

WISCONSIN VINTNERS ASSOCIATION

December 2, 2009, BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

President Howard Hasselkus called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM at the home of Len & Therese Montalbano, Racine, Wisconsin.

Board Members in Attendance: Mike Bell, Dave Brandt, Tom Courtney, Howard Hasselkus, Erv Herman, Mary Howell, Rick Markham, Len Montalbano, George Scovronski, Mike Szabo, and Jerry Wanty.

Excused Absentees: Don Betlej and Joanne Ziarek

Guests in Attendance: Lou Benedetto, Jerry Horzewski, Chuck Howell, Tim Larsen and Jim Remus.

Minutes: The revised copy of the minutes of the November 4th board meeting was reviewed and noted that the location of tonight's meeting was incorrect.

Treasurer's Report: Mike Bell presented a printed financial report as of November 30, 2009, (copy attached to official minutes); it was reviewed and placed on file. Mike noted that we now have 119 "paid" members.

Vice President's Report: Tom C. reported that the December meeting will feature a critical wine tasting, and the January meeting will feature Chip Droege and wine selections from "Purple Feet".

Corresponding Secretary Report: Don Betlej reported, through Howard H., that he has received applications for 7 new members during the past month..

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Harvest Dinner: Jerry Horzewski reported that there were a total of 131 reservations, but there were 10 "no-shows". His printed report showed a net 'loss' of \$1,012.00, which was more than anticipated because of the record attendance.

Dinner Dance: Joanne Z. reported in absentia through George Scovronski, that Chip Droege's personal collection of **wines** is being made available **for the Silent Auction**. The Club will acquire 120 bottles at a cost of \$600. Assuming the Dinner-Dance will continue for at least 10 more years, it was agreed that only 12 of those wines would be used annually. The wines, according to George Scovronski's printed report (copy attached to official minutes), have a value between \$30 and \$200 per bottle. Chip agreed to assist in grouping the wines for the auction. George also reported that he now has 82 bottles available for the "**fish bowl**"; eventually he anticipates having a total of 360 bottles available.

Mike Szabo reported that sign-up sheets will be distributed at the next Membership Meeting....Selling of “**playing cards**” will be restricted to one event only to avoid confusion....The price for chances at the **fish bowls** is proposed to be 2 for \$1.00. Closing will be set at 9 pm....Rick M. volunteered to prepare **table signs** that will state times when bidding on silent auctions will end. **Donations** are still needed for the silent auction...Howard reported that **20 hotel rooms are reserved** for attendees at the Radisson Hotel at \$89 per night. One has been purchased by the club for auction at the December and January Membership Meetings....**Fruit Baskets**: Lost money last year---were undersold....**Set-ups**: Howard presented floor plans of the hotel dining room showing the stage in the northeast corner and dance floor along the north wall, allowing room for 3 additional tables (30 people)....**Invitations**: Mailing lists and envelopes are needed ASAP....Tasting of **prize-winning wines** needs supervision.

Web Site

Don reported that it's still in the works.

STATUS REPORTS

WVA Clothing: George S. reported that WVA hats **are** still available, contrary to his report at the November board meeting.

Bios of Life Members: Bios are being published in the newsletter as space permits..

Wine Making Videos: All loaned out right now.

NEW BUSINESS : None

Upcoming Events and Meetings:

December 9 – Membership Meeting: Critical Commercial Wine Tasting
January 6 – Board Meeting at Mike & Marilyn Bell's
January 13 – Membership Meeting: Chip Droege
January 27 – Board Meeting at Don Betlej's
February 6 – Dinner-Dance at the Radisson Hotel, Wauwatosa
March 3 – Board Meeting at Dave Brandt's
March 10 – Membership Meeting: Critical Homemade Wine Tasting
April 7 – Board Meeting at Howard and Sally Hasselkus's
April 14 – Membership Meeting: Wine Making
May 5 – Board Meeting: Place TBA
May 12 – Membership Meeting: Food & Wine Pairing

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm, to enjoy the Montalbanos' excellent cuisine.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Brandt, Recording Secretary