



# the *IWFS* Grapevine

IWFS INTERNATIONAL NEWS  
JUNE 2020



A MESSAGE FROM THE HONORARY PRESIDENT

## Leap The Abyss

Dear Members & Friends of the Society,  
COVID-19 has rocked our world. Our Society exists to serve the essential human custom of mingling. We've wisely added food and wine and tables at which to sit. We tell our stories. We share our lives. Around the world, we reach across canyons to become friends.

When I was a boy, growing up in the American state of Pennsylvania, I learned the rather unusual tale of my father's father's family. That grandfather was one of five boys, three of whom had been born on the 4th of July, America's official day of independence from 1776. Certainly, it was remarkable to have three of five brothers, including my grandfather, born on the same day of the year. But for that day to have been perhaps the country's most important historical day made them seem special. They all fought in WWI. They all survived the war.

Then the Influenza Pandemic of 1918 began sweeping around the globe, and it killed one of those special brothers.

I know many of you have similar stories about being touched by such great mortal unknowns.

Pandemics savagely shook the worlds of our ancestors, yet here we are today. They were survivors then, which allows us to survive now. And most of our children and grandchildren will survive this disease to tell their own stories. With luck, it will be at a large table laden with food and wine; surrounded by old friends and soon-to-be new friends. We will leap the abyss.

My heart goes out to all of you who've suffered recent loss from this disease. My hand reaches out to those of you who still worry fiercely. We cannot touch. But we can feel.

Sincerely,

**Dave Felton**  
IWFS Honorary President  
*Reprint of email sent on 4 May 2020*

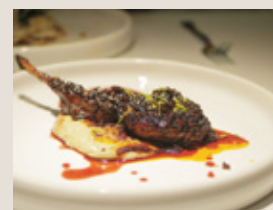
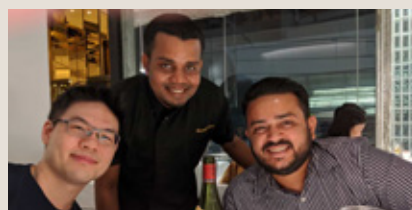


## OUR BRANCHES

### BANGKOK (THAILAND)

Under the leadership of Vishvas Sidana and assisted by key members Naga Subramaniam and Samantha Proyrungtong, our Bangkok Branch re-opened on March 5 with a wonderful dinner at Karmakamet Conveyance in Bangkok. Chef Som cooked a fabulous meal. Bangkok is such a culinary capital, so good to have an active branch here once more. But what an environment in which to open a branch! We chatted on the night about the next event, timed for May, when we thought Covid-19 would be a distant thought.

Sadly, only weeks after the branch opened, Covid-19 struck with a vengeance, restaurants closed and curfews were put into place. So this new young branch is still waiting for an opportunity to re-gather. It will of course – like our other branches, we will get through this, and IWFS Bangkok will be a shining star in the Asia Pacific zone.

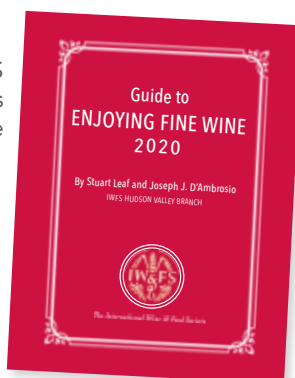




## NEWS FROM THE INTERNATIONAL SECRETARIAT

### GUIDE TO ENJOYING FINE WINE

This latest IWFS publication has been written by IWFS members Stuart Leaf and Joseph D'Ambrosio, members of the newly formed Hudson Valley Branch in the Americas. Although not wine professionals they are both very knowledgeable about wine and have written this in a personal style drawing on their own experience with fine wine, making it very readable. A copy will be either posted to every member household or forwarded to your branch contact who will arrange delivery to you.



