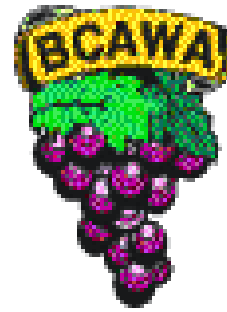


- BCAWA Executive 2010 - 2011
- President: Rick Homer
- Vice-President: Walter Frith
- Past-President: Helmut Berner
- Treasurer: John Matkovich
- Secretary: Shelagh Frith
- National Director: George Gibson
- Chief Steward: Art Hooper
- Directors At Large: Joe Kecskes, Axel Kroitzsch, John Thompson
- BCAWA News: George Gibson, Mary Homer, Sam Hauck

Items in this Bulletin

- ≈ New Corks
- ≈ BCAWA Competitions
- ≈ News from AWC



BCAWA Bulletin

Number 2

January 25, 2011

The purpose of this BCAWA Bulletin is to draw your attention to several time-sensitive items.

NEW CORKS AVAILABLE



I've recently been introduced to the Neutrocork®," the latest addition to Portocork's portfolio of high quality cork closures".



To quote from Portocork's brochure, " Neutrocork® is a high performing, value-priced natural cork closure treated with our exclusive process – "ROSA" (extraction of 2,4,6 TCA by steam distillation). Since its launch in 2001, winemakers have embraced Neutrocork® as a natural cork alternative to synthetic stoppers. With a consistent diameter and regular shape, Neutrocork® creates an excellent seal and performs well on the bottling line and on the shelf".

Next page—Corks, etc.

Neutrocorks - cont'd

Gail Hildred, formerly the Canadian rep for Oeneo, was laid off when Oeneo was sold to G3 Enterprises. It didn't take long for Amorim (Portocork) to realize how useful she might be to them and she's now their representative for Canada. Gail admits to being impressed by the Neutrocork® and points out that its price – US\$85/1000 FOB Napa – means that we can probably land it in Vancouver for about CDN\$130! I've had a little time to play with these corks and have used them to bottle some red wines. As far as I'm concerned, they're a fine replacement for Diam 2s. Their website www.portocork.com

Making the Neutrocork® even more attractive is the fact that the price for Diam 2 corks, formerly US\$135 FOB California, has been raised to US\$175 (about \$215 landed here)!

If you are interested, let's aim for 5,000 to start. Just drop me an email and I'll keep you posted on the progress of the order.

George

georgegibson@shaw.ca



Upcoming Competitions

January 29: Saanich Sommeliers. Too late now to enter but their post-judging event is open to everyone.

Sat Jan 29 from 3:00 to 5:00 pm
 \$10 per person at the door
 At St. Dunstons Church (Bottom Floor)
 1806 San Juan Ave.
 Victoria BC

February 19: Chilliwack Zymurgy. Deadline for entries Saturday, February 5. If you're interested in competing and didn't receive an information sheet and an entry form, please contact Lisa Axelson, lalexson@telus.net.

March 5: Nanaimo Winemakers. Extensively revised this year. Look for information and entry form in BCAWA NEWS 2, 2 about February 15.

April 9: Vancouver Amateur Winemakers Association. Look for information in BCAWA NEWS 2, 2 about February 15.

May 6-7: Kamloops hosts the BCAWA Provincial Competition. BCAWA's 2011 Provincial competition is being hosted by Kamloops Winemakers Association at the Hal Rogers Hall 2025 Summit Drive, Kamloops. The Competition Chief Steward, Art Hooper, artshirl@telus.net and Registrar, Dianne Meyer, Dm8626@telus.net encourage you to enter your best into the competition. On Friday afternoon a preliminary judging session will be held at the Hal Rogers Hall and then immediately following there

will be a "Meet and Greet" Social where you will enjoy appetizers and tastings of medal-winning wines from the afternoon's competition. On Saturday evening there will be a tasting of the medal winning wines, a silent auction and a buffet dinner.

Look for more information in BCAWA NEWS 2,2.

News from AWC

The Amateur Winemakers of Canada are still recovering from the death of President Larry Paterson. Past-President Brian Lundeen of Manitoba has stepped forward as acting president.

A major problem facing the AWC was the large number of entries in the annual competitions as a result of the liberalization of entry eligibility in 2009. Only BC and Ontario were capable of hosting competitions with 400-600 entries and since BC had hosted in 2009 and Ontario in 2010 and were not willing to assume that burden every other year, AWC was up against a brick wall. Our BCAWA Council had voted (Oct. 27) in favour of a major reduction in total number of entries and elimination of the beer classes so I decided to discuss the situation at length with last year's Vice-President, Steve McDonald of Ontario. We were able to reach agreement on the following proposal which I submitted to the AWC Directors last week as a Motion.

That the 2011 Amateur Winemakers of Canada Competition be carried out with the following requirements:

- That there will be about 250 entries, the provincial totals not to exceed - Ontario 80, British Columbia 50, Alberta 30, Manitoba 30, Quebec 30, and Nova Scotia 30.*
- That the classes will be the 19 wine classes A to J2 and Sparkling Cider.*
- That the AWC entries may be selected from the highest scoring wines in each provincial competition, irrespective of class.*
- That the Grand Champion Winemaker will be the competitor with the highest medal value total (G - 100, S - 58, B - 33.64) from his/her five (5) best wines and the Winning Province will have the highest medal value total of its top twenty (20) wines.*

Clause c) allows a province to send its top two wines from most classes if it wishes (only one province seems to want to adopt this disadvantaged approach) but assumes most provinces will select their highest scoring wines. Clause d) is designed to eliminate the unfair competitive advantage that formerly allowed a good winemaker with little local competition to submit an entry in almost every class. It is also intended to level the playing field somewhat for the "have not" provinces and help stimulate a bit more interprovincial rivalry.

Cheers,
 George

