**The Missouri Winemaking Society Newsletter for July, 2016**
Next Meeting:      Saturday, July 23 2016 at 11:30 a.m.
Meeting Place:     John and Mary Merkle’s home

MWS Website:     www.mowinemakers.org
Submitted by:       Steve Kintz

 I hope you are enjoying this break from the heat as much as I am.  It’s a glorious morning here in Clarksville and it makes you glad to be alive.  And yes, the heat has been getting to me…

For those that weren’t able to attend, we had a good Favorite White Wine competition (aka, Blonde Beauty Contest) last month.  Steve Brunkhorst won with his Chardonel; a delightful, though plainly dressed entry I thought (oddly enough, all the contestants were wearing similar plain brown paper dresses with a high collar – apparently that is the fashion this year, who knew?).  But her personality really shone through and she was very tasty – smelled nice too.   I also picked up some good tips to hopefully improve my wine - and I discovered that you can buy a tool to perforate paper.  Pretty cool.

As long as we’re talking about wine success, and we were; Tony Turek won a Gold and a Bronze at the Illinois State Fair wine competition for his 2014 Chambourcin, and 2014 Chambourcin Rosé, respectively, and Phil Lungo won a Gold, and Best of Show in the Country Fruit category, at the national Winemaker Magazine wine competition with his 2014 Blackberry wine.  Well done guys!  (Apparently 2014 was a very good year…)

**Program:**  The world famous MWS Summer Picnic is next on the calendar, and it will be held at John and Mary Merkle’s home this year.  So please block out your calendar for Saturday, July 23 from 11:30am to 3:30pm, and begin thinking of what kind of scrumptious food you will bring to enhance my feasting pleasure.  Of course, you are also welcome to enjoy yourselves – this isn’t all about me, but that’s up to you.  I already know I will.  (I personally can’t wait to see what kind of baked good Mary makes that is sure to delight both visually and gastronomically – ymmm.)

You will find convenient directions attached that John provided, and as an alternative for those that prefer personalized directions (if you have anything that is monogrammed this might be you), you should also be able to click on the link below, then click on ‘Directions’, and enter your address in the box to the right of the large green ‘A’.  This will provide customized directions from your front door to theirs.  So you have no excuse for not being able to find your way through the Wild Wood.