

# The Grape Communicator

*A Newsletter for the Illinois Grape & Wine Industry*

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**Volume 1, Number 2**

**May/June 2005**

## **A NEW SEASON OF CHANGE**

Let me be briefly philosophical. I always heard that there are two things you can be sure of in life. Oddly, one is death. Annoyingly, the second is taxes. But I think another thing you can be sure of in life (and it is probably more important in our day-to-day living) is change. You have probably seen the baby-boomer email message that seems to float around in the ether about how much simpler life was when we were young. Sorry, all that has changed. Everyone today seems to drive SUVs. According to the price of gas and GM bond ratings, that is about to change. And as I get older and visit my doctor to discuss my health/lifestyle, I learn about some more changes. I could say it's good, I could say it's bad, but it is going to happen. The key is, being able to respond and adapt. That is why humans have succeeded in the face of natural selection anyway, so it shouldn't be a problem, should it?

But change challenges us day-by-day, minute-by-minute. Living is the art of responding, anticipating and taking advantage of change. When I was a kid in Champaign County in the 50's, if

someone said the farmer down the road was going to plant grapes and make wine, a crowd would have formed. Some might have had placards, others probably would have had wine glasses. But today, Illinois wine is becoming recognized, understood and sought out. While it still remains somewhat of a novelty in some areas of the state, that is changing quickly as the consumer in Illinois and beyond becomes accustomed to the opportunity to buy Illinois. There will be many changes as the industry continues to grow. It is critical that members of the industry be pro-active about these changes.

This is the second issue of the Grape Communicator. I hope it plays a role in helping each of you in the Illinois grape and wine industry address the changes and challenges as you build your businesses and the industry as a whole. The articles inside will touch on a number of topics related to the industry today. I hope you enjoy them and find a way to put them to practical use.

Bill Shoemaker

## IGGVA BRINGS RICHARD SMART TO ILLINOIS



Wine grape growers in Illinois and the Midwest will have an opportunity to experience the viticultural leadership of one of the world's foremost viticulturists, Dr. Richard Smart, as the Illinois Grape Growers and Vintners Association brings him to Illinois in July. Recently the winner of the Wine Personality of the Year Award, a global wine industry honor, Dr. Smart has made a career out of advising vineyard managers around the world. One of the original flying viticulturists, his work has been primarily in new world vineyards; from his home base of Australia to South America, California, South Africa and New Zealand. But his link to cold-climate viticulture is relatively direct, as he worked with Dr. Nelson Shaulis of Cornell University in the 1960's as he earned his PhD. His work with Dr. Shaulis included contributing to the development of the Geneva Double Curtain grape trellis system. It also led to a more thorough understanding of the role of canopy

management in balancing yield and quality in producing wine grapes. He also is well-known as a champion of wine grape growers as unsung heroes in the process of making quality wines. His concepts and ideas were brought together in a critically acclaimed book, "Sunlight Into Wine". More information about Dr. Smart can be found at his website, [www.smartvit.com.au](http://www.smartvit.com.au).

While he is well-known for his work with canopy management to improve wine grape quality, Dr. Smart has also been a pioneer in the use of new technology as a tool for maximizing the potential of vineyard sites. In particular, he has recognized the potential for linkage between global positioning systems and satellite climatology as an opportunity for correlating unique sites with other viticultural sites globally. This creates opportunities to learn how success in one site can be translated into new opportunity for similar sites, called "homoclimates", around the world. His presentations in Illinois will discuss the application of homoclimates and canopy management for building success into Midwest viticulture.

Dr. Smart will be coming to Illinois from July 26-29, 2005, where he will be presenting one workshop in the north and another one in the south. He will also be available for consulting to individual vineyard owners and managers during his visit. A fee will be charged for his consultations. Details of his agenda are not yet completed. Look for more information soon as it is released.

## ILLINOIS VINEYARD AND WINERY SURVEY UNDERWAY

The survey of Illinois' wineries and vineyards is making great progress. It was sent out in early May to as many members of the industry as could be discovered. Further notifications will be forthcoming in an effort to gain as high a response rate as possible. The survey is being conducted by the University of Illinois, Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences, where the UI viticulture program is conducted. The lead researcher, Dr. Gene Campbell, is an experienced statistician who has conducted surveys of other horticultural industries in Illinois.

