

# 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Gulf Coast Winegrowers Watson Field Day

## Jan, 31, 2025 - Cat Spring Agricultural Society Hall

### 13035 Hall Rd. Cat Spring, TX 79833



Together we're better.  
Partnership that really pays.



Presented by:



7:30 - 9:00	<b>REGISTRATION</b>
8:00 - 9:00	<b>Prospective Winegrowers Workshop</b> - Daniel Hillin, Texas A&M AgriLife Viticulture Program Specialist <b>Sponsored by Producers Supply (1 CEU)</b>
9:00 - 9:10	<b>Announcements</b> - Stacie Villarreal, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Agent – ANR Austin County <b>Welcome</b> – Jim Brooks, President, Gulf Coast Winegrowers Association <b>Presenting Sponsor</b> - Denise McBride, Capital Farm Credit
9:10 - 9:40	<b>History of Grapes in Texas</b> – Dr. George Ray McEachern, Professor and Extension Horticulturist Emeritus
9:40 - 10:00	<b>NETWORKING BREAK</b> - Exhibitor Time
10:00 - 10:50	<b>Vineyard Canopy Management</b> – Dr. Patrick O'Brien, Texas A&M AgriLife Viticulture Assistant Professor & Extension Specialist <b>Sponsored by Darst Ranch Vineyards (1 CEU)</b>
10:50 - 11:20	<b>NETWORKING BREAK</b> – Exhibitor Time
11:20 - 12:00	<b>Canopy Rebuilding</b> – John Dale, Gulf Coast Winegrower
10:00 - 10:50	<b>Why Open a Winery</b> – Mike Gamble, Blue Mule Winery, Gulf Coast Winemaker
10:50 - 11:20	<b>NETWORKING BREAK</b> – Exhibitor Time
11:20 – 12:00	<b>Wine Additives</b> – Dr. Andreea Botezatu, Texas A&M AgriLife Enology Associate Professor & Extension Specialist <b>Sponsored By Sommelier Logistics</b>
12:00 – 1:00	<b>LUNCH</b> - Exhibitor Time <b>Sponsored By WC Tractor</b>
1:00 - 1:40	<b>Gulf Coast Winegrowers Association Members Meeting</b> (Updates, Elections) Jim Brooks, President, Gulf Coast Winegrowers Association
1:40 - 2:30	<b>Pesticide Laws &amp; Regs - Updates</b> – Greg Baker, Texas A&M AgriLife Ext Agent – ANR Matagorda Cty (1CEU)
2:30 - 3:00	<b>NETWORKING BREAK</b> – Exhibitor Time
3:00 - 3:45	<b>Harvest Labor Panel</b> – Darst, Fleming, Morgan, Watson, Aschenbeck (Gulf Coast Winegrowers)
3:45 - 4:00	<b>Update on PD Resistant Varieties</b> - Fran Pontasch, Texas A&M Agrilife Extension Viticulturalist Emeritus
4:00 - 4:30	<b>Camminare Noir Grower Panel</b> – Bowden, Klenke, Jeter, Wuensche (Gulf Coast Winegrowers) <b>Sponsored by Threshold Vineyards</b>
4:30 - 4:45	<b>Aging Wine on Post Oak</b> – Ken Wuenche, Jimmy Cormier, Gulf Coast Winegrowers
4:30 - 5:00	<b>Camminare Noir Tasting</b> – Jeter, Klenke (Gulf Coast Winemakers) <b>Sponsored By Threshold Vineyards</b>
5:00 – 7:00	<b>WINE SOCIAL</b> - Sponsored by Texas Tech University Plant & Soil Science Department



Print and Digital  
Program Sponsored by



**Registration at the Door: GCWA Members \$50, Non-Members \$75**  
**Cash, Check, Credit Card – Includes Lunch & Wine Social**



Fellow Gulf Coast Winegrowers,

January 31, 2025

**Welcome to the 33rd Gulf Coast Winegrowers Association Watson Field Day.**

This annual event is a joint venture with the Gulf Coast Winegrowers Association (GCWA) and Texas A&M Agrilife Extension Service. Our goal is that through education and networking, you leave here today with new knowledge and new friends.

**GCWA:** If you are not already a member, we encourage you to join and support the GCWA. If you are a member, we thank you for your continued support by renewing your membership online at [www.growwine.org](http://www.growwine.org) today. Together we all benefit from lessons learned from the past and from new efforts made by many of you to promote better viticulture and enology practices. Many varieties of grapes have been tested and grown within the geographic area known as Gulf Coast growing region of Texas. This region stretches from East Texas, along the Gulf Coast, down to South Texas, and includes 84 counties. Growing conditions are diverse and challenging.

