

The Wine Press

Dennis' Dialogue...

Volume 33, Issue 6 ~ June 2009

It's June and now it's the real "crunch time." The annual Orange County Fair Commercial Wine Competition will be held the first weekend of June and the Homewine Competition the second weekend. We are in the process of finalizing the planning for The Courtyard during the Fair and will be sorting all the wine entries for stocking the wine cellar. This is our most critical and important time of the year as we complete preparations for the Commercial Wine Competition, the Homewine Competition, the OC Fair Courtyard, and the Wine Classic in August. It

can't be done without your support, so I want to invite you all to once again come out and provide your valuable contributions to these work efforts.

The May tasting program was conducted by John Eppler of JRE Wines. Attendees enjoyed a wide selection of "big red" wines. This tasting concludes our spring series of introducing members to winemakers and wineries.

Be sure to check out the sign-up sheet for volunteering to work The Courtyard during the Fair. This year

the Fair was extended and now includes five weekends. Working The Courtyard is a great opportunity to meet other members, have some fun, and help introduce the public to various wine varietals. Fair assignments are made on a first-come, first-served basis. If you expect to receive your preferred volunteer slots, you must complete and return the sheet as soon as possible.

Check out our website (ocws.org) and think about next year's election for the

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June Mini-Tasting ~ "OC Fair Gold" ~ Last Call!

This is your "last call" for the third Mini-Tasting of the year. This event will be held on Saturday, June 27, at 6:00 p.m. at various host sites.

Fourteen wines will be provided and grouped into seven flights for serving at each site. This tasting will include sparkling, white, red, and dessert wines.






The cutoff date for signing up is always ten days prior to event—so please don't wait until the last day to sign-up. This is a very popular Mini-Tasting that sells out very quickly each year and some sites tend to fill up quickly. Bottom line: get your reservations in early. If you are signing up with a guest, please indicate this on your sign up

form.

Host sites will be announced to those attending approximately one week prior to the event, including directions and a map to your host site. Every effort is made to place you at a location nearest your home or to accommodate your

Continued on page 3)

June 2009

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				

June

- 6-7 Commercial Wine Competition ~ Hilton Hotel ~ Costa Mesa
- 13 Homewine Competition ~ OFEC ~ Details in newsletter
- 20 Sorting & Ribbon Mailing Party ~ OFEC
- 27 Mini-Tasting ~ "OC Fair Gold Medalists" ~ Details in newsletter

July

- 10-31 The Courtyard activities at the OC Fair
- 25 Homewine Competition Brunch ~ Details TBA

August

- 1-9 The Courtyard activities at the OC Fair
- 16 Wine Classic ~ Anaheim Hilton Hotel ~ Details in newsletter
- 2-6 Homewine ~ Russian River Campout and Winery Tours ~ Details TBA

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The Wine Press is the official newsletter of the Orange County Wine Society, Inc. If no one procrastinates too much, it is published monthly. Annual subscriptions are complimentary with membership into the OCWS. 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.

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Dennis' Dialogue... (Cont'd)

(Continued from page 1)

Board of Directors. Look for articles in this and upcoming newsletters on how to participate and be part of the team coordinating our future activities.

I look forward to seeing you at the Commercial Wine and Homewine Competitions and remember to always drink responsibly at our events.

Dennis Esslinger

June Mini-Tasting... (Cont'd)

(Continued from page 1)

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. The cost to attend is \$25 for members and \$30 for non-members. Each person attending is requested to bring a potluck dish (appetizer, entrée, or side dish) to serve at least 8 to 10 people and designed to match the theme of the tasting (couples may need to double the recipe).

As usual, there will be a special bottle of wine that evening as a prize for the Chef-of-the-Evening. Get out those gourmet cookbooks and try something special to share. Chefs-of-the-evening may have their recipe published on the OCWS website. Recipes may be found either in your favorite cook book or try a couple from the web.

To attend, just complete the sign-up sheet in the newsletter or sign-up on the OCWS website. We are currently planning only six sites, so this Mini-Tasting is limited to a maximum of 96 attendees. Wines for the evening are selected and purchased approximately one week prior to the event. Therefore, unless there is a waiting list you will not be refunded your money if you cannot attend. Your cut-off date for signing up is Wednesday, June 17.

Desserts may be limited at the discretion of the host. Each attendee is requested to call your host 2 to 4 days prior to the tasting to advise the host what food you are bringing to the tasting. Using this approach, attendees will enjoy a greater variety of food pairings with delicious wines. Once again, this is a sell-out event. Get your reservations in today!