The purpose of this survey is to gain a detailed description of the commercial vineyard and winery operations in Illinois as they currently exist. The grape and wine industry is one of the fastest growing industries in the state so data from 3 to 5 years ago is insufficient to describe the industry today. An accurate description of the industry is key to marketing it to consumers and public officials. The industry is growing because the consumer enjoys the product the industry provides. As the public learns that the industry is truly growing, new consumers become interested in the product. So solid, uncompromised information on the growth of the industry contributes to further growth for the industry. It also generates interest among public officials for supporting the industry as it generates new

opportunities for Illinois citizens, particularly in hard-hit rural economies. Lastly, the information is critical for grape and wine industry leaders as they plan activities to guide the industry in its growth.

It is critical that the members of the industry respond to this survey so that the final response rate is as high as possible. The higher the response rate, the greater our confidence can be in the results. For those who might be concerned that it makes private information available to anyone who seeks it, the data collected from the surveys is bulked to eliminate any connection to those who return their surveys. As it is compiled, it develops a more complete picture of the industry, while at the same time it further distances the data from any individual contributor. In the end, the survey will describe the industry as a whole, creating a picture of one of Illinois' most dynamic commercial success stories. If anyone who has received the survey is unsure how to fill it out or has questions about it, please feel free to contact Gene Campbell at 217/333-0350 or [gcampbl@uiuc.edu](mailto:gcampbl@uiuc.edu) or Bill Shoemaker, Sr Research Specialist at the UI, at 630/584-7254 or [wshoemak@inil.com](mailto:wshoemak@inil.com).



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## UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

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### **WORKSHOP SET FOR CENTRAL ILLINOIS GRAPE GROWERS**

University of Illinois Extension is hosting a Viticulture Workshop on Saturday, May 21, at the Hill Prairie Vineyard and Winery in Oakford. This is the second of three grape production workshops scheduled for central Illinois growers. The program runs from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., and advance registration is needed.

Richard Weinzierl, U of I fruit and vegetable entomologist, will present information on insect control options. Also on the program is Mosbah Kushad, U of I food crops specialist, who will discuss grape rootstocks. In addition to the classroom instruction, growers will have an opportunity to tour the on-site vineyard to discuss current field observations.

Hill Prairie Vineyard and Winery is located just off Route 97, approximately 30 miles northwest of Springfield. One-half mile south of Oakford, turn east on County Road 180. Look for the Methodist Church welcoming sign. After you've turned onto 180, the Hill Prairie Vineyard and Winery is the first area on the right. If you need additional

directions, call Hill Prairie Vineyard and Winery at 217-635-5302.

Advance reservations are required by May 20. Please register by calling the Edwardsville U of I Extension Center at 618-692-9434. If you need disability accommodations to participate in this program, please indicate when registering.

Source: Elizabeth Wahle, Extension Specialist, Horticultural Food Crops, 618-692-9434.

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### **NORTHERN ILLINOIS GRAPE CANOPY MANAGEMENT WORKSHOPS**

To achieve high quality in wine, it is an axiom of the wine industry that you need high quality wine grapes. To achieve high quality in wine grapes, it is an axiom of the grape industry that you need high quality grape growers. In Illinois, while we have high quality wine grape growers, many of them are young and inexperienced. To help them take their management skills to a higher

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## UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

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### **NORTHERN ILLINOIS GRAPE CANOPY MANAGEMENT WORKSHOPS (cont.)**

level, a series of grape canopy management workshops will be held across northern Illinois. These workshops will be designed to help wine grape growers understand how to achieve goals of the highest level of quality in their grapes, reasonable yields and maintenance of excellent vine health. The workshops will take place in established wine grape vineyards, affording demonstration of techniques which help growers reach those goals. Presenting these workshops in northern Illinois will be Bill Shoemaker, Sr Research Specialist-Food Crops, University of Illinois.

The first workshop will take place at the Mackinaw Valley Winery in Mackinaw, IL on June 8, 2005. The winery is on IL Rt 9 about 25 miles west of Bloomington, IL, or 25 miles east of Pekin, IL. The second will take place the next day, June 9, near Sandwich, IL at the Faltz Family Vineyards (Fox Valley Winery). To find the vineyard, take US Rt 34 to the west side of Sandwich, IL. Turn south on Gletty Rd. One mile later at the T-intersection, turn right. You will quickly come to a stop sign, where you will turn left. Take this road south 4-5 miles and follow it around a long curve turning west. Follow it further west about 1/2 mile. The entrance to the

vineyard will be on your left. The last grape canopy management workshop in northern Illinois will take place at Arbor Hill Vineyards in Galena, IL on June 25.

