**The Missouri Winemaking Society Newsletter for July 2019**

**Next Meeting**:  **Thursday July 25th   (Not** July 18th)

Location:    St.Gerard Majella Church

1971 Dougherty Ferry Rd

St Louis, MO 63122

Theme:        Discussion of Successful Red Wine Making Methods

 Description: **Imagine sitting down with your best wine making friends, over a glass of red, discussing wine and wine making...how awesome would that be! OK get ready for awesome in July.**

Each January your newly elected officers meet to set the program for the coming year.  This year we decided to include a topic on **wine making** and wanted it to be of interest to our total membership, from those who are just beginning, to those with a wealth of wine making experience.

After much discussion we agreed upon this approach:

a)     Focus on red still wine making from grapes

b)     Gather a panel of our own members who over the years have demonstrated their knowledge and skill.

c)     Use the “More Wine - Guide to Red Winemaking” as a reference for the discussion.  (you can download it for free from the [“Morewinemaking.com](http://xn--morewinemaking-9c3h.com/)” web site).

d)     Encourage our members to ask a wide range of questions for panel discussion, from the most basic to the most complex.

Please join us on Thursday July 25th at 7PM to participate in this interactive discussion and learn how to make red wine or how to make better red wine.  If you have one available, please bring a bottle of your home made red still grape wine to share.  (NOTE: July 25th is the 4th Thursday of the month, not our normal meeting week)

**June Meeting** :    We engaged in stiff competition and shared fantastic wine at our annual Favorite White Wine night with eleven entries.  We enjoyed a variety of whites including Chardonel, Viognier, Vidal Blanc, Traminette, Chardonnay and even an Orange wine.

 It was a tight race with Lisa Nordman finishing 1st with her 2018 Chardonel; Greg Stricker taking 2nd with his Viognier and Steve and Maggie Brunkhorst in 3rd with their 2018 Chardonel.

 Thank you to all participants for your hard work and contributions that allowed us to enjoy a fun, and tasty evening.

 Our President Phil Rahn asked all to consider making a suggestion for our next project.  Each year we try to have a project such as participants buying the same grapes from the same producer and comparing the results, or same grape but different yeast, etc.  Please let Phil know if you have an idea.  You can respond to this email and I will forward on to Phil.

Our Treasurer reported $3,036 in the bank and 27 Paid Members.

**President’s Message: Phil Rahn**

This is a crazy story, but true. My wife and I were at a funeral luncheon this past week, and I was sitting next to an elderly man (about my age) and he heard me tell some other people that I made wine at home. He asked me about it and said that he made wine as well. We immediately struck up a conversation about each of our wine making activities, and I learned that he used fresh grapes from Illinois, and juice from New York and Michigan. As he listed all the grape varieties he has used, which were all white grapes, I got to thinking that I should “branch out” and try something from New York; like a Cayuga, or Baco noir. Did you know that New York ranks third in grape production by volume after California and Washington (Wikipedia)? Anyway, it was fun to talk to a fellow wine maker from a different “world”, but right next door. I am going to look into getting some “up-state” juice.

See you on July 25th.

 Phil Rahn

**Looking Ahead*:***

 August Meeting  -  August 17th summer picnic at Dave and Debbie Wert’s home.

 Arrive at noon, Eat at 1:00 and close around 4:00.

 September  Meeting -  Merlot project  -  will be another change to the schedule – we will meet on **WEDNESDAY September 18th**.

***Missouri Winemaking Society Facebook Page***

A benefit to being a member of the Missouri Making Society is being able to join our closed Facebook page for members only.  We have had a great year with many members sharing valuable information.  It is also fun to see what all of our members are up to in their vineyards and wine cellars.  If you have not joined yet, log into Facebook and search for Missouri Winemaking Society.  Ask to join and I will let you in.  Remember though, **this is a closed group just for MWS members.**

***Wine Making Tips:***

Don’t forget, there are lots of useful files on our website.  To access all the terrific things in the Library section, click on the website link at the top of this newsletter, scroll down to the *Membership* section, and click on the *Click here* link under MWS Library.

 MWS Website:  [www.mowinemakers.org](http://www.mowinemakers.org/)

 Submitted by: Dan Peters