***Bon Appétit,
Jim Beard***

Dine With Wine

I'll tell you that May was a very good month for Dine With Wine! On May 4, thirty-seven OCWS members and friends enjoyed an evening at the Pacific Whey restaurant at South Coast Plaza. Then on May 18, several OCWS members enjoyed a tantalizing night on Newport Bay at the Balboa Bay Club's First Cabin Restaurant.

I really enjoyed the evening at Pacific Whey. It began with appetizers and wine on the Patio with friends getting reacquainted and new friends being made. There were some delicious wines shared, a bit of bubbly, and a nice selection of cheese and blue fin crab cakes. There was even more wine shared once we walked back into the restaurant, sitting down to our remaining courses. The food was very good and the company was even better! What I enjoyed most out of the evening was meeting our newer members and their friends. These dinners have come to be a great first outing for newer members!

I'll have to update you about our outing to First Cabin in the July issue of The Wine Press. It's just a few days away at the time of this writing. I can't wait to tell you what an outstanding evening it was! Additional Dine With Wine events are being scheduled for July and August. Look for upcoming e-blasts for more information.

Recruiting Additional Restaurants

I have received a few phone calls lately from members telling me about their favorite restaurants and asking for our Dine With Wine dinners to be planned there. Please keep those phone calls coming! To help me, what I ask is that you let them know that we would love to recruit them to support the Wine Classic or Wine Extraordinaire. We would like them to join us first with a selection of food that best represents their restaurant. We encourage them to provide print material to advertise and draw our members and event participants back to their restaurant, as well. In return, we'll bring a number of our members back to their restaurant for a Dine With Wine dinner to thank them for participating in our event. It's a win-win situation for both of us! It affords the restaurant some outstanding exposure with the public and our members, along with contact with over 100 winery representatives, all in one place!

For more information about our Dine With Wine Dinners with our supporting restaurants, please feel free to contact me at kcmagnum@aol.com or kevin@ocws.org.

This year's Wine Extraordinaire supporting restaurants:

Abbondonza Bistro & Catering – Newport Beach

Carvao Grill – Brea

Dave & Busters – The Block at Orange

First Cabin at the Balboa Bay Club – Newport Beach

*Mad Mike's Sausages at Booster's Sports Grill –
Mission Viejo*

Olive Garden – Irvine

Pacific Whey Café – Costa Mesa

Pavia – Hilton of Anaheim

Sage at Eastbluff and Sage On The Coast – Newport Beach

The Hobbit – Orange

The Melting Pot – Brea and Irvine

The Orange County Food & Wine Center – Costa Mesa

VINDUVIN Wine Tasting Cruises – Newport Beach

Kevin Coy

On The Lighter Side...

Clean humor can still be funny...

One day, a man came home and was greeted by his wife dressed in a very sexy nightie. "Tie me up," she purred, "and you can do anything you want." So he tied her up and went golfing.

A woman came home, screeching her car into the driveway, and ran into the house. She slammed the door and shouted at the top of her lungs, "Honey, pack your bags. I won the lottery!" The husband said, "Oh my God! What should I pack, beach stuff or mountain stuff?" "Doesn't matter," she said. "Just get out."

Marriage is a relationship in which one person is always right and the other is a husband.

*A Polish immigrant went to the DMV to apply for a driver's license. First, of course, he had to take an eye sight test. The optician showed him a card with the letters
"C Z W I X N O S T A C Z."*

"Can you read this?" the optician asked. "Read it?" the Polish guy replied, "I know the guy."

A wife was making a breakfast of fried eggs for her husband. Suddenly, her husband burst into the kitchen. "Careful," he said, "Careful! Put in some more butter! Oh my gosh! You're cooking too many at once. Too many! Turn them! Turn them now! We need more butter. Oh my gosh! Where are we going to get more butter? They're going to stick! Careful. Careful! I said be careful! You never listen to me when you're cooking! Never! Turn them! Hurry up! Are you crazy? Have you lost your mind? Don't forget to salt them. You know you always forget to salt them. Use the! salt. Use the sale! The salt." The wife stared at him. "What in the world is wrong with you? You think I don't know how to fry a couple of eggs?" The husband calmly replied, "I just wanted to show you what it feels like when I'm driving."

Fifty-one years ago, Herman James, a North Carolina mountain man, was drafted by the Army. On his first day in basic training, the Army issued him a comb. That afternoon, the Army barber sheared off all his hair. On his second day, the Army issued Herman a toothbrush. That afternoon the Army dentist yanked seven of his teeth. On the third day, the Army issued him a jock strap. The Army has been looking for Herman for 51 years.