The vineyard is west of Scales Mound, IL. Follow West Culvert road out of Scales Mound and it will turn into North Culvert road. After about 4 miles, take a left on West East Road. The vineyard will be about 2 miles on your left. All of these workshops will have a starting time of 9:00 am and will take place in vineyards so attendees should dress for field conditions. Bring umbrellas or other suitable rain-gear if the forecast is for rain. For more information, call Bill Shoemaker at 630/584-7254 or send him an email at [wshoemak@inil.com](mailto:wshoemak@inil.com)

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### **REMINDER:**

**DON'T FORGET TO MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THE UPCOMING WORKSHOPS FEATURING VITICULTURIST: *RICHARD SMART***  
(SEE PAGE 2)

## FREEZE DAMAGE TO GRAPES IN THE NORTH

Bill Shoemaker

Commercial grape growers in northern Illinois had another tough Spring freeze during the period of May 1-5, 2005. This follows 2 out of 3 previous Spring seasons with frost or freeze events causing some damage. The extent of damage varied by location but some damage seems to have been experienced by all through the northern half of Illinois. Exacerbating the degree of damage was the advanced stage of plant development, particularly in the northernmost tiers of counties. This came as a result of record-breaking heat experienced during the first two weeks of April, pushing plants out of dormancy and initiating bud-swell earlier than normal. While the latter two weeks of April experienced cool temperatures, the inertia of growth carried bud-swell into bud-break by the end of April, depending on the variety of grape. While Marachel Foch and Frontenac were well into bud-break, Chambourcin and Melody were still largely dormant, though bud-swell seemed to be about to initiate.

Temperatures experienced by growers ranged from mid- to lower-twenties. Buds that had already broken were very susceptible to these temperatures and were largely lost. While these were mostly primary buds, in many cases secondary buds had also opened and were lost. In those cases, crop losses could be very high. But site selection

and local effect created varied impact across the region. NE Illinois may have been spared some of the impact by cloud cover on May 3 and lake effect from Lake Michigan on May 4 due to strong NE wind patterns. Still, certain sites there also sustained damage.

Walking through the grape variety trial at the St Charles Horticulture Research Center, I observed some interesting differences between cultivars in their response to the cold. Varieties with distinct *Vitis riparia* heritage, such as Frontenac or St Pepin, seemed to withstand the temperatures experienced there better than varieties without riparia genetics, such as Foch. Even though the former had 1.5" shoots, similar to Foch, freeze damage was significantly lower than Foch. Perhaps the combination of a long cold period prior to the freeze conditioned the riparia varieties, which are naturally selected to endure northern climates, to withstand a cold event. Just conjecture but it certainly was interesting to observe in the vineyard.

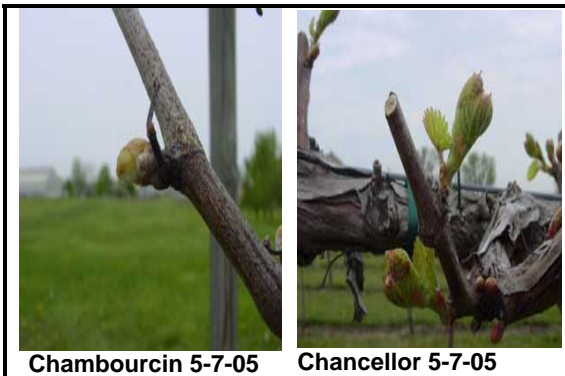
How much will this impact production in the north in 2005? It's hard to tell this soon after the event. It will depend on the survival of primary and secondary buds across the industry. This will be hard to evaluate until the plants have grown out of the damage a little more. Certainly the industry has taken a serious hit and a lighter than normal crop can be expected. In some vineyards, the losses will be severe. It clearly points to the need for strategies to address this risk in Illinois. Look to an article by Denise Cimmarrusti in this issue to discuss one such strategy.

## PRUNING STRATEGY FOR FROST PROTECTION

Denise Cimmarrusti

Living in Illinois, most of us know that temperatures during the spring season can be very unpredictable. Those individuals who grow fruits, such as apple, peaches or grapes, know how disappointing and devastating a spring frost/freezing can be to their crops. Recently in May, Illinois suffered one such episode. Aside from praying that the freezing temperatures would spare our fruit crops, there wasn't much anyone could do to change nature's unpredictable ways.

In the southern part of the state, grape growers had finished their dormant pruning and were already applying fungicides to protect the developing shoots. Growers in the northern part of Illinois had also finished their pruning tasks and were watching their vines as bud break progressed into shoot elongation. Here, in Northern Illinois, grape varieties were at various stages in their phenological development.



Then on May 3 and May 4, Illinois experienced freezing temperatures.

The only recourse most growers had, which was; by no means a source of comfort, was to walk through their vineyards and evaluate the percentage of primary bud loss that this freeze/frost episode had caused.

