



# AMERICAN WINE SOCIETY

a non-profit corporation

January, 2002

On December 9, Richard and Carmen Blosveren once again provided us with a beautiful atmosphere for our Champagne Gala. Carmen always manages to create a truly special centerpiece for the buffet table and this year was no exception. A big thanks for their continuing hospitality at this busiest time of the year. We also need to thank John Landon for coming up with an intriguing line-up of wonderful champagnes year after year. It must be difficult and tiring to pretaste all of those bubblyies and I want John to know that as chapter chair, I will be most willing to help him with this overwhelming task next year. The Louis Roederer Cristal Brut was the winner by a large margin when it came to the vote. While it will probably be a while before I buy a bottle of the Cristal Brut, I will certainly be picking up some of the other wines that were offered for tasting. The Cristalino Brut that was used as a warm up was a charming wine at a truly charming price (\$6.99).

Warm up Cristalino Brut	\$6.99
Michel Collon Brut	\$22.99
Roederer Estate Brut	\$18.99
Pommery Brut Royal	\$37.99
Tsarine Tete de Cuvee Brut	\$27.99
Domaine Leon Creamant D'Alsace Brut	\$17.99
Chandon Etole Rose	\$33.99
Voted #1	\$189.85
Louis Roederer Cristal Brut 1995	

In other news of note from the December meeting, Becky Wilson (that's me,) took over as chapter chair and Barry Brunett has filled the secretary's seat. Please feel free to get in touch by phone or email with any questions or concerns.

Ports of Call will be the topic of our next tasting. Walt Rachele will present it at Bill and Barbara Brown's house. Please call the Browns (xxxxx) by Wednesday, January 16th if you are going to attend this meeting. An offering for the table is always appreciated.

The local CCAWS dues should be paid at this time. If you have not already done so, and are not planning on attending January's meeting, please send a check for \$8.00 (per household) to: John Landon; xxxxx.

Date	House	Wine Host	Topic
Jan 20	Brown	Rachele	Ports of Call
Feb 17	Rachele	Dean Wilson	Chianti
Mar 17	Johnston	Johnston	TBA
Apr 21	Stewart	Anna/LeRoy	TBD
May 19	Pardoe	Slick/Fiola	Fruits of Our Labor
Jun 16	N. Benzil	P. Benzil	TBA
Jul 21	Grillon	Picnic	Picnic
Aug 18	TBD	Becky Wilson	Winery tour
Sept ? TBD			
Oct 20	Barbour	Penne Parker	Washington State
Nov 17			
December 8	Blosveren	Landon	Champagne

I would love to start including a list of members' favorite wines (not from the tastings) each month. If you taste something that you think has great merit by virtue of value (under \$10.00) or that it just knocks your socks off (over \$10.00) please email me or call with the information.

In closing, a toast from The Joys of Yiddish:

*"May the people who dance on your grave get cramps in their legs."*

*Becky*



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Becky Wilson  
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Treasurer  
John Landon  
john@landongraphics.com

February, 2002

With a sparkling blanket of snow on the ground, we were twice warmed. First, by a crackling fire and then a heady array of port imposters (seven of them,) and then a legitimate port to compare them all with. Walter Rachele presented them to us in brown bags and asked that we try to match them to descriptions from the bottles and other published sources. Then, to really shake things up, he threw in a Mystery Port that was crafted by two of our members (Bill Eisberg and Bill Brown).

While Bill and Bill did not identify their own wine, Barbara Brown walked away with a prize bottle of her choice. Out of a group of 28 she was the only one to match every one correctly. While we were able to vote in a winner, the voting was well spread out among all of the Ports, indicating that there was a lot to like at this tasting and not an ugly baby in the lot. Thank you Walt!

1 <sup>st</sup>	Trentadue 1994 Alexander Valley Petit Sirah	\$27.29
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Eisberg's 1991 Cabernet Port (our priceless mystery port)	\$347.98 ;)
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Peter Lehmann 1990 BinAD 2011 Barossa Vintage Port	\$30.00
	Tied 3 <sup>rd</sup> : Messina Hof Ebony Ports of Call	\$18.75
4 <sup>th</sup>	Horton Vineyards 1997 Vintage Port	\$18.99
	Tied 4 <sup>th</sup> : DiGrazia Vinyards 1998 Blacksmith Port	\$21.99
5 <sup>th</sup>	KWV Full Ruby Port NV	\$7.99

Our next tasting will be at Pat and Walt Racheles on Sunday February 17<sup>th</sup>. Please call Walt and Pat by Wednesday February 13<sup>th</sup> if you plan on attending. Dean Wilson will present "Chianti: More Than a Fiasco".

