

In This Issue:

<i>The Wines Flow</i>	1
<i>Treasured Gems of Idaho Wine Country</i>	2
<i>'07 Idaho Wine Festival Results</i>	3
<i>A Quick Primer on Soil Types</i>	4
<i>Yes, There Really Are Wine Police</i>	4



TREASURE  
VALLEY  
*Wine Society*

Treasure Valley  
Wine Society  
2007 Board of Directors

**President:**  
Bob Thornton  
853.1016  
rlt40@msn.com

**Secretary:**  
Bob Young  
344.5705  
rnryoung@cableone.net

**Treasurer:**  
Robert M. Parker  
884.2098  
gailmcc@cableone.net

**Board Members:**

Ted Judd  
867.7828  
tjudd@prodigy.net

Gail McClellan Parker  
884.2098  
gailmcc@cableone.net

Robin Young  
344.5705  
rdcuer@cableone.net

Allison Gillis  
272.0037  
allisongillis@gmail.com

Lewis Wardle  
859.3409  
LWardle@idahopower.com

**Board meetings are usually on the first Tuesday of the month. Attendance by members is encouraged. Call for the location.**



# In Good Taste

## *The Wines Flow* (Walt Thode)

The summer season is always a busy one for the Treasure Valley Wine Society. Our June event, a sensory tasting put on by member and winemaker Melanie Krause, was an illuminating experience about wine sensory values for those who attended. Our July event, our annual summer picnic, was held at Municipal Park in Boise and had an excess of good food as well as a good variety of wines available.

The big achievement, and the one taking large amounts of planning and effort by those involved, was our fourth annual Idaho Wine Festival. Check elsewhere in this issue for news about this event, but suffice it to

say that it seemed to go off without a hitch, and the several hundred attendees all seemed to be having a great time. A total of three golds, six silvers, and fifteen bronzes were given to the 107 wines entered from 25 Idaho winemakers.

The upcoming season also has treats in store. In September, we are planning a tasting that features both Idaho Wine Festival gold medal winners and platinum award winners from the Northwest Wine Summit. The October event will be a festival of German wines, beer, and food, held at Tres Bonne Cuisine. In November, we will feature red wines and

chocolate. Finally, in December we will continue with one of our traditional events, our holiday celebration of sparkling wines.

Note the TVWS schedule on your calendars, and we'll hope to see you at one or more of the events. Y



Part of the action at the 2007 Idaho Wine Festival

### Upcoming Events:

**All TVWS meetings are the 3rd Tuesday of the month unless otherwise noted.**

- Sep. 18: The Best of the Best: Gold or Better Wines from Idaho and Washington; Crystal Ballroom, Hoff Bldg., 7 pm
- Oct. 16: TVWS meeting, German wines, beer, and food, at Tres Bonne Cuisine, 7 pm; details to follow
- Nov. 13 (note—second Tuesday): TVWS meeting, Red wines and chocolate; details to follow
- Dec. 18: TVWS meeting, annual champagne & sparkling wine tasting
- (If you know of events to include, send them to [wftthode@rmci.net](mailto:wftthode@rmci.net).)

## Idaho Wineries

### Bitner Vineyards

16645 Plum Rd.  
Caldwell, ID 83607  
(208) 454-0086  
Sat-Sun 12 noon-5:00

### Blue Rock Vineyard & Wines

4060 North 1200 East  
Buhl, ID 83316  
(208) 543-6938  
Fri-Sun (summer) 12 noon-dusk

### Camas Prairie Winery

110 S. Main St.  
Moscow, ID 83843  
(208) 882-0214  
Tues-Sat 12 noon-6:30

### Carmela Vineyards

795 W. Madison St.  
Glenns Ferry, ID 83623  
(208) 366-2313  
Daily (summer) 9-9

### Clearwater Canyon Cellars

Lewiston, ID  
Coming soon

### Coeur d'Alene Cellars

3890 N. Schrieber Way  
Coeur d'Alene, ID 83815  
(208) 664-2336  
Mon-Sat 11:00-6:00

### Cold Springs Winery

Cold Springs Rd. (P.O. 105)  
Hammett, ID 83627  
Sat-Sun 12 noon-5:00

### Floating Feather Winery

3350 Ballantyne Ln.  
Eagle, ID 83616  
Coming soon

### Fraser Vineyard

1004 LaPointe St.  
Boise, ID 83706  
(208) 867-2255  
By appointment

### Frenchman's Gulch Winery

360 9th St., #9, P.O. Box 3578  
Ketchum, ID 83340  
(208) 726-0118  
Sat 1:00-5:00

