

WINE WATCH



Elisabet Bordt, Editor

~ The Newsletter of The Ireland Funds' WineGeese Society ~

The WineGeese Year

The WineGeese Society continues to host events in New York, San Francisco, Dallas, and Dublin. The WineGeese have been on tour since our last issue, exploring Burgundy as well as the Sonoma and Napa Valleys. The delicious details are within, but make room for Rome and Tuscany where we will be heading in October 2014.

For more details, please go to:

www.theirelandfunds.org/winegeese

The Chairmen wish to bring particular attention to the publication of the second edition of Ted Murphy's book, *A Kingdom of Wine: A Celebration of Ireland's Winegeese*, and to congratulate him on the expanded volume and the new sumptuously illustrated and produced book. The new edition expands coverage of all regions and includes a new preface by Tomás Clancy, Irish wine writer, journalist, and broadcaster who places the book in its contemporary context.

JUST PUBLISHED 2014: A KINGDOM OF WINE

The new edition of our Honorary Chairman Ted Murphy's award-winning *A Kingdom of Wine: A Celebration of Ireland's Winegeese* has just been published. The sold-out first edition is now followed by an equally lavishly illustrated coffee table hardback book that traces the winemaking and wine trading history of the Irish from pre-Christian times to the present day.

This book was made possible by the support of the Patrons of The Ireland Funds' WineGeese Society. As wine writer Tomás Clancy notes, "Ted Murphy in offering this revised edition has extended again the reach of his scholarship. In that he is an example to all scholars in never resting or being satisfied with his information, he is always eager to refine, review, and embrace every new shred of information and evidence. This makes the second edition a vital addition to the body of wine and wine history writing because, like the first edition it is breaking new ground again, telling new stories and bringing an even clearer picture of the Irish hand in sculpting our present picture of wine."

Coined by the author, "Winegeese" is an evocative term, bringing to mind a unique vinous tradition that reveals a cultural identity which has long been the hidden jewel in the glittering crown of the Irish diaspora. *A Kingdom of Wine* is their history and tribute.

A portrait gallery of important wine families of Irish ancestry is created in words and pictures along with a unique collection of modern Winegeese bottles and wine-related artifacts such as wine vessels dating from the Bronze Age; Irish drinking glasses and decanters dating from the 18th century; and an extensive collection of early corkscrews from around the world.

The Irish went to France in the 18th century, especially to Bordeaux, where they played an important role, as well as in the Loire valley and Cognac. The Winegeese tradition continues with examples such as Château de Fieuzal, and most recently by Château Haut Garrigue/Feely Wines and Terry Cross at Château de La Ligne. Anthony Barton, one of the most distinguished wine makers in Bordeaux, was born in Kildare and continues to make wine at Langoa Barton where his family established a vineyard in 1725. The impact the Winegeese families made in the finest winegrowing regions in the New World is documented, ranging from the Napa Valley, Clare Valley in Australia to the Hemel an Aarde valley in South Africa.



THE TERM "WINEGEESSE" IS
BASED ON THE STORY OF THE
WILD GEESSE, THE IRISH WHO
FLED THEIR NATIVE LAND
AFTER THE BATTLE OF KINSALE
IN THE 17TH CENTURY.

John Tillotson, Ken Gorman, John Sharkey, Cliff Miercort



Ted Murphy and Sam Neill



News and Notes

BY TED MURPHY

A LETTER FROM LORD ELGIN

Dear Mr Murphy,

The loveliness of a surprise parcel was recently received when Adele Cross sent us your splendid views on "The Kingdom of Wine". My wife and I are so delighted to have this flowing testimony to the nautical skills of early Irish sailors. We, on the east coast of Scotland, had the problem of the English Channel. Here in 1603 Cornish freebooters captured the Bruce flagship of Sir George Bruce's fleet and stole his cargo of claret. Earlier Bruces tended to use Bruges as their port of call and so were more inclined to drink Burgundy. The seventh earl, who is inevitably mainly connected to his marbles, was in fact a great lover of wine. He was early into champagne and shipped home in 1803 at least one hogshead of Lafite.

As you rightly suggest, there would have been no little taking of wine after Bannockburn and indeed Robert's brother Edward did for a short moment become king of Ireland. Perhaps that was the most exciting moment in our family history with Ireland. That is until your entrancing book arrived.

Yours sincerely,

Elgin

30 - 3 - 11

Broom Hall, Dunfermline, Fife 5-KY113DU

A NOTE ON THE LETTER FROM LORD ELGIN

The clan McCarthy from West Cork went to fight with the Bruce at the Battle of Bannockburn. The McCarthy descendants went to Bordeaux in 1679 subsequently establishing Château McCarthy.

It is interesting to note that the clan McCarthy fought alongside the army of Robert the Bruce at Bannockburn, the decisive battle that won Scottish independence in June 1314. A McCarthy tradition holds that the Blarney Stone inset in the wall of Blarney Castle is part of the "Stone of Destiny", the inauguration stone of the kings of Scotland, set the McCarthy kings of Munster by Robert the Bruce, king of Scotland. They were required to give it to Robert's brother, Edward, on his becoming king of Ireland. Edward Bruce led an expedition to Ireland that lasted three years (1315-1318) during which time he was crowned "High King" of Ireland. Edward was crowned king of Ireland—whether he received the stone or not is a matter of historic conjecture.

Parthenon North Frieze, Block XLVII, figures 132-136, ca 447-433 BC, British Museum



THE STATUE OF LIBERTY AND THE RIVER CAFÉ



The River Café, located in the Brooklyn waterfront of the East River, is one of the most famous restaurants in New York. Renowned for its fine cuisine and superb wine list, it also has a splendid view of the Statue of Liberty, which stands majestically on Liberty Island, on the Manhattan side of the river.

When visiting New York in March 2006, I had the pleasure of dining at this landmark restaurant with Helen and John Sharkey, long-time friends of the owner Michael “Buzzy” O’Keeffe. The famed River Café opened in June of 1977 in a forgotten and abandoned neighborhood by the Brooklyn docks. When Buzzy O’Keeffe first “found” this spot, it was barren and devoid of life. Subsequently, his call for excellence has led his restaurant to be regarded by Bryan Miller of The New York Times as “the Harvard Business School of the culinary world.” Regina Schrambling, also of the New York Times, headlined her article on The River Café “The Restaurant that Launched a Thousand Chefs.”