At the St Charles Research Center, I also went through the vineyards and evaluated the vines for primary bud/shoot damage. Varieties which showed shoot growth of 1½ - 2" such as Marachel Foch, fared the worst with 25-85% primary shoot loss. Fortunately, however, the buds we needed for our crop showed little damage. Why had these buds been spared? A major factor preceding this outcome was due to the fact that we had decided to incorporate a practice called long pruning or double pruning. This Technique in pruning is supposed to reduce the damaging effects of spring frosts on primary fruiting shoots. Transposing this technique into our vineyard for evaluation, proved to be something of merit, as early results look very promising to help reduce damage from spring frosts to primary shoots.

The way this strategy works is quite interesting. During the task of dormant pruning, canes are not pruned back to the traditional two bud spurs, but left longer containing many more buds. In an article

written by Dr. Gordon Howell and Dr. Keith Streigler, entitled “Pruning Grapevines in Michigan”, the concept is best explained as such. “This procedure utilizes the apical dominance of buds on a cane. That is, the first buds on a cane to begin to grow are those on the tip of the cane. Buds closer to the base of the cane begin growth later than buds at the tip.” Knowing that buds further along in development are less hardy, the buds at the tip of the cane develop first and suppress the development of the buds at the base. As a result, the suppressed buds at the base are more cold hardy because they are less developed.



This photo (Marachel Foch, taken in the cold hardiness evaluation trial) clearly shows the results of having implemented such a strategy.

The procedure of selecting canes or spurs for the long pruning procedure process are dealt with as in normal pruning. The difference comes into focus when deciding the number of buds to retain. Instead of spurs being cut back to two buds per spur, they are left as longer number of buds. Dr. Howell’s and Dr. Streigler’s article mentions retaining



Long spur showing 5-7 buds

canes with 10–15 more nodes per cane than is actually necessary for the type of trellis system used. Buds are only cut back after the threat of frost for that particular region has passed.

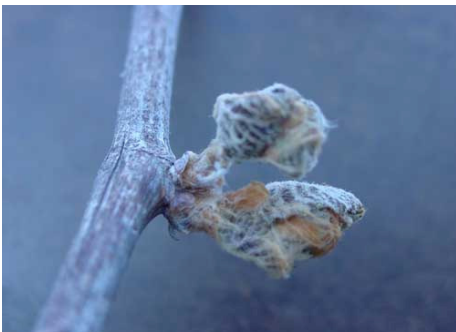
For our evaluation purposes, using Marachel Foch and Frontenac, spurs were cut at pruning to retain 5 to 7 buds total, not counting the basal bud. Utilizing this technique, bud break on these fruitful buds may have been delayed somewhere between 10 and 14 days. The actual delay period a grower can hope to achieve with using this method will vary from year to year depending on environmental conditions such as temperature, as bud development is closely linked to temperature.

The vines in the St. Charles Horticulture Research Center vineyard experienced two consecutive nights (May 3 & 4) with freezing temperatures. As I walked through the rows, the first sign of visual freeze damage was observed on the long spurs of Marachel Foch. Primaries, which had initiated growth back in April and were about 1 1/2” inches in length, were noticeably damaged. These primary shoots were the buds furthest from the base of the cane. The two buds closest to the base, in most instances,

**Frost protection & Pruning Strategy (cont)**

were still closed and showed no visual damage. Frontenac, a slightly later cultivar than Marachel Foch for bud break, did not reveal as great a quantity of damaged shoots. The bud break pattern, however was similar to Marachel Foch with buds closest to the base of the canes remaining closed and the others on the cane being about 1 ½” long.

Another interesting observation between the two varieties was the tendency for vines to break their primary and secondary buds simultaneously. Although both varieties exhibited this tendency, Frontenac’s tendency for this trait was minor in comparison to Marachel Foch. Of the four blocks of Marachel Foch evaluated, half of the blocks lost 100% of their developing secondary shoots, one quarter of the blocks lost 50-75% of their secondaries, and the remaining 25% lost between 0 and 33.3% of the developing secondary shoots.



Marachel Foch showing budbreak of primary and secondary buds

This preliminary study has given a glimmer of hope for delaying bud break of the fruiting buds, thus preventing primary bud damage from our unpredictable spring frost/freeze episodes.




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## *IN THE NEWS*

On Monday, May 9, 2005, the Courts over turned a ruling making the ban on inter-state shipping of wine, unconstitutional.

