



Greetings everyone and Happy New year to everyone...

The CCAWS **January 15th** tasting will be held at the home of **Corynne Courpas and Scott Markle**. The theme will be **“Zinfandel et al”** presented by the **Anna and Lee Stewart**. **Note there is a chance this tasting will cost \$25 or more per person, depending upon the final wines that are available.** Be sure to RSVP to Corynne or Scott by **Wednesday, Jan 11th** — ***as usual the sooner the better.*** As always bring a tasty dish, and/or dessert for the table. Also if you bring a guest, please bring a dish for them as well.

The Carroll County (MD) chapter met on December 11th at the home of the Carmen and Richard Blosser for our annual holiday party and sparkling tasting. The theme was **“Bubbles!!!”** presented by Betty Kreder with special assistance from Nancy Slick and John Landon. The tasting featured a selection of sparkling wines from France; both inside and outside the Champagne region. Betty took the attendees on a tour of the country, the regions, the grape varieties, and the processes used to produce the wonderful sparkling wines tasted.

“Bubbles!!!”			
No.	Wines	Price	Votes
warm-up	Baron de Breban Brut Blanc de Blancs	10.99	0
1	Chateau de L’Aulee Brut Elegant Loire Valley – Touraine, 100% Chenin Blanc	19.99	1
2	Toad Hollow Amplexus Limoux, Chardonnay, Mauzac, Chenin Blanc	18.99	4
3	Champagne Fleury fleur de L’Europe Brut Champagne, Pinot Noir, Chardonnay, Pinot Meunier	63.99	5
4	Andre et Mireille Cremant du Jura	23.99	11
5	Lucien Albrecht Cremant d’Alsace Brut Rosé, Alsace 100% Pinot Noir	19.99	24
6	Gratien & Meyer Brut Rosé 2009 Loire Valley Saumur, 75% Cabernet Franc & 25% Grolleau	20.99	10

Chapter news

- Following the tasting and voting the drawing was held for the AWSEF donation baskets, along with the silent auction for the CCAWS Winemaker’s basket. The basket winners were Frank and Dori Batavick, Ron and Linda Riley, Joe and Lynn Breeding, Mark and Donna Daugherty, Mark and Janine Wilson. The winning bid on the Winemaker’s basket came from Joe and Lynn Breeding.
- With the new year it is time to renew your membership by paying dues of (still only) \$10 to CCAWS (Carroll County Chapter of the American Wine Society) AND your membership obligation (dues \$62 for 2012) to AWS (American Wine Society). Remember you must maintain membership in AWS (the national parent organization) to remain a member of CCAWS. You can renew your national membership via the website www.americanwinesociety.org or call 888-297-9070 if you prefer to manage your account over the phone.

Other news

- The February tasting will be held on Sunday the 19th at the Grillon’s. The wine host is the your National AWS Vice President Bill Eisberg, and the theme will be revealed in the next newsletter.
- As always please refrain from any strong smelling colognes or perfumes.
- The 2012 schedule of house hosts is coming together, but I am still looking for wine hosts.

Check our web site (www.CCAWS.net) for upcoming tastings.

Other items of interest

- Cranberry Liquors, College Square, Northwest Liquors, House of Liquors, and Main Street Liquors in Hampstead all offer discounts to CCAWS members
- Serpent Ridge Vineyard is now also offering a 15 % discount to CCAWS members for wine sales. A tasting is \$5.00 and you get to keep the glass. <http://www.serpentridge.com/>



Greetings everyone ...

The CCAWS **February 19th** tasting will be held at the home of Jackie and George Grillon, the theme will be **“Malbec - the next big thing?”** presented by **Bill Eisberg**. Be sure to RSVP to the Grillons by **Wednesday, February 15th** — *as usual the sooner the better*. As always bring a tasty dish, and/or dessert for the table. Also if you bring a guest, please bring a dish for them as well.

The Carroll County (MD) chapter met on January 15th at the home of the Corynne Courpas and Scott Markle. The theme was **“Zinfandel et al”** presented by **Anna and LeRoy Stewart**. The tasting featured a selection of red wines, beginning with a pink warmup. The Stewarts presented a wealth of information on Zinfandel. They covered its origins in the Mediterranean, and the varietal family tree that led to the Zinfandel we know today.

