



# Swig\* Times



## Valley of the Moon Dilettante Enological Society Newsletter March, 2004

President-Bruce Stephens: 935-8780

Secretary/Treasurer Doug Ghiselin: 996-8967

Vice President & Winemaster- John Sciocchetti: 935-8762

### Meeting of March 11, 2004

President Stephens opened the meeting at 7:40 PM. As we had several guests, Pres. Stephens asked that all present introduce themselves.

### Old Business:

1. Pres. Stephens updated those present on the status of our dialogue with the Vintage Festival Committee regarding our participation in the amateur wine competition and Patron's Night. Pres. Stephens expressed his belief that he had resolved the differences between the parties and that a final letter would be presented at the April meeting.

2. The nominating committee reported the following slate for 2004 officers:

Pres: Michael Cooper

VP: Vicky Scharnikow

Sec'y/Treas: Doug Ghiselin

There were no nominations from the floor and the slate was elected unanimously.

3. The audit committee had not met since the last meeting. They will meet in March and report out at the April meeting.

4. Ghiselin reported that he had had email discussions with the folks that run the Home Winemakers Classic and that they were considering a request to for a table for our club at their Classic this summer. More to follow at our next meeting.

5. Ghiselin reported that he had been unsuccessful in finding the Vineyard Workers Services in the office. He will continue his efforts and report back at the April meeting.

### New Business:

1. Development of our Website was discussed. A \$35 expenditure was approved to retain our domain for two additional years. New member Mark Hermsen volunteered to develop our website. Member Jack Bertram offered use of his software for the site development.

2. Vicky Scharnikow noted that her primary role as VP was to bring speakers to our table. She asked that we let her know our interests and if we have any contacts. Email her at [vsvineyard@aol.com](mailto:vsvineyard@aol.com)

3. Ghiselin reported that he had received a request regarding information on the bio friendly product presented to us at a prior meeting. The product is called Ceres and LiquiComp and is sold in the Sonoma Valley by Darrell Kiser. 481.6503. Because the amount needed for a small vineyard is less than the quantities sold, there was discussion with respect to the club purchasing in bulk and selling in smaller quantities to members. We will finalize this thought at our April meeting.

4. Byron Nichols noted need to change type of sulfur used. It was not clear to me what was needed. Therefore, I will suggest to Vicky that we try to find a speaker to address this issue.

### Evenings Program:

1. VP Sciocchetti reported on his recent trip to the Bordeaux region of France. He had several interesting observations from his trip. Your Sec'y did not take good notes so that's all I can say!!

2. Mitchell Shapiro discussed his recent trip to New Zealand. The wine industry there is growing rapidly with huge vineyard plantings. Mitchell liked the white wines but was disappointed with the reds.

3. Many members brought wines to taste and comment on:

Marcus Trotta poured a 60% Cab, 30% Sangiovesse (sp?) and 10% Petite Syrah. Fruit from Lodi.

Mike Muscardini poured a 85% Sangiovesse, 15% Syrah. Sangiovesse from his own vines in Agua Caliente and Syrah from Dry Creek.

Bruce Stephens poured a Cab Franc from Sonoma Valley fruit.

John Bertran poured a commercial wine from Rosenblum Cellars. The wine was a blend of 41% Merlot, 46% Cab and 13% Cab Franc.

### **Treasurer's Report**

1. Treasurer Ghiselin reported no change in our balance. Those dues payments received have not been deposited

### **VOMDES CALENDER FOR 2004**

April 8<sup>th</sup> 7:30 PM Business meeting. New officers take over. Picnic Committee appointed.

May: Winery visit. Location to be announced.

June 10<sup>th</sup> 7:30 PM Vintage House. Business meeting.

July: Annual Picnic. Location to be announced.

August 12<sup>th</sup> 7:30 PM Vintage House. Business meeting. Holiday Party Committee appointed.

September/October 7:30 PM Informal Meetings as desired by membership

November 11<sup>th</sup> 7:30 PM Vintage House Business meeting.

December: Holiday Party, date to be announced.

**We will strive to have a guest speaker at each business meeting. Meeting reminder announcement will be sent via email and will identify guest speaker. Those members not receiving email should call Doug Ghiselin at 996-8967 a few days before the meeting to learn of guest speaker.**

### **HOME WINEMAKING EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES FOR SALE**

Manually driven crusher/destemmer. Can be converted to power driven. Call Chuck at 996-3571

New wine bottles. Contact Doug at 996-8967 for price, quantity, style, etc.

Manual corker. \$50. Contact Doug at 996-8967

**FREE! FREE!** 700 Plastic Grow sleeves. Call Bob Smith 415.519.3088 **FREE!! FREE!!**

## **AMATUER WINE COMPETITIONS**

July 17<sup>th</sup>. Home Winemakers Classic, St. Supry Winery. Go to [www.homewine.com](http://www.homewine.com) to register

**2004 DUES ARE DUE!! 2004 DUES ARE DUE!!**

**SEND CHECK PAYABLE TO VOMDES TO DOUG GHISELIN**

**300 MOON MOUNTAIN ROAD**

**SONOMA, CA. 95476**