



West Side Wine Club

September 2009

Next Meeting: Wednesday, October 21, 2009 at 7 p.m.
Place: Oak Knoll Winery
Subject: Pinot Noir Tasting
Snacks: Scott Nelson
Website: <http://www.westsidewineclub.com/>
Message Board: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Westsidewineclub/>

A few reminders:

- 1.) Please have your wines to taste at the meeting no later than 6:55 pm. Wines brought in after that time will be held in reserve to taste as time allows.
- 2.) No commercial wines
- 3.) Be sure to bring two bottles of the wine to be tasted and two glasses.
- 4.) 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.
- 5.) Please print your own tasting score sheets prior to coming to the meeting. Go to <http://www.westsidewineclub.com/docs/ScoresheetWSWC.pdf> and print out enough sheets to judge 10 wines.
- 6.) For all our protection, a waiver will be signed by all current and future members.
- 7.) 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.

August Meeting Notes

President Dana Blizzard opened the meeting and we reviewed the dates for annual wine competitions. We motioned to keep the deadlines for these events posted on the calendar. The next major wine competition will be The Newport Wine and Seafood. This will be held in January of 2010. There will be more information as we approach the New Year. This will give any member who wants to enter a wine plenty of time to prepare.

What is light, refreshing, and the perfect drink on a hot summer night? That is right! White wines and this was a superb choice for our August West Side Wine Club summer meeting. The wines at our last meeting all had good color, clarity, and finesse. We tasted a Zinfandel with a slight splash of color. Two Gewurztraminers made similarly, neither went through malolactic fermentation. One was a 2007 and the other was a 2008. Then we tried a Chardonnay. All of these wines scored high on my point sheet. They were crisp, clear, and had just the right acidity.

Our next tastings will feature Pinot Noir which is the wine our Willamette Valley climate is famous for producing because of its outstanding quality. I hope to see everyone at this meeting.

January 21st

Plan for the year

February 7th

Scott Paul Tour

February 18th

Bordeaux tasting

March 18th

Crush talk/Open

April 15th

Other Reds tasting

May 2nd

Winery Tours

May 20th

Label One/Winery tour talk

June 17th

Fruit Wine/Mead

June 20th

Clear Creek Distillery Tour

August 15 or 22 TBD

WSWC Annual Picnic!

August 19th

Other Whites

September

Awards gala moved to holiday party

October 21st

Pinot Noir tasting

November 18th

Pinot Gris / Viognier

December

Elections /Crush Talk

**Willamette Valley
Grape Growers Group**

Meetings are open to everyone who finds it useful. There are no official memberships or dues. They meet the first Tuesday night of the month for a no-host dinner at 6pm, with a speaker at 7pm.

Meetings are held at MiNas Restaurant at McNary Golf Course
155 McNary Estates Drive,
Keizer, OR
503-393-4111

For more information contact Growers Groups Program Director Betty O'Brien at eltonvines@yahoo.com

Picnic at the Swans

The West Side Wine Club picnic was a big success thanks to the many members who brought delectable dishes of snacks, main courses, desserts, and of course wines. We tasted award winning wines that our talented club members had made. This even included a mead, plus a few potential winners had they of been entered in the Washington County Fair. One of the ones that I found interesting was a chocolate port.

Dana planned carefully, so we had a whole smorgasbord of main meat dishes which included beef, lamb, salmon, and a few others which I am guessing were pork and chicken. Dana really has an eye for detail and we are lucky to have her as our club president. We appreciate everyone who stepped up by bringing main dinner entrees.

It was great to have our club members gather together for a day of feasting and relaxation. We especially want to thank the Swans for holding the picnic at their place. The countryside drive was beautiful on the way to Molalla. The Swan's vineyards were lovely and tenderly cared for, and they have a gorgeous home. We even got to go in their cellar to do some tastings. The evening came to a close with a smaller crowd and a campfire out back.

Willamette Valley Amateur Winemakers Society held its first annual wine competition and WSWC made a great showing. Our members won 2/3 of the ribbons and took Best of Show! Congrats to WSWC Member Ken Stinger for Best of Show and Scott Nelson for Gold.

Willamette Valley Amateur Winemakers Society Competition Results

Gold

Kenneth Stinger	Portland	Or	Syrah - Best of Show	Walla Walla	2007	Gold
Scott Nelson	Beaverton	Or	Gewurztraminer	Willamette Valley	2008	Gold
Deane Logan	Salem	Or	Pinot Noir	Willamette Valley	2006	Gold

