



## COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR

### Happy Holidays, Members,

The first order of business for me as the new chapter chair is to thank our outgoing board members. Our former Chair, Chuck Hanks proved month after month that he is a born leader. During 2003, he led the Pittsburgh East Chapter through all the administrative tasks of the year with efficiency and diplomacy. Chuck was one of our founding members and helped establish the chapter in 1997. He has always been a tremendous help to our organization. Chuck will now be representing the Western Pennsylvania Region as the Regional Vice President and acting as an advisory member to the 2004 Board of Directors for our chapter. Thank you. Also leaving the Board is Bunny Chase as our secretary. Bunny is always willing to help. She has a special touch that is always appreciated to make things just a little nicer and we will miss her on the Board. Our last change will be Suzanne Heintzinger who is retiring as our newsletter editor. This is a huge job that Suzanne has done so well over the past few years. We have enjoyed her efforts and thank her for her donation of time and talents. Over and over again the efforts of our volunteers have proven to make our chapter work and continue to grow. Thank you all !

Secondly, I would like to thank Karen Hanks and the Christmas Party Committee. What a wonderful job you all did organizing our "Hometown Christmas"! The party was fun from the beginning to the end. The decorations were truly elegant including the china provided by member Dave Liba; the food was fabulous thanks to our favorite Christmas caterer – Five Starr; the breads were donated by The Breadworks and the wines were perfectly matched to the food by the Board. Eddie and Eric Karluck did a fantastic DJ job and to top off the evening, we all had a bottle of wine to take home to enjoy over the holidays. Great job, great party!!!

Thinking about the future and our Chapter in 2004, I would like to offer that we are going to have fun! That is what this kind of group is all about for me. I have fun learning about wine. I have fun learning about wine with others in a group format...as a result I hope to make the meetings fun and informative. The schedule of programs is still "in process".

As programs are locked in we will announce them in future newsletters. We have in the past traveled to wine regions in a group and even cruised the blue waters of the Carribean tasting wines. This year I would like to host a spring winery tour to the Niagara

Region. Doug and I have visited this area for years and have made three wine trips since we last took a group. This region is growing by leaps and bounds, wineries vary in size from cottage to massive, there is a cooking school and even a school on winemaking and vineyard management. Please stay posted for details to be announced in an upcoming newsletter.

Lastly, I would like to express my feelings and heartfelt loss as the result of the death of Fred Delfosse. From the very beginning, Fred was always there to make us a laugh and help in any way he could. My first memory of Fred was when we were trying to fill the board positions at the very first Pittsburgh East Chapter meeting in March, 1997. Fred stood up and volunteered to be our membership chairperson. We didn't know him, he didn't know about us, but he knew he had a talent that he could share, and he did. He organized the membership list - remember this was a considerable task since everybody was new and we were growing very quickly. He made up the nametags for all the members, organized them and was responsible for having them ready for every meeting. BUT, more than all the numerous "tasks" he performed without complaint, what I remember is that Fred made us laugh. He was fun to be around. He will be missed but never forgotten.

See you on the 9<sup>th</sup> for a "Downunder" tasting of Australian wines!

Karen Wayner

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## Coordinators

<b>Website</b> Debbie Thomas	412-793-5566 photo- bug@att.net
<b>Glasses</b> Marty and Don Baer	724-733-3038 dbaer5@aolccom
<b>Winemakers</b> Roundtable Don Baer	724-733-3038 dbaer5@aol.com
<b>Supplies</b> Monica Songer and Bob McCann	412-856-9562 monicci@aol.com

# Happy New Year !

## MEETING DO'S AND DON'TS

**DO MAKE A RESERVATION:** If you find out at the last minute that you can attend, then please call Karen.

**DO FEEL FREE TO BRING A GUEST:** We always like to see "prospective members."

**DO EAT BEFORE THE MEETING:** We always have bread and cheese, but something more in the stomach is good.

**DO ATTEND THE MEETINGS FOR WINE EDUCATION, NOT ONLY AS A SOCIAL EVENT.**

**DON'T WEAR HEAVY PERFUME, COLOGNE OR AFTERSHAVE:** It interferes with the aroma of the wine.

**DON'T TALK WHEN THE PROGRAM IS GOING ON:** It is discourteous to the speaker and disruptive for the group.

**DON'T DRINK ALL THE WINE:** Try to save some to review when the discussion is taking place.

**DON'T RUN OUT OF THE BUILDING:** Please stay and help clean up and take a case of glasses home to wash.

**\*\*\*DON'T SMOKE: ALL AWS FUNCTIONS ARE NON-SMOKING EVENTS**

### Wine Glasses Case List

Case 1 Clean	Case 10 Hoffman
Case 2 Morgan	Case 11 Clean
Case 3 Baer	Case 12 Cuffia
Case 4 Clean	Case 13 Baer
Case 5 George	Case 14 Clean
Case 6 Clean	Case 15 Songer/ McCann
Case 7 Rocco	Case 16 Skerl
Case 8 Fera/Churma	Case 17 Pedley

