

Niagara Chapter's Annual Dinner at Peninsula Ridge by Jackie Barrett



Our evening started in the tasting room with a greeting from our Director of Communications Sue Couch. We then shared a tasting of Peninsula Ridge Cabernet Rose with tasty hors d'oeuvres that Chef Matt Hemmingsen and his team had prepared.



We had a very interesting introduction to the history of Peninsula Ridge Estate Winery by Norm Beal President and CEO of Peninsula Ridge and the Executive Director of Food and Beverage Ontario. Members and their guests were entertained in the tasting room and then Norm lead us over to the Coach House where would sit down for dinner.



In the coach house, we had a brief introduction of Norm and his staff and then began the meal with a roasted butternut squash soup with Tarragon Crème Fraîche paired with the 2015 Beal Vineyard Reserve Chardonnay.



We then moved on to our main course of either Prosciutto Wrapped Chicken Supreme or the St. David's Eggplant Dusted with Panko and Pecorino. This was paired with the 2013 Falcon's Nest Pinot Noir. The members and guests enjoyed the introduction of the chef and his description of the pairing of the wine with the delicious entrée choices. There was much discussion at each table and sharing of stories and learnings from their wine experiences.

Just before dessert, we made a draw for a prize of olive oil from Casa Toscana, Grimsby. A special thank you to Luca for his generous donation and remember to take opportunity to visit Luca in his store located on Main St. West. Peninsula Ridge donated two bottles of wine for the draw. Jim and Yvonne Price won the raffle prizes.



The team served dessert - a rich Chocolate Truffle Cake with Candied Orange and Espresso Cream paired with the 2006 Ratafia. Following these delicious treats, Niagara President Jackie Barrett thanked Norm for his participation in making our evening a great success and to his fiancée Leslie who joined us for the evening.

Members and their guests enjoyed coffee and tea before they departed the coach house for the evening. A very big thank you to Norm Beal, Chef Matt Hemmingsen and the team at Peninsula Ridge Estate Winery for a memorable evening in Niagara Region.

Photos by Bruce Jackson. For more of Bruce's photos go to:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/photoshopphlake/albums/72157666660874189>