



N°4 APRIL 2016

From the president

Our 2016 General Assembly was held in the functional meeting room of the Maison des Associations of Paris 16, right next to the Musée du Vin (cf. Newsletter n°3). The GA noted the good health of our federation and the first positive repercussions of the implementation of our action plan. We encourage our members to promote new membership, so that other wine brotherhoods may benefit from our new impetus and to broaden our network.

Alan BRYDEN

General Assembly 2016

The GA met on 30 January. A summary of its outcome is available on our website. The approved budget, based on maintaining the membership fees, will allow increasing the promotion of the federation and its members, thanks to the savings done otherwise and the substantial royalties

expected from the 2016 Congress in California.



View of GA2016 meeting

Towards a practical guide on wine brotherhoods

The GA adopted the project to develop a « practical guide for the creation and development of a wine brotherhood ».

The guide should contain 12 chapters: history, F.I.C.B. Charter, principle for the statutes, signs of belonging, members, governance, main activities, side activities, communication and promotion, resources and budget, relations with other wine brotherhoods and with gastronomic brotherhoods.

Our members are invited to contribute with their own experience.

Appointments

The GA proceeded with the election of new Board members and renewals by applying our statutes and taking into account departures.

Have been elected to the Board of Administration:

- . Bianca VETRINO (Ordine dei Cavalieri del Tartufo i dei Vini d'Alba IT)
- . Ruben MARTINOVSKY (COCORICO FR)
- . Dimitar BOZADJIEV (O.E.V.E. Makedonia MK)
- . Alvin JORGE DA SILVA E SOUZA (Federacao das Confrarias Baquicas Do Portugal) who has been also appointed as the new Vice-president for Portugal.

Pat PINGITORE and Paul COULON have been renewed as members of the Board and as Vice-presidents, respectively for the USA and France-South. Alan BRYDEN has been renewed as member of the Board and President.



The members of the Board present at the 2016 GA

The signs of belonging to F.I.C.B.

The model for the stole for the members of our Executive Committee has been approved. It is currently under production by the Benedictine Sisters of the Monastery of Font Saint Joseph in the South of France. They will be worn for the first time at our 2016 Congress.



Are also available our superb F.I.C.B. medals mounted with necklace, our embroidered badges with the F.I.C.B. logo and our gold and silver coated pins, which all may be ordered at F.I.C.B. or acquired on the occasion of our events.

Our website

www.winebrotherhoods.org
Our site receives an increasing number of visitors. Our members are invited to send us regularly

information concerning their activities and recent or upcoming events. The site is also designed to be a portal on wine brotherhoods and more generally on the culture and expertise about wine.

the F.I.C.B. international congresses

Big success is foreseen for our **2016 Congress** organized in California by our member the Knights of the Vine of America from 8 to 12 June followed by an extension until 14 June. To date, 211 registrations have been made for the Congress proper and 114 for the extension. The support of several sponsors and the enthusiasm of our US hosts guarantee a "grand cru" for this 2016 Congress.

See www.kov.org



The Buena Vista Winery (Sonoma) where the gala dinner of the 2016 Congress will take place.

Our GA has given the green light to our member O.E.V.E. Makedonia to proceed with organizing our **2018 Congress**. The dates proposed are from 31 May to 3 June for the Congress, which will be centered on the capital city Skopje, and from 4 to 6 June for the extension around the beautiful region of Lake Ohrid. A tentative programme was presented at the GA.

And it is not too soon to start planning our **2020 Congress**: our members who would have an interest in organizing it are invited to contact our President so that an orientation may be taken at our 2017 GA. The specification for organizing the Congress may be downloaded from our website

Our brotherhoods celebrate the vine flower

In addition to the traditional Saint Vincent chapter in January and the harvest chapter in September or October, many wine brotherhoods hold spring chapters for the flower of the vine, to celebrate the promise of future grape bunches. It is for example the case of the Ordre des Chevaliers Bretvins who will hold its « vine flower festival » at Frémoire en Vertou in the Loire region. This festival includes a procession across the vineyards, followed by a country picnic accompanied by local wines (Muscadet and Gros-Plant)



2017 General Assembly

Our 2017 GA will meet on Saturday **28 January 2017** at the Maison des Associations of Paris 16, preceded by meetings of the Executive Committee and the Board on 27 January.