



*The International Wine & Food Society*  
**Miami Branch**

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Annual Business Meeting Minutes  
June 25, 2008

**ATTENDEES**

Drew Bailey  
Mike Battle  
Peter Benjamin  
Jeff Block  
Steve Blythe  
Aldo Busot  
Leo Corradini  
Jim Cosmides  
Skip Dickerson  
Ted Evans

Mike Farrá  
Joe Garrigó  
Hank Hamilton  
Bob Hudson  
Tory Jacobs  
George Jenkins  
Rick Krissel  
John Kuczwanski  
Mitch Lundeen  
Bob McCammon

Bob Moschell  
Paul Plasky  
John Shepard  
Paul Skoric  
Ariel Solorzano  
John Sullivan  
Dave Walter  
Mike Wilson  
Carl Young  
Chris Zoller

Pursuant to notice, the regularly scheduled annual business meeting of the International Food and Wine Society, Miami Branch was held on June 25, 2008 at Shorty's Restaurant in the Doral area of Miami, Florida at 6:30 pm. President John Kuczwanski called the meeting to order. The preceding thirty members were in attendance.

**MINUTES OF PREVIOUS ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING**

Minutes from the previous annual meeting, July 11, 2007, had previously been distributed to the membership by e-mail and were submitted for approval. There was a motion to accept, it was seconded and the minutes were approved unanimously.

**BRANCH REPORT**

Mr. Kuczwanski presented the Branch report for the past year. There were a total of ten events, plus the annual business meeting. There was a total of 597 covers. This was an increase of 18 over the previous year.



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**TREASURER'S REPORT**

The financial report was then presented by Mike Farrá. A balance sheet dated May 31, 2008 was submitted with an ending total asset balance of \$15,231.97. Updating to the current time, Mr. Farrá indicates our balance is now approximately \$17,000. There was also a page of receipts and disbursements, dated May 31, 2008, which outlined the expenses for the year as well as the receipts. Total receipts of dinner, annual membership, dues membership, initiation fees, medallion sales, interest on deposits and miscellaneous totaled \$121,028.85. Disbursement which included wine purchases of about \$65,000, dinner costs of about \$50,000, and various licenses, dues, and other miscellaneous items totaled a total disbursement of \$124,498.83, leaving a deficit of about \$3,469.98, which is well within our guidelines.

The Branch continues to be in solid financial standing. The motion to accept was made, seconded and approved unanimously.

**WINE COMMITTEE REPORT**

The Wine Committee Report was given by John Kuczanski. This included a cellars summary which outlined the percentages of wines from various regions. Major categories include French with 3094 bottles or approximately 71% of our cellar and US with 644 bottles approximately 15% of the cellar. Discussion included emphasis on the fact that our cellar continues to be upgraded in the quality of the wines that have been purchased. In 2008 approximately \$66,867.82 was spent on the 2008 cellar purchases. This excluded purchases for specific events.

A motion to approve was seconded and approved unanimously.

**CELLAR MASTER REPORT**

The cellar report was given by Chris Zoller. Currently there are approximately 4312 bottles in our cellar. Mr. Zoller expressed thanks to the members who had volunteered to move our current stores from Florida Mushroom to the new IWS location last Saturday. The move was less painful than had been anticipated, thanks in great part to John Kuczanski's excellent organization of the move as well as the coordination and effort of the members involved. A special thanks to Joe Cerniglia who made available a refrigerated truck as well as staff which greatly simplified the move. Mr. Zoller stated that we owe a great debt to Joe Cerniglia for the many years he has cellared our wines at absolutely no cost to the Branch in his warehouse. He pointed out that we have



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never lost a bottle of wine at Florida Mushroom and that the staff was overly attentive to any changes in cellar temperature and malfunction of equipment throughout the years. He also points out that our new home, International Wine Storage, is a professional storage facility and for the first time we will have all of our wine in one location. This does come at additional expense of approximately \$8,000 per year.

A motion was made to accept, seconded and approved unanimously.

**OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS ELECTION**

Mr. Kuczwanski announced at this time that he would not be standing for president for the following year. He selected a nominating committee of Jim Cosmides, Joe Garrigó and Steve Mandy. This committee presented a slate of nominees which include the following:

PRESIDENT - Bob Hudson  
VICE PRESIDENT - John Sullivan  
TREASURER - Mike Farrá  
SECRETARY - Steve Blythe

Directors will include Jim Beauchamp, Peter Benjamin, Joe Cerniglia, Bob Dickinson, Joe Garrigó, John Kuczwanski, Paul Skoric and Chris Zoller

There was a motion to accept and it was seconded and approved unanimously.

**2008/2009 FEE SCHEDULE**

Presented by John Kuczwanski. It was recommended that no changes be made in the current fee schedule. Annual dues will be \$350 and initiation will be \$4000, late charges for dues \$25, and late charges for events \$30. There was a discussion about the definition of late charges for dues and for events. As a point of information Mr. Kuczwanski indicated that there is nothing in the bylaws as to the definition of late charges on dues or events. In practice a late charge for events is not triggered until after the event. If a member pays at the door, this has been acceptable. Also in practice if there is a no-pay there will be a no-next event.

