

WISCONSIN VINTNERS ASSOCIATION December 7, 2005 BOARD of DIRECTORS MEETING

President Joanne Ziarek called the meeting to order at 7:38 pm at the home of Don and Barb Betlej.

Members in attendance: Don & Barb Betlej, Jerry Horzewski, Howard Hasselkus, Chuck & Mary Howell, Jim Remus, Tim Larsen, Bob Wilson, Joanne Ziarek

Minutes of previous meeting: Minutes of the previous meeting (November) were read and approved.

Financial Report: The financial report for October was not submitted, as the treasurer was not in attendance.

November Membership Meeting Attendance: No meeting this month.

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND ACTIVITIES

Historian: It was reported that there were previous Dinner Dance menus highlighting food prepared by members that included wine and/or beer in the receipts. It was suggested that a future Vintners Press (possibly February's) describe this past club practice and include representative sample menus.

Website Committee: Don Betlej presented the board with a draft document that he proposed would be used to describe key components of the club web site, including descriptions of various pages contained in the site. This document would also provide rules and guidelines for content and updates. President Ziarek recommended that the site be up to date by our January membership meeting where Jeff Beutler, who designed the site, would give a short presentation describing how the site can be accessed and an overview of the various pages. From that point, the web site, www.wihomewinemakers.com, will be the official web site of the club. The original site will direct users to the new site.

Education: There are three volunteers to be on the Advanced Winemaking committee: Howard Hasselkus, Dave Brandt and Lou Benedetto. This committee which would review and approve members' proposals to participate in this new club activity. A proposal form will need to be designed for submissions. No decision made as to when this activity will begin.

Club Judging Committee: Don Betlej, chairman, stated that this year's club judging will use a 20 point judging system and new judging form which is virtually the same one use by the American Wine Society, Winemaker Magazine, Indiana State Fair and Missouri State Fair competitions. The form is based upon one developed by the University Of California – Davis. It was also decided that this year's club judging would be delayed on month, to Sunday, March 26, to give the committee more time to plan. Don Betlej and Howard Hasselkus will co-chair the event.

Programs:

November 13 Harvest Dinner: There was a paid attendance of 89 people for this year's annual Harvest Dinner.

December 14: This meeting will celebrate the club's 35th Anniversary. President Ziarek will invite all past club presidents to attend where they will be given a club memento commemorating the event. Mary Howell volunteered to obtain a cake for the celebration. A presentation by Bob Wilson and Len Montalbano will be given about sparkling wines of which three different types will be tasted. A budget of \$200 was approved.

January 11: Critical wine tasting event. Three types of commercial wines will be evaluated. It is hoped that there would be enough people attending to have six judging tables, with six to eight people per table.

February 4 Dinner Dance: Tim Larsen is this year's Co-Chairman along with Tom Courtney. A menu will need to be decided upon and invitations need to be mailed. This should be done within the next couple of weeks. A sign-up sheet will be sent around at the next membership meeting for help at the event. Barb Betlej will again be in charge of table decorations. Tim suggested a new dice game as an alternative to the fish bowl/matchbook raffle. He felt that there could be the possibility of drawing in more money, with less help needed. Due to the popularity of the fish bowl game, it was decided that it would be continued but that both games would be used this year.

March 8: Critical wine tasting event. March 26 will be the date of this year's club judging.

April 5: Annual food and wine pairing event. The event will be run by Lou Bruno, and will be held starting at 7:00 pm at the Deer Creek Preserve in New Berlin. Note this month's board meeting would be held on Wednesday April 12.

The next board meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 4 at 7:30 p.m. at the home of Jerry and Doris Horzewski. The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Don Betlej

Donald Betlej
WVA Recording Secretary