



Dues Are Due

Dues are due January 1st, remaining the same as last year, at \$65 per year.

Please mail your checks to Lisa Whittet at SWGGA, P.O. Box 1264, Grass Valley, CA 95945.

Here is a snapshot of 2025

We started the year with 59 members.

Sadly we lost 10 but, good news, we had 11 new people join.

We are on track to end the year with 60 members.

We started the year with \$6704 in the Scholarship Fund.

We paid out \$3500 in scholarships throughout the year.

Thanks to all your generous contributions,
as of December 1st there is \$5636 in the Scholarship Fund.

We started the year with \$575 in the General Fund.

Income included \$3300 in annual dues (a whopping 40% increase over 2024)

\$92 in swag sales and \$195 in donations.

Our major expenses, Ponderosa Hall and insurance, represent two thirds of our entire budget.

As of December 1st there is \$1353 (thanks to the extra dues collected) in the General Fund.

The Barbecue and Holiday Party are self-funded where ticket prices hopefully offset costs.

We would not have managed to break even in 2025 without the remarkable assistance of Doug Olson.

All of this information led the Board to vote to NOT increase annual dues for 2026.

They remain the same as last year at \$65 per person. They are due January 1st.

Please pay them promptly. That is our operating budget. Consider this an invoice.

INVOICE

SWGGA

P.O. Box 1264

Grass Valley, 95945

California

2026 Membership \$65 per person.

Membership Due January 1, 2026.

Membership Includes one family member.

Check # _____

If paying via cc \$2.50 fees.

Amount Paid \$ _____

Donation \$ _____

Total \$ _____



SWGGA Holiday Party



Thursday, December 11th, 2025 5:00 p.m.

Ponderosa Hall Nevada County Fairgrounds (Gate 2)



5 PM: Appetizers & Libations

6 PM: Buffet Dinner



Warm & Cold Appetizers with your shared wines
Choice Of: Prime Rib, Roast Chicken, Vegetarian Lasagna

(Select your entrée when you make your reservation)

Dinner Includes: Salad Mashed Potatoes Vegetables
Cake and Coffee

Evening activities include a Wine Raffle & Gift Exchange (\$25 price limit suggested).

Guests Are Welcome. Reservations Required.

What To Bring?

Bring some wine for enjoying and sharing.
Bring a special bottle for the raffle (optional)
Bring a wrapped gift for the gift exchange (optional)



\$60 Per Person. Reservations & Payment Required by Thursday, December 4.

RSVP to Lisa Whittet at lwhittet@sbcglobal.net or call Lisa at 530-401-7256

Please provide check, credit card, or cash at our November 20 meeting or

Mail your check to SWGGA, P.O. Box 1264, GV, CA. 95945.

A credit card fee of \$1.75/person will be added for charges.

The Last Meeting

By Bernie Zimmerman. Photo by Bernie as well.

At the annual meeting on November 20, the following officers and directors were elected by acclamation

President – Diane Houston

Vice President – Dave Elliott

Secretary & Event Coordinator – Al Schafer

Treasurer - Lisa Whittet

Director & Program Coordinator – Rod Byers

Director & Outreach Coordinator – Tom Martella

Director At Large – Paul McKim

Director At Large – Jason Blank



Treasurer Lisa Whittet reported that a \$1500 payment to our scholarship recipient is being made. Program Coordinator Rod Byers asked for volunteers to be responsible for providing a meeting program in one of the following four areas: grape growing, wine making, wine education, and social.