We have been fortunate to add many new members to our chapter over the last year so this mailing includes a copy of our chapter bylaws.

Sadly, last month marked the passing of one of our long time founding members. Joe Wood passed away on Thursday, January 9<sup>th</sup> after a short hospital stay. Joe and his wife, Nattie, opened their hearts and home to us long after their health kept them from being active members of our group. To their daughter and son-in-law (Jeanne and Tom Hoffman) our sincere sympathy and hope that Tom will recover quickly from his recent heart attack.

Date	House	Wine Host	Topic
Feb 17	Rachele	Dean Wilson	Chianti
Mar 17	Johnston	Johnston	Mystery Wine
Apr 21	Stewart	Anna/LeRoy	Wines of Provence
May 19	Pardoe	Slick/Fiola	Fruits of Our Labor
Jun 16	N. Benzil	P. Benzil	TBA
Jul 21	Grillon	Picnic	Picnic
Aug 18	TBD	Becky Wilson	Winery tour
Sept 22	Nestorik		
Oct 20	Barbour	Penne Parker	Washington State
Nov 17	Michelson		
December 8	Blosveren	Landon	Champagne

*"Love doesn't make the world go 'round, but it sure makes the ride worthwhile."*

-- Mae West

*Becky*



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March 1, 2002

Our February meeting held at the home of Pat and Walt Rachele, with wines presented by Dean Wilson was a great success. This was Dean's first time as a wine host and he did much studying on his subject. He presented us with a great deal of information [too much! - DW] and a good folk tale or two. If you didn't attend be sure to ask him about the roosters. As there was such an overwhelming winner in our first vote we did a second vote and I'll include both here.

Wine	Price	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Banfi Bell'agio 2000 (normale)	\$11.99	0	0
Poggiano 1999 (normale)	\$7.99	0	0
Castello di Fanetella 1999 (Colli senesi)	\$16.99	1	2
Fattoria Selvapiana 1999 (Rufina)	\$13.99	0	4
Podere Il Palazzino 1999 (Classico)	\$17.99	3	7
Marchesi Antinori 1997 (Classico Riserva Tenute)	\$42.99	12	2

Our March Anniversary Meeting will be at the Johnston's on Sunday March 17<sup>th</sup> (Saint Pattys Day). Please call Jack and Emily by Wednesday March 13<sup>th</sup> if you plan on attending. The theme for this tasting is "Now for Something a Little Different". As always I'm sure the Johnstons have put a lot of thought into making this a fun and educational meeting. Hope to see you all there.

I enclosed a copy of our Bylaws last revised in May of 1995 in the last newsletter. I have been approached by a number of members that feel an increase in our \$12.00 limit is in order. While many tastings still come in well under the \$12.00 figure, many do not. At the next meeting, (March 17<sup>th</sup>). I will propose that the limit be raised to a \$15.00 per person total. This will be open for a five minute discussion and then voted upon.

## CCAWS Schedule

Date	House	Wine Host	Topic
17-Feb	Rachele	Dean Wilson	Chianti
17-Mar	Johnston	Johnston	Mystery Wine
21-Apr	Stewart	Anna/LeRoy	Wines of Provence
19-May	Pardoe	Slick/Fiola	Fruits of Our Labor
16-Jun	N. Benzil	P. Benzil	TBA
21-Jul	Grillon	Picnic	Picnic
18-Aug	Eisberg	Eisberg	National Tasting
22-Sep	Nestorik		
20-Oct	Barbour	Pennee Parker	Washington State
17-Nov	Michelson		
8-Dec	Blosveren	Landon	Champagne

**CORRECTION** to my last newsletter: The Priceless Port was created by Bill Eisberg and Walt Rachele. Bill Brown wanted to make it adamantly clear that he was in no way a party to this venture, washing his hands of the entire affair once and for all! {wink} (Sorry Bill, sorry Walt!)

To get the full value of joy, you must have someone to divide it with. — Mark Twain

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*Becky*



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April 1, 2002

Well, our St. Patrick's Day meeting was interesting and educational, despite the snowing, blowing, and sleeting weather. It sure was a good day to warm one's parts in front of the Johnstons' crackling fire. We tasted eight Chamborcins all from the eastern United States and I believe everyone at the meeting will be able to name that grape from now on.