Mother Superior called all the nuns together and said to them, "I must tell you all something. We have a case of gonorrhoea in the convent." "Thank God," said an elderly nun at the back. "I'm so tired of Chardonnay."

Changes To Our By-laws

Each year, the By-laws Committee meets to determine if any changes need to be proposed to the membership for a By-laws change or amendment. This year is no exception. The committee met and has developed several amendments to the By-laws.

For those of you who don't know exactly what Bylaws are—they are the foundation of our organization. They are like the blueprint for a house. The blueprint will show where the kitchen and bathrooms are going to be placed but they do not explain how to install the pipes for the plumbing. Therefore, By-laws don't specify how an event is going to be done or even specifically name an event (excluding the Board of Director Meetings, and the Annual Business Meeting and Election). The actual event as well as when and how the chairperson is going to run the event are found in our guidelines, procedures, and operations manuals. Keeping that in mind, if you have a suggestion for a By-law change, please provide your recommendation to me by July 30.

Time is of the essence. Your recommended change needs to be reviewed by the By-laws Committee and possibly legal counsel to ascertain if the change will violate any state or federal law. If the suggestion is determined to be valid, it will be included on the election ballot for the membership to cast their ultimate acceptance or rejection. If you need to review the current By-laws, a copy is available on the OCWS website. If you notify me, I can also provide a copy electronically.

Richard Ward
By-law Chairperson

Wine Auction & PYOL Results

Both events are now behind us with another success attributed to the Orange County Wine Society! Best part about this story is....members happily enjoying new wine while the OCWS enjoys another outstanding fund-raising venture.

Of course, both events couldn't possibly have been so successful without the countless volunteer hours of our Cellar Crew. I am always astonished to realize the amount of time our members contribute to make each and every event a huge success. The Auction and PYOL demands the sorting, bagging, boxing, and cataloging of over 8,000 bottles of wine. To the members who assisted in this behind-the-scenes endeavor—my hat is off to you! Thank you, thank you, thank you! And I would be remiss not to mention the countless hours that Dennis and Carol Esslinger donated with the requisite computer input of all the lots that make up that multi-page bidder's catalog. Thanks very much to both of you as well!

Additionally, there are many, many volunteers who donated their time with planning, facilities, logistics, food preparation, computer support, event set-up and tear-down, registration, and check-out. Vivian Owens, Robyn Strom, Virginia Kawai, and all of our helpers outdid themselves this year on the preparation and display of this year's Wine Auction food table! Charley Owen, as always, another great job with set-up for both events! And a big "Thank You" to our auctioneer—John Goodnight. Of course, we can't forget all of our wine pourers who were supervised by Rochelle Randel and Carolyn Schoff. Thanks for keeping us happy during the Wine Auction!

This Year's Big Spenders

Each year, the OCWS recognizes the Wine Auction's top spenders. These are the brave men and women who bare it all—wallets, checkbooks, jewelry, their first-born, and home mortgages to purchase outstanding wine at outstanding prices. Those printed below are warmly thanked and recognized as this year's Big Spenders! Each will receive complimentary tickets to the 2009 Wine Classic. A special thank you to each one of you for your support.

Our "Big Spenders"

*Richard Okinaka
David and Gail Hirstein
Bruce and Cathy Menke
Stacey and Wendy Taylor
Bill and Lois Clark
CK and Laurel Allen
Dick Dadourian
Bill and Kathy Schymick
Ron and Donna Phelps*

The Wine Auction and PYOL have been consistently successful fundraisers for the OCWS. Proceeds from these two events go a long way towards funding the Commercial and Homewine Competitions as well as our Scholarship Program.

Thanks to all of you who attended this year. Your support and contributions are greatly appreciated.

Now go out and enjoy all that wine you purchased!

Kevin Coy

Wine Auction / PYOL Coordinator

Membership ~ “Who’s New?”

The OCWS would like to welcome the following new members whose membership in the organization was approved by the Board of Directors at the April Board meeting.

*Robert Burk
Racquel Chappell
John Gentsch
Mike McCarthy and Steve Van Horn
Brandy McKay
Sean and Dee Dee McNally
Mike Pascale
Kristine Weatherly*

We are pleased to welcome you to the OCWS and encourage you to attend as many of our functions as your time permits. Most new members really get to know the Society and its members by volunteering to help with one or more of our events. There are several important events coming in the next few months. Volunteering at the Orange County Fair in The Courtyard is a great way to meet other members of the Wine Society. The Fair begins on July 10 and runs through August 9. Following the Fair, the OCWS will hold the Wine Classic on August 16 at the Anaheim Hilton Hotel.

