

Central Coast Home Vintners' Association

December 2019



President's Message

Hello CCHVA and Happy Holidays!

Well here we are again at the end of another year. This is the time of year that I try to let go of the Holiday stress and focus on Gratitude. One of the things I am most grateful for is all the members of our CCHVA family that have stepped up to help in one way or another this past year. Together we accomplished a lot. From our Members Meeting at Avila to the wine evaluation seminars and Tip's from the Pro's Series in the Winter, to the Wine Judging Competition and Picnic in the Spring, to our Summer Wine Making and Vineyard tour and Picnic in Los Alamos, to our Fall Harvest, Oktoberfest, and Wine Pairing Event we have certainly accomplished A LOT as a club and it is testament to EVERYONE who helped out. Of course our Board of Directors deserves a special "Thank You," and if you helped in ANY WAY at all this year, I personally thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Your Board of Directors is currently putting the finishing touches on next year's Calendar of Events. Watch for it on the Website soon and be sure to pick up a printed copy at the Avila Event on January 25th. As far as upcoming events go, the Avila Member's Meeting is not to be missed. It remains a "Member's Only" event since it sells out each year (74 people is our maximum given the size of the Avila Yacht Club), so get your reservation in ASAP.

There is a form in this newsletter that you can mail to our PO Box.

Finally, a word about membership renewal..... NOW IS THE TIME. I know most of our active members renew when they pay for the Avila Event. Others renew as reminders are sent through the end of February. But after February, we stop sending our newsletter or club details to those who haven't renewed. However, there are always some of our members who rejoin right before harvest so they can purchase grapes through our Co-op. Some people (you know who you are) do so every single year. If you are in this last group, realize you miss out on much the club has to offer. \$40 per couple is really a very small price to pay to have access to all our activities. Here is a suggestion, why not pay the yearly dues now, get it over with, and enjoy one or more of our social or educational events throughout the year? The form is also included in this newsletter. I guarantee you will be glad you did.

That's it for now, enjoy this final 2019 Newsletter and we will see you at Avila in the Next Decade!

Fred Carbone
CCHVA Club President.
805-264-0611

CENTRAL COAST HOME VINTNERS' ASSOCIATION

2019 BALLOT FOR ELECTION OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Please vote for a maximum of 4 (four) nominees for positions on the Board of Directors for 2019. The persons elected will serve a minimum term of 2 years. Return your ballot before January 15 to CCHVA, P.O. Box 271, Santa Maria, CA 93456, Attention: Nomination Committee, or bring it to the Annual Membership Meeting on January 25th.

Please Note: You may also enclose your dues for 2019 with your ballot. Dues remains \$40 for the upcoming year.

- _____ Bill Buelow
- _____ Brad Bunkelman
- _____ Cheryl Decker
- _____ Russ Huston
- _____ Write in: _____



The following 2018 Board Members will complete their term in office and roll off the Board:

Jeff Mathieu
Cathy Del Re

Signature
One signature required per household membership

Attendance at our monthly Board Meetings is encouraged by anyone who might be interested in serving sometime in the future. Please contact any of the above Board Members for details.

Winemaker Magazine's SLO Conference & Competition

By Fred Carbone

When I started making my own wine in 2006, I never heard of the CCHVA. I did however have a subscription to Winemaker Magazine that I read cover to cover each time it arrived in my mailbox. I still do, even though most of the articles are things I already know and practice. But as a reference for all things related to growing grapes and making wine, it is unsurpassed in our hobby. I attended the Conference in Santa Barbara in 2011, and I can honestly say the things I learned help me move from a beginning winemaker to an advanced winemaker. I learned how to prune my Viognier to increase the yield and quality of the fruit. I learned how to take some of the funk and skunk out of my Syrah. I was very involved with CCHVA by this time, but these were ideas I did not learn from the club, the magazine, or the online forums I frequent. It was strictly from the experts at the conference which was worth EVERY PENNY I had to pay.

These conferences only occur locally every 4-5 years or so. You can register and still get the discount through the end of the year <https://winemakermag.com/product/2020-winemaker-conference-earlybird-may-29-30>

Winemaker Magazine also conducts a competition each year. For me, one of the best parts of this competition was when the bottle of Syrah I entered won a Bronze medal. Getting a Bronze at that stage of my winemaking career in an INTERNATIONAL competition with over 2000 entries from all 50 states and multiple countries was an award I am still VERY proud of.