Once again, there was a clear favorite. We started with a warm-up (Rene Barbier Mediterranean White -- 1.5L, \$7.99) Emily had tinted it a pale green in keeping with the holiday.

First place: Rockbridge 1999 Virginia, \$13  
Second place: Chalet Debonne' 1999 Ohio, \$8  
Catoctin 1998 Maryland, \$13  
Blossom Hill 1999 Pennsylvania, \$15  
Naylor 1999 Pennsylvania, \$12  
Linganore 1999 Maryland, \$23  
Westbend 1997 -- A freebee, was given no price.  
Fiore 1997 Maryland, \$12

We did vote to raise the maximum amount that a tasting can cost without prior notice in the newsletter to \$15.00 total food and wine. Hopefully every one was able to understand what my proposal was as I found myself talking at a nerve induced lightening speed.

This month's meeting will be held at Anna and LeRoy Stewart's home. Please RSVP to the Stewart's by April 17, as seating will be limited. Anna and LeRoy have chosen Wines of Provence for the topic, since that is where they would most like to be this April.

The national tasting this year will be held at the Eisberg's. The varietal will be Pinot Noir so brush up on your scoring skills as the line up is lovely. We still need a wine host for the September meeting to be held at the Nestorik's new home, so give that some thought also.

Date	House	Wine Host	Topic
21-Apr	Stewart	Anna/LeRoy	Wines of Provence
19-May	Pardoe	Slick/Fiola	Fruits of Our Labor
16-Jun	N. Benzil	P. Benzil	TBA
21-Jul	Grillon	Picnic	Picnic
18-Aug	Eisberg	Eisberg	National Tasting
15-Sep	Nestorik		
20-Oct	Barbour	Pennee Parker	Washington State
17-Nov	Michelson	Murray	
8-Dec	Blosveren	Landon	Champagne

Finally, note that the website was 'corrected' to [www.carr.org/~deanwils/ccaws](http://www.carr.org/~deanwils/ccaws) (it was previously with 3 C's, as in *cccaws*). If you try to go to the old one with 3 C's, it will direct you to the site with 2 C's. Sorry for any confusion.

*"In victory, you deserve Champagne, in defeat, you need it." Napoleon Bonaparte*

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May 4, 2002

Hello,

This month's tasting at Anna and LeRoy's was certainly a success, if judged by nothing other than the large turnout. But there was more to judge it by. There was that charming little bit of paradise that they've managed to create in their back yard. I know I, for one, will be dreaming of it on hot summer afternoons.... and I wonder if goldfish are good fried? They certainly were big enough to eat. Then there were the bottles the wine came in. I hope Anna saved them for the summer's herb vinegar production. Finally, the wines: A diverse array of wines from Provence, and once again, a very clear winner -

the *Bosquet des Papes Châteauneuf-du-Pape*.

Whites	Wine	Price
#1	(Warm Up) Les Domaniers, 1998 (AOC Côtes de Provence)	\$7.99?
#2 - Best White	Domaines Ott Blanc de Blancs, 1998 (AOC Côtes de Provence)	\$21.99?
Reds		
#3	Domaines Ott Cuvée Marine, 1999(?) (AOC Bandol)	\$21.99
#4 - 2 <sup>nd</sup> Best Red	Les Domaniers, 1999 (AOC Côtes de Provence)	\$7.99
#5	Domaine Terres Blanches, 1999 (AOC Les Baux de Provence)	\$14.99
#6	Domaines Ott Comtes de Provence, 1998 (AOC Côtes de Provence)	\$7.99
#7 - 1 <sup>st</sup> Best Red	Bosquet des Papes Châteauneuf-du-Pape, 1999 or 2000(?) (AOC Châteauneuf-du-Pape)	\$23.99?

Our May tasting will be held at the home of John and Deborah Pardoe. Please call them to RSVP by Wednesday May 15 so that they can plan for an appropriate amount of wine. Nancy Slick will be wine hosting along with John. Their topic "Fruits of Our Labor" has me more that a little curious I must admit.

Please note that the date of the JUNE tasting has been CHANGED to Sunday June 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Benzil's home.