More information on these events and volunteer sign-up forms are located in the newsletter and on the web site.

As of the April Board of Directors’ Meeting, there are 994 members consisting of 392 dual memberships and 210 single memberships.

Leslie Brown
Membership Chair

Save The Date...

The Catalina Island Women’s Forum will hold their 10 annual Wine Tasting Event supporting several local charities on the island.

This year’s event will be held on September 26. More information and sign-up forms will be available in next month’s edition of *The Wine Press*.

Leslie Brown
Catalina Event Coordinator

Winemaker Newsroom

OCFEC Homewine Competition Judges

Every year, we look to add new, qualified judges to our competition roster. Prospective judges should be persons who have a good knowledge of wine and preferably, previous judging experience. These may include those in the Wine Industry; commercial winemakers, and amateur winemakers who can not only evaluate wines, but also can write constructive comments on the wines they are judging. Generally, new judges are assigned to a panel of judges who have previous judging experience. If you know of anyone who may possess these qualifications and would be interested in judging, please send their names to the OCWS office to the attention of the Judging Chairman and we will send them an invitation.

Rich McCormick will be our Judging Chairman again this year. You may contact the OCWS office and leave a message and an application will be sent to you or contact Rich McCormick at 949.497.2982 or e-mail to rdmccormick@cox.net. Rich also has an OCWS e-mail which you can access on the OCWS web page, under the Board of Directors.

Stewards Needed – No Experience Necessary

Good Food, Fun, Wines & Company

33rd OCFEC Homewine Competition

Saturday, June 13, 2009

7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The Courtyard

OC Fair & Event Center

The OCWS, in conjunction with the OC Fair, sponsors one of the largest and most prestigious homewine competitions in California devoted to amateur winemaking and is highly recognized throughout the state. Last year, we had 724 entries. Besides the competition staff and judges, stewards are needed to assist with a variety of tasks, all coming together to make this competition as successful as our Commercial Competition.

The stewards are provided with a continental breakfast in the morning, as well as lunch. After lunch, you are also invited to taste the award-winning wines and have an opportunity to talk with the judges and winemakers.

We would be pleased to have you join us and assist us with this event. Please FAX or mail the sign-up sheet as soon as possible. For more information, contact: Rob or Germaine Romano at ocws@dementedfermenters.com or phone 714.744.0778. Please respond as soon as possible so that the assignments can be made.

Excess Fruit For Winemaking

There are a number of members of the Homewine Group who make fruit wines. Now that summer is fast approaching, various types of fruit will be ripening in many backyards. Many times, there is an excess of fruit that people cannot use that would be good for making wine and generally goes to waste.

If any of the OCWS members have excess fruit or knows of someone that has excess fruit that they would like to give to a winemaker, contact Jim Graver at 949.581.9599 or e-mail to winemaster72@earthlink.net and that information will be passed on to one of the winemakers. We use all types of fruit. Maybe you can make a deal to trade your fruit for some of the finished wine.

*For the Winemaker Group,
Jim Graver*

“California Gold: An OCWS Wine Classic Event”

The Wine Classic is now just two short months away and your Wine Classic Committee is busy planning marketing strategies and event particulars. This public wine tasting event, one of two such events we host throughout the year, is titled *California Gold: An OCWS Wine Classic Event*. It is set for Sunday, August 16; once again at the Anaheim Hilton's California Ballroom. It's an event not to be missed! So I hope to see you all there!

Ticket prices will once again be \$45 for members, \$50 for non-members, and \$25 for designated drivers. We're also offering the member price of \$45 per person with groups of 10 or more. After July 31, tickets will increase to \$60. Price will again include a Riedel wine glass, over 100 award-winning wineries, 10 to 15 local outstanding restaurants, an exceptional silent auction and raffle, and several vendors. You'll also be able to enjoy member Rich Skoczylas' outstanding chocolate creations. You can't beat the price enjoying outstanding food and award-winning California wine for three hours on a Sunday afternoon.

The purpose of The Wine Classic event is to feature many of the award-winning wineries from the annual Orange County Fair Commercial Wine Competition. There will be plenty of Gold Medal California wineries serving at this event. We hold this event to showcase the award-winning wineries to the public, to showcase the OCWS, and to raise funds for our Scholarship Program. Please mark your calendars, tell your friends, tell your neighbors, tell your co-workers, and those sitting beside you at your local wine bar and restaurant.

