



October 21, 2009 Program

DARRELL CORTI TO EVALUATE DESSERT WINES

Darrell himself says he's not able to drink dessert wines because of his health – but he'll be with us on October 21st to evaluate YOURS. Not in recent memory has Darrell agreed to evaluate dessert wines, so dust off your favorite creation and see what a Hall of Fame wine connoisseur thinks of it! As an additional treat, the Club has agreed to provide some delicate desserts to help with the evaluation. Gin Yang will be overseeing the goodies ...

Of course, the Club is privileged to have the distinguished Mr. Corti evaluate our wines. For you new members, Darrell Corti was a founder of Sacramento Home Winemakers

back in the 70's – and has been a solid Club supporter ever since. He is literally a world famous wine and food expert who is called upon to judge, taste or evaluate everything from olive oil to Amontillado. He is witty, direct and irreverent – plan to come and enjoy the show.

Bring your fruit, dessert, fortified and sparkling wines; recent vintages (2007, 2008) only, please. The Club realizes that these wines are made in small batches, but bring as much as you can spare to share with all attendees.



October 2009 President's Message

As you fork over your last grapes of the season, bucket out your last crush, and punch down, be grateful. We had fantastic weather this year. The fruit was bountiful and as close to perfect as it gets. It's hard not to be vineyard greedy living in northern California! A couple of weekends ago, I visited Chateau Montelena and the vineyard manager warned me not to mention the "R" word as some dark clouds gathered overhead. I sure hope his grapes (and yours) got picked before this week as the first big rain hits.

We are looking forward to celebrating all the hard work we put into crush at the winemakers' Harvest dinner on October 25. There are still seats available if you are considering. We need to collect payment and confirmed headcount by October 19.

Last month I mentioned the election of officers thinking it occurs in October. I was a month off—the vote will be at the November meeting. We will talk a bit about the process and expectations in October and we are still taking nominations so please contact me if you have a desire to be on the team or have someone in mind you would like to see.

I look forward to seeing you for our October meeting and welcoming Darrell Corti to share his experience and opinions with us!

Cheers,

Lynn Keay
2009 SHW President



Executive Board Meeting: November 4, 2009

The November Board meeting will be at Lynn Keay's house. Bring snacks & wine to share, beginning at 6:00 PM. The meeting starts promptly at 6:45PM. All club members are welcome to attend. Contact Lynn if you need directions.



Amateur/Home Wine Competitions

Cellarmasters Home Wine Club of Los Angeles will be hosting their 36th Annual US Amateur Winemaking Competition on November 15, 2009. **Entries will be accepted between October 10- Nov 7.** The competition is also looking for wine judges and wine stewards for the event. Check out their website for more information: www.cellarmastersla.org.



SWH Harvest Dinner is Coming!

The annual **SHW Harvest Dinner** on October 25 is approaching fast! This is a prepaid event, so please send in your payment (\$35/person includes tax, tip, and corkage) before October 19 to reserve your seat while space is still available. You are welcome to invite guests, family, or friends--we are opening the event to all and can accommodate up to 80 people.

We are excited to celebrate the end of the 2009 Harvest with a fabulous six course, seated dinner in the Tower Bridge Bistro restaurant of the Embassy Suites Hotel in Old Sacramento on **Sunday afternoon from 2-5pm on October 25.** The hotel owner, John Kehriotis, and his executive chef, Clay Purcell, are hosting a delicious tailored menu of gourmet creations, specially designed for our group (alternate entrée available for special dietary needs please inquire in advance). You won't want to miss it. See the menu below and note parking instructions.

To confirm attendance and make a reservation, please **email Jenny Keay** at jenniferkeay@gmail.com or call at 916-802-9585 as soon as possible. Send payment by check to "SHW" to P.O. Box 894, Rancho Cordova, CA 95741. You will receive a confirmation when payment is received.

Remember to bring a bottle or two of your favorite wine!

Parking: Free street parking is available in Old Sacramento on Sunday near the restaurant or just a short walk away near the Crocker Art Gallery. Paid parking is available by valet at the hotel or in the garage across the street from the hotel.

