



F.I.C.B. NEWSLETTER

Fédération Internationale des Confréries Bachiques
International Federation of Wine Brotherhoods

www.winebrotherhoods.org contact: info@winebrotherhoods.org



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From the President

In the past three years, we have renovated the means and tools of our federation and may now amplify our support to our member brotherhoods and reach out to new members. The success of 2016 Congress in California has demonstrated that our traditions and approach to conviviality and expertise around quality wines remain topical in the 21st century.

Alan BRYDEN

49th international F.I.C.B. Congress in California



With over 200 participants coming from a dozen countries, our 2016 Congress organized by the Knights of the Vine of America in the Napa and Sonoma Valleys in California has fully met our expectations, even beyond.

Our website reports extensively the events at the Congress and gives access to over 1400 photos illustrating these memorable 6 days.

Future F.I.C.B. Congresses

The dates and the outline of the programme of our **2018 Congress** have been released. At the invitation of our member O.E. V.E. Makedonia, the Congress will take place from 31 May to 3 June and will be centered on the capital city Skopje from where the main wine regions may be reached. The extension will be on 4 and 5 June in the beautiful region of Lake Ohrid. Once the arrangements are finalized, registration will be open in the spring of 2017.



Our future Macedonian hosts in front of Château Kamnik

And we are already planning our **2020 Congress**: our member brotherhoods interested in organizing this congress are invited to contact the President so that an orientation may be taken at our 2017 General Assembly. The specification for organizing the Congress is available on our site.

New F.I.C.B. « diplomas of honor »



At the gala dinner at the Buenavista Winery in the Sooma Valley, the F.I.C.B. diploma of honor was presented to Jean-Charles BOISSET, a major producer in Burgundy and in California. The diploma was also awarded to Gina GALLO, winemaker for the top range estates of the GALLO Group, one of the top world wine producers. They both actively promote the

wine brotherhoods and have greatly contributed to the success of our 2016 Congress.

F.I.C.B. signs of belonging

A badge with the F.I.C.B. logo embroidered with gold and silver thread is now available. It may adorn nicely the blazers and robes of our members. It is delivered with a magnetic fixture which avoids sewing.



Harvest or autumn Chapters

Following the Saint Vincent Chapter in January, the harvest or autumn Chapter is the second major event organized by our brotherhoods. It gives an opportunity to underline their contribution to maintaining the traditions and to promoting the wines produced in their region. This Chapter may take place at the beginning of the harvest, thus marking its official opening (« *ban des vendanges* »). This administrative authorization, which was abolished by the French Revolution, was reinstated in the 1950s for the « *appellations d'origine contrôlée* ». This Chapter

may also take place at the end of the harvest.



The Confrérie du Clos de Clamart celebrates the harvest the third week-end in October.

Partnership with « Wine-in-moderation- Art de vivre »



The F.I.C.B. International Charter of wine brotherhoods promotes reasonable wine consumption. On 3 June 2016, at the Paris Wine Museum, a partnership agreement was signed between F.I.C.B. and “Wine in moderation-Art de vivre”, an international network. This organization advocates reasonable wine and alcohol consumption and provides communication and action tools to this aim. See our website for more information and the text of the M.o.U.

Web site

www.winebrotherhoods.org

Our site provides a lot of detailed information on the activities of our member brotherhoods and of F.I.C.B., and, more generally, on the art and practice of wine tasting.

A new section has been added on moderate consumption, in application of the partnership mentioned above. I

Multi-lingual lexicon

A 5 languages lexicon (FR, EN, DE, IT, SP) of some 250 words used in wine production and wine tasting has been posted on our website

General Assembly 2017

Our 2017 General Assembly will meet on Saturday 28 January 2017 at the Maison des Associations of Paris 16, near the Wine Museum. The Board of Administration and the Executive Committee will meet before on 27 January. The GA will be invited to deliberate notably on the proposed « *practical guide for the creation and development of a wine brotherhood* », on which our Board of administration is currently being asked to comment. The GA will also address the possibility to create a second type of F.I.C.B. international event around expertise on wine tasting and selection.