“Zinfandel et al”			
No.	Wines	Price	Votes
warm-up	Pedroncelli Zinfandel Rosé, '09 Sonoma County, USA	11.99	0
1	Twisted Old Vine Zinfandel, '10 California, USA	7.99	0
2	Terrilogia Primitivo, '10 Puglia, Italy	9.99	0
3	Lirica Plavic Mali, '08 Pelješac Peninsula, Croatia	20.00	0
4	Layer Cake Primitivo, '08 Puglia, Italy	16.99	8
5	Cline Ancient Vines Zinfandel, '09 California, USA	17.99	16
6	Zlantan Crljenak Kaštelanski, '08 Hvar, Croatia	45.00	11

Chapter news

○ With the new year it is time to renew your membership by paying dues of (still only) \$10 to CCAWS (Carroll County Chapter of the American Wine Society) AND your membership obligation (dues \$62 for 2012) to AWS (American Wine Society). Remember you must maintain membership in AWS (the national parent organization) to remain a member of CCAWS. You can renew your national membership via the website www.americanwinesociety.org or call 888-297-9070, if you prefer to manage your account over the phone.

Other news

- The March tasting and CCAWS Annual meeting will be held on Sunday the 18th at the Johnston's. They will also be acting as wine hosts, and the theme will be 'Red wine ABC* – (*Anything But Cabernet').
- As always please refrain from any strong smelling colognes or perfumes when attending tastings.

Check our web site (www.CCAWS.net) for upcoming tastings.

Other items of interest

- *Cranberry Liquors, College Square, Northwest Liquors, House of Liquors, and Main Street Liquors in Hampstead all offer discounts to CCAWS members*
- *Serpent Ridge Vineyard is now also offering a 15 % discount to CCAWS members for wine sales. A tasting is \$5.00 and you get to keep the glass. <http://www.serpentridge.com/>*



Greetings everyone...

The CCAWS **March 18th** tasting will be held at the home of Emily and Jack Johnston, the theme will be **“Red wine ABC (Anything But Cabernet)”** presented by **Jack Johnston**. The March gathering is our **31st** anniversary tasting and will begin **30 minutes early at 1:30 to include the annual meeting**. Be sure to RSVP to the Johnstons by **Wednesday, March 14th — *as usual the sooner the better***. As always bring a tasty dish, and/or dessert for the table. Also if you bring a guest, please bring a dish for them as well.

The Carroll County (MD) chapter met on February 19th at the home of the Jackie and George Grillon. The theme was **“Malbec - the next big thing?”** presented by **Bill Eisberg**. The tasting featured a selection of Malbecs, beginning with a pink warm-up. Bill presented some excellent information about the origin and migration of the Malbec varietal. The tasting covered several vintages including a selection from France that was nearly a decade old and still holding up well. The unique characteristics of the Argentinean appellations were discussed, and how they act to create a very stable product with less variation year to year. I would like to thank Jackie and George for opening their beautiful home and hosting the group, and to Bill for presenting.

“Malbec - the next big thing?”			
No.	Wines	Price	Votes
warm-up	Crios Malbec Rose, Argentina, 2011	11.99	0
1	Zette Malbec, Cahors France, 2003	11.99	1
2	Punto Final Malbec, Argentina, 2010	12.99	0
3	Ruta 22 Malbec, Argentina (Patagonia), 2010	14.99	11
4	Piattelli Malbec, Argentina, 2009	19.99	1
5	Catena Malbec, Argentina, 2008	23.99	1
6	Trapiche Malbec, Argentina, 2007	54.99	16

Chapter news

This is a final reminder about renewing your local and national membership. You must maintain membership in AWS to be a member of CCAWS. You can call 888-297-9070 to manage your national account over the phone or online.

Guests / New Members

It was nice to meet a new couple who attended as our guests; June and Barry Huey joined us for an afternoon of wine tasting and education. Also, Jan and Roger Miller, who were guests at the January tasting, decided to join the chapter as well. Please welcome them when you see them at an upcoming meeting. If you encounter people who might enjoy the benefits of CCAWS, consider bringing them to a tasting as a guest (along with an extra dish for the table).

Other news

- **The April tasting will be held at the Breeding’s on Sunday the 15th. The theme for the April tasting will be “sherries” presented by Betty Kreder.**
- For any basket winners from December, the March tasting is an excellent time to return them to Emily.
- As always please refrain from any strong smelling colognes or perfumes when attending tastings.

Check our web site (www.CCAWS.net) for upcoming tastings.

Other items of interest

- *Cranberry Liquors, College Square, Northwest Liquors, House of Liquors, and Main Street Liquors in Hampstead all offer discounts to CCAWS members.*
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All...

The CCAWS April 15th tasting will be held at our home (Lynn and Joe Breeding) and the theme will be **“Sherries” presented by Betty Kreder**. Please bring a tasty dish, and/or dessert for the table. If you bring a guest please bring a dish for them as well. Be sure to RSVP to us by **Wednesday, April 11th** — *as usual the sooner the better*.

