

National Office

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March 7, 2004,

Dear German Wine Society Members,

I am pleased to announce plans for our annual conference and business meeting. As chapter chairperson for Philadelphia, I invite you all to the wonderful Sofitel hotel in center city, Philadelphia. We have made every effort to provide interesting, informative programming featuring some of the finest German wines available in the USA today.

The festivities will begin with an informal reception featuring the wines of Cellars International (Rudi Wiest) on Friday, May 7. Saturday features a full program, including a morning wine tasting led by Alice Fitz of Weingut Fitz-Ritter in Bad Duerkheim, an afternoon tasting led by Nik Weiss of St. Urbans-Hof in Leiwen, and our banquet featuring wines from the Valckenberg portfolio with guest Nancy Peach. We conclude with a brunch tasting led by David Schildknecht on Sunday, May 9. Detailed information on these events is included in your packet, and we encourage you to visit us on the web at <http://www.germanwinesociety.org> for frequent updates or send a request via e-mail to our Secretary at hcaraher@d2b-group.com to be notified directly via e-mail.

Information about hotel accommodations is also included in your packet. Remember to mention the German Wine Society when making room reservations to receive our group discount. The hotel, located in the elite Rittenhouse Square area of downtown Philadelphia, **the** prime shopping district in town, is easily accessible by plane, train and automobile. The Philadelphia Museum of Art, the Franklin Institute and the Academy of Natural Sciences are all easily accessible by public transportation, as are the Liberty Bell, Betsy Ross House and Independence Hall. The program has been planned to allow for sightseeing and shopping on Friday or Sunday afternoon; there are also frequent breaks throughout the day on Saturday for you to enjoy all that the city offers.

We are anticipating a robust attendance at this conference, and, for that reason, suggest you send in your reservation form as early as possible. Those registering for the full program will enjoy priority over those registering for individual events, should we encounter space limitations. Please set aside time to attend the annual business meeting on Saturday afternoon, as listed in your schedule. If you will not be attending, please return the enclosed proxy form to our national office.

I look forward to welcoming you in Philadelphia.

Very truly yours,

Beth C. Sheligo
National President

Enclosures

