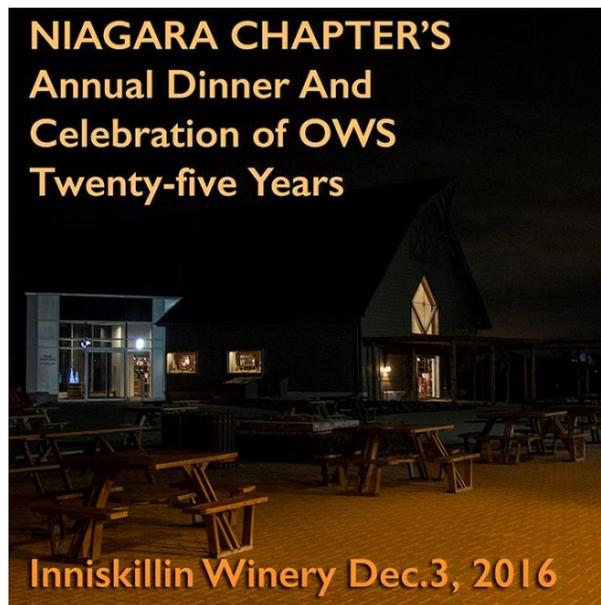


Niagara Chapter's Annual Dinner by Bruce Jackson



Niagara Chapter's annual dinner was selected as our opportunity to salute the 25th anniversary of OWS. The event was held at Inniskillin Winery on December 3, 2016.

We began with our reception featuring Inniskillin Sparkling Vidal Icewine. There was ample time to chat with others, look over some Niagara Chapter memorabilia, enjoy the delicious wine and meet and purchase a book by one of our members.

Larry Horne signed copies of his autobiography *BESOTTED* which is the story of his love affair with wine. Another visitor was Niagara Chapter's first president Yvonne Trout accompanied by her husband Rob.

The guest speaker for the evening was Debi Pratt. She volunteered to take the group on a tour of the Inniskillin barrel cellar and wine library where we saw Icewines from 1986 and bottles of Karl Kaiser's other historic wines.

As part of our OWS celebration, Bruce Jackson, the event's planner showed a video of an interview he had done with Inniskillin's founder Donald Ziraldo. Donald was one of the people who saw the need for a group which would support Ontario wines and he was one of the driving forces behind the Ontario Wine Society. Hamilton videographer Mike Szabo shot the video.

Debi Pratt further developed the philosophy of OWS and gave her personal experience as one who has supported OWS and was there as the society began and expanded.

Unexpected excitement developed just before our meal was served as the fire alarm was set off by a small fire in the kitchen. Although it was put out immediately, trucks from the volunteer Niagara-on-the-Lake fire department arrived and had to inspect the scene. The arrival of fire fighters caused a great deal of good natured fun as comments about calendars and requests for photos were made. Debi Pratt had her picture taken with some of the volunteers.

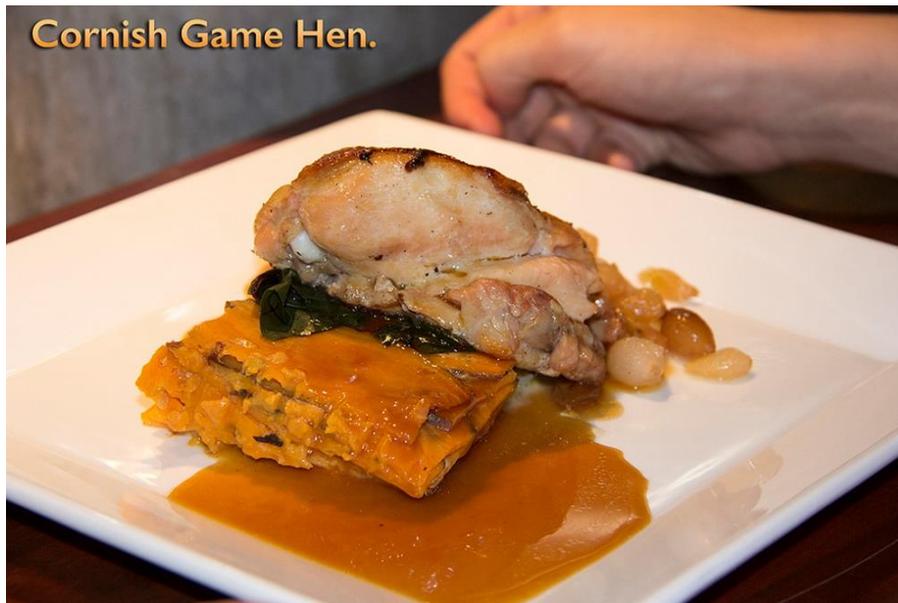
A fire erupted in the kitchen and was quickly put out. Two fire trucks and several firefighters responded to the smoke alarm.



We sat and drank wine awaiting the all clear.

An excellent meal featuring a scallop soup and Cornish game hen was prepared by Chef Michael White. Each course came with the appropriate wine: 2014 Inniskillin Legacy Pinot Gris with the soup and 2014 Inniskillin Montague Vineyard Pinot Noir with the game hen.

Cornish Game Hen.



After the meal, we left Founders Hall and walked across the courtyard to the wine boutique. There we were given Inniskillin Vidal Icewine and Inniskillin Cabernet Franc Sparkling Icewine paired with a selection of sweets.



Planner Bruce Jackson would like to thank Inniskillin staff for their excellent involvement in the evening, especially Assistant Estate Manager Stephanie Mussari who helped organize the event, looked after the video and kept everything running smoothly even as fire fighters in full gear walked through the dining hall. Inniskillin Guest Service Associate Ciaran Morgan explained the wine selections to our guests.

Additional photos by Bruce Jackson's are available at:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/photoshopplake/albums/72157673471982954>