Sacramento Home Wine Makers at
Embassy Suites Sacramento - Riverfront Promenade, 100 Capitol Mall

“Harvest Moon”

October 25, 2009
2-5PM
(plating to begin at 2:45pm).

Tower Bridge Bistro
Guests to bring “home grown” wines

MENU

Amuse

-Rock Shrimp Sauté with Lemon Grass Cream and Sweet Gilroy Garlic on Seared Polenta
suggested: Dry Sauvignon Blanc or Fume Blanc

Soup

-Roasted Acorn Squash Bisque with Toasted Pumpkin Seeds and Brandy Crème Fraiche
suggested: Flowery Chardonnay or Pinot Noir

Salad

-Sonoma Duck Breast* Salad with Grilled Pears, Sliced Almonds, California Endive and Orange Sherry Vinaigrette
suggested: Pinot Noir, Chianti, or a Champagne/Sparkling Wine

Intermezzo

Blood Orange Sorbet
suggested: Champagne/Sparkling Wine

Entrée

-Braised Beef Short Rib* with Wild Mushroom Ragout, Smashed Yukon Gold Potatoes, Toy Box Carrots and Baby Turnips
suggested: Peppery Merlot, Big Chewy Zinfandel or Cabernet Sauvignon

Dessert

Warm Chocolate Bread Pudding with Crème Anglaise and Sugared Raspberries
suggested: Tawny Port/Brandy

* alternate entrée available with advance request for special dietary needs – please inquire to Jenny

Seeking Club Leaders for 2010

We hope that you've been enjoying SHW's monthly meetings, educational and social events. Serving as a Club Officer or in a Club-appointed position is a great way for you to join the team and give back to the club. Even if you've been a Club officer before, consider bringing your experience and wisdom back to these opportunities.

Nominations are invited for the 2010 SHW Executive Board for the positions of President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. The slate of nominations for these offices will be presented at the Club's Annual Meeting on November 18, 2009. Here's a brief rundown of the Club's elected board positions. Please feel free to talk with the current officers for more information:

- President – provides leadership for the club, sets the agenda for the Club's monthly board meetings; guides us through good and bad times.
- Vice President – responsible for the monthly Club programs and assists in coordinating technical and social activities outside of the monthly meetings; acts on behalf of the President when the President is not present at Club and board meetings.
- Treasurer – duties include providing accountings of the Club's fiscal activity including checking and savings account balances; writing checks for club related expenses; tracks income and expenditures; provides year-end fiscal and financial reports; and produces updated membership lists.
- Secretary - records and produces the minutes for the monthly Club board meetings.

Additionally, the Club is seeking members to fill appointed positions for Newsletter Editor, Hospitality Chair, Cellarmaster, Membership Chair, Head Judge, and Jubilee Coordinator. Please inform Lynn Keay, 2009 President, of nominations for officers (you may self-nominate) or of your interest in any of the appointed positions before the November 4, 2009 Club board meeting.

If you're interested in other club opportunities or events that are not currently offered, please volunteer (contact any board member) to make them happen! Let's all share in the responsibilities and fun!



SAVE THE DATE!

Wednesday, December 16, 2009 !!!

The Club's December meeting will celebrate the annual SHW Holiday Party. To get this party started, appetizers begin @ 6:00 PM, followed by a delicious holiday fare dinner @ 7:00 PM, then decadent desserts and presentations. As in the past, attendees shared wines will make this event even more wine-derful!

This year's grand prize raffle is a 3-night stay at the Marriott Napa Resort & Spa accompanied by a wine theme event or two for the lucky winner! Note: Must be present to win!!

Featured in our Silent Auction is a once-in-a-lifetime progressive dinner for 6-8 people, compliments of "The Donner Boys"! You will also be treated to a rare vertical tasting of a flight of 8 of the Donner Boys Alexander Valley Cabernet Sauvignon! We will have other great items for you to bid on as well!!

This year we will also have a "gift exchange" for those who would like to participate. Bring a gift of \$10 value and take a gift home!! Santa won't worry if you've been naughty or nice for this gift giving event!

