



O.P.E.S. NEWS

Volume IV, No. 1
Jan - March, 2006

Newsletter of the Olympic Peninsula Enological Society

www.opes.info

The Olympic Peninsula Enological Society is a not for profit organization chartered by the Enological Society of the Pacific Northwest, providing education in viticulture and enology with appreciation, enjoyment, knowledge and proper use of wines.

A detailed Look at Current Events

O.P.E.S. No. 39: The Return of the Empire, a Wine Dinner at C'est Si Bon Sunday February 26th, 2006, 5:00 to 9:00 pm

No Jedi fans, NOT that empire! This is about the rediscovered wine and food culture of the Hapsburg Austrian-Hungarian Empire which ended during the First World War. The member nations of Austria, Hungary, Croatia and Slovenia suffered immeasurably from both world wars and the post war Communist regime that closed privately owned wineries. Now these countries have reemerged as free nations and their wineries are making dramatic comebacks.

OPES founder and Certified Wine Educator Bob Bentley will be presenting a range of wines paired with a gourmet ethnic dinner, featuring wines from Austria, Hungary and possibly Slovenia and Croatia as well. These wines have dazzled the wine market back east and many are now available on the west coast through such distributors as Triage which has supplied "high-end" wines used in past OPES events. OPES members will be able to taste and learn some "new" (for this area) varietal wines such as Gruner Gevettliners from Austria.

A generous, traditional Austrian and Hungarian menu will be prepared by C'est Si Bon chef-owner Michèle Juhasz. C'est Si Bon of Port Angeles has been a Peninsula gem for over twenty years with beautiful gardens, spacious European décor, and a warm ambience on a par with the finest restaurants of the Northwest. Their classic French cuisine has been featured and highly rated in Sunset Magazine www.cestsibon-frenchwuisine.com.

Admission is \$50 for OPES members and \$59 for sponsored guests. This event is limited to 70 seats so get your reservation in soon. **Reservations must be confirmed by check**, mailed to OPES, PO Box 4081, Sequim, WA 98382, and received no later than February 21, 2006. There will be no refunds later than February 23rd. For further event information or directions call Event Chairman Bob Bentley (360) 379-4087. For reservation and general OPES information contact OPES Secretary Carol Peet (360) 457-4318 and visit our web site at www.opes.info.

O.P.E.S. No. 40: Flavors of the Northwest Featuring Washington White Wines and Olympic Peninsula Coastal Cuisine at Port Angeles' Landing Restaurant Saturday March 25th, 2006, 5:00 to 9:00 pm

This is a wonderful chance to experience the pairing of our fresh local seafood with an outstanding selection of white wines. Landing owner and OPES member Sandi Hartmann is going all out to provide the best seafood available with a truly fine selection of Washington white wines at an exceptional price. Executive Chef Josh Washburn is preparing seven courses to enhance our white wine pairing. Hors d'oeuvres prepared with fine cheese, fruit and seafood profiteroles, cream of mussel bisque, fresh shrimp and crab salad, Oysters Rockefeller and Angels on Horseback. Two entrees will be served: troll caught Alaskan King Salmon with a lemon herb sauce on a bed of wild rice and halibut, prawns and scallops in parchment with a fresh garden vegetable medley.

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Upcoming Events

April 22, 2006

O.P.E.S. #41 Blind tasting of Non Bordeaux Red blends from CA and WA. Catered by Bella Italia at the Four Seasons Club House in Port Angeles.

May 20, 2006

O.P.E.S. #42 Annual Meeting at the Gardiner Community Center. Will be fun and informative... we will let you know when we know more than where and when!!



Board Members

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Randy Riggins

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Website

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Newsletter

Victoria McDonald

Thank You to our 2005 New Members:

Al & Kay Standish, Port Ludlow
Don & Vicki Corson, Port Angeles
Del & Sharon Delabarre, Sequim
Lewis & Judy Norris, Sequim
Gary & Susan Cohn, Port Angeles
Doug & Linda Henderson, Port Ludlow
Catherine Wright, Port Ludlow
Martha Ellul & Paul Blake, Port Ludlow
Cheryl Bond, Port Orchard
Larry Thomas, Port Ludlow
Jim & Janice Boyer, Port Ludlow



Bernard & Sharlene Gronau, Sequim
John & Karen Donlon, Sequim
Gwen Lovett, Port Townsend
Michael Hinojos, Port Townsend
Penny Joseph, Port Ludlow
Alan & Sylvia Henderson, Port Ludlow
Tom & Rhonda Curry, Port Angeles
Lawrence Freedman & Linda Engelbrecht, Sequim
John Brewer, Port Angeles
Bud & Jan Ewings, Port Angeles
Dale Wyngaert & Lori Davis
Sean & Victoria McDonald, Port Angeles

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The wines are from Chateau Ste Michelle Winery, Snoqualmie Vineyards and Columbia Crest Winery. There is no better winery than Chateau Ste Michelle to sample Washington white wines with their Cold Creek, Canoe Ridge, and Indian Wells vineyards representing the best of Washington State's white wine producing appellations. Their Cold Creek Chardonnay and Eroica Riesling are amongst our wines as well as their single year, single vintage champagne "Lux". Two of Columbia Crest's Grand Estate whites and two Snoqualmie Vineyards wines, including their Nearly Naked Riesling, round out the nine white wines we will experience.

The Landing Restaurant in Port Angeles is as close to the water as you can get with wonderful harbor views. Great clam chowder and the best fish and chips on the Peninsula are among the entrees on their varied menu. For directions call (360) 457-6768 or visit <http://www.portangeles.org/3.html>.

Admission is \$38 for OPES members and \$43 for sponsored guests. The size of this event is not limited, but time is so get your reservation in soon. **Reservations must be confirmed by check**, mailed to OPES, PO Box 4081, Sequim, WA 98382, and received no later than March 18th, 2006. There will be no refunds later than March 21st as the chef and wine distributors require a firm count in advance. For reservation and general OPES information contact OPES Secretary Carol Peet (360) 457-4318.

President's Message



Hello Friends and neighbors. 2005 has been the most productive year since our inception. We produced 11 wine and food events and participated in the Dungeness Crab and Seafood Festival. 575 members and guests attended these events from all parts of the Peninsula (as you can see from our new members listed above—welcome aboard). We made more revenue from these events than in all the past three years of events combined. This is good because our insurance rates have gone up over 50% in the last two years and our financial success has allowed us to forgo dues increases. It is my objective to keep dues at their current rate. That said, it is January and ALL member renewals are now due!

Take note of the Board members on the first page. They put in the lion's share of the work to make this organization function. The Board said goodbye to Pat Christensen who, for the last three and one half years, has handled all membership functions to include dues collection, maintaining rosters, updating email lists and passing on all the emails the club has sent to you. This organization could not have existed without her and Pat, we are grateful for all your years of service—thank you. Diane Pickering has stepped up to the plate and taken on Pat's duties which is appreciated. Elections are around the corner and the primary two positions to be vacant are President and Treasurer. Please consider running. If all the Board positions are occupied then being President is not difficult. Treasurer is an extremely important position in OPES because of the way event revenues and reservations are taken. Thanks to our current Treasurer, Gary Terrell, the OPES system is fully integrated with QuickBooks which has simplified the process immensely. If you are interested in either of these officer positions or have an interest in serving on the Board call our Vice President Jane Floyd at 360 452-1096 or email elwhakid@tenforward.com.

Good place to quit seeing as there is no more paper! Hope to share a glass with you soon.
Randy Riggins, OPES Board President