Michael, unpretentious and full of Irish charm, joined us for lunch and asked if I would care to select the wines. For our seafood course, I chose a Trimbach Riesling that comes from the small Alsace town of Ribeauvillé, and then explained to my rather bemused companions that my choice had been influenced by the face of the Statue of Liberty. I proceeded to tell how I first became aware of the fascinating connections between the Statue of Liberty and the Trimbach family from Alsace.

My interest came about when reading Andrew Jones’s book, *The Stories Behind the Labels: The History, Romance and Characters of the World of Wine and Drink*, in which he makes the point that while the name Ribeauvillé may not be known to many New Yorkers, it still has a special significance, not only to the city, but to all Americans.

Jones describes how the sculptor, Auguste Bartholdi, when designing the Statue of Liberty, decided to model the face on that of his beloved mother, who was born in the Alsace winemaking town of Ribeauvillé in 1801. Andrew Jones’s research brought him to Alsace, regarded by many to be the most beautiful winegrowing region, not only in France, but in the world. He spent some time at Ribeauvillé and writes, “the wines of its leading producer, F E Trimbach, would be a credit to any country and in fact grace some of the world’s greatest tables. But most importantly Ribeauvillé’s most famous face is possibly the most recognizable face in the world.”

As one can imagine, my lunch at The River Café did not pass without my companions and I raising our glasses of Trimbach wine to the Statue of Liberty across the river and toasting the lady, so beautifully portrayed on it, Charlotte Bartholdi from Ribeauvillé in Alsace.

The River Café was severely damaged during Hurricane Sandy on 29 October 2012; subsequently it was closed for cleaning and repairs. The regular WineGeese visitors to this famed restaurant are delighted to learn it reopened late December 2013 and celebrated this in traditional WineGeese fashion.



Wine Roundup

WINEGEESE DINNER WITH CLIVE COATES • DALLAS 8 APRIL 2013

Clive Coates, Master of Wine and one of the most highly regarded wine authorities in the world, attended a special dinner featuring Burgundian wines at the **City Café** Monday April 8th. WineGeese Founding Chairman John Tillotson and WineGeese Southwest Chairman Cliff Miercort were on hand to welcome the guests for a wonderful evening of wine and food. Also attending were AIF board directors Mike Corboy and Tom Codd. Dr Caitríona Ryan represented the Dallas Young Leaders. WineGeese members will know Clive Coates from his leading the WineGeese through Burgundy in June 2012. Clive Coates is well-known for *The Vine*, his independent fine wine magazine, which ran from 1984 to 2005, back issues of which continue to be in high demand. His books are widely considered the classic works on their respective subjects including *Côte d'Or*, *A Celebration of the Great Wines of Burgundy*, and the newly released *The Wines of Burgundy*.

Special thanks to Karim Alaoui and chef de cuisine Mario Flores and the City Café staff for a special evening of good wine, good food, and great service.



Clive Coates, and AIF Vice President of Major Gifts Liza O'Connor



Waymon Levell, Alayna Bennett, Archie Bennett



Shelly Codd, Mike Corboy, Dr. Caitríona Ryan

WINEGEESE SOCIETY HOLIDAY RECEPTION • DALLAS 18 DECEMBER 2011

The Texas WineGeese gathered at the home of WineGeese patrons Archie and June Bennett for their introduction to the Brennan wines. Sean Brennan, son of vineyard owner Dr Pat Brennan, conducted the tasting and held the attention of all as he shared the Brennan story and described the wines.

Brennan Vineyards is in the heart of Texas's most acclaimed wine grape regions, the legendary Hill Country and the Texas High Plains. The vineyards are located in Newburg and Comanche. The Brennan family is descended from the Kilkenny Brennans, descendants of Celtic chieftains who were amongst the ancient tribes of the district of Ossory, in the northern part of Co Kilkenny.



Sean Brennan, Alayna Bennett, Archie and June Bennett, and Jory Glazener



Tom Codd, Lou Ann Corboy, Don Hanratty, Sylvia and John Tillotson



Sean Brennan, Waymon Levell, John Tillotson



The award-winning Brennan Viognier ready for tasting

Can Türkyilmaz, Photographer

Wine List

Vin Ordinaire

Red, White or Rosé: 0.18 per glass, or 0.87 per canife

BORDEAUX

RED		Per Bot.	1/2 Bot.
1.	Médoc	0.90	0.50
2.	St. Julien	0.95	0.53
3.	Ch. Robert, '62 (Côtes de Bourg)	1.17	
4.	Ch. Bellefleur, '60 (Bordeaux)	1.20	
5.	Ch. Laque, '62 (Médoc)	1.22	
6.	Mouton-Cadet, '60 (Bordeaux)	1.30	
7.	Ch. Gros Caillou, '62 (St. Emilion)	1.30	
8.	Ch. Pichon-Ségur, '55 (St. Estèphe)	1.40	
9.	Ch. MacCarthy, '60 (St. Estèphe)	1.45	0.75
10.	Ch. Citran, '59 (Haut-Médoc)	1.45	
11.	Ch. Les Heaumes, '53 (Côtes de Bourg)	1.50	
12.	Ch. La Garde, '55 (Graves)	1.57	0.81 '62
13.	Ch. Pinse, '60 (Pomerol)	1.60	
14.	Ch. Pédiclaux, '59 (Pauillac)	1.70	
15.	Ch. Le Boscq, '59 (St. Estèphe)	1.72	
16.	Ch. Soutard, '59 (St. Emilion)	1.77	
17.	Ch. Houscain, '55 (St. Estèphe)	1.80	
18.	Ch. La Croix-de-Gay, '60 (Pomerol)	1.87	
19.	Ch. Belair, '58 (St. Emilion)	1.95	
20.	Ch. Monrose, '60 (St. Estèphe)	1.95	
21.	Ch. Pavie, '64 (St. Emilion)	1.95	
22.	Ch. La Tour-Haut-Brion, '60 (Graves)	2.05	

Ardnagashel 1970s wine list:

For those searching for unicorn wines, it may be best to follow the French men who to this day go to Ireland to hunt and fish and will not reveal even to their own family where they go, lest someone find out the pub or restaurant that still has a superb cellar.

