



Swig* Times



Valley of the Moon Dilettante Enological Society Newsletter MARCH, 2005

President: Michael Cooper, 939-9848

Secretary/Treasurer: Doug Ghiselin, 996-8967

Vice President & Winemaster: Jack Bertram, 938-2310

DUES ARE DUE IN MARCH

\$36 ANNUALLY

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO VOMDES

MAIL TO

300 MOON MOUNTAIN ROAD
SONOMA, CA. 95476

Meeting of March 10, 2005

President Cooper called the meeting to order at 7:33 PM. 32+ members were present, as a few came in late!!

Old Business:

1. Our web site is on line. Go to www.vomdes.org and check it out!! Send comments to Mark Hermsen at markhermsen@sbcglobal.net. If you have won awards, send a list to Mark and he will get your data on the web site. We still need members input for our website.

2. Barry Ganley gave a very detailed report of his audit of our financial records. He noted that the audit committee found the records to be very thorough and in good order. He suggested that the club invoke a policy requiring receipts for expenses in excess of \$50 and that the ongoing records of income and expenses be kept separate from that of the Holiday Party. Treasurer Ghiselin will implement the suggestions. A written report was provided to President Cooper. The report was approved by the membership.

3. Pres. Cooper reported on his review of our by-laws. The purpose of the review was to determine if the by-laws address an ascension path for officers. Pres. Cooper noted that the only issue addressed regarding officers is that the office of president shall be limited to two consecutive terms. Pres. Cooper appointed the current slate of officers and two past presidents to review this issue and make recommendation. Pres. Cooper is the chair of this committee.

4. The Patron's Night committee had not met and therefore had nothing to present. Committees members as well as Pres. Cooper committed to further discussion of this subject.

New Business

1. The use of the term amateur winemaker, home winemaker and non-professional winemaker was discussed. After a lively discussion, the majority present agreed that the term that best describes our membership is home winemaker, as we felt our wines in general were not "amateurish" and we did not want to be "non" anything!

2. Barbara Heiman distributed flyers on a Santa Rosa Junior College Wine Appreciation Class. The class will start Monday, March 21st. Cost is \$50 plus college fee for 1.5 units. The class is an investigation of Sonoma County's wine grape growing regions. Sensory evaluation of selected wines from each region will be explored. The instructor is Ralph Swagler. The class will be held the Sonoma Community Center. For more information call the instructor at (707) 664-0510.

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer Ghiselin did not make a report as there was no activity since the Audit Committee's review

Guest Speaker:

Our guest speaker was unable to attend due to a last minute business commitment. She rescheduled for the May meeting.

Without a guest speaker, Pres. Cooper led a lively discussion on several subjects of interest to those present. Topics discussed included cold soak, extended maceration, fining, etc.

VOMDES Calendar

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

Apr. Business meeting. New officers take over. Picnic Committee appointed.

May. Winery Visit

June. Business meeting

July. Annual picnic

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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Members Bertram, 938-2310, and Ghiselin, 996-8967 have new wine bottles for sale. Call either to determine cost and type and quantity available.