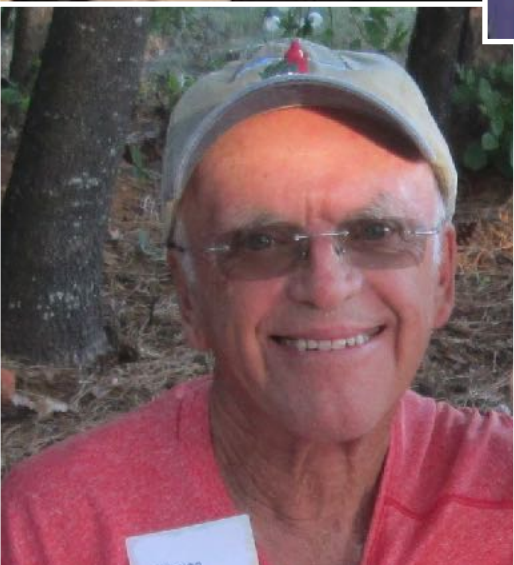
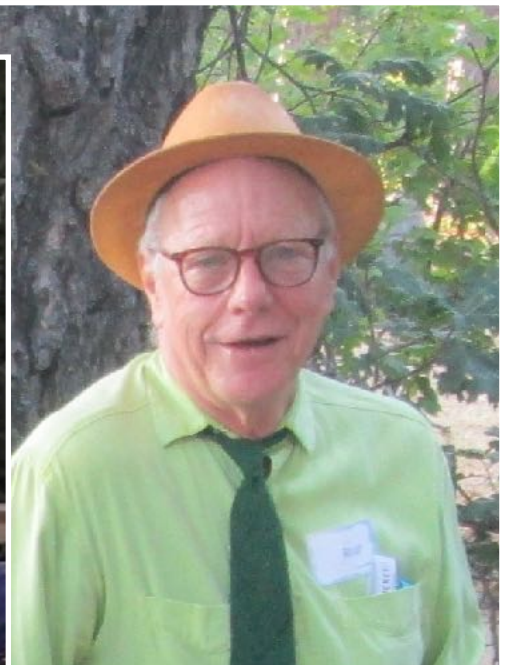
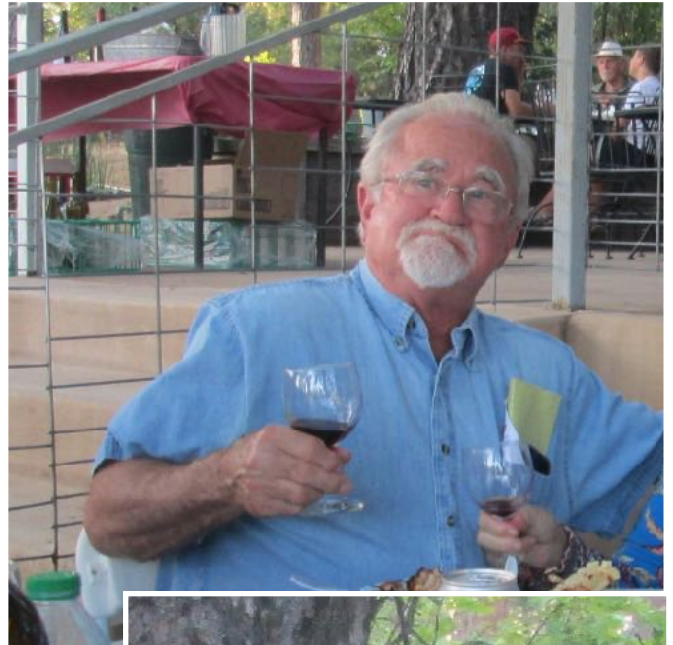


A tasting followed, featuring wines made by former member Bob Hren. Bob joined SWGGA in 1999 and was a prodigious wine maker.. After Bob passed away about two years ago, his widow Cindy was left with approximately 5000 bottles of wine. We tasted five of the wines to see how they had aged. They ranged from a 2008 blend of Muscat and Sauvignon Blanc to a 2018 Sangiovese. There was a lively discussion about the merits of each wine, focussing on how wines age and how these had aged. Thanks to Cindy for providing the wine and speaking about Bob.

