



All...

The CCAWS January 16th tasting will be held at Corynne Courpas and Scott Markle's home **the theme will be "Port 101" presented by Walt Rachele**. Please bring a tasty dish, and / or dessert. Also as mentioned previously, if you do bring a guest please bring a dish for them too. Be sure to RSVP to Corynne by **Wednesday, January 12th — as usual the sooner the better. Remember to bring a dish to share.**

The Carroll County (MD) chapter met on December 12th at the Blosverens' the theme was the annual "Holiday gathering with Sparkling Wines, basket drawing, and caroling". The bubbly tasting was hosted by John Landon and conducted blind. The premise of the tasting was an interesting concept of taking some classic champagne house offerings, and comparing them with their California counterparts. A big thank you to John along with Nancy Slick of Cranberry Liquors for all their efforts researching and presenting the selections at this highly anticipated event. Also I would like to offer a very large thank you to Carmen and Richard for opening their home, and hosting another very enjoyable celebration. As you can see below there was a wonderful assortment of effervescent wines, and we found the group favorite was actually one of the greater 'value' selections.

Champagne / Sparkling Wines (what else)			
No.	Wines	Price	Votes
warm-up	Eudald Cava Brut	16	0
1	Domaine Chandon Brut Classic	23	3
2	Moet & Chandon Imperial Champagne	52	0
3	Champagne Taittinger Brut La Francaise	57	9
4	Domaine Carneros by Taittinger 2006	25	3
5	Roederer Estate Anderson Valley Brut Rosé	29	12
6	Louis Roederer Champagne Brut Rosé 2004	79	8
7	Moet & Chandon Brut Grand Vintage 2003	73	~

The annual basket drawing benefiting the AWSEF and specifically the Carroll County (MD) chapter scholarship continues to be a rousing success. This year six baskets were drawn, plus a bonus basket donated by Becky and Dean Wilson. Winners included the house hosts Carmen and Richard Blosveren, Joyce and Jeff Romans, Linda Scully and Ron Riley, Jackie and Larry Powers, Frank Batavick, along with Janine and Mark Wilson. Thanks to everyone who contributes to making the baskets such a success. I would also like to extend my thanks to the winemakers of our group who donated their wares, and to everyone who bid in the silent auction for the "winemakers' basket".

I would like to share my personal best wishes for a healthy and happy new year to each member, and I look forward to serving you all in my new role as chapter chair.

- **The February tasting is going to be at the Grillon's on February 20th.**
- Please refrain from any strong smelling colognes or perfumes. This interferes with the tasting as one cannot smell the wine etc.
- **Please see the website for the tasting schedule for 2011. While the homes are full, wine hosts are needed**
- **Time to re up the national and local membership dues. National Membership is still at \$62.00. Local membership remains \$10.00. Many of those present at the December tasting included their membership renewal in the check for the tastings. A reminder that both memberships are needed to qualify for the discount at the stores, and if you are hosting, you need the national membership for insurance.**

Check our web site (www.CCAWS.net) for upcoming tastings.

Other items of interest

- *A Little Bit of Tuscany* is now offering discounts on off-sale wine.
- *Buds at Silver run: No news on their website about special events for December, but keep checking this out*
- *Wine Me Up Wine Bar & Shoppe (www.winemeupshoppeandtavern.com)* Half off wine by the bottle on Tuesdays, half off Pizza on Wednesdays and on Friday Happy Hour, receive half off wine by the glass from 5pm-7pm on Fridays!

Serpent Ridge Vineyard is now also offering a 15 % discount to CCAWS members for wine sales. A tasting is \$5.00 and you get to keep the glass.. well worth a visit. <http://www.serpentridge.com/> Is open over the new years holiday, bring friends and support not only a local vineyard, but a great one



All...

The CCAWS February 20th tasting will be held at Jackie and George Grillon's home **the theme will be "Is it Syrah, or is it Shiraz?" presented by Bill Eisberg.** Please bring a tasty dish, and/or dessert. Also as mentioned previously, if you do bring a guest please bring a dish for them too. Be sure to RSVP to the Grillons by **Wednesday, February 16th — as usual the sooner the better. Remember to bring a dish to share.**

The Carroll County (MD) chapter met on January 16th at the home of Corynne Courpas and Scott Markle. The theme was 'Port 101' presented by Walt Rachele. The tasting began with a 'pre-test' and then covered the fundamentals of Port wines. A wonderful assortment of Ports were tasted including a white port and a pink port, along with the more common tawny and ruby varieties. A highlight was a side by side comparison of a standard tawny port with a 20 year old variety. I want to again offer a big thank you to Walt Rachele and Pat Valas for all their efforts researching and presenting the selections at this delightful event. Also, I would like to thank Corynne and Scott for opening their newly renovated home and hosting the group. As you can see below there was a wonderful assortment of various ports and wines from Portugal.

Port 101			
No.	Wines	Price	Votes
warm-up	Lello – White Blend 2007 or Red Blend 2008	7.99	0
1	Dow's Vale Do Bonfim Porto	12.99	1
2	Andresen White Porto	7.99	0
3	Croft Pink Porto	18.99	0
4	Burmeister Tawny Porto	10.49	0
5	Taylor Fladgate 20 Year Old Porto	52.99	17
6	Barros Ruby Porto	13.99	0
7	Dow's LBV (Late Bottled Vintage) Porto	23.99	1
8	Graham's Vintage Porto – 2007	94.99	6

During the announcements at the beginning of the tasting, Pat Valas provided a history the AWSEF highlighting the contributions of the CCAWS. She also announced that the chapter has fully funded the 4th "G. Hamilton Mowbray Scholarship" in honor of Jack and Emily Johnston. The AWSEF will select a recipient from the 2011 applicants, announce the winner this summer, and award the scholarship for this fall's term. Pat identified that following corporate and regional scholarships, our chapter is tied with one other chapter in the total number of scholarships awarded. Currently the next "G. Hamilton Mowbray Scholarship" in memory of Bill Brown is just over 20% funded.

