Must I become a connoisseur to truly enjoy wine?
Charlie Edwards

No, because you already know what you like (and don’t) which makes you an expert on what you enjoy. To help, most new enophiles start their lifelong experience with sweet white wines before moving to dry (not sweet) whites and then towards hearty reds.

One of the “tricks” to enjoy wine is to match the foods being served (snacks, meals, etc.) with wines having specific sensory attributes (smell, taste, etc.) that complement the food. Though this may sound like a “scam”, it truly is not because certain foods tend to pair (match) far better with certain foods than others. For instance, a Cobb salad would pair very well with a crisp, chilled, white wine (Sauvignon blanc) or possibly a light red wine (Pinot noir). With a dish such as spaghetti, a red wine would be best (Chianti, Merlot, Zinfandel, or other). Perhaps one of the most surprising pairings I’ve experienced was serving a nice sparkling wine (Champagne-style) with chemically-hot Thai dishes. For dessert, one of my favorites is to serve dark chocolate (72% cacao), fresh cherries, and a nice ruby port wine. Place the chocolate on your tongue, pop in a cherry, and sip some of the port. Wow!

For foods you enjoy serving at home, you will find many sources online which can help you match those to a wine (white or red; sweetness or not; carbonation or not; low or high acidity/alcohol/astringency). When away from home, many restaurants have a sommelier on the staff to help you select the best wine for the food being served. Sommeliers typically know the wines they serve, their origins and sensory attributes, and their knowledge can be used to improve the quality of your experience.

Wine growers and winemakers in our state want consumers to have the best possible experience by making wines which pair well with foods. So, try different combinations of foods with wines, but above all…..enjoy! CGE

Emeritus Faculty In the News
In January, School of Music Regents Professor Emeritus, Greg Yasinitsky presented “Writing for Little Big Band” at the International Conference of the Jazz Education Network, the most important academic organization for jazz. Greg’s presentation will include examples from his CD YAZZ Band: New Normal, supported by a grant from the WSU Center for Arts and Humanities, released on Origin Records.

Also in January, Greg will be featured as a guest artist and composer at the University of Mary in North Dakota.

Notes from the Executive Committee
This is the first year in quite some time that the Society has operated without a Graduate Assistant. The Provost’s Office has provided much support this semester and we especially would like to thank Haylee Hansen for her timely responses to our requests for assistance throughout the semester. Still, the loss of the Graduate Assistant has shifted work and associated responsibilities to the Executive Committee.

For the last three years the Executive Committee has consisted of Tom Brigham, Charley Gaskins and Larry Fox. To obtain new perspectives for the Society and to share the increased workload we have added two new volunteers: Nick Lovrich and Sally Horton, to the Committee. We thank them for their willingness to contribute as their time permits.

Meetings in the New Year
Our first meeting in 2024 was in Lighty 401 at 10:30AM, January 2. This was a social meeting with no agenda planned.

Our second meeting was on January 16, same place and time, Doug Call will be our guest. Doug is the new Senior Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs and will be taking on many of the duties that the now retired Laura Hill was assigned. Doug will be our liaison in the Provost’s office. We very much appreciate Laura’s guidance and assistance throughout her tenure as Senior Vice Provost, and we look forward to working with Doug. Watch your email for more information on our activities in 2024.

HTTPS://EMERITUSSOCIETY.WSU.EDU/
Meetings in Review

We have maintained our traditional schedule of meeting on the first and third Tuesday of the month. Generally, the first meeting in the month is more of a social event, although this autumn we added a new twist. In addition to coffee and donuts, we have posed a question for discussion by attendees.

In October we asked for member’s opinions and insights as to how the dramatic changes to the PAC 12 Conference would affect Washington State University’s non-athletic programs. In November we asked to attendees to respond to Patrick Brown’s revelations I Left Out the Full Truth to Get My Climate Change Paper Published | The Free Press (thefp.com) after his publication of a manuscript in Nature; asking attending members if they had similar experiences as either editors or submitters of manuscripts. These points of discussion were lively, engaging, and enjoyable; we will likely continue engaging the Society membership in this way at our meetings going forward. Please forward to me all discussion points that you might want to the attendees to weigh in on as we have meeting in 2024.

At our second meeting in September we invited Nathan Weller, Pullman City Council member, to discuss Pullman’s future plans. Nathan spoke to the efforts to “revitalize” downtown, the issues surrounding removal of trees on Main Street, the status of the by-pass, the workings of the City Administration, and other future city plans. More information can be obtained at: Pullman City Council outlines legislative agenda – The Daily Evergreen. In October, Charlie Edwards, a member of our Society led a “seminar” in the chemistry of red wine and wine making. He left all attendees with a copper “swizzle stick” designed to remove the reductive character from the poured, post-bottled product. Charley was kind enough to address some of his talk, and more, in his piece that follows. Lastly, in November Ellen Wolfhagen, of Washington’s Health Care Authority spoke to us about health care insurance options offered by the Public Employees Benefit Board. Ellen was very responsive, and kind enough to offer her email address (ellen.wolfhagen@hca.wa.gov) to answer questions not addressed during and after her presentation.

