



San Francisco Chapter German Wine Society

One Laurel Lane
Sausalito, CA 94965



Newsletter Vol. 08-03

March 16, 2008

Next Tasting: Wines of the Mosel-Saar-Ruwer

This month's event will feature the Rieslings from two celebrated estates and from one relatively less-known producer from the Mosel-Saar-Ruwer. The Mosel region, as it is now officially known following the recent simplification of Germany wine industry terminology, is Germany's fifth largest wine-growing region, but number one in terms of area devoted to Riesling. Riesling is a variety which yields wines that are clearly influenced by the wine's place of origin. We will sample wines that are representative of the best from the Mosel region.

Fritz Haag wines come from grapes grown on the Brauneberg (brown mountain). This area has been known for growing ripe grapes since Roman times, when it was called Dusemond (sweet mountain). We will taste wines from grapes grown in the Brauneberg's two main vineyards, Juffer (30 hectares) and Juffer-Sonnenuhr (11 hectares). The smaller vineyard is located on what is considered by some to be the choicest center cut of the south-west facing slope. It will be interesting to make a comparison for ourselves.

Willi Schaefer produces "dazzling wines of immense concentration and sophistication" from his miniscule estate (3.2 hectares) on the Domprobst. These wines provide "some of the most memorable and glorious Riesling drinking you'll ever experience." (Riesling Report, 2008) Domprobst is regarded as the top site in the Graach. We will taste four wines from this vineyard ranging from the 2000 to 2004 vintages.

Wehlen is a small town located between Bernkastel and Zeltingen on the Mosel River. Sonnenuhr (there is a massive sundial on the site) is the best known vineyard area of Wehlen, if not of the Mosel, and perhaps of Germany itself. As is typical, the area is divided into parcels owned by different producers. Kerpen wines are not as well known as other producers, J.J. Prüm for example, but their wines may well surprise us. We will taste four: a Kabinett, two Spätlesen including a 1994 and for comparison a 2006, and an Auslese.

A list of the wines to be tasted appears below:

1996	Hauth-Kerpen	Wehlener Sonnenuhr	Kabinett
2001	Fritz Haag	Brauneberger Juffer	Kabinett
2002	Fritz Haag	Brauneberger Juffer	Kabinett
2004	W. Schaefer	Graacher Domprobst	Kabinett
1994	Hauth-Kerpen	Wehlener Sonnenuhr	Spätlese
2006	Hauth-Kerpen	Wehlener Sonnenuhr	Spätlese
2002	Fritz Haag	Brauneberger Juffer-Sonnenuhr	Spätlese
2004	W. Schaefer	Graacher Domprobst	Spätlese

2000	W. Schaefer	Graacher Domprobst	Spätlese
2006	Hauth-Kerpen	Wehlener Sonnenuhr	Auslese
2002	Fritz Haag	Brauneberger Juffer-Sonnenuhr	Auslese
2005	W. Schaefer	Graacher Domprobst	Auslese #11

Date: Friday, March 28th
Time: 7 to 9 PM
Location: Gate House, Fort Mason Center, San Francisco
Price: \$40 for members, \$60 for others.
First time guests may attend at the members' price, and each member may also bring one guest at the members' price.

Checks, payable to the German Wine Society, should be sent to:

Laura Gregory
Board Secretary
One Laurel Lane
Sausalito, CA 94965

Sign-up deadline: Friday, March 21st

2008 Tasting Program

Mark your calendars for all the GWS tasting events for the year

Date	Event Theme	Venue
Sat., May 17	Wines of the Current Vintage	Fort Mason
Sat., July 19	Wines of a Premium Producer	Restaurant TBD
Sat., Sept. 20	Rare and Unusual Wines from Members' Cellars	Fort Mason
Thu., Dec. 4	Holiday Event	Fort Mason

In Memoriam

We are very saddened to report the passing of Ron Binder, our beloved cellar master. Ron loved wine, was a widely respected expert on German Rieslings, and long-time supporter of the Society. He will be greatly missed.

Best regards from your board.



GWS S.F. Chapter Management Board Members

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