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Midwest Grape & Wine Industry Institute:  http://www.extension.iastate.edu/Wine

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2011 IWGA Conference Presentations now available Online 4 members

The conference presentations from the March 18 & 19, 2011 Iowa Wine Growers Conference have now been posted Online at
http://iowawinegrowers.org  While there, check out the new web page designs. These presentations are available only to dues paying members.
A username and password will be needed. Please contact the IWGA office at 515.262.8323 or 800.383.1682 if you have any questions.

Iowa Wineries Do Well at Tasters Guild International in Michigan

TASTERS GUILD is a nationwide society of wine and food enthusiasts that was established in 1987. It consists of over 40 active chapters throughout the country that bring together consumers, wine, food and the wine and food service industries.

Tasters Guild conducts an Annual International Wine Judging each spring. The Tasters Guild International wine competition that is held in Grand Rapids, Michigan is considered to be one of the
top wine competitions in the Nation. Toward the end of summer they also coordinate our Annual Convention & Consumer Wine Judging for members. The results of both events are reported in the Guild's official publication, the TASTERS GUILD JOURNAL, as well as other national periodicals.

Below shows a list of the Iowa wineries who won awards at this spring’s competition. Several wineries from our neighboring states also won awards at this event: IL - 2, KS – 1, MN – 1, MO – 5, NE – 3, SD – 1 and WI – 4. The full list of results can be found here: http://www.tastersguild.com/

Iowa Wineries at 2011 Tasters Guild International and their awards:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Winery</th>
<th>Variety</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Award</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ackerman Winery</td>
<td>Blackberry</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Gold</td>
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<td>Ackerman Winery</td>
<td>Red Raspberry</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Gold</td>
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<td>Ackerman Winery</td>
<td>Cranberry</td>
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<td>Breezy Hills Vineyard</td>
<td>Frontenac Rose</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Bronze</td>
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<td>Breezy Hills Vineyard</td>
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<td>Apple</td>
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<td>Eagle City Winery</td>
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<td>Eagle City Winery</td>
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<td>Eagles Landing Winery</td>
<td>Blues Fest (Blueberry)</td>
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<td>Eagles Landing Winery</td>
<td>Oktoberfest (Edelweiss)</td>
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<td>Eagles Landing Winery</td>
<td>Summer Crush (Frontenac Gris)</td>
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<td>Gold</td>
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<td>Campfire Hootch (Mixed Berry)</td>
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<td>Silver</td>
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<td>Eagles Landing Winery</td>
<td>Serenity (Rapsberry Dessert)</td>
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<td>Silver</td>
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<td>Eagles Landing Winery</td>
<td>Frog Hollow (Marechal Foch)</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Bronze</td>
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<td>Prairie Moon Winery</td>
<td>Blushing Moon</td>
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<td>Prairie Moon Winery</td>
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<td>Vidal Blanc I.W.</td>
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<td>Wide River Winery</td>
<td>Harvest Hurrah</td>
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<td>Bronze</td>
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<td>Wide River Winery</td>
<td>Ms Behavin</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Silver</td>
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<td>Wide River Winery</td>
<td>Ms D’Meanor White</td>
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<td>Silver</td>
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IL Legislature Considers Cutting Viticulture, Enology & Tourism Funding

5-13-11 “Dear Members

We could really use your help in contacting legislators in your area to ask them to support the House of Representative’s version (H.B.124) of the Department of Ag and DCEO budgets which include the important funding for our viticulturists and enologist and also marketing and tourism programs that provide jobs and bring in tourism dollars to the state.
The Senate’s current budget proposal has eliminated the funding for our viticulture specialists, enologist, and certain tourism programs. Therefore, we encourage them to support the House budget or reinstate funding for our industry in the Senate’s budget.

For your legislator’s contact information, please visit the State Board of Elections website at www.elections.il.gov and go to legislator lookup by address.

Thanks so much for your continued support!

Megan Pressnall, Illinois Grape Growers & Vintners Association
megan@illinoiswine.com or (217) 726-8518

Save the date for two great upcoming Illinois wine festivals! The Art of Illinois Wine Festival will be held May 21 & 22 in downtown Springfield and the Two Rivers Wine and Jazz Festival is being held in Ottawa on June 4 & 5. For more information, please visit www.illinoiswine.com.

5-21, Effective Vineyard Spraying Workshop – Ames, IA
(A few openings left!)

When: 9a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Saturday, May 21st, 2011
(Registration desk opens at 8:30 a.m.)


Where: ISU Horticulture Research Station, 55519 170th St. Ames IA 50010 (515-232-4786). 3 miles north of Ames on Hwy 69, turn east on 170th St. about 1.5 miles.

