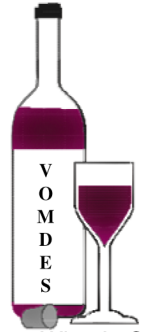




Swig* Times



*Sonoma Wine Is Great

Valley of the Moon Dilettante Enological Society Newsletter August, 2005

President: Michael Cooper, 939-9848

Secretary/Treasurer: Doug Ghiselin, 996-8967

Vice President & Winemaster: Jack Bertram, 938-2310

DUES WERE DUE IN MARCH

HAVE YOU PAID?

\$36 ANNUALLY

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO VOMDES

MAIL TO

300 MOON MOUNTAIN ROAD

SONOMA, CA. 95476

Meeting of August 11, 2005

President Cooper called the meeting to order at 7:44 PM. 25+ members were present.

Old Business:

1. Pres. Cooper noted that the Home Winemakers wine competition, held in conjunction with the Vintage Festival, was taking place while our meeting was in progress, causing a conflict for our members. He noted that we had 22 judges lined up this year, a significant improvement from last year. Thank you Bobbie!

2. Pres. Cooper reported that negotiations with the Vintage Festival folks resulted in a decision to allow the winners of the Home Winemakers competition to pour their wines at the Patrons Night. A step in the correct direction, but those present felt more involvement by VOMDES should be in order. It was noted that the possibility exists that none of the winners would be VOMDES members. The subject will be held open for further discussion.

3. Discussions regarding establishment of an event similar to the Home Winemakers Classic were

continued, pending further discussions. Doug Ghiselin agreed to get the committee together to develop a course of action to finalize this subject. The committee consists of Bobbie Collins (Chair), Jack Bertram, Bruce Stephens, Doug Ghiselin, Mike Muscardini and Rich Brooks.

4. The purchase of plaques/water colors for presentation to our speakers was approved.

New Business

1. Pres. Cooper noted that the deadline for submitting wines to the Harvest Fair competition was August 31.

2. Treas. Ghiselin discussed "Bone Appetite", a fundraiser for Pets Lifeline. Ghiselin provided donation forms for those members interested in donating wine for this event.

3. Mike Muscardini discussed his involvement with the Home Winemakers Classic in Napa. Some members of VOMDES participated. Mike has "lessons learned" to share with us as we pursue our own event.

4. The annual Holiday Party will be at the Herrick's barn on December 11th. Mark your calendars!

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer Ghiselin was present but had not prepared a Treasurer's report!

Guest Speaker:

Our guest speaker was Jeff Streppen, owner of Streppen's Wine Consultants. He presented his thoughts on vineyard management as it pertains to sulfuring. His recommendation is to sulfur up to veraison. Add 50 ppm SO₂ at crush and remove mold by hand!! 50 ppm will be absorbed during fermentation and will not affect malolactic fermentation. At completion of malolactic fermentation, add 50 ppm. After that, you need to have a lab analysis! If you find that you have too much residual at bottling, splash the wine.

VOMDES Calendar

All meetings are the 2nd Thursday of the month at the Vintage House.

Aug. Business meeting. Appoint Holiday Party Committee.

Sept. Business meeting.

Oct. Business meeting.

Nov. Business meeting.

Dec. Holiday Party

Note: We will attempt to have a guest speaker at each business meeting.

FOR SALE

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1. Members Bertram, 938-2310, and Ghiselin, 996-8967 have new wine bottles for sale. Call either to determine cost and type and quantity available.
2. Member Ghiselin has several 5 gallon glass carboys available at \$10 each. Call him at 996-8967.