



AWS ROCHESTER – WINE TASTING - 11/17/07

AWS Rochester, NY Chapter got the “Lowdown on Lodi” on Saturday, November 17, thanks to the enthusiastic work of the 14 member event committee. Initial reconnaissance for the evening was conducted by the committee chairs during two visits to Lodi, California. The first visit, in June 2006, was the result of an AWS National Conference session where Mark Chandler, Director of Lodi Visitor’s Center, provided detailed information about the area. The return visit, in September 2007, was used to select a variety of wines for the pre-tasting decision making with the assistance of Visitor Center Staff and the management of the wineries.

Twenty four wines were pre-tasted by 9 of the committee members. The selected wines were then paired with complimentary foods. A total of 9 Wines were presented accompanied by 6 different food pairings. Each of the 14 committee members had the opportunity to participate in the presentations as well as the distribution of food and wine.

The evening began with a slide show of photographs taken at Lodi wineries. The committee members shared research about the Lodi area, described the various methods of wine production, and gave specific details about each of the wines and foods that were paired.

Wines, foods and voting results were as follows –

Entry Wine – Viognier with Goat Cheese and Water Crackers

Peltier Station 2006 3rd Best of Tasting

(First Time an entry wine was voted this high)

Flight 1 – Chardonnay with Devilish Eggs in Ruffled Philo Cups

Jessie’s Grove 2006 Best of Flight

Onus 2006

Flight 2 – Zinfandel with Aged Gouda Cheese and French Baguette

Michael David - Earthquake 2005 Best of Flight and Tied for Best of Tasting

Michael David - Seven Deadly Zins 2005

Flight 3 – Zinfandel with Pasta topped with Pistachio Pesto

Vino Con Brio – Matzin 2005 Best of Flight and Tied for Best of Tasting

Jessie’s Grove – Westwind 2005

Flight 4 – Pinotage with Beef Poetage ala Matignon

Vino Con Brio 2004

Flight 5 – Cabernet Sauvignon with Lindt Extra Dark Chocolate Truffles

Michael David – Earthquake 2003 – 2nd Best of Tasting

An assortment of coffee and tea accompanied the after-tasting table selection of wines and food.

The 50 chapter members and 2 guests thoroughly enjoyed the tasting. This accounts for 27% of the chapter’s membership and the largest group to attend any tasting during the current year. Everyone agreed that the enthusiastic and hard working committee had done an excellent job in producing a fun, educational and “tasty” evening.