A motion to accept was made, seconded and approved unanimously.



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**MEMBERSHIP**

There was one resignation from our branch for the coming year. This was Carl Reagan. For 2008, membership nominations were at this time presented. There were seven nominees who had met the criteria for proposed members. This included Mark Bloom presented to the membership by Bob Hudson; Jorge Rodriguez discussed by Ariel Solorzano; Bob Trescott discussed by Chris Zoller; Gary List discussed by Paul Plasky; Phil Lyons present by Ted Evans; Bill Parker discussed by Chris Zoller and Ray Zomerfeld discussed by Mike Battle and Mike Wilson.

Pursuant to a secret ballot the following were voted into membership: Mark Bloom, Bob Trescott, Gary List, Phil Lyons and Bill Parker.

**FIU CONTRIBUTION**

It was proposed that we continue to support the Florida International School of Hospitality with our annual \$500.00 grant.

A motion to accept was seconded and approved unanimously.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

It was proposed that a certificate of special significance be given to Joe Cerniglia for his outstanding contributions to the Branch, not only in his support of events, but it was felt by all that he deserved special recognition for the contribution of his warehouse and the attention to our cellar during these critical years at no cost to the Branch. It is probably only in retrospect that we truly appreciate what an outstanding contribution he has made.

This motion was made, seconded and approved unanimously.

Bob Hudson then paid tribute to John Kuczanski, our out-going President. He thanked him for the four years of outstanding work in analyzing and organizing our cellar and our events through his tenure. His comments were unanimously supported by the membership.

Bob Hudson was asked at this time to give some comments as to the direction in which he hoped to take the club. He and John Sullivan had talked about this on a number of occasions and presented a number of ideas that they had discussed. These included



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---

more input on events as well as possible venues for events from the entire membership as opposed to merely the board members. He was also heard to say he would lower taxes and put a chicken in everyone's pot!

With no further business to consider, a motion to adjourn was made, seconded and approved. Again a special thanks to Paul Skoric and his staff at Shorty's Restaurant for another successful and delicious annual business meeting.

*Respectfully submitted by Stephen Blythe.*



*Annual Business Meeting - June 25, 2008*





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## ***Annual Business Meeting***

*June 25, 2008*



### ***STARTERS***

*HICKORY SMOKED BBQ CHICKEN WINGS*  
*OLD FASHIONED CRACKER MEAL ONION RINGS*  
*HOT TORTILLA CHIPS WITH SPICY FRESH SALSA & CREAMY FRESH TUNA DIP*

### ***ENTRÉES***

*JUICY TENDER BBQ CHICKEN*  
*SWEET BBQ BABY BACKED RIBS*  
*HICKORY SMOKED MEATY SPARE RIBS*  
*TEXAS STYLE SLOW SMOKED BEEF BRISKET*  
*MID-WEST CORN FED TENDER PULLED PORK*

### ***ACCOMPANIMENTS***

*CREAMY COLE SLAW, SOUTHERN STYLE BRUNSWICK STEW*  
*HOT & BUTTERY SWEET CORN ON THE COB, MOUTH WATERING BBQ BEANS*  
*FRESH YELLOW RICE, PIPING HOT FRENCH FRIES, JUMBO BAKED POTATOES, JUMBO SWEET POTATOES*  
*FRESH SLICED TOASTED GARLIC BREAD, DELICIOUS SOFT DINNER ROLLS*

### ***BEVERAGES***

*BOTTLED WATER, FRESH BREWED SOUTHERN STYLE SWEET TEA*  
*FRESH BREWED COFFEE, SODA*

### ***DESERT***

*SHORTY'S SELECTION*

### ***BIN ENDS & ZIN***

*NV DEUTZ BRUT CLASSIC & NICOLAS FEUILLATTE BRUT ROSÉ NV*  
*1989 CHÂTEAU GRAUD LAROSE 2ÈME GRAND CRU CLASSÉ*  
*1989 CHÂTEAU PAVIE 1ER GRAND CRU CLASSÉ B*  
*1997 BARBARESCO, SORI' PAITIN, PIEDMONT*  
*2000 & 2003 CHÂTEAUNEUF DU PAPE, LES CAILLOUX CUVÉE CENTENAIRE*  
*2001 CLARENDON HILLS OLD VINES GRENACHE*  
*2002 ST. INNOCENT 7 SPRINGS OREGON PINOT NOIR*  
*2003 VINNAIOLI VINNAE FRIULI, JERMANN, VENEZIA BLANC*  
*2005 SEGHEGIO HOME RANCH SONOMA ZINFANDEL*

***HOST: PAUL SKORIC***

**288<sup>th</sup> Branch Event**