



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Katlyn Straub
Communications Manager
509.782.8234
katlyn@wawinegrowers.org

WINEGRAPE INDUSTRY GROUP ELECTS BOARD, OFFICERS

Steele Brown of Golden West Vineyards, Royal City, was elected to the Board of Directors for the Washington Winegrowers Association by vintner and winegrape grower members from across the state. Brown grew up in Royal City and graduated from the University of Idaho with a BS in Agriculture Business and Economics. Since 2015, Brown has been owner/operator of Golden West Vineyards and for the family-owned Golden West Farms since 2007. In 2014, Brown started growing grapes with Charles Smith and put in nearly 100 acres of Cabernet Sauvignon and Syrah. Now the farm has 400 acres including Pinot Noir with about 100 acres planted every year.

Patrick Rawn (Chair) of Two Mountain Winery, Zillah, and Shane Collins (Vice Chair) of Rocky Pond Winery, Manson, were re-elected to their respective officer positions. Newly elected to the officer team was Jeff Andrews of Coyote Canon Vineyards, Prosser, who will serve as Secretary/Treasurer.

The Board includes: James Mantone of Syncline Wines, Julia Kock, Scott Williams of Kiona Vineyards, Mike Means of Ste. Michelle Wine Estates, Dustin Tobin of Precept Wine Brands, and John Derrick of Mercer Canyons.

During their annual meeting held at the February Convention & Trade Show, Rawn lauded retiring Board members Ken Lewis of Trail View Farms who served on the board and as treasurer and Todd Newhouse of Upland Vineyards who served on the board and as chair.

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Photos available upon request.

The Washington Winegrowers Association serves as the synergistic leader and unifying voice – through advocacy and education – for growers, vintners, partners, and policymakers.