TRENDING WORDS

As we try to keep up with the "language" of wine, we come across some unusual usages and, hopefully, in most cases, rare occurrences of new terminology. Alder Yarrow (www.jancisrobinson.com) brings our attention to these words trending in the world of American wine:

HYPER DECANTING, which appears to entail putting one's wine through a blender before drinking, giving the wine-aeration market yet another niche to plumb.

UNICORN WINE, for those who would baffle their friends with that most elusive of wines, the rare bottling, the obscure grape, the stunningly inexpensive soon to be hugely expensive small vineyard in yet another obscure valley, all of which naturally leads to **unicorn hunting**.

ANTI-FLAVOR ELITE, those who admire lower-alcohol wines with high acidity, or those who prefer to avoid cherry cordial wines, or track sulphur usage, a concern for any of which leads critic Robert Parker to label you an anti-flavor elitist. Or, as some would say, looking for wines that go nicely with food.

Please share with us any unicorn wines you may have uncovered in your travels.

THE GAME OF THRONES WINE RANGE

The HBO series *Game of Thrones* has inspired, if that is the word I want, a range of wines to be released in time for the fifth season of the series based on the books by George RR Martin. These wines, called *The Wines of Westeros*, were created by Common Ventures, an Australian agency. They have crafted 12 different wines that represent a major house or group from the series.

CHANGES AT MAYACAMAS VINEYARDS?

One of the greats of Napa winemaking and proprietor since 1968, Bob Travers of **Mayacamas Vineyards**, southwest of Yountville in the Mount Veeder appellation, has decided to retire after 45 years of coaxing stellar wines from these mountains. In late April 2013, Mayacamas Vineyards was purchased by Charles and Ali Banks and Jay Schottenstein and his son Joey. Banks founded Terroir Capital, a winery, restaurant, and hotel investment group in 2009. Winemaking and vineyard management will be undertaken by Andy Erickson (formerly of Screaming Eagle) and Annie Flavia. As Banks observes, "I want to stay focused on the style of wine made there and continuing Bob Travers' legacy . . . I told Annie and Andy that every day you drive up there, you forget about everything else you've worked on, and focus on what makes this site unique."

The old stone winery, located in the Mayacamas Mountains which divide the Napa and Sonoma Valleys, was built in 1889 by John Henry Fisher, a German immigrant. The Travers family came from West Cork.

The Mayacamas Cabernet Sauvignon 1971 was one of the wines selected by Steven Spurrier to represent the American wines at the historic blind tasting held in Paris in 1976. It was also included in the 10-year and 30-year replays of that landmark event, in 1986 and 2006. True to form, the notoriously long-lived Mayacamas Cabernet Sauvignon showed better with time. In the original tasting, it placed seventh. In the second tasting, in 1986, it placed second, beating all of the French entries. In the final tasting of 2006, proving once again its age-worthiness, the Mayacamas tied for third, appropriately enough with Heitz Cellar's Martha's Vineyard, again out-placing all French entries.



MAYACAMAS



1992
MT. VEEDER - NAPA VALLEY
NOBLE SAUVIGNON
SWEET SAUVIGNON BLANC

PRODUCED AND BOTTLED BY
Mayacamas Vineyards
NAPA, CALIFORNIA U.S.A. ALCOHOL 15% BY VOLUME
375 ml



WineGeese Travels



THE IRELAND FUNDS WINEGEESSE SOCIETY



VISITS BURGUNDY, THE CÔTE D'OR

FOR SEVEN DAYS IN JUNE, 2012, the WineGeese explored Burgundy while staying in the charming Hôtel Le Cep in the medieval heart of Beaune, its wine capital. Beaune with its cobbled streets, sumptuously tiled roofs, charming restaurants and antique shops, made a perfect base for our exploration. We were guided through the intricacies of the region by the great Clive Coates, MW—one of the most respected and entertaining wine authorities in the world. WineGeese members will know Coates for *The Vine*, his independent fine wine magazine, which ran from 1984 to 2005, back issues of which continue to be in high demand. His books are widely considered the classic works on their respective subjects including *Côte d'Or*, *A Celebration of the Great Wines of Burgundy* and the newly released *The Wines of Burgundy*.

We explored the Côte d'Or, that 35-mile stretch running from Dijon in the north to Chagny in the south including the revered white Burgundies of the Côte de Beaune—**Domaine Olivier Leflaive Frères**, **Château de Meursault**, and **Bouchard Père et Fils**; the reds of the Côte de Beaune including **Maison Louis Jadot** who are in charge of producing the beautiful wines of the **Domaine Duchesse de Magenta**, an original WineGeese family; lunching at **Domaine Senard** with our host the Comte du Senard. We finished at **Domaine Chandon de Briailles** with a private tasting guided by proprietor and winemaker Claude de Nicolay; the reds of the Côte de Nuits at **Domaine Faiveley**, then toured with proprietor Jean Grivot at **Domaine Ponsot**, **Comte Georges de Vogüé**, **Domaine Drouhin-Laroze** where we were guided by proprietors and winemaker Philippe Drouhin and his wife Christine, and **Domaine de la Vougeraie** with winemaker Pierre Vincent.

We spent a magical evening at **Château de Sully**, the ancestral home of Maurice de MacMahon, Marshal of France, the first elected President of the French republic, Duke of Magenta, and descendent of the MacMahon family of Limerick. Our hostess, the Duchess of Magenta guided us through this Renaissance jewel and its fascinating Irish connections.

The 4th Duke of Magenta came under the spell of the Abbey of Morgeot and its vines in the village of Chassagne-Montrachet. Today, the premier wines are produced by Louis Jadot for the **Domaine Duchesse de Magenta**.