New Members

I would like to extend a warm welcome to our newest members Joanna Fee and Jonathon King who attended the January tasting as guests and elected to join the group. When you see them at an upcoming tasting why not take a minute and introduce yourself. If you encounter people who might enjoy the benefits of CCAWS, consider bringing them to a tasting as a guest (along with an extra dish for the table). You could find another friend to share an enjoyable Sunday afternoon with once a month.

- The March tasting is going to be at the Johnston's on March 20th, and include the annual business meeting. The tasting will begin 30 minutes early at 1:30 to allow extra time to conduct the business meeting. The theme for the March tasting will be "2009 Beaujolais".
- As always please refrain from any strong smelling colognes or perfumes. This will permit you and your neighbors to evaluate the aromas.
- Our house hosts for 2011 are filled, but wine hosts are needed. Please talk to me or send an e-mail if you are interested in presenting.
- Please make sure you have renewed your annual dues at both the national and local levels. Active memberships in both organizations are needed to qualify for the discount at the stores, and if you are hosting, you need the national membership to qualify for insurance.

Check our web site (www.CCAWS.net) for upcoming tastings.

Other items of interest

- *Buds at Silver run: No news on their website about special events for February, but keep checking this out*
- *Wine Me Up Wine Bar & Shoppe (www.winemeupshoppeandtavern.com) Half off wine by the bottle on Tuesdays, half off Pizza on Wednesdays and on Friday Happy Hour, receive half off wine by the glass from 5pm-7pm on Fridays!*
- *Serpent Ridge Vineyard is now also offering a 15 % discount to CCAWS members for wine sales. A tasting is \$5.00 and you get to keep the glass... well worth a visit. <http://www.serpentridge.com/>*
- *The County Cork Wine Pub has recently opened in the Eldersburg area. More to follow on this.*



All...

The CCAWS March 20th tasting will be held at Emily and Jack Johnston's home. **The theme will be "2009 Beaujolais; is it truly the vintage of the century?" presented by Jack Johnston. The March gathering is our 31st anniversary tasting and will begin 30 minutes early at 1:30 to include the annual meeting.** Please bring a tasty dish, and/or dessert. Also as mentioned previously, if you do bring a guest please bring a dish for them too. Be sure to RSVP to the Johnston's by **Wednesday, March 16th — as usual the sooner the better.**

The Carroll County (MD) chapter met on February 20th at the home of Jackie and George Grillon. The theme was 'Is it Syrah or is it Shiraz' presented by Bill Eisberg. The tasting was conducted blind, and included three Australian Shirazes and three Californian Syrahs. Bill presented some unique details about the varietals. One interesting item is that Shiraz is sometimes referred to as 'Petite Syrah' referring to the physical size of the grapes; and is completely different than the Petite Syrah, or Durif varietal. I want to again offer a big thank you to Bill Eisberg and Nan Slick for all their efforts researching, developing and presenting the theme. Also, I would like to thank Jackie and George for opening their beautiful home and hosting the group. As you can see below there was a nice balance of wines, and although we did well in picking the point of origin, we were far from perfect (actually, all of us except Emily who did correctly pick all six wines.)

Is it Syrah or is it Shiraz				
No.	Wines	Price	Group pick	Votes
warm-up	Montes Cherub Rosé of Syrah (Chile)	15.99		0
1	d'Arenberg The Stump Jump Shiraz 2008	9.99	Syrah	0
2	Cline Sonoma County Syrah 2007	10.99	Syrah	1
3	d'Arenberg The Footbolt Shiraz 2007	17.99	Shiraz	4
4	Kinton Santa Barbara County Syrah 2005	19.99	Shiraz	9
5	County Line Syrah 2007 (Russian River Valley)	27.99	Syrah	6
6	Barossa Jack Estate Grown Shiraz 2008	27.99	Shiraz	11

I announced at the beginning of the meeting my thanks to Nan Slick who has agreed to support me for the next year by assuming the role of Secretary; along with my apologies for not including that information in the February newsletter. Also Lynn and I will be unable to attend the March tasting, but Robert Horrocks has agreed to act in my stead; we look forward to hosting the group in April.

Guests / New Members

It was nice to meet a couple of folks who were guests of John Landon; Diane Whitney and Geoff Butts are local home brewers, who joined us for an afternoon of tasting wine, and decided to join the chapter as well. Please welcome Diane and Geoff when you see them at an upcoming meeting. If you encounter people who might enjoy the benefits of CCAWS, consider bringing them to a tasting as a guest (along with an extra dish for the table). You could find another friend to share an enjoyable Sunday afternoon with once a month.

- **The April tasting is going to be hosted at the Breeding's (our house) on April 17th. The theme for the April tasting will be "a Pacific Coast Face-off" and Nan Slick will be the wine host.**
- As always please refrain from any strong smelling colognes or perfumes. This will permit you and your neighbors to evaluate the aromas.
- **Our house hosts for 2011 are filled, but wine hosts are still needed. Please talk to me or send an e-mail if you are interested in presenting.**
- **Please make sure you have renewed your annual dues at both the national and local levels. Active memberships in both organizations are needed to qualify for the discount at the stores, and if you are hosting, you need the national membership to qualify for insurance. I will be attempting to reconcile the memberships in the near future, so please make a point of renewing soon, if you haven't already.**

Check our web site (www.CCAWS.net) for upcoming tastings.

