**The Missouri Winemaking Society Newsletter for November, 2018**

Next Meeting:  Favorite Red Wine Contest

Meeting Place: St.Gerard Majella Church

1971 Dougherty Ferry Rd

St Louis, MO 63122

Time: November 15 at 7:00

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

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***November’s Program***

**Favorite Red Wine Contest**

Members only can enter 1 red wine. Please bring 1 bottle to share and check it in with John Merkle with your name on the bottle. All members will taste the wines and vote for your very favorite red wine. Just to be clear, it won’t be a favorite Chambourcin or a favorite Norton or a favorite red varietal. It will just be the favorite wine of all the entries. For all those entering a wine; please be prepared to discuss how you made it so the rest of us can pick up pointers to improve the overall quality of our wine.

**Election of Officers**

The election of officers for 2019 will also be held at our November meeting. A slate of candidates has been prepared as follows: President-Phil Rahn, Vice President-Lisa Nordmann, Secretary-Dan Peters, Treasurer-Steve Brunkhorst, and Cellar Master-Dave Wert.

***October’s Meeting***

We had a great time at our annual picnic hosted by Tony Turek. It was a chilly afternoon but we were warmed up with good food, good wine and great friendships. Tony has a beautiful lake house with several Norton vines in Bonne Terre, MO. A big thank you to Tony for hosting this fun afternoon.

***December’s Meeting***

Our annual Christmas Party will be hosted by Dave Anderson on December 8th. More info to come.

***President’s Message: Steve Brunkhorst***

November is our final meeting of the year (no business at the December Christmas Party), we will elect officers for 2019 and enjoy tasting a nice selection of our member produced red wines.

I just returned from the National Conference of the American Wine Society in Buffalo NY where three of our members competed in the amateur wine competition. All three of our members earned medals including some gold and double gold. Results will be revealed at the November meeting and I suspect at least one medal winning wine will be included in our tasting that evening.

***Noteable Fact from Greg Stricker***

Ever since October 14, 1978, it has been perfectly legal for Americans to make their own wine and beer. This is when President Jimmy Carter signed into law legislation introduced by Senator Alan Cranston of California.

***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. Please pay by check but cash is also accepted.

***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 is 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.  Be sure to check these files out; they are chock full of knowledge and wisdom – you are sure to glean many gems.