed on a different shift or position. All volunteers are expected to be Servers. Stewards and Cashiers require previous experience so veteran volunteers are encouraged to sign-up for these positions. Please be sure to indicate your parking needs whether they are for each of you (per member) or for both members (per membership). Handicap parking is reserved only for those members who possess a permanent handicap parking permit and cannot board the buses from the parking lots.

All shifts are noted on the signup form and all schedules are similar to

last year. Members are requested to work at least three shifts during the Fair. Historically, certain shifts are hard to fill. These understaffed shifts tend to be Wednesday, Thursday, and Sunday nights. When submitting your sign-up form, please consider volunteering for one or more of these shifts. This year, we will continue staffing an “Express Bar” from 5:00 to 9:00 p.m., daily. An 8-oz glass of wine will be served for \$8. No tastes or drink tickets will be honored at this venue. The Express Bar is designed to speed up the serving process for Fair customers who are headed for the concerts. Therefore, we will need only four volunteers to staff this function, including two Servers, a Cashier, and a Steward. When you sign up, please consider volunteering for this time slot.

Assignments will be made on a first-come basis so return this sign-up form as soon as possible, but no later than June 30, 2011. The availability of shifts will be periodically posted on the website so check this form for the availability of your desired shifts. Your final assignments will be confirmed by separate letter by the end of June or the early part of July. This letter will also include your picture badges and hanging parking passes and a copy of the parking instructions and The Courtyard Volunteer Procedures. Please contact Larry Graham at [larrygraham@cox.net](mailto:larrygraham@cox.net) for questions concerning assignments or special needs.

Remember, when submitting your volunteer request, please (1) fill out The Courtyard sign-up form completely, (2) sign the Server Responsibility Statement and (3) complete the Alcohol Server Training form, if needed, and send all of the above to the OCWS Office.

See you at the Fair!

*The Courtyard Committee*



## **SERVER RESPONSIBILITY STATEMENT**

**Server: Please read and sign**

I understand that the OC Fair is dedicated to the safe and responsible sale and service of alcoholic beverages.

All concessionaires shall require anyone selling or serving alcohol to sign this Server Responsibility Statement issued by OC FEC.

It is the sole responsibility of the concessionaire selling or serving alcohol to ensure that accurate documentation of both the annual certification of alcohol awareness techniques and the server responsibility statement is on file with OC FEC prior to a server being allowed to serve or sell alcohol on the fairgrounds.

I have attached a copy of my server certification to this statement.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Server Signature

**ORANGE COUNTY WINE SOCIETY**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Concessionaire

\_\_\_\_\_  
Server Print Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

# 2011 Orange County Fair The Wine Courtyard Sign-Up

Member \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City & ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Co-Member \_\_\_\_\_  
 Day Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Night Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Mark "M" for Member and "C" for Co-Member. If working on same shift, mark "M/C"

*NOTE: You must sign up for a minimum of three shifts!*

FROM	TO	FRI JUL 15	SAT JUL 16	SUN JUL 17	MON JUL 18	TUE JUL 19	WED JUL 20	THU JUL 21	FRI JUL 22	SAT JUL 23	SUN JUL 24	MON JUL 25	TUE JUL 26	WED JUL 27	THU JUL 28
9:00	1:00		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	DARK	DARK				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	DARK	DARK		
11:00	4:00	<input type="checkbox"/>			DARK	DARK	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			DARK	DARK	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1:00	4:00		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	DARK	DARK				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	DARK	DARK		
4:00	8:00	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	DARK	DARK	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	DARK	DARK	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5:00	9:00	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	DARK	DARK	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	DARK	DARK	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8:00	11:30	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	DARK	DARK	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	DARK	DARK	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

FROM	TO	FRI JUL 29	SAT JUL 30	SUN JUL 31	MON AUG 1	TUE AUG 2	WED AUG 3	THU AUG 4	FRI AUG 5	SAT AUG 6	SUN AUG 7	MON AUG 8	TUE AUG 9	WED AUG 10	THU AUG 11
9:00	1:00		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	DARK	DARK				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	DARK	DARK		
11:00	4:00	<input type="checkbox"/>			DARK	DARK	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			DARK	DARK	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1:00	4:00		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	DARK	DARK				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	DARK	DARK		
4:00	8:00	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	DARK	DARK	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	DARK	DARK	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5:00	9:00	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	DARK	DARK	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	DARK	DARK	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8:00	11:30	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	DARK	DARK	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	DARK	DARK	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