BURGUNDY, THE CÔTE D'OR 2012



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- 1 John Sharkey and Archie Bennett at Domaine Olivier Lefflaive Frères
- 2 Sarah & Tommy Gallagher and Clive Coates at Château de Mersault
- 3 At Louis Jadot where the wines of Domaine Duc de Magenta are produced with winemaker Frédéric Barnier
- 4 Pepper Jackson, Frédéric Barnier of Louis Jadot, Clive Coates, Sarah & Tommy Gallagher
- 5 Pepper Jackson, Kerry & Ken Gorman, the Comte du Senard in his cellars
- 6 The WineGeese at Domaine Chandon de Briailles
- 7 The WineGeese after a superb lunch at Auberge La Miotte
- 8 Sarah Gallagher, Pepper Jackson, Ted Murphy, Rebecca Dunn, June Bennett
- 9 The WineGeese at Château de Sully
- 10 Château de Sully
- 11 David Newman, Waymon Levell, Archie Bennett
- 12 Archie Bennett and Ted Murphy
- 13 Pauline Ryan, Kerry Gorman, John Ryan, Ken Gorman, Clive Coates at Domaine Comte Senard
- 14 Rebecca Dunn, June Bennett, Waymon Levell
- 15 Michael Jackson, Rebecca Dunn, David Newman, Pepper Jackson, Bill Dunn at Chateau de Sully
- 16 Garry Murphy, Brinda Curley at Château de Sully
- 17 Maureen Newman, Sarah and Tommy Gallagher

Photographs at Château de Sully by Studio Feha (Marie Hélène Horvais) (all others by Elisabet Bordt)



17 JUNE 2012

Our tour concluded with our return to Paris for a WineGeese dinner at the Irish Embassy hosted by **HE Paul Kavanagh**, the Irish Ambassador to France. Honorary WineGeese member **Thierry Gardinier** of Château Phélan Ségur joined us in what is fast becoming a most treasured WineGeese tradition. The evening was made even more memorable with pianist **Michael McHale's** recital.

- 1 Bill Dunn, Mo and Charles King, Archie Bennett
- 2 Pauline Ryan, Helen Sharkey, Ann Levell
- 3 Rebecca Dunn, Brinda Curley, Ann Levell, June Bennett, HE Amb. Paul Kavanagh, Helen Sharkey, Pepper Jackson
- 4 Pianist Michael McHale plays for the WineGeese at the Irish Embassy in Paris
- 5 Kevin Curley, Michel and Betsy Bernardaud, Thierry Gardinier, Ken Gorman
- 6 Michael Houlihan, Michael McHale, June Bennett
- 7 Thierry Gardinier, Ken Gorman, Netta Blanchard
- 8 Kieran McLoughlin addresses the WineGeese at the Irish Embassy in Paris

Christian Fournier, Photographer



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- 1 Michael and Joan Houlihan, Brinda Curley, Helen Sharkey, Elizabeth Gleeson, Netta Blanchard, Kerry and Ken Gorman
- 2 Stephen Pearce shows Brinda Curley how to center the lump of clay
- 3 Brinda learns!
- 4 Kerry Gorman successfully thins the walls of her pot
- 5 The Cliff House Hotel, Ardmore, Co Waterford
- 6 Our stunning strawberry symphony of flavors
- 7 The potter's phone

20 JUNE 2012

Many of the WineGeese went on to the annual Ireland Funds conference, held at Castlemartyr in Co Cork following their Burgundy sojourn. We enjoyed a visit to **Stephen Pearce Pottery**, where Stephen Pearce—one of Ireland's most famous potters—along with his small group of talented local craftspeople make the world famous Stephen Pearce ranges of pottery in Shanagarry, East Cork near Ballycotton Bay. Kerry Gorman and Brinda Curley took up the challenge to create and produced beautiful vessels under Stephen's guidance.

Our WineGeese dinner was at the **Cliff House Hotel**, where this jewel clings to the cliff-side at the edge of unspoilt Ardmore; home to one of Ireland's finest dining experiences with Michelin-starred Executive Chef Martijn Kajuiter.



4 SEPTEMBER 2013

The Ireland Funds WineGeese Society made a return visit to San Francisco, for the first night of a spectacular tour that took the WineGeese through Sonoma and on to Napa for several days of wine and food, in the company of some of the California wine country's most renowned vintners.

The tour began on a glorious evening with a very special dinner at the **St Francis Yacht Club**, overlooking magnificent San Francisco Bay and the Golden Gate Bridge, just as the fog was beginning to roll towards the towers. On hand to welcome everyone were Ireland's Consul General Gerry Staunton, The Ireland Funds President & CEO Kieran McLoughlin, West Coast Director Marjorie Muldowney and Dr William Muldowney, AIF Board Director Pauline Ryan and John Ryan, and local WineGeese **Mary and Joe Toboni of Oakwild Ranch Toboni Vineyard** whose excellent wine we enjoyed on the night.



- 1 The WineGeese on the terrace of the St Francis Yacht Club
- 2 Dan and Mary Mulvihill
- 3 Kieran McLoughlin, Kathleen Ryan, Kevin Curley, Michael Jackson
- 4 Mary and Joe Toboni
- 5 Michael Wecker, Brinda Curley, Helen and John Sharkey, Kerry Gorman
- 6 Charles King, Kevin Curley, Kathleen Ryan, Maureen King
- 7 Pepper Jackson, Kieran McLoughlin

Michael Mustacchi, Photographer



TOUR OF SONOMA AND NAPA



DAY ONE

The WineGeese explored the riches of Sonoma and Napa beginning in the Russian River Valley area at **DuMOL**, where our hosts, proprietors and honored WineGeese members **Kerry and Margie Murphy**, gave us a delightful tour of their winery. We were especially fortunate—in the midst of crush—to have winemaker and viticulturist **Andy Smith** guide us through a tasting of their superb wines.

Kerry Murphy, first generation Scots-Irish, is the founding partner of DuMOL. Established in 1990 to produce Burgundian style varietals, DuMOL is consistently reviewed and rated by Robert Parker's *Wine Advocate* and *Wine Spectator* in the mid to high 90s. These wines can be found in the White House, the American Embassy in Paris, France, and fine restaurants in the US and abroad.

After a light lunch at the Mayacama Club, our home for the night, the group relaxed at this luxurious retreat in the heart of wine country with a world-class private golf club amongst the spreading oaks and golden vineyards. Our hosts for the evening, Margie and Kerry Murphy featured their classic DuMOL wines with a superb dinner at the Mayacama Club.

DuMOL consistently produces extraordinarily fine wines sourced from California's Russian River Valley, Sonoma Coast, and Carneros (Sonoma) appellations.