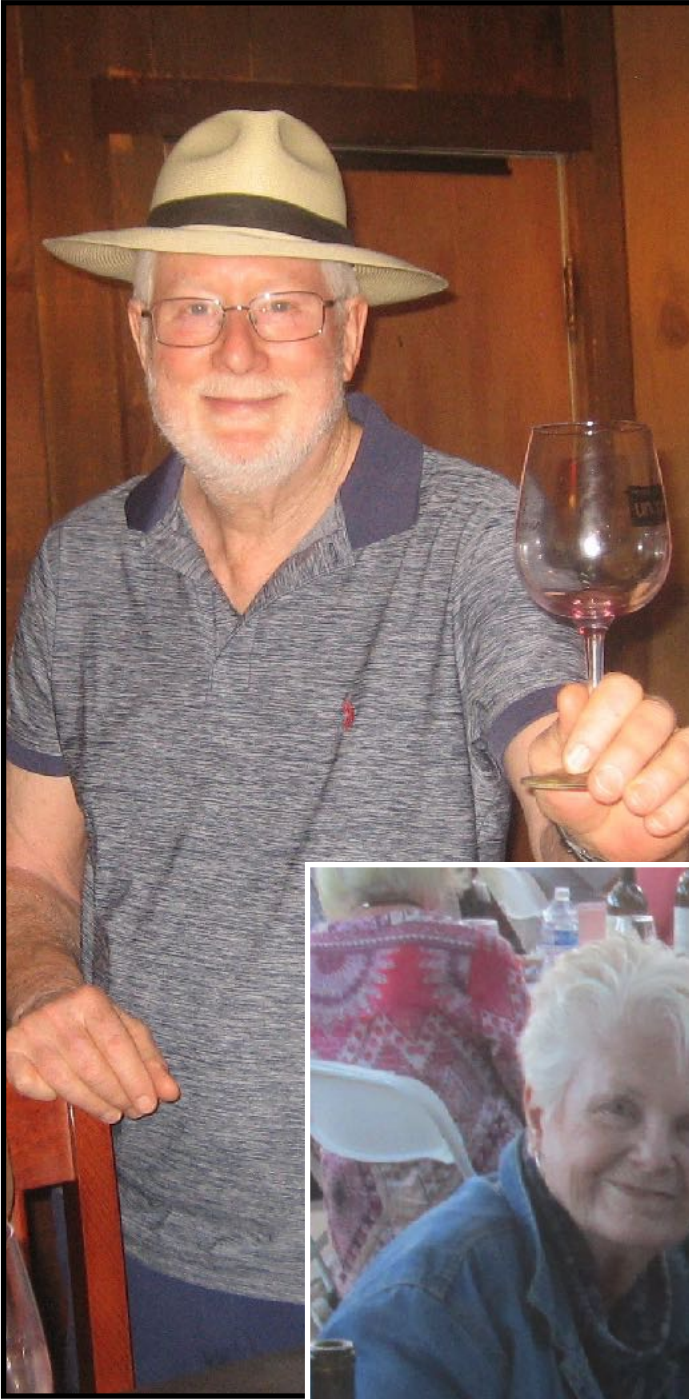
President Diane Houston introduces new Board Members



Here is the 2026 newly elected Board of Directors



Peter Willcox . . . In Loving Memory



He worked various jobs until joining the Air Force Reserve.

You all knew Peter.

For myself, I knew Peter as a thoughtful, kind, gentle, talented, and loving soul. Wine-maker. Wood-worker. Engineer. Gentleman.

I am a better person for knowing him.