If anyone is interested in CPR training I may be able to arrange for a class to be given at my home if there is enough interest. The fee would be \$35.00 per person. Please get in touch with me if you think you might be interested. Also coming up on June 28 & 29 is the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Great Taste of Pennsylvania Wine and Food Festival at the Split Rock Resort. 1-800-255-7625 or [www.splitrockresort.com](http://www.splitrockresort.com).

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Becky

## 2004 CCAWS Schedule

Date	House	Wine Host	Topic
25-Jul	Grillon	PICNIC	Fun, Food & Frolic
15-Aug	Evans	Eisberg	?
12-Sep	Benzil	Benzil	?
17-Oct	Barbour	Stewarts	7 Deadly Zins!
21-Nov	Murray	Murray	?
12-Dec	Blosveren?	Landon	Champagne
16-Jan	Brown	Rachele	Port
20-Feb	Pardoe	Fiola	Sherry
20-Mar	Johnston	Johnston	?
17-Apr	Brown	Brown	?
15-May	Barbour	Eisberg	?
19-Jun	Wilson	Wilson	Flights of Fancy
17-Jul	?	?	?
21-Aug	?	?	?
18-Sep	?	?	?
16-Oct	?	?	?
20-Nov	Evans	Evans	?
18-Dec	Blosveren	Landon	Champagne

*Write in your heart that every day is the best day of the year. - Ralph Waldo Emerson*



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June, 4 2002

Our May 19<sup>th</sup> tasting found us at the home of Debbie and John Pardoe. As the sun played hide-and-seek with us, the laughter of children in the distance was a wonderful reminder of the time when a little chilled breeze was of little consequence. Play was such hard, hot work. I hope everyone took a good look at the house. Debbie and John will be starting some big renovations this summer, so if we're ever invited back again, I'm not sure we'll be able to recognize the place. I hope you all took a minute to check out John's vineyard. We've been treated to so many wonderful wines that he has made from other people's grapes over the years. It's going to be exciting to see what wonders he produces from his very own vines.

We were treated to an amazing array of fruit wines. Nan asked Joe Fiola to put together a tasting for us and the line up was awesome. We tasted 14 wines. Starting with an apple wine that Joe had made himself. We didn't vote for favorites, as it's hard to compare *apples and oranges*, so here is the line up in order of tasting. I apologize in advance for any inaccuracies in the list. Without a tasting list it was a little hard to keep track.

Joe's Homemade Apple	Nissley (PA) Apple
Nissley (PA) Cherry	Fox Ridge (PA) 2001 Apricot
Laurel Mountain (PA) Peach	Bashore & Stoudt Shiro Plum
Bashore & Stoudt Blue Ribbon Plum	Schwartzbeeven Blackberry
Mazza Raspberry	Nissley Black Raspberry
Valenzano (NJ) Cranberry	Arrowhead (PA) Blueberry Blues
Chesterhill (MA) Best Blue Blueberry	Cream Ridge (NJ) Rhubarb

Our next tasting will be at the home of Naomi and Phil Benzil. The tasting theme is CIVIL WAR: NORTH VS. SOUTH - AMERICA that is. It sounds like lots of fun. Please RSVP to Phil and Naomi by Thursday, June 20<sup>th</sup>. Make note once again there is a date change and the tasting will be on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of June.

An addition to the table is always appreciated. Looking forward to seeing you there.

## 2002 - 2003 CCAWS Schedule

Date	House	Wine Host	Topic
23-Jun	N. Benzil	P. Benzil	Civil War: North vs. South - America
21-Jul	Grillon	Picnic	Picnic
18-Aug	Eisberg	Eisberg	National Tasting
22-Sep	Nestorik	Nestorik	
20-Oct	Barbour	Pennee Parker	Washington State
17-Nov	Michelson	Murray	
8-Dec	Blosveren	Landon	Champagne
19-Jan	Brown	Rachele	Port
16-Feb	Kersey	B. Wilson	Vinatge Beaujolais
16-Mar	Johnston	Johnston	
20-Apr	Brown	Brown	

*God in His goodness sent the grapes  
To cheer both great and small  
Little fools will drink too much,  
And great fools not at all.*

- Anonymous

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July 4, 2002

Hello,

Our last meeting could not have been more perfect. The weather, the flowers and the wine all conspired to make it an absolute success! Many thanks to Naomi and Phil Benzil! We warmed up with a lovely Caliterra Sauvignon Blanc 2001. Retailing at \$8.99 and produced in Chile. From there, we moved on to three pairs, each produced by the same parent company, but created by different wine makers on different continents. A terrific tasting and with an interesting perspective!