DAY TWO

The following morning we left the tranquility of Sonoma for the Napa Valley where we were joined by proprietor **Tim Duncan** at **Silver Oak Cellars** in Oakville for a private tour and luncheon. The ancestor of the Duncan family was Nicholas Duncan from County Mayo in the West of Ireland, who settled in New Jersey in 1841, the same year in which he married Isabella McBoyle, whose family originated from the town of Boyle in County Roscommon. Raymond T. Duncan (whose middle name is Twomey after his mother's maiden name) first engaged in the California wine trade, when in partnership with Justin Meyer, he established Silver Oak Cellars in Alexander Valley, Sonoma County, in 1972. For 40 years, they have been producing exceptional, food-friendly Cabernets that are extensively aged to be drinkable upon release. Their Alexander Valley and Napa Valley Cabernet wines

are as distinctive as they are delicious. The Silver Oak and Twomey wines were beautifully paired with Chef Dominic Orsini's delicious menu. You can find his recipes at www.silveroak.com/food/recipes.

After such a gracious and charming luncheon, we made our way to our home for the next three nights, the Villagio Inn & Spa in Yountville, Napa Valley—the ideal location for exploring the Napa Valley. We dined at **Clos Pegase** in Calistoga where founder and proprietor Jan Shrem created a temple to art and wine, sharing not only his wine, but his personal art collection with guests. The visit was both an enlightening and enjoyable experience, with figures from Greek and Roman mythology—from Pegasus to Bacchus and Gaia—making continual appearances in the art and architecture of the winery, and the unique cave theatre.





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DAY THREE

Saturday morning, we explored the unique wines produced in the foothills surrounding the Napa Valley; the Howell Mountain and Mount Veeder appellations. We started our tour at **O'Shaughnessy Estate Winery** where proprietor **Betty O'Shaughnessy** gave us a fascinating tour of the winery followed by lunch on the terrace overlooking the spectacular scenery near Angwin. She told us she fell in love with the Napa Valley after her first visit in 1975. By 2003 she had purchased additional vineyards on Howell Mountain and Mount Veeder, adding a cave, and winery. These mountain Cabernet Sauvignon wines are garnering tremendous interest in the wine world.

We wound our way back to our hotel stopping en route for a tour and tasting at the exquisite **Hall Wines** where in 2005, **Craig and Kathryn Hall** unveiled a state-of-the-art winery amid the legendary Sacrashe Vineyard in the hills of Rutherford that is dedicated to making single vineyard and limited-production wines. Antonio Galloni observes, "... a meticulous approach to vineyard and cellar work, including organic farming, native fermentations and malos, and the avoidance of fining and/or filtration informs wines of true pedigree and personality. The Hall wines are unapologetically big, powerful and exceptionally well balanced."

Our final evening in Napa was a glorious feast of wine, food, and dancing at the home of WineGeese patrons Pepper and Michael Jackson. We were joined by **Sean Larkin of Larkin Wines** and were treated to his recently bottled Larkin Port 2008. Betty O'Shaughnessy of O'Shaughnessy Estate Winery also joined us and delighted everyone with the O'Shaughnessy Estate Cabernet Sauvignon 2009, Howell Mountain. We were pleased to see once again Joanne DePuy who helped facilitate the famous international blind tasting in Paris in 1976, known as the Judgement of Paris and **Marimar Torres** whose **Marimar Estate** Bonita's Hill Chardonnay 2009, Russian River Valley was simply delicious.

The evening was capped off by dancing and singing with the added pleasure of Dan Mulvihill who transported us to Ireland with his rendition of "Danny Boy" so beautifully backed by the Black Brothers, who provided the evening's music. Pepper and Michael Jackson, the most gracious of WineGeese hosts, provided a perfect ending to a glorious trip.





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- 1 The WineGeese gather on the terrace at the Mayacama Club with hosts Kerry and Margie Murphy of DuMOL
- 2 Kevin Curley, Michel and Betsy Bernardaud, Thierry Gardinier, Ken Gorman at Clos Pegase
- 3 Kerry and Ken Gorman, Waymon and Ann Levell at O'Shaughnessy Estate
- 4 Winemaker and viticulturist Andy Smith of DuMOL takes the group through the winery
- 5 Betty O'Shaughnessy with the WineGeese at O'Shaughnessy Estate
- 6 Michael Jackson, Sally Phelps, Pepper Jackson, Dick Phelps at Hall Wines
- 7 Ken Gorman, Tim Duncan of Silver Oak and Twomey Cellars, John Sharkey
- 8 Michael Wecker, Brinda Curley, Charles and Maureen King
- 9 Michael Jackson welcomes the WineGeese to Napa
- 10 Kerry Murphy of DuMOL pours his exquisite Chardonnay for Netta Blanchard and the WineGeese
- 11 Dan Mulvihill, Ken Gorman, Kathleen Ryan, Kevin Curley at Mayacama Club
- 12 Dick and Sally Phelps with Sean Larkin of Larkin Wines
- 13 Archie Bennett, Charlie King, Ken Gorman, Michael Wecker on the terrace at the Jackson home
- 14 Margaret Hayhurst, Tim Duncan of Silver Oak and Twomey Cellars, and Marjorie Muldowney
- 15 Charlie and Maureen King, Sally Phelps, Archie and June Bennett
- 16 The WineGeese delight in Dan Mulvihill's rendition of "Danny Boy"
- 17 Dancing to the music of the Black Brothers at the Jackson home

Chris Ryan, Photographer
Elisabet Bordt, Photographer



THE PASSING OF WINE FRIENDS



THE WINE WORLD HAS SEEN THE PASSING OF SOME OF ITS MOST CHERISHED MEMBERS. IN THE FOLLOWING LINES, WE REMEMBER OUR DEAR WINEGEES WHO HAVE DEPARTED, BUT WILL NOT BE FORGOTTEN.



John Sharkey, Frederic Hennessy, Ted Murphy, Kerry Murphy, Ken Gorman, Robert de Goulaine at Carton House

A PERSONAL REMEMBRANCE OF ROBERT, MARQUIS DE GOULAINÉ BY TED MURPHY

With the death of Robert 11th Marquis de Goulaine on February 23, 2010, the world of wine lost one of its most revered members, and I, one of my dearest friends. I had the pleasure of sharing a friendship with Robert that stretched over a period of forty years. I was very honored when he, a distinguished author in his own right, offered to pen the foreword of the first edition of *A Kingdom of Wine*.