Volunteer application forms have already started to arrive at the OCWS Office. Remember, it's first come, first served to fill those volunteer spots. Send your application in soon if you are looking for a specific volunteer position. But don't worry, there are close to 125 volunteer positions available for the Wine Classic. Which means that we really need your help and support to fill all those positions. All shifts require a two-hour commitment. In turn, you'll receive a \$20 rebate off of your admission ticket. OCWS member Agnes Grogan has graciously accepted the Volunteer Coordinator position and she's happily awaiting your volunteer application forms. For additional volunteer information, please contact Agnes at vgassoc@verizon.net.

Just a reminder: all volunteers must pay for their ticket to the event before their volunteer request will be processed. Please make sure to list your e-mail address on the sign-up form as it is much easier to send your assignment confirmation via e-mail. Also, please do not discount your ticket price when purchasing your ticket. Rebates will be sent to the volunteers after the event.

Don't forget that we're also asking for your assistance in selling the Wine Classic to friends, family, co-workers, teachers, acquaintances, and everyone that you can think of. If you're

working the OC Fair Wine Courtyard, we'd sincerely appreciate your assistance in selling Wine Classic tickets to our wine tasting customers. There will be a contest with two free Wine Classic tickets each going to the top two sales persons!

Remember, we're always looking for new restaurant and food purveyors. Once again, if you recruit a restaurant or food purveyor that agrees to participate in the Wine Classic, you'll receive two free tickets! Please talk to your local restaurant managers and owners. Tell them we will return to them with a large party of OCWS members and friends for dinner as part of our Dine With Wine Program and will link their website to the OCWS website.

Ticket Information

Now through Friday, July 31

OCWS Members - \$45

Non-Members - \$50

Group Sales - \$45 per person with groups 10 or more
Designated Drivers - \$25
(no group sales rates)

August 1 to Day of Event

All Participants - \$60

Designated Drivers - \$25

Please refer to the next page for the Volunteer Sign-up Form and the last pages of the newsletter for the event sign-up form. For additional questions regarding the event, please contact Event Chair, Kevin Coy at kcmagnum@aol.com or kevin@ocws.org.

Please join us to make the 2009 Wine Classic an outstanding event!

Kevin Coy

2009 Wine Classic Volunteer Sign-Up

Member _____ Address _____ Day Phone _____ Email address _____	Co-Member _____ City & Zip _____ Night Phone _____
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Please complete and mail/fax to the OCWS office (fax 714.546.5002). Volunteer shifts will be filled in the order they are received. Ticket purchase must accompany volunteer sign-up (see back of newsletter for ticket purchase form.)

Select the shift(s) desired. Choosing more than one shift increases chances. Circle M for Member or C for Co-Member

1st 2nd	M	1st 2nd	C	AREA	ASSIGNMENT	SHIFT HOURS	SHIFTS REQ'D
	M		C	Guest Check-In	Guest Check-In	1:00 - 3:00	10
	M		C	Guest Check-In	Guest Late Check-In / Clean-Up	1:30 - 3:30	2
	M		C	Vendor Check-In	Food / Winery Check-In	10:45 - 12:45	4
	M		C	Vendor Check-In	Food / Winery Check-In	12:45 - 2:45	4
	M		C	Vendor Check-In	Food / Winery Check-In	1:00 - 3:00	1
	M		C	Vendor Check-In	Wine / Food Escort	10:45 - 12:45	2
	M		C	Vendor Check-In	Wine / Food Escort	12:30 - 2:30	4
	M		C	Dock	Wine / Food Mover	10:45 - 12:45	5
	M		C	Dock	Wine / Food Mover - Elevator Operator	12:30 - 2:30	1
	M		C	Dock	Wine / Food Mover	12:30 - 2:30	5
	M		C	Dock	Wine / Food Mover	4:00 - 6:00	2
	M		C	Raffle	Raffle Ticket Sales	1:30 - 3:30	5
	M		C	Raffle	Raffle Ticket Sales	3:30 - 5:30	5
	M		C	Raffle	Raffle Assistant	1:00 - 3:00	2
	M		C	Raffle	Raffle Assistant	1:30 - 3:30	2
	M		C	Raffle	Raffle Assistant	3:30 - 5:30	4
	M		C	Raffle	Raffle Assistant / Clean-Up	4:00 - 6:00	2
	M		C	Restaurants	Restaurant Set-Up	11:00 - 1:00	2
	M		C	Restaurants	Restaurant Server	1:30 - 3:30	2
	M		C	Restaurants	Food Supplies (Re-stock)	1:30 - 3:30	2
	M		C	Restaurants	Food Supplies (Re-stock / Clean-Up)	3:30 - 5:30	2
	M		C	Restaurants	Food Clean-Up / General Clean-Up	4:00 - 6:00	2
	M		C	Security	Security	11:30 - 1:30	2
	M		C	Security	Security	1:30 - 3:30	2
	M		C	Security	Security	3:30 - 5:30	2
	M		C	Silent Auction	Silent Auction Assistant	12:00 - 2:00	6
	M		C	Silent Auction	Silent Auction Assistant - Security	2:00 - 4:00	1
	M		C	Silent Auction	Silent Auction Assistant	3:30 - 5:30	1
	M		C	Silent Auction	Silent Auction Assistant	4:00 - 6:00	4
	M		C	Wineries	Wine Pourer	1:30 - 3:30	6
	M		C	Wineries	Wine Pourer	3:30 - 5:30	6
	M		C	Wineries	Winery Relief	3:30 - 5:30	4