As a fellow grower and/or winemaker, the goals of GCWA are to benefit you and your efforts to improve the quality and marketing of your products. Whether as a winegrower, winemaker, or both, your membership in our association will enable us to combine our resources and better support research, education, and marketing. We have digital access to our [www.growwine.org](http://www.growwine.org) website available so you can quickly join GCWA.

**Member Benefits:** The Board will continue to pursue and implement the following:

- ✓ Promote grape varieties and wines grown and made in the Gulf Coast Region.
- ✓ Continue to support viticulture and enology education and research efforts by the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service Specialist for the Texas Gulf Coast Region through grants, surveys and events.
- ✓ Promote viticulture and enology education and research.
- ✓ Continue to improve our GCWA website, encouraging of members to create a shareable web page for each registered winegrower, links to valuable grower and winemaker tools, access to current events, and a Marketplace portal with visibility of our Corporate Associate Sponsors and other members.
- ✓ Maintain and update the GCWA Facebook page.
- ✓ Continue to plan, sponsor, and execute a Texas Wide Non-Commercial Wine Competition (now entering its' 17<sup>th</sup> year).
- ✓ Plan / Execute Annual Bulk Vineyard Chemical Buy (saving members on average 10-15% and ensures vineyard specific chemical availability for our growing season).
- ✓ Organize and improve our the Annual GCWA Watson Field Day event.

***Glad you could join us today!***

*James E. Brooks*

COL(R) Jim Brooks  
Cat Spring Vineyards  
President, GCWA



# GCWA 2025 Annual Meeting

31 Jan 2025

## AGENDA

Call to Order/Update

Old Business: 2024 Activities

Treasurer Report: \$26,055.78

Officer Elections Sec, Directors x4 nominations and votes.

New Business: TWGGA President, Future events: Agrilife Symposiums, Enology Webinars, Qtrly Tailgates, Chem Buys, Non-Commercial Wine Show, TWGGA Conference, Grape Camp, ...

Certificates of Appreciation: Fleming, Kasperek, Aschenbeck, Darst, Eskins

Closing: Thank You to Sponsors, Event Planners, Volunteers BBGC, Attendees.

GCWA OFFICERS & DIRECTORS									
POSITION	NAME	ELECTED	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	
President	Jim Brooks	2024					Yes		
VP	Virginia Rodriguez	2022					Yes		
Secretary									
Treasurer	James Kasperek	2021							
Director	David Fleming	2021							
Director	Dawn Aschenbeck	2021							
Director	Paul Darst	2021							
Director	David Eskins	2021							
Director	Mike Gamble	2022					Yes		
Director	Art Delgato	2021					Yes		
Director	Greg Cargle	2022					Yes		
Director	Larry Cress	2023					Yes		
Director	Joe Klenke	2023					YES		

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR 2024			
START of fiscal year Balance (2/1/2024)			\$ 25,490.00
Expenses:		Expenses	
This includes a partial, 1 time \$2700, development fee		Website	\$ 3,874.15
		Mail Box	\$ 72.00
		Field Day	\$ 2,161.97
		Wine Show	\$ 294.63
		Tax Prep	\$ 500.00
		Office	\$ 11.82
Income:		Income	
		Sponsorships	\$ 1,047.60
		Renewals/New Members	\$ 3,115.89
Contains entry, Renewals and Sponsorships		Field Day	\$ 3,316.86
Sub Totals:		\$ 6,914.57	\$ 7,480.35
END of fiscal year Balance (1/31/2025)			\$ 26,055.78



Jan 13-15, 2025 Texas Hill Country Wine Symposium

[www.texashillcountrywineries.org](http://www.texashillcountrywineries.org)

Jan 31, 2025 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Gulf Coast Winegrower Wats on Field Day

[www.growwine.org](http://www.growwine.org) or [daniel.hillin@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:daniel.hillin@ag.tamu.edu)

Mar 3-4, 2025 TWGGA Annual Conference & Trade Show

[www.txwines.org](http://www.txwines.org)

Apr 25, 2025 Newsome Field Day

[neal@newsomevineyards.com](mailto:neal@newsomevineyards.com)

Jun 11-12, 2025 Lone Star International Wine Competition

[Michael.Cook@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:Michael.Cook@ag.tamu.edu)

Oct, 2025 TWGGA Grape Camp

[www.txwines.org](http://www.txwines.org)

Oct, 2025 Austin County Fair Texas Non-Commercial Wine Show

[www.growwine.org](http://www.growwine.org)



# SPONSORS

31 JANUARY, 2025

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