FROM	TO	FRI AUG 12	SAT AUG 13	SUN AUG 14
9:00	1:00		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11:00	4:00	<input type="checkbox"/>		
1:00	4:00		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4:00	8:00	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5:00	9:00	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8:00	11:30	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

*Please enter your preferences...*

**PARKING**

**ASSIGNMENTS**

- I Pass per member
- I Pass per membership

- No pass needed
- Handicap permit needed

- Cashier (M)
- Server (M)
- Steward (M)

- Cashier (C)
- Server (C)
- Steward (C)

Return this form to OCWS, Attention: Wine Courtyard Volunteer  
 P.O. Box 11059, Costa Mesa, CA 92627 or fax to 714.546.5002 by June 30, 2011

*Fold*

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

(Stamp)

OCWS  
ATTN: Wine Courtyard Volunteers  
P.O. Box 11059  
Costa Mesa, CA 92627

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# Winemakers Group Newsroom

## Last Call - Homewine Competition Stewards Needed!

Saturday, June 11, 2011  
7:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
Building 18/The "Hanger"  
OC Fair & Event Center

There is still time to sign up to be a steward at this year's Homewine Competition. As a steward, you will be provided a continental breakfast and a catered lunch. During lunch and after clean-up, you are invited to join the judges and winemakers in tasting the Award-Winning wines. No experience; no problem! We will be happy to have you join us anyway. Just indicate such on the Steward Response Form and we will match you up with an experienced partner. We also need people to help dry glasses if you don't want to serve the wines.

Time is running out fast! Please mail or email the response form that is included in this newsletter to Jim Hume as soon as possible so you can join us in the fun. Any questions? Contact Jim Hume at [wwine99@yahoo.com](mailto:wwine99@yahoo.com) or 714.377.7734.

Homewine Judge's Seminar Returns  
May 14, 2011  
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon  
Residence of Armen Shahbazian  
1691 Serrine Drive, Santa Ana

In an effort to continually improve the integrity of our Homewine Competition, we will have a Judge's Seminar on Saturday, May 14. This seminar is not only for currently qualified judges, but for prospective judges, winemakers, or anyone who may be interested in the judging process. It can help home winemakers get some tips on how to better prepare your wines; and for everyone, it's an education into learning how to describe what faults a wine may have.

There is a \$20 charge for this seminar to defray the cost of supplies, payable at the door. Notify Rich McCormick at 949.497.3299 or email him at [rdmccormick@cox.net](mailto:rdmccormick@cox.net) if you have an interest or plan to attend.

The seminar will be an opportunity to fully understand our 20-point modified Davis scoring system and score sheet notations, judging procedures, and tasting expectations. We strongly urge those who have not taken the seminar to do so, even though one has judged before. If you are interested in judging this year and have not attended the OCWS Judge's Seminar, please mark your calendar. Details will be sent out by email to past judges and those interested in becoming a judge.

## Winemakers Have A Sparkling Time At Thornton

During the Homewine January planning meeting, the idea was suggested we continue with local winery visits—like the trips to Filippi and Rancho de Philo last year. There was also interest in something new as a program, Champagne making.

Thanks to the help of long-time member and winemaker Ken Mapes, thirty of the finest OCWS members ventured to Temecula on March 12 and paid a visit to the Thornton Winery. Thornton makes reds, whites, pinks, and of course, Méthode Champenoise bubbly! Checkout Thornton's web site at [www.thorntonwine.com/winery.html](http://www.thorntonwine.com/winery.html).

As soon as we arrived, they provided us with a fresh glass of Thornton Sparkling wine to kick-off the event. Next, was a detailed tour of the grounds and winery by David Vergari, the Winemaker at Thornton. David did a super job relaying the Méthode Champenoise process to our winemakers and fielded questions from our group.

