

VAWA

Vancouver Amateur Winemaker Association

VAWA Web Site
www.vawa.net

Upcoming Events – 2012

April 21, 2012 Time: 6 p.m.
Annual Wine Competition and Banquet
St Helen's Church Hall
3860 Triumph St. North Burnaby
Cost: \$60/person

Executive List

President	Larry McIntyre blue_heron1@telus.net
Past Pres.:	John Read jpread@telus.net
Vice Pres.:	Eric Urquhart eric.loveswine@gmail.com
Secretary:	Ron Toffolo rtoffolo@telus.net
Treasurer:	Ron Thorne thorner@shaw.ca
Wine Stewards:	Mike Erhardt Merhardt@shaw.ca Robbie Davino robbiedavino@gmail.com
Members at Large:	Mike Grindler Captmike@shaw.ca Len Sigurdson lensigurdson@shaw.ca Tom Robinson trobinson@gksystems.com

Evening Toast

February

Wine Jacqueline George

Toaster John Read

Upcoming Toast

March

Wine Mike Grindler

Toaster Roger Phillippe

April

Wine Clem Joyce

Toaster Roger Pellizzari

February Meeting

Time: February 9, 2012 8:00 to 10:00 PM

Venue: Scottish Cultural Centre
8886 Hudson Street, Vancouver

Door: Members \$10.00 Guests \$12.00

Topic: An Exploration of Syrah – A tasting and discussion of Syrah sourced from various vineyards and made by Club Members

Speaker: Club Members

Moderator: Eric Urquhart

February Mini-Competition: Zinfandel

Bring your best Zinfandel to the competition. Competition Class E4 must contain at least 85% Zinfandel. Winner will take home the coveted mini-comp trophy!

Judge: Tom Robinson

Steward: Mike Erhardt

Items of Note: Other Club Competitions:

March 3 – Nanaimo Winemakers – Drop off entries by Feb 19 to Paul Arcand

April 21 – VAWA Annual Competition and Banquet

May 4-5 – Provincial competition hosted by Chilliwack Zymurgy

June 16 – Langley Fermenters

All members are encouraged to participate in other club competitions.

Please see BCAWA website for more details

Special Notices: All members are reminded that Annual Dues were payable January 2012.

Annual Dues: \$35 individual and \$50 couple

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New Winemakers! We have mentors! Club members have volunteered to be mentors for new winemakers. E-mail them with any questions you may have.

Duncan Ainslie dainslie@shaw.ca

Clem Joyce cjoyce@telus.net

Larry McIntyre

blue_heron1@telus.net

Highlights of January Meeting:

- The meeting began with John Read (standing in for Larry McIntyre) welcoming everyone. The toast was given by Tom Robinson and the toasting wine provided by Dave Ewen a tasty 1999 Cabernet from Washington State
- Club Crush for 2012 – a recommendation was made that the 2012 Club Crush be Kiona Riesling – Sun River. After discussion the matter was put to a vote and the membership overwhelmingly voted in favour of the recommendation
- Banquet and Competition - a brief discussion of the progress and activities for the banquet. John Read is once again contributing his time and energy toward securing silent auction items and banquet arrangements.
 - Due to changes in church policy this may be our last year at St Helen's Church hall.
 - Members are encouraged to contribute items to the Silent Auction. The silent auction is a very important source of revenue for the club. Bring in your stuff for the auction!
- Competition – a general discussion that consideration be given to placing an upper dollar limit on bottle entry fee to encourage greater participation for "winemaker of the year" Diversity is the key to this particular competition and most members do not make a sufficient breadth of wines to enter. Entry fee is currently very competitive and revenue from the competition is such that a discount may be financially unreasonable.
- Topic for the Evening – Wine Filtering and Techniques to Clarify Wine. A very thorough discussion on this topic was provided by Eric Urquhart. Eric highlighted that most wines will usually require some fining or filtering to clear. This is largely due to the chemistry of the grapes. Eric reviewed the most popular techniques for clarification. With respect to filtering many studies have been done on there is no conclusive evidence whether or not filtering impacts the flavour of wine. Eric will distribute reference material and it shall also be posted to the VAWA website – Winemaking Article – Fining.
- Bottle Draw – won by John Read – he took home a Lake Breeze Meritage
- Mini Comp – won by Pepi Kubon and he took home the Moon Curser Viognier



DRINKING AND DRIVING

**VAWA applauds those who consume responsibly
Complimentary taxi available at events sponsored by VAWA**