The Carroll County (MD) chapter met on March 18th at the home of Emily and Jack Johnston. The theme was **“ABCs of red wine (Anything But Cabernet)?”** presented by **Jack Johnston**. I want to again offer a big thank you to the Emily and Jack Johnston assisted by Nan Slick for all their efforts researching, developing and presenting the theme. The Johnstons maintained the tradition of opening their home and hosting the annual business meeting along with the March tasting. As you can see below, there was a fantastic selection of wines.

“ABCs of red wine (Anything But Cabernet)”			
No.	Wines	Price	Votes
warm-up	Les Jamelles Cinsault (France) 2010	9.99	0
1	Casa Lapostolle Carmenere (Chile) 2010	12.99	5
2	Horton Vineyards Norton (Virginia) 2010	15.99	0
3	Glatzer Blaufrankisch Reserve (Austria) 2008	19.99	4
4	Cline Ancient Vines Carignane (California) 2010	18.99	24
5	Maipe Bonarda (Argentina) 2011	10.99	4
6	Don Pascual Reserve Tannat (Uruguay) 2008	14.99	0

Chapter news

The March tasting also marked our 32nd anniversary, and the beginning of our 33rd year.

- A change adopted this year will revise last year’s rule change exempting club officers from paying for tastings to only apply when a minimum of 25 paying members are present.
- I also spoke about the growth of the chapter and the increasing importance of an early and accurate RSVP to assure a spot. We have had some tastings which have reached the capacity of the house host.

Other news

- **The May tasting will be held at the Pardoes’ on Sunday the 20th. The wine host will be Nancy Slick and the theme is a return to the traditional May tasting of Wild Wacky Whites.**
- Active membership in the National AWS organization is needed to qualify for the discount at our supporting retailers, and if you are hosting, you need the membership to qualify for the society’s group insurance. I will be contacting members who have not paid their National dues to remind them of their obligation.
- As always please refrain from any strong smelling colognes or perfumes when attending tastings.

Check our web site (www.CCAWS.net) for upcoming tastings.

Other items of interest

- *Cranberry Liquors, College Square, Northwest Liquors, House of Liquors, and Main Street Liquors in Hampstead all offer discounts to CCAWS members*
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All...

The CCAWS May 20th tasting will be held at the home of Deborah and John Pardoe. The theme will be **“Wild, Wacky, Whites”** presented by **Nancy Slick**. Please bring a tasty dish, and/or dessert for the table. If you bring a guest please bring a dish for them as well. Be sure to RSVP to the Pardoes or John@ByteRightSupport.com by **Wednesday, May 16th** — *as usual the sooner the better.*

The Carroll County (MD) chapter met on April 15th at the home of Lynn and Joe Breeding. The theme was **“Sherry 101”** presented by **Betty Kreder**. Betty deserves a huge thank you for all her efforts researching, developing and presenting a wonderfully educational afternoon. She provided an excellent introduction to the unique production methods and characteristics of Sherries, specifically the family produced by the house of Hartley & Gibson. It was a joy to host the group in April, everyone who was able to attend seemed to enjoy learning about a unique subset of Spanish wines.

“Sherry 101”			
No.	Wines	Price	Votes
warm-up	Marqués de Cáceres 2010	10.99	0
1	Hartley & Gibson Dry Fino	10.99	0
2	Hartley & Gibson Manzanilla	10.99	0
3	Hartley & Gibson Amontillado	11.99	9
4	Hartley & Gibson Olroso	10.99	3
5	Hartley & Gibson Cream	12.99	10
6	Hartley & Gibson Pedro Ximenze “Choice old Solera P.X. Sherry”	19.99	7

Chapter news

With the growth of the chapter there is an increasing importance of an early and accurate RSVP to assure a spot. We have had some tastings which have reached the capacity of the house host. Also, please contact the house host if your plans change and you are no longer able to attend.

Other news

- **The June tasting will be held A WEEK EARLY at the Riley’s on Sunday the 10TH. Nancy Slick will present the AWS National Tasting Project focusing on Pinot Noir this year (in honor of the National conference being in Oregon).**
- Active membership in the National AWS organization a requirement to participate in CCAWS and is needed to qualify for the discount at our supporting retailers. Also if you are hosting, you qualify for the society’s group insurance.
- As always please refrain from any strong smelling colognes or perfumes when attending tastings.
- My tenure as Chapter Chair will finish in December, so please contact me if you have interest in serving the group in the role.

Check our web site (www.CCAWS.net) for upcoming tastings.

Other items of interest

- *Cranberry Liquors, College Square, Northwest Liquors, House of Liquors, and Main Street Liquors in Hampstead all offer discounts to CCAWS members*
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All...