Lunch was served on the patio of their gourmet Café Champagne Restaurant with a glass of their selected wines to match our entrees that ranged from Seared Hawaiian Ahi to Angus Cheeseburgers.

Full and content from the delicious meal, part of the group stayed on to tour other Temecula wineries including Miramonte, Palumbo, and Doffo.

We want to send our sincere thanks to the crew at Thornton for a super visit. If you are making your way to Temecula, be sure to stop at Thornton and enjoy their wide variety of premium wines and enjoy a bite at their onsite restaurant.

## Future Winemakers Group Activities

*For the Winemakers Group,  
Rich Skoczylas*

# OCWS Winemaker Invitational Golf Tournament

Join us for the 2011 OCWS Winemaker Invitational Golf Tournament to be held on Thursday, June 2, 2011 at 12:00 noon, at the Oak Creek Golf Course, in the heart of Irvine. Come enjoy amazing views of the Saddleback Mountains while you play golf with winemakers, OCWS members, and guests. You can even enjoy wine along the way.

This year's event precedes the 2011 OC Fair Commercial Competition and we are inviting winemakers and judges to come early and join us for the tournament. Don't miss your opportunity to play with some of your favorite winemakers! You can even sponsor a winemaker and encourage him/her to join us for the fun! The deadline for signups is May 20.

Participants in the tournament will receive use of practice facilities, a round of golf, use of a golf cart, a welcome kit with OCWS tee prizes, and a few other surprises. But this golf tournament is not just for golfers. A reception and wine tasting will follow the tournament, so non-golfers are encouraged to attend the post-tournament events to cheer on their favorite players. Wine Reception guests will enjoy OCWS door prizes, wine, food, and the awards ceremony. Tickets may be purchased for the golf tournament and awards dinner separately or as a package.

Our experienced tournament committee will determine teams based on each player's handicap or average score (please provide this information with your signup.) In addition, the tournament will be played as a "Best Ball/Scramble." Prizes will be awarded to both individuals and teams in various categories. For more information or questions about this event, please contact Carolyn Schoff at [ocwsschoff@gmail.com](mailto:ocwsschoff@gmail.com).

Don't miss your opportunity to play with some of your winery favorites!

## Tournament Schedule

12:00 Noon	Tournament Registration
1:00 p.m.	First Tee Time
6:00 p.m.	Wine Reception
7:30 p.m.	Awards Ceremony

## Golf Tournament Only

OCWS Members - \$105  
Guests - \$115

## Wine / Awards Reception Only

OCWS Members - \$50  
Guests - \$60

## Golf Tournament and Wine/Awards

## Reception Package

OCWS Members - \$150  
Guests - \$170

Additionally, if you would like to sponsor a winemaker, you can do so at the OCWS member price. Your golf sign-up is at the back of the newsletter. Be sure to indicate your golf handicap or average score when signing up for golf.

*Carolyn Schoff*

*Event Chairperson*

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**35th Annual Orange County Fair  
Homewine Competition  
Sponsored by the Orange County Wine Society**

**STEWARDS RESPONSE**

Saturday, June 11, 2011  
7:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
Building 18 (Hangar Building)  
OC Fair & Event Center

- [ ] Yes, I am interested in serving as a Steward at this year's Homewine Competition  
[ ] No, I am unable to serve this year, but wish to remain on your mailing list  
[ ] Please remove my name from the mailing list

MEMBER \_\_\_\_\_ CO-MEMBER \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
DAYTIME PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ EVENING PHONE \_\_\_\_\_  
CELL PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have prior experience stewarding at the Commercial or Homewine Competitions?