Debra Moretton has graciously volunteered as Coordinator for this year's party so here's what she needs help with to make this year's holiday party a great success: Silent Auction Items (club members can collaborate for gift baskets, etal); Volunteers to help decorate the tables; and the selling of Grand Prize Raffle tickets. Please contact her directly at (916)296-1115 (cell phone) or dem1019@sbcglobal.net

More on this festive event in November's Newsletter.

Sacramento Home Winemakers - 2009 Program Calendar

Date	Meeting Topic/Event	Speaker/Panel/Committee
October 21	Fruit/Dessert/Bubbly/Port Evaluations	Darrell Corti
October 25	Harvest Dinner	Jennifer Keay
November 4	Board Meeting	Lynn Keay;s Home
November 18	Gold Medal Winners; Officer Elections; Travelogues	Club Members
December 16	Holiday Party	Coordinator: Debra Moretton
January 20	Club Roundtable Reidel Glass	Coordinators: 2010 SHW President Gin Yang-Staehlin

Reminder: Participants at monthly Club Meetings should bring their own wine glasses to use for wine tasting. Club wine glasses are provided for guests.

SHW Winemaker of the Year Entries

Don't forget to get your completed Winemaker of the Year entry forms to DD, or any Executive Board member, as soon as possible. Forms and info are again included in this edition of *The Grapevine*.



Sparkling Wine – Demonstration



Lili and Carl Brust, SHW sparkling winemakers extraordinaires, offer to demonstrate the middle stage of making sparkling wine via the *methode champenoise*. The Brusts have sparklers in different stages – some are ready to triage for enter secondary fermentation and others are ready to riddle. Come learn the lingo and see these steps for the home winemaker.

The session will be scheduled depending upon participant availability. Please let Carl and Lili know of your interest and schedule by contacting them at lcburst@garlic.com or 916 652-9001.

By the way, Lili's first sparkler was awarded a golden bear in the California State Fair home winemaking competition for Best of Show!

Mentors and Website Forum

New to winemaking or have a winemaking or vineyard management question? Contact one of the mentors below or post on the forum section of the Club's website at www.sachomewine.org.



MENTOR	CONTACT INFO	GEOGRAPHICS	MENTOR SPECIALTY
John Benbow	530 888-9130 benbow@wavecable.com	Auburn	Red, white, & sparkling wines
Judy Pinegar	916 652-5198 jpinegar@cde.ca.gov	Loomis	White, red, & fruit wines
Linda Skinner	916 652-5235 linda.skinner@hp.com	Loomis	White wines
Carl & Lili Brust	916 652-9001 lcbrust@garlic.com	Loomis	White and sparkling wines
Mike Touchette	530 748-9677 pinotsyrah@yahoo.com	El Dorado	Red and white wines
Gerald Cresci	209 748-2122	Herald	Vineyard management; fruit wines & port
Paul & Nancy Baldwin	916 684-2086 pbaldwin@frontiernet.net	Elk Grove	Red & white wines; vineyard management
John Troiano	916 487-1480 fatcatjt@sbcglobal.net	Carmichael	Red wines
Jim Margolis	916 451-4279 jamadapa@att.net	Sacramento	Red and white wines
Dave Leonard	916 452-1616 dyleonardpbp@gmail.com	Sacramento	Red wines
Donna Bettencourt	916 454-5487 bettencourt1045@softcom.net	Sacramento	Red & white wines
Henry Wilkinson	916 446-6276 hbwilkinson@jps.net	Sacramento	Red wines
D. D. Smith	916 638-8849 ddanjo@sbcglobal.net	Gold River	Red, white, port & ice wines
Lynn Keay	lynn.keay@gmail.com	Gold River	Red, white and fruit wines

Interested in becoming a mentor or would like to be partnered with a mentor? Email or call Gin Yang-Staehlin at ginyangstaehlin@yahoo.com or 916 217-0294.

