



Chapter of the Enological Society of the Pacific Northwest

Newsletter Date: February 20, 2006

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John DiBari

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*"Check out the website
to view photos from
several Society Events!"*

We're on the web!
www.yakimawine.org

Annual Meeting



Your society's annual meeting will be held March 8, 2006 at the **Yakima Valley Museum** at 6:30 PM. This is always a fun get-together with great food - potluck style. Everyone please bring one of your special appetizers, casseroles, salad, or dessert, and the society will furnish wines left from some of the special tastings. Rolls and butter will be furnished.

We will have a very short meeting and invite you to bring some suggestions or ideas to spice up our tastings for the coming year. We have several board openings and are looking for new faces and ideas to keep everyone looking forward to a new year. Please contact **John DiBari** if you are interested in becoming a

Board Member.

Date: Wed, March 8th, 2006

Place: Yakima Valley Museum

Time: 6:30 P.M. Registration
7:00 P.M. Potluck

Cost: \$10.00 Members
\$15.00 Guests

Bring: Appetizer, Casserole, Salad or Dessert, and one (1) Wine Glass

Postmarked by **Friday, March 3rd**.
Phone calls only on **Monday, March 6th**
to **Marie Clark, 697-3364**.

-- Virginia Gable



Platinum IV Tasting- "Best Ever" Wine List

"Best Ever" is subjective, but our intrepid Platinum Tasting Committee has procured three **Double Platinum** and five **Platinum** wines. This includes an extraordinary "natural" Double Platinum - the **2003 Vin du Lac Cabernet Franc**, which was the top-rated wine in the judging. We will present six of the top ten wines in the northwest for your tasting pleasure!

You cannot get these wines anywhere! Fully ten of the seventeen wines that will comprise our wine list are sold out and no longer available to the public. In many instances, wineries have released part of their library collections for our tasting. Vin du Lac's 03 Cab Franc now sells as a "Collector's Edition" at the winery for \$85 per bottle! We scored the

absolute last case of the **2002 Three Rivers Winery Champagne Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon**. We will post the complete wine list on the YES website.

Our Food Committee is working with the staff at **Howard Johnson's Plaza** in downtown Yakima to create the exquisite food pairings we have come to expect at platinum tastings. We will provide more information about the food pairings in the April newsletter.

A highlight of last year's tasting was the *repatee*' between **Wine Press Northwest** magazine editor **Andy Perdue** and the winemakers. Andy will be back again and we have a stellar lineup of winemakers.

Continued on Page 2...



President's Corner

It is again time for the **Annual Meeting** of the membership. We hold this meeting each March to elect new Board Members, thank members who are departing the board, and get feedback from members about the past year's events. At this meeting, members get to show their culinary talents (it is a potluck) and revisit wines from past tastings (we provide wine left over from the year's tastings).

It is also an opportunity to give the Board ideas, comments and direction for the future. YES is not unique in experiencing a drop in membership and in attendance at wine tastings. If there is something we could be doing that we are not doing to change that pattern, we would like to know about it. This meeting is the time for those comments.

Our April tasting will be at the **Larson Gallery** for the Photo Contest. We will again be giving a \$100 Members Choice award by vote of those attending. The focus will be on **Southern Oregon** for this tasting with wine and cheese from the Medford-Ashland area.

I hope everyone enjoyed the **Red Wine and Chocolate** weekend at the local wineries. It is a good time to get out and see how things are going. Some wineries release new offerings during this weekend. The next big event will be **Spring Barrel Tasting** in April.

I hope to see everyone at the Yakima Valley Museum for the Annual Meeting.

-- **John DiBari**
President, YES

Platinum IV from Page 1...

ers planning to attend, including: **Larry Lehmbecker** of **Vin du Lac**, **Holly Turner** of **Three Rivers Winery**, **Wade Wolfe** of **Thurston Wolfe**, and **Kathy Charlton** of **Olympic Cellars**. YES members will have the opportunity to be seated with one of these VIPs by paying a slightly higher ticket price.

Seating is very limited so please register early. We will again assign seats, so if you wish to sit with specific friends, please let us know on your registration form. Tables of eight or ten are available at the member price--guests are welcome at the same price.

"Sponsor tables" include central seating with one of the winemakers and a bottle of wine to take

home. Go together with your friends and reserve an entire table! If you have questions or want additional information, please feel free to call **Mike Libbee** at 910-3347 or email mikelibbee@earthlink.net

Date: May 20th, 2006

Time: Reception 6:30 PM
Dinner 7:30 PM

Place: Howard Johnson's Plaza

Price: \$85 per person.
\$110 for seating at a "Sponsor Table."