“The Courtyard” at the Orange County Fair

The 2009 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 10, and ends on Sunday, August 9. This includes four full weeks and five weekends; three days longer than last year. Income received at The Courtyard helps the OCWS defray the cost of conducting the two OCFEC wine competitions—the Commercial Competition and the Homewine Competition. Additionally, revenue generated also greatly assists in meeting our monthly office expenses and helps to fund our Scholarship Program.

The current Volunteer Sign-Up Form is available on the OCWS website. Please log on and visit our site as it contains the most current updates and available shifts which still need to be filled.

As a concessionaire at the fair, the OCWS must adhere to contractual requirements established by the Orange County Fair & Event Center Board of Directors and Staff. This year, the OCFEC continues its requirement that all OCWS volunteers be “professionally trained and certified in alcohol awareness techniques.” Individuals who took TIPS training in 2007 and 2008 have fulfilled the requirement for this year’s fair. If you have not attended a recertification or a new class this year, you are out of luck until next year. All of the scheduled TIPS training classes were completed by the end of May.

Please take this opportunity to sign up now as a Courtyard volunteer. Every effort will be made to assign you to shifts and duties that you select. You will be called if your requests cannot be honored. 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 weekday nights and Sunday nights (8:00 –11:30 p.m.). When submitting your sign-up form, please consider volunteering for one or more of these shifts.

New this year, we are going to have an “Express Bar” from 5:00 to 9:00 p.m. daily. We will only be serving four wines: Chardonnay, another white wine, Cabernet Sauvignon, and Pinot Noir. An 8 oz. glass will be served for \$8. No tastes or drink tickets will be honored. The Express Bar is designed to speed up the serving process for fair customers who are headed for the concerts. Therefore, we will need six volunteers to staff this function including four servers, a cashier, and a steward. When you sign up, please consider this venue.

Assignments will be made on a first-come basis so return the sign-up form as soon as possible, but no later than June 26. The availability of shifts will be periodically posted on the website and emailed to the membership. Your assignment will be confirmed by the end of June along with a copy of the Volunteer Procedures, your picture badge, and parking passes and instructions. Please contact Larry Graham at

949.551.0155 for questions concerning assignments or special parking needs.

“Think Big” is the theme of the 2009 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 staff The Courtyard.

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

See you at the Fair!

The Courtyard Committee

Wine Classic Silent Auction and Raffle Request

We're trying a new tactic this time for the Wine Classic in hopes of bolstering our Silent Auction and Raffle prizes.

Silent Auction Coordinator, Wendy Ralph, has done an outstanding job over the past couple of years putting together Silent Auction items and coordinating the Silent Auction. Kudos to you Wendy! Keep up the spectacular work!

Wendy is looking for additional "goodies" to make our prize table more enticing and we're looking to our members to assist with a donation. She'd like anything new and wine-related that might be sitting around your house. You know, those knick-knacks and gift items that you received, but just aren't sure what to do with—those (white elephant) items you received from your favorite winery, but which remain locked away in a closet in their original packaging. We will be happy to take them off your hands and will re-gift them into our Silent Auction baskets!

Perhaps as an auction item, you would be willing to arrange a golf date, or arrange a private outing at your favorite winery with your favorite winemaker? Perhaps you have the means to set-up a weekend get-a-way or to provide airline tickets for a get-a-way. Perhaps, it's time to clean-out your wine cellar? We'll gladly accept bottles from your private wine collection!