The CCAWS chapter will meet on June 10th for a tasting at the home of Linda and Ron Riley. **NOTE—this is a week early (*the 2nd Sunday) to not conflict with Father’s Day.** The theme will be **“The 2012 AWS National Tasting Project – Pinot Noir”** presented by **Nancy Slick**. Please bring a tasty dish, and/or dessert for the table. If you bring a guest please bring a dish for them as well. Be sure to RSVP to the Rileys by **Wednesday**,

June 6th — as usual the sooner the better.

The Carroll County (MD) chapter met on May 20th at the home of Deborah and John Pardoe. The theme was **“Wild, Wacky, Whites”** presented by **Nancy Slick**. Nancy brought out a fantastic variety of unusual white wines for this (mostly) annual event. As you’ll note in the voting, and on the score sheets of anyone who was there, all the selections were wonderful. I certainly had a hard time picking a favorite.

“Wild, Wacky, Whites”			
No.	Wines	Price	Votes
w/u	I Verxi Bianco by Fondo Antico 2010 – Sicilia – Grecanico/Insolia/Grillo	10	0
1	Tochuelo Malvar 2010 – Spain – Madrid – Malvar	9	0
2	Hillinger Welschriesling 2010 – Austria – Welschriesling	16	0
3	Cantine Terranera Greco di Tufo 2010 – Italy – Campania – Greco	12	7
4	Vercesi del Castellzzo 2011 “Gugiarolo” – Italy – Oltrepo Pavese Pinot Nero Bianco	19	7
5	Jean Perrier et Fils Savoie Roussette 2010 – France – Savoie – Roussette / Altesse	15	8
6	Herdade da Comporrta Branco Parus 2009 – Portugal – Peninsula de Setubal – Antao Vaz	41	3

To start the meeting I read from a letter we received from Dick Marsden, President of the AWSEF (AWS Educational Foundation), expressing their appreciation and recognizing of CCAWS for sponsoring more scholarships than any other chapter in the American Wine Society. The selection of a recipient of the next “G Hamilton Mowbray Scholarship” in memory of Bill Brown is expected this summer. With the awarding of this scholarship, remaining funds are applied to the next scholarship and the chapter needs to start the process of identifying an honoree(s). Please send candidate names to me, and I will compile a list.

Chapter news

With the growth of the chapter there is an increasing importance of an early and accurate RSVP to assure a spot. We have had some tastings which have reached the capacity of the house host. Also, please contact the house host if your plans change and you are no longer able to attend.

Other news

- **The July tasting is our annual picnic and BBQ! The chapter will meet at the Grillon’s on Sunday the 15TH of July.**
- As always please refrain from any strong smelling colognes or perfumes when attending tastings.
- My tenure as Chapter Chair will finish in December, I will be contacting possible successors to serve beginning in Jan ‘13.

Check our web site (www.CCAWS.net) for upcoming tastings.

Other items of interest

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All...

The CCAWS chapter will meet on July 29th at the home of Jackie and George Grillon for the annual picnic. **NOTE—this is a two weeks later than usual (*the 5th Sunday) to allow time for a family wedding.** Please bring lawn chairs, swim suits, a tasty side dish, and / or dessert, and a favorite bottle of wine (or two). This is a family affair open to children and grandchildren; however, this probably isn't the best meeting to introduce potential new members to our group. Be sure to RSVP to George or Jackie by **Wednesday, July 25th** — *as usual the sooner the better. An accurate count is important as I will be picking up burgers, hot dogs and other grill items for the group.*

The Carroll County (MD) chapter met on June 10th at the home of Linda and Ron Riley. The theme was “**The 2012 AWS National Tasting Project – Pinot Noir**”. The wines were located and presented by **Nancy Slick**. Following the NTP protocol, the tasting was conducted in a double blind manner and discussion held until the end. This allowed each individual to judge each wine independently. The NTP presented a delightful sampling of Pinot Noir wines from around the globe.

“2012 National Tasting Project – Pinot Noir”			
No.	Wines	Price	Votes
w/u	Toad Hollow Dry Rosé 2011	13	0
1	Kris 2010 – Italy	13	3
2	Louis Jadot 2009 – France	22	0
3	Innocent Bystander 2010 – Australia	20	12
4	Luca 2009 – Argentina	35	11
5	Decoy Sonoma 2010 -- California	25	13
6	Willamette Valley Vineyards 2009 – Oregon	30	0

To start the meeting I had a few announcements covering the adjusted date for the annual picnic (see above), and a new house host for the August tasting (see below). Also I received notification from Dick Marsden, President of the AWSEF (AWS Educational Foundation), identifying the selection of Misha Kwasniewski as recipient of the next “G Hamilton Mowbray Scholarship” in memory of Bill Brown.