Then Phil threw in one more wine just for good measure (because he likes it so much): Tikal "Corazon" 2000 from Argentina (60% Bonardo, 40% Malbec, \$23.00) ended up being voted the overall favorite. As we voted for the pair's favorites, each one was voted #1 by a two-thirds majority.

#1- Veramonte Chardonnay 2000 \$8.99  
Chile (Franciscan)

#2- Estancia Chardonnay "Pinnacles" 2000 \$12.00  
California (Franciscan)

#1- Napa Merlot 1998 \$26.00  
California (Mondavi)

#2- Arboleda Merlot 2000 \$19.00  
Chile (Mondavi)

#1- Chandon Brut Fresco \$18.00  
Argentina (Chandon)

#2 Chandon Brut \$12.00  
California (Chandon)

More information on Phil's wines is available at our CCAWS website, [www.carr.org/~deanwils/ccaws](http://www.carr.org/~deanwils/ccaws). Thanks again, Phil!

Once again, Jackie and George Grillon are opening their home and pool to us for our annual Picnic. So bring your swimsuit, tennis racket, a bottle or two for sharing, a little something for the table and a good time will be had by all. A \$5.00 per adult donation will cover burgers, dogs, sodas, trimmings, landscaping and green fees (*kidding*). Family members are invited, kids are free (*not you, A. J.!*). **Please call Becky Wilson by July 17<sup>th</sup> to RSVP.**

We welcome our newest member: Hardly new, but CCAWS's favorite son, **A. J. "Don't Call Me Arne" Johnston**. A.J. is a flourishing reconstructeur of cupric acoustic resonant muse apparatus (tuba fixer). So drag out that old high school trombone, and polish that pucker, A. J. will have you blowing the blues big time, once you get his bill! (*more kidding!*)

Please note the date of our September meeting. I have had it wrong the last few months in the newsletter. **September's tasting at the Nestorik's will be Sunday September 15, 2002.** The MD Wine Festival is the following weekend, September 21&22.

2002 - 2003 CCAWS Schedule			
Date	House	Wine Host	Topic
15-Jul	Grillon	Picnic	Picnic
18-Aug	Eisberg	Eisberg	National Tasting
<b>15-Sep</b>	Nestorik	Nestorik	
21,22 Sep	Farm Museum		Maryland Wine Festival
20-Oct	Barbour	Pennee Parker	Washington State
17-Nov	Michelson	Murray	Tuscans: Super and Otherwise
8-Dec	Blosveren	Landon	Champagne
19-Jan	Brown	Rachele	Port
16-Feb	Kersey	B. Wilson	Vintage Beaujolais
16-Mar	Johnston	Johnston	
20-Apr	Brown	Brown	

In closing this letter, I once again have sad news for our members. **John Zimmerman** passed away on Sunday, June 23, 2002. John was a long time member of our club. A charming conversationalist, he was truly a delightful father, grandfather, and our dear friend. Our deepest sympathies to his wife, Mary. They are both sorely missed.

*"Wine is the most civilized thing in the world."*  
- Ernest Hemingway

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August 1, 2002

Hello,

I want to start off with two big THANK YOUs!

First, to the Grillons, for hosting us. It's hard to imagine a more pool-worthy day than we were blessed with for our picnic this year. Great food, good company and I could not fantasize a better setting. Secondly, to Phil and Barry, who gallantly volunteered to cook rather than listen to my whining about cooking in the heat.

Those of us that were lucky enough to get a tour of the new/old house will be eager to see the renovations. The house has so much going for it that one can easily see it as it will be, rather than the way it looks now. I could move my glass kilns into that summer kitchen and be a very happy woman.

Our August 18th meeting will be at the Eisberg's. Please call Bill and Barbara to RSVP by August 15<sup>th</sup>. We will be limiting the number of attendees because of seating restrictions. We will be doing the **National Tasting and Scoring**. The varietal this year is Pinot Noir and the wine list looks great.

We are drawing close to Wine Festival Time, September 21-22. So be sure to mark your calendar. Emily and Jack will be sending out letters soon to get volunteers lined up to help with Wine Education Seminars and amateur wine judging. It's a lot of work (and a lot of fun) and all help is greatly appreciated.