Area Wine Events

Cedar Creek Ranch & Vineyards 2008 Estate Viognier Release Celebration Saturday October 17 Noon-4PM



SHW club member Karen Woods invites the Sacramento Home Wine Winemakers to celebrate the release of Cedar Creek Ranch & Vineyards 2008 Estate Viognier. The event also includes barrel tasting of the winery's 2008 reds - Sangiovese, Syrah and Petite Sirah. For event details and to RSVP: www.cedarcreekranchwinery.com

Sacramento SPCA 23rd Annual Reigning Cats and Dogs Gala Event Saturday, October 24, 2009



The Sacramento SPCA's premier food and wine tasting event, Reigning Cats & Dogs, is held at the Sacramento Convention Center. This black-tie optional event hosts more than 1,200 guests and features samples offered from more than thirty award-winning wineries (including M2 Wines) and microbrewers, and an equal number of gourmet restaurants. In addition to both a live and silent auction, an exclusive wine and art auction, raffle, live music and entertainment complete the evening. For more info: www.sspca.org.

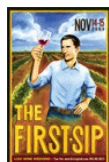


Art, Verse & Vines - Winery Tour November 14 & 15, 2009 Placer County

The weekend of November 7-9 features three of Placer County's signature events: the Placer Hills Winery Tour, PlacerArts' 15th annual Autumn Art Studios Tour, and The Cowpoke Fall Gathering: 14th annual Cowboy Poetry and Music. Eleven of Placer County's wineries will be participating, including Lone Buffalo Vineyards. For more information, see: www.placerwineandgrape.org.



3rd Annual First Sip: Lodi Wine Weekend November 14-15, 2009







Wineries throughout Lodi Wine Country will unveil their newest vintages for guests to sample alongside their complete line of wines.

Travel from winery to winery and experience the delicious, handcrafted wines and hospitality that Lodi Wine Country has to offer. Enjoy an array of educational activities, entertainment and delectable treats at each of your stops along the Lodi Wine Trail. More information can be found at www.lodiwine.com.

SHW 2009 Board of Directors and Committee Chairs

President	Lynn Keay	(916) 801-1539	lynn.keay@gmail.com
Vice President/ Programs	D.D. Smith	(916) 638-8849	ddanjo@sbcglobal.net
Secretary	Donna Bettencourt	(916) 454-5487	bettencourt1045@softcom.net
Treasurer	Mike Touchette	(530) 748-9677	pinotsyrah@yahoo.com
Membership Chairperson	Gin Yang-Staehlin	(916) 217-0294	ginyangstaehlin@yahoo.com
Newsletter Editor	Mike & Debbie Touchette	(530) 748-9677	pinotsyrah@yahoo.com
Chief Judge	D.D. Smith	(916) 638-8849	ddanjo@sbcglobal.net
Cellarmaster			
Webmaster	Lynn Keay	(916) 801-1539	lynn.keay@gmail.com
Past President (08)	Fred Millar	(916) 576-9596	fredmillar1@gmail.com
Past President (07)	Mike Touchette	(530) 748-9677	pinotsyrah@yahoo.com
Past President (06)	Judy Pinegar	(916) 652-5198	jpinegar@cde.ca.gov
Past President (05)	Ken Hough	(916) 456-7911	kennethahough@gmail.com
Past Pres (04) & Historian	Gary Young	(916) 451-3893	gycats@earthlink.net

Neighbors – Home Winemaking Clubs

	El Dorado Home Winemakers Club (EDHW) is an organization of amateur winemakers who enjoy the making and drinking of wine. The Club meets the second Tuesday of every month at the Sequoias Restaurant in Placerville. For club information, see their website at http://www.edhwm.com .
	The Placer County Wine and Grape Association (PCWGA) is a non-profit organization committed to informing and educating the public about Placer County wines, wineries, grape growers and grapes. PCWGA meets on the second Wednesday six times a year: February, April, June, August, October and December. For more info, check out their website http://www.placerwineandgrape.org . 
	The purpose of the Amador Winemakers Association (AWA) is to organize, conduct, and/or attend discussions, lectures, field trips, experiments, and demonstrations regarding all aspects of grape growing and wine making. The AWA meets monthly on the third Thursday. Additional information can be found at http://www.amadorwinemakers.org .
	Lodi Amateur Vintners Association (LAVA) was founded in January 2001 for the purpose of promoting amateur wine making in the Lodi, California area. The Club generally meets the third Thursday of every month at the Lodi Wine and Visitor Center. Their website is http://www.lodiamateurvintners.org . 

