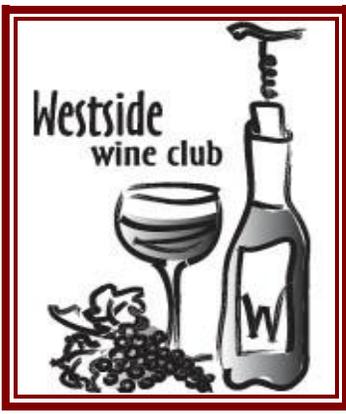


# West Side Wine Club

## January 2009



### 2009 Calendar

**January 21<sup>st</sup>**  
Plan for the year

**February 18<sup>th</sup>**  
Speaker?

**March 18<sup>th</sup>**  
Bordeaux tasting

**April 15<sup>th</sup>**  
Other Reds tasting

**May 20<sup>th</sup>**  
Speaker?

**May 23<sup>rd</sup>**  
Tour?

**June 17<sup>th</sup>**  
Speaker?

**June 20<sup>th</sup>**  
Tour?

**July**  
WSWC Annual Picnic!

**August 19<sup>th</sup>**  
Other Whites

**September**  
Awards Gala!

**October 21<sup>st</sup>**  
Pinot Noir tasting

**November 18<sup>th</sup>**  
Pinot Gris / Viognier

**December**  
Elections  
Speaker?

**Next Meeting:** January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2009 at 7 p.m.  
**Place:** Oak Knoll Winery  
**Subject:** Planning for the Year  
**Snacks:** Craig and Mindy Bush  
**Website:** <http://www.westsidewineclub.com/>  
**Message Board:** <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Westsidewineclub/>

### A few reminders:

- 1.) Be sure to bring a bottle of wine to share and a glass for the planning meeting.
- 2.) Name tags are distributed before the meeting. Come a little early to help set up so that we can start promptly at 7pm and end by 9pm.
- 3.) For all our protection, a waiver will be signed by all current and future members.
- 4.) Meetings begin at 7pm and end by 9pm. If you can get there a little early to help set up, please do, and be ready to put away chairs and tables at the end.
- 5.) Bring your entry (2 bottles) and fee (\$5 per entry, maximum of 2 entries) for Newport Seafood and Wine festival to the meeting and we will get them entered on time.
- 6.) Bring your wallet so you can pay your dues!

### Membership Fees and Waiver

#### Membership Fees Due

Dues are \$15 single, \$25 couple. Please bring a check to the next gathering, contact Treasurer Bill Spiller at [bill@nationalrentacomputer.com](mailto:bill@nationalrentacomputer.com) to send a check, or pay via PayPal to [bill@nationalrentacomputer.com](mailto:bill@nationalrentacomputer.com).

The yearly waiver will also need to be signed. Please print out the 2009 waiver form from our website at <http://www.westsidewineclub.com/current.html> and bring it with your check.

Membership gives you a chance to meet regularly with other winemakers to taste and judge our wines. You get an opportunity to hear speakers, take tours and attend social events with fellow winemakers. Membership includes access to group grape purchases, emails about equipment and grapes for sale, and advice on the club message board.

### January Holiday Potluck

Come celebrate the New Year at our annual Holiday potluck. We will be celebrating Saturday, January 24<sup>th</sup> at 6pm at the Portland Wine Storage which is located at 306 SE Ash St in Portland. The event fee is \$5 per Member and \$10 per Guest/Non-member.

