



# LFW G r a p e v i n e

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## Lawyer Friends of Wine Celebrates Bastille Day 2007

Last year, President Bill & Laureen Smith graciously hosted many of us in our club's first international event with our outstanding visit to France.



This year, even more club members were able to partake French wine, food, atmosphere, and fun together at San Francisco's renowned French Club.

We owe our thanks to long time French Club and Lawyer Friends of Wine member and former Lawyer Friends of Wine President Ted Kolb for helping to arrange this French Club experience.

Our sold-out event began with wonderful Charles Heidsieck Brut Reserve Champagne and hors d'oeuvres.

We then moved to the infamous long dining room table that was fully decorated for Bastille Day in the room where the likes of many other comrades in wine have gathered before us for over 100 years.



Chef Bernard Chirent, a Maitre Cuisinier (Master Cook) de France worked his magic on sixty dinners served simultaneously consisting of either Halibut or Medallions of Veal.



Our cellar master Steve Pitcher guided us through the wine selections he masterminded. There was plenty of champagne, 2002 Gevery-Chambertin, "Clos de la Justice" and Frederic Magnien 2003 Etude Pinot Noir, Carneros paired with the food, conversation, and historic perspectives offered by Bill Smith to contribute to a splendid dining experience.

This great turn-out supporting exciting new LFW club activities like this one during the summer season will encourage creative efforts to have more.

Suggestions to the Board are always encouraged and welcome. Simply use our website contact link at: [lawyerfriendsofwine.com](http://lawyerfriendsofwine.com).

And never fear! Our impromptu Centerpiece Appreciation Committee made sure the festive decorations had a place of honor throughout the Bastille Day weekend . . .



## Harvest Moon Dinner is Coming! Save the Date!

This year, our fabulous annual Harvest Moon Dinner will be at Rubicon Estate in Rutherford on **Saturday, October 27**.



The historic Rubicon Estate was founded as Inglenook in 1879. It is one of the few remaining family-owned wine estates of this magnitude in existence.

Francis Ford Coppola has been making wines on the Estate 27 years and in 1995 he purchased the remaining part of the original estate (Inglenook Chateau).

The [Rubicon](#) website reports, "This purchase reunited the original Napa Valley estate . . . In 2006, the winery name changed from Niebaum-Coppola Estate Winery to Rubicon Estate, in honor of the flagship wine, to celebrate the restoration of the organically certified vineyards, completion of the extensive wine caves and the return of winemaking to the Chateau for the first time since 1966.

Distinctively appointed tasting rooms, vaulted stone cellars and a spectacular hand-carved stair case are a few of the dramatic attractions."

Cellar Master Steve notes tickets will be around \$125 per person – a huge bargain considering the prestige of Francis Ford Coppola's wine estate and its wines.

## Our Next Event / September 15

The next club activity is a South African and New Zealand wine event at Board member Skip Walker's on the water house in Mill Valley (Strawberry) on **Saturday, Sept. 15**.



This is a first-time theme event that will help LFW members discover some great wines in a great setting from diverse sources of excellent varietals. Watch your mail for flyer details on the event.

## New Members – Welcome!

**Terence Young**, referred by Denise Malatesta.

## Tip for Finding Best Buys

By Christopher Blunden

If you like fellow lawyer Robert Parker, Jr.'s palate in wine as much as I, you can do a sort at Bevmo on this [link](#) and then do a subsort on that window by Rating or Price or wine Name to see what they've got. I discovered 90 Parker points for \$13.99. Great with those barbeque burgers. Enjoy!