



# F.I.C.B. NEWSLETTER

**Fédération Internationale des Confréries Bachiques**  
**International Federation of Wine Brotherhoods**

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### From the President

2015 is a year of achievements for F.I.C.B.: the implementation of the action plan we adopted in 2013 is yielding its first results. Membership applications are increasing, our 2016 international Congress in California is looking to be a "grand cru", the 2018 Congress is already shaping up with the enthusiastic candidacy of Macedonia, whose wine making tradition dates back several thousand years, our website is increasingly visited. We encourage our member wine brotherhoods to develop links between them and leverage on the increasing worldwide attraction towards the reasonable and reasoned tasting of quality wines.

Alan BRYDEN

### F.I.C.B. signs of belonging

Our subscribing wine brotherhoods and their members are understandably proud of their belonging to our international network. In

addition to the existing F.I.C.B. medal and pin, the making of special hoods for the members of our Executive Committee is in progress, while embroidered badges with the F.I.C.B. logo have just been released to adorn the jackets and attire of all our member wine brothers and sisters.

### 2016 F.I.C.B. Congress In the Napa and Sonoma Valleys (California)



A big success for the registration to our 2016 Congress organized in California by our member the Knights of the Vine of America from 8 to 12 June 2016 to be followed by a two days extension. Registration was open on 1 August and had to be closed as soon as 1 November, as the (extended) capacity of 225 had been reached. See [www.kov.org](http://www.kov.org)

### The shaping of the 2018 F.I.C.B. Congress



*Visit of the Barrovo vineyard of the Tikvès Winery (Macedonia)*

At the invitation of O.E.V.E. Makedonia, member of F.I.C.B., Alan BRYDEN visited Macedonia in September. He was able to witness the remarkable efforts made in the past two decades to develop quality wines in this country which has a longstanding wine making tradition. The grounds for organizing our 2018 Congress were laid and will be presented for approval by our Executive Committee next January.

### New members of F.I.C.B.

5 new admissions as active members were accepted since the beginning of the year. The Académie du Cep (CH) and the Zala "Da

Bibere" Wine Brotherhood (HU), accepted at the beginning of this year, were joined later in the year by the Comité de Coordination des Confréries d'Ile de France (FR), the Jurade de Saint Emilion (FR) and the Confrérie Bachique Clorivière. Welcome to all!

### F.I.C.B. premises and facilities



The Musée du Vin de Paris and F.I.C.B. have concluded a new « seat » agreement which optimizes the resources of our federation, legally based at the museum, and allows the members of our wine brotherhoods to benefit from a favorable access to this museum and its restaurant.

F.I.C.B. has otherwise also been granted free access to modern meeting rooms less than 100m away from its seat. They will be used for the first time for our January 2016 meetings.

### F.I.C.B. Diploma of honor

The 7 first "Diplomas of Honor" were presented to former F.I.C.B. Officers just after our 2015 General Assembly. We are broadening the scope of

recipients by targeting world renowned wine personalities who have demonstrated their interest in wine brotherhoods and subscribe to our values as expressed in our "international charter". Accordingly, Michel ROLLAND, « the flying winemaker », world famous oenologist, was presented with the F.I.C.B. Diploma of Honor on the occasion of the autumn chapter of the Conseil des Echansons de France on 25 October at the Musée du Vin de Paris.



*Michel ROLLAND and Alan BRYDEN with the F.I.C.B. Diploma of Honor at the Musée du Vin de Paris*

### 2016 General Assembly

Our next General Assembly will take place in Paris (France) on Saturday 30 January at 10:00 a.m. (registration will start at 09:30 at the Musée du Vin) following the meetings of the Executive Committee and the Board of Administration to be held the previous day.

Notice for these meetings will be sent mid November. In addition to the statutory items, the launch of a project to produce "Guidelines for the creation and the development of a wine brotherhood" will be proposed.

### Our wine brotherhoods celebrate the harvest



*Ban des Vendanges at Saint Emilion*

The beginning or the end of the harvest are occasions for local festivals in which our wine brotherhoods take an active part. For example, this year, on 19 and 20 September, the Jurade de Saint Emilion was celebrating the "ban des vendanges" (beginning of the harvest) at the same time when the Académie du Cep (CH) was contributing to the success of the Fête des Vendanges of Russin (Canton of Geneva).

These harvest festivals, just like the celebration of Saint Vincent's day in January, are opportunities for our wine brotherhoods to promote their activities and welcome new members.



*Laurence GUILLON, new F.I.C.B. General Secretary, welcomes her predecessor Claude RUFINI and Alan BRYDEN at the Fête des vendanges of Russin (CH).*