Wendy would also love to feature gift certificates from your favorite restaurants, hair salons, day spas, boutiques, and wine shops. How about gift cards from your local Target and

Home Depot, tickets to sporting events, plays, or movie tickets? We don't expect you to go out and purchase these items, but if you have a connection at a store or event that may provide a donation, please ask for us!

Maybe you own a store or operate a business and are looking for tax-deductible donations? Maybe the business you work for is looking for ways to provide charitable donations. The OCWS is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, which means that donations to the OCWS are tax deductible. We can provide a receipt upon request.

Please bring donated items to any future OCWS meeting from now until August and give them to Wendy Ralph, Kevin Coy, Janet Hammond, or any Board Member. Wendy will arrange for a pick-up if you like. Call her at 949.855.3031. You can also bring a donation to the Wine Classic event on August 16. Please write your name and phone number on any donated item.

A special thank you to the few who donated items for the Wine Extraordinaire Silent Auction! It's unbelievable what a few unused new items will bring at a Silent Auction.

Kevin Coy

Be An OCWS Board Member

2009 Election of Board of Directors

(Please read and consider stepping forward!)

The 2009 Election Committee

Bob Prill - Chairman
Mel Jay - Member
Craig Rowe - Member
Kevin Coy - Board Representative

The Election Process

The beginning of the three year terms of the nine members of the Board of Directors are staggered such that three member's terms will expire each year. The three vacated board positions will be filled each year by a vote of the OCWS membership, following the Annual Business Meeting, to be held this year on September 11.

To declare your candidacy for a position on the Board of Directors, the candidate must present their Declaration of Candidacy to the Election Committee in writing no later than August 28. The Declaration of Candidacy is to be accompanied by a simple written Statement of Qualifications.

At the Annual Business Meeting, all candidates are introduced and given the opportunity to address the membership regarding their qualifications and platform.

Following the Business Meeting, an Official Ballot will be mailed to each member. Each member may vote for up to three candidates. Ballots are to be returned no later than October 3. Votes will be counted by the Election Committee the following day. The three candidates receiving the largest number of votes are elected. The OCWS President will personally notify each candidate of the results. The new Directors will be inducted at a Board Meeting on October 6 and presented to the membership at the Installation Dinner on October 11.

Qualifications to the Board of Directors

(This could be you!)

1. Be a member-in-good-standing.
2. Have a general knowledge of OCWS events and activities.
3. Have experience as a volunteer or have participated on one or more OCWS event committees.
4. Possess organizational and management skills.
5. Be able to work with others.
6. Have some time to commit to your participation on the Board.

To declare your candidacy, or if you have any questions about the election process, Directors' responsibilities, or benefits of being a Director (there are several), please contact me at 714.692.9463 or e-mail to jobobyl@aol.com.

Bob Prill
2009 Election Chairman

2009 Wine Seminar Tickets

Here is your chance to purchase advance tickets to our featured Wine Seminars to be held during the OC Fair before they go on sale to the general public. Our seminars will only be conducted on Fair Saturdays and Sundays at 3:00 and 5:00 p.m. As you can see, we have added some new seminars to accommodate the extended fair schedule. Please use the order form on the adjacent column. Attendance is limited to 20 for each seminar.

All Seminars include: A 2009 Riedel Logo Fair Glass, a 2009 Award Book, 8 wines, assorted nibbles and munchies.

Cheese & Wine Seminars include: All of the above plus assorted cheeses paired with the wines.

Riedel Seminars include: All of the above plus a set of 4 Riedel tasting glasses (a \$90 value).

4-Star Gold Seminars include: All of the above except the wines are all 4-Star Gold Medal winners.