Since then, Winemaker Magazine has expanded this competition to Award a "Club of the Year" and a "Winemaker of the Year" award to the Club and individual that has the most points for wines entered. Points are awarded as 3 points for gold, 2 for silver, 1 for bronze. Because I believe that CCHVA members make the best wines in the Whole Wide World, I think we should make a concentrated effort to grab that award! We currently have 84 club members. And the winning club usually garners between 60-80 points. If each of you entered one or more of your best bottles of wine, I am certain we would win! Plus, since they only look at the 5 best scores from those wines entered by an individual, there are at least half a dozen experienced CCHVA members who could probably tie for Winemaker of the Year. You know who you are!

Cost of entry is \$25 a bottle, which is steep I know, but if we ship everything together we can make the shipping costs much more reasonable than it was for me when I shipped only 1 bottle on my own. Ideally around \$5 a bottle. Jerry Shoemaker and I will be coordinating the collection, storage, and shipping of all entries for interested members. Details of the competition can be found at: <https://winemakermag.com/competition/competition-overview>.

The deadline for wines to arrive on the East Coast is March 17th, so if you are at all interested in participating, please let me know at DrFredCarbone@msn.com or call/text at 805-264-0611. I need to know if this is something the Club wishes to pursue or it is only a vision in my own head.

To sweeten the competition a bit, I'm offering a prize for the club member with the highest score. You can choose from either a used but fully functional vacuum pump (\$250 value) or one of my mini kegs (\$125 value) which are great for topper wine, but not so good for sparkling. Trust me, I've tried ☺



Coming Events!

The final event of our fiscal year is the annual Membership Meeting at the San Luis Obispo Yacht Club. This event, which is open to members only, will be held on January 25 from Noon to 4pm. The Yacht Club is located on the pier in Avila Beach where we will have a beautiful view of the ocean while we chat and share wines. You'll get a quick update on the status of the club, be fed a wonderful meal presented by member volunteers for just \$30 per person and have the opportunity to share some of your home wines with other appreciative home winemakers! Along with your wine, you'll bring your wine glass and either an appetizer or dessert depending upon the first letter of your last name. Don't forget to bring some money for the prize drawings! More details about the event are on the Registration Form.

As this is a consistently sold out event, you'll want to get your reservation in as soon as possible. You'll find the Registration Form later in this newsletter.

Recent Event Recaps!

Octoberfest

We thank Jim and Pat Ford for opening their home to host our Octoberfest. The club provided the Brats and buns and members brought sides, appetizers and desserts. Beer was the order of the day. As you can see from the photos, attendees had a great time. We received so many requests for Jim Ford's recipe for Beirocks that he has shared it below.

Beirocks (as made by Jim Ford)

1 lb hamburger or 1/2 lb hamburger and 1/2 lb sausage

1 medium sized cabbage or a can of sauerkraut

2 large onions

Salt and pepper to taste

Hot Roll Mix or Frozen Roll Dough

Chop cabbage and onions fine. Cook hamburger until done. Do not brown. Add chopped cabbage and onions, cooking over low heat. Stir often and cover to steam. Drain off excess fat. Season with salt and pepper.

Preheat the oven to 375. You can use a hot roll mix for the bread and follow the directions on the box or buy the frozen rolls. A package of 36 works out just about right. Let the rolls thaw and start to raise. The next part takes a little practice. Pull out the dough in your hand or roll out the dough on a floured surface. Place a tablespoon of the meat mixture in the center. The close the dough around the meat and place on a baking sheet seam side down. Bake at until golden brown, around 15-18 minutes.

Serve with a good mustard. Put the leftovers in the freezer and reheat in the oven.



Some members really came dressed for the spirit of Oktoberfest!

Cheese and Wine Pairing Recap

A big thank you goes to Cheryl Decker for opening her beautiful home to host the November Cheese and Wine Pairing! I somehow failed to take pictures or collect them from others to share this amazing day with you. Cheryl did an amazing job of educating us about how to pair wines and cheeses prior to the actual day of the event.

Attendees brought a paired wine and cheese. We had nearly 20 pairings to taste and had the opportunity to vote for what we felt was the best pairing of the day. A great turnout and great fun!

CCHVA 2020 Events Calendar at a Glance

(As of December 2019)

January 25th, 2020

Annual Members Meeting at noon at the San Luis Yacht Club in Avila Beach

Stay tuned for 2020 event dates

In these final days of 2019 we hope this newsletter finds each member happy, healthy and ready for 2020!



Happy Holidays and Happy New Year!

Board Meetings

Board Meetings are held the first week of the month on either a Wednesday or Thursday at a board members home. Meetings are open to the membership. If you would like to come at any time simply contact a board member for the date and location of the upcoming meeting.