### PODCAST: OZ CLARKE 2018 ANDRÉ SIMON LECTURE

Available now – Oz Clarke's presentation to members *"Hot and Cold but mostly Cold. What the present and future holds."*

This is a compelling presentation where Oz outlines the impact of global warming on wine production globally – how winemakers are having to adapt and identify new regions where grapes can be grown.

Click [here](#) to tune in now and listen (47 mins duration)

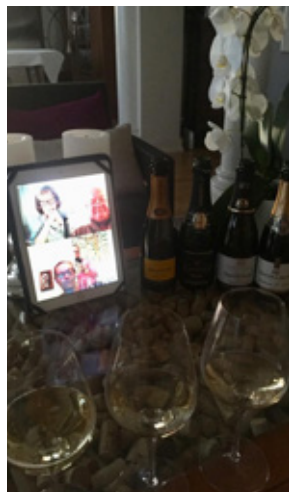


### OUR AWARDS

The latest recipient of the André Simon Silver Medal was **Donald Erickson** of the Chicago branch. Andrew Jones, Society Chairman, presented the medal after the evening's toast at the 85th Anniversary Dinner with its 850th dinner on 10 December 2019. "Sir Bacchus" (branch president), Donald Erickson, has been involved in the branch's Board of Governors in one capacity or another for more than 30 years, including 10 years serving as the branch president. A most deserving recipient. Andrew Jones (l), ICM Chairman, is pictured here with Don Erickson (r) after the medal presentation.



### THE HERE AND NOW - VIRTUAL EVENTS



During these extraordinary times many branches are organising virtual dinners which not only keep members in contact but also provide vital support for your local restaurants and maintains contact until their doors are open once again.

To assist you in arranging your own virtual event we have produced a step-by-step guide, with thanks to the Chicago branch who have run a number of such events successfully.

Visit our Virtual Events page to go to the 'Step-by-step guide' which also includes a video of how to set up an event via the website and also how to set the event up online, using Zoom as an example. Click [here](#) to go the web page (you will have to be signed in to view this page).

Enjoy virtual dining...

## IWFS International Council of Management (ICM)



**CHAIRMAN:**  
Andrew Jones  
(Cayman Islands & New York)



**TREASURER:**  
Dwight Catherwood  
(Los Angeles, USA)



**COUNCIL MEMBER & GLOBAL  
BRANCH AMBASSADOR:**  
Yvonne Wallis  
(Victoria, Australia)



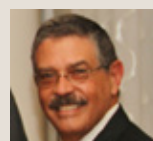
**COUNCIL MEMBER:**  
Ian Nicol  
(Blackpool & Fylde Coast, UK)



**COUNCIL MEMBER:**  
John Nicholas  
(Zurich, Switzerland)



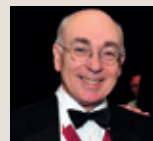
**COUNCIL MEMBER:**  
Mike Donohoe  
(Houston & Santa Fe, USA)



**COUNCIL MEMBER:**  
Antonio Escudero-Viera  
(Puerto Rico, USA)



**HONORARY PRESIDENT:**  
Dave Felton  
(Pasadena, USA)



**SECRETARY:**  
Michael Messent  
(Wessex, UK)



**INTERNATIONAL  
SECRETARIAT:**  
Andrea Warren  
(London, UK)



## ZONE NEWS



### AMERICAS CHAIR: Mike Donohoe

The world has stepped into 2020 on perilous footing, and the Americas is dealing with it hand in hand with the other zones of the Society. Our 3900 members are taking part in virtual events of many different varieties, demonstrating their creativity and craving for camaraderie during this period of uncertainty. There will be a surge of emotions when we finally return to our branch events and festivals.



### EUROPE AFRICA CHAIR: John Nicholas

EAZ branch activity has been curtailed. A few members use the now ubiquitous videoconferencing, such as Zoom, but most branches and members will wait until direct social interaction is again permitted. We have now decided to postpone our Cambridge AGM weekend until 2021. Our 2020 AGM will be held virtually using zoom technology on Sunday, 20 September. Our fully subscribed Madeira festival in November will, hopefully, not be affected. Planning for festivals in Piedmont and Alsace in April and June 2021.



