



AMERICAN WINE SOCIETY

Grapevine

Lehigh Valley Chapter

April 2020



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April Lehigh Chapter Virtual BYOB



VIRTUAL BYOB

Friday April 3rd 5:00-5:45 PM
Hosts: Leslie and Peter Staffeld
Via ZOOM

Click <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/449859500>

April Lehigh Chapter Tasting

To Decant or not to Decant?

Originally April 19, now October 11th

Hosts: Ann Vlot and Matt Green
DiFiore's Pizzeria & Italian Restaurant

****POSTPONED****

April Lehigh Chapter BYOB

Bamboo Asian Cuisine and Sushi Bar

Tuesday, April 21 at 6 PM

****CANCELLED****

May Lehigh Chapter Tasting

Showcasing Wines of Illyria

May 17, 2020 – 2:00 PM

Host: Jan Thomas

Nostos Restaurant

701 N. 19th Street, Allentown, PA 18104



June Special Event

The Super Tasting Series Masterclass:

A Study in Sensory Evaluation

Sunday, June 28, 2 PM

Steel Club

700 Linden Avenue, Hellertown, PA



Connections from the Co-Chairs -- Peter & Leslie Staffeld

Dear Members,

We hope this newsletter finds you safe and healthy. These are challenging times! As is often the case with novel situations, we are learning a new vocabulary. Terms such as “community spread”, “social distancing”, “suspended cruises” and “shelter in place” are part of our conversations. In an effort to maintain social distancing while sheltering in place we invited you to join us on Zoom (a video conferencing site) for a virtual wine tasting. About 30 members joined us on March 27 and it was fun. Best of all it was good to hear the laughter and stories that make us a wine loving community!



Since the feedback was so positive, we are planning another **Virtual BYOB for this Friday, April 3 from 5:00-5:45**. Select a favorite bottle of wine, find a comfortable place, and click on this link <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/449859500>. After clicking the invite link, you will be prompted to “Open Zoom” and/or “download and run Zoom”. If this is your first-time using Zoom, you will need to download and run it. We are looking forward to seeing everyone again in person. In the meantime, our newsletter contains some fun events that we can all look forward to attending post-virus.

Thank you to everyone for being flexible about rescheduling events and accepting the refunds. This was the simplest way to keep the records straight. And we give continuing thanks to all who contribute to the monthly newsletter, especially our newsletter editor, Mike Orbin. And thanks go to our treasurer, Kevin Campbell. Thank you all.

We have a great chapter because of the extraordinary people in the group!

Cheers!

Peter and Leslie Staffeld

Membership

According to the AWS National Office, as of March 1, 2020 our Chapter has 142 members in good standing! We continue to be one of the larger chapters in the United States.

Do you have wine worthy news to share? If so, please send it to newsletter@LVAWS.org for consideration.

Do you have a suggestion for a location for a future tasting or BYOB? Please send your ideas to chair@lvaws.org.

Volunteers needed:

- Do you like to **research and write**? We are looking for a newsletter contributor to submit the education article related to the tasting each month.
- Do you use **social media**? We are looking for a member who is interested in developing a Facebook presence for the Chapter.

If either of these jobs interest you, please contact chair@lvaws.org.

Wine didn't I say that?

The discovery of a wine is of greater moment than the discovery of a constellation. The universe is too full of stars. – **Benjamin Franklin**



April Lehigh Chapter VIRTUAL BYOB

VIRTUAL BYOB

Friday April 3rd 5:00-5:45 PM
Hosts: Leslie and Peter Staffeld
Via ZOOM

Click <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/449859500>

Join your fellow Lehigh Valley Chapter Members for a **VIRTUAL BYOB on Friday, April 3 from 5:00-5:45PM**. In an effort to maintain social distancing while sheltering in place we invite you to join us on Zoom (a video conferencing application) for a virtual wine tasting!

Here are directions for joining us on Friday:

You do not need to have a Zoom account to participate, but you will be asked to download the free Zoom software.

Join our Zoom meeting by clicking <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/449859500>

After clicking the invite link, you will be prompted to "Open Zoom" and/or "download and run Zoom". If this is your first-time using Zoom, you will need to download and run it.

According to the internet, here are some tips for Zoom etiquette: Mute your microphone to help keep background noise to a minimum; Position your camera at eye level and avoid bright lights in the background; Limit distractions by muting your phone.

