



Rochester Chapter AWS Tasting Notes Portugal Table Wines & Ports January 19, 2008

Business Meeting:

Barbara-Ann Mattle and Ed Maier welcomed the group and went over some chapter business before starting the tasting. Items discussed:

1. After a review of finances, it was decided to keep the pretasting committee subsidy at \$60.00.
2. A motion was made to make a \$200 donation to Mountain Rise Church as a thank you for welcoming the group back and to help subsidize their purchase of new chairs. The motion was unanimously approved by the members in attendance.
3. Tasting committees still have openings. An updated committee list will be e-mailed out with the tasting notes. Members are encouraged to sign up where there are openings. If anyone has an idea for a tasting to replace the two dates that still need chairs and committee volunteers, and is willing to chair the tasting, please contact Laura Hatch at lwshatch@rochester.rr.com.

Portugal Table Wines & Ports Tasting:

Committee Chair Brian Spindler opened the meeting with an overview of Portuguese wines and ports and their history.

In 1373, England's Treaty of Friendship with the Portuguese opened trade between the two countries, and Portugal began supplying wine during England's periods of war with France. To improve the transport stability of the wine, they began dumping brandy into the red wines. The English seemed to like the taste, and the effects, and port was born. In 1756, Portugal was the first to implement an appellation system, beating France.

Portuguese wines are blossoming now and beginning to make an impact on world markets. In terms of wine market size, Portugal ranks 10th in the world, producing 211 million gallons per year. This places them ahead of New Zealand and at the same level as Chile. As a reference point, the U.S. is ranked 4th.

Tasting Order	Wine	Price	Voting Results by Category
Still Wines			
Opener	Mateus	\$5.99	
1	2005 Portal do Fidalgo Alvarinho	9.99 at WineLibrary.com	2
2	2004 Ramos-Pinto "Adriano"	\$12.99	
3	2001 Quinta do Carmo	\$14.99	
4	2003 P&S Chryseia	\$45.00 @ Chicago Wine Company	1
Ports			
5	Cockburn 20-year Tawny Port	\$44.99	1
6	Graham's Six Grapes V.C. Port	\$11.99/half bottle	
7	1985 Foncesca Vintage Port	\$99.00 @ Chicago Wine Company	2
8	1994 Dow Vintage Port	\$95 @ wine.com	