Dress: Semi-formal.

Theme: **Sapphire Nights** ...glittery blue, platinum, silver, and black are our colors.

Dancing: After the tasting and into the late hours.

Lodging: Howard Johnson's Plaza is making a special overnight package available, including a Sunday morning breakfast buffet. Call the hotel for lodging reservations.

RSVP: Limited to **210** registrants.

--**Mike Libbee**

Calendar of Upcoming Events

Mar 8th **Annual General Meeting**
Yakima Valley Museum

Apr 12th **Southern Oregon**
Larson Gallery

May 20th **Platinum IV**
Howard Johnson

Please submit info., articles, or recipes to:

Charlena Paschen, 2480 Selah Loop Rd.,
Selah, WA 98924 - Phone: (509) 697-3931

Www.dreamdesignconsulting.com coming soon!

E-mail: chaleepas1963@yahoo.com

Annual Membership Renewal Reminder

Each year your membership in the Yakima Enological Society must be renewed on March 1st. The membership form below is to be used for your renewal. Please fill it out and send with the appropriate amount to the YES PO Box on the form. Those who have joined in the last few months should know that their membership fee was reduced for the last half of the year and is due again for the year beginning on March 1st. Because some members have asked, this year's application includes an option to pay for two-years. This will help with the number of annual renewals and may help those who get dropped when they do not send in their membership by April 1.

Because the Yakima Enological Society is a volunteer group it is expected that all members will volunteer to be part of the effort for our events that need help. Please check at least one box on the application for what you would

be willing to do for the group.

It is very important that current members renew before April 1. After that date the YES Board has decided that persons signing up for YES tastings that have not renewed their membership will pay the extra \$5 per person (guest fee) for wine-tastings. Your newsletter will also end with the April mailing.

As a member of the Enological Society of the Pacific Northwest we owe dues to the umbrella group each year. When membership renewals come in over a period of months it causes extra problems with record keeping and accounting.

Since those who perform these duties for YES are volunteers, it is best to keep the process to the shortest period of time. If you want to stay a part of YES, please remember to take care of this as soon as possible.

- - *John DiBari*

 Yakima Enological Society
Membership Application

____ New ____ Renewal

Name _____ Home Phone: (____) _____
Name _____ E-mail: _____
Address: _____ Newsletter by email Yes ____ No ____
City: _____ State : _____ Zip : _____

Mail completed application with check to:
Yakima Enological Society
PO Box 2395
Yakima, WA 98907

PLEASE NOTE: Law requires members to be of legal age. Membership from 3/1/06 to 3/1/07 except as noted below for special two-year membership until May 1, 2006.

As a volunteer organization it is expected that members will check at least one box below:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Help with food preparation for tastings | <input type="checkbox"/> Wine research for tastings |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Help with greeting and guest registration | <input type="checkbox"/> Pouring wine/serving food |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Help with organizing a tasting | <input type="checkbox"/> Help with setup for a tasting |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Board membership/planning | <input type="checkbox"/> Help with cleanup after a tasting |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Writing/Finding articles for newsletter | <input type="checkbox"/> Sharing my wine knowledge at tastings |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Anything to help at a tasting | <input type="checkbox"/> -handouts/talks/slides |

Membership is non-transferable. Minors are not permitted at tastings.

Annual Dues: \$25.00 __ Couple \$15.00 __ Single for membership until 3/1/2007

Special Offer – Dues \$50.00 __ Couple \$30.00 __ Single for two-yr membership until 3/1/2008 - Must be paid by May 1, 2006 to get this two-year membership.

Local Wine Events

OK, a couple of these are not local, but they do feature local wineries. Tell your friends in the Seattle and Portland areas about these opportunities to taste Yakima Valley wines.

March 11/12 - Poverty Bay Wine Festival sponsored by the **Rotary Club of Des Moines**. Seventeen wineries and great food by the bay. Participating valley wineries include **Chandler Reach, Hedges Cellars, Two Mountain Winery, Sagelands, and Windy Point Vineyards**. Tickets are on sale at **Corky Cellars** (206-824-9462). Price is \$20.00 in advance (\$25.00 at the door) which includes souvenir wine glass and five tokens to use towards tastings.