Other items of interest

- *Taste of Tuscany* is now offering discounts on off-sale wine.
- *Buds at Silver run: Monday March 7 they are hosting a Mardi Gras kickoff! Check their website for more details*
- *Wine Me Up Wine Bar & Shoppe (www.winemeupshoppeandtavern.com)* Half off wine by the bottle on Tuesdays, half off Pizza on Wednesdays and on Friday Happy Hour, receive half off wine by the glass from 5pm-7pm on Fridays!
- *Serpent Ridge Vineyard is now also offering a 15 % discount to CCAWS members for wine sales. A tasting is \$5.00 and you get to keep the glass... well worth a visit. <http://www.serpentridge.com/>*
- *The County Cork Wine Pub* has recently opened in the Eldersburg area. More to follow.



All...

The CCAWS April 17th tasting will be held at our home (Lynn and Joe Breeding) and the theme will be **“a Pacific coast face off” presented by Nancy Slick**. Please bring a tasty dish, and/or dessert for the table. Also if you bring a guest please bring a dish for them as well. Be sure to RSVP to the Breeding’s (us) by **Wednesday, April 13th — as usual the sooner the better**.

The Carroll County (MD) chapter met on March 20th at the home of Emily and Jack Johnston. The theme was “2009 Beaujolais; is it truly the vintage of the century?” presented by Jack Johnston. I’ve been told the tasting featured a wonderful selection of a half dozen Beaujolais’. Once again I want to again offer a big thank you to the Emily and Jack Johnston assisted by Nan Slick for all their efforts researching, developing and presenting the theme. The Johnstons maintained the tradition of opening their home and hosting the annual business meeting along with the March tasting. As you can see below there was a fantastic selection of wines.

2009 Beaujolais				
No.	Wines	Price		Votes
warm-up	La Vieille Ferme White 2009 (The “Usual”)			0
1	Georges DeBoeuf Beaujolais Villages	15.99		7
2	Georges DuBoeuf Fleurie	16.99		2
3	Georges DuBoeuf Moulin-A-Vent Domaine de la Tour du Bief	15.99		3
4	Chateau Des Jacques Morgon	16.99		3
5	Chateau de Basty Régnié	17.99		6
6	Domaine de Chardignon Cote de Brouilly	17.99		12

The March tasting was also marked our 31st anniversary, and the beginning of our 32nd year. I appreciate Robert Horrocks for agreeing to cover for me while we were out of town. Robert, as past president, introduced a motion that the officers of CCAWS (president, treasurer, and secretary) be exempted from the paying for tastings while active in their roles; the motion was adopted and will go into effect in April. It was also requested that an updated members list be consolidated and made available to active members.

Guests / New Members

A couple of guests joined us at the Johnston’s; Dot and Mike Worthen attended the March tasting. If you encounter people who might enjoy the benefits of CCAWS, consider bringing them to a tasting as a guest (along with an extra dish for the table). You could find another friend to share an enjoyable Sunday afternoon with once a month.

Sad news ...

A longtime friend of CCAWS, Emily Murray, passed away on March 30th. Emily and her husband Dick were members and frequent house hosts, and they will be missed by many members.

- **The May tasting will be hosted by the Barbours’ on May 15th. The theme for the May tasting will be “Vat ist Dat?” and Nancy Slick will be the wine host.**
- As always please refrain from any strong smelling colognes or perfumes. This will permit you and your neighbors to evaluate the aromas.
- **Our house hosts for 2011 are filled, but wine hosts are still needed. Please talk to me or send an e-mail if you are interested in presenting.**
- **Please make sure you have renewed your annual dues at both the national and local levels. Active memberships in both organizations are needed to qualify for the discount at the stores, and if you are hosting, you need the national membership to qualify for insurance. I will be attempting to reconcile the memberships in the near future, so please make a point of renewing soon, if you haven’t already.**

Check our web site (www.CCAWS.net) for upcoming tastings.

Other items of interest

- *Cranberry Liquors, College Square, Northwest Liquors, House of Liquors, and Main Street Liquors* in Hampstead all offer discounts to CCAWS members
- *Taste of Tuscany* is now offering discounts on off-sale wine.
- *Wine Me Up Wine Bar & Shoppe* (www.winemeupshoppeandtavern.com) Half off wine by the bottle on Tuesdays, half off Pizza on Wednesdays and on Friday Happy Hour, receive half off wine by the glass from 5pm-7pm on Fridays!
- *Serpent Ridge Vineyard* is now also offering a 15 % discount to CCAWS members for wine sales. A tasting is \$5.00 and you get to keep the glass. <http://www.serpentridge.com/>

The County Cork Wine Pub has recently opened in the Eldersburg area. More to follow.



Greetings everyone...

The CCAWS May 15th tasting will be held at the home of Susan and Mike Barbour and the theme will be “**Vat ist Dat?**” a selection of German wines presented by Nancy Slick. Be sure to RSVP to the Barbour’s by **Wednesday, May 11th** — *as usual the sooner the better*. As always bring a tasty dish, and/or dessert for the table. Also if you bring a guest please bring a dish for them as well.

The Carroll County (MD) chapter met on April 17th at the home of the Lynn and Joe Breeding (our house). The theme was a “Pacific Coast face off” presented by Nancy Slick. The blind tasting featured three pairings (four if you count the warm-up) each having a wine from either Washington or Oregon matched with a Californian wine. I want to again offer a big thank you to Nancy Slick for all her efforts researching, developing and presenting a theme from our idea. Along with many thanks to Lynn for all she did as house host and her efforts in making certain that everyone who attended had a superb time.