If "YES", Commercial or Homewine? \_\_\_\_\_

If "YES", how many years? \_\_\_\_\_

Have you served as a Best of Show Steward? Yes No

If selected, will you serve as a Best of Show Steward? Yes No

I am willing to receive future communications via email to help reduce Competition costs Yes No

*Please email or mail this response form by May 1, 2011 to*

Jim Hume  
6192 Christy Drive, Huntington Beach, CA 92647  
Phone: 714.377.7734 Email: wwine99@yahoo.com

*Fold*

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

(Stamp)

Jim Hume  
6192 Christy Drive  
Huntington Beach, CA 92647

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*Fold*

## Winemakers Group (Cont'd)

DATE	ACTIVITY
May 14	Homewine Competition Judging Seminar
May 20 - 21	Winemaker Conference ~ Fess Parker DoubleTree Resort, Santa Barbara
June 11	Homewine Competition ~ OC Fair & Event Center
July 15 - August 14	OC Fair Winemaker Group Activities: Winemaking Seminars and Homewine Competition Exhibit
August	Russian River Campout and Winery Tours
August	Quarterly Potluck / Wine Tasting / SO2 Testing
August	Pre-Crush Meeting

## Dine With Wine

Future Dine With Wine Dinners are in the planning stages. Look forward to future e-blasts for upcoming events! Please remember to visit our supporting restaurants. There will be even more listed in the June edition of *The Wine Press* newsletter!

Catal / Pinot Provence  
Anaheim Disney Walk and Costa Mesa

Shenandoah at the Arbor  
Los Alamitos

Wyndham Hotel  
Costa Mesa

Mad Mike's American Gourmet  
Mission Viejo

The Olive Garden  
Irvine and Huntington Beach

The Melting Pot  
Irvine

The Mix at the Anaheim Hilton  
Anaheim

Blue Water Grill  
Tustin

For more information about our Dine With Wine Dinners with our supporting restaurants, please feel free to contact me at [kevin@ocws.org](mailto:kevin@ocws.org) or call me at 562.243.3234.

See you at the next one!

*Kevin Coy*  
*Dine With Wine Coordinator*

## Help Wanted!

We are looking for someone who would be interested in cleaning the OCWS office on a weekly basis. Should entail about two hours per week.

If you are interested, please contact Leslie Brown at [leslie@ocws.org](mailto:leslie@ocws.org).

Compensation will be provided.

*Leslie Brown*

## Hilton Hotel Rooms

If you are working at the 2011 Commercial Competition and staying at the Hilton Hotel, it is very important that the hotel be made aware that you are a member of the Orange County Wine Society. We have a hotel contract that allows the OCWS to use other facilities of the hotel at no cost or at a reduced cost if we meet our room commitment.

In appreciation for your reservation, members will be awarded one bottle of wine for each room reservation that the hotel credits to the OCWS towards our room commitment.

If you are using the hotel application forms that were provided with your competition assignment form, you should be included on our listing with the hotel. The reservation must be made according to OCWS room rates. If you do not use the form, please tell the reservation clerk that you are a member of OCWS and remind the desk attendant when you check in at the hotel.

Please notify Lora Howard by telephone 714.828.2467, fax 714.828.1563, or by email to [choward371@aol.com](mailto:choward371@aol.com) to confirm your room reservation.

We will check the Hilton Hotel listing for the OCWS credits.

*Lora Howard*

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## The Future Of The OCWS...You!

Have you ever wondered if you might be qualified to be a candidate for the Board of Directors? The OCWS has been the beneficiary of 35 years of volunteers; a motivated few have been elected Board Members. You might be surprised as a member how qualified you are for the Board of Directors. Do you volunteer to assist with events or have you participated on an event committee? If so, you could be a Board Member for year 36 and beyond. Qualifications are quite simple...

- ◆ An appreciation of wine. You need not be an expert.
- ◆ A desire to help the OCWS thrive as a non-profit educational organization.
- ◆ A willingness to work with eight other Board Members to “lead” the OCWS.
- ◆ Fun Loving. We are a social organization; fun is central to our success.

Is there a unique profile for a successful Board Member? Absolutely not! It is the exchange of differing ideas between the nine Board Members and the combination of differing skills that is the legacy of our success. However, a candidate should possess some of the following skills and experience...

- ◆ A general knowledge of OCWS activities.
- ◆ Experience as a volunteer in some events; involvement with event committees.
- ◆ Some organizational and teamwork abilities.
- ◆ Some simple budget management skills.