Nancy presented the NTP instructions and the material provided on Pinot Noir followed by tasting and scoring each wine. After the voting for favorite was complete; the bottles were unwrapped revealing the labels and then the associated pricing. All tasting sheets were collected, and the scores submitted to the national office to be compiled with other chapters for the summary report.

Chapter news

With the growth of the chapter there is an increasing importance of an early and accurate RSVP to assure a spot. We have had some tastings which have reached the capacity of the house host. Also, please contact the house host, if your plans change and you are no longer able to attend.

Other news

- **The August tasting will be at the Batavick’s on Sunday the 19TH of August. The wine hosts will be Meggan Robinson and Mike Bareford. They will present a selection of Grenache from around the world.**
- My tenure as Chapter Chair finishes in December. I will be contact possible successors to serve beginning in Jan ‘13.

Check our web site (www.CCAWS.net) for upcoming tastings.

Other items of interest

- *Cranberry Liquors, College Square, Northwest Liquors, House of Liquors, and Main Street Liquors in Hampstead all offer discounts to CCAWS members*
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Greetings everyone...

The CCAWS August tasting will be held on August 19th hosted by Dori and Frank Batavick. The theme is “**Grenache from Around the World**” presented by Meggan Robinson and Mike Bareford. Be sure to RSVP to Dori or Frank by **Wednesday, August 15th — as usual the sooner the better.** This tasting is likely to run between \$25 and \$30 per head but is expected to present some fantastic wines.

Once again Jackie and George Grillon graciously opened their beautiful home for the annual picnic. In keeping with tradition there were horseshoes thrown, golf balls driven, and various spirited discussions; interspersed with frequent visits to the pool to cool off. As usual the food was wonderful with side dishes and desserts provided by attendees complemented by hamburgers, hot dogs and chicken on the grill. We also managed to enjoy a bit of wine. Those in attendance had a wonderful time, and Ron Riley was generally applauded for delivering delightful weather. The picnic is a great deal of work, so I want to offer a huge thank you to both Jackie and George for hosting the group each year.

Announcements --

- The September tasting will be held a week early on the second Sunday, September 9th to avoid conflicting with the Maryland Wine Festival on September 15th & 16th. The September tasting will be at Susan and Mike Barbour's.
 - The AWS National Conference registration opens on Sunday evening at 7PM for anyone who is able to join us in Portland OR on November 8-10. The National Conference is a unique experience offering the opportunity to participate in a staggering amount of educational programs covering many different aspects of wine and winemaking.
 - CCAWS will once again be very involved with the Maryland Wine Festival at the Carroll County Farm Museum. Anyone interested in volunteering should contact Emily Johnston as soon as possible for more details.
 - The September Tasting will be at the Barbour's on September 9th; the theme will be A Cabernet Family Affair presented by the Barbour/Stewart team.
- *NOTE this is a week early***
- As always, please refrain from any strong smelling colognes or perfumes. This will permit you and your neighbors to evaluate the wine's aromas.
 - Our house and wine hosts for 2012 are filled, but it is not too early to think about 2013! Please let me know if you are interested.

Check our web site (www.CCAWS.net) for upcoming tastings.

Other items of interest

- *Cranberry Liquors, College Square, Northwest Liquors, House of Liquors, and Main Street Liquors in Hampstead all offer discounts to CCAWS members*
- *Wine Me Up Wine Bar & Shoppe (<http://www.winemeupshoppeandavern.com>) Half off wine by the bottle on Tuesdays, half off Pizza on Wednesdays and on Friday Happy Hour, receive half off wine by the glass from 5pm-7pm on Fridays!*
- *Serpent Ridge Vineyard is now also offering a 15 % discount to CCAWS members for wine sales. A tasting is \$5.00, and you get to keep the glass. <http://www.serpentridge.com/>*



Greetings everyone...

The CCAWS September 9th tasting (please note the early date due to the MD Wine Festival) will be held at the home of Susan and Mike Barbour and the theme will be **“A Cabernet Family Affair”** presented by **the Barbour / Stewart team**. Be sure to RSVP to the Barbours’ by **Wednesday, Sept 5th** — *as usual the sooner the better*. As always bring a tasty dish, and/or dessert for the table. Also if you bring a guest please bring a dish

for them as well.

The Carroll County (MD) chapter met on August 19th at the home of the Dori and Frank Batavick. The theme was a **“Grenache from Around the World”** presented by Meggan Robinson and Mike Bareford. The tasting featured wines made from the 2nd most widely planted grape in the world, originating from France, Italy, Spain, Austria and California. Not only did the group taste the wonderful wines listed below, but also learned a great deal about the origin and history of Grenache. Everyone present truly enjoyed the level of preparation and wealth of information delivered.

