

Welcome!

E-Town Epicurean Club is your place to gather, socialize and share your favorite novelty wines, drinks and foods. Our monthly newsletter provides info about upcoming events and notifications. Please “like” and follow us on our Facebook page [here](#) to share your favorite recipes, tips, gourmet wine, spirits, special events and announcements.

Epicurean Club Officers

[John Lemis](#) - President

[New Leader](#) - Vice President

[Marilyn Kole](#) - Treasurer

[Melissa Schwartz](#) - Secretary

New Members

Mark Bagley

Maryellen Bagley

Janice Beneby

Nitin Raisinghani

Rebecca Steinen

Christine Reiner

Gus Rojas

Nancy Rojas

January Birthdays

Wendy Balacki

Tom Fontana

Mike Vitale

January Anniversaries

Rod & Aida Farah



Epicureans



THE GRAPEVINE

Inspire, Discover and Appreciate Fine Wines, Spirits, Food and Friends

January 2024

Volume 2, Issue 3

We ended 2023 with a stocking-load of fun, food, and friends. The Holiday Social did not disappoint as we shared holiday traditions of food, festive drinks, and fabulous deserts! We also embraced change in our community with new members, change in our committees, and a change in our leadership.

Now with the Holidays behind us and the future full of opportunity, our Club will grow even more. We are building on our committees, enthused to fill an open Vice President Board Position, and continue to standardize and solidify our Club policies and procedures. As fellow Epicureans, you play an important role as we venture through 2024. Your input, influence, imagination, effort, and enthusiasm create the best events in the community as we Inspire, Discover and Appreciate Fine Wines, Spirits, Food, and Friends!



Check it Out! Click on the Underlines and find the links!!!

JOIN US!

Committees Make It Happen
Planning & Travel

Planning Meeting - January 13th at
10 A.M. at the Gallery

Volunteers are needed

Food & Beverage

Great committee to research and help our membership learn about the foods, beverages, and delicacies of our themed socials

Decorating & Display Case

Angela Vaughn, Barbara Morrison, Kathy Grimes, Lydia Dudzik
Display Case Themes - Philippines, West Coast, China

Newsletter

John Lemis, Bob Pettignano, Dean Paul

Greeting

JanAnn Salvati, Karen Goldstein, Kim Kasin, Wendy Balacki

Finance

Marilyn Kole, Martin Baker

Committee Meeting

10 a.m., Jan. 6, DWET Gallery

Representatives from all Epicurean Club committees are encouraged to attend.

Members - Interested in one of our committees? PLEASE join us at the Committee Meeting.



EVENT THEME

Republic of the Philippines

6:30 - 9:30 p.m., Jan 18 at Del Webb E-Town
Gallery Ballroom

With over 7,000 islands, the Philippines is rich in culture and biodiversity. Throughout its islands, you can find many sights and tourism hotspots that reel visitors in with their charm. Despite centuries of foreign rule, the Philippines has now established its own identity with its national cuisine and art. Aside from its beautiful landscapes and wildlife, many people value Filipino warmth as a unique trait. However, there's more to this country than being the land of adobo and friendly people.

One of the most well-known Philippines facts is that it's an archipelago country. While the Philippines has thousands of islands, its three major islands are Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao. By land area, the largest is Luzon, followed by Mindanao, with the Visayas islands as the smallest. Among the 7,000+ islands in the country, only around 2,000 are inhabited.

Upcoming Monthly Themes

Feb. 22 - West Coast States (California, Washington, Oregon)

March 21 - Chinese New Year

April 18 - Mid-West States (Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin)



OTHER CLUB-SPONSORED EVENTS

Save the Date

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sandestin Wine Festival 2024

April 11-14, 2024

Join us at the 37th Annual **Sandestin Wine Festival!** Whether you're a wine aficionado or a grape novice, there's something for everyone with 100's of featured wines!

Attendees are responsible for their own travel and accommodation arrangements. Some suggested places to stay: Hotel Effie or VRBO -- any place in Baytown Wharf to include Sandestin Beach Resort, Grand Sandestin, Village of Baytown Wharf and Osprey Point. Make your travel plans early, because accommodations will fill up fast!



Join the group for a "Sunset Dinner Cruise" with Sunquest Cruises! Set sail on a 125-foot-yacht with three decks and panoramic views throughout.

Prez Quote of the Month

We are not given
a good life or a bad
life. We are given a life.
It's up to us to make
it good or bad.

Did You Know?



Norway knighted a penguin. His name is Sir Nils Olav III, and he lives in Edinburgh Zoo. Three other members of his were family also made honorary members of the elite guard. Atten-shun!

Our next Steps:

Join us at the next Committee meeting. Here is what to expect.....

- Food & Beverage Committee - Research our themes for insight into food recipes, beverage suggestions, and other delicacies from our themed areas. The results of your efforts will be shared with the membership ahead of our monthly socials to assist the membership and the Board with contributing to the theme.
 - Interact with Planning Committee, Newsletter Committee, and the Board
 - Time Commitment - Approx. 2 hours per month
 - Three to five members
- Decorating & Display Case Committee - This is a well established Committee that has decorated our space for every monthly social since before the Club was established. Bring your creativity and imagination. This Committee decorates the Ballroom each month and creates cultural details in our Display Case.
 - Display Case effort is once every three months
 - Ballroom Decorating is once each month
 - Interact with Planning Committee and the Board
 - Time Commitment - Approx. 3 hours per month for the Ballroom and 3 hours every three months for the Display Case
 - Four to six members
- Planning & Travel Committee - This Committee is anticipated to be one of the largest and most influential Committees for our Club. New events, restaurants, experiences, fun things to do and see, locations to travel to, group events, and Save the Date events.
 - Join this Committee to flex your event planning and organizational skills.
 - Interact with Newsletter Committee, Food & Beverage Committee, and the Board
 - Time Commitment - Approx. 10 hours per month
 - Six to eight members
- Newsletter Committee - Bring your tech and creative skills together in this Committee. Using Canva, a camera, and communication to catch and gather the details each month to create the Club's Newsletter.
 - Take pictures at the monthly social events, gather other pics and input from other group events
 - Interact with the Planning & Travel Committee, Food & Beverage Committee, and the Board
 - Time Commitment - Approx. 4 hours per month
 - Four to five members
- Greeting Committee - Yours is the first smile members and guest see at our monthly socials.
 - Time Commitment - Approx. 2 hours per month
 - Four to five members