



photo by Brent Isenberger

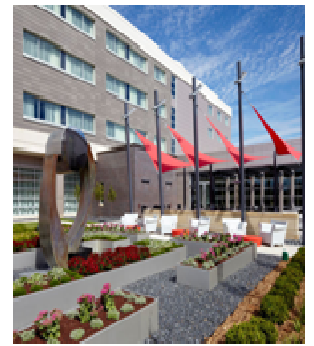
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## Uncork New Knowledge at the Iowa Wine Growers Association's 2012 Annual Conference



**March 16-17, 2012  
THE HOTEL  
Kirkwood Center  
7725 Kirkwood Blvd SW  
Cedar Rapids, IA**



The Iowa Wine Growers Association (IWGA) is announcing its 12th Annual Conference to be held March 16 and 18, 2012. The Hotel at Kirkwood Center (7725 Kirkwood Boulevard SW, Cedar Rapids, Iowa) will host IWGA members and guests for the 2012 Annual Conference.

The Hotel at Kirkwood Center offers an atmosphere of elegance for the 12th Annual IWGA Conference, where we will focus on the needs of the Midwest grape and wine industry.

IWGA Board and Committee members are still fine-tuning the schedule of events for the Annual Conference; however, expect staples from past conferences that make the IWGA Annual Conference an educational, fun, and worthwhile event to attend. The annual wine reception will allow you the opportunity to sample some of the best wines from around the state, while concurrent viticulture, enology, and marketing workshops will address topics and concerns of specific interest to winemakers and grape growers.



Also, expect to visit a large vendor area where you can view the newest technologies and innovations in the wine and grape growing industries. For information on becoming a vendor, please contact the IWGA office at 800.383.1682 or email [Joan O'Brien at joano@agribiz.org](mailto:joano@agribiz.org).

A registration form will soon be available. However, the IWGA recommends making your hotel reservations now, because there are a limited number of rooms available at The Hotel at Kirkwood Center. IWGA has secured a reduced room rate of \$89 per night (plus tax) for members attending the conference. Call 319.848.8700 in order to reserve your room at The Hotel.

There are also two other hotels within minutes of The Hotel at Kirkwood Center where IWGA members can make room reservations, they are: Country Inn & Suites (319.363.3789) or AmericInn (319.632.1800).

We look forward to seeing everyone at the 12th Annual IWGA Conference, March 16 and 17, 2012!



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## The 2012 San Francisco Chronicle Wine Competition: Calling for Entries

It is time to submit your winery's finest for the 2012 San Francisco Chronicle Wine Competition! Widely acclaimed as the largest competition of American wines in the world, this renowned event is accepting entries from across the country to be evaluated at the annual judging, a prestigious and extensive process that takes place over a four-day period in January.

All results are then immediately posted on [www.winejudging.com](http://www.winejudging.com) and many of the award winners will have the opportunity to be showcased at the exclusive Public Tasting in San Francisco, February 18, 2012 (mark your calendars, it is a sold out event each year.)

Founded in 1983 as the modestly sized Cloverdale Citrus Fair Wine Competition, the SFCWC broke world records in 2007 with 3,800 American wines entered, offi-

cially designating it as the largest competition of American wines in the world.

In 2011, over 60 experts within the media, trade, hospitality and education industries from around the country witnessed an astounding 5,050 entries, a number that, once again, solidified the SFCWC's reputation as the premier competition of American varietals throughout the United States and the world.

According to Robert Fraser, Executive Director of the Competition, "we are amazed at the response we continue to receive each year."

We invite all wineries to join us on the cutting edge of the wine industry throughout the United States.

Sign up now -- wine entry information and forms are available at: [www.winejudging.com](http://www.winejudging.com).

## Call for Nominations to Fill Open Seats on IWGA Board of Directors

The Iowa Wine Growers Association is now accepting nominations to fill three open seats on the Board of Directors.

The board seats that will become 'open' are currently held by Diane Larson, Dave Cushman, and Mike Pence. Diane and Dave have chosen to serve the IWGA in alternative ways for this coming year, while Mike Pence will run for re-election. The remaining, returning board members are: John Guinan, Ron Mark, Jeff Quint, Kevin Smith and Joan O'Brien.

Each seat will require the commitment of a three-year term, which will begin upon commencement of the Annual Meeting on March 17, 2012. Nominations will be accepted through January 27, with election ballots being mailed out early February. The ballots will need to be received/postmarked by March 1, 2012 to be considered.