2002 - 2003 CCAWS Schedule			
Date	House	Wine Host	Topic
18-Aug	Eisberg	Eisberg	National Tasting
<b>15-Sep</b>	Nestorick	Nestorick	
21,22 Sep	Farm Museum		Maryland Wine Festival
20-Oct	Barbour	Pennee Parker	Washington State
17-Nov	Michelson	Murray	Tuscans: Super and Otherwise
8-Dec	Blosveren	Landon	Champagne
19-Jan	Brown	Rachele	Port
16-Feb	Kersey	B. Wilson	Vintage Beaujolais
16-Mar	Johnston	Johnston	
20-Apr	Brown	Brown	

*"Good wine is a necessity of life for me."  
- Thomas Jefferson*

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September 1, 2002

Hello!

Well there's a lot to cover in this newsletter, starting with the National Tasting of Pinot Noirs. Bill and Barb Eisberg hosted a very interesting tasting. I say interesting, because time after time the group was very close on the scoring. As Bill said, "we're a close pack," both in scoring and in voting for the favorite wine - at least when it comes to my favorite red - the noble, resplendent, luscious Pinot Noir.

Warm Up	Pepperwood Grove	\$7.99
	Rosemount-Australia 2000	\$10.99
	Mirassou "Coastal Selection" Monterey 1999	\$13.99
	Joseph Drouhin 'Laforet' France 1998, 1999, 2000	\$11.49
<b>Overwhelming #1</b>	<b>Alderbrook-Russian River 1999</b>	<b>\$20.99</b>
Tied for #2	Saintybury- Careros 2000	\$24.99
Tied for #2	Byron-SantaMaria Valley 1999	\$27.99

The response to my little Scheme was so great (visit our website) that we will be happily moving forward with the **Ham Mowbray Educational fund-raising plan**. Please bring your wine and checks (made out to **The American Wine Society Educational Fund** or **A.W.S.E.F.**) to the next three meetings: Sep. Oct, & Nov. As there is such a short time between the November and December meetings, I will need them by the November meeting to get them prepared. If you live in Carroll County, and want to be involved, but are unable to attend those meetings, call me and I will make arrangements to pick up your donations. One of our members (the one with great legs) is thinking a nice bottle of bubbly will be her donation.

Our next meeting will be held at the Nestorick's new home in Owings Mills. Our guest wine host will be **John Worthington**, owner of the Harryman House Restaurant in Reisterstown ([www.harrymanhouse.com](http://www.harrymanhouse.com)). Many of our members have attended wine dinners held at the Harryman House. John's topic "*Cousins of California*" should make for an interesting tasting. **Please call the Nestoricks by Sept.12th to RSVP if you will be attending.**

If you haven't contacted Emily to volunteer to help with the Maryland Wine Festival education seminars, please **call now!** There are always lots of things that need doing and the more the merrier. And here's my shameless plug for myself: If you have time, stop by my booth, "*The Grape Boutique*" (Booth #A-11.) I will be there with my friend Judie. We have lots of new and fun things this year.

## 2002 - 2003 CCAWS Schedule

Date	House	Wine Host	Topic
15-Sep	Nestorick	John Worthington	Cousins of California
21,22 Sep	Farm Museum	Johnston	Maryland Wine Festival
20-Oct	Barbour	Pennee Parker	Washington State
17-Nov	Michelson	Murray	Tuscans: Super and Otherwise
8-Dec	Blosveren	Landon	Champagne
19-Jan	Brown	Rachele	Port
16-Feb	Kersey	B. Wilson	Vintage Beaujolais
16-Mar	Johnston	Johnston	
20-Apr	Brown	Brown	

"...Don't let the wine writers cow you into submission. Your palate is an expression of the heterogeneity of your past experience. It is your past experience and belongs to no one else. It is as personal as your sex life and doubtless connected with it, and nobody, but nobody, has the right to tell you what to enjoy or how to enjoy it."

- Ham Mowbray

(Excerpted from an article published in 1996. Visit our website for the entire article.)

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Becky



# AMERICAN WINE SOCIETY

a non-profit corporation

Chapter Chair  
Becky Wilson

Secretary  
Barry Brunett

Treasurer  
John Landon

October 1, 2002

Hello,

Our September meeting was much enjoyed by all attending. The Nestoricks not only have a beautiful new home but also invited us all to stay on and continue to avail ourselves of their hospitality on into the evening. Thank you! The guest wine host that they invited gave a lovely presentation. John Worthington said, "I just love wine" and it was easy to tell from the presentation he gave that it was true.