This ban was in effect in New York and Michigan, as well as nearly 24 other states. After Mondays decision, legislators will have to work on revisions in their states law to reflect this new ruling. Wine lovers, as well as winemakers, all view this as a step forward. To read more about this ruling visit CNN at the link below.

<http://www.cnn.com/2005/LAW/05/16/s cotus.wine.shipments.ap/index.html>

## VITICULTURE PROFILES IN ILLINOIS

### Viticultural Profile From Northern Illinois



**Denise Cimmarrusti, Vineyard Technician  
St. Charles Horticulture Research Center**

My interest in horticulture is mainly in fruits and vegetables with a strong focused interest in viticulture. It seems I've always been interested in plants and their growth habits but fruits and vegetables have always captured most of my attention. In addition to my interest in horticulture, I also have many passionate hobbies.

In September 1999, one of my hobbies: wine making, began to expand and a stronger interest in grape growing started to develop. I volunteered some of my time at the St. Charles Horticulture Research Center, working with various research trial plots, including the grape trials. At the Research Center, I've gained much practical educational experience working with the grape trials and have had the opportunity to conduct some research yield trials in

my areas of personal interest: heirloom vegetables

In February 2005, I became employed as the Viticulture Technician for The St. Charles Horticulture Research Center and work there part time. My main responsibilities at the research center are for the daily management practices of the vineyards and the coordination of labor for the vineyards.

I am also responsible for putting together the semi-monthly Illinois grape newsletter, "The Grape Communicator". As editor, I am very excited to be working with this industry and with this newsletter. I think this newsletter can be a grand opportunity for this industry to come together and strengthen lines of communication within our state.

In addition to my work at the Research Center, I also spend some time working with grapes in two other commercial vineyards as well as trying to find some time to spend working in a commercial winery.

My educational endeavors are on-going. I am presently in the VESTA (Viticulture & Enology Science & Technology Alliance) program and have almost completed requirements for certification for the viticulture program. In the fall, I plan to continue course work in the enology field, while also pursuing a degree in business.

*Contact information: St. Charles  
Research Center (630) 584-7254 or  
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## VITICULTURE PROFILES IN ILLINOIS

### Viticultural Profile From Central Illinois



**Elizabeth A. Wahle**  
University Of IllinoisExtension

My main objective as a University of Illinois Extension Specialist is to provide program leadership, interpret and integrate information and teach in the horticultural food crops field, maintain the competencies to develop and deliver horticultural programming, and assist clients with the appropriate resource bases.

My educational background started at Purdue University, where I completed my undergraduate work in Commercial Horticulture. It was there that my interest shifted from ornamental horticulture to horticultural food crops, leading to graduate work at University of Illinois. At University of Illinois, both my M.S. and Ph.D. work focused on alternative weed control options in vegetable production. My M.S. work focused on cover crop management, and my Ph.D. focused on fertility

management. Directly after completion of my graduate work, I began work for University of Illinois Extension in 2002 as a horticulture educator, specializing in fruit and vegetable production.

Coming into this position, I felt comfortable in the vegetable production arena, but knew I would be on a steep leaning curve for the tree and small fruits. With the generous help of many growers, retired UI Extension, fruit specialist not only in Illinois but surrounding states, and many others, I have gained a good working knowledge of home and commercial tree and small fruit production. I organize several commercial educational programs, including the Illinois Horseradish Growers School, the Southern Illinois Vegetable School, and the Southern Illinois Tree Fruit Schools. I also assist or serve on the program committee for the Illinois Specialty Crops Conference and the Small Fruit and Strawberry Schools. During the growing season I organize twilight grower meetings, orchard tours, and field days for the tree fruit, vegetable, and horseradish growers.

Though I mention small fruit as a whole, I have not had the same exposure to grapes as I have blueberries, brambles, or strawberries.

## VITICULTURE PROFILES IN ILLINOIS

### Viticultural Profile

Central Illinois Viticulture Profile cont.

Many of you heard me speak at the grape workshops held last April in Carbondale, Oakford, and Galena, where I talked about weed control options. It is my goal to further build my working knowledge of grape production beyond weed control options, so that I may be more beneficial to new and experienced growers. IGGVA has asked me to be the first point of contact for central Illinois grape growers and to provide educational programming. I am currently planning three grape workshops for the central region. I maintain a web site that lists all upcoming events in which I have involvement, and you may view it at <http://web.extension.uiuc.edu/regions/hort/>.

With the growth of the grape and wine industry in Illinois, I look forward to playing a part in its continued growth and success.