So, on Friday evening open your favorite bottle of wine, find a comfortable place where you can access the camera on your device (phone, tablet, laptop), and at 5pm, click on the link in the invitation. We look forward to seeing you!

Cheers!

Leslie and Peter Staffeld

****POSTPONED****

April Lehigh Chapter Tasting

To Decant or not to Decant?

Originally April 19th now October 11th at 3 PM

Hosts: Ann Vlot and Matt Green
DiFiore's Pizzeria & Italian Restaurant



Thank you to those registering for **Ann's and Matt's** tasting that was scheduled for April 19th. They appreciate your hopeful attitudes! In light of the updated **social distancing**, this tasting will be **rescheduled to October 11th**. Registrants who sent payment for the April event via check will receive notice from **Ann** and **Matt** confirming that the check is destroyed. Those who have paid via the website will receive a refund from the chapter. **Please consider attending the "To Decant or not to Decant?" event in October.**



****CANCELLED****

April Lehigh Chapter BYOB

Bamboo Asian Cuisine and Sushi Bar

Tuesday, April 21, 6 PM
Hosted by Judi Roggie

Social distancing has officially been extended so we will not be holding our April BYOB. When we have made progress in *flattening the curve* and can safely gather in restaurants again, we will resume our monthly BYOBs.

In the interim you can participate with Club Members in a fun atmosphere by ZOOMING in to the VIRTUAL BYOB's our Club is hosting. **Please stay safe and keep healthy.**



May Lehigh Chapter Tasting

Showcasing Wines of Illyria

Sunday, May 17, 2020, at 2 PM

Host: Jan Thomas

Nostos Restaurant

701 N. 19th Street, Allentown, PA 18104



Please join us for a tasting of wonderful **Illyrian wines**. This tasting will be conducted by **Indira Bayer, Founder and Executive Director - Wines of Illyria**. She will be presenting information regarding the history and current production of Illyrian wines. She has selected nine wines that provide a nice cross section of the style, tastes and character from this region.

Ice Breaker (will not be rated): 2015 Badel 1862 Grasevina Daruvar – Croatia

Illyrian Wines:

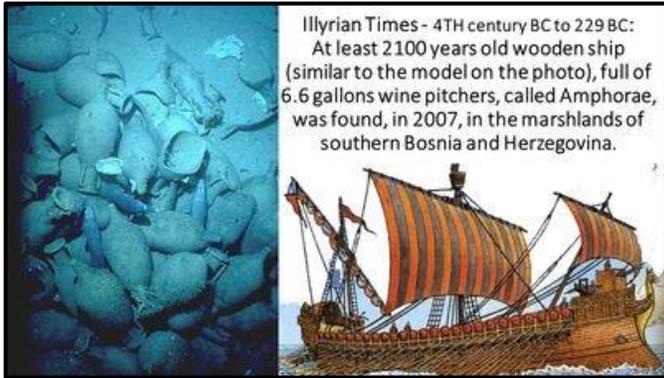
- 2017 Zilavka Premium Quality Dry White Wine
- 2016 Stone Cuvee White Wine
- 2016 Emporia Rose'
- 2012 Blatina Native Variety from Ancient Illyria
- 2012 Plavac Mali
- 2012 Vranac Native Variety from Ancient Illyria
- 2011 Teuta
- 2011 Liburna
- 2016 Carski Blatina Emporia

Attendees will choose their dinner selections from the restaurant's menu and pay upon leaving.

The cost for this tasting is **\$30 per person**. There is a 40 attendee limit for this tasting so please reserve your attendance ASAP by **registering online at the LVAWS.org website by May 10, 2020**. Price includes wine and appetizers.

Education: History of Illyrian Wines – Jan Thomas

With great pride, we present top quality wines produced in the rocky vineyards of sun washed Herzegovina, where the lime stone, minerals, herbs and Mediterranean sun are infused into every drop. Wine making enjoys an ancient and proud tradition in this land between the mountains and sea.



Illyrian Times - 4TH century BC to 229 BC:
At least 2100 years old wooden ship (similar to the model on the photo), full of 6.6 gallons wine pitchers, called Amphorae, was found, in 2007, in the marshlands of southern Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Wines have been produced in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Croatia since the times of ancient Illyria. In 2007

archeologists discovered two Illyrian ships in the marshlands of Hutovo Blato-Wildlife Refuge near the town of Mostar. Sunk more than 2500 years ago, loaded with amphorae filled with Illyrian wine destined for distant ports,

this find conjures romantic images of ancient Mediterranean trade routes and shows just how deeply the wine making tradition is rooted here.