The Grapevine is published by Sacramento Home Winemakers for its member's enjoyment. © 2009 Sacramento Home Winemakers Club

Sacramento Home Winemakers

Winemaker of the Year Entry Form

This form contains results of judging conducted and medals awarded during Award Year _____, which ends on November 30th of said year.

Name _____
 Address _____

Phone (day) _____
 Phone (cell) _____
 Email _____

COMPETITION _____
 Number of wines entered _____
Points

No Award (0)	_____
Hon. Men. (10)	_____
Bronze (20)	_____
Silver (30)	_____
Gold (40)	_____
Double Gold (50)	_____
Best of _____(20)	_____
Best of Show (50)	_____
TOTAL	_____
Total ÷ Entries = Ave.	_____

COMPETITION _____
 Number of wines entered _____
Points

No Award (0)	_____
Hon. Men. (10)	_____
Bronze (20)	_____
Silver (30)	_____
Gold (40)	_____
Double Gold (50)	_____
Best of _____(20)	_____
Best of Show (50)	_____
TOTAL	_____
Total ÷ Entries = Ave.	_____

COMPETITION _____
 Number of wines entered _____
Points

No Award (0)	_____
Hon. Men. (10)	_____
Bronze (20)	_____
Silver (30)	_____
Gold (40)	_____
Double Gold (50)	_____
Best of _____(20)	_____
Best of Show (50)	_____
TOTAL	_____
Total ÷ Entries = Ave.	_____

Turn completed form into the Chief Judge or any Executive Board member.

Total Points earned (Sum total of the three Average Points above):

I certify that this entry is submitted in conformance with SHW Winemaker of the Year Selection Criteria.

/S/ _____

Date: _____

Sacramento Home Winemakers

Winemaker of the Year Selection Criteria

The purpose of the Winemaker of the Year award is to encourage excellence in wine-making among all Club members. The best measure of excellence is the opinion of qualified judges in a structured competition environment. Accordingly, the following criteria were adopted by the Executive Board on July 1, 2009.

The annual winner of the ***Winemaker of the Year*** award shall be the candidate who accrues the most Total Points in the Award Year as follows:

- Candidates for this award must be members of SHW, Inc. in good standing who are not the owners, winemakers or employees of licensed commercial winemaking concerns, except as set forth below.
- Candidates who are owners, winemakers or employees of commercial winemaking concerns, but who are otherwise qualified, may submit wines for competition provided that such wines were made and bottled prior to the effective date of their winegrower's license.
- Candidates must certify that the wines they submit for competition are 100% home made wines created by the candidate without any hands-on assistance from a commercial winemaking concern as described above. *Consultation* with commercial winemakers and educators is encouraged by the Club.
- Candidates must compete in three (3) recognized wine competitions during the Award Year.
- The Award Year runs from December 1st of the prior calendar year to November 30th of the subject calendar year.
- A competition is considered to have been in the Award Year if the actual judging is conducted and medals awarded during the Award Year.
- Among the competitions entered, one must be the SHW Jubilee and one must be the California State Fair.
- Points will be awarded as follows:

No award - 0
Honorable Mention – 10
Bronze Award – 20
Silver Award – 30
Gold Award – 40
Double-Gold Award -- 50

Best Varietal/Red/White/Dessert/Fruit - 20 additional points
Best of Show - 50 additional points

Points ÷ Number of Entries = Average Points

Total Points: The sum total of all Average Points from all three competitions entered.

The Winemaker of the Year is the candidate who earns the most Total Points.

- Candidates will be provided forms to fill out which will guide the calculation of the Total Point score.
- The Chief Judge will verify all competitive entries and submit the top scorers to a panel of past presidents for approval.
- The scores of the top five finishers will be publicized to all Club members.