



February 2018 Newsletter

Shiraz Challenge

A Special Tasting of Four Aussie Shiraz vs South African Shiraz

At the Faculty Club, Wednesday February 21st, 2018



This will be a special evening featuring four Shiraz from Australian wine regions, each from an outstanding year and four classic South African Shiraz in a blind tasting, in a random order. We will see, swirl, sip and swallow then rank the wines on sheets provided, table score sheets will be collected, tallied and winners announced.

Here are the wines from each Society, note this is NOT the pouring order.

Wolf Blass Gold Label 2004 Shiraz/Viognier, Adelaide Hills
Glaetzer Wallace 2005 Shiraz/ Grenache, Barossa Valley
BRL Hardy 2005 Chateau Reynella Shiraz, McLaren Vale
Craneford 2006 Basket Pressed Shiraz, Barossa Valley
Graham Beck 2002 The Joshua Shiraz/Vionier, Robertson.
Sequillo Cellars 2009 Red Syrah/Mouvedre, Swartland
Hartenberg 2005 Shiraz, Stellenbosch
Kloovenburg 2006 Shiraz, Western Cape

The evening will start at 6:30 with a two white reception wines from each club, Wakefield Estate 2016 Chardonnay, Clare Valley and Raats Family 2016 Original Chenin Blanc, Stellenbosch, then the blind tasting starts at 7:00 p.m. Food will be served at the completion of the taste-off.

The Faculty Club is at 41 Willcocks Street, Toronto, 416-978-6325, one block south of Harbord, and east of Spadina Avenue. Metered parking on the surrounding streets, and TTC stops at Willcocks on Spadina. We will be upstairs for both the reception wine and the tasting.

Price for this evening, all inclusive, with finger foods, Members \$60.00 and Guests \$70.00.

Seating is limited to 60 in total from both clubs, so be sure to book early.

You can register on-line at <https://awssawsshiraz.eventbrite.ca> or mail the attached Registration Form to Bernard Nottage to the address as noted on the Form.

Past Event

Australia Day was celebrated in fine form at the Albany Club in Friday January 26th along with Albany Club members, who we heard thoroughly enjoyed themselves. The evening began on the 4th floor for a reception with Jacob's Creek bubbly, then a four course dinner with wines in the main dining room. Letters from the Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull and our new Consul General Dr. Grayson Perry were read. Our ever popular Peter Shaw provided the Aussie songs, including the favourite Waltzing Matilda. We have received a number of emails all congratulating AWS on a well done event.

Future Events

We have the following events currently in planning stage including a Prix Fixe dinner at Sidecar Restaurant on College Street, with a tentative date for AWS dinner of April 10.

May will be Regional Tasting event, most likely at Faculty Club, with Barossa Valley wines as we have enough to hold a good tasting. Proposed date May 23rd.

Summer Solstice date will be June 22 at Faculty Club on the patio.

AGM date will be Sunday August 19th at location to be determined, so stay tuned.

Wine Information

If you are looking for a good source of wine reviews an excellent resource, we can recommend is, Michael Vaughan's Vintage Assessments, now celebrating 28 years of reporting on every LCBO Vintages release. The only publication to provide 100% coverage of every item in every release. To register for Michael's reports, contact him at mbv@uniserve.com. He also provides a list of delisted products with prices. Worth checking.

Your AWS Board