Wine production continued in this region after the Romans defeated the last ruler of Illyria, Queen Teuta, in 168 BC. The front gate of the Roman Fortress Mogorjelo, built by Augustus Oktavian in the third century near the town of Capljina, is decorated with motifs of grapes and wine goblets. Long after the Roman Empire was divided between east and west, evidence of the local wine producing tradition can be found on Stećci, medieval tombstones scattered over Bosnian's mountain tops, which are decorated with motifs of grapes and vines.



In the 19th century, Austro-Hungarians invested heavily in Herzegovina wine making. They planted new and re-invigorated old vineyards of Blatina, Zilavka, Bena, Posip, Vranac, Plavac, Malvazija and other native sorts to produce the finest wines for the Vienna Hapsburg court.

Viticulture in this region continues today, with

vintners creating top quality wines of both international sorts and excellent local varietals. These are wines that were once only produced for royal consumption, but now available to a broader audience. Wines of Illyria is proud to introduce this ancient tradition of wine making to modern Austrians and Americans.





Special Event
The Super Tasting Series Masterclass:
A Study in Sensory Evaluation

Steel Club
700 Linden Avenue, Hellertown, PA
\$60

REGISTER BY MAY 18th for the JUNE 28th event

On June 28, 2020 the Lehigh Valley Chapter of the American Wine Society (LVAWS) is offering a Master Class on wines and wine tasting. **Jay Bileti**, AWS Director of Membership, will present.

Jay's program will include exercises to help us learn how our brain processes sensory information of wine that we are drinking. He will also discuss aspects of wine such as visual, taste, touch, wine balance (sugar, acid, alcohol level), smell, oaks (French versus American), as well as wine glassware and wine scoring. Attendees will participate in exercises to determine faults and smells, wine aromas and tannins.

The Master Class will run from **2-5pm on Sunday, June 28 at the Steel Club (700 Linden Avenue in Hellertown, PA), followed by a dinner at 5pm.** Dinner will include pasta stations, chicken, salad, and dessert. The cost is **\$60** and includes the master class and dinner.

To register, send your check to **JANIS THOMAS, 4724 HILTON RD., SCHNECKSVILLE, PA 18078**

You must **prepay** to be registered for this event. Include your email to ensure that you receive updates. Jan can be reached at Janthom51@aol.com

Details of event can be reviewed on LVAWS webpage: <https://lehighvalleyaws.org/event-3690884>

SAVE THE DATE

2020 Holiday Party - Sunday, December 13th

This year's Holiday Party will be held on Sunday, **December 13th** at **Morgan's Restaurant** which is located at the intersection of N. Cedar Crest Blvd. & Willow St. in Allentown. Social hour begins at 4:30 PM, followed by dinner at 6 PM. We will be offering a choice of four dinner entrees and three desserts. Hopefully, everyone will find something to their liking. Additional details to follow in the September/October timeframe. We think it will be a wonderful event and we hope you can join us! **Please add December 13th to your calendars.**

VIRTUAL WINE HAPPENINGS

As we stay home during these times it seems that many have turned to Zoom and other video and audio communication platforms for interaction. Check out this article from Huffington Post's Food & Drink Section for **"The Best Virtual Wine Tastings to Join During Coronavirus Lockdown"** (https://www.huffpost.com/entry/best-virtual-wine-tastings_1_5e7b9f49c5b6256a7a2364d7).

If watching a wine movie from your comfortable chair or sofa interests you, checkout this movie recommendation from our member **Ethel Drayton-Craig, "Uncorked" (2020)**, now showing on Netflix and see the following VinePair article on **"How the Netflix Film 'Uncorked' Breaks New Ground for Black Wine Drinkers"** (<https://vinepair.com/articles/how-the-netflix-film-uncorked-breaks-new-ground-for-black-wine-drinkers/?fbclid=IwAR2CSCt07ubzNQ-uKnXH4QxvkkZjG8iBIVN-FgZSQUmj-q9GYqZHGzINAxM>).

