

**WISCONSIN VINTNERS ASSOCIATION**  
**August 3, 2005 BOARD of DIRECTORS MEETING**

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm at the boat of Tom Courtney.

**Members in attendance:** Barb & Don Betlej, Dave Brandt, Tom Courtney, Erv Herman, Chuck & Mary Howell, John & Marianne Rauenbuehler, Jim Remus, George Scovronski, Tim Larsen, Joanne Ziarek.

**Members in attendance at July Membership Meeting (Lakefront Brewery):** 58

**Minutes of previous meeting:** Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

**Financial Report:** The financial report for June was accepted and filed for audit. The annual financial audit was performed on July 27, 2005 by board members Howard Hasselkus and George Scovronski. A report was submitted to the board indicating that the financial records present fairly the financial position of the club and was found to be in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

Money for 25 subscriptions, at the club's reduced price, for Winemaker magazine was received to date

**COMMITTEE REPORTS & MONTHLY BUSINESS**

**Correspondence:** None this month.

**Programs:** August: Annual picnic on August 13. Everything seems to be ready. Tim Larsen indicated that this year 160 ears of corn would be purchased at \$2.50 per dozen.

September: Sept 14 meeting: Chip Droege will be asked if he would like to make a presentation. Sept 17 Door County winery bus trip: It was decided that this trip would be cancelled if less than 25 people sign up to participate.

November: Harvest Dinner on November 13. Note that the board meeting will be held on November 9 this month due to a large number of members participating in the AWS convention.

February: Dinner Dance on Feb 4. It was suggested that alternate caterers be considered this year due to the general disappointment of the quality (and or selection) of the food at last year's dance. Armin Engelmann has made this year's Potpourri wine. This year's State Fair Best of Show winner has been suggested as next year's Potpourri wine maker. Dave Brandt will inquire as to the winner's interest to do this.

The board has agreed to continue the raffle of a bottle of wine to all who attend dinner at Clifford's prior to each month's membership meeting. More publicity of this fact was suggested including highlighting this in an upcoming newsletter. It was also suggested and agreed to upgrade the wine provided for this raffle. Jim Remus agreed to procure a case of mixed wine varieties with an approximate \$10 per bottle cost.

**Proposed 2005/2006 Budget:** Tom Courtney presented his proposed budget to the board, which was approved by the board with minimal changes. The per bottle entry charge for the annual club judging was increased from \$0.50 to \$1.00. The Membership Meeting expense allowance was also increased by an additional \$150.

**Meet your Board Member and Meet a New Member Newsletter Feature:** President Joanne Ziarek encouraged all board members to fill out an informational questionnaire to be used for this new Board Member feature of upcoming newsletters. The board also suggested that new member Jeff Beutler be the first New Member feature. Jeff is involved in the creation of new proposed club web site.

**Club survey:** From the results of the club survey, it was decided that a continued focus on winemaking techniques is of very much interest. A mix of educational topics for all wine making levels (beginning, intermediate and advanced) will be needed. Members are also interested in hearing presentations by wine making professionals. Learning critical wine tasting techniques was also of interest and would be in the club's interest to promote as the need for wine judges increases.

**State Fair/Judging:** Jerry Uthemann has remade the major section of the combined WVA and Beer Barons' State Fair display to better accommodate the winning plaques, ribbons and representative bottles. No date was determined yet for attaching labels to judging forms and winners' ribbons. This will be performed at the home of Jerry Uthemann. The initial meeting of the club wine judging committee will be scheduled in the near future. The purpose of this committee will be to overall reassess how the club and State Fair judging is run, determine how to deal with the continuing lack of judges and to insure that this function continues for many years to come.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 pm.

The next board meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 7 at 7:30 pm on the home of Chuck & Mary Howell.

Respectfully Submitted:

*Don Betlej*

Donald Betlej  
WVA Recording Secretary