Case 9 Colville	
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### Champagne Wine Flutes

Case F1 Cunkelman	Case F6 Pedley
Case F2 Pedley	Case F7 Baer
Case F3 Chase	Case F8 Katelan
Case F4 Cunkelman	Case F9 Baer
Case F5 Katelan	Case F10 Chase

### Important Wine Glass Information

If you took wine glasses or champagne flutes home in either November or after the Christmas party in December, for washing, please either bring them back at the January meeting or call Don or Marty Baer at **724-733-3038** to make arrangements to get them to the meeting. All cases have been counted, renumbered and are now accounted for on the lists. **Remember too, be sure to sign your name and the number of the case you are taking home on the list before leaving the Lions Hall.**

#### Regional Vice President Corner

I would like to thank all of you for the election to the position of Regional Vice President. I will work hard to represent your views to the National AWS and foster growth in this region.

Thanks, Chuck

**INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY:**  
**Listen to KDKA 1020 AM for**  
**Updates on meeting cancellations.**

5006 Holly Court  
Murrysville, PA 15668

## WINES-NOVEMBER & DECEMBER

### November Meeting

- **1997 Brut**  
Mountain Dome – Washington State – Spokane
- **1998 Willamette Valley Chardonnay**  
Belle Pente – Oregon – North Willamette
- **Johannisberg Riesling**  
Hogue – Washington – East Yakima
- **Blue Mountain Riesling**  
Bridgeview - Oregon – Illinois sub of Rogue Valley
- **Pinot Noir**  
Willamette Valley Vineyards – Oregon
- **4 Corners Merlot**  
Sagelands – Washington Yakima Valley
- **Syrah**  
Chateau St. Michelle – Washington – Puget Sound
- **Cabernet**  
3 Rivers Winery – Washington – Walla Walla

### Thanks to All!

We want to thank all of you who worked so hard to make the Christmas party a grand success. It was a little “iffy” on the Friday before with all that beautiful “white stuff” coming down but when Saturday dawned ‘snowless’ all the committee members were there to set up in anticipation of the evening’s events. Dinner was fantastic, the wines were great and well-matched to the food and we believe everyone had a nice evening.

Next year when the time arrives to plan a Christmas party, don’t be afraid to step right up and volunteer. Remember, many volunteers make the jobs easier.

Again, thank you to everyone including those who attended.

Karen and Chuck Hanks

### IT’S TIME TO PAY YOUR DUES !!!

We are collecting **Dues for 2004**. According to our by-laws, membership in the **NATIONAL AWS** is required to belong to any local chapter. **NATIONAL AWS DUES** should be paid by April 1<sup>st</sup> or when you receive your Invoice from AWS. If you do not receive an invoice, see Burris to get the proper form to submit. **NATIONAL AWS** dues are to be mailed to:

American Wine Society  
3006 Latta Road  
Rochester, NY 14612-3298

**LOCAL DUES** (\$15.00 per couple or \$10.00 per single) are due no later than April 1. After that time, your name will be dropped from the membership list and you will no longer receive a Newsletter.

Please send all dues to:

Chris Anderson

### December Christmas Party

- **Grandin Brut**
- **eMousseux Sparkling Apple Cider**
- **Caroline Bay Sauvignon Blanc 2000**
- **Miner Chardonnay 2000**
- **Kendall-Jackson Cabernet Sauvignon 2000**
- **Elyse D’Aventure Red 2000**
- **Creekside Vidal 2000**

### GLASSES WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE

If you ordered our logo glasses or wish to purchase glasses, please see Chris Anderson at the January meeting.



**IN PASSING . . . . .**

**Frederick P. Delfosse**

**November 21, 2003**

>>>>>In looking over the Membership List, I have found that we have some incorrect addresses, missing e-mail addresses, wrong telephone numbers and misspelled names. This is no one's fault in particular. Therefore, I am asking everyone who is a member to please fill in the Reservation Form completely. Although this note may appear again, once you have completed the information, you need not do it again. (Please print clearly.)

Thanks, *Karen Hanks*

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**January Meeting Reservation Form**

(Please include your check with form)

**Name (s):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-Mail Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail to:**  
**Karen Wayner**  
**609 Rockland Drive**  
**Pittsburgh, PA 15239**

**Make Checks Payable to: AWS – Pittsburgh East**

Members: \$15.00 per person

Guests: \$18.00 per person

(Guests are non-dues paying participants in AWS – Pittsburgh East limited to three visits. They must join after third visit to continue

**DEADLINE: Monday, January 5, 2004**

attending the meetings.)

**Fruit for thought . . .**

“Wine is alive, and when you offer it to your fellow man,  
you are offering him life. More than that, you are  
calling out more life for him,  
you are engaging in what might be called a creative flattery,  
for you are asking him to summon up his powers  
of discrimination, to exercise his taste,  
or perhaps merely to evince curiosity of a desire to learn.

I know of no other liquid that, placed in the mouth,  
forces one to think.”

***--Clifton Fadiman, author***

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