For more behind the scene details on filming this movie, please see the Wine Spectator article – **"The Making of Netflix's 'Uncorked', the New Movie with Serious Wine Chops"**. (<https://www.winespectator.com/articles/the-making-of-netflix-s-uncorked-the-new-movie-with-serious-wine-chops-unfiltered>)

Lehigh Valley Chapter Wine Tastings &/Events

<u>Month</u>	<u>Host</u>	<u>Topic</u>
May 17	Jan Thomas	Illyria Wines
June 28	Jan Thomas	Super Tasting Series Masterclass: A Study in Sensory Evaluation
July 26	Dean & Bonnie Scott	Vineyard Tasting
Aug	Joe Pugliese	Barolo
Sept 13	Tami Cericola, Cheryl Hildebrandt, Jan Thomas	Wines of Greece (rescheduled)
Oct 11	Matt Green & Ann Vlot	To Decant or Not Decant (rescheduled)
Nov	Judi & Tom Harbin	Petite Sirrah
Dec 13	Holiday Party - Annette Derkacs, Jan Thomas, Ann Vlot	Morgan's Restaurant
Jan 2021	Peter & Leslie Staffeld	Port and Food Pairing (rescheduled)



National and Lehigh Valley AWS Dues

**YOU MUST JOIN BOTH THE NATIONAL AMERICAN WINE SOCIETY
AND THE LEHIGH VALLEY CHAPTER**

National AWS Membership: To join, you need to register with both the national American Wine Society (AWS) organization and a local AWS chapter. The national organization has a variety of membership plans available, but the most popular are an "individual" membership for \$49/year, and a "household" membership (for two people at the same address) for \$62/year. You can register for one or two local chapters. We recommend that you select the Lehigh Valley chapter as your Primary chapter! You can sign up for national membership online at AmericanWineSociety.org.

Lehigh Valley Chapter AWS Membership: The Lehigh Valley chapter has two membership levels (individual and household), which are both \$10/year. Once you become a Lehigh Valley Chapter member you can register for all of our wine tastings, educational events, and BYOB dinner parties. You can sign up for membership online at LVAWS.org using the "Join us" main menu option, or use the form below.

Name(s) _____ Email Address _____
Address _____ Phone # _____
City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Membership runs from January to December.

You can pay on-line at lvaws.org or mail a check to:

**LVAWS Treasurer Kevin Campbell, 6461 Meadowview Terrace South, Zionsville
PA 18092**

Guest policy: Members are encouraged to bring guests to our events. The national AWS insurance policy restricts guests to a maximum of three events in a lifetime.

Wine Themed Books -- Annotated by Leslie Staffeld

Besides loving a delicious glass of wine, like so many of our members, I enjoy an absorbing book. When our local library created a new fundraiser, **Read Between the Wines**, I researched books about wine, vineyards, and vintners to add to the shelves.

Now that many Americans are home, this may be a fun time to explore some of these titles. You may be able to access these books through on-line services provided by your public library. You can check your library's website to see if services such as Hoopla or Overdrive are available. Books can also be ordered through Amazon and Barnes and Noble.

So, stay safe and snuggle up with a lovely wine and a tasty book!

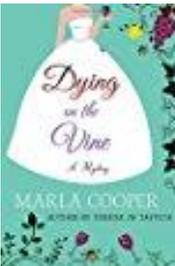
Cheers!

Leslie Staffeld



***An Unholy Alliance* by Judy Nedry**

Like many women in their fifties, Emma Golden feels invisible. She lives quietly in her Portland, Oregon bungalow and minds her own business. But her tranquil life is about to change. She is asked to return to the rolling hills of her former wine country home south of the city to supervise a friend's bed and breakfast inn near Dundee. Emma arrives at the Westerly Inn during grape harvest. She is under contract to write a book about Oregon wineries, and its business as usual until she discovers one of her subject's dead in a wine vat—murdered at his own dinner party. Cougar Crossing Winery owner Ted Maxell was a ruthless and dishonest newcomer to the northern Willamette Valley wine scene. Many people wanted him gone—including his son, many local winegrowers, and even Emma's ex-husband, Dwight. Then Maxell's daughter, Tiffany, calls Emma and begs for assistance. "I know who killed my father," she wails. When Emma answers Tiffany's cry for help, she finds herself drawn into the search for a murderer or murderers with secrets worth killing for.