**We need volunteers to prepare and bring protein dishes (to be reimbursed by the Club). Please let Mindy Bush [mbush@normthompson.com](mailto:mbush@normthompson.com) or Don Robinson [don\\_robinson\\_pdx@yahoo.com](mailto:don_robinson_pdx@yahoo.com) know if you can bring one of these protein dishes: Fish, Turkey, Beef, Lamb and Vegetarian Dish (These entrees are negotiable, so please see Mindy if you have another favorite protein dish that may work too.)**

**We also need a volunteer to provide the Water (reimbursed by the Club as well).**

## Just a note from the secretary's desk

Hi everyone, I was just writing a quick note to introduce myself. I am Elissa and I am excited about being this year's secretary. I just started getting into wine about 2 years ago and absolutely love it. I currently work at a wine shop in Tualatin and am attending Chemeketa Community College's Viticulture, Winemaking and Wine Marketing program. I hope to learn lots from there and from you my fellow winemakers. If you have any questions, concerns or things you want put into the newsletter please let me know. You can email me at [elissafenske@hotmail.com](mailto:elissafenske@hotmail.com)



1: Carboy of Chardonnay

## Planning Meeting January 21<sup>st</sup> Oak Knoll 7:00pm

Well its 2009 and its time to get the wheels a turning. Come to the January 21<sup>st</sup> meeting with a wine glass, some wine and let's hash out some ideas for the new year. There have been some ideas of going to Scott Paul Wines and other wineries. Do you have any ideas? Well come and share them.

I would also like to thank our 2008 leadership team for such a great job they did last year and it will be hard to fill their shoes. Let's carry on the tradition by having a great year and making some great wine!

## Wine Competitions

### Newport's Seafood & Wine Festival Amateur Wine Competition

It's time again for amateur winemakers from around the Northwest to begin preparing their entries for the **2009 Newport Seafood & Wine Amateur Winemaker's Tournament**.

This wine competition is open to amateur winemakers only and offers an opportunity for these individuals to have their wines independently evaluated by a panel of judges.

Wines are scored on a 20 point system based on sight, smell, taste and overall quality.

**Categories include:** Dry Fruit, Sweet Fruit, Dry Berry, Sweet Berry, White Vinifera, White Non-Vinifera, Red Vinifera, Red Non-Vinifera and Specialty, a category which includes all wines not found in other specified divisions.

Maximum of 2 entries per participant and it's a five dollar entry fee per wine. Winners will be awarded Bronze, Silver or Gold ribbons and one overall winner will be selected as Best of Show.

Make checks payable to the Greater Newport Chamber of Commerce. Entry forms and more information are at [http://www.newportchamber.org/seafood\\_wine.htm](http://www.newportchamber.org/seafood_wine.htm) The Festival will be held February 20, 21 & 22, 2009 so don't delay!

Entries to a non-Newport location (i.e. **F.H. Steinbart**, 234 SE 12th ST, Portland, OR 97214) or (Homebrew Heaven, 1292 12th St. SE in Salem.) are due by **January 23, 2009**.

**\*\*\*Bring entries and fees to the Jan 21<sup>st</sup> meeting and we will bring them to Steinbarts for you.**

# Meet the West Side Wine Club 2009 Leadership Team!



President: **Dana Blizzard**  
[danablizzard@comcast.net](mailto:danablizzard@comcast.net)  
Contact Dana with questions or ideas about the club. She is in charge.



Chairperson of Education: **Jon Kahrs**  
[jekahrs@aol.com](mailto:jekahrs@aol.com)  
Do you have a contact with an interesting speaker? Let Jon know about it.



Treasurer: **Bill Spiller**  
[nrac@msn.com](mailto:nrac@msn.com)  
Bill will collect your membership checks and waivers, and make sure the bills are paid.



Chair for Tastings and Group Purchases at Del Rio Vineyard: **Craig Bush** [pnoir1@verizon.net](mailto:pnoir1@verizon.net)  
If you have an idea for the tastings or would like to assist with them, please



Secretary: **Elissa Fenske**  
[elissafenske@hotmail.com](mailto:elissafenske@hotmail.com)  
Send Elissa anything you would like in the newsletter, and give her your name tags.



Chairs of Winery Tours: **Mike Smolak**  
[SmolakM@DimensionResources.com](mailto:SmolakM@DimensionResources.com)  
What kind of tours would you like to see in 2009? Please contact Mike with your ideas.



Cheers!



