

February 19, 2010

Major 361 Club Celebration

The meeting of February 19th was unique, bringing an array of additions and changes to club membership and traditions. To properly account for this important meeting the newsletter/minutes publication has been

expanded to four pages. Although this places a major strain on Boon's limited technical and creative capacities it seems like the right thing to do. Hopefully, the additional content will not further slow the already molasses like delivery of the meeting documentation. Now, on with the coverage of the tasting, new membership - both adult and a little younger - and the new hi-tech approach to meeting participation.

The Tasting

The tasting matched perennial favorite Veuve Clicquot Ponsardin (The Widow) with a challenger new to the club, Brut de Charvis. The challenger although not a true Champagne, is made using traditional methods in the Burgundy region of France. In what must be regarded as yet another upset the challenger prevailed over The Widow by a slim, one vote, margin. It will be interesting to see if preferences change with the addition of new members (see page 2).

In addition to the traditional tasting Hia and Boon offered a new product for consideration. Made in Holland from a combination of red wine and chocolate it seemed to be ideally suited to the tastes of the club members. In reality it was rejected by all except Hia and Boon. The drink, quite popular in Delaware did not meet New Jersey's high standards. In the future ChocoVin consumption will be limited to the Delmarva peninsula.



The Contenders



ChocoVin - it seemed like a good idea



The Arena

As usual, the arena was beautifully prepared. And, also as usual, an array of pre-tasting food and beverage challenged the palates of the club members. Based on thorough statistical analysis the snacks appear to have no impact on tasting results.



Pre-tasting snacks

New Membership

The club is happy to announce the addition of two new members. They are not strangers to the club, having previously participated as "Friggin" Guests and "Friggin" Hosts (at their lake side estate). Their chosen official club designations are Cha "Friggin" Cha and Two "Friggin" Step. This is a bit of a departure from the Wild

West/Native American theme adopted by most of the current membership - Boon being the exception with no theme whatsoever. The addition of the dance theme will, no doubt, open the door to many new and creative approaches to membership naming. Clearly favorite rock bands will be a future consideration. In

addition to the new regular members the first future generation member has made her appearance. Vivian (she will be spared a club name until she is old enough to defend herself), the daughter of Kit and Poncho was in attendance and, as seen in the pictures, an active participant in the proceedings.

Cha "Friggin" Cha



C. F. Cha and Vivian

Vivian and Friends



With CF. Kate



Even prettier all by herself

Two "Friggin" Step



T. F. Step



With K. F. Carson (Mom)



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The Ususal Antics

It's not about the food - or is it?



The pizza course



Dessert Shrapnel - armed and dangerous



Two Step digs in



Dessert Shrapnel - defused



Place cards and assorted stuff

Poncho anticipating the use of video meeting technology prepared place cards commemorating other great moments in video history. It is doubtful that the moments he selected will in the judgment of history match the importance of The 361 Club meeting.



The traditional punch in the jaw

Although Kit has a history of viciously attacking Hia, both parties are having too much fun for this to be considered a serious altercation.



Lottery ticket with tasting winner

Poncho, being a great host, gave lottery tickets to each of the members. He was then relieved when he had no need to act happy if someone won a bunch of money.



Poncho - relieved

Hi-Tech Meeting Format

With the move of Hia and Boon to the beaches of Delaware The 361 Club faces a new challenge. The February 19th meeting presented the opportunity to test a new paradigm - a real-time video connection of

the New Jersey and Delaware locations. In this case Hia was able to be in New Jersey for the meeting so Boon communicated from Delaware and consumed all the available alcohol by himself. As it turns out

SKYPE worked without a hitch and the meeting went well. While video technology will never be a substitute for being there in person all in attendance agreed that Boon was more appealing at a distance.

Video Moments





Two Step and Boon





A vote for the widow?



Views from Delaware

Boon, upset by the loss of "The Widow" in the evening's tasting, was captured on video trying to convince a toy monkey to cast the tying vote. The monkey, although impressed with the vintage, was unwilling to upset the proceedings. The monkey also suggested that Boon may have had enough to drink.



Product of the month

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