**The Missouri Winemaking Society Newsletter for August, 2016**
Next Meeting:      Thursday, August 18 2016 at 7:30 p.m.
Meeting Place:     St Gerard Majella Church,1971 Dougherty Ferry
                              Rd, St Louis, MO 63122
MWS Website:     www.mowinemakers.org
Submitted by:       Steve Kintz

 When I was young we would spend a week each summer at my maternal grandparents farm in southern Missouri.  I loved the freedom I had to go off on my own for hours, as well as to be able to fish, explore the surrounding countryside, and eat more than my fill of the amazing food my grandmother made.  It appears that lots of “seeds” were planted within me at those times that later grew to become the things I value deeply today.  One of those things is an enjoyment of things that grow, and an appreciation for things that are made from those things that grow.

It still seems to be something of a miracle to me that lots of great things grow out of the soil.  Lots of them add beauty to life, and many of them can be turned into wonderful things to eat and drink.  In a similar way that my Grandma turned apples into the pure gold that her apple butter was, there is something magical that you guys do when you turn grapes into a wonderful wine.  Many of you now do that consistently.  I have even been fortunate to have stumbled into having a few of my efforts turn into something that I genuinely enjoy and get pleasure from.  There is something really wonderful in that.

Our program this month is celebrates some of the best efforts in this process as it relates to grapes in Missouri.

**Program:**  The meeting in August will be a “tasting tour” through the best of Missouri’s commercial wine.  With the 2016 Missouri Wine Competition recently completed, and a new Governor’s Cup awarded, Steve Brunkhorst has purchased several of these gold medal-winning wines, and we will be enjoying them.  I think his plan is to have about 4 reds and four whites available for our tasting pleasure, including the winner of the 2016 Governor’s Cup.

This past weekend I was traveling to a family reunion, and I passed the winery that produced the Governor’s Cup winner.  Though it was 9:30 in the morning, I couldn’t pass up the opportunity to try their wines.  The two people I was with tried to tell me that they usually found drinking wine before 10:00am a bit too early in the day.  But I reminded them it was 10:00am somewhere…  And besides, they tried telling me the same thing about eating ice cream at that time of the day.  Crazy, huh?

Anyway, this wine was very good, as I’m sure the rest of the gold medal-winning wines will be.  So be sure to join us Thursday, August 18 at 7:30p.m. for the tasting.

**Future Meetings:**  In September we will have Brandon Dixon, the winemaker at Noboleis Winery [http://noboleisvineyards.com](http://noboleisvineyards.com/%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank), as our guest speaker.  Brandon is the winemaker responsible for the winner of the CV Riley Award for the best judged Norton in the recent 2016 Missouri wine competition.

**Society Dues:**  The yearly fee, per person, will be $50 ($25 after June), with no additional meeting fee (or tasting fee, if you prefer) – this is a savings over the course of the year if you attend all the meetings (and you should).  But if you do not want to pay the full $50, you can pay just $25 for a full year’s membership, but then you will need to pay a $5 per meeting “tasting” fee at each meeting you attend.  So it’s your choice to determine which way works best for you, and Steve Brunkhorst will gladly sign you up in either case.