The topic "Chardonnay and her Cousins" was both fun and educational. We started the tasting with a Chardonnay and then proceeded to sample many of the wine varieties believed to be its distant varietal relatives. Two of the wines are not widely released, as they had been made for the Bellagio Hotel in Las Vegas. However, the downturn in the economy kept them from needing the entire amount of wine they had contracted, so John snapped it up and kindly shared it with us. Please check the web site for the historical information John provided if you couldn't attend the meeting

Best White:	Wild Horse Pinot Blanc 2000	\$15.00
	Hangtime Chardonnay 2001	\$15.00
	Domaine Ste. Michelle Blanc de Blanc	\$12.00
Best Red and Best Overall:	Domaine Chandon Pinot Meunier 2000	\$30.00
	Firesteed "Oregon" Pinot Gris 2000	\$12.00
	Hangtime Pinot Noir 2000	\$15.00

Our next meeting will be held on Sunday, October 20<sup>th</sup> at the home of Susann and Michael Barbour. Please call them to RSVP by Thursday, October the 17<sup>th</sup>. Pennee Parker will be our wine host. She is planning on showcasing wines from Washington state.

I am very pleased to say that donations in wine and money for the Ham Mowbray fundraiser are pouring in. (YAY!!!) It's both heart-warming and amusing that so many of you believe I can be trusted with wine.

John, our esteemed treasurer, has gifted the project with an entire case of wine. Thank you very much John and JoAnn. Please get the bottles and checks (made out to The American Wine Society Educational Fund or A.W.S.E.F.) to me in the next two meetings or call me to come and get them if you can't make it to one of those meetings.

## 2002 - 2003 CCAWS Schedule

Date	House	Wine Host	Topic
20-Oct	Barbour	Pennee Parker	Washington State
17-Nov	Michelson	Murray	Tuscans: Super and Otherwise
8-Dec	Blosveren	Landon	Champagne
19-Jan	Brown	Rachele	Port
16-Feb	Kersey	B. Wilson	Vintage Beaujolais
16-Mar	Johnston	Johnston	
20-Apr	Brown	Brown	
18-May		Nan Slick	Alsatian Wines

*"Wine can of their wits the wise beguile,  
Make the sage frolic, and the serious smile."*

Homer -Odyssey (9th c. BC)

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*Becky*



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November 2, 2002

Greetings,

Our October meeting was one not to be missed. Michael and Susan provided us with a lovely backdrop to which Pennee added an interesting array of Washington State wines, proving once again that our West Coast has a lot to offer in the wonderful world of wine.

<b>Best White:</b>	<b>Snoqualmie '99 Chenin Blanc</b>	<b>\$6.99</b>
	Chateau Ste. Michelle '99 Pinot Gris	\$14.99
	Columbia Crest '00 Grand Estate Chardonnay	\$12.99
	Snoqualmie '99 Cab Merlot	\$9.99
<b>Best Red and Best Overall:</b>	<b>Bookwalter Lot #12 Red Table Wine</b>	<b>\$14.99</b>
	Chateau Ste. Michelle '00 Cabernet Sauvignon	\$15.99
	Hedges '99 Red Mountain Cabernet Sauvignon	\$49.99

Our next meeting will be held at Peg and Art Michaelson's, with the Murrays presenting a tasting of wines our group is always eager to sample. Their title is "**Tuscans: Super and Otherwise**". Please R.S.V.P. to *me, Becky Wilson* at (i.e. NOT Peg & Art!) by November 14<sup>th</sup>. Remember a donation for the table is always appreciated.

As the year draws to a close, we could use some wine and house hosts for 2003. Please let me know if you will be willing to fill in one of the spots for next year. If you're willing, but just can't think of a theme, let me know - ideas we've got.

Lastly, please remember that all donations for the Ham Mowbray Educational Fund raising are needed by this meeting. If you can't make it to the meeting, but want to be involved, please call or email - I will gladly pick up the donations. As of this date we have 12 members and 22 bottles committed. It would be best to call after we return from the Nationals on November 10, as messages left with our home-alone boys will not likely be forwarded to us properly. Email is good, too.