March 27 - A Showcase of Yakima Valley Wine in Portland. All delicious, all Yakima Valley, all presented by the vintners who created them at the **Old World Forestry Center**, 6:00 – 8:00 PM. Tickets are \$40 per person available online at www.wineyakimavalley.org or send check to Wine Yakima Valley, PO Box 497, Prosser, WA 99350.

March 29 - Carousel French Cuisine welcomes downtown favorite **Yakima Cellars** for a six-course gourmet winemaker dinner prepared by chefs **Gerard and Ewa**. 6:00 PM, \$65, RSVP required to 248-6720.

-- *Mike Libbee*

YES Snack Trays Available

We have plastic snack trays emblazoned with the YES logo that make balancing appetizers and wine glass a one-hand task. These are perfect for stand-up events such as the April tasting at the Larson Gallery. The snack trays are available for \$2.50 from Marie Clark at our event registration table.

--*Mike Libbee*

Welcome New Members!

YES extends a warm welcome to the following new members: **Lisa and Barry Pilkinton, Jennifer Nelson and Greg Huefner, Mina Worthington and Marko Kalaba, Ric and Rita Pilgrim, Mark and Karen Lower, Joe and "Mo" Galbreath, Ljubomir ("LJ") Medenica, Ed Huang, Judy and David Null, Kim Halcro, Judith and Bryan Thoet, Jim and Vicki Black.**

--*David Lynx*

Welcome!

Wine Shop of Yakima Changes Hands

Many YES members are familiar with **The Wine Shop of Yakima**, located in Glenwood Square. The store is finishing its first year of providing an ever-growing selection of fine wines from Washington, Northwest and worldwide producers.

As of March, **Lynda Opiela**, owner and founder, will hand the reins to **Jim Collins**. Lynda opened the store in April 2005, and has established a reputation for first-rate service and diversified choice. She will continue to be involved in the store's activities in a consultative role. Lynda extends her heartfelt thanks to all who have supported her quest to have Central Washington's best independently-owned wine store right here in Yakima.

Jim brings more than a decade's worth of wine industry experience in various capacities, both in Washington and California. The Wine Shop of Yakima will continue to feature tastings on Fridays and Saturdays, and will expand its inventory, focusing on the great wine regions of the world. Additionally, Jim plans theme-oriented tastings, featuring Washington winemakers and people of note in the wine business.

Visit The Wine Shop of Yakima at 5110 Tieton Drive, Main Floor, Ste. 260, phone 972-2811.



--*Mike Libbee*

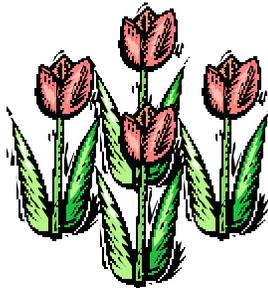


April at the Gallery

Our annual Larson Gallery tasting is scheduled for April 12 and will feature the wines of **Southern Oregon** and the cheeses of the **Rogue Creamery** in Central Point, Oregon. This is a great opportunity to learn about "the other Oregon" wine region and the pairing of their wines (white, red, port) with the best cheeses made in the U.S. Come taste "**Artichoke-Lemon Cheddar**," "**Crater Lake Blue**," and other cheeses together with specially selected Oregon wines.

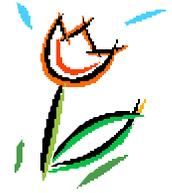


--Gerry Perryman



Zillah Spring Fling 2006

Taste the Good Life! **The City of Zillah** invites you to the Heart of Wine Country for fine food, award-winning wines and an evening of memories.



Need something to do after the wineries close on Spring Barrel Tasting Saturday (April 29th)? Come to the **Old Furniture Warehouse** for the Third Annual Zillah Spring Fling.

- Classic Car Show (12:00-5:00 PM)
- Wine Tasting and Great Food (6:30-8:00 PM)
- Live and Silent Auction (7:30 PM)
- "Oldies" Dance (to follow)

Contact **Zillah City Hall** at 829-5151 for tickets and additional information. Tickets are \$25 including a commemorative wine glass. Proceeds go to the Zillah **Parks Department** to reopen the community swimming pool that has been closed for two years due to insufficient funds.

--Carrie Koerner

Platinum IV Tasting

Event: Saturday, May 20th, 2006 - 6:30 PM Reception 7:30 PM Dinner

Name(s): _____

Members: _____ @ \$85.00 = \$_____

Name(s): _____

Guests: _____ @ \$85.00 = \$_____

Name(s): _____

Sponsors: _____ @ \$110.00 = \$_____

Name(s): _____

TOTAL Enclosed: \$

Phone: _____

Please give your e-mail address if you would like to receive future issues of the newsletter via e-mail.