Pacific Coast face off				
No.	Wines	Price		Votes
Warm-up	Sterling Vintner’s Collection Sauvignon Blanc ’09 – Central Coast	10.99	CA	0
Warm-up	Chateau Ste Michelle Sauvignon Blanc ’09 – Columbia Valley	10.99	WA	0
1	Kendall-Jackson Vintner’s Reserve Riesling ’09 – Monterey County	11.99	CA	0
2	Willamette Valley Vineyards Riesling ’09 – Willamette Valley	12.99	OR	0
3	Montinore Estate Pinot Noir ’09 – Willamette Valley	19.99	OR	0
4	Castle Rock Reserve Pinot Noir ’09 – Russian River Valley	19.99	CA	4
5	Hook & Ladder The Tillerman ’07 – Sonoma Cty Russian River Valley	21.99	CA	8
6	Hedges Family Estate Red Mountain ’07 – Red Mountain AVA	28.99	WA	14

As you can see above there were some wonderful wines tasted, and we were able to discover some interesting *terroir* influenced characteristics. The group correctly identified the state of origin for two of the three pairings, and nearly got all three correct.

Guests / New Members

Guests Jim Lutz, a friend of Nancy’s, Renee Hagan, who works with Lynn, and my father Paul Breeding, visiting from Colorado, joined the group for the April afternoon. If you encounter people who might enjoy the benefits of CCAWS, consider bringing them to a tasting as a guest (along with an extra dish for the table). You could find another friend to share an enjoyable Sunday afternoon with once a month. Dot and Mike Worthem (guests at the Johnston’s in March) have also joined AWS and CCAWS. We look forward to seeing all our new members at upcoming tastings and the annual picnic in July.

Sad news ...

The Maryland wine community suffered a significant loss when Phyllis L. Mowbray passed away on April 22nd. Phyllis and her husband G. Hamilton ‘Ham’ Mowbray were founding members of CCAWS and pioneers in the Maryland wine industry. Their contributions to viticulture in the Mid-Atlantic were considerable, and we have a great deal to thank them for. Beyond her role in Montbray Wine Cellars, she was an avid gardener, genealogist, writer and published author. The AWSEF scholarship sponsored by CCAWS is named in honor of the Mowbrays who pioneered the growing of classic European grapes in the Mid-Atlantic on their 18th century homestead in Silver Run.

- The June tasting will be hosted by the Riley’s on June 12th (Note this is the 2nd Sunday to de-conflict with Father’s Day). The theme for the June tasting is the AWS National Tasting Project which this year is Merlot. Once again Nancy Slick will be the wine host.
- As always please refrain from any strong smelling colognes or perfumes. This will permit you and your neighbors to evaluate the wine’s aromas.
- Our house hosts for 2011 are filled, but wine hosts are still needed. Please talk to me or send an e-mail if you are interested in presenting.
- Please make sure you have renewed your annual dues at both the national and local levels. Active memberships in both organizations are needed to qualify for the discount at the stores, and if you are hosting, you need the national membership to qualify for insurance. I will be attempting to reconcile the memberships in the near future, so please make a point of renewing soon, if you haven’t already.

Check our web site (www.CCAWS.net) for upcoming tastings.

Other items of interest

- Cranberry Liquors, College Square, Northwest Liquors, House of Liquors, and Main Street Liquors in Hampstead all offer discounts to CCAWS members
- Taste of Tuscany is now offering discounts on off-sale wine.
- Wine Me Up Wine Bar & Shoppe (www.winemeupshoppeandtavern.com) Half off wine by the bottle on Tuesdays, half off Pizza on Wednesdays and on Friday Happy Hour, receive half off wine by the glass from 5pm-7pm on Fridays!
- Serpent Ridge Vineyard is now also offering a 15 % discount to CCAWS members for wine sales. A tasting is \$5.00 and you get to keep the glass. <http://www.serpentridge.com/>
- The County Cork Wine Pub has recently opened in the Eldersburg area. More to follow.



Greetings everyone...

The CCAWS June 12th tasting will be held at the home of Linda and Ron Riley and the June theme is the AWS National Tasting Project “**Merlot – The Wine That Gets No Respect**” presented by Nancy Slick. Be sure to RSVP to the Riley’s by **Wednesday, June 8th — as usual the sooner the better**. As always bring a tasty dish, and/or dessert for the table. If you bring a guest, please bring a dish for them as well.

The Carroll County (MD) chapter met on May 15th at the home of the Susann and Mike Barbour. The theme was a “Vhat Ees Dat? – German wine surprises” presented by Nancy Slick. The tasting featured an assortment of German wines other than Riesling. I want to again offer my personal thanks to Nancy Slick for all her efforts supporting our chapter. I also want to say thank you to Sue and Mike for opening their home and developing the theme.

Vhat Ees Dat?			
No.	Wines	Price	Votes
warm-up	Henkell Trocken Sec Sparkling	10.99	0
1	Weingut Okonomierat Rebholz Muller-Thurgau Kabinett Trocken 2007	17.99	0
2	Geil Muskateller Trocken 2009	15.99	8
3	Hans Wirsching Silvaner 2007	19.99	2
4	Kruger-Rumpf Scheurebe Kabinett 2005	20.99	3
5	A. Christmann Spatburgunder (Pinot Noir) 2008	26.99	2
6	Noble House by Dr. Pauly Bergweiler Sweet Red 2009 Dornfelder	11.99	2

Our group, on the smaller side likely due to summer and vacations, experienced a wonderful array of mostly ‘Troocken’ (dry) German wines. Nancy also provided a guide on interpreting the German labels, which are more structured than many countries, and supply quite a lot of detail including the grape varietal, and harvest time along with the producer and frequently the region.

