



# Swig\* Times



## Valley of the Moon Dilettante Enological Society Newsletter September, 2005

President: Michael Cooper, 939-9848

Secretary/Treasurer: Doug Ghiselin, 996-8967

Vice President & Winemaster: Jack Bertram, 938-2310

### Meeting of September 8, 2005

President Cooper called the meeting to order at 7:40 PM. 15+ members were present. Chip Allen, Vintage Festival Board, was our guest as was Avram Goldman. Avram later joined the club. Welcome Avram.

### Old Business:

1. Pres. Cooper noted that the Home Winemakers wine competition, held in conjunction with the Vintage Festival, was very successful. The club thanks Bobbie for her efforts.
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; however, winners were expected to purchase a ticket to the event! 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. Pres. Cooper noted that the Holiday Party would be held at the Herick's Barn On Dec. 11. Byron Nichols is committee chair with Barry Ganley assisting.

### New Business

1. Pres. Cooper discussed our web site and praised Mark Hermsen for his efforts to support the website. It was moved, seconded and approved to waive dues for Mark in recognition of his efforts.

### Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer Ghiselin reported that we have a balance of \$2386.52.

### Guest Speaker:

Our guest speaker was unable to attend. Therefore, Bobbie gave a "lessons learned" presentation regarding the wine competition. Her comments were:

Have better understanding with the folks accepting wines for judging.

Have many more judges committed than needed. Several did not show.

Judges were given one wine at a time rather than a flight. Result was that we received great comments.

Competition took three hours and wines were scored on the UC Davis 20 point system.

Judges were very impressed with the quality of the wine entered.

We would get better comments if judges were anonymous.

Flights would allow side by side judging

Davis system is too heavily weighted to color and clarity.

Next year...

coordinate judging date with VOMDES meeting date so that we get more participation by members. We need 10 to 12 volunteers.

Get the event more publicly

Get judges committed earlier.

Send requests for judges to wineries, hotels, etc. to get more tasters

Comments from Chip Allen:

Thanked VOMDES for support

Wants to assist in development of event similar to Wine Makers Classic

Sees opportunity to compliment Vintage Festival

Agreed to be our contact to Vintage Festival Committee.

**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.

**VOMDES Calendar**

All meetings are the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month at the Vintage House.

Oct. Business meeting.

Nov. Business meeting.

Dec. Holiday Party

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