Silver

Wally Darling	Lebanon	Or	Malbec	Yakima Valley	2008	Silver
Don Robinson	Portland	Or	Syrah	Yakima Valley	2007	Silver
Jon Kahrs	Portland	Or	Viognier	Chehallem Mt	2008	Silver
Armstrong Mettle	Saskatoon	SK	Zinfandel	Sonoma	2007	Silver
Tom Hildenbrand	Delanco	NJ	Peach		2008	Silver
Ronald F Cooper	Lebanon	Or	Blackberry	Willamette Valley	2008	Silver
Gary Arndt	Woodburn	Or	Marionberry	Willamette Valley	2008	Silver
Terry Droessler	Monmouth	Or	Cabernet Sauvignon	Rogue Valley	2005	Silver
Terry Droessler	Monmouth	Or	Cab Sauv/Franc	Rogue Valley	2006	Silver
Dennis/Caryn Angel	Knightstown	IN	Kiwi-Golden	Brazil	2008	Silver
Russell Burrows	Lafayette	Or	Blueberry	Yamhill County, Or	2007	Silver

Bronze

Wally Darling	Lebanon	Or	Cabernet Sauvignon	Yakima Valley	2007	Bronze
Wally Darling	Lebanon	Or	Cabernet Sauvignon	Yakima Valley	2008	Bronze
Scott Hamersley	West Linn	Or	Pinot Noir	Yamhill County, Or	2007	Bronze
George J. Febish	Boothwyn	Pa	Merlot	Italy	2006	Bronze
Ronald F Cooper	Lebanon	Or	Kiwi	Willamette Valley	2008	Bronze
Gary Arndt	Woodburn	Or	Cabernet Sauvignon	Yakima Valley	2006	Bronze
Gary Arndt	Woodburn	Or	Marionberry/Strawberry	Willamette Valley	2006	Bronze
Terry Droessler	Monmouth	Or	Tempranillo	Rogue Valley	2007	Bronze
Brian Riley	Escondido	CA	Cab/Temp	San Pasqual Valley, Ca	2005	Bronze
Russell Burrows	Lafayette	Or	Marionberry	Yamhill County, Or	2007	Bronze
Terrie Lyons	Portland	Or	Pinot Gris	Willamette Valley	2008	Bronze
James Lee	Amity	Or	Pinot Noir	Eola-Amity, Or	2004	Bronze
James Lee	Amity	Or	Pinot Noir	Eola-Amity, Or	2006	Bronze
James Lee	Amity	Or	Pinot Noir	Eola-Amity, Or	2007	Bronze
Mike Steinberger	Denmark	WI	Conc. Birch Sap		2008	Bronze
Kenneth Stinger	Portland	Or	Merlot	Walla Walla	2007	Bronze

President's Musings

September 1, 2009

August and September are preparation time for winemakers. We are busy cleaning out the cellar to make way for new wines, while we have to secure our grape orders or mind our own vineyards. It's an exciting time to watch the grapes turn from green to red, then purple and from hard and sour to soft and sweet. And amidst all the work we have to take time to congratulate ourselves for wines well done from years before. Our club had a spectacular showing of ribbons at the Washington County Fair, Oregon State Fair, and Willamette Valley Amateur Winemakers Competition.

I counted two dozen names from our club that earned ribbons at the Oregon State Fair. Three club members earned blue ribbons; John Kahrs for his '08 Viognier, and John Hooson and Don Hoffard for their Viognier and Riesling, which we tasted at our August meeting. Congratulations to all who earned awards!

We had a wonderful afternoon picnic at the Swan's well maintained vineyard. Both the vineyard and the garden were gorgeous to look at and very well cared for. The Swans must have gnomes that pull weeds and tuck vines into place in the middle of the night, as Terry is gone to Alaska most of the summer. Sammy Nachimuthu, and his wife Bria, Terry and Debbie Swan, and Mike Yamrick prepared main dishes and there were as many side dishes as there were bottles of wine! Thanks to all who prepared wine and food for the event.

We are still looking for a volunteer to chair the Awards Gala/Holiday Party, which will be a combined event in January. Please let me know if you can assist with one of these events.

Our next meeting is October 21, 2009 where we will taste Pinot Noir. This will be a chance to really see our club shine as we have many members who know how to make a good pinot. It's one of the best tastings of the years so be sure to put it on the calendar.

Best Wishes for Crush!
Dana Blizzard
President WSWC



West Side Wine Club Leadership Team – 2009

President: **Dana Blizzard** danablizzard@comcast.net

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

Treasurer: **Bill Spiller** nrac@msn.com

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

Secretary: **Sandy Klein** sjmaklein@verizon.net

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

Chairperson of Education: **Jon Kahrs** jekahrs@aol.com

- o Arrange speakers for our meetings

Chairs for Tastings: **Craig Bush** pnoir1@verizon.net

- o Conduct club tastings
- o Review and improve club tasting procedures

Chairs of Winery Tours: **Mike Smolak** SmolakM@DimensionResources.com

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

- o Chandler Reach Vineyard –**OPEN**
- o Del Rio Vineyard – **Craig Bush** pnoir1@verizon.net
- o Supplies – These should be passed to the President for distribution

Chairwoman of Competitions: **Miriam Schnepf**

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

Chairs for Social Events: **OPEN**

- o Summer picnic
- o Awards Gala
- o Holiday Party