Scholarship Fund:

Many in the Society responded to our call for donations to the undergraduate student scholarship awards and grants fund. Your support keeps the service side of our Society strong, and your generosity is much appreciated by WSU students. If you have not contributed and would like to, it is not too late. Donations are always welcome, and instructions on how to donate can be found on our Society website (https://emeritussociety.wsu.edu/8-2/).

Donations can also be mailed to the Emerita/us Society, Owen Science Library 343, PO Box 643200 Pullman, WA 99164.

Charley Gaskin’s piece that follows may help you reduce your tax burden when making a donation to our good cause.

If you have an IRA, you must pay income tax on funds that you withdraw. At age 71 you are required to take a certain amount out each year. That withdrawal is called a RMD - Required Minimum Distribution. You can give some of this distribution to charity without paying income tax on the withdrawal. This charitable donation is called a QCD – Qualified Charitable Distribution. For TIAA-CREF to make a QCD a form needs to be filled out, notarized, and sent to TIAA-CREF. Your TIAA advisor help you with this process.

The take home message from Charley’s description of the Qualified Charitable Distribution is that the more you donate, the fewer the taxes you may be required to pay. Also, the maximum annual limit for a QCD is $100,000. Some may view that level of donation as reaching the stratosphere. Therefore you can think of your QCD as the sky is the limit.
IN MEMORY…

Paul Clemens Schroeder, 84, beloved husband, father, grandfather, uncle and friend passed away Tuesday, July 11. He suffered a fatal brain injury from an accidental fall, while enjoying a visit with family and in Brooklyn New York to Henry Clemens Schroeder and Gertrude Irene (Kenny) Schroeder. Ann, his sister and best friend, joined the family one and a half years later. Although he grew up over a funeral home in a city known for infrastructure over nature, Paul was drawn to the greenery and wildlife in nearby Prospect Park. Birds, animals and plants intrigued him on family trips to the Delaware river in Pennsylvania. He knew he would be a “naturalist” from early grade school on. Paul lost his mother at 14. When their father became severely disabled 3 years later, He and his sister had to become the heads of the household. Despite this, he excelled at Manhattan's all scholarship Regis High School. He especially enjoyed classical languages and being in the Latin Sight Reading Club. His knowledge served him well in his career and he always amazed his students with Latin quips and adept German translations. Graduating in 1956, he went on the St. Peter's College in Jersey City, NJ, where a summer internship with his major professor sealed his interest in invertebrate and marine biology.

A year in Switzerland at the University of Zurich prepared him well for PhD work at Stanford University's Hopkin's Marine Station in Monterey, CA. But ,the jackpot at Stanford was meeting Alice Louise Andersen, a fellow biologist and marrying in 1966 just before receiving his PhD. They enjoyed newlywed life with a special two years living in the Marina district of San Francisco while Paul did postdoctoral studies in invertebrate endocrinology at the University of California in Berkeley. In 1968 he accepted an appointment as an assistant professor of Zoology at Washington State University. Paul taught a variety of courses in zoology but his favorite was an intensive, five-day Marine Invertebrates course taught each fall at a pacific coast marine station. He set a high bar for his students but with wry humor, he gently but firmly, enabled them to reach it. He continued his PhD research in reproduction while mentoring several masters and PhD students.

This research followed the evolution of egg development and release from invertebrates to mammals. Of his numerous papers, his reviews were especially impactful. He was active in the faculty senate, the Association of Research Professors and as associate chair and chair of the Zoology dept. as well as working with the Nature Conservancy. Two wonderful daughters, Lisa and Lianne, joined the family in January of 1974 and Paul always found time for his family. There were many camping trips in the Northwest and during sabbatical years in Germany, Australia and Switzerland with much exploring of beaches, woods, mountain meadows, etc. Paul did not hike; he walked and wandered. When he reached a trail head, he was there. If walking down the trail led to a new insect, a lovely wildflower or a great view, that was icing on the cake. After retiring in 2003, Paul and Alice spent 2 years driving around the coast of Australia and up the center, always searching out the local birds. There were also trips, often bird oriented, to Europe, Madagascar, and Central and South America. In Pullman, Paul enjoyed classical music and served on the Washington/Idaho Symphony board and the Palouse Audubon Society Board.

He and Alice enjoyed many camping trips throughout the West in their small trailer. He continued research well into retirement, naming and studying an intriguing, branching, marine worm together with colleagues in Australia and Spain. There were also many hours spent collecting and organizing his extensive collections of stamps and beetles. Paul is survived by his wife Alice, his daughters Lianne (Drew MacDonald) and Lisa Schroeder, beloved grandson, Haneul and step-granddaughter Alexandria. He is also survived by his sister, Ann Murno, nephews and niece, Rick, Tim, and Christine Murno and their children, as well as several cousins and many friends around the world. Paul will be buried with his parents and grandparents in Farmingdale, Long Island NY. A memorial gathering will be held in Pullman in the spring. If you would like, Paul would be honored to be remembered by a donation to a classical musical or an environmental organization. Corbeill Funeral Home, Pullman, WA has been entrusted with arrangements.