## 2002 - 2003 CCAWS Schedule

Date	House	Wine Host	Topic
17-Nov	Michelson	Murray	Tuscans: Super and Otherwise
8-Dec	Blosveren	Landon	Champagne
19-Jan	Brown	Rachele	Port
16-Feb	Kersey	B. Wilson	Vintage Beaujolais
16-Mar	Johnston	Johnston	
20-Apr	Brown	Brown	
18-May		Nan Slick	Alsation Wines
Jun			
Jul	Grillons	PICNIC	Picnic, Pool & Party
Aug			National Tasting

*Wine is a living liquid containing no preservatives. Its life cycle comprises youth, maturity, old age, and death. When not treated with reasonable respect it will sicken and die.*

- Julia Child

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11/24/02

Hello,

At our November meeting, Dick Murray presented an unusual array of wines, inspired by some of the wines the Murrays had the pleasure of sampling while visiting Tuscany, in Italy. Dick gets an A for doing all his homework, and for extra credit: We were certainly impressed with his prepared tasting sheets, already filled out, copied and distributed, allowing more time to concentrate on tasting and enjoyment. I want to point out that the voting does not reflect the wine that was a clear winner: The Vino Santo. This jewel was not voted upon, as it was so different from the rest of the line-up, and was much enjoyed with the Italian-style biscotti that was supplied for dipping (I see a recipe in your future). I heard MANY voices around the room saying they would be adding the Vino Santo to their cellars.

Speaking of voices, the only thing that could have made this meeting better would have been a MAJOR reduction in the noise level so that we could have heard all of the information Dick had for us. I am compelled to mention this as I have been getting a few complaints regarding the seemingly increasing noise levels at our meeting as of late.

<b>Warm Up:</b>	<b>Veneto "Pozzi" Pinot Grigio</b>	\$7.99
	<b>Fabula Rosso Montiregio</b>	\$10.99
	<b>Poggiolla Badiola</b>	\$11.99
	<b>Montellasi, Morellino</b>	\$19.99
	<b>Rubicondo, Castello di Tavolese</b>	\$13.99
<b>Best Red:</b>	<b>Morellino di Scansano</b>	<b>\$16.99</b>
<b>High Marks (not voted):</b>	<b>Vino Santo</b>	\$23.99

The deadline for participation in the Ham Mowbray Wine Basket Fundraiser has PASSED and I think all of the participants are going to be very pleased with the results. Phyllis Mowbray will be attending our champagne tasting and drawing the winners for our baskets. Attached to this newsletter is a list of those that are participating. *If your name is not on the list and you gave me a check and wine let me know right away so I can fix it before our Champagne GALA at the Blossverens. Our Tasting is on the 7<sup>th</sup> of December this year at 2 o'clock. Please call the Blossverens to RSVP. I can't wait to see the decorations that Carmen always works so hard on. Then there's all that wonderful beautifully bubbly Champagne. On top of that, add the wonderful donations you all bring for the table -YUM!!!!!! (Remember the tasting fee will be higher!)*

We still have some openings in our schedule for next year and I will have the schedule with me at the December meeting. So check your schedule and consider signing up as a house or wine host.

Also, we welcome our newest member, Charles "Butch" Franklin, of Columbia, Maryland.

2002 - 2003 CCAWS Schedule			
Date	House	Wine Host	Topic
12/08/02	Blossveren	Landon	Champagne
01/19/03	Brown	Rachele	Port
02/16/03	Kersey	B. Wilson	Vintage Beaujolais
03/16/03	Johnston	Johnston	0
04/20/03	Brown	Brown	0
05/18/02	Barbour	Nan Slick	Alsation Wines
06/15/03	0	0	0
07/20/02	Grillons	PICNIC	Picnic, Pool & Party
08/17/03	0	0	National Tasting
Sep -?	0	0	0
10/19/03	0	0	0
11/16/03	0	0	0
Dec - ?	0	0	0

November 6<sup>th</sup> marked the passing of a member of our group that we will feel the loss of as long as those of us that knew him continue to meet in the enjoyment of wine. Alan Kacsur, with his quick wit and sharp humor, always kept us laughing. Even now that this founding member is gone, the first reaction to hearing the name Al Kacsur is a smile. I think that's quite a legacy. Our deepest sympathies go out to his wife, and our friend, Tammy. I ask those of you that were not at the last meeting to join us in our toast to Al to lift a glass to the irreverent, irrepressible, but irresistible, Cheap Al Kacsur.

*"Couldn't understand a single word he said but he sure had some mighty fine wine... and I helped him drink his wine."*

- Three Dog Night

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*Becky*