

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON APRIL 12TH, 2017
AT BISHOP HALL**

Members in Attendance:

Brian McKibbin, Bob MacDiarmid, Jim Ferguson, Gary Constantine, Alan Baker, Art Ward, Leigh Davison, Steve Ells, Steve Cochrane, Jerome & Kelly MacIsaac, Peter Jucker

Regrets: Ivan, Peter Jackson, Roseline, Karen Ells, Ross Palmer, Pat Constantine

Guests: Richard & Donna Paisley, John Fletcher

Opening & Welcome: President Brian McKibbin opened the meeting at 7:10pm.

Previous Meeting Minutes: The March 8th, 2017 Minutes were accepted as submitted.

Wine Doctor:

Art brought a 2014 rhubarb wine and was wondering what classification it belongs to. It was rather on the sweet side and concensus was it would be a social wine. John Fletcher, an experienced retired wine maker, suggested that rhubarb wine in particular should be drunk very young as it soon takes on the odd taste that was noted on Art's sample.

Correspondence:

Brian received a letter from Roseline sharing a tip she learned in the course at Kingstec on how to successfully clean bottles with a mixture of baking soda and ash. We should post this contribution on our website.

Business Arising: None.

New Business:

The AWNS Competition is set for June 3rd. Judges have been invited. We are looking for 9 professionals to participate. As he has done so often in the past, Alan reminded everyone that now is the time to get ready and bottle the entries to avoid bottle sickness.

Steve & Karen Ells have offered their vineyard as the venue for this year's vineyard visit. This will take place late in June. We will fix a date at next meeting.

Adjourn Business Meeting:

Motion by Art, seconded by Leigh.

Technical Session:

We sampled a nice variety of wines made by club members. One in particular was deemed to stand above the others. It was last year's l'Acadie from the Ells' vineyard. Turns out this was vinted by John Fletcher who described the process he used. He does not believe in crushing and destemming, instead squeezes the entire clusters in a basket press. He also did not filter the wine. Very interesting and something worth trying for sure.

Non-Technical Session: The snacks were provided by Kelly MacIsaac. Thank you.

Next Meeting: April 12th, 2017, at 7:00 pm.

Minutes prepared by Peter and Frances