To start the meeting I read the first paragraph of a letter we received from Dick Marsden, President of the AWSEF (AWS Educational Foundation), expressing their appreciation and recognizing CCAWS for sponsoring more scholarships than any other chapter in the American Wine Society. The recipient of the next “G Hamilton Mowbray Scholarship” in honor of Jack and Emily Johnston is expected to be selected this summer, and the chapter is already funding our next scholarship, in memory of Bill Brown.

Guests / New Members

If you encounter people who might enjoy the benefits of CCAWS, consider bringing them to a tasting as a guest (along with an extra dish for the table). You could find another friend to share an enjoyable Sunday afternoon with once a month. We look forward to seeing all our new members at upcoming tastings and at the annual picnic in July. Congratulations are also in order for new members Diane Whitney and Geoff Butts on their recent engagement.

Sad news ...

On a sad note it was announced that Mary Bryson passed on May 12, 2011 at the age of 96. Mary and her husband were active members of CCAWS for many years.

Happy news ...

On a much happier note, Carmen Blosveren let the group know her mother recently celebrated her 100th birthday!

- o **The July gathering will be at the Grillon’s on July 17th, and is our annual picnic and BBQ!**
- o As always please refrain from any strong smelling colognes or perfumes. This will permit you and your neighbors to evaluate the wine’s aromas.
- o **Our house hosts for 2011 are filled, but wine hosts are still needed. Please let me know if you are interested in presenting.**

Check our web site (www.CCAWS.net) for upcoming tastings.

Other items of interest

- *Cranberry Liquors, College Square, Northwest Liquors, House of Liquors, and Main Street Liquors in Hampstead all offer discounts to CCAWS members*
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<http://www.serpentridge.com/>
- *The County Cork Wine Pub* has recently opened in the Eldersburg area. More to follow.



Greetings everyone...

The CCAWS Annual Picnic will be held on July 17th hosted by Jackie and George Grillon. Please bring lawn chairs, swim suits, a tasty side dish, and / or dessert, and a favorite bottle of wine (or two). This is a family affair so feel free to bring your children and grandchildren; however, this probably isn't the best meeting to introduce potential new members to our group. Be sure to RSVP to George or Jackie by **Wednesday, July 13th** — *as usual the sooner the better. An accurate count is important as I will be purchasing food items for the grill.*

The Carroll County (MD) chapter met on June 12th at the home of the Ron and Linda Riley. In June we completed the AWS National Tasting Project “**Merlot – The Wine That Gets No Respect**”. The requested wines were located and presented by Nancy Slick. Following the NTP protocol, the tasting was conducted in a double blind manner and discussion held until the end. This allowed each individual to judge each wine independently. All tasting sheets were collected, and the scores submitted to the national office to be compiled with other chapters. I want to again offer my personal thanks to Nancy Slick and to Linda and Ron for opening their home to the group (with a special nod to Ron for arranging the cooperation of the weather.)

AWS National Tasting Project – Merlot – The Wine that gets No Respect			
No.	Wines	Price	Votes
warm-up	Marques de Caceres 2010	8.99	0
warm-up	Boordy Rockfish	9.99	0
warm-up	Domain de Mirail Rose 2010	10.99	0
1	Robert Mondavi Napa Valley Merlot 2007	18.99	12
2	Columbia Crest Horse Heaven Hills Merlot 2008 (H3)	14.99	6
3	The Little Penguin Merlot 2009	9.99	5
4	Columbia Crest Grand Estates Merlot 2007	11.49	9
5	Souverain Alexander Valley Merlot 2007	16.99	7
6	St. Francis Merlot 2006	21.99	0

Guests at the June tasting included Tom Nitsch a friend of Anna and LeRoy Stewart, Greg and Penny Hutsell friends of Simone and Peter Haslauer, and Nicki Love a friend of our hosts Linda and Ron Riley.

Bill Eisberg announced that he and Walt Rachele have aspirations for leadership positions in the national organization. Walter Rachele is running for Treasurer and Bill Eisberg is running for Vice President. Please vote when you receive your ballots, and CCAWS will have an even larger presence at the national level (see last month - CCAWS is already well known as a friend of the AWSEF (Educational Fund).

Nancy provided an overview of merlots from documents supplied by the National Tasting Project organizers. We tasted and evaluated an assortment of Merlots from California, Washington, and Australia. Results from the voting are given above.

Guests / New Members

If you encounter people who might enjoy the benefits of CCAWS, consider bringing them to a tasting as a guest (along with an extra dish for the table). You could find another friend to share an enjoyable Sunday afternoon with once a month. We look forward to seeing all our new members at upcoming tastings and at the annual picnic in July.

- **The August Tasting will be at the Dougherty's' on August 21st; the theme and presenter(s) are still a surprise!**
- As always, please refrain from any strong smelling colognes or perfumes. This will permit you and your neighbors to evaluate the wine's aromas.
- **Our house and wine hosts for 2011 are filled, but it is not too early to think about 2012! Please let me know if you are interested.**

Check our web site (www.CCAWS.net) for upcoming tastings.

Other items of interest

- *Bud's at Silver Run and College Square are having their 3rd annual Summer Wine Tasting on Monday July 16 from 6:00 to 8:30. Mike will select 15 of his favorite summer wines for tasting (all priced under \$15); and Bud's will serve up at least 15 appetizers and together they'll come up with at least 15 giveaways. Bud's can be reached at 410-346-6816 or <http://www.budsatsilverrun.com/>.*
- *Cranberry Liquors, College Square, Northwest Liquors, House of Liquors, and Main Street Liquors in Hampstead all offer discounts to CCAWS members*
- *Wine Me Up Wine Bar & Shoppe (www.winemeupshoppeandavern.com) Half off wine by the bottle on Tuesdays, half off Pizza on Wednesdays and on Friday Happy Hour, receive half off wine by the glass from 5pm-7pm on Fridays!*
- *Serpent Ridge Vineyard is now also offering a 15 % discount to CCAWS members for wine sales. A tasting is \$5.00 and you get to keep the glass. <http://www.serpentridge.com/>*



Greetings everyone...

