

Grape Times



December 2015

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE FLORIDA GRAPE GROWERS ASSOCIATION

FGGA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Friday, January 16th – Saturday, January 17th

This year's conference will be held at the Quality Inn Riverside in Palatka. This is the same venue as last year but with all new sessions to interest both commercial growers and winemakers and hobbyists.

This year we are featuring three national speakers from the 2014 Winemaker's Magazine Conference. We are also providing each participant with a conference 3-ring notebook complete with the printed slides for all presentations. One of the biggest requests from last year was copies of the presentations so now you will have all the hand-outs, both commercial and hobbyist, and you can concentrate on the speaker's presentation and make notes as you go.

Following the Annual Meeting of the FGGA, we will have the Friday evening "Meet & Greet" session and wine tasting. You are encouraged to bring samples of your wines to share. This is an excellent opportunity to get feedback from your fellow winemakers, and to make new friends.

**QUALITY INN RIVERFRONT
201 North 1st Street
Palatka, FL 32177
(386) 328-3481**

(Make sure to mention Florida Grape Growers for special pricing)

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

FGGA ANNUAL CONFERENCE & MEETING 2015 –

January 16th – (12:30 – 8:30 pm)

January 17th – (8 am – 1:30 pm)

January 17th – Post conference session at IFAS center 2 pm

(Pruning practices)

REMINDER: Membership expires January 1, 2015

Annual dues are:

Commercial Members \$40.00

Noncommercial Members \$20.00

Family Membership \$30.00

Associate Members \$20.00

Membership forms can be found on our website:

www.fgga.org, click on Membership

Prepayment of your membership for 2015 will give you a discount rate for the conference.

General Membership Meeting - Friday, at 5:15 pm. Discussion of a name change for the organization, election of Directors and other important business. Plan to attend.

Friday, January 16, 2015

Registration 11:00 am – 12:30 pm

Welcome - 12:30 pm

JOINT SESSION

12:30 pm – 1:15 pm

“Neutraceuticals and other Grape Products” -

Charlie Sims, UF

Also a brief report on the UF grape/wine research

BREAK OUT SESSIONS - A –

1:30 pm – 2:15 pm

COMMERCIAL ***“Feeding Your Vine – Proper***

Nutrition Yields “Grape” Results” Mercy

Olmstead

HOBBYIST- ***“Chaptalization vs. Back Sweetening”***

Don Nettles

BREAK OUT SESSIONS - B –2:30 pm – 3:15 pm

COMMERCIAL –***“Fruit Wines Industry”*** –Lora

Ashelman – Island Grove Wine Co.

HOBBYIST – ***“Starting a Wine Club or Wine Guild”***

Donnie Nettles & Sue Elliott

BREAK OUT SESSIONS - C

- 3:15 pm – 4:00 pm

COMMERCIAL - ***“Vineyard Best Management***

Practices” -Karen Stauderman

HOBBYIST – ***“What Not to Do in your Vineyard “-***

Robert Herold

JOINT SESSION - **4:15 pm – 5:00 pm**

“The Outlook for Florida Wine Industry “ –

Charles Cox

GENERAL MEETING – **5:15 PM – 6:30 PM**

State of the FGGA

General Membership Meeting -Election of Officers

Board Meeting

MEET AND GREET (Wine Tasting) - 6:30 PM

DINNER – **7:15 PM** with speaker–

Robert Herold

“Benefits of Preventative Measures rather Than Remedial Measures “

Saturday, January 17, 2015

Registration 7:30 am – 8:00 am

JOINT SESSION –

8:00 am – 8:45 am

“Canopy Management & other Vineyard Practices” – Cain Hickey

JOINT SESSION –

9:00 am – 9:45 am

“Picking the Right Yeast Strain” –

Jason Burrus

JOINT SESSION –

10:00 am – 10:45 am

“Picking the Right Cultivars” –

Violeta Tsolova FAMU

Also a brief report on FAMU grape/wine research

JOINT SESSION –

11:00 am – 11:45 am

“The Florida Wine Passport Where do we go from here” Donnie Nettles

LUNCH & JOINT SESSION

– 12:00 PM – 1:30 PM

“The State of Affairs Roundtable”

Questions & Answers with all our presenters.