“Grenache from Around the World”				
No.	Wines	Price		Votes
warm-up	Altes Herencia Garnatxa Blanca 2011	9.99		0
1	Sella & Mosca Cannonau 2006	14.99		1
2	Domaine de Bois de Saint Jean Cotes Rhone Reserve “Cuvee De Voulongue” 2009	23.99		2
3	Alto Moncayo Veraton Garnacha (Campo De Borja) 2009	29.99		13
4	Villa Creek Garnacha (Paso Robles)	39.99		1
5	Clarendon Hills Grenache “Romas” (Clarendon, McLaren Vale) 2004	99.99		20
6	Gerard Bertrand Banyuls 2008	17.99		0

Guests / New Members

We welcomed the Hutsells, guests of Joyce and Jeff Romans. Also Carmen and Richard Blosveren brought their daughter Barbara & son in law who were in town for the milestone birthday and anniversary celebrations. If you encounter people who might enjoy the benefits of CCAWS, consider bringing them to a tasting as a guest (along with an extra dish for the table). You could find another friend to share an enjoyable Sunday afternoon with once a month. We look forward to seeing all our new members at upcoming tastings and the annual picnic in July.

- **The October tasting will be hosted by the Carr’s on October 16th. The Carr’s are also acting as wine host, and are still developing the theme.**
- As always please refrain from any strong smelling colognes or perfumes. This will permit you and your neighbors to evaluate the wine’s aromas.
- **Our house hosts for 2012 are filled, but wine hosts are still needed. Please talk to me or send an e-mail if you are interested in presenting.**

Check our web site (www.CCAWS.net) for upcoming tastings.

Other items of interest

- *Cranberry Liquors, College Square, Northwest Liquors, House of Liquors, and Main Street Liquors in Hampstead all offer discounts to CCAWS members*
- *Wine Me Up Wine Bar & Shoppe (www.winemeupshoppeandavern.com) Half off wine by the bottle on Tuesdays, half off Pizza on Wednesdays and on Friday Happy Hour, receive half off wine by the glass from 5pm-7pm on Fridays!*
- *Serpent Ridge Vineyard is now also offering a 15 % discount to CCAWS members for wine sales. A tasting is \$5.00 and you get to keep the glass. <http://www.serpentridge.com/>*



Greetings everyone...

The CCAWS **October 21st** tasting will be held at the home of Ann and John Carr and the theme will be “A palate challenge” led by **John Carr**. Please note the special requirements listed below provided by John!!!

Description: Each person will bring a wine (\$15+ retail) in a brown paper bag. If your wine requires time to breath, please open and then recork it prior to arrival. Each bottle will be numbered. Each contestant will taste six wines. They will be provided a tasting sheet with columns for: color, varietal, nation, region, and vintage. At the end of the tasting, each bottle will be uncovered and contestants will score their answer sheet. The winner will have bragging rights to having the best palate of CCAWS and be allowed to drink free for the rest of the day.

Be sure to RSVP to the Carrs by **Wednesday, Oct 17th** — *as usual the sooner the better*. As always bring a tasty dish, and/or dessert for the table. Also if you bring a guest, please bring a dish for them as well.

The Carroll County (MD) chapter met on September 9th at the home of the Susan and Mike Barbour. The theme was “A Cabernet Family Affair” presented by the **Barbour / Stewart team**. The tasting featured paired selections of wines from three different producers. A Cabernet Franc (a parent) and a Cabernet Sauvignon (offspring) selection were sampled head to head with both individual and overall favorites selected.

“A Cabernet Family Affair”				
No.	Wines	Price	Pairing votes	Overall Votes
warm-up	LVDH Vignobles Signature Series Sancerre Sauvignon Blanc '10	20	-	-
1	Barboursville Vineyards (Virginia) Cabernet Franc Reserve '09	25	13	2
2	Barboursville Vineyards (Virginia) Cabernet Sauvignon '09	18	8	0
3	Alexander Valley Vineyards (Sonoma, CA) Cabernet Franc '09	25	14	7
4	Alexander Valley Vineyards (Sonoma, CA) Cabernet Sauvignon '09	20	8	3
5	Michael David Winery (Lodi, CA) Inkblot Cabernet Franc '09	43	15	11
6	Michael David Winery (Lodi, CA) Freakshow Cabernet Sauvignon '09	20	7	6

As you can see above there were some wonderful wines tasted, and interestingly the Cabernet Franc was preferred in each of the pairings.

Chapter news

As the MD wine festival is behind us and the holidays are approaching, it is time to start collecting wines and contributions for the AWS Education Foundation Wine basket drawing in December. Expect to hear more about this and see the additional attachment!

