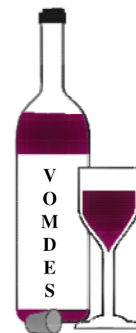




Swig* Times



*Sonoma Wine Is Great

Valley of the Moon Dilettante Enological Society Newsletter May, 2006

President: Michael Muscardini, 939-9848

Secretary/Treasurer: Doug Ghiselin, 996-8967

Vice President & Winemaster: Jack Bertram, 938-2310

**DUES ARE DUE!! SEND \$36 CHECK TO
VOMDES, 300 MOON MOUNTAIN ROAD, SONOMA 95476
LAST CALL BEFORE YOU GET HIT WITH LATE FEE!!**

Meeting of May 11, 2006

President Muscardini called the meeting to order at 7:37 PM. There were 20 members present. Several more arrived as the meeting was ongoing.

Old Business:

1. Discussions were held with respect to our participation with the Vintage Festival and the Home Winemakers competition. After much discussion, it was moved, seconded and approved that we would continue our participation. Przybycien and Falandes are co-chairs for the event.

2. Bobbie Collins briefed the membership on the status of planning for the Classic. All subsidiary planning is held in abeyance pending securing a location for the event. Bobbie noted that she had called MaryAnn Cuneo but had not received a return call. The committee continues to meet with Tracey Walker as the Boosters representative. VOMDES is responsible for ticket sales (Doug Ghiselin), the venue (Rich Brooks), wine competition (Bobbie Collins), media outreach (Jack Bertram), permits and license (Rich Brooks) and donations for the silent auction (Michael Muscardini). The boosters will be responsible for set up and tear down as well as support during the event. Volunteers to work on the sub-committees have been identified. Members should suggest names for our classic.

3. There was no update discussion regarding the vineyard at the Vallejo Home. Item will be held open.. Committee to pursue this item is Dennis Przybycien(chair), Ghiselin, Trotta and Carroll are committee members.

4. Ghiselin noted that he had not received any feed back from the Vineyard Workers Services and therefore had not dispersed the funds from the Christmas party. It was moved, seconded and approved that we hold off with dispersion of these funds until we determine the status of the VWS.

New Business

1. Presented Muyscardini appointed members Sciocchetti and Trotta as co-chairs for the annual picnic.

VOMDES Calendar

June Business meeting
July Annual picnic
Aug Business meeting. Appoint Holiday Party Committee
Sept/Oct/Nov Business meeting
Dec. Holiday Party

GUEST SPEAKER: Our guest speaker was Randel Wadkins, Winemaker at Moon Mountain Vineyards. Moon Mountain Vineyard is located at the end of Moon Mountain Road in Agua Caliente. The property ranges in elevation from 1100 feet to 1700 feet. The winery produces about 35,000 cases annually. Randel blends the grape juice to his taste and then ferments the blend. He uses only grapes grown on their property for his estate blends. Also, he uses the “punch down” method as compared to the ”pump over” method for keeping the skins on the juice during fermentation. He punches down three times a day and the typical fermentation takes 12 – 14 days. He feels this process results in better quality. He will keep the free run, the soft press, and the hard press juices separate and again blends at bottling. They use a 0.65-micron filter to ensure removal of yeast that are 0.8 microns in size. He noted that if the wine maker is experimenting with the process, the wine maker must allow only one variable in the process to be able to evaluate the results.

FOR SALE

FOR SALE

FOR SALE

FOR SALE

1. Member Ghiselin, 996-8967, has new wine bottles for sale. Large quantities of both Bordeaux and Burgundy styles now available at \$6.00 per case. Even some blue Bordeaux!
2. Member Ghiselin has several 5 gallon glass carboys available at \$10 each. Call him at 996-8967.
3. Member Ghiselin has high quality corks (dated but still in sealed bags) at \$100 per bag of 1000. No partial bags.

DUES ARE DUE!! DUES ARE DUE!! DUES ARE DUE!!

**SEND \$36 CHECK PAYABLE TO VOMDES
VOMDES
300 MOON MOUNTAIN ROAD
SONOMA, CA. 95476**