



KENTUCKY
WINE

Kentucky Grape and Wine Council News
November 2007

The Kentucky Grape and Wine Council (KGWC) met on Wednesday, November 14th at 1pm. The meeting was held in at StoneBrook Winery in Melbourne, Kentucky. Minutes from this meeting will be available on December 12th after Council approval. For a copy contact Stacia Alford.

The following is a review of discussion from the October KGWC meeting and any additional news regarding the grape and wine industry in Kentucky.

STATEWIDE MARKETING PLAN:

The Z-Card brochure is currently being printed. These cards feature a mileage chart as well as phone numbers and hours of operation of Kentucky Wineries. These cards should be available by mid- December. The official Kentucky Wine website, www.kentuckywine.com, is undergoing changes. Such changes include a retail and restaurant locator specifying where Kentucky Wine can be located. There is movement in the Kentucky Grape and Wine Council in producing a Kentucky Wine video.

ADVERTISING COST-SHARE AND WHOLESALER DISTRIBUTION UPDATE:

After a long delay in payments, the payment process is being finalized. The initial hold-up in issuing checks is due to setting up the logistics of the payment process. Again, your patience in this matter is greatly appreciated. Thank you.

Program Period one of 2007 (P1/07) will end on December 31. Information will be sent to the Small Farm Wineries of Kentucky asking to verify participation in the January through July 2008 (P1-08) Marketing Cost Share and Wholesaler Reimbursement programs. Opting into the program will ensure moneys will be allotted for your small farm winery. To verify participation please email your request to participate, fax or mail the Opt-In card to Stacia by December 18. Again, it is CRUCIAL to notify Stacia of your desire to participate in these programs by December 18, 2007.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Legislative: The Kentucky Grape and Wine Council presented an annual report to the Licensing and Occupations Committee on November the 9th. The presentation went very well. Much attention was shown regarding the availability of bird netting to the vineyards. Bird netting is available through county funds from the Agriculture Development Board. A letter is being sent to County Councils explaining the value of bird netting to grape producers.



Research: A variety of research projects will be presented at the Vintners Dinner in January.

Wholesaler: Kentucky Small Farm wineries, remind your wholesaler that they are exempt from the 11% wholesalers tax. Wholesalers are exempt from this tax if the wine has been produced by a Kentucky small farm winery under Senate Bill 82. The link to KRS Chapter 243.884 explaining this is <http://www.lrc.state.ky.us/KRS/243-00/884.PDF>.

UK REPORT

The Kentucky Grape and Wine Short Course will be January 7 and 8 at the Embassy Suites in Lexington, Kentucky in conjunction with the Kentucky Fruit and Vegetable Conference and Trade Show. There will be a public wine tasting on January 7th; and a Vintner's Dinner, featuring local foods matched with Kentucky wines on the evening of the 8th. The first day is for New Growers and the second day is for Commercial growers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The new Governor Beshear is hosting three balls on inauguration day. The "Kentucky Ball" is going to feature food and drinks made here in Kentucky! All wines served at this event will be wine made in Kentucky.

Kentucky Wineries are being featured on the Kentucky Agritourism website www.kentuckyfarmsarefun.org. If you are not currently listed on the webpage and would like to be, please contact Stephen Yates, stephenp.yates@ky.gov, at 502-564-4983 with your information.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- The Kentucky Grape and Wine Short Course in conjunction with Kentucky Fruit and Vegetable Conference and Trade Show will be January 8 and 9, 2008 at the Embassy Suites in Lexington.

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING:

The next Grape and Wine Council Meeting will December 12 at the Kentucky Department of Agriculture. This is located at 100 Fair Oaks Drive, 5th Floor. The meeting will begin at 1:00 pm.