### ASIA PACIFIC PRESIDENT: Yvonne Wallis

The quiet is a little eerie. Congratulations to those branches who are running very successful virtual events in this Covid-19 environment. Looking ahead we are now planning for Singapore in June 2021. It will be so good to see everyone again. In other news, James Lin has stepped down as APZ Chair and we thank him for his great work and dedication. We welcome Michael Tamburri from our Western Australia branch who is now APZ's Acting Chair.

## UPCOMING FESTIVALS



# Singapore

APZ Festival • 18-20 June 2021

APZ invites you to a wonderful festival in Singapore, hosted by our Singapore branch. It will be great to all meet with each other again. We will be staying at the very lovely *Shangri-La Hotel*. Program includes a city tour, two lunches, two dinners, an exclusive tasting of Italian wines, and lots of opportunities to share camaraderie with other members across all zones. Stay tuned for further details.



# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



*The Zones are still busy looking ahead and putting together a rich itinerary of festivals around the world for members to enjoy. Please pencil in the following dates we will be in touch to open bookings as appropriate:*

### MADEIRA (PORTUGAL), 2-8 NOVEMBER 2020

The EAZ is keeping this event under review. We very much hope to be able to go ahead as planned but much depends on any restrictions likely to be in force at the time. We will contact all those who have booked in the coming months as the situation becomes clearer. Click [here](#) to find out details.

### PIEDMONT (ITALY) 12-17 APRIL 2021

Join the EAZ touring the vineyards around Bra, the home of the Slow Food Movement plus dinners with some of the most exciting wine producers in the area. If you are interested in Barolo and Barbaresco you won't want to miss this. Full details to be released in July.

### PARIS & BORDEAUX (FRANCE) 15-24 APRIL 2021

This amazing Americas event has been rescheduled for next year – the itinerary will be in essence the same. To be re-advertised in September 2020 for new bookings. The itinerary includes visiting some of the most exclusive venues in Paris; then in Bordeaux a stunning itinerary includes private tours and tastings of top chateaux wines. For more details click [here](#).

### ALSACE (FRANCE) 7-12 JUNE 2021

The EAZ are heading to the city of Colmar, the capital of this historic wine region and will aim to give you a taste of some of the best wineries and restaurants in the area. More details in due course.

### SINGAPORE 18-20 JUNE 2021

The APZ are making plans for a festival on this delightful island country for members to enjoy its culinary delights and explore the many jewels of this island including the Singapore Botanic Gardens – the only tropical garden in the world to be awarded a UNESCO Heritage Site. Details to be released shortly.

### CAMBRIDGE (UK) 17-20 SEPTEMBER 2021

The EAZ have rescheduled this from 2020 with the same format as far as possible. All members are invited to join us visiting this historic city which includes dining in two of the University's historic Colleges. Click [here](#) to read more.

### SAN ANTONIO (USA) 26-30 OCTOBER 2021

The Americas invite you to join them enjoying the best in food and wine of this Texan city with a rich colonial heritage. Details to be confirmed

### WILLIAMETTE VALLEY (OR, USA) 17-22 MAY 2022

An Americas festival giving you the chance to visit some of the best wineries of this region renowned for its world class Pinot Noir. More details to follow.

*If you are interested in joining an event that is full, or reservations closed, then please contact the organiser in case space is available.*



