Helping support the state’s evolving grape and wine industry because the potential economic opportunities in wineries, value-added agriculture and tourism are limitless.

Intensive Tasting Proficiency Training

On July 6, 2016, the Midwest Grape and Wine Industry Institute (MGWII) held a one day Intensive Training Proficiency Training workshop for 25 participants led by MGWII Education and Outreach Coordinator Erin Norton. There were 14 flights of wine throughout the course of the day. The workshop was designed to benefit both beginners and established professionals to have better wine tasting skills for producing, selling, serving, purchasing or simply enjoying quality wine.

The workshop began with the major components in wine including sugars, acids, alcohols and tannins. There were also exercises in white and red wine aroma identification, varietal identification, wine flaw and faults and consistency in scoring, among others.

MGWII Staff Assist With Wine Judging

Dr. Murli Dharmadhikari and Erin Norton both served as wine judges the second week in July. Murli judged wines for the Mid-American Wine Competition held on Des Moines Area Community College (DMACC) campus in Ankeny, Iowa. The Mid-American Wine Competition is held in Iowa and focuses only on the wines of the Midwest. All bonded wineries in the Midwest region are invited to enter. Additional information can be found at www.midamericanwine.org.

Erin one of thirteen who judged wines for the 2016 Iowa State Fair Competition. There were 171 wines submissions made by 40 Iowa wineries in the competition. The winners will be displayed at the Iowa State Fair Wine Experience at the Iowa State Fair on August 11 through the 21st.

Fireside Winery Hosts IWGA Field Day

Midwest Grape and Wine Industry Institute (MGWII) and Iowa State University Extension and Outreach (ISUEO) employees present vineyard management topics at the Iowa Wine Growers Association (IWGA) Vineyard Educational Workshop held at Fireside Winery on July 11, 2016. Nicole Eilers, IWGA Marketing Director, and Erin Norton, MGWII Education and Outreach...
ASEV-ES Meeting Held in St. Louis, MO

Midwest Grape and Wine Industry (MGWII) employees Drew Horton, Maureen Moroney and Lani McKinney traveled to St. Louis, MO on Sunday, July 17th, to attend the 41st American Society for Enology and Viticulture - Eastern Section (ASEV-ES) Conference and Symposium at the Magnolia Hotel from July 18-21, 2016. On the way down, they visited East Groves Farm which was Drew Horton’s 61st Iowa winery visit. He celebrated one year with MGWII on July 17th. They attended a Northern Grape Projects meeting along with Iowa State University Extension and Outreach (ISUEO) Viticulture Field Specialist Mike White and ISUEO Fruit Specialist and Assistant Professor Dr. Diana Cochran (Department of Horticulture). Diana presented a 3 minute Flash Talk giving a summary of her poster entitled Performance of ‘Frontenac’ and ‘Marquette’ Grapevines Grown on Four Training Systems.

To read more about the meeting, see http://www.winesandvines.com/news/172461

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You can find other information about Midwest Grape and Wine Industry Institute on our website: http://www.extension.iastate.edu/wine/

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