- **The November tasting will be held on Sunday the 18th at the home of Michele and Bill Sadler. The presenters will be Tracy and Chris Koch and theme remains a surprise.**
- As always please refrain from any strong smelling colognes or perfumes. This will permit you and your neighbors to evaluate the wine's aromas.
- The announcement of my successor will take place at the October tasting at the Carr's.
- **I am developing the 2013 schedule of house hosts and wine hosts. Please talk to me or send an e-mail if you are interested.**

Check our web site (www.CCAWS.net) for upcoming tastings.

Other items of interest

- *Cranberry Liquors, College Square, Northwest Liquors, House of Liquors, and Main Street Liquors in Hampstead all offer discounts to CCAWS members*
- *Wine Me Up Wine Bar & Shoppe (www.winemeupshoppeandavern.com) Half off wine by the bottle on Tuesdays, half off Pizza on Wednesdays and on Friday Happy Hour, receive half off wine by the glass from 5pm-7pm on Fridays!*
- *Serpent Ridge Vineyard is now also offering a 15 % discount to CCAWS members for wine sales. A tasting is \$5.00 and you get to keep the glass. <http://www.serpentridge.com/>*

Hello Everyone,

Well, it's fall, and that means it's once again time for the **Carroll County Chapter American Wine Society Educational Fund Raiser**. For those of you that have joined recently, here's the scoop – Our chapter sponsors the Carroll County Chapter **G. Hamilton Mowbray** scholarship of the American Wine Society Educational Foundation. (AWSEF). As a chapter we have funded more scholarships than any other private group in the American Wine Society!.

Becky Wilson started this tradition that is always a big hit and also benefits the **G. Hamilton Mowbray Educational Fund**. Annually at the December Champagne tasting we have a drawing for wonderful wine baskets, along with other items to benefit the AWSEF including a silent auction for a special basket filled with wines donated by winemakers from our own chapter.

So to join in the basket drawing, each household that wishes to participate (and have a chance to win) will do either of the following:

- Donate 1 bottle of wine worth *at least \$10.00* (yes, after discount, not retail) **AND**
- A check for *at least \$25.00 (or more - be generous)* made out to “A.W.S.E.F.”

And bring them to the October or November meeting. If you can't make it to the meeting, you can write TWO checks

- One check for *at least \$10.00* payable to “Joseph Breeding” or “Cash”, and we will purchase the wine for you
- AND One check for *at least \$25.00* made out to “A.W.S.E.F.”.
- Mail these to **Joseph Breeding**

That gets you your drawing slip! DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES IS THE MEETING ON NOVEMBER 18th. And, your donation is tax deductible! Remember you must have donated prior by the November tasting in order to participate in the drawing at the Champagne tasting (need not be present to win). We are currently funding the next Carroll County Chapter **G. Hamilton Mowbray** scholarship.



Greetings everyone...

The CCAWS **November 18th** tasting will be held at the home of **Michele and Bill Sadler** and the theme will be **"Wines of South Africa"** presented by **Tracy and Chris Koch**. Be sure to RSVP to the Sadlers by **Wednesday, Nov 14th** — *as usual the sooner the better*. As always bring a tasty dish, and/or dessert for the table. Also if you bring a guest, please bring a dish for them as well.

The Carroll County (MD) chapter met on October 21st at the home of the Ann and John Carr. The theme was a **"A Palate challenge"** overseen by Ann and John. The tasting featured each person evaluating a blind sampling from six different bottles (of the many supplied by the attendees). After assessing a sample you attempted to identify the Varietal, Country/Region, Vintage, Producer, and Color. After everyone had a chance to sample at least six different wines, the bags were removed and the true answers provided.

The outcome of this experiment was two conclusions...first that many of our members enjoy a good Malbec (the most represented varietal), and that on the third Sunday in October, in Linwood, MD Bill Hudock claimed the leading palate (with 11 correct out of a possible 30).

Chapter news

There were a few people who joined us at the October tasting as guests. Ann's brother and sister-in-law David and Coleen Lambdin and friends Aaron and Mia Teeter. They all joined in the experience and were embraced by the chapter.

As the holidays are approaching it is time to work on the Wine baskets for our December tasting and the corresponding contribution to the AWS Educational Foundation. I sent out a separate e-mail with details about this on October 3rd along with last month's newsletter. Essentially by making a contribution to the ASWEF scholarship (which our chapter funds), and providing a bottle of wine (greater than \$10 retail) by the November tasting, you are entered into the wine basket drawing held at the December Champagne tasting. Please bring your contributions (checks and bottles) to the November tasting, or contact me by then if you want to join.

