

Dear fellow Amateur Winemakers of Ontario,

I am very happy to announce that Patti Polfuss is the winner of the 2023 Paul Dunseath Award for Outstanding Service.



Patti was nominated by Robbin Bacsek, a member of the Cambridge Club.
Patti has so many contributions that have benefitted our organization...

- She is currently the President of the Wine Judges of Canada
- She was President of the AWO 2016-2017
- She was the AWC representative for Ontario 2011- 2013
- She was the Club Judging Coordinator 2018
- She was the Secretary of the AWO 2012-2013
- She helped with promoting the AWO in the Winemaker magazine 2012-2016
- She was a vital member of the Festival 2023 organization team
- She is passionate about our organization
- She is always cheerful, smiling and willing to help
- She is also an amazing wine maker. She has placed second in Ontario three years in a row.

Here are some words from Robbin Bacsek...

Patti has a deep love and passion for not only making wine, but also for making that wine the best she can. Not only does she pass on her vast knowledge and troubleshooting skills, but she is more than happy to share that passion for the craft to anyone that asks. Her ability to nurture fellow amateur wine makers is amazing and that helps to ignite the spark that develops and continues to evolve.

She has won so many ribbons, medals and awards. She has won these not only at the club level, but also at the provincial, national and international level. Her walls and shelves are filled with her wine accomplishments. Her collection is extremely impressive, and it reflects the wealth of knowledge that she shares freely with all of us in the club. Despite all of this, she never acts like she is the expert and we are just newbies.

Not only does Patti offer great support and help to those in our club, but she also works hard to train other judges and she is the 1st to step up and lend a hand to help train the wine stewards, even though she is not the official trainer. She also is a huge part of organizing this year's AWO Festival.

We really enjoy attending the meetings. Patti always goes out of her way to be welcoming and make sure we felt included. We always feel like we learn something at each and every meeting. She is not only an awesome creator of wine, but she is an amazing person, and I am proud to call her my friend.

I hope that you share my pleasure in awarding the Paul Dunseath award to Patti Polfuss !

Cheers!

Ellen Kareckas

AWO President