



LFW

G r a p e v i n e

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LFW Wine Events Keep Coming!

by Christopher Blunden

Our first ever small group Wine Country Getaway Wine Tour/Picnic in August to Spring Mountain near St. Helena was a tremendous success.



Rave reviews included, "Absolutely fantastic" and "Best tour ever" thanks to our masterful host Tim Bouchet of Pride Mountain Vineyards located at the top of Spring Mountain road (6 miles up) from St. Helena. (Event photos are at our [Gallery](#).)

Upon our arrival to the winery that was otherwise closed to the public on this day, Tim greeted us with a vertical tasting of excellent Pride wines. Next, he shared the very interesting history of the winery, escorted us with our filled glasses through the vineyards to taste the grapes and learn Intro to Viticulture 101, and then took us into the 2000+ barrels caves for more learning plus barrel tasting.

Our group peppered him with constant questions to which Tim provided erudite replies. In response to the glorious barrel

tastings, more than once a member of the group asked, "Are we able to purchase this entire barrel . . . right now?"



We then proceeded to picnic in the vineyards with excellent gourmet box lunches from Sunshine Foods along with our wines (no corkage, here), followed by a group photo reminiscent of summer camp.



We then reboarded our Black Tie small bus to visit Sherwin Family Vineyards. More excellent wine, bocce ball, a glorious setting overlooking a private lake and vineyards, and great fun and great wine. In addition to the fun, we even gained a new member!

Helllllo Baaaaaby . . .

Our September Summer Blast by the Bay event at Skip and Anne Walker's featuring all 90+ point wines may have set a new record for SPM's (smiles per minute).



Our initial wine tasting offered five great whites and five great reds followed by dinner with no shortage of good food.

After dinner, entertainment featured the singing and dancing talent of our Lawyer Friends of Wine family coaxed out into the open by my alter-ego, BirdDog.



These photos reveal some of the genuine fun our group experienced together, and you can see more of what you did or missed by visiting our [LFW Photo Gallery](#).

Special thanks are owed to all who pitched in before, during, and after the event to make it work. As Elvis would say, "You all know . . . who you are." And extra kudos to David Anderson (in charge of food) and Skip and Anne for inviting us all over, again.



Everybody sang, danced, and shared in the fun; we even did *The Stroll* . . .



Nametag Returns

If you discover you forgot to turn in your nametag from our last event please send it to our Program Chair who can e-mail you his address.

Welcome New Members!

Linda Brown, sponsored by Bill Smith;

Richard Keenan, sponsored by Neil Bardack.

We're up to 99 out of 100; who's going to "cap off" our membership?

Next Events:

Oct. 18 Harvest Moon Dinner

Nov. 21 - 23 Mendocino Weekend / Little River Inn + Wineries (30+ people)

Dec. 6 Holiday Claret Dinner

In Our Next Issue: We'll learn how Cellar Master Steve Pitcher has helped our club survive the world's economic turmoil. Stay tuned!