## OUR IWFS BRANCHES 140 BRANCHES WORLDWIDE

### AMERICAS (79)

#### CANADA

**ALBERTA** - Edmonton

**BRITISH COLUMBIA**

Vancouver

Victoria

**ONTARIO**

Kitchener-Waterloo

Niagara

Oakville

Toronto

**QUEBEC** - Montreal

#### CAYMAN ISLANDS

Cayman Islands

#### DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Dominican Republic

#### MEXICO

Tecate

Tijuana

#### UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

**ALABAMA** - Birmingham

**ALASKA** - Anchorage

**ARIZONA**

Paradise Valley

Phoenix

Tucson

**CALIFORNIA**

Chula Vista

Coachella Valley

East Bay

Hollywood

La Jolla

Laguna Beach

Los Angeles

Marin County

Monterey Peninsula

Napa Valley

Orange County

Pasadena

Physicians Of Los Angeles

Rancho Santa Fe

Riverside

Sacramento-San Joaquin

San Fernando Valley

Santa Barbara

Southern California

#### FLORIDA

Boca Raton

Jacksonville

Miami

Naples

Palm Beach

**GEORGIA** - Atlanta

**HAWAII** - Honolulu

**ILLINOIS** - Chicago

**INDIANA** - Indianapolis

**IOWA**

Council Bluffs

Okoboji

**LOUISIANA** - New Orleans

**MARYLAND** - Baltimore

**MASSACHUSETTS**

Boston

Central Massachusetts

**MINNESOTA**

Minneapolis/St Paul

Rochester

**MISSOURI** - Kansas City

**MONTANA** - Bozeman

**NEBRASKA**

Greater Omaha

Norfolk

Omaha

**NEVADA**

Lake Tahoe

Reno

**NEW MEXICO** - Santa Fe

**NEW YORK**

Buffalo

Hudson Valley

New York

**OHIO** - Cleveland

**OKLAHOMA**

Oklahoma Central

**PENNSYLVANIA**

Bucks County

Philadelphia

York

**PUERTO RICO** - San Juan

**SOUTH CAROLINA** - Aiken

**TENNESSEE** - Memphis

**TEXAS**

Austin

Dallas

Fort Worth

Houston

Northeast Texas

**WASHINGTON** - Spokane

**WASHINGTON DC**

Washington DC

### ASIA PACIFIC (37)

#### AUSTRALIA

Margaret River

New South Wales

Victoria

Western Australia

#### CHINA

Beijing City

Chaoyang District (Beijing)

Huangpu (Shanghai)

Shanghai

#### HONG KONG

Hong Kong

#### INDIA

Bombay

Delhi

#### INDONESIA

Jakarta

#### JAPAN

Edo (Tokyo)

Jiyugaoka

Kyushu

Nagoya

Roppongi

Tokyo

Tokyo Bay

#### MALAYSIA

Ipoh

Kuala Lumpur

Penang

#### NEW ZEALAND

Auckland

#### PHILIPPINES

Cebu

Manila Ladies

Philippines

#### SINGAPORE

Singapore

#### SOUTH KOREA

Decanting Soul

Seoul

#### TAIWAN R.O.C.

Chungnan

Kaohsiung

Taichung

Taipei

Taiwan Belle

#### THAILAND

Bangkok

Phuket

#### VIETNAM

Saigon

### EUROPE AFRICA (24)

**ESTONIA** - Tallinn

**FINLAND** - Helsinki

**NORWAY** - Oslo

**RUSSIA** - Moscow

**SOUTH AFRICA** - Cape Town

**SPAIN** - Valencia

**SWITZERLAND** - Zurich

#### UNITED KINGDOM

Bath & Bristol

Berkshire

Blackpool & Fylde Coast

Devonshire

Herefordshire & Monmouthshire

Leicester

Liverpool

London

St James's (London)

Manchester

Merseyside & Mid-Cheshire

Northampton

Surrey Hills

Sussex

Wessex

West Yorkshire

**ZAMBIA** - Lusaka

For more information or  
to contact a branch, visit  
**[WWW.IWFS.ORG](http://WWW.IWFS.ORG)**



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special member benefits  
or news about events  
happening further afield.



### INTERNATIONAL WINE & FOOD SOCIETY

International Secretariat  
Andrea Warren  
sec@iwfs.org

Americas  
Rose Clemson  
admin.americas@iwfs.org

Asia Pacific  
Administrator  
apz@iwfs.org

Europe Africa  
Margaret Chippendale  
eazmembership@outlook.com