Robert, one of the leading wine authorities in France, is generally acknowledged with playing a vital role in organizing and motivating the wine producers of the Nantes region to achieve international recognition for their wine. While on the Board of many of France's most prominent wine associations, the one he took the most pride in was that of Grand Master of the Order of the Chevaliers Bretons, one of the most colorful in Brittany, and one of the most discriminating in the world of wine.

Robert once said to me "after my wife and family, I love Goulaine" and as custodian of the world's oldest wine-producing estate, he assumed a hereditary obligation to ensure the stability and continuity of Château de Goulaine for the next generation of his family. It was a responsibility he relished in, pursuing it with vigorous determination throughout his life, and fulfilling it with loving care and compelling success.

*Lo! some we loved, the loveliest and the best
That Time and Fate of all their Vintage prest,
Have drunk their Cup a Round or two before,
And one by one crept silently to Rest.*

— Edward Fitzgerald (translator). *The Rubáiyát of Omar Khayyam* (Leopold B Hill, London, UK)

JIM BARRETT OF CHATEAU MONTELENA

In one of the defining moments of American wine history, James Barrett's Chateau Montelena 1973 Chardonnay from Napa Valley, in a blind tasting, was judged "Best White" at the French – American wine tasting in Paris, May 24th, 1976. Time magazine called it The Judgment of Paris; until then the absolute supremacy of French wines had gone unchallenged throughout the world. This achievement inspired confidence and a resolve for New World winemakers to compete against European wines, particularly prestigious French labels which, up to that time, were considered to be unbeatable. When asked to comment on the California success at the tasting Jim Barrett replied, "Not bad for kids from the sticks!"

Chateau Montelena's rich history goes back as far as 1882, when 254 acres of rugged land, two miles north of Calistoga at the base of Mount Saint Helena, were planted. It was not until the arrival of James Barrett, whose father and mother came from Waterford and Kerry respectively, that the vineyard enjoyed success. Cleared and replanted by the Barretts in 1972, modern winemaking equipment added further to the investment in its renaissance.



Chateau Montelena 1973 judged "Best White" at the French-American wine tasting in Paris, 1976

Margaret Hayhurst, Maureen Newman, June Bennett, Judy and Jim Barrett



Having been discharged from the Navy at the end of World War II, Jim Barrett received a law degree from Loyola University in Southern California. Chateau Montelena realized his dream and later James P "Bo" Barrett, having studied viticulture and oenology, joined his father as winemaker. Jim Barrett died 14 March 2013. We will remember his marvelous stories of bringing his vision to start a world-class winery to Napa. His obituaries mentioned several organizations of which he was a member including his cherished Irish affiliation with the WineGeese. We will remember him with the traditional Irish parting glass.

Tim Hamilton Russell



TIM HAMILTON OF HAMILTON RUSSELL VINEYARDS

South Africa is well represented by Hamilton Russell Vineyards located at Hemel-en-Aarde Valley (Heaven and Earth), located in the picturesque Walker Bay. He died 17 July 2013 after a long battle with Parkinson's disease. Tim, who had been chairman of one of South Africa's leading advertising companies, purchased the run-down property in 1975 and became recognized as one of the country's best producers of Chardonnay and Pinot Noir. Insisting on paying his black workers minimum wage, he was a passionate mover in the abolition of the DOP system of paying wages in wine.

The first Russell to leave England to settle in Ireland was Thomas Russell, son of Sir Thomas Russell, a member of Parliament who was knighted by Henry VIII. Thomas Russell, Esq (1539-1609) married Mary Hamilton from County Wexford. Ten generations later Verner Wallace Russell (Tim Hamilton Russell's grandfather) who was born in 1874, at Athgoe, Celbridge, County Dublin, married



Ashbourne was the residence of Edward Gibson, first baron of Ashbourne, Co Meath who was appointed Lord Chancellor of Ireland with a seat in the cabinet in July 1885. Edward Gibson was Anthony Hamilton Russell's ancestor on his mother's side.

Florence Margaret James, daughter of CH James, RN, of Merrion Square, Dublin. They left for Cape Town in 1900 where he joined a firm of solicitors. Their second son, James Hamilton Russell, was born in 1904 and he married the Hon Kathleen Mary Gibson from Dublin. James Hamilton Russell, MP died in 1981 and Kathleen Gibson (still living) had six children. Timothy Hamilton Russell, the second eldest, founded Hamilton Russell Vineyards in 1975 and married Athene Wendy Isobel Bindon (also of Irish extraction) in 1958. They had four children. Anthony Hamilton Russell, the eldest son, has run the vineyards since 1991 and has been owner since 1994.

We will remember this consummate gentleman, along with our other WineGeese, and raise the glass to our departed friends.

Membership

MEMBERSHIP

As of this writing we have 120 members and 61 honorary members. Honorary members are primarily the owners of vineyards we have visited, or dignitaries supporting our events.



"Wine seems to have the power of attracting friendship, warming and fusing hearts together."

— Athenaeus, *The Learned Banqueters*, Volume VII: Books 13.594b-14

NEW MEMBERS

The following criteria is to be considered when evaluating a prospective member.

A. FOR EXISTING IRELAND FUNDS' SUPPORTERS:

A track record of involvement and commitment to the mission of The Ireland Funds, evidenced by:

- a significant gift
- a significant purchase of tables at events
- the provision of significant in-kind services to the Funds
- membership on a committee or the Board
- the raising of significant monies on behalf of the Funds

B. FOR NEW SUPPORTERS:

- a proven interest in, or connection with Ireland, personal or professional
- a qualified assessment of capacity to support, and demonstrated philanthropic activity

To recommend a candidate for consideration, please send his or her background information to winegeese@irlfunds.org. New members will be inducted at a scheduled WineGeese event.

The mission of The Ireland Funds is to be the largest worldwide network of people of Irish ancestry and friends of Ireland dedicated to raising funds to support programs of peace and reconciliation, arts and culture, education and community development throughout the island of Ireland.

The American Ireland Fund is part of The Worldwide Ireland Funds, a philanthropic network across 12 countries that has raised over \$480 million for worthy causes in Ireland and Irish causes around the world. It is the largest network of friends of Ireland dedicated to supporting programs of peace and reconciliation, arts and culture, education and community development. Founded in 1976, The Worldwide Ireland Funds have benefited over 3,000 organizations. Funds raised are contributed by private philanthropists and organizations.

