



BC Wine Appreciation Society
Discover, Discuss, Experience and Enjoy

THE OLYMPIC WINE CHALLENGE!

Four wine societies: the Vancouver American Wine Society, the Australian Wine Appreciation Society, the British Columbia Wine Appreciation Society, and Les Chevaliers des Vins de France, took part in this event last evening. All attendees tasted – blind - 3 wines from each Society, and then voted for their favourites. The votes were counted, and the Gold Medal went to.....AUSTRALIA!! The results are tabled below.

		Votes	
1.	Australia	St. Halletts Blackwell Shiraz	274
2.	USA	Starmont Merryvale CS	411
3.	BC	Seven Stones Similkameen Meritage	415
4.	Australia	Thorn- Clarke Shotfire Shiraz	418
5.	BC	Fairview Cellars "The Bear"	510
6.	USA	Kenwood "Jack London" CS	520
7.	BC	Mission Hill "Compendium"	533
8.	USA	Ridge Sonoma "Three Valleys"	585
9.	Australia	Ringbolt Margaret River CS	609
10.	France	Ch. Belle Vue Bordeaux	668
11.	France	Canet Valette St. Chinian	711
12.	France	Crozes Hermitage	721

All the wines had to be under \$40.00 and readily available in the Liquor Store. We, in the AWAS, were particularly proud that the St. Halletts beat out 2nd place by over 140 votes! The spread between 2nd and 4th place was 7 votes, so we were delighted that the Shotfire Shiraz came so close to the podium. The Ringbolt CS suffered from quite a bit of bottle variation – the head of the US Society, tasting it blind, thought it could pass for a NZ Sauvignon Blanc. (Ignoring the colour of course!) Quite a few people did have this wine in their top 5.

This was a very enjoyable, and successful event. There were many attendees who wanted a repeat next year, focusing maybe on a single varietal. Your suggestions would be welcome.

Congratulations Australia!