

THE TUESDAY TIPPLERS.

MAY 2016

The tipplers assembled chez Gus with the exception of Nigel, Alan, Keith and Bill. (Glad it was not an Aussie wine tasting)

New business was scant but the sipper in the form of a Washington State Riesling at \$ 20 was enjoyed by all. Needless to say it's origin was not identified, being mainly guessed as old world with