



AMERICAN WINE SOCIETY

a non-profit corporation

January 3, 1997

1104 Candy Mint Lane
Westminster, MD 21157

Dear Wine Lovers

Many thanks to Carmen and Richard for hosting yet another marvelous Sparkling tasting. What a wonderful way to kick off the holidays. Thanks also to everyone who brought the delicious fare. We enjoyed every glass of bubbly, but the favorite of the day was **Nicolas Feuillate Brut, Premier cru from Epernay, France** at \$21.99.

Just a reminder, *Dues are Due!!* If you haven't paid, please see John Landon at the next tasting.

A big welcome to our new members; Gary Pavlis, Corynne Courpas and Scott Markle.

Much appreciation to all who volunteered to house or wine host this year. Our 1997 calendar is full!

We welcome in 1997 at the Brown's on January 19th at 2:00 p.m. Walt will be presenting Ports, very appropriate for the season. Please give Bill and Bar Brown a call by Thursday, January 16th if you will be able to attend. There will be a short business meeting at the beginning of the tasting, so please bring any topics which you feel need to be discussed. (As usual, anyone who would wish to may bring a dish.)

Hope to see you there,

Barb



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February 5, 1997

1104 Candy Mint Lane

Westminster, MD 21157

Dear Wine Lovers,

We'd like to thank Bill and Barb Brown for opening their home and Walt for presenting an interesting selection of Ports. We tasted 7 Ports from various areas such as South Africa, Australia, California and Portugal. The group's favorite was **Yalumba Clocktower Tawny from Australia.**

Enclosed is a calendar with scheduled wine and house hosts for the balance of 1997. Please let me know if you have any suggestions or questions.

At the business meeting in January we discussed the balance in our treasury. We voted to keep the tastings at \$12.00 or less unless otherwise stated in the newsletter, and for each adult to 'Pay \$5.00 for the picnic in July. John Landon and I are also looking into filing for reimbursement of 1996 sales taxes utilizing our Maryland tax exempt number. If anyone needs a copy of this form, please let me know.

Our next tasting will be at John and Ann Carr's on February 16th at 2:00 p.m. They will be presenting Southern Hemisphere Merlots. (John said that this tasting may be a bit more than \$12.00). Please give them a call by Thursday, February 13th, if you will be able to attend. As usual, you may bring a dish if you wish.

Hope to see you there.

Barb



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February 26, 1997
1104 Candy Mint Lane
Westminster, MD 21157

Dear Wine Lovers,

Our February Merlot tasting took us to South Africa, Australia and Chile. While all the wines were interesting, the top wine of the day was the Chilean Veramonte Primus '95. Thanks to John and Ann Carr for hosting the wines and sharing their home.

Sorry for the mistakes in the calendar. Attached is a corrected update. You will also find an updated membership list for your use.

There are just a few members (you know who you are) who have not paid their dues (\$8.00). If you have an orange dot on this month's newsletter, it will be your last. As I'm sure this is just an oversight and you certainly wouldn't want to miss out on all that is happening, please see John Landon at the next tasting or mail a check to me.

Please join us on March 16th, 2:00 p.m. at the Johnston's to celebrate our 17th Anniversary. Jack will be presenting Cabernet Francs. If you can make the tasting, give Jack and Emily a call by Thursday, March 13th. You are welcome to bring a dish if you would like.

See you there!

Barb



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April 28, 1997 1104
Candy Mint Lane
Westminster, MD 21157

Dear Wine Lovers,

Thanks to Bill and Barb Brown for hosting an educational tasting of Malbecs from Cahors, France, and Argentina. The overall winner was the Fabre Montmayou Reserve, 1991, Argentina at \$9.99. The favorite Cahors wine was Clos de Lagrade, 1992, retailing at \$11.99.

Congratulations and best wishes were extended to Walt and Pat on their recent wedding.

The group voted favorably to allow the Chameleon Restaurant in Westminster to use our membership list to extend invitations for their upcoming wine dinners. Several members have attended a couple of these affairs and they were very interesting.