Members of The Ireland Funds WineGeese Society represent some of The Ireland Funds' most generous donors. The Society celebrates wine, food and art of Irish provenance from around the world while raising support for the work of The Ireland Funds. Today, members enjoy access to private trips, tours, and tastings at vineyards around the world. Membership is by invitation only and all activities are funded by WineGeese Society members.

We invite you to learn about giving back to the land that has given us so much.

Please visit: www.theirelandfunds.org



WineGeese Society Members



- 1 Ken Gorman, Niamh and Michael Flatley, Ted Murphy, Michael Houlihan, John Sharkey, at Fermoy, Co Cork, Ireland
- 2 Kieran McLoughlin, Michael Jackson, HE Amb Paul Kavanagh, at Paris, France
- 3 John Sharkey, Barry and Nancy Crossman, Cliff Miercort, Netta Blanchard, at Dallas, Texas
- 4 Ken Gorman, Betty O'Shaughnessy of O'Shaughnessy Estate, John Sharkey, at Angwin, California
- 5 Ken Gorman, Tim Duncan of Silver Oak and Twomey Cellars, John Sharkey, at Oakville, California
- 6 Michael Houlihan, John Sharkey, Ted Murphy, Duchess of Magenta, Michael Jackson, Ken Gorman at Château de Sully, France
- 7 JP McManus, Ken Gorman, Ted Murphy, at Killmallock, Co Limerick, Ireland

Our Members

THE IRELAND FUNDS' WINEGEESE SOCIETY MEMBERS

HONORARY CO CHAIRS:
GARRY AND TED MURPHY

FOUNDERS:
KEN GORMAN, JOHN SHARKEY,
JOHN TILLOTSON

CHAIRMEN:
MICHAEL JACKSON, US WEST COAST
CLIFF MIERCORT, US SOUTHWEST

HONORARY MEMBERS

- Jim Allen, Sequoia Grove, Napa Valley, California
- HE Amb Anne Anderson, Irish Ambassador to the United States
- Jim Barrett, Chateau Montelena, Napa Valley, California *
- Kathleen and Michael Barry, Barry Fitzwilliam Maxxium, Cork, Ireland
- Anthony Barton, Château Léoville Barton and Langoa Barton, Médoc, France
- Federico Benegas Lynch, Bodega Benegas Lynch, Mendoza, Argentina
- HE Amb Niall Burgess, Dept of Foreign Affairs, Dublin, Ireland
- Jean-Charles Cazes, Château Lynch Bages, Médoc, France
- Sylvie Cazes-Regimbeau, Château Lynch Bages, Médoc, France
- Molly Chappellet, Chappellet Winery, Napa Valley, California
- Michael Collins, Limerick Lane Cellars, Sonoma, California
- Éamonn Cregan, University of Limerick, Ireland
- Terry Cross, Château de La Ligne, Bordeaux, France
- Charles Curran, Nassau Estate, NSW, Australia
- Charles Braastad Delamain, Delamain & Co, Jarnac, France
- Joanne DePuy, Napa, California
- Countess Pamela Dillon-Corneck, Paris, France
- David Duncan, Twomey Cellars and Silver Oak Cellars, Napa Valley, California
- Tim Duncan, Twomey Cellars and Silver Oak Cellars, Napa Valley, California
- Peter Dunne, Mitchell and Son Wine Merchants, Dublin, Ireland
- Gary Farrell, Gary Farrell Vineyards, Russian River Valley, California
- HE Mariano Fernández Amunátegui, Santiago
- Desmond FitzGerald, Knight of Glin, Ireland *
- John Fitzpatrick, New York and Ireland
- Niamh and Michael Flatley, Fermoy, Ireland
- Thierry Gardinier, Château Phélan Ségur, Médoc, France
- Loretta Brennan Glucksman, New York and Ireland
- Robert, Marquis de Goulaine, Château de Goulaine, France *
- Dr Maurice Hayes, Ireland
- Frederic Hennessy, Hennessy Cognac, France and Ireland
- Tricia and Denis Horgan, Leeuwin Estate, Margaret River, Australia
- HE Amb Paul Kavanagh, Irish Ambassador to China
- Allison and Michael Kelly, Aravina Estate, Margaret River, Australia
- Dr John Lagan, Perth, Australia *
- Sean Larkin, Larkin Wines, Napa Valley, California
- Daniel Lawton, Tastet & Lawton, Bordeaux, France
- Peter MacCann, Merriem Hotel, Dublin, Ireland
- Fay and Brian McGuigan, McGuigan Wines, Hunter Valley, Australia
- Gay McGuinness, Domaine des Anges, Côte de Ventoux, France
- HE Amb James McIntyre, Irish Ambassador to Argentina
- HE Amb Cecilia Mackenna, Switzerland and Chile
- Alicia and Guillermo MacLoughlin Bréard, Buenos Aires, Argentina
- Noreen and JP McManus, Killmallock, Ireland
- Scott McWilliam, McWilliam's Mt Pleasant Wines, Hunter Valley, Australia
- Francis Mahoney, Mahoney Vineyards, Napa Valley, California
- Maria Luz Marín, San Antonio Valley, Chile
- Brian Martin, Clairault Estate, Margaret River, Australia
- Ena Martin, Clairault Estate, Margaret River, Australia
- Duchesse de Magenta, Château de Sully, France
- Patricio Middleton, Viña MontGras, Colchagua Valley, Chile
- Doreen Murphy, Murphy-Goode Estate, Alexander Valley, California *
- Kerry and Margie Murphy, DuMOL Winery, Russian River Valley, California
- Gavin Newsom, PlumpJack Winery, Napa Valley, California
- Mark Nolan, Dromoland Castle, Newmarket-on-Fergus, Ireland
- Betty O'Shaughnessy Woolls, O'Shaughnessy Estate Winery, Napa Valley, California
- Lochlann Quinn, Château de Fieuzal, Pessac-Léognan, France
- Brendan Roche, Roche Estate Winery, Sonoma, California
- Prof. Michael Scott, Bordeaux, France
- HE Amb Patrick Scullion, Irish Ambassador to Cyprus
- Mary Driscoll Toboni, Toboni Vineyards, Russian River Valley, California
- Bruce Tyrrell, Tyrrell Vineyard, Hunter Valley, Australia
- Chris Tyrrell, Tyrrell Vineyard, Hunter Valley, Australia
- AWB "Bill" Vincent, Monaco *