Also announced at the October tasting was my successor; I would like to give a hearty thanks to Ann Carr who will be taking the reins as the chairperson of the CCAWS chapter effective with the New Year! I am very confident that Ann will do a wonderful job keeping the chapter moving ahead.

- The December tasting will be held on Sunday the 9th (2nd week) at the home of Carmen and Richard Blosveren. The theme will follow tradition and focus on bubbly!!! The wine host will be John Landon.
- As always please refrain from any strong smelling colognes or perfumes.
- I am developing the 2013 schedule of house hosts and wine hosts. Please talk to the incoming chapter chairperson if you are interested. I plan to check with the each of the house hosts from this year, and offer them the right of first refusal for the month(s) they hosted in 2012.

Check our web site (www.CCAWS.net) for upcoming tastings.

Other items of interest

- *Cranberry Liquors, College Square, Northwest Liquors, House of Liquors, and Main Street Liquors* in Hampstead all offer discounts to CCAWS members
- *Wine Me Up Wine Bar & Shoppe* (www.winemeupshoppeandtaVERN.com) Half off wine by the bottle on Tuesdays, half off Pizza on Wednesdays and on Friday Happy Hour, receive half off wine by the glass from 5pm-7pm on Fridays!
- *Serpent Ridge Vineyard* is now also offering a 15 % discount to CCAWS members for wine sales. A tasting is \$5.00 and you get to keep the glass. <http://www.serpentridge.com/>



Greetings everyone and Happy Holidays...

Put on your party dress or dust off your suit and tie, and join us for the CCAWS Holiday Celebration and tasting on **December 9th** at the home of **Carmen and Richard Blossveren** (note that this is the 2nd Sunday!) The theme will follow our usual pattern for December and focus on “Bubbles!!!” presented by **John Landon**. ***NOTE: There is a good chance the cost of this tasting will be greater than \$25, (but it will be worth it)! The address for the December tasting is 314 Denton Drive, Westminster MD.

Be sure to RSVP to the Blossverens by **Wednesday, Dec 5th** — *as usual the sooner the better*.

Also this tasting is usually very well attended, so there may not be room for guests (the house hosts will record your desire to bring a guest during the tally, and let you know if there is room after the response cutoff). As always bring a tasty dish, and/or dessert for the table. If we are able to accommodate guests and you do bring one, please bring a dish for them as well. A word to newer members, people dress up for this tasting as it also serves as our annual party.

The Carroll County (MD) chapter met on November 18th at the home of the Michele and Bill Sadler. The theme was a “Wines of South Africa” presented by Tracy and Chris Koch. The tasting featured a selection of wines from several of the key wine making regions of South Africa. They began a well attended tasting providing information on the history of wine in South Africa, and the growing conditions along with a map and a hint of geography. Afterward, we were led on a introductory tour of some of their personal favorites along with wines using signature grapes from the region.

"Wines of South Africa"			
No.	Wines	Price	Votes
warm-up	Indaba Chardonnay '11	9.99	4
1	The Royal Old Vines Steen Chenin '09	8.99	9
2	Secateurs Chenin Blanc '11	14.99	21
3	Kanonkop Kadette '10	9.99	0
4	Tulbaugh Mountain Vineyards Theta Syrah '03	21.99	14
5	Kanonkop Estate Wine Pinotage '10	44.99	8
6	AA Badenhorst Red Blend '08	39.99	11

Chapter news

- With the new year coming around it is time to renew membership by paying dues of (still only) \$10 to CCAWS (Carroll County Chapter of the American Wine Society) AND your membership obligation (dues \$62 per household for 2013) to AWS (American Wine Society). Remember you must maintain membership in AWS (the national parent organization) to remain a member of CCAWS. You can renew your national membership via the website www.americanwinesociety.org or call 888-297-9070 if you prefer to manage your account over the phone.
- I spoke briefly about the AWS National Conference in Portland, as well as a possible special guest presenter for our April tasting. Start making your plans now to join the '13 AWS National Conference in Sandusky, OH.

Other news

- The January tasting will be held on Sunday the 20th at the home of Corynne Courpas and Scott Markle. Nancy Slick will be the wine host and the theme will be revealed in the next newsletter.
- If you donated to the annual fundraiser, Thank You, and good luck in the drawing for the fabulous baskets at the December tasting. If you missed donating, attendees can still participate in the silent auction for the winemakers' basket. Contributions to the Carroll County Chapter G. Hamilton Mowbray scholarship are welcome at anytime.
- As always please refrain from any strong smelling colognes or perfumes.

Check our web site (www.CCAWS.net) for upcoming tastings.

Other items of interest

- Cranberry Liquors, College Square, Northwest Liquors, House of Liquors, and Main Street Liquors in Hampstead all offer discounts to CCAWS members
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