DAY	DATE	THEME	TIME	HOST	QTY	UNIT PRICE	TOTAL
Saturday	July 11	4-Star Gold Medalists	3:00	Chris Cunningham		\$30	
Saturday	July 11	Cabernet Sauvignon	5:00	Chris Cunningham		\$25	
Sunday	July 12	Riedel Stemware	3:00	Tammie Ward		\$60	
Sunday	July 12	Riedel Stemware	5:00	Tammie Ward		\$60	
Saturday	July 18	Chardonnay	3:00	Tony Marino		\$25	
Saturday	July 18	Pinot Noir	5:00	Greg Stoddard		\$25	
Sunday	July 19	Rhône Blends	3:00	Walter Reiss		\$25	
Sunday	July 19	Meritage Wines	5:00	Chris Cunningham		\$25	
Saturday	July 25	Cheese & Wine Pairing	3:00	Carol Frank		\$30	
Saturday	July 25	Syrah	5:00	Colleen Coman		\$25	
Sunday	July 26	4-Star Gold Medalists	3:00	Chris Cunningham		\$30	
Sunday	July 26	Cabernet Sauvignon	5:00	Chris Cunningham		\$25	
Saturday	August 1	Chardonnay	3:00	Tony Marino		\$25	
Saturday	August 1	Pinot Noir	5:00	Greg Stoddard		\$25	
Sunday	August 2	Riedel Stemware	3:00	Tammie Ward		\$60	
Sunday	August 2	Riedel Stemware	5:00	Tammie Ward		\$60	
Saturday	August 8	Cheese & Wine Pairing	3:00	Carol Frank		\$30	
Saturday	August 8	Zinfandel	5:00	Mark DeWitt		\$25	
Sunday	August 9	Merlot	3:00	Sam Puzzo		\$25	
Sunday	August 9	Fortified Wines	5:00	Charlie Owen		\$25	
TOTAL ENCLOSED							\$

2009 Orange County Fair
Wine Seminars
3:00 and 5:00 p.m.
The Courtyard
Orange County Fair & Event Center

Member _____

Co-Member _____

Address _____

City & Zip _____

Day Phone _____

Night Phone _____

Email _____

~ Ticket Information ~

Regular Seminars Tickets are \$25 each
Special Seminar Tickets are \$30 each
Riedel Seminar Tickets are \$60 each

~ Note ~

- ◆ Ticket price does not include admission or parking at the Fair
- ◆ Each Wine Seminar is limited to a maximum of 20 attendees
- ◆ The prompt submission of your sign-up will increase your opportunity to attend one or more of these special events

~ Payment ~

- Personal Check
- Credit Card
- Credit Card number on file

Card Number _____

V Code _____

Expiration Date _____

Signature _____

Total Enclosed _____

~ Requested Seminars & Times ~

Please complete the adjacent order form

Please mail my tickets to me

I will pick up my tickets at The Courtyard beginning July 1

Mail/fax this page to:

OCWS
2009 The Courtyard Seminars
P.O. Box 11059
Costa Mesa, CA 92627

2009 Wine Classic
Sunday, August 16, 2009
2:00 – 5:00 p.m.
Hilton Anaheim Hotel
777 Convention Way
Anaheim

Member _____

Co-Member _____

Address _____

City & Zip _____

Day Phone _____

Night Phone _____

Email _____

~ Ticket Information ~

Now through July 31...

Number of Member Tickets @ \$45 _____

Number of Non-Member Tickets @ \$50 _____

Designated Driver @ \$25 _____

August 1 to Event Date...

“At the Door” price for everyone @ \$60

Designated Driver @ \$25

~ Payment ~

Personal Check

Credit Card

Credit Card number on file

Card Number _____

V Code _____

Expiration Date _____

Signature _____

Total Enclosed _____

~ Volunteer Sign-Up ~

Please complete the Volunteer Sign-Up form
on page 10 and send in with your ticket pay-
ment.

Mail / fax reservation to:

OCWS
2009 Wine Classic
P.O. Box 11059
Costa Mesa, CA 92627

June Mini-Tasting
“Orange County Fair Gold Medalists”
Saturday, June 27, 2009
6:00 - 9:00 p.m.
All Locations TBA

Member _____

Co-Member _____

Address _____

City & Zip _____

Day Phone _____

Night Phone _____

Email _____

Number of Members @ \$25 each _____

Number of Guests @ \$30 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, June
17. 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 re-
funds 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
OC Fair Gold Mini-Tasting
P.O. Box 11059
Costa Mesa, CA 92627

2009 Orange County Fair
Homewine Competition Volunteer
7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
The Courtyard
Orange County Fair & Event Center

Yes! I/we would like to help as a volunteer for
the Homewine Competition...

Member _____

Co-Member _____

Address _____

City & Zip _____

Day Phone _____

Night Phone _____

Email _____

Please circle your preferences...

M C Stewarding

M C Arrive at 11:30 for lunch set-up
and clean-up after competition

M C Mailing Award Ribbons & Medals

M C Homewine Exhibit Set-Up during
Fair

M C Computer Data Entry

Please submit this volunteer form as soon as
possible. Mail to:

Rob Romano
OCWS Homewine Competition
379 N. Elk Glenn Lane
Orange, CA 92869

You may also email this volunteer sign-up to
Rob at ocws@dementedfermenters.com.

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