



# F.I.C.B. NEWSLETTER

**Fédération Internationale des Confréries Bachiques**

*“Sharing the love and the reason for wine »*

site: [www.winebrotherhoods.org](http://www.winebrotherhoods.org) contact : [info@winebrotherhoods.org](mailto:info@winebrotherhoods.org)



## N°18- MARCH 2024

*(most of the subjects covered are developed on our web site)*

### Message from the president

"Our federation seeks to raise awareness of its international events, as well as those organised by our members. More generally, we would like to highlight our members' initiatives to broaden their activities to promote wine traditions and expertise, such as blind varietal recognition competitions, winegrower song choirs or the organisation of wine competitions. It's a great way to keep them going and attract enthusiastic new members! Our website regularly reports on these initiatives and includes a calendar of events proposed by federation and our members.

**Alan Bryden**

### General assembly 2024



Our 2024 General Assembly was held in Paris on 27 January. It was attended by around sixty delegates from our members, who adopted a fine programme for the next 3 years. Several new members of the Board of administration were elected:

. **Eva MAKAI** (Order of the Ladies of Pannonia Hungary)

. **Tedd GOLDFINGER** (Renaud Society U.S.A.)

. **James READER** (Confraria do Vinho do Porto Portugal)

. **Pedro REGO** (Federation of Portuguese Wine Brotherhoods)

Eva MAKAI was elected Vice-Chairman for Hungary and Pedro REGO Vice-Chairman for Portugal. Participants then enjoyed lunch at the

recently renovated paris wine museum, renamed:



Le M. Musée du vin  
— PARIS

and the evening at Montmartre's iconic restaurant "La Bonne Franquette", preceded by a tour of the famous "Butte". (see *highlights of the AGM on the website*)

### Future F.I.C.B. events

The **2nd F.I.C.B. International Wine Tasting Challenge** will take place from 23 to 28 May 2024 in Hungary, organised by the Order of the Ladies of Pannonia.

. The **3rd F.I.C.B.-sponsored "Wine Discovery Tour"** is being organised in 2025 by the Order of the Knights of Alba in the Langhe-Roero and Piedmont regions of Italy from 22 to 26 May 2025.

*(registration is open: see link on our website)*

. The **53rd International Congress of the F.I.C.B.** will take place at the end of May 2026 in the Provence and Côte d'Azur region of France,

organised by the Illustrious Order of the Knights of Medusa. *Proposals for beyond 2026 are welcome!*

### New activities for our members

In 2023, we published our "F.I.C.B. Guide to organising blind varietal recognition competitions". We wish to highlight this type of activity and others that enable our members to promote wine expertise and traditions. Our website featured recently the "Master of Wine Diploma" launched this year by the Oregon Wine Brotherhood. We will soon present examples of the organisation of wine competitions, such as the "Tournaments" organised by the Slovenian Knights:



as well as winegrowers' choirs, such as the *Souffle de Bacchus* of the Conseil des Echansons de France



or *Les Gais Chanteurs* of the Ordre de la Channe (CH):



Share your experience by contacting:  
[marc.lesk@wanadoo.fr](mailto:marc.lesk@wanadoo.fr)

### F.I.C.B. Diploma of Honour

At the beginning of 2024, our Board of administration awarded the following F.I.C.B. "Diplomas of Honour":  
First to two outgoing vice-presidents :

. **Albino Jorge da SOUSA (PT)**, Vice President for Portugal of our federation since 2016, organizer in Portugal of two of our international congresses and also producer of the prestigious wines of Quinta da Boeira .

. **David BRAZSIL (HU)** Vice-president of our federation for Hungary since 2018

And to two internationally renowned wine experts

. **William STOLLER (U.S.A.)**, one of Oregon's first wine producers, who contributed to the creation of the International Pinot Noir celebration, which has been held every year in Oregon since 1987 (*presented by the Oregon Wine Brotherhood*).

. **Warren WINIARSKI (U.S.A.)**, one of the pioneers of viticulture in California's Napa Valley, whose wine won the "Judgment of Paris" in 1976.

(*presented by the Knights of the Vine of America*)

The diplomas will be presented to the recipients during 2024 and we will report on this on our website.

For the 2024 general assembly, we have published a booklet on the F.I.C.B. Diplomas of Honour awarded from

2015 to 2023, which is available on our website.

### New members 2023-2024



After the admission of 3 new members in 2023 (Confrérie St Bacchus de Guyane, Confrérie des Croatian wine knights of Bratovstina and Confrérie de St Romain en Bordelais et Pays Libournais), we welcomed the Swiss Consulate of the Ordo Equestris Vini Europae at the beginning of 2024.

See the photo above of their first attendance at our general assembly.

### Assemblée Générale 2025

Our General assembly 2025 will take place on Saturday 8 February 2025 in Paris. This will be followed by a lunch at the Paris Wine Museum and an evening at a famous Parisian restaurant.

(Please note that the major international wine event "VINEXPO" will take place immediately afterwards in Paris from 10 to 12 February 2025).