The CCAWS August tasting will be held on August 21st hosted by Donna and Mark Dougherty. The theme is "A trip to France – Languedoc-Roussillon, and the Bour gogne" presented by Meggan Robinson and Mike Bareford. Be sure to RSVP to Donna or Mike by **Wednesday, August 17th** — *as usual the sooner the better*. The Dougherty's have offered to open the pool and everyone is welcome to bring a bathing suit and enjoy a refreshing dip after the tasting.

Once again Jackie and George Grillon graciously opened their beautiful home for the annual picnic. In keeping with tradition there were horseshoes thrown, golf balls driven, and various spirited discussions; interspersed with frequent visits to the pool to cool off. As usual the food was wonderful with side dishes and desserts provided by attendees complemented by hamburgers, hot dogs and chicken on the grill. We also managed to enjoy a bit of wine. Attendance was down from the expected numbers; if your plans change after you've responded please update the host. The picnic is a great deal of work, so I want to offer a huge thank you to both Jackie and George for hosting the group each year.

Announcements --

- The September tasting will be held a week early on the second Sunday, September 11th to avoid conflicting with the Maryland Wine Festival on September 17th & 18th. The September tasting will be at Susan and Mike Barbour's.
- It is with a touch of sadness and a tinge of jealousy that I share the news that Mike and Mary Evans are moving out of Carroll County. They have been long time members, and strong supporters of CCAWS, and I must say thank you for the many times they've opened their home as house hosts for the group. Unfortunately they will no longer be able to be house hosts for the November tasting; anyone interested in hosting the group in November please contact me.
- The AWS National Conference registration is now open for anyone who is able to join us in Rochester NY on November 10-12. The National Conference is a unique experience offering the opportunity to participate in a staggering amount of educational programs covering many different aspects of wine and winemaking.
- CCAWS will once again be very involved with the Maryland Wine Festival at the Carroll County Farm Museum. Emily Johnston can always use volunteers.

- The September Tasting will be at the Barbour's on September 11th; the theme is going to center around Tempranillo.

NOTE this is a week early

- As always, please refrain from any strong smelling colognes or perfumes. This will permit you and your neighbors to evaluate the wine's aromas.
- Our house and wine hosts for 2011 are filled, but it is not too early to think about 2012! Please let me know if you are interested.

Check our web site (www.CCAWS.net) for upcoming tastings.

Other items of interest

- Bud's can be reached at 410-346-6816 or <http://www.budsatsilverrun.com>.
- Cranberry Liquors, College Square, Northwest Liquors, House of Liquors, and Main Street Liquors in Hampstead all offer discounts to CCAWS members
- Wine Me Up Wine Bar & Shoppe (<http://www.winemeupshoppeandtavern.com>) Half off wine by the bottle on Tuesdays, half off Pizza on Wednesdays and on Friday Happy Hour, receive half off wine by the glass from 5pm-7pm on Fridays!
- Serpent Ridge Vineyard is now also offering a 15 % discount to CCAWS members for wine sales. A tasting is \$5.00, and you get to keep the glass. <http://www.serpentridge.com/>



Greetings everyone...

The CCAWS **September 11th** tasting (please note the early date due to the MD Wine Festival) will be held at the home of Susan and Mike Barbour and the theme will be “**De 2001 en La Rioja—un Año Estelar!**” or “**2001 in Rioja—a Stellar Year!**” a selection of Spanish wines presented by **Lee Stewart**. **Note this tasting is special and will likely cost \$20 or more per person**. Be sure to RSVP to the Barbours’ by **Wednesday, Sept 7th — as usual the sooner the better**. As always bring a tasty dish, and/or dessert for the table. Also if you bring a guest please bring a dish for them as well.

The Carroll County (MD) chapter met on August 21st at the home of the Donna and Mark Dougherty. The theme was a “A trip to France – Languedoc-Roussillon, and the Bourgogne” presented by Meggan Robinson and Mike Bareford. The tasting featured a wonderful sampling of French wines and stories from the regions they visited during their trip to France last fall. Everyone appreciated their presentation of such a warm and personal theme. All the wines were exceptional and the AWS scoring was very close, although there was a clear crowd favorite.

A trip to France – Languedoc-Roussillon, and the Bourgogne				
No.	Wines	Price		Votes
warm-up	Coupe Roses 2009 Cuvee Champ De Roy Minervois	15.99		0
1	Le Renaudie 2010 Bergerac Sec	15.99		0
2	Cjateau De Paraza 2010 Rose Minervois	11.99		0
3	Gerard Bertrand 2008 Syrah/Carignan Minervois	13.99		0
4	Chateau Haut-Plaisir 2007 Cahors Prestige	22.99		4
5	Hecht & Bannier 2007 Faugeres	34.99		8
6	Canet Valette 2003 Saint-Chinian	39.99		20

As you can see above there were some wonderful wines tasted.

Guests / New Members

We welcomed Tracy and Chris Koch’s guests Lauren and Harold Nievod who joined the group for our trip through Southern France. If you encounter people who might enjoy the benefits of CCAWS membership, consider bringing them to a tasting as a guest (along with an extra dish for the table). We look forward to seeing all our new members at upcoming tastings and at the annual picnic in July.