Elizabeth A. Wahle  
 Extension Specialist - Horticulture,  
 Fruits and Vegetables  
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 mailto: [wahle@uiuc.edu](mailto:wahle@uiuc.edu)

### Viticultural Profile From Southern Illinois



Alan Dillard

Alan has been growing grapes and making wine in Southern Illinois since 1980. He is currently owner/winemaker (janitor, bookkeeper, etc.) at Limestone Creek Winery in Jonesboro, IL., in the Shawnee Hills.

In addition, he was a viticulture consultant to the Illinois Grape and Wine Resources Council, research assistant to Dr. Imed Dami, helping to establish the research vineyards in Galena, New Salem and Carbondale areas, and is now a member of the viticulture team of Bill Shoemaker, Elizabeth Wahle. He has the responsibility for providing viticultural assistance to growers in the southern portion of the state.

Alan can be reached at (618) 534-9049 or at [adillard@midwest.net](mailto:adillard@midwest.net).

## **SO FAR, SO GOOD – A VINEYARD REPORT FROM SOUTHERN ILLINOIS**

Alan Dillard

Over the past three weeks, I have had the opportunity to visit about thirty vineyards scattered from Benton/ Mt. Vernon area south to southern Union county and have seen mostly good conditions in the vineyards. The cool weather has slowed shoot development, but this week (May 9-16) promises to be warmer, although also wetter.

I have seen a considerable amount of primary shoot burning due to late frost, but only in sites with poorer cold air drainage or in low lying areas of some vineyards. In most cases the damage was in the range of 20 to 30% of shoots with some burning. Some vineyards with cold “dams” of trees or even buildings near vines which blocked the movement of air out of the vineyard had considerably higher levels of damage, as much as 60% or even more of the primary shoots with severe burning. Those of you who have not planted yet, take a good hard look at the perimeter of your site and remember that tree lines, particularly with low under story brush involved, not only harbor birds, but increase the likelihood of frost damage and also cut down on wind movement through your vineyard!

Most of the varieties grown in the area will still produce a good crop from secondary buds, and in the case of Seyval, for example, they will still try to

crop themselves to death if you don't cluster thin. At least it will cut down on summer canopy management (we hope).

Two other potential problem areas I have noticed in the vines has been some early black rot and phomopsis signs. With the wetter weather arriving, you should walk your vineyard daily and keep to a VERY good spray schedule.

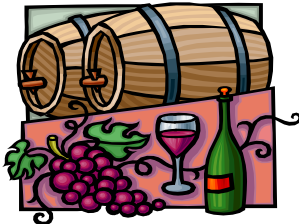
For those of you in the deep south, below I-64, you should have already sprayed at least three times. Some folks have sprayed four. The better your control early, the better your crop and the less disease pressure later.

Those of you who have been using Nova for some years may want to look at switching to Topsin M or another alternative, since resistance to Nova has been reported in some sites. And please, please remember not to over apply any of the strobilurins (Abound, Sovran, Flint, even the new Pristine), since they are also susceptible to resistance buildup!!

Hope you are all caught up in your vineyard and don't hesitate to contact me (or Elizabeth or Bill) for any help we can offer. Keep in touch.







[www.illinoiswine.com](http://www.illinoiswine.com)

**NEWS FROM THE  
ILLINOIS GRAPE GROWERS  
&  
VINTNERS ASSOCIATION**

I

*Presidents  
Corner*

*by Jim Nickell*

G

At the time of this writing our biggest concern is the damage of the May 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> spring frost and freeze. Most of the freeze was north of Route 40 with spotted frost south to a hard freeze in the Galena area.

G

I have talked to many grape growers and get unusual responses. Robert Hall in the Galena area (North West Illinois), stated at the home vineyard, he recorded a low temperature of 19 degrees, while in his second vineyard a few miles away just a frost. His comments were “we have lost 100% of the Frontenac grapes but just a light burn on the second vineyard.”

V

A

Richard Faltz of Oswego, in Northern IL stated there was some damage on all his grapes. Some with 100% damage others with light

damage.

Mark Lounsberry reported 100% damage at Oakford near Springfield while Gene Meyer reported light damage at Pittsfield but very little damage at Rolling Hills Vineyard in New Salem.

Here at Belleview Hollow, 100% of the Foch, Frontenac, Chardonel and table grapes were hit hard. It is weird that among these grapes were other varieties, such as Traminette, NY73, NY70, Chambourcin and those up the hill with 100’ elevation, showed no damage whatsoever. The damage in the lower vineyard will be of concern to us due to regrowth and a delay in the harvesting dates.

Elizabeth Wahle, (U of I Extension) in Edwardsville stated that not only grapes were affected but other fruit crops suffered as well. The most reported damage was in the West Central and Northern IL areas.