The overall time commitment for a member of the Board of Directors varies based on assignments and participation. A Board Member’s term is for three years. All Board Members are expected to attend the monthly Board Meetings (dinner and wine are provided). Board Members will agree to organize/manage certain events and projects as assigned by the President. These responsibilities will generally average several hours per month. Board Members are expected to attend as many OCWS events as possible. (Generally speaking, complimentary attendance is granted for Board Member and a significant other.)

If being an OCWS leader interests you, contact me with any questions related to the election— director responsibilities, the election process, etc. at 949.583.0921 or email me at [craig\\_ronna@cox.net](mailto:craig_ronna@cox.net).

Your involvement as a Director of the OCWS can be personally and professionally satisfying. You won’t regret being more involved.

*Craig Rowe*  
*2011 Election Chairman*

## In Memoriam

Joyce Arden Paul



October 23, 1936 ~ March 18, 2011

Joy Paul, a long-time member of the Orange County Wine Society passed away in March. Joy and her husband, Bob, were very active in the Winemakers Group as well as dedicated volunteers at The Courtyard.

One of Joy's favorite events was our annual Wine Auction. Joy and Bob loved to bid on the wine lots, especially during the Verbal Auction portion of the event. As such, they were perennial "Big Spenders" during the event.

We extend our sympathy to Bob and family.

## In Memoriam

Jean Cat Bramble

Jean Cat Bramble was active in the Wine Society during most of our earlier years. Unfortunately, she dropped out of the organization several years ago.

Other than announcing the passing of Jean Cat, we have no other information available at this time.

Our sympathies go out to her family and friends.



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# Memorial Day, May 30, 2011

Monday, May 30 is Memorial Day

While many of you will be enjoying backyard barbecues, ball games, our beaches, and many of the activities we all participate in on Memorial Day, please keep in mind the real reason for this holiday—to pay homage to our military members.

As such, please join with me in recognizing and paying our respects to all members of our Armed Forces, past and present...

It is the VETERAN, not the preacher, who has given us freedom of religion.

It is the VETERAN, not the reporter, who has given us freedom of the press.

It is the VETERAN, not the poet, who has given us freedom of speech.

It is the VETERAN, not the campus organizer, who has given us freedom to assemble.

It is the VETERAN, not the lawyer, who has given us the right to a fair trial.

It is the VETERAN, not the politician, Who has given us the right to vote.

It is the VETERAN who salutes the Flag.

It is the VETERAN who serves under the Flag.

2011 Orange County Fair  
The Courtyard Volunteer  
Alcohol Server Training  
6:30 p.m. Weeknights  
9:00 a.m. Saturday

Member \_\_\_\_\_

Co-Member \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City & Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Day Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Night Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

~ Dates & Times ~

Please indicate your 1st and 2nd choice for training. Second choice cannot be before your first choice. You will receive confirmation within one week prior to the class.

~ Weeknight Training ~

6:30 p.m. - Check-In  
7:00 - Training begins promptly

Mon	May 9	1st _____	2nd _____
Tue	May 17	1st _____	2nd _____
Wed	May 18	1st _____	2nd _____
Tue	May 24	1st _____	2nd _____
Wed	May 25	1st _____	2nd _____
Wed	June 8	1st _____	2nd _____
Thu	June 9	1st _____	2nd _____

~ Weekend Training ~

9:00 a.m. - Check-In  
9:30 a.m. - Training begins promptly

Sat	May 21	1st _____	2nd _____
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1:00 p.m. - Check-In  
1:30 p.m. - Training begins promptly

Sat	May 21	1st _____	2nd _____
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Mail / fax reservation to:

OCWS  
The Courtyard Training  
ATTN: Karen Ward  
P.O. Box 11059  
Costa Mesa, CA 92627

2011 Wine Auction  
 Saturday, May 7  
 12:00 — 6:00 p.m.  
 Building 16  
 Orange County Fair & Event Center  
 Costa Mesa

NOTE: No early check-outs!