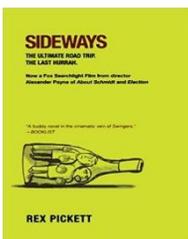


***Dying on the Vine* by Marla Cooper**

When wedding planner Kelsey McKenna goes to the Wine Country Wedding Faire, the last thing she expects to do is take on new clients. After all, she's just there to help out her friend Brody and maybe score some free cupcakes. But when a young couple in a pinch asks for her help, she just can't say no. There's only one problem: they'd been working with Babs Norton; the self-proclaimed Queen of Wine Country Weddings—and things did not end well. Kelsey wants to make sure there are no hard feelings, but unfortunately, she never gets the chance. When she goes to Babs' office, she finds the wedding planner dead on the floor.

Babs' high-strung assistant Stefan knows exactly who killed Babs: Kelsey. At least, that's what he very publicly accuses her of at Babs' funeral. When Kelsey decides to do a little sleuthing to clear her name, she uncovers a myriad of secrets and lies. And when a second wedding planner is attacked, Kelsey begins to wonder if she might be next.

Set against the stunning backdrop of California wine country, Marla Cooper's *Dying on the Vine* is a mystery brimming with gossip, wine, and, of course...murder.



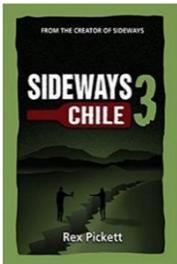
***Sideways* by Rex Pickett**

Sideways is the story of two friends--Miles and Jack--going away together for the last time to steep themselves in everything that makes it good to be young and single: pinot, putting, and prowling bars. In the week before Jack plans to marry, the pair heads out from Los Angeles to the Santa Ynez wine country. For Jack, the tasting tour is Seven Days to D-Day, his final stretch of freedom. For Miles--who has divorced his wife, is facing an uncertain career and has lost his passion for living--the trip is a weeklong opportunity to evaluate his past, his future and himself.



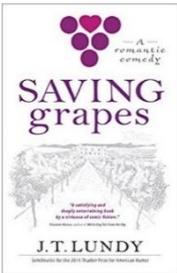
Vertical by Rex Pickett

The follow-up novel to the blockbuster *Sideways* tracks the continuing story of Miles Raymond and his buddy Jack. It's seven years later. Miles has written a novel that has been made into a wildly successful movie, and the movie has changed his life. Jack, contrarily, is divorced, has a kid, and is on the skids. Phyllis, Miles's mom, has suffered a stroke that's left her wheelchair-bound and wasting away in assisted-living. She desperately wants to live with her sister in Wisconsin. When Miles gets invited to be master of ceremonies at a Pinot Noir festival in Oregon, he hatches a harebrained road trip. With Jack as his co-pilot, he leases a handicapped-equipped van, hires a pot-smoking Filipina caretaker and, with his mother's rascally Yorkie in tow, they take off for Wisconsin via Oregon's fabled Willamette Valley, where Miles is Master of ceremonies of the International Pinot Festival. It is a road novel for the smart set and wine lover, and anything but predictable.



Sideways 3 Chile by Rex Pickett

The third, and final, novel in the trilogy that began with "Sideways" finds our main protagonist Miles Raymond (Paul Giamatti in the original film) running out of money, but still surviving on the fumes of a past, but fleeting, fame. When he is offered an opportunity by a reputable magazine to write an article about the diverse wine regions of the country of Chile he jumps at the chance.



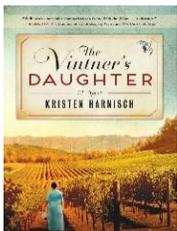
Saving Grapes by JT Lundy

Jason was hoping his Aunt Clara would come to his rescue, but she unexpectedly dies, gifting her liquid assets to charity. She does, however, will Jason a picturesque French vineyard--and it's worth millions. But there's a catch! If Jason goes to jail, the vineyard will transfer to his unscrupulous stepbrother. To raise the cash he needs, Jason travels to France with his knucklehead of a best friend to sell the vineyard. Cashing in will not be so simple, though. Formidable nuns farm the vineyard, and he needs their blessing to sell. To persuade the good sisters, Jason attempts a madcap series of dubious schemes, and while doing so falls for what he thinks is the perfect French woman. Amidst this melee of wine, women, nuns, and villains, Jason must unearth his true values in order to save more than just his soul.