### Galena Summit Winery

336 Lewis St., #6  
Ketchum, ID 83340  
(800) 228-8626  
Wed-Sat 3:00-5:00

### Heggy's South Hills Winery

3099 E. 3400 N.  
Twin Falls, ID 83301  
(208) 734-6369  
By appointment only

### Hells Canyon Winery

18835 Symms Rd.  
Caldwell, ID 83605  
(208) 454-3300  
Sat-Sun 12-5 or by appt.

### Holesinsky Vines

4477A Valley Steppe Rd.  
Buhl, ID 83316  
By appointment only

### Indian Creek Winery

1000 N. McDermott Rd.  
Kuna, ID 83634  
(208) 922-4791  
Fri-Sun 12-5 or by appt.

### Koenig Distillery & Winery

20928 Grape Ln.  
Caldwell, ID 83605  
(208) 455-8386  
Apr.-Dec. Sat-Sun 12-5

(continued)

## Treasured Gems of Idaho Wine Country (Robin Young)

**E**rik McLaughlin provided the perfect facilities in his 8th Street Wine Company tasting cellar for the judging portion of the 2007 Idaho Wine Festival on August 18, with a cool adjacent room for storage, opening and a double blind serving of the 107 wines from 25 Idaho wineries. Also provided was a fast glass-washing dishwasher needed for the over 1,000 glasses utilized during judging. A superb buffet luncheon was served mid-day for the seven volunteer judges and the thirteen volunteer stewards. The morning quick elimination round lasted from 9:20 to 1:20 and resulted in 50 wines moving forward for medal consideration.

A more in-depth tasting, using the UC Davis 20-Point Organoleptic Scoring System was held in the afternoon, from 2:00 to 5:00. Discussion was limited to two minutes for any wines in contention. It was surprising to most that there was such consistency in the judges' scoring. Comments heard were that Idaho wines can 'blow people away' with the improved quality noted by the judges familiar with the Idaho wines in the past.

Some questions yet to be answered: Does an Idaho winemaker who uses grapes from other regions have the right to enter the Idaho Wine Festival? Some think that being 'produced and bottled in Idaho' should be the minimal standard that reflects the skill of Idaho winemakers. It would be great to feature an all-Idaho-grape AVA wine competition, although in some vintage years and some circumstances that might prove to be impossible. There are varieties that have been frozen out in the spring 'bud break season' some years and other grapes that are picked perhaps a bit 'too green' to be considered ripe enough to make a truly great wine, yet their measured sugar 'brix' level is sufficient for harvesting.

Due to the cooling nights in Idaho, most grapes

have adequate natural acidity for balance and great structure. Varietals grown in Idaho that impressed the judges were: Chardonnay, Gewürztraminer, Riesling, and Viognier (whites); and Cabernet Sauvignon, Malbec, Merlot, Pinot Noir, Tempranillo and Syrah (reds).

Three gold, six silver and fifteen bronze medals were awarded. The winners were not announced until Friday, August 24 at the Idaho Wine Festival public tasting event held starting at 5:00 pm in the Crystal Ballroom of the Hoff Building. (Award-winning wines for 2007 are listed elsewhere in this issue.)

Knowledgeable wine buyers may rely on the descriptions and the [often over-rated, sometimes confusing and industry driving] 100-point scoring systems from Robert Parker's *Wine Advocate*, *The Wine Spectator* and other publications. The internet has very helpful wine blogs, and *TVWineLibrary.com* has live tastings by Gary Vaynerchuk, who encourages consumers to try new wines and develop their own tasting palate and preferences. He was a guest judge for the IWF and did a greatly humorous job trying to train Conan O'Brien's wine palate on *Late Night* last month.

We have access to the Boise Co-op's on-line wine notes as well as 'tags' with score points on the shelf display at the Co-op Wine Shop and in the wine sections of Albertsons, Costco, Winco, Fred Meyer, etc. You can also ask knowledgeable owners and staff personnel at area shops when wanting a particular kind of wine for special occasions and pairing with foods. These include: 8th Street Wine Company, the Boise Co-op and Grape Escape in Boise, DiVine Wine Bar and A New Vintage Wine Shop in Meridian, and Music of the Vine Wine Shop and Restaurant in Caldwell.

Cheers and kudos to a growing wine industry that may surpass the potato in fame for Idaho.



