

## President's Message

We finally got some hot weather, just in time for the annual vineyard tour and picnic, but it didn't really bother us. Great turnout for the vineyard tour, about 35 people, and we travelled to Wooldridge Winery and Vineyard in the morning to see evidence of a suspected new Red Blotch vector. After travelling back to Crater View and De Boer Vineyards on South Stage Road, we looked at the devastating effects of GRBaV and how Michael Moore is handling the problem. Lots of time for good questions and answers, with demonstration of the research being done by Vaughan Walton and Bob Martin. Lunch at SOREC was provided by a generous sponsorship by **Pape' Machinery**, and during the lunch break we heard information from Walt Mahaffee about how powdery mildew has developed resistance to certain fungicide chemistries. Last of all, we travelled over to Roxy Anne Vineyard where Randy Gold showed us the replanting strategies they have utilized over there.

The picnic at Del Rio was better than ever, put on for us by **Ewing Irrigation and Dave Bower**. Great turnout, 70 people, with fabulous fajitas prepared right on site by Ewing's team. Rob and Jolee Wallace are always so generous in donating the space in their vineyard for our annual picnic. Our guest of honor was our new viticulture specialist Alexander Levin, who drove up just for the two events, even though he is not on duty yet (he begins on Sept.26). Just as the dinner in Jacksonville in January, the mood was very positive, as all the recent success of our area being recognized as the premier winegrowing area we have all known about becomes more widely known. I am very glad to be part of this development, and I think that feeling is shared by many.

We have a very intriguing seminar coming up in August, "Winemakers in the Vineyard," and I encourage you all to take advantage of it. It will include a panel of great speakers, with opportunity for dialogue. We will have time for socializing afterwards, and you can see all the details below.

The time for Oregon Wine Experience is approaching quickly, and I will be calling many of you for donations for the silent auction. Asante Foundation and their Children's Miracle Network are very worthy donors, and the event has risen to new heights that reflect very well on our wine industry. I urge all of you to search for ways you can support this very worthwhile cause.

We are starting veraison early this year (again), and the picture below shows the development in my vineyard. I hope you all have a very gentle and slow approach to harvest, without any of the smoky conditions that have sometimes cropped up at this time of year. Some of you will probably have already begun picking by the time the next newsletter comes out, so I wish you excellent fruit quality and a smooth harvest. Paz—John

Ps: Due to my travels south to spend time with six beautiful grandchildren, this newsletter had to be issued a couple of days early.

## **Kurt Lotspeich Memorial**

You are invited to a memorial for Kurt Lotspeich. August 27th from 6-8:00 pm at Trium winery. Please park in the field just to the right as you come into the drive. We will have some wine, some food, share some memories and a toast to everything Kurt brought to our lives. Please join us.

## **Upcoming Event**

### **Winemakers in the Vineyard**

**What:** RVWA presents a seminar/panel discussion covering the following issues: harvest timing, berry ripeness parameters, sampling, sun-exposure in fruiting zone, irrigation prior to harvest, late season canopy management, et cetera.

**When:** August 9, 3pm

**Where:** South Stage Cellars, Jacksonville

**Who:** Panel includes John Quinones, Eric Weisinger, Bryan Wilson and Don Krank (Rex Hill)

**Cost:** Free to RVWA Members, \$15 for non-members

RSVP not required, but helpful so we can plan appropriately. Bring wine to share for a short social time afterwards, appetizers included.

## **Red Blotch Survey and ODA Study**

In 2015, the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) was awarded Farm Bill funding to perform a survey of nurseries producing officially certified grapevine nursery stock for Grapevine Red Blotch-associated Virus (GRBaV), a recently described virus that infects and causes disease especially on Pinot Noir and similar varieties. This year, the ODA has been awarded funding to conduct a statewide survey for GRBaV in Oregon vineyards. The ODA will conduct testing for free on samples submitted by viticulturists and wineries to the extent permitted by the funding received.

GRBaV causes Grapevine red blotch disease. The disease has been reported in Oregon and evidence suggests the disease is causing significant economic losses for vineyard growers/wineries. The disease is disseminated through movement of virus-infected vines; the three-cornered alfalfa hopper has also been implicated as a vector. Early detection with a rapid corrective action plan is needed to contain this disease.

At present, the ODA has received sufficient funding to test a total of 150 samples statewide. We will accept a maximum of 10 samples from up to 15 vineyards for testing. We

will accept samples from all major wine growing regions in Oregon (Applegate Valley, Columbia Gorge/Valley, Rogue Valley, Umpqua Valley, and Willamette Valley). Our goal is to provide free testing to interested vineyards within each region; therefore, we will accept samples from a maximum of 3 vineyards per region. ODA will also organize workshops in these regions describing the status of red blotch disease in Oregon vineyards and nurseries, providing details on appropriate sample collection and how to submit samples to ODA, and describing our grapevine virus certification program. We will expect the vineyard to collect their own samples for submission. Our goal is to help you identify if or where GRBaV-infected vines may be in your vineyard so that you can start replacing those plants with healthy vines. Again, the testing will be done for free.

Based on symptom expression and staff availability, we are targeting the first 2-weeks of September for the survey. Interested grapevine growers are requested to contact ODA for further information and details.

I have also attached a brochure about red blotch disease prepared by Dr. Bob Martin. Please feel free to share the announcement with vineyards and wineries those are in your contact.

Thank you for your help in advance. Please feel free to contact me for further details.

Best regards,

**Dipak Poudyal, Ph.D.**

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## **Grape For Sale:**

Due to a late season cancelation, we still have about seven to eight tons of Tempranillo available. Clone 1, clone 2 and the Duoro clone. LIVE Certified and Salmon-Safe Certified. Because it's late in the season, we are reducing our price from \$2200 to \$1400/ton. Contact Ron Burley [steelheadrun@wildblue.net](mailto:steelheadrun@wildblue.net)

## **Climate Report**

Due to the fact that Dr. Jones' climate reports do not always coincide with the release of the Newsletter, I am posting all the reports in our website [rvinegrowers.org](http://rvinegrowers.org) You can also see copies of recent Newsletters there.