* Deceased

THE IRELAND FUNDS' WINEGEESE SOCIETY MEMBERS

Kingsley Aikins
Linda Armstrong
Philip Armstrong
Theresa Bailey
Michael Bailey
June Bennett
Archie Bennett
Netta Blanchard
Elisabet Bordt
John Bowen
Susan Bradley
Vincent Bradley
Terry Browne
Mary Bush
Rick Bush
Sharon Bush
Anthony Callaghan
Karen Callaghan
Jerry Callaghan
Dorothy Campbell
Luther Campbell
Shelly Codd
Tom Codd
Margaret Condron
Kip Condron
Lou Ann Corboy
Mike Corboy
Rose Corcoran *
Joseph Corcoran
Nancy Crossman

Barry Crossman
Brinda Curley
Kevin Curley
Connie Curran
John Curran
Susan Dickie
Bob Dunfey
Rebecca Dunn
Bill Dunn
Caitriona Fottrell
Sarah Gallagher
Tom Gallagher
Diane Gamble *
Lex Gamble
Bill Ganley
Carol Geary
Mike Geary
Mary Gilgan
Kevin Gilgan
Kerry Gorman
Ken Gorman
Jane Hanratty
Don Hanratty
Margaret Hayhurst
Joan Houlihan
Michael Houlihan
Pepper Jackson
Michael Jackson
Alayne Kane
John Kane

Margo Keyes
Jim Keyes
Maureen King
Ann Levell
Waymon Levell
Dolores McCall
Keelin McCormack
John McCormack
Robert McDonough *
Simone McDonough
Peggy McGrath
Mike McGrath
Deanna McHugh
Steve McHugh
Kieran McLoughlin
Mary Mallaghan
Lee Mallaghan
Barbara Miercort
Cliff Miercort
Susan Morrice Marjorie
Muldowney James Mulvaney *
Mary Mulvihill
Dan Mulvihill
Garry Murphy
Ted Murphy
Eileen Murphy
Bart Murphy
Kevin Murray
Maureen Newman
David Newman

Liza O'Connor
Maureen O'Driscoll
Levy Mari O'Connor
Michael 'Buzzy' O'Keeffe
Sally Phelps
Richard Phelps
Timothy C Phillips
Paula Pierse
Ged Pierse
Thomas C Quick
Brian Ruane
Pauline Ryan
John Ryan
Bernadette Shanahan
Paddy Shanahan
Helen Sharkey
John Sharkey
Margaret 'Peggy' Shelly
Frank Sinnott
Luanne Tierney *
Sylvia Tillotson
John Tillotson
Gerald Tsai, Jr *
Page Tucker
T Declan Walsh
William Walsh *
Ellen Welch
Andy Welch
Bobbie Sue Williams
* Deceased

Busselton Airport, Margaret River, Australia





WINERIES VISITED TO DATE *as of 9 June 2014*

FRANCE

BORDEAUX

Château d'Issan
Château de La Ligne
Château Latour
Château Léoville-Barton &
Château Langoa-Barton
Château les Ormes de Pez
Château Lynch-Bages
Château MacCarthy and
Château Haut-Marbuzet
Château Magnol
Château Margaux
Château Pape-Clément
Château Phélan-Ségur
Château Pichon-Longueville-Comtesse
Lalande Château Siran
Château du Tertre
Château d'Yquem

BURGUNDY

Bouchard Père et Fils
Domaine Chandon de Briailles
Domaine Drouhin-Laroze
Domaine Faiveley
Domaine Grivot
Maison Louis Jadot
Domaine Olivier Leflaive Frères
Domaine du Duchesse de Magenta
(Château de Sully)
Château de Meursault
Domaine Ponsot
Domaine Comte du Senard
Comte Georges de Vogüé
Château de Vougeot
Domaine de la Vougeraie

COGNAC

Delamain et Cie
Jas Hennessy & Co.

LOIRE

Château de Goulaine

SPAIN

Bodegas Garvey

ARGENTINA

Bodega Achával Ferrer
Finca Adalgisa
Bodega Benegas Lynch
Bodega Catena Zapata
Cheval des Andes
Clos de los Siete
Bodega DiamAndes
Terrazas de los Andes

CHILE

Viña Almaviva
Viña Altaïr
Clos Apalta
Viña Cono Sur
Viña Cousiño-Macul
Viña Errázuriz
Casa Marín
Viña Montes
Viña MontGras
Viña Undurraga

UNITED STATES

CALIFORNIA

NAPA

Carneros Creek Winery
Chappellet Winery and Vineyard
Chateau Montelena Winery
Clos Pegase
Flora Springs Winery & Vineyards
Hall Wines
Hess Collection Winery
Jarvis Winery
O'Shaughnessy Estate Winery
Round Pond Estate
Sequoia Grove Vineyards
Silver Oak Cellars
Twomey Cellars
Whitehall Lane Winery

SONOMA

Driscoll Toboni Vineyard
DuMOL Winery
Gary Farrell Vineyards and Winery Limerick
Lane Cellars Murphy-Goode Estate Winery
Roche Estate Winery

AUSTRALIA

Clairault Estate Wines
Cullen Wines
Fermoy Estate
The Growers
Leeuwin Estate
McGuigan Wines
McWilliams Mount Pleasant Estate
Oakvale Winery
Roche Wines
Tyrrell's Wines
Xanadu

WINEGEESE TOURS

Bordeaux June 2002
Scotland June 2003
Napa October 2003
Bordeaux June 2004
Spain June 2005
Sonoma April 2006
Carton House June 2007
Bordeaux June 2007
Australia Sept-Oct 2007
Napa September 2008
Normandy June 2009
Argentina Chile Oct-Nov 2010
Napa October 2011
Burgundy June 2012
Sonoma Napa September 2013

UPCOMING TOUR

Rome and Tuscany October 2014



THE AMERICAN IRELAND FUND



PROMISING IRELAND
CAMPAIGN

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