VITICULTURE 2000 TAKES SHAPE

Timothy E. Martinson

Plans are being finalized for Viticulture 2000 – the one-time special winter meeting combining the Finger Lakes and Lake Erie Regional Grape grower’s conventions. Grape growers, processors representatives, the New York Wine & Grape Foundation, Cornell Cooperative Extension and the Cornell University viticulture group have all played major roles in putting together this program, featuring internationally known speakers, a large trade show, and the Unity Banquet.

To date, we have over 50 exhibitors lined up for the trade show, and expect to have all 80 spaces taken by early January. In another new development, Nathan Rudgers, NY Commissioner of Agriculture and Markets, will be a featured speaker during the Saturday luncheon and also in the Labor breakout session. Canandaigua Wine Company is sponsoring the Unity Banquet on Friday.

I encourage you to register early for this unique event. Early registration helps us (meeting organizers) to better plan for space and meeting rooms. Remember, if you send in registration before the end of December, you can deduct it as an educational expense against your 1999 income.

I have enjoyed another great year working with you through the Finger Lakes Grape Program. I look forward to the coming millennial year and the challenges and opportunities it will bring. Best wishes to you and your families for happy holidays and a prosperous ‘2000. See you at Viticulture 2000! ♦

January 16-20, 2000. 5th International Symposium on Cool Climate Viticulture and Enology. Melbourne, Australia. Extensive program on cool climate vineyard and winemaking techniques. Contact: ICMS Pty Ltd. 84 Queensbridge St, Southbank, Victoria 3006 Australia. Tel +61 3 9682 0244 Fax: +61 3 9682 0288. Email: coolclimate@icms.com.au


Sessions include ‘newcomer’ session, winemaking techniques for red hybrids, financial management, Riesling production, barrel room and retail room management. For information call 800-535-5670.


May, 2000. Proposed tour of Burgundy, hosted by Pascal Durand of the University of Dijon.