Cost: $60 each. (Maximum of 30 participants) Participants are highly encouraged to bring the book, Effective Vineyard Spraying to this workshop. Copies of this book will be available for $44 at the workshop if ordered at pre-registration. This is a20% discount from the regular price.

Pre-registration and payment required: Limited to the first 30 registration’s received.

Contact: Mike White to register here: mlwhite@iastate.edu or 515-681-7286
Learn:  
New spraying techniques  
How to improve spray deposition  
How to improve application timeliness  
How to reduce off-target drift  
How to modernize existing equipment  
The latest developments in sprayer design  
How one can reduce pesticide use by 30-40%

Sponsored by: ISU – Midwest Grape & Wine Industry Institute  
ISU – Pest Management and the Environment

6-(7 & 8), Clark Smith's popular "Fundamentals of Wine Chemistry" at ISU

When: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Tuesday & Wednesday June 7 & 8, 2011

Where: 1951 Food Sciences Building, Iowa State University, Ames, IA


Cost: $95 per person. Additional registrants from same company $75 per person. Includes a 450 page comprehensive handout, lunch plus morning and afternoon refreshments at breaks each day. **Bonus:** Mini workshop on pairing wine with music.

Sponsored by: The Midwest Grape & Wine Industry Institute is sponsoring this event to make it accessible to all wine professionals in the area. The normal cost of this workshop is $350.

Online Registration and Details: [http://www.extension.iastate.edu/Wine/Events.htm](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/Wine/Events.htm)  
(Space is limited. Registration by June 3 required.)

6-18, Winemaking Tips & Techniques – Carbondale, IL

When: 10 a.m to 4 p.m., Saturday June 18, 2011

Where: Kite Hill Vineyards, Carbondale, IL

Who: Domenic Carisetti, is a Winemaker and Winemaking Instructor in New York with over thirty years of professional experience.

Cost: $40 per person, $35 for VESTA students, lunch included

**Registration Deadline:** June 10, 2011
Notable Quotables

1. “almost two thirds of U.S. smartphone owners perceived their phone to be obsolete now or will be obsolete before their contract runs out.”

   From: Study Finds Consumers Stuck with Obsolete Cell Phones, 4-25-11 - Retrevo Blog

2. “Prior to Prohibition, Missouri was the second-largest wine-producing state in the nation. Now reclaiming its rightful place as a driving force in viticulture and winemaking, an explosion of growth is helping advance our quality and recognition. The future of Missouri Wine is very bright.”

   From: Chris West in “The Smell of Bottling”, 5-8-11 – Winedustry
   (Chris & wife Jen own and operate West Winery in Macon, MO)

Marketing Tidbits

1. “Let's start with the statistics that almost seem crazy: barcode scanning grew by a whopping 4549 percent in Q1 of this year, when compared to Q1 of the year before.”

   From: QR Codes Gain Critical Mass, 5-13-11 – ClickZ

2. “Long thought of as the Baby Boomer search engine, the yellow pages industry has been redefining itself in the digital age”…… As the original search engine, the yellow pages have remained a reliable source for local information, with restaurants, physicians and auto repair shops comprising 22.3% of all print usage. Although resistant at first, the report finds the industry is continuing to evolve onto a digital platform, with restaurants, local government offices and food products embodying 11.2% of all online usage.”…… “it is one of the few segments of the advertising media market that is not suffering a market share decline, but, despite some ups and downs over the past decade, actually holding the same share of 7.6% in 2000 and 2011.”

   From: Yellow Pages Market Forcast 2011, 4-7-11 – Simba Information

Show n Tell (Red Dog Vineyards & Nursery)

On Thursday this week I drove up to Johnston, Iowa (northwest side of Des Moines) to visit Jerry Dietz and his son Alex as they were working in their grape greenhouse. Jerry owns and operates Red Dog Vineyards & Grapevine Nursery. The vineyard and nursery is named after their 11 year
old Irish Setter dog. Jerry told me that the dog controls the whole family! They are one of three grapevine nurseries doing business in Iowa. The other two are: Penoach Winery, Vineyard & Nursery owned by Stan & Joanie Olson of Adel, Iowa and Iowa Grape Vines Winery, Juicery & Nursery owned by Jim and Mary Kay Sorensen of Preston, Iowa.

Jerry opened Red Dog Vineyards & Grapevine Nursery in 2009 and the business has been growing. He also has 8 acres located at the intersection of Hwy 30 and Hwy 14 in Marshalltown, Iowa just to the east of McDonald's. This is where they are growing bare root vines of many different varieties that will be trained onto several different trellis systems. Jerry also uses tissue culture propagation methods which he presently does in his basement at home. He would later like to use his tissue culture techniques and sterile growing facilities to provide certified virus free stock to his customers. His near term goal is to move the entire operation into a larger facility on the outskirts of Des Moines, Iowa.