Box Lunch provided by *Beef O’Brady’s*

2:00 pm - Hands-On session at the IFAS

Hastings Experimental Station-***“Pruning***

Techniques 101 and Beyond: Practice for the

Novice and Advanced Viticulturist” – Mercy

Olmstead

Come on out to the Demonstration Vineyard at the Florida Partnership for Water, Agriculture and Community Sustainability in Hastings, FL and get some experience pruning mature muscadine vines! We will also have an opportunity to prune/examine some bunch grapes that are being established at the station.

See you at the 2016 Conference!!!

NAME CHANGE PROPOSAL FOR FGGA

In 1923 the Florida Grape Growers Association was formed as an entity to facilitate the organization and support an intrepid group of growers interested in the development of a fresh fruit grape industry in the state of Florida. Since our early beginning, over 90 years ago, our industry has seen a number of ups and downs. We have seen various cultivars come into and go out of fashion and our acreages expand and contract. One of the most significant changes to our industry has been the shift in focus from fresh fruit production to that of production for the making of wine. In recent years another important trend in our industry has been the growing popularity and production of fruit wines.

Over time, with much effort from our pioneering growers, researchers and wine makers, we have become a thriving and sustainable industry. I believe Florida's wine industry is poised for growth. At the same time I believe the FGGA is ready for growth as well. We have an active, dynamic board of directors that is developing an exciting vision for our future.

As we look to the future we see a need to expand the scope of our industry organization to be more inclusive of all the pertinent stake holders. As a spokesman for the board of directors, I would like to raise the idea of a change in our organization's name. We believe that by adding the word "Wine" to our title we can more accurately represent the interests and activities of our current and future membership. We would like to propose the name "Florida Wine and Grape Growers Association".

I hope these thoughts will provoke discussion and commentary. Please feel free to contact me or any of the other board members with your thoughts. I look forward to see you all at the upcoming 2015 Annual Conference.

J. R. Newbold

FGGA President

A full discussion of this issue will take place at the General Membership meeting on Friday afternoon. IT is important that you consider this and be prepared to vote at that meeting. There are several other important matters concerning the future direction of our organization that will also be discussed. Business before pleasure - so plan to attend before we head to the Wine Tasting and socializing.

Our SPEAKERS from the 2014 *Winemaker's Magazine* Conference

At the Lansdowne Resort in Leesburg, Virginia

JASON BURRUS



Jason's career spans 15 years including six years in California where he worked at several wineries in the Napa Valley, Sonoma Mountains, and the Central Valley. He followed that with three years in Europe where he made wine on the Mediterranean island of Malta and consulted in the Eastern European country of Moldova. He moved his winemaking to Virginia in 2006 and is excited to be a part of an up-and-coming region. Jason has an MS degree in Viticulture & Enology from the University of California – Davis. Jason currently is Winemaker for Chrysalis Vineyards in Middleburg, Virginia. He will be presenting "How to Pick the Right Yeast Strain" and will be part of the Saturday lunch roundtable.

In addition he sits on the Board of Directors of the American Wine Society as Director, Educational Services. Robert has taught Viticulture & Winemaking classes at Naugatuck Valley Community College, and is consulting for a number of new vineyards being established within the state. He has participated as a judge in numerous AWS sponsored wine competitions. He will speak on "What Not to Do in a Home Vineyard" in a hobbyist session and will be our keynote speaker at the Friday dinner. He will also participate in the Saturday, lunch roundtable.



ROBERT HEROLD

Robert is Winemaker for M&M Wine Grape Co., makes wines in several styles using his own estate grown grapes as well as premium grapes from select vineyards in California. His wines have successfully competed in several local, national and international competitions. Robert was named the "Connecticut Wine Person of the Year" for 2003 by Amenti del Vino and is currently the Supporting Member Liaison for the Connecticut Vineyard and Winery Association.



CAIN HICKEY

Cain majored in Horticulture Science at Penn State, working at wineries and a grape research center. He went on to earn an MS degree in Horticulture at Virginia Tech and is currently pursuing a PhD at Virginia Tech. . Cain's research interests include refining traditional vine management practices to optimize wine quality potential as well as evaluating how vine growth, ecophysiology, and grape/wine composition is affected by environment-vine interactions.