Mike Boegler at Anna, Illinois had some light frost but no visible damage.

As for the IGGVA things are running smoothly, lots of activities coming up, workshops, seminars and tours. Please check the Web site calendar for the times and dates.



[www.illinoiswine.com](http://www.illinoiswine.com)

**NEWS FROM THE  
ILLINOIS GRAPE GROWERS  
&  
VINTNERS ASSOCIATION**

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**ILLINOIS GRAPE  
GROWERS & VINTNERS  
ASSOCIATION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
MEETING  
MINUTES MAY 9, 2005  
*Bill Mc Cartney***

G

**ATTENDEES:** Jim Nickell, Dick Faltz, Paul Renzaglia, Brenda Logan, Mike Boegler, Robert Hall, Paul Hahn, Mark Lounsberry, Larry Hanold, Gene Meyer, Brad Genung, Jim Ewers, Wally Furrow and Bill McCartney. Guests: Susu Block and Alexa Gunther Edelman Group.

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V

President Nickell called the meeting to order at 10:05 AM.  
**Secretary's Report** – Mark Lounsberry moved and Larry Hanold seconded to approve the minutes of the previous meetings as distributed. Motion carried.

A

**Treasurer's Report** – The report was distributed and discussed. Dick Faltz moved and Gene Meyer seconded to accept the report. Motion

carried.

Small Fruit Growers proceedings were distributed.

**Research Committee** – No Report

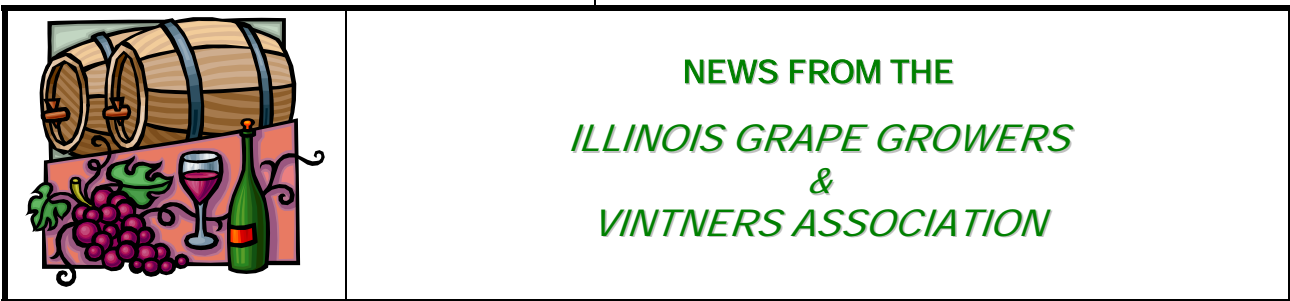
**Vineyard Training Committee** – Chair Jim Ewers distributed the report. A meeting will be scheduled soon with the Migrant Worker Council to discuss the program. Mark Lounsberry moved and Paul Hahn seconded to accept the report. Motion Carried.

**Old Business**

**Dues Structure** – Paul Hahn moved and Dick Faltz seconded to discuss the dues structure. After considerable discussion of fees Paul Hahn moved and Larry Hanold seconded to create three levels of dues: Commercial Wineries will pay \$100 even though there may be a vineyard associated with the winery; anyone raising grapes with the intent to market them will pay \$50 dues and Associate – non-voting members will pay \$25. Motion carried. The Associate membership would be for people not fitting into the other two categories. The new dues schedule will be effective January 1, 2005.

**DuQuoin State Fair** – It was suggested that the wineries be contacted to see how many would be interested in attending this fair. President Nickell appointed Mike Boegler and Bill McCartney to work out the details.

**C-FAR Appointments** – President Nickell appointed Wally Furrow, Brad Genung, Mark Lounsberry, Paul Hahn and Bill McCartney to the C-FAR working groups.



**NEWS FROM THE  
ILLINOIS GRAPE GROWERS  
&  
VINTNERS ASSOCIATION**

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**BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
MEETING  
MINUTES (cont.)**

**State Fair Guide** – Alexa Gunther reported on her work with Joel Satterfield in creating the State Fair Guide, which will feature the Illinois Wine Garden on the back page. Robert Hall moved and Gene Meyer seconded to accept the report. Motion carried.

**Hilton Hotel Contracts** – McCartney briefly discussed the contracts and the modifications that had been made by IGGVA, which have been included. McCartney plans to deliver the contracts following the meeting. Dick Faltz moved and Jim Ewers seconded to approve the contracts.

