

# Amateur Wine Makers of Nebraska

## 1/18/16 Newsletter

On January 10<sup>th</sup> we held a meeting at Deer Springs Winery where Jen Reader, owner, spoke about Sparking Wines. Many of us left with a bottle of wine where the process of turning it into to a sparkling wine had been started. We had about 16 members in attendance despite our lovely winter weather. A good time was had by all!



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### SAVE THE DATE

February 20<sup>th</sup> – 4:00

Roma & Randy Amundson's Home  
7101 S. 134<sup>th</sup> St. – Walton, NE 68461

We will have our Valentine Meeting with a heavy Hors d oeuvre and Chocolate pot luck. Bring a wine that will pair well with your food, but no need to bring a glass. Roma will have cold glasses ready to dip the rims into yummy melted chocolate and then fill with the great wine provided by our members.

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### Future events that we are looking at include:

March – No date at this point, but we are going to talk to Jen Reader/Deer Springs Winery about our Food made with wine contest. **READY, SET, START YOUR OVENS NOW!** We are expecting some pretty great creations from our members – we know we have a lot of great cooks in our club. Don't forget that there is more to life than dessert (at least that's what I've been told☺). We also need main dish recipes, drink creations, side dishes and appetizers. We will be creating our own little cookbook/handout with the recipes, so please bring them with you.

April – Possible meeting about a wine fault kits.



May – Team Wine Contest meeting will be on Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm – Bring It On! Who do you think will win this year? Each team will showcase their wine and we will see who the Champion Winemakers are! We expect the bottles to be cleverly labeled and the wine to be delicious. We plan on meeting at Chuck and Rhonda Berens home (7615 Erin Ct., Lincoln, NE). We want the emphasis to be on the wine so we will not have members bring any food or snacks, instead we will order Pizza and split the cost between the attendees. This year we will be our own judges. Each wine will be in a paper sack and each member taste and judge each bottle of wine, not knowing which one is which.

June – We are open to possibilities, so if you have something that you would like for us to do, just let either John Lange, Jim Skinner or Chuck Berens know.

July – We will visit Julianna and Dustin’s home (actually Barn, which is not your typical Barn) as they have offered to host our July meeting on Saturday the 16<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm. The meeting will be a potluck. More details coming soon.

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**OTHER IMPORTANT ITEMS -**

We need your input on the club purchasing a Wine Fault Kit that our members Could use as a learning tool to identify the aromas in wines that have problems. If we purchase the kit, we will have one of the wineries demonstrate how to use It. The cost varies depending on the size and scope of the kit, but we may end up spending up to \$200 so this is an investment and we want to make sure it is something that the members of our club really want.



At our January meeting we had a flier on obtaining grapes from the Napa Valley area. Jim Skinner said it might be possible to purchase some grape juice from Italy for our club to utilize in making a batch of wine for our club members. The cost would be approximately \$120 to make a 6 gallons. This would make about 30 bottles of wine; \$4/person. If we do this, we would need to know how many of our members are interested and how many bottles of wine each person would want.

**MEMBERSHIP –**

Just a reminder that our membership is only \$10. We want to make sure we have all paid members correct information, so Rhonda will bring a list of address/email/phone numbers to the next meeting. Below is a list that we show for paid members, if you have paid and your name is not on this list, please let us know. If you have not paid and want to pay, you can do so at the next meeting that you attend. Remember you also get a card that shows you are a member and if you take it to Kirk's you will get a 10% discount. It wouldn't take long and you'll basically get your \$10 back.

**PAID MEMBERS:**

<b>Last name</b>	<b>First name</b>
Adkins	Tom
Amundsen	Randy
Berens	Chuck and Rhonda
Grabianoski	Julianna (Dustin)
Griffith	Jeanne
Guthrie	Woodie
Hallama	Richard
Lang	Rod and Carol
Lange	John
Miller	Sue & Bud
Olson	Alex
Payton	Chris and Paul
Shambirge	Dustin & Julianna
Skinner	Jim

Our Treasurer will also report the status of our club account at our next meeting.

Please let the Skinners ([jmskms52@gmail.com](mailto:jmskms52@gmail.com)), Berens ([crbvikings@windstream.net](mailto:crbvikings@windstream.net)) or the Langes ([john.lange.79@gmail.com](mailto:john.lange.79@gmail.com)) know if you have any questions about any of this or if you have suggestions for future meetings. We are very flexible on what we do.

Don't forget to check our website. Butch is doing a great job of keeping it up to date with pictures and events.