



LFW

G r a p e v i n e

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Claret Dinner "Feastive" & Fun



Our annual Holiday Claret Dinner at Harris' Restaurant was a hit.

Remarkable food was perfectly paired with tantalizing wines selected for the evening by cellar master Steve Pitcher. They included Magnums of Roederer Estate Anderson Valley Sparkling Wine that complemented the excellent hors d'oeuvres, plus a 1997 White Rock Claret and 1997 Swanson "Alexis" during the main dining event plus a fine after-dinner port.



Mike Carbone ran the annual holiday tie contest. Our winner (who shall remain somewhat anonymous for defamation purposes) got an edge on the competition (and captured the female vote) by matching his tie to his underwear. We trust the prize (a 1994 bottle of Spotswood cabernet) will be shared with his fiancée, long time Lawyer Friends of Wine member, Stephanie Burton. Congratulations!



Special guests, Chris (a lawyer) and Lara Gemignani of Generosa Winery in the Santa Cruz Mountains accompanied Kathleen and Steven Martin. As many of you will recall, Generosa "generosa-ly" provided wine in person to our wonderful LFW June 2005 event at the Martins' home in Hillsborough.

For our Claret event, The Gemignanis surprised us with a large barrel sampling bottle of Generosa Syrah which achieved tip-top ratings from those tasting its precious contents. Thanks Kathleen and Steve for bringing the Gemignanis!



Lawyer Friends of Wine president Bill Smith led the applause for a job well done by our CAO (Chief Administrative Officer) Denise Malatesta. He presented her a holiday bouquet and a small gift from LFW. "I do not know what we would do without Denise" smiled Bill. "Mike Marron had the good sense to get her involved with the Club years ago."

Our sold out event included several new members. A great time was had by all.

Big Turnout for Early Supper

By Bill Smith



On October 28, LFW put on the first Early Supper at Villa Taverna in San Francisco.

The response of the membership was astounding in that it quickly filled up with 65 attendees. I spoke with everyone who attended, and the universal response was that we needed to do more events in San Francisco at convenient times. These comments are extremely valuable and will not be lost on the Board.

The Villa Taverna was a perfect spot for our new event which may well become an annual event. The nice thing about the venue is its location, its staff, valet parking and the fact that we can change the theme easily.

Someone even mentioned a Polish event! I did not know that Poland made any decent wines, but I also was unaware that North Dakota also makes wine.

The evening was fun because we got to mingle with members who have not made it to other events.

It was wonderful to see everyone and share the tasty hors d'oeuvres on the mezzanine of the restaurant with our accordion player trying to overcome the hum of the conversations with lively Italian tunes.

We had two new members present who had never attended one of our events. They were Jay Folberg (and his wife Diana) and Vince Galvin (and his wife Mary Lyle).

These new members represent the very northern end of our membership (i.e. the Folbergs spend much of their time in Healdsburg) and the very southern end of

our membership (i.e. the Galvins reside in Los Gatos). We welcome all of them to our special little club.

I want to pay tribute to RJ Waldsmith who organized the Villa Taverna dinner almost on his own. Our thanks also go to Ray Bergez who transported the wine from our cellar; he made sure it all got safely to the restaurant. I did not count the bottles and am only assuming he delivered all of them!

Thanks everyone for making this dinner such a wonderful success!

Welcome New Members!

Bruce Ahnfeldt sponsored by Bob Keeney

Geoffrey Dugan and **William Hake**
sponsored by David Anderson

Clark Morrison, **Joseph Russell**, and
Vince Galvin sponsored by Bill Smith



Save the Date:

March 4, 2006

Our upcoming Annual Dinner Dance will be at the St. Francis Yacht Club on 3/4/06.

Next Event!

**6th Annual
Winter Follies**

At the home of Paul and Ellen Gutierrez: Saturday, Jan 28, 2006. (Traditionally, our noisiest chatter event of the year!)

You're invited to bring your favorite white or red wine, old or new.

If you wish to enter it in the official Lawyer Friends of Wine tasting contest (prizes will be awarded), wrap it in foil (with your name enclosed on the inside at the bottom).

Flow restrictors will be provided at the event for each bottle to enable voting by our cellar master and as many of our members as possible who wish to vote to rate and discover our favorites. Votes will be in writing rather than by applause meter.

There will be Steve Pitcher Cellar Master awards for one White and one Red, plus separate LFW People's Choice awards for one White and one Red.

Watch for your flyer with all the details!