**New Business**

Brenda Logan reported that IGGVA has an ad in the Northern Illinois Visitor Guide. She suggested that everyone contact their Convention and Visitor

Bureaus to place information in the respective guides. She showed a copy of

the ad in the recent Connoisseur Magazine.

She reported that the License To Steal Conference will be in November. She would like to see the IGGVA sponsor some attendees. This will be placed on the next meeting agenda. She stated that WGN, Dr. Carey and Dave Stricklin have not been paid for April. Paul Hahn moved and Jim Ewers seconded to pay these bills when the money becomes available. Motion Carried.

**September Wine Month Activities** – Susu Block and Alexa Gunther reviewed the list of suggested activities. It was decided that each Director should review the list and send suggestions to Susu and Alexa. Any plans that individual wineries have for September should be forwarded to Edelman for promotion.

**Enology Survey** – The survey was created by Mark Wenzel and Christine Lawlor-White. Paul Renzaglia explained the need to conduct a survey of wineries to determine their needs. He will confer with members of the Enology Committee and develop a survey. The Committee consists of Paul, Dick Faltz, Christine Lawlor-White, Rick Mamoser, Dan Webb and Mark Wenzel.



**NEWS FROM THE  
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**BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
MEETING  
MINUTES (cont.)**

**Requests**

**Shawnee Wine Trail** – Requested \$20,000 for Trail Head Signage, Printing of Brochures and Distribution and Marketing St. Louis. Brad Genung discussed this proposal.

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**Viticulture Workshop** – A request was submitted for \$8400 to fund two workshops with presentations by Richard Smart. The dates are July 26 to 29. The one workshop will be in the north and one in the south. There will be a charge to attend the workshop. Robert Hall moved and Paul Hahn seconded to spend \$8,400 to contract with Richard Smart to conduct two viticulture workshops in Illinois. Roll call vote was taken and there were 11 yeas and 0 nays.

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**Enology Workshop** – Christine Lawlor-White plans to contract with Larry Biagi of American Tartaric Products for \$1,000 to hold a workshop at Galena Cellars. The

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**Interstate Wine Trail** - Bruce Morganstern discussed this proposal. There are 10 wineries involved. The facility must be with a 5 minute drive off the Interstate. Each winery will contribute \$1,000 initially and pay a \$500 maintenance fee. The Committee is requesting \$5,000 to create the trail, develop and print brochures. Following discussion Mike Boegler moved and Mark Lounsberry seconded to fund the Shawnee Wine Trail \$15,000 and the Interstate Wine Trail \$5,000. Motion carried.

question was asked if the location could be changed to Furrows. Following discussion Paul Hahn moved and Paul Renzaglia seconded to pay for the workshop providing the location could be changed Furrow Winery. Motion carried. The registration fee is \$30.

**DeKalb CVB** – Requesting link to IGGVA web site. Dick Faltz moved and Larry Hanold seconded to allow them to link to our web site providing we can link to theirs. Motion carried.

**Illinois Ag Leadership Foundation** – Pass this time. IGGVA has donated to another event sponsored by the Foundation.

**Gathering of the Green** – This Moline Group is requesting a display and material at their event in March of 2006.



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**BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
MEETING  
MINUTES (cont.)**

The Directors agreed to have the IGGVA display at their event

**Springfield Parks Foundation** – Five wineries – Alto, Hill Prairie, Mackinaw, Furrow and Vahling will attend.

**Geographic Indications & Sustainable Rural Development** – A meeting of this group will be held May 16 – 18 in St. Louis. IGGVA has been invited. Some Directors indicated an interest in attending.

**Announcements** – Several golf outings and other fund raisers were announced.

**Other Business** – Brenda Logan reported on the Governor’s Conference on Tourism, which was attended by five IGGVA members representing the four IGGVA Regions and the Board of Directors. It was reported that David Stricklin has

established his own group and the IGGVA account has been transferred from Gardner to Stricklin and Associates. McCartney will send the Daley itinerary for visiting vineyards and wineries to all of the Directors and Wineries.

The meeting was adjourned by President Jim Nickell at 2:35 PM.



This newsletter welcomes new contributors. If you would like to make a newsletter contribution, please contact Denise Cimmarrusti at [cimmarru@uiuc.edu](mailto:cimmarru@uiuc.edu) or Bill Shoemaker at [wshoemak@inil.com](mailto:wshoemak@inil.com).

If you are a vineyard or winery and would like to be included in the business profile, please contact Denise Cimmarrusti before submitting material.



*The Grape Communicator is an e-newsletter, free of charge, to those interested in the Illinois Grape and Wine Industry.*

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