What makes Red Dog Vineyards and Grapevine Nursery somewhat unique to most other grapevine nurseries in the U.S. is not only their emphasis on growing the new cultivars available through Cornell University and the University of Minnesota breeding program, but also growing many unknown cultivars available through the USDA ARS Plant Genetics Research Unit at Geneva, NY. Jerry is looking at these unknown cultivars for both fruit production and their use as grafted rootstock material for cold climate cultivars. Many of these unknown cultivars originated from Russia, Canada and Eastern Europe.

My first contact with Jerry came back in 2007 when he sent some soil samples into Iowa State University for vineyard fertilizer and lime recommendations. He was just thinking about starting a vineyard at that time. Jerry has come a long way since then. He and his son Alex both seem to have the passion and the plan to grow Red Dog Vineyards and Nursery into a successful and unique operation. I have included some pictures of my visit below:

(Above) Jerry Dietz(L) and son Alex(R) holding a flat of Teleka 5C, a cultivar from Hungary that is often used as a rootstock due to its adaptability to clay and clay loam soils. 5-12-11

(Above) Jerry pointed out the “ONE” Baltica grape plant he received from the USDA ARS Plant Genetics Research Unit at Geneva, NY. He will use tissue culture techniques to propagate this one stick into many. 5-12-11
Red Dog Vineyards & Nursery uses cardboard planting containers to grow their rooted grape plants. These containers are produced and sold by Monarch Manufacturing of Salida, CO. The pot and plant can be planted directly into the vineyard. 5-12-11

Jerry Dietz shows the bag of PRO-MIX plant medium he uses in his plant containers. PRO-MIX is produced and sold by Premier Tech Horticulture. 5-12-11

(Above) Full length view of the Red Dog grapevine nursery. 5-12-11

Jerry Dietz holding a tray of rooted Regent grape plants. 5-12-11
Articles of Interest


3. Agrotourism Project Gains National Attention, 5-6-11 - Journal Standard, Freeport, IL (Learn about “Discover the Flavors of Jo Daviess County” & Massbach Ridge Winery.)

4. Pre-bloom zinc sprays can improve fruit set, 5-6-11 – UC Davis and UC County Extension Viticulture blog


8. B.C. Winery Ferments Water, 5-12-11 – Wines & Vines Magazine:

Videos of Interest

1. Check out the new WWW site and videos at Tucker’s Walk Vineyard & Winery in Garretson, SD: http://tuckerswalk.com/

Neeto-Keeno WWW Stuff


2. Corky’s of Napa Valley Gives Corks New Life, 5-10-11 – Napa Valley Register: http://napavalleyregister.com/business/article_f222c9da-7b84-11e0-a024-001cc4c002e0.html


Calendar of Events:

5-21, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Airblast Sprayer Workshop with Dr. Andrew Landers author of Effective Vineyard Spraying at the ISU Horticulture Research Station, Ames, IA. $60 each & $44 for the book. Max of 30 participants. Contact: Mike White at mlwhite@iastate.edu

6-4, 4-8 p.m., 5th Annual Swine Festival – where cork meets pork – Des Moines Area Community College (DMACC) Details: http://www.swinefestival.com/


6-(7 & 8), Clark Smith's popular "Fundamentals of Wine Chemistry" short course, 1951 Food Sciences Building, Iowa State University, Ames, 6-3 registration deadline. Details: http://www.extension.iastate.edu/Wine/Events.htm

6-(9+10), Comprehensive Elderberry Workshop & Farm Tour, American Legion Hall and Eridu Farms in Hartsburg, MO. Details at http://www.riverhillsharvest.com or call 573-424-9693

6-18, Winemaking Tips & Techniques, Kite Hill Vineyards, Carbondale, IL. VESTA, Rend Lake Community College and Illinois Grape Growers & Vintners Assn. Contact: Rachel Cristaudo, IL VESTA Coordinator Ph: 618) 437-5321 Ext. 1724 or cristaudor@rlc.edu


7-(11-14), 36th American Society of Enology & Viticulture - Eastern Section Conference, 1 Sheraton Baltimore North Hotel Baltimore, Maryland. Details: http://www.asev-es.org/

8-24, Seedless Table Grape & Winegrape Field Day, Univ. of WI – Madison, West Madison Ag Research Station, Questions: Please check blog at: www.universitydisplaygardens.com for more information e-mail Judy at jreithrozell@wisc.edu or Rebecca at harbut@wisc.edu.

Post your “FREE” classified ads here at ‘Winedustry’
http://www.winedustry.com/classifieds.php

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A little vineyard humor!

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