- **John and Ann Carr will host the October tasting on the 16th, and will also fulfill the duties of wine host. We will explore the composition and process of making Amorone.**
- As always please refrain from any strong smelling colognes or perfumes. This will permit you and your neighbors to evaluate the wine’s aromas.
- **Our house hosts for 2011 are filled, but wine hosts are still needed. Please talk to me or send an e-mail if you are interested in presenting.**

Check our web site (www.CCAWS.net) for upcoming tastings.

Other items of interest

- **Cranberry Liquors, College Square, Northwest Liquors, House of Liquors, and Main Street Liquors in Hampstead all offer discounts to CCAWS members**
- **Taste of Tuscany** is now offering discounts on off-sale wine.
- **Wine Me Up Wine Bar & Shoppe** (www.winemeupshoppeandtavern.com) Half off wine by the bottle on Tuesdays, half off Pizza on Wednesdays and on Friday Happy Hour, receive half off wine by the glass from 5pm-7pm on Fridays!
- **Serpent Ridge Vineyard is now also offering a 15 % discount to CCAWS members for wine sales. A tasting is \$5.00 and you get to keep the glass.**
<http://www.serpentridge.com/>
- **The County Cork Wine Pub** has recently opened in the Eldersburg area. More to follow.



Greetings everyone...

The CCAWS **October 16th** tasting will be held at the home of Ann and John Carr and the theme will be **"For the love of Amorone – an exploration of the composition and process of making Amorone"** presented by **John Carr**. **Note this tasting will likely cost \$25 or more per person**. Be sure to RSVP to the Carrs by **Wednesday, Oct 12th — as usual the sooner the better**. As always bring a tasty dish, and/or dessert for the table. Also if you bring a guest, please bring a dish for them as well.

A smaller group of the Carroll County (MD) chapter met on September 11th at the home of the Susan and Mike Barbour. The theme was a **"¡De 2001 en La Rioja—un Año Estelar!"** presented by Lee Stewart. The tasting featured a selection of wines from Rioja focusing on the 2001 vintage. The 2001 Spanish wines are identified as '10c' (ready) on the AWS 2011 vintage chart. There was also a single 2004 selection; 2004 was just promoted to a '10b' (improving) vintage in the 2011 edition. Lee provided wonderful background on the region, the climate, and the requirements for a wine to be rated as a Crianza, Reserva, or Gran Reserva.

¡De 2001 en La Rioja—un Año Estelar!				
No.	Wines	Price		Votes
warm-up	El Coto Rosado 2010	9.99		0
1	Barón De Ley Gran Reserva 2001	39.99		2
2	Marqués de Riscal Gran Reserva 2001	49.99		1
3	Viña Ardanza Especial 2001	35.99		1
4	Marqués de Cáceres Gran Reserva 2001	35.99		5
5	Beronia Gran Reserva 2001	24.99		3
6	Beronia Gran Reserva 2004	24.99		3

As you can see above there were some wonderful wines tasted.

Chapter news

It was identified that with the limited number of attendees and the wonderful wines being served, that the impact of sponsoring the officers had a greater impact on the per person cost than with a more typical (larger) group.

As the MD wine festival is behind us, and the holidays are approaching it is time to begin thinking of the Wine baskets for our December tasting, and the corresponding contribution to the AWS Educational Foundation. Expect to hear more about this coming up!

- **The November tasting will be held on Sunday the 20th at the home of Michele and Bill Sadler. The theme will focus on wines from the Trentino – Alto Adige region presented by Simone Haslauer.**
- As always please refrain from any strong smelling colognes or perfumes. This will permit you and your neighbors to evaluate the wine's aromas.
- **I am developing the 2012 schedule of house hosts and wine hosts. Please talk to me or send an e-mail if you are interested.**

Check our web site (www.CCAWS.net) for upcoming tastings.

Other items of interest

- *Cranberry Liquors, College Square, Northwest Liquors, House of Liquors, and Main Street Liquors in Hampstead all offer discounts to CCAWS members*
- *Taste of Tuscany* is now offering discounts on off-sale wine.
- *Wine Me Up Wine Bar & Shoppe* (www.winemeupshoppeandtavern.com) Half off wine by the bottle on Tuesdays, half off Pizza on Wednesdays and on Friday Happy Hour, receive half off wine by the glass from 5pm-7pm on Fridays!
- *Serpent Ridge Vineyard is now also offering a 15 % discount to CCAWS members for wine sales. A tasting is \$5.00 and you get to keep the glass.*
<http://www.serpentridge.com/>
- *The County Cork Wine Pub* has recently opened in the Eldersburg area. More to follow.



Greetings everyone...

The CCAWS **November 20th** tasting will be held at the home of **Michele and Bill Sadler** and the theme will be **“wines from the Trentino – Alto Adige region ”** presented by **Simone Haslauer**. Be sure to RSVP to the Sadlers by **Wednesday, Nov 16th — *as usual the sooner the better***. As always bring a tasty dish, and/or dessert for the table. Also if you bring a guest, please bring a dish for them as well.

The Carroll County (MD) chapter met on October 16th at the home of the Ann and John Carr. The theme was a **“For the love of Amarone – an exploration of the composition and process of making Amarone”** presented by John Carr. The tasting featured a selection of Italian wines. The warm-up was a 100% Corvino (one of the staple grapes of Amarone), and then a Valpolicella. Next up were a pair of wines produced using the Ripassa technique. We concluded the tasting with a spectacular pair of true Amarones. John (and Mike Bareford) also included a surprise in the middle of the lineup; an Argentinean wine called Enamore made with alternate grapes (Malbec, Syrah, Bonardo and Cab Franc) produced using the Amarone technique.