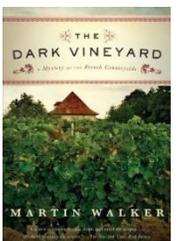
Vintage by David Baker

Ex-food journalist and nearly destitute wine connoisseur Bruno Tannenbaum has hit rock bottom. So when he stumbles on a clue hinting at a lost wine vintage, the 1943 Trevallier—stolen from France during WWII and now worth a fortune—Bruno is convinced that finding this wine could be the key to restoring his journalism career, and perhaps even his failing marriage. But as word spreads about his search for the Trevallier, Bruno finds himself in a desperate treasure hunt, racing from lush Burgundy vineyards through German inns and a Russian prison.



The Vintner's Daughter by Kristen Harnisch

The daughter is Sara Thibault, the youngest daughter of a prominent winemaker in the Loire Valley in France. When her father dies in a tragic accident and the fate of the family winery falls outside Sara's control, she and her sister Lydia are forced to seek other means of survival.



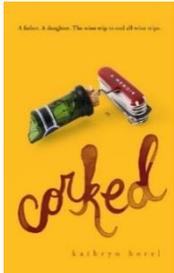
The Dark Vineyard by Martin Walker

In this riveting sequel to Martin Walker's internationally acclaimed novel *Bruno, Chief of Police*, some of France's great pleasures—wine, passion and intrigue—converge in a dark chain of events that threaten the peaceful village of Saint-Denis.



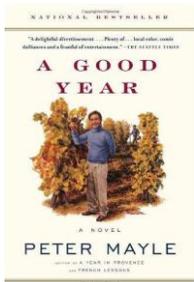
***Dial M for Merlot* by Howard Kleinfeld**

One man's discovery of his love of and passion for fine wine. On a Friday night, after being stood up for the zillionth time, a lovelorn nerd wanders into a wine tasting at a local shop that opens his eyes, turns on his taste buds and totally changes his life. Join Justin on an exhilarating, intoxicating and potentially dangerous voyage of discovery and transformation that leads him out of his shell and into the world of fine wine and fine living. From Florida to France and back, Justin discovers there is so much more to life than just Star Trek, Star Wars or Harry Potter—fun, stimulating, seductive things like fabulous wine, fantastic food, hot sex...and murder. But not necessarily in that order.



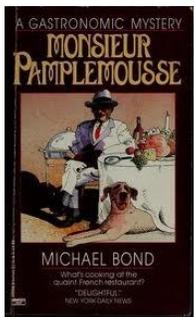
***Corked* by Kathryn Borel**

Meet Kathryn Borel, a bon vivant and undutiful daughter. Now meet her father, Philippe, former chef, eccentric genius, and wine aficionado extraordinaire. Kathryn is like her father in every way but one: she's totally ignorant when it comes to wine. And although Philippe has devoted untold parenting hours to delivering impassioned oenological orations, she has managed to remain unenlightened. But after an accident and a death, Kathryn realizes that by shutting herself off to her father's greatest passion, she will never really know him. Accordingly, she proposes a drunken father-daughter road trip. *Corked* is the uncensored account of their tour through the great wine regions of France. Uproarious, poignant, painfully introspective, and filled with cunning little details about wine, this is a book for any reader who has sought a connection with a complex family member or wanted to overcome the paralyzing terror of being faced with a restaurant wine list.



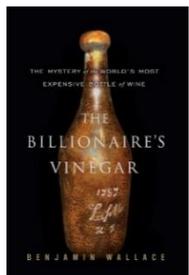
***A Good Year* by Peter Mayle**

A Good Year is set in Provence and tells the story of Max Skinner, a London stockbroker who loses his job before finding out that he has inherited a vineyard in France from his late uncle Henry. Transplanted to the French countryside, Skinner embarks on a career as a vintner only to find the walls of his new endeavor in a state of disrepair, a gruff winemaker and a twenty-something Napa Valley native determined to challenge his claim on the vineyard.



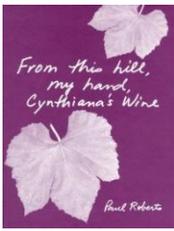
***Monsieur Pamplemousse* by Michael Bond**

Monsieur Pamplemousse, inspector of food and detective extraordinaire, is delighted to have the chance to dine once more at the famed La Langoustine, a restaurant nestling in the hills of Provence. Life as an undercover researcher for a top-class culinary guide can be lonely, and Monsieur Pamplemousse is ever grateful for the companionship of his friend and helper, Pommes Frites, a bloodhound with a finely-tuned nose.



