



Swig* Times



Valley of the Moon Dilettante Enological Society Newsletter February, 2007

President: Michael Muscardini, 939-9848

Secretary/Treasurer: Doug Ghiselin, 996-8967

Vice President & Winemaster: Jack Bertram, 938-2310

Meeting of February 8, 2007

President Muscardini called the meeting to order at 7:30. We had 24 members present and four guests.

Old Business:

1. After much discussion at the November meeting, it was moved, seconded and approved that we would send a letter to the Vintage Festival Committee advising them that the club would not be coordinating this Home Winemakers Competition in 2007 and beyond. The club voted to hold a wine competition in conjunction with the 2007 Home Winemakers Celebration. The letter to the Vintage Festival Committee will be prepared by President Muscardini and Vice-Pres. Bertram..

2. Chris Kukshtel gave a status report on efforts to date for the 2007 Celebration. The effort now is to solicit silent auction donations.

3. President Muscardini read an update provided by member Dennis Przybycien regarding the Vallejo Home Vineyard. In short Park Supervisor Bob Rice says they are on track, going slow, and he will get back to Dennis when the project gets off the ground.

4. Member Sal Troia, who was to determine what we should do with the funds raised by the silent auction at the Christmas party, was not present. Item will be discussed at next meeting.

5. The audit committee, consisting of Al Miotich (chairman), Bill Harris and Mitchell Shapiro, has not met. Committee will report out at next meeting.

6. The nominating committee reported Jack Bertram for President, Vicky Schnrikow for Vice-President and Doug Ghiselin for Secretary/Treasurer.

New Business

1. Vice-Pres. Bertram discussed our participation in the Olivepalooza event on Saturday, Feb. 17th at the Barracks on the Square. The event will run from 11-4 and is part of the ongoing Olive Festival. KSVY will be broadcasting live, Olive and Vine will serve food, local Olive vendors will be serving olives and we will provide wine tasting. We need volunteers to pour. Anyone who did not sign up at the meeting and who wishes to participate please call Doug (996.8967). We will pour from 11 – 1:30 and 1:30 – 4.

2. Member Ghiselin reported that he had received a letter from the Clear Lake Performing Arts inviting VOMDES members to participate in an event similar to our Celebration. Attached, as a separate file, is a letter with specific details. Anyone interested should contact Ed Bublitz at 707.277.8172 or edandchar@earthlink.net

Treasurers Report

We have a balance of \$2912.98

VOMDES Calendar

Mar. Business meeting. Elect Officers. Pay dues
Apr. Business meeting. Install new officers. Appoint
picnic and winery visit committees.
May Winery Visit
June Business meeting
July Annual picnic
Aug Business meeting. Appoint Christmas Party
committee.
Sept/Oct/Nov Business meeting
Dec Christmas party.

Speaker

Our speaker was Michael Weyna, representing Saury of France. Saury produces wine barrels of all types. His presentation was spectacular but far too detailed and technical for me to capture and reproduce here. Two significant points he made were that we should minimize use of barrels smaller than 60 gallons (nominal). The larger the barrel the better. A smaller barrel results in exposing the wine to more air per gallon of wine and thus we have greater potential for oxidation. The second point he made was that we should look for “blisters” in our barrels. Blisters will not get thoroughly cleaned and we may experience problems. I've attached as a separate file the outline of his presentation. You should have been at the meeting!