IWF volunteer wine stewards serving the judges at the juried tasting on August 18 (Robin Young photo)

## '07 Idaho Wine Festival Results

Using the Davis 20-point system

Points Scored	Vintage	Winery	Varietal
<b>Gold (16.5-20.0)</b>			
17.0	2004	Pend d'Oreil le	Merlot
16.9	2006	Williamson	Late Harvest Viognier
16.6	2005	Sawtooth	Reserve Chardonnay
<b>Silver (14.5-16.4)</b>			
15.7	2006	Winery at Eagle Knoll	Gewürztraminer
15.4	2005	Williamson	Viognier
14.8	2005	Williamson	Riesling
14.8	2005	Indian Creek	Malbec
14.7	2005	Snake River	Tempranillo
14.6	2006	Fraser	Viognier
<b>Bronze (13.5-14.4)</b>			
14.4	2005	Ste. Chapel le	Ice Wine Riesling
14.4	2003	Carmel a	Chardonnay
14.2	2005	Ste. Chapel le	Ice Wine Sauvignon Blanc
14.1	2006	Sawtooth	Riesling
14.1	2003	Carmel a	Pinot Noir
14.0	2005	Miceli	Merlot
14.0	2005	Indian Creek	Cabernet Sauvignon
14.0	2003	Blue Rock	Riesling
13.8	2004	Pend d'Oreil le	Malbec
13.8	2005	Bitner	Late Harvest Riesling
13.7	2006	Ste. Chapel le	Dry Riesling
13.7	2006	Ste. Chapel le	Riesling
13.7	2002	Parma Ridge	Merlot
13.6	2004	Williamson	Cabernet Sauvignon
13.6	2005	Koenig	Syrah
<b>Made It To The Afternoon Session</b>			
13.4	2004	Pend d'Oreil le	Syrah
13.4	2005	Bitner	Riesling
13.2	2005	Bitner	Chardonnay
13.2	2005	Indian Creek	Star Garnet
13.0	2005	Pend d'Oreil le	Chardonnay
13.0	2006	Parma Ridge	Viognier
13.0	2005	Fraser	Cabernet Sauvignon
13.0	2005	Pend d'Oreil le	Bistro Rouge
13.0	2004	Williamson	Syrah
12.9	2005	Ste. Chapel le	Merlot
12.9	2004	Sawtooth	Cabernet Sauvignon
12.9	NV	Winery At Eagle Knoll	Port
12.8	2004	Sawtooth	Syrah
12.7	2005	Snake River	Rhone Blend
12.7	2006	Hol esinsky	Ice Wine Riesling
12.6	2003	Snake River	Meritage Reserve
12.6	2005	Thousand Springs	Chardonnay
12.4	2006	Carmel a	Semillon
12.4	2003	Frenchman's Gulch	Syrah
12.1	NV	Camas Praire	Lemberger
12.1	2004	Snake River	Merlot
12.0	2005	Hells Canyon	Retriever Red
11.9	2005	Koenig	Cabernet/Syrah
<b>Best White</b>	2005	Sawtooth	Reserve Chardonnay
<b>Best Red</b>	2005	Indian Creek	Malbec
<b>Best of Show</b>	2004	Pend d'Oreil le	Merlot
<b>People's Choice</b>	2006	Hol esinsky	Riesling



Getting the wines ready for the juried tasting



### Idaho Wineries (continued)

**Micelli Vineyards**

8114 Owyhee View Ln.  
Givens Hot Springs, ID 83641  
(208) 896-5803  
By appointment only

**Parma Ridge Vineyards**

24509 Rudd Rd.  
Parma, ID 83660  
(208) 722-6885  
Open by chance, or by appointment

**Pend d'Oreille Winery**

220 Cedar St.  
Sandpoint, ID 83864  
(877) 452-9011 toll free  
Tasting room & gift shop open daily  
all year; tours by appointment

**Sawtooth Winery**

13750 Surrey Ln.  
Nampa, ID 83686  
(208) 467-1200  
Jan.-Mar. Fri-Sun 12-5; Apr.-Dec.  
Thurs-Mon 12-5; call for tours

**Silver Trail Vineyards**

343 Avenue E  
Kuna, ID 83634  
(208) 922-2111  
Mon-Thurs 10-5, Fri-Sat 10-7,  
Sun 11-5

**Snake River Winery**

Arena Valley @ Dixie Rds.  
Wilder, ID  
(208) 722-5858  
By appointment only

**Ste. Chapelle Winery**

19348 Lowell Rd.  
Caldwell, ID 83605  
(208) 459-7222  
Fall-Spring Mon-Sat 11-4, Sun 12-4  
Summer Mon-Sat 10-5, Sun 12-5  
Tours on the hour

**Thousand Springs Winery**

18852 Hwy. 30  
Hagerman, ID 83332  
By appointment only

**TimberRock Winery**

2338 S. Big Rock Rd.  
Post Falls, ID 83854  
(208) 777-9669  
By appointment only

**Vickers Vineyards**

15446 Sunny Slope Rd.  
Caldwell, ID 83607  
No visitor facilities

**Weston Winery**

16316 Orchard St.  
Caldwell, ID 83605  
(208) 459-2631  
By appointment only

**Williamson Winery**

14252 Sunnyslope Rd.  
Caldwell, ID 83605  
(208) 459-1612  
Fri-Sun 12-5

**Winery at Eagle Knoll**

3705 Hwy 16  
Eagle, ID 83616  
(208) 286-9463  
Daily 11-6

**Wine Corkers**

5634 W. State St.  
Boise, ID 83703  
(208) 853-6223  
Tues-Sat 10-6

More are coming. Watch this space.