2011 PYOL  
 Sunday, May 22  
 10:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.  
 Hangar Building  
 Orange County Fair & Event Center  
 Costa Mesa

~ Wine Auction Agenda ~

12:00 Registration & Check-in  
 12:00 Silent Auction commences  
 12:45 Verbal Auction (every ½ hour)  
 5:30-6:00 Wine Pick-up and Payment  
 (cash, check, or credit card)

~ Ticket Information ~

For reservations, complete and fax or mail to the OCWS office. Due to the inexpensive ticket price, no refunds will be made.

Member \_\_\_\_\_  
 Co-Member \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City & Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Day Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Night Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Tickets @ \$20 (OCWS Members Only) \_\_\_\_\_

~ Payment ~

Personal Check  
 Credit Card  
 Credit Card number on file

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_  
 V Code \_\_\_\_\_  
 Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
 Total Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

~ Volunteer Sign-Up ~

I / we can help with:  
 Registration  
 Set-Up  
 Wine Mover  
 Food Preparation  
 Checkout / Financial

Mail / fax reservation to:

OCWS Wine Auction & PYOL  
 P.O. Box 11059  
 Costa Mesa, CA 92627

2011 Winemaker Invitational Golf Tournament  
 Thursday, June 2  
 Oak Creek Golf Course  
 One Golf Club Drive  
 Irvine

Member \_\_\_\_\_  
 Golf  Reception  Both  
 Handicap \_\_\_\_\_ or Average Score \_\_\_\_\_

Co-Member \_\_\_\_\_  
 Golf  Reception  Both  
 Handicap \_\_\_\_\_ or Average Score \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City & Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Day Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Night Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email \_\_\_\_\_

1 - Guest \_\_\_\_\_  
 Golf  Reception  Both  
 Handicap \_\_\_\_\_ or Average Score \_\_\_\_\_

2 - Guest \_\_\_\_\_  
 Golf  Reception  Both  
 Handicap \_\_\_\_\_ or Average Score \_\_\_\_\_

3 - Guest \_\_\_\_\_  
 Golf  Reception  Both  
 Handicap \_\_\_\_\_ or Average Score \_\_\_\_\_

~ Payment ~

Golf: Members: \$105 Guests: \$115  
 Reception: Members: \$50 Guests: \$60  
 Both: Members: \$150 Guests: \$170

~ Winemaker Sponsorship (\$150 package) ~

I would like to sponsor a winemaker  
 (Winemaker name) \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Winemaker name) \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Winemaker name) \_\_\_\_\_

Personal Check  
 Credit Card  
 Credit Card number on file

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_  
 V Code \_\_\_\_\_  
 Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
 Total Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Deadline for reservations is Friday, May 20. All reservations must be paid in advance, either by check or credit card and may be made by mail, website, or fax. All website, or fax reservations are credit card only. No refunds will be permitted for this event. For information, contact Carolyn Schoff at ocwsschoff@gmail.com.

Mail / fax reservation to:

OCWS  
 Winemaker Invitational Golf Tournament  
 P.O. Box 11059  
 Costa Mesa, CA 92627

Mini-Tasting  
 "Meritage Wines"  
 Saturday, May 28  
 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.  
 All Locations TBA

Member \_\_\_\_\_  
 Co-Member \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City & Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Day Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Night Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Members @ \$35 each \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Guests @ \$35 each \_\_\_\_\_

~ Payment ~

Personal Check  
 Credit Card  
 Credit Card number on file

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_

V Code \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

~ Volunteer Sign-Up ~

I would like to host a future Mini-Tasting. My residence can accommodate 16 people.

Deadline for reservations is Wednesday, May 18. All reservations must be paid in advance, either by check or credit card and may be made by mail, website, or fax. All website, or fax reservations are credit card only. Since the wine must be purchased in advance, no refunds will be made after the cutoff date unless there is a waiting list and your reservation can be filled by someone else. For information, call the OCWS office at 714.708.1636.

Mail / fax reservation to:

OCWS  
 Meritage Mini-Tasting  
 P.O. Box 11059  
 Costa Mesa, CA 92627

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Follow us on Facebook!

Join us on Yahoo!Groups...  
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/OCWineSociety/>

*The Wine Press*  
Orange County Wine Society, Inc.  
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