Your Club Board and Committee Chair persons for 2019!

Contacts

* = Board Member

(Save this information as it will not be posted on the website)

President	Fred Carbone*	drfredcarbone@msn.com
Vice President	Kathy Sullivan *	Ksulli2026@aol.com
Secretary	Cathy DelRe *	<u>cjdelre@mac.com</u>
Treasurer	Paul Klock*	tictocfive@gmail.com

ASSIGNMENTS / COMMITTEES

Communications	Mary Michael *	msmarymike@aol.com
Equipment	Jim Ford*	pjford412@verizon.net
Supplies	Mark Plassard	dilplass@aol.com
Website	Linda Rickett *	<u>ltis17@msn.com</u>
Grape Co-op	Jim Ford	pjford412@verizon.net
Board Member	Gary Stanley *	Gary.Stanley.bear@gmail.com
Seminars	Hank Rickett	rickett.hank@gmail.com
Fairpark/Judging Coordinator	John Larson *	chemdem@sbcglobal.net
New Members	Jeff Mathieu *	Jeff.mathieu@tetrattech.com
Events/Picnics	Claire Shoemaker *	decshoe1@gmail.com
Board Member	Steve Rau*	fourbrotherswine@verizon.net

Want to volunteer? Give Fred a call!

Other important info!

Central Coast Home Vintners' Association
P.O. Box 271
Santa Maria, CA 93456

E-Mail: cchva2014@gmail.com

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK - CCHVA Facebook Like

We're on the Web!

See us at: www.cchva.org

Follow Us on Instagram:

Search for CCHVA1 to follow
Tag your photo with CCHVA1 to post
Hashtag your post to build up the CCHVA pictures
(#CCHVA1 or hashtag any CCHVA)

Have an article you think might be appropriate for this newsletter? Send it to cchva2014@gmail.com

We are an all volunteer organization. Join us and have some fun!

**Central Coast Home Vintners' Association's
2020 Annual Membership Meeting**
(Please use this form for your reservation and to pay dues renewal)

Central Coast Home Vintners' Association
P.O. Box 271
Santa Maria, California 93456

COMPLETE FORM AND MAIL WITH A CHECK PAYABLE TO CCHVA TO THE ABOVE ADDRESS

Reservations deadline is January 20, 2020

Location: San Luis Yacht Club (located on the pier in Avila Beach)
Date: January 25th, 2019
Time: 12:00-4:00 p.m.
Cost: \$30.00 per person (current members only)
Limit: Due to space at the Avila Yacht Club this event is limited to 74 Members
Deadline: January 20, 2019 (no refunds for cancellations after this date)

I am enclosing _____ dollars for _____ # of persons @ \$30.00 per person.
SINCE THIS EVENT IS LIKELY TO SELL OUT--NO PAY AT THE DOOR!

Member(s) Name _____
Address _____ City _____ Zip _____
Phone Number _____
E-Mail Address _____

What to bring: A-L – bring an appetizer
M-Z – bring a dessert
Everyone – bring your best bottle of homemade wine or a commercial wine of your choice to share with the group ***in addition*** to any wine you may want to serve at your own table.
Don't forget to bring your own glass too!!

CCHVA Annual Dues

Dues cover the association year from February 1st through January 31st.
Annual membership dues are \$40.00 per household (2 persons).
Use this form if attending the annual meeting.

I am enclosing _____ dollars my annual dues.

[Members who have not paid dues by February 28th, will be dropped from the membership list and will not receive future newsletters or club communications.](#)

Please use the Membership Application Form if you have any changes in address, phone number or email account so that we can update our records and continue sending you info.

CCHVA Membership Application

New Members and Renewals with Information Changes

Member 1

Name:

Phone:

E-mail address:

Current address:

City:

State:

ZIP Code:

Updated Contact Information? YES NO *(Please circle)*

Member 2 (Same Household as Member 1)

Name:

Phone:

E-mail address:

Updated Contact Information? YES NO *(Please circle)*

Amount Enclosed:

Comments:

*Important Notes:

- E-mail address is **REQUIRED** as all CCHVA communication is via e-mail only
- Annual membership dues are \$40.00 for one year membership that includes two people from the same household
- Membership year is February 1st – January 31st
- Members who have not paid dues by February 28th will be dropped from the membership list and **WILL NOT** receive future newsletters or club communications

Mail the completed form with annual membership dues to:

Central Coast Home Vintners' Association
P.O. Box 271
Santa Maria, CA 93456