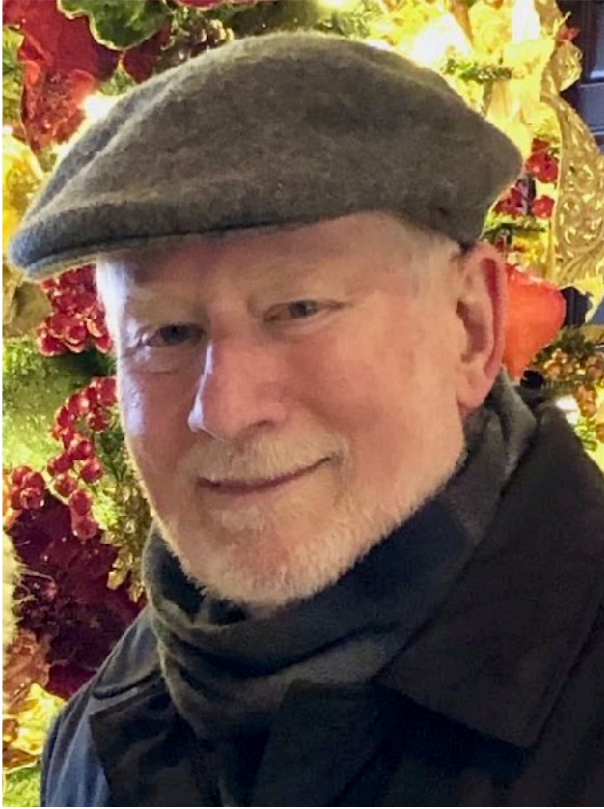
I believe you are as well.

And now, in Jo's words.

“Peter was born Rome, New York in 1942. His family moved to Carmel, California when he was 10. He had a news paper route at the age of 14. Peter graduated from Carmel High School at age 17.



Peter Willcox . . . In Loving Memory



Peter was going to college off and on, while still working odd jobs. He was sent to Vietnam as a Medical Engineer.

After doing his stint in the service he was able to finish his education. He graduated with a PhD in metallurgic engineering and science from USC.

Peter married Nancy, who had a son. Nancy passed in 2001. Peter worked for ITT Cannon in Santa Ana California for over 30 years with his last position as the Director of the Laboratory.

Peter and Jo Hathcock started their ever-loving relationship in 2002, moving to Grass Valley in 2007.



This is one of my favorite winemaking pictures of Peter, taken along with his winemaking partner, Ron.

Typical Peter. It looks like he is doing one thing but in reality he is doing all three.

In 2012 Peter started making wine and won his first award that year from NC Fair for his Zinfandel. Ron joined in and they made wine together until Peter's passing.

Peter was an avid weekly hiker; a woodworker of fabulous furniture; Peter and Jo together traveled to many places. He was loved and respected by all and is being missed by many.” *Love from all my heart, Jo.*

Not Just Winning Beating Everyone



Jessi and Jason Blank, Linda Foshagen and Lisa Whittet surround Dave.

Dave Elliott once again took home the Winemaker's Choice Award at the Lake of the Pines wine tasting club. Each month a different winery presents their wines. During the evening the presenting winemaker goes around the room to taste all of the wines that the 200 or so guests bring to impress their friends and the winemaker. They are all commercially produced wines, except for Dave's. And yet three times now different winemakers have selected Dave's wine as the best in the room. You go Dave.

SWGGA Membership Cards What Are They Good For?



Ask SWGGA members Catharine Bramkamp and Andrew Hutchins. While traveling in Oregon they stopped at a winery near Salem, presented their SWGGA card and got a 30% discount. Have you tried using yours?

SWGGA On the German Wine Road

This comes from Curtis & Carrie Peterson.

"Carrie and I took a bike ride out of Traben-Trarbach. Came across this wine dispensing machine. About 8 euros secures a Riesling. Never have seen this before. The machine did not care if you were 21 years old." Curtis



Board of Directors

Diane Houston
President

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@managementtrust.com

Dave Elliott
Vice- President

djelliott
@skydancesranch.com

Lisa Whittet
Treasurer

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Al Schafer
Secretary &

Event Coordinator
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Tom Martella
Outreach Coordinator
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Trellis Wire Editor
Rod Byers
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SWGGA SWAG

Contact Lisa Whittet,
lwhittet@sbcglobal.net, if you have questions, or, better yet, want to make an order. She will bring it to the next meeting. Pick it up there.

Vineyard Sign	\$60
Woman's Long Sleeve Shirt	\$40
Men's Short Sleeve Shirt	\$40
Cap	\$20
Corkscrew	\$15
Wine Glass	\$5



Please Consider Getting Involved.

**SWGGA is always looking for new
committee members for events**

We Need You.