Cain will be speaking on "Vineyard Canopy Management" and will also answer questions during the Saturday lunch roundtable.



MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION FORM

Florida Grape Growers Association
111 Yelvington Road, Suite 1
East Palatka, FL 32131
(386) 329-0318

In order to join the FGGA or renew your membership, print and complete this form, and send it, together with your check or money order, (payable to **FGGA**), to the address above.

New Membership

Membership Renewal

Please Print Information

NAME: _____
(First) (Middle) (Last) (Title)

COMPANY NAME: _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE: _____

HOME PHONE (____) _____ - _____ BUSINESS PHONE (____) _____ - _____ EXT: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

Tell Us a Bit About Your Operation

I have _____ acres / plants of Muscadine grapes

I have _____ acres / plants of Bunch Grapes

My Vineyard is located in _____ County. I am a Member of the _____ Chapter.

I am a supplier or manufacturer of grape related products. ***Please describe your products.***

Please Indicate the Type of Membership Below

Associate Member: Suppliers, manufacturers, or transporters of grapes, wines or grape products
Annual dues \$20.00. This is a Non-Voting Membership

Family Members: A Husband and Wife/Spouse who are employed by a grape grower or winery, home winemakers or hobbyists who grow grapes to make wine for home consumption, but who have less than 200 vines.
Annual dues \$30.00. Family Membership has one vote.

Commercial Member: Any Florida resident who sells or markets grapes, wine or grape products or who is in the certified grapevine nursery business or has 200 or more vines.
Annual dues \$40.00 Each Commercial Member has one vote.

Non Commercial Member: Anyone employed by a grape grower or winery, a home winemaker or hobbyist who grows grapes and makes wine for home consumption, but who has less than 200 vines, or who is in university research or extension, or who is a government employee in the agriculture field.
Annual dues \$20.00 Each Non-Commercial Member has one vote.



**FGGA 2015 ANNUAL CONFERENCE
JANUARY 16-17, 2015
REGISTRATION FORM**

DATES: JANUARY 16 – 17, 2015

VENUE: Quality Inn Riverfront
201 North 1st Street
Palatka, FL 32177
(386) 328-3481 (Make sure to mention FL Grape Growers for special pricing)

ROOM RATE: \$ 79.00 including tax - river front rooms available at this price – make your reservation early

**2015 Conference Fees (Conference Registration does not include membership dues.)
Please NOTE: There will be no refunds after January 9th**

Category	Early Registration post marked by December 31, 2014	Late Registration post marked after December 31, 2014	Friday Only (No Dinner)		Friday Only with Dinner		Friday (Dinner Only)
			Early Reg	Late Reg	Early Reg	Late Reg	
Current FGGA Member	\$85	\$100	\$35	\$50	\$55	\$70	\$32
Guest of FGGA Member	\$75	\$85	\$30	\$40	\$50	\$65	\$32
Student	\$50	\$65	\$25	\$35	\$45	\$60	\$32
Non-FGGA Member	\$105	\$120	\$45	\$55	\$65	\$80	\$32
Guest of Non-FGGA Member	\$80	\$95	\$40	\$50	\$60	\$75	\$32

Category	Saturday Only (Includes Lunch)	
	Early Reg	Late Reg
Current FGGA Member	\$55	\$65
Guest of FGGA Member	\$50	\$60
Student	\$45	\$55
Non-FGGA Member	\$65	\$75
Guest of Non-FGGA Member	\$60	\$70

AMOUNT ENCLOSED FOR CONFERENCE

Make Check Payable to: **FGGA**

Mail to: FGGA
111 Yelvington Road, Suite 1, East Palatka, FL 32131

Call 386-329-0318 if you need assistance and ask for Susan.

NAME: _____ MEMBER NON-MEMBER

NUMBER OF GUESTS : _____

GUESTS' NAMES: _____

COMPANY NAME: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP CODE: _____

COUNTY: _____

PHONE NUMBER: (____) _____ - _____ EXT: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

CHECK THIS BOX IF YOU WOULD LIKE US TO SHARE YOUR INFORMATION WITH OTHER CONFERENCE ATTENDEES.