



February - 2019

To: Members of the CARROLL COUNTY MD CHAPTER/AMERICAN WINE SOCIETY  
From: Jerry Hampton, Chapter Chair

Happy Groundhog day! After the past couple of weeks of unusual cold, I have to say that I was personally happy to hear that Punxsutawney Phil did not see his shadow this morning. So, I guess it's nearly time to break out the Rose, right? Here's to an early spring!

Well, regardless of when spring weather actually arrives, February of late means one thing to our club, and that is a wine tasting at the Grillon's with Robert Horrocks serving as our wine host. Robert always does a great job introducing us to new wines and providing an interesting and educational tasting. This year is no exception.

Our tasting theme this month is: **A Journey through Merlot – France, California, South America**. I think it's been quite a while since we had a tasting focused on Merlot, and I really like the idea of comparing Merlot's characteristics from different regions. Don't miss this tasting or you'll be sorry. (I didn't mean for that to sound like a threat.)

**IMPORTANT:** There is one important difference this year. Because Robert will be on travel the third Sunday, **our February tasting will be the fourth Sunday, February 24.**

Please RSVP Vmi: YVfi Ufm&\$"H\Y"; fj`cbg`dfYZyf`h\Uhimci `FGJ D`VmYa Uj`"

As usual, the tasting begins at 2 PM and as always: Please don't forget to bring an entrée, appetizer, or dessert to share!

### ***Last Month's News***

I'd like to offer a hearty thanks to Janine Wilson for serving as our wine host for January. Janine's theme was "Reliable Reds", and we tasted some excellent, very reasonably priced red wines. This was Janine's first time serving as a wine host, and I really appreciate her willingness to serve in that capacity. Thanks Janine!

The voting results from the January tasting are shown below:

<b>Wine</b>	<b>Retail Cost</b>	<b>Number of Votes</b>
Vila Real Reserva – warm up	\$10.99	0
Nuna Bonarda	\$15.99	0
Broquel Malbec	\$14.99	0
Guigal Cotes Du Rhone	\$16.99	4
Lan Reserva	\$21.99	1
Alexander Valley Redemption Zin	\$29.99	6 (winner)
Molly Dooker Shiraz	\$29.99	3

---

### ***Miscellaneous***

**Upcoming Tasting Date Changes:** Normally, our chapter has its tastings on the the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month. However, we will need to deviate from this practice in a couple of upcoming months this year. As already mentioned, February needs to be moved to the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday. Also, since Easter occurs on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of April this year (the latest it can possibly occur), we will probably need to move our April tasting to another Sunday. The exact date for April is not yet set. These changes are/will be reflected in the schedule below.

**Chapter and AWS Dues:** Please don't forget to pay your national AWS and local chapter dues. You can pay the national dues by mail or online. The AWS website is <https://www.americanwinesociety.org/page/renewyourmembership>. Chapter dues should submitted to John Landon. Please let John Landon or I know if you have any questions.

**Member Wine Discounts:** The following establishments offer discounts to AWS members – College Square Liquors and Cranberry Liquors in Westminster, Main Street Liquors, Hampstead, and Total Discount Liquors, Eldersburg.

## **2019 Tasting Schedule**

<b>Month</b>	<b>House Host</b>	<b>Wine Host</b>	<b>Theme</b>
January 1/20/19	Jerry & Dorothy Hampton	Janine Wilson	Reliable Reds
February 2/24/19	George & Jackie Grillon	Robert Horrocks	A Journey through Merlot: France, California, South America
March 3/17/19	Eileen Sien	Michael Sien	Hidden Gem Varietals Annual Meeting beforehand
April 4/14/19 or 4/28/19	John & Ann Carr	John Carr	TBD
May 5/19/19	Frank & Dolores Batavik	Nan Slick??	The ABCs theme – The final episode
June 6/16	Ron & Linda Riley	Pat Valas ??	National Tasting: Terroir Study of Napa Valley
July 7/21/19	George & Jackie Grillon	N/A	Picnic
August 8/18/19	Jerry & Dorothy Hampton	Jerry & Dorothy Hampton	Greek Wines
September 9/22/19	Lynn and Joe Breeding??	Leroy Stewart & Simone Haslauer ??	TBD
October 10/20/19	Robert & Kelly Horrocks??	TBD	TBD
November 11/17/18	Bill & Michele Sadler	Nan Slick	
December 12/8/19	Corynne Courpas	John Landon	Champagne Soiree