Web Content Editor: **Rick Kipper**  
[kips@lycos.com](mailto:kips@lycos.com)

## President's Musings



Some of my first thoughts of the New Year were about wine. After my initial contemplation of my love for bubbles, I dreamed of what the 2009 harvest will be like, and I became excited about the wines I would get to bottle and share with my friends this year. I also became very excited for the people I would meet and the things I would learn while making and drinking wine.

My appreciation for the West Side Wine Club grows as I think of all the opportunities it provides; group grape buys, spectacular wine tastings to develop my pallet, people to ask questions to when things go wrong in winemaking, guest speakers, wine competitions, summer picnics, and galas! I never thought I was one for galas until I met one hosted by WSWC.

Today, however, I was faced with the unromantic side of winemaking. Elissa and I are refurbishing the vineyard that many of you toured during our July picnic. In the pouring rain we attempted to rip out phylloxera damaged vines, the tractor became stuck in the mud and spit up globs of mud at us and we tried to work. We eventually moved on to pruning which, in our overgrown vineyard, required a chainsaw and heavy pruning that means no harvest this fall .

We also did some calculating for the new vines that arrive in February. After explaining all this hard work I'm doing, my friends are disbelieving when they ask "and you don't get a crop for the first 3 years?" I again appreciate the WSWC as a place to share my excitement, stories, and commitment to a great glass of wine.

I also did some reflecting back on the last year, the cold uncertain spring leading through the summer to one of the most spectacular Octobers ever, my first time working a commercial crush, running into fellow member Andria Shirk at Davidsons precisely when I needed her expert advice, having a fabulous time with President Don Robinson and Jon Kahrs at the southern Oregon Wine Tasting, drinking Craig Bush's 1992 Chardonnay that he made from the vineyard I grew up in, and calling on the Hausers many times for their enology advice.

I realized how important this club is to amateur winemakers, so I can't help but look forward to this year as President of WSWC. January is such a cold nasty month that I often remind myself of the words of our former President Don Robinson: "several things are certain: over-priced wines from Domaine Serene, death, taxes, and warmer weather during springtime!"

Cheers to 2009!

Dana Blizzard

# West Side Wine Club Leadership Team – 2009

President: **Dana Blizzard** [danablizzard@comcast.net](mailto:danablizzard@comcast.net)

- Set agenda for the year
- Establish leadership team
- Assure that objectives for the year are met
- Set up and run meetings

Treasurer: **Bill Spiller** [nrac@msn.com](mailto:nrac@msn.com)

- Collect dues and fees, update membership list with secretary
- Pay bills

Secretary: **Elissa Fenske** [elissafenske@hotmail.com](mailto:elissafenske@hotmail.com)

- Communicate regularly about club activities and issues
- Monthly newsletter on first Wednesday
- Prepare meeting agenda
- Keep updated list of members, nametags and other data
- Club message board invitations

Chairperson of Education: **Jon Kahrs** [jekahrs@aol.com](mailto:jekahrs@aol.com)

- Arrange speakers for our meetings

Chairs for Tastings: **Craig Bush** [pnoir1@verizon.net](mailto:pnoir1@verizon.net)

- Conduct club tastings
- Review and improve club tasting procedures

Chairs of Winery Tours: **Mike Smolak**  
[SmolakM@DimensionResources.com](mailto:SmolakM@DimensionResources.com)

- Select wineries to visit
- Arrange tours
- Cover logistics (food and money)
- Winery Tour 1
- Winery Tour 2

Web Content Editor: **Rick Kipper**

Webmaster: **David Ladd**

Chairs of Group Purchases

The chairperson makes the arrangements to purchase, collect, and distribute.

- Chandler Reach Vineyard –**OPEN**
- Del Rio Vineyard – **Craig Bush**  
[pnoir1@verizon.net](mailto:pnoir1@verizon.net)
- Supplies – These should be passed to the President for distribution

Chairwoman of Competitions: **Miriam Schnepf**

- Work with Washington County Fair staff
- Encourage club participation in County Fair
- President will be the contact for the Oregon State Fair.

Chairs for Social Events: **OPEN**

- Summer picnic
- Awards Gala
- Holiday Potluck