Please clip & mail with your check to:
Yakima Enological Society - P.O. Box 2395, Yakima, WA 98907
All Reservations must be paid for in advance and are NON REFUNDABLE!



Who Knows Pinots Now?

Ninety-one people, including 15 guests, attended "Who Knows Pinots?" on February 8th at the YWCA. We want to thank the following for volunteering to assist with the tasting: **Mike Harves, Wilma Dulin, and John Dibari** for their planning and organization; **Chris Christman and Dorene Boyle, Eric and Cecilia Vogt, Don and Jill Skone, Donna and Bruce Lambert, Lynda and Ray Opiela, and Hans Michielsen** helped with the pouring; **Gen Rennie and Martha Stadelman, Tom and Mary Robbert** helped with clean-up; **Marilyn Perry and Marie Clark** helped with registration. A special thanks to **Jennifer and Karen Lee** for helping with the greeting and making sure the tables were stocked with food.

A very big THANK YOU to **Lynda and Ray Opiela (The Wine Shop of Yakima)** for helping with the planning, pouring and for giving us a generous discount that helped keep the cost of the tasting down! For those of you who missed the tasting, here is the list of wines and foods that we served.

Greeting wine -- **Aria Spanish Pinot Sparkling Blush**

Captain Ganerot French Burgundy paired with Wild mushroom and red onion tart.

Grey Monk Canadian Pinot Auxerrois; chilled poached salmon roulade filled with spinach, toasted pecans and topped with a caper aioli.

Mondovi Sonoma Hangtime Pinot Noir with blue cheese polenta.

Erath Oregon Pinot Noir and roasted duck mousse served on sweet potato bread crostini with raspberry butter.

KWV South African Pinotage complemented by red wine truffles.

Mark your calendars: **Pinot II** will be February 14th, 2007 (Valentine's Day) at the YWCA!

--**Kathy Michielsen**



"How We Plan a Tasting"

Your Board of Directors wants to share a few thoughts on the conduct of our monthly tastings and some considerations that go into food and wine planning.

The total amount of wine at a tasting is limited to 10-12 ounces with a light meal or heavy hors d'oeuvres. If the planned meal is heavier and/or is spread over a longer time period, the wine amount can be increased to 15 ounces.

Our standard pour is two ounces. If a wine is particularly expensive and/or the tasting committee wishes to include an extra wine for comparison, one ounce pours of two different wines may be provided. Thus the tasting committee will generally be limited to about five wines, including the greeting wine. These are insurance-related limitations by which YES must abide for the protection of our members and for liability reasons.

The committee purchases only the amount of wine that will be used for the number of people registered for the event. In order to be certain that everyone gets to taste each wine, it is important that members not ask for an additional pour until everyone has been served. Most people would like to know that they will still be able to taste the greeting wine even if they are delayed in arriving until just before the tasting begins at 7:00 PM. In order to facilitate this, we cannot begin serving the greeting wine until 6:45 PM.

We conduct our events under a Banquet Permit from the WA State Liquor Control Board. This permit imposes certain restrictions on our activities, i.e.; we cannot sell bottles of wine, the event is limited to those who make a prior reservation and to those invited to attend. Events held under a Banquet Permit are by law not open to the general public.

I encourage all members to get involved in a tasting – planning, set-up, greeting, registration, clean-up. We are always looking for ideas or interests from members.

If you have any comments or questions, please come to the annual meeting and make them known or contact one of your Board Members.



- - **John DiBari**



March 2006

First Class Mail

P.O. Box 2395
Yakima, WA 98907

Happy
St. Patrick's Day!



Annual Meeting

Yakima Valley Museum

Deadline: *Postmarked by Friday, March 3rd, 2006*

Event: *Wednesday, March 8th, 2006 6:30 PM*

Name(s): _____

Members: _____ @ \$10.00 = \$_____

Name(s): _____

Non-Members: _____ @ \$15.00 = \$_____

Name(s): _____

Name(s): _____

TOTAL Enclosed: \$

Phone: _____

Please give your e-mail address if you would like to receive future issues of the newsletter via e-mail.

If you would like to help with the tasting, please select one of the following:

- Set Up
- Food Prep
- Registration
- Greeter
- Pourer
- Clean Up

Please clip & mail with your check to:
Yakima Enological Society - P.O. Box 2395, Yakima, WA 98907
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