The Benzils will host our May meeting on the 18th at 2:00 p.m. Phil will lead us through a tasting of Chilean Whites. There will be a limit of 30, so please give Phil and Naomi a call as early as possible if you will be able to attend. As usual, please bring a dish if you wish.

Barb



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June 1, 1997 1104 Candy
Mint Lane Westminster, MD
21157

Dear Wine Lovers,

The weather was beautiful for our outside tasting of Chilean Whites at the Benzil's. Phil led us through three Sauvignon Blancs, the favorite being the warm-up, **Concha Y Toros Sunrise '95**, and four Chardonnays, the voted favorite was **Vina Errazuriz '95**. The overall best wine of the day was the Chardonnay. Many thanks for a delightful day.

June will find us tasting New Jersey wines at the Zimmerman's on the 22nd (remember we changed the date because of Father's Day). Nan Slick and Gary Pavlis will be wine hosts for this event. John has asked that we park on the grass on either side of their driveway as they live on a sharp bend and parking on the road is not recommended. The Browns and the Eisbergs will not be able to attend, so John Landon will be doing double duty. The group will be limited to 25, so please give John and Mary and call by Thursday, June 19. As usual, please bring a dish if you would like.

Have a great tasting and hope to see you at the July picnic!

Barb



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September 1, 1997
1104 Candy Mint Lane
Westminster, MD 21157

Dear Wine Lovers,

We were a small but intense group for the August National tasting of gewürztraminers at the Eisberg's. Rick and Jan MacDonald, our contingency from Ithaca, New York, joined us to say hello to old friends and help rate the wines. *Trimbach 1992 from Alsace* received the highest number of votes.

As he usually likes to do, Bill held a mystery contest with three wines. We tried to guess country of origin, year, type, etc. The wine expert (or best guesser) of the day was Carole Greene, with Peg Michaelsen coming in a close second.

By now, all volunteers for the Wine Festival should have received their information from Jack and Emily Johnston. Please get back to them as soon as possible with your time preferences so Emily can put together her schedule.

As the Wine Festival falls on the third Sunday of September, our monthly tasting will be held on the 14th at Jeff and Kathleen Arch's. Jeff has put together a very interesting lineup of 1994 Ridge Zinfandels. Due to the higher cost of these wines, the tasting may exceed the normal \$12.00 limit (to be determined by the size of the group). Please join us at 2:00 p.m. and bring a dish if time allows.

Hope to see you there.

Barb



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November 17, 1997
1104 Candy Mint Lane
Westminster, MD 21157

Dear Wine Lovers,

What a great time we had at the Michaelsen's, Peg selected a variety of sample Thanksgiving wines, and everyone outdid themselves with their gastronomic contributions. (Please don't forget to bring promised recipes to the December tasting.) As we passed the dishes, it seemed they would never end. We tasted three whites, a Gewurztraminer, a Chardonnay and a Riesling and three reds, a Beaujolais, a Pinot Noir and a Zinfandel. The wines voted most compatible with the food were the Riesling and the Zinfandel. I think we all came away with a new perspective as to which wines compliment such foods as sauerkraut, brussel sprouts and cranberry sauce.

Please give Peg a call if you are missing a single key on a key chain with a green church key and a bread basket with a blue check liner.

Although we have food and wine hosts for January, there are many months in 1998 still open. If you would like to share your home, or have any ideas for a tasting, please contact Emily Johnston, our new Chairperson.

Bill Eisberg gave a report on his conversation with our Regional Chairman, Eli Shulman. He will retain this position for one more year. Eli also reported that new chapters are forming in Columbia and Easton.

Our annual Champagne Gala will be held on December 21st at the Blosverens (note a change of date from the published yearly calendar). Don your best "Bib & Tucker", whip up your most delectable dish and join us for an afternoon of frivolity. Please give Carmen and Richard a call by Thursday, December 18th if you can join the tasting.

Barb