***The Billionaires Vinegar* by Benjamin Wallace**

The Billionaire's Vinegar tells the true story of a 1787 Château Lafite Bordeaux, allegedly owned by Thomas Jefferson, which set a new record when it sold for \$156,000 at auction in 1985. However, the debate over its authenticity continued long after it was sold with experts scratching their heads as to how this bottle had remained under the radar for so long, and if it was indeed genuine. Theories ranged from it being entombed in a Paris cellar for 200 years or hidden in a secret Nazi bunker. Benjamin Wallace attempts to unravel the mystery in this *New York Times* top seller speaking to a range of players within the wine industry from Hardy Rodenstock, a German collector, and Michael Broadbent, a Christie's wine expert.



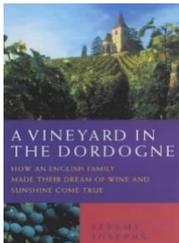
From this Hill, My Hand, Cynthiana's Wine by Paul Roberts

Part novel, part journal, *From this Hill* follows the real-life story of a husband and wife in the years before opening a commercial winery in western Maryland. First published in 1999, this personal tale winds its way from a first spark of interest in winemaking in Missouri, to a wine apprenticeship in California and adventures through Europe's wine country, to the eventual planting of the Cynthiana vineyard and the couple's first commercial wines.



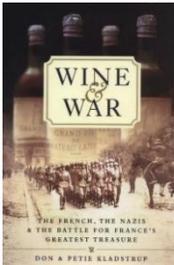
Nose: A Novel by James Conaway

Nose is set in a sun-soaked valley in northern California where Clyde Craven-Jones is living the dream as an egotistical wine critic. During a routine tasting in advance of his publication's new issue, he blindly samples a selection of Cabernets to discover a bottle worthy of his highest score, a never-before-awarded 20 on the Craven-Jones wine scale. However, the bottle's origins are a mystery. Cue an investigation to uncover the provenance of this superior Cabernet.



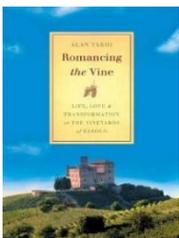
A Vineyard in the Dordogne by Jeremy Josephs

A Vineyard in the Dordogne was the real-life inspiration behind Peter Mayle's *A Good Year*, and later film adaptation by Ridley Scott. It follows the efforts of the Ryman family to turn the downtrodden Chateau de La Jaubertie into a producer of acclaimed wines having sold a successful stationery business in the UK and relocated to France.



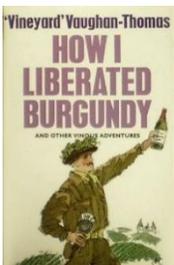
Wine & War by Donald and Petie Kladstrup

For the historical wine lover this non-fiction work detailing French winemakers' attempts to prevent their best vintage's from falling into the hands of Nazi soldiers and shelter Jewish refugees during World War Two is a treasure. From ageing young bottles by changing the labels and covering them in cobwebs, to building false walls to hide the valuable vintages, all manner of tricks was employed to save their best wines. Donald Kladstrup is a retired American network correspondent who, along with his wife Petie, have curated these stories into this fascinating historical collection.



Romancing the Vine: Life, Love and Transformation in the Vineyards of Barolo by Alan Tardi

Romancing the Vine is a memoir detailing the tale of Alan Tardi who, in 2002, shut up his New York restaurant Fallonico and embarked on a winemaking adventure in Italy's Piedmont region, famous for its Barolo wines. While recounting anecdotes about his adventures in the Piedmontese winemaking countryside, Tardi also imparts 25 recipes featuring specialties from throughout the region.



How I Liberated Burgundy: And Other Vinous Adventures by Wynford Vaughan-Thomas

This is the wartime reminiscence of BBC correspondent, Wynford Vaughan-Thomas, who was fortunate to advance with various American, British and Free French forces up through Italy, the Rhône and Burgundy during the war years and his splendid little book should be more widely read. He recounts his escapades in Burgundy but also the sight of Moroccan goumiers looking like Franciscan monks in their brown, cassock-like cloaks advancing through the vineyards of Chianti, dreaming of the wines of the Côte Rôtie, so near yet so terribly far behind the German front lines.