

9th Annual Montana Grape and Wine Conference

Agenda

March 9-10, 2023

Ramada Inn, Helena (Old Jorgensen's Hotel)

Wednesday March 8

7 p.m. Wine social. Feel free to bring wines you'd like to share. Get your room, unpack and then have a good time to reconnect and make new friends.

Thursday March 9

7:00 Registration begins, Coffee, donuts (Breakfast in the restaurant included with rooms)

8:00-8:15 President's Welcome, Bob Thaden Main Theme- From sites in Montana's terroir to grape chemistries, what wine styles do Montana grapes lend themselves to?

8:15-8:30 Christy Clark, Director Montana State Department of Agriculture Opening remarks on the relationship between Montana's Agriculture and Montana's Wines

8:30-9:15 Tom Plocher, Private Grape Breeder- 2022 VitiNord Review with Alyssa Griffith, Watchdog Winery, and the discussion on Montana's place in the cold climate grape world, with Insights into developing our Montana-grown wine industry, Earlier ripening TP 1-1-12 release in 2024, TP 2-3-51 and others,

9:15-10:15 Andrej Svyantek, WARC- Review of grape research and research goals for helping develop Montana's unique wine industry, Update of other WARC activities.

Break until 10:30

10:30-12:00 Drew Horton, U of MN and Roxann McGuire, Willow Mountain Winery- Simplifying and applying the chemistry of winemaking to reds, whites, rosés and sparkling.

12:00-1:00 Lunch

1:00-1:45 Pedro Vargas, author of Stars in a Glass A straightforward, easy-on-the-pocket approach to Sparkling, Methode Champenois for small production

1:45-2:30 Winemaking trials with Marquette, Foch, using extended cold maceration, accentuated cut edges and more. Tasting included- Bob Thaden /Damian Sanz/ Andrej Svyantek

Break until 2:45

- 2:45-3:30 Alicia Hamm, MT Dept of Agriculture- Marketing Montana Wine Country- Eat/Drink Local as it relates to a growing MT Grown vineyard/winery industry
- 3:30-4:00 Martin Richard, Martin's Wines, Helena "*Sell is an Active Verb*," Retail, Restaurant, Consumer interest in local wines, awareness of Montana's unique wines?

Thursday evening

- 5:00 People's Choice Competition
- 6:30 Dinner Banquet- Wine tasting/evaluation session with Toby McCracken on matching foods to complement Montana wine styles

Friday March 10

- 8:00-8:30 Coffee, doughnuts... more coffee... (Breakfast in the restaurant included with rooms)
- 8:30-9:15 Legislators view of potential for the MT grown wine industry and Farm Winery's..
- 9:15-10:00 Abundant Montana- how to involve Mt grown wines in local events

Break until 10:15

- 10:15-11:00 WAM report: Legislation, Marketing, Friends of Montana Wine- Larry Robertson
- 11:00-11:45 Presentation of People's Choice AWARDS
- 12:00-12:45 Lunch
- 1:00 Membership Meeting, elections, 2024 Multi-State Conference
- 2:30 Adjourn