“For the love of Amarone – an exploration of the composition and process of making Amarone”			
No.	Wines	Price	Votes
warm-up	Villabella <i>Montemazzano</i> – 100% Corvino '05	15.99	0
1	Zenato Valpolicella '08	12.99	0
2	Villabella Valpolicella Ripasso	17.99	0
3	Zenato Valpolicella Ripassa '07	26.99	3
4	Allegrini Bodega Renacer Enamore '06 (amarone style from Argentina)	36.99	8
5	Allegrini Amarone '07	90.99	1
6	Zenato Amarone '07	75.99	13

As you can see above the folks in attendance sampled a group of wines that I certainly do not drink everyday, although after the tasting I can't say I wouldn't like to.

Chapter news

As the holidays are approaching it is time to work on the Wine baskets for our December tasting and the corresponding contribution to the AWS Educational Foundation. I sent out a separate e-mail with details about this on October 12th. Essentially by making a contribution to the ASWEF scholarship (which our chapter funds), and providing a bottle of wine (greater than \$10 retail) by the November tasting, you are entered into the wine basket drawing held at the December Champagne tasting. Please bring your contributions (checks and bottles) to the November tasting, or contact Barb Eisberg [*see Full Version for email info*] by then if you want to join.

- **The December tasting will be held on Sunday the 11th (2nd week) at the home of Carmen and Richard Blasveren. The theme will follow tradition and focus on bubbly!!! The wine host will be John Landon.**
- As always please refrain from any strong smelling colognes or perfumes.
- **I am developing the 2012 schedule of house hosts and wine hosts. Please talk to me or send an e-mail if you are interested. I plan to check with the each of the house hosts from this year, and offer them the right of first refusal for the month(s) they hosted in 2011.**

Check our web site (www.CCAWS.net) for upcoming tastings.

Other items of interest

- *Cranberry Liquors, College Square, Northwest Liquors, House of Liquors, and Main Street Liquors* in Hampstead all offer discounts to CCAWS members
- *Taste of Tuscany* is now offering discounts on off-sale wine.
- *Wine Me Up Wine Bar & Shoppe* (www.winemeupshoppeandtavern.com) Half off wine by the bottle on Tuesdays, half off Pizza on Wednesdays and on Friday Happy Hour, receive half off wine by the glass from 5pm-7pm on Fridays!
- *Serpent Ridge Vineyard* is now also offering a 15 % discount to CCAWS members for wine sales. A tasting is \$5.00 and you get to keep the glass. <http://www.serpentridge.com/>



Greetings everyone and Happy Holidays...

Put on your party dress or dust off your suit and tie, and join us for the CCAWS Holiday Celebration and tasting on **December 11th** at the home of **Carmen and Richard Blosveren** (note that this is the 2nd Sunday!) The theme will follow our usual pattern for December and focus on “Bubbles!!!” presented by **Betty Kreder**. Be sure to RSVP to the Blosverens by **Wednesday, Dec 7th** — *as usual the sooner the better*. Also this tasting is usually very well attended, so there may not be room for guests (the house hosts will record your desire to bring a guest during the tally, and let you know if there is room after the response cutoff). As always bring a tasty dish, and/or dessert for the table. If we are able to accommodate guests and you do bring one, please bring a dish for them as well. A word to newer members, people dress up for this tasting as it also serves as our annual party.

The Carroll County (MD) chapter met on November 20th at the home of the Michele and Bill Sadler. The theme was a “wines from the Trentino – Alto Adige Region” presented by Simone Haslauer. The tasting featured a selection of wines from Northern Italy specifically the Trentino – alto Adige region. Simone began a very well attended tasting with an exceptional slideshow covering the region, the geography, the terroir, and the native grape varieties. She expanded the education portion of the tasting by covering the eight DOCs and some of the interesting tidbits regarding the amount of wine produced (and consumed) in the region, along with the international high regard for the wines they produce.

“wines from the Trentino – Alto Adige region”			
No.	Wines	Price	Votes
warm-up	Riff Pinot Grigio terra alpine '09	12.99	0
1	Pinot Grigio Schreckbichl '09	18.99	7
2	Müller Thurgau – Alois Lageder '10	16.99	2
3	Gewürztraminer – Elena Walch	19.99	3
4	Vernatsch Galea – Nals Magreid	14.99	5
5	S. Maddalena “Huck am Bach” – Kellerei Bozen	19.99	7
6	Lagrein – Elana Walch	16.99	14

Chapter news

- With the new year coming around it is time to renew membership by paying dues of (still only) \$10 to CCAWS (Carroll County Chapter of the American Wine Society) AND your membership obligation (dues \$62 for 2012) to AWS (American Wine Society). Remember you must maintain membership in AWS (the national parent organization) to remain a member of CCAWS. You can renew your national membership via the website www.americanwinesociety.org or call 888-297-9070 if you prefer to manage your account over the phone.
- New members Lauren and Howard Nievod joined the group for the first time as members (they were guests of the Kochs in August), and brought Lauren’s mother Kim Garriott as a guest.

Other news

- The January tasting will be held on Sunday the 15th at the home of Corynne Courpas and Scott Markle. The theme and wine host will be revealed in the next newsletter.
- If you donated to the annual fundraiser, Thank You, and good luck in the drawing for the fabulous baskets at the December tasting. If you missed donating, attendees can still participate in the silent auction for the winemakers basket.
- As always please refrain from any strong smelling colognes or perfumes.
- I am developing the 2012 schedule of house hosts is coming together, but I am still looking for wine hosts.

Check our web site (www.CCAWS.net) for upcoming tastings.

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