If you are interested in seeking a board seat or would like to nominate someone from your company, please fill out the attached board nomination form and FAX or mail it back to the IWGA offices at 900 Des Moines St, Des Moines, IA 50309.

If you have questions please contact Joan O'Brien: [joano@agribiz.org](mailto:joano@agribiz.org) or call the office at 515-262-8323/800-383-1682.

## 'TTB' Proposes Rules For Use of Wine Making Terms

The Alcohol & Tobacco Tax & Trade Bureau (TTB) recently published an advanced notice of proposed rulemaking (ANPRM), TTB Notice No. 109, which would define various labeling terms for TTB purposes.

The second ANPRM from TTB requests public comment on the use of specific wine making terms used in labeling and advertisement of wine to explain growing and bottling conditions.

The terms in question include: as "estate," "estates" or "estate bottled," as well as "proprietor grown," "vintner

grown," "vineyard," "orchard," "farm," "ranch," "proprietors blend," "old vine," "barrel fermented," "old clone," "reserve," "select harvest," "bottle aged," and "barrel select".

The comments period for [Notice No. 109](#) has been extended until March 4, 2011, by [Notice No. 113](#). For more information on both of these ANPRMs and how to submit comments please visit the TTB website at: [www.ttb.gov](http://www.ttb.gov).

For more information please go to: <http://www.ttb.gov/wine/wine-rulemaking.shtml>

## Iowa Vintners Quality Alliance Ready for Samples

The Iowa Vintners Quality Alliance (IVQA) is ready to process the first group of Iowa Wines. The attached IVQA Guidelines lay out how this process is going to work. The Midwest Grape and Wine Industry Institute's Wine Lab is asking for samples to be submitted by November 11, 2011. The first tasting panel is scheduled for December 8, with results being sent to submitting wineries by

December 12.

If you have questions please contact Joan O'Brien @ [joano@agribiz.org](mailto:joano@agribiz.org) or by calling the office at 515-262-8323. You may also contact the Midwest Grape and Wine Industry Institute at 515 - 294-3308.

Our current 2011 Winery VQA Members include:

<b>Ardon Creek Vineyard &amp; Winery, LLC</b> Letts, IA	<b>Madison County Winery</b> Urbandale, IA	<b>Summerset Winery</b> Indianola, IA
<b>Breezy Hills Winery</b> Minden, IA	<b>Park Farm Winery, Inc.</b> Durango, IA	<b>Tassel Ridge Winery LLC</b> Leighton, IA
<b>Brick Arch Winery</b> Iowa City, IA	<b>Prairie Crossing Vineyard &amp; Winery</b> Treynor, IA	<b>TownsEnd Winery</b> Hampton, IA
<b>Covered Bridges Winery, LLC</b> Winterset, IA	<b>Rosey Acres Winery</b> Runnels, IA	<b>The Winery at Kirkwood</b> Cedar Rapids, IA
<b>Eagles Landing Winery</b> Marquette, IA	<b>Santa Marie Vineyard &amp; Winery</b> Carroll, IA	<b>Wide River Winery</b> Clinton, IA
<b>Englebrecht Family Winery</b> Fredericksburg	<b>Schade Creek Vineyard &amp; Winery</b> Waukee, IA	<b>Winneshiek Wildberry Winery</b> Decorah, IA
<b>Fireside Winery</b> Marengo, IA	<b>Snus Hill Vineyard &amp; Winery</b> Madrid, IA	<b>Tabor Home Vineyard &amp; Winery</b> Baldwin, IA
<b>John Ernest Vineyard &amp; Winery</b> Tama, IA		

Our current 2011 Vineyard VQA Members include:

<b>Cedar Ridge Vineyards</b> Swisher, IA	<b>Liberty Hills Vineyard</b> New Virginia, IA
<b>Chalkridge Vineyard</b> Fort Madison, IA	<b>Middle River Vineyard</b> Carlisle, IA
<b>Chanting Oaks Vineyard</b> Colfax, IA	<b>Pheasant Cove Vineyard</b> Ames, IA
<b>Chateau Pirotte</b> Iowa City, IA	<b>Prairie Vineyards, LC</b> Ames, IA
<b>Heaven &amp; Earth Vineyards</b> Johnston, IA	<b>Roetta Studios &amp; Vineyard</b> Farnhamville, IA

## Iowa Wine and Beer App Now Available for Download

After many months of hard work our Iowa Wine and Beer App is now available for downloading. You can link to the Apple App store through our website – [www.iowawineandbeer.com](http://www.iowawineandbeer.com). You'll find the link on the right hand side. I'm also pleased to tell you that we are getting a lot of great response from the media.