Mailing address: P.O. Box 7623,  
Boise, ID 83707-7623

CHECK OUT THE IDAHO  
WINES WEB SITE:  
[IDAHO.WINE.ORG](http://IDAHO.WINE.ORG)  
ALSO, TRY THIS SITE:  
[www.rockins.com/  
TVWSIndex.htm](http://www.rockins.com/TVWSIndex.htm)

### Wine Shops in Southwest Idaho

**Amici Coffee & Wine**  
1540 E. Iron Eagle Dr., Eagle  
939-7758

**A New Vintage**  
1400 N. Eagle Rd., Meridian  
855-9230

**Bacquet's**  
350 N. Milwaukee St., Boise  
376-9463

**Boise Co-op**  
888 W. Fort St., Boise  
472-4519

**DI Vine Wine**  
400 S. Main St., Hailey  
788-4422

**DI Vine Wine**  
2310 E. Overland Rd., Meridian  
887-6262

**Eighth Street Wine Co.**  
405 S. 8th St., Boise  
426-9463

**Erickson's Fine Wines**  
150 E. Riverside St., Eagle  
938-3698

**The Grape Escape**  
800 W. Idaho St., Boise  
368-0200

**La Cantina**  
3395 N. Cole Rd., Boise  
377-0224

**Piazza di Vino**  
212 N. 9th St., Boise  
336-9577

**Music of the Vine**  
Caldwell  
454-1228

**The Porterhouse**  
600 Riverside Ln., Eagle  
938-1441

**Sun Valley Wine Co.**  
360 Leadville Ave. N., Ketchum  
726-2442

## A Quick Primer on Soil Types (Forwarded by Robin Young)

**H**ere's a quick summary of vineyard soil types:

**Alluvial** - A combination of clay, silt, sand and gravel that forms over time from mineral deposits left by running water.

**Calcareous** - A soil primarily composed of calcium carbonate and high in chalk or limestone as well as fossilized shells.

**Granite** - A hard and granular rock with a high content of crystals, particularly quartz.

**Jory** - A volcanic soil composed mostly of basalt, which is in turn a hard and dense soil that often has a glassy appearance.

**Limestone or Chalk** - A soft soil made primarily from fossilized seashells.

**Loam** - A crumbly mixture of clay, sand and silt.

**Marl** - A crumbly mixture of different clays as well as calcium and magnesium carbonates with fossilized shells mixed in as well.

**Sandstone** - A combination of silica and sand compacted together by pressure and time.

**Schist** - A metamorphic rock derived mostly from clay, but it can be made from several other rocks. Schist is a soft rock that flakes and breaks easily.

**Shale** - Layers of clay-like, fine-grained sedimentary rock. On the surface where the shale breaks it often forms beds of sharp fragments.

**Tufa** - A mix of silica, calcium carbonate and sometimes volcanic ash that has been deposited over time by streams, lakes and other water sources.

## Yes, There Really Are Wine Police (Maggie Rosen)

**T**wenty-five members of the Italian military police have qualified as sommeliers in order to combat fraud in the industry.

Elite officers of the Carabinieri del Nac (anti-fraud squad), recently passed exams given by the Italian Sommeliers Association, based in Rome.

The combat-ready sommeliers will use their new-found expertise as part of their existing responsibilities for Italy's Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Forestry. They will also conduct special investigations and act as liaisons to the European Commission's Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF).

"The opportunities to perpetrate fraud are limited only by man's imagination," said Colonel Pasquale Muggeo, one of the wine-trained officers. "What we have learned will enable us to offer stronger support to the wine industry."

Muggeo said their training had already helped the policemen in uncovering a ring of Brunello and Barbaresco counterfeiters operating in Germany and Denmark.

He confirmed that although they might be disguised as civilians in order to carry out their investigations, the teams would be armed, as usual for military police.

Muggeo discounted the suggestion that teams of Carabinieri would pose as sommeliers.

"The ability to remain lucid is at the core of every undercover activity, without exception," he said. "We do not drink on the job."

## The Best of the Best: Gold or Better Wines

**Location: Crystal Ballroom, The  
Hoff Building, 802 W.  
Bannock St., Boise**

**When: Tues., Sep. 18, 7:00 pm**

**Cost: \$25.00 Members; \$35.00  
Non-Members**

The best wines from Washington and Idaho. (Not all of them, of course, there would be too many.) We will be tasting wines that won at least one gold medal (or better) at a major competition.

Syrah, Cabernet, Merlot, Malbec, and stunning blends. All these for the cost of less than one bottle if you were to try this at home. Come join us for a relaxing evening of really good wine with good friends.