



LFW G r a p e v i n e

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LFW Events Leven 2011

by Christopher Blunden

We launched 2011 with our festive January Winter Follies wine contest event in Tiburon at James Morando's wonderful home.

In February, we enjoyed our Wine Tasting and Luncheon at Alfred's Steakhouse in San Francisco hosted by Miner Family Vineyards with guest speaker Dianne Norton.



Our March annual members' meeting and dinner/dance was at the Francisca Club, a terrific new venue scouted out by our dynamic duo Steve and Kathleen Martin.



We warmed up with our "champagne reception" in the library, then went upstairs to the dining rooms. The food and service were quite excellent, and the live music was ideal.

This Cellar Treasure event included aging fine New World offerings from our cellar that needed to be timely consumed, and we obliged.

We also reported our election results, welcoming our new Board members: Steve Martin, Chris L'Orange and James Morando. Officers for 2011 elected by the Board are: Christopher Blunden, President, Eric Behrens, First Vice President / Secretary, and Second Vice-President / Treasurer Ray Burgess.



Our Cellar Master Rod provided tastevin awards to attending members who qualified after three years of membership in good standing. Our recipients this year were Robert Ford, Jay Folberg, Chris L'Orange, Michele Trausch, and Richard Valerian.



Kathleen Martin made professional quality flower centerpieces from her garden and delighted attendees brought them home.

This event was so pleasing, we hope to repeat the venue, service, food, and live band next year supplemented by new wine offerings selected by our Cellar Master.

We transitioned from this Black Tie optional event to LFW's casual, shorts optional, Wine Country BBQ event on April 31.



Past president Paul Gutierrez (and Ellen) provided the perfect setting for hamming it up at their Sonoma County ranch.

Between the one bottle brought per couple along with supplemental wines hand-picked by our Cellar Master, accompanied by live steel drum music, we had a delightful day of wine and food tasting discoveries in this gorgeous outdoor setting.

The next day started the month of May in which we planned to have a winery event, but the winery we were dealing with at length (which shall go unnamed) derailed the event with a "zinger" causing us to have to wait until our next event coming in June.



To all of those involved in getting 2011 off to a great Lawyer Friends of Wine start by planning events, submitting ideas, volunteering, attending events, and by bringing guests to events, we salute you with our thanks.

Welcome New Members!

Heather Auyang, sponsored by James Morando;

James Balich, sponsored by James Morando;

Shannon Hansen, sponsored by James Morando;

Mark Levie, sponsored by Chris L'Orange;

Scott Reep, sponsored by Rod Marraccini;

Pam Marraccini, sponsored by Suzanne Boucher;

Steve Tigerman, sponsored by Bill Smith;

Louis Weller, sponsored by Steve Martin.



Save the Date:

June 22, 2011: Wine & Food Pairing, Culinary Academy, San Francisco.

July 16, 2011: International Tasting and Pairing Dinner, San Francisco.

August 6, 2011: Sonoma afternoon Tasting Party – LFW member winery.

September 17, 2011: Harvest Moon Dinner Event, Napa (Bus Trip).

July 13 2013-Sept 7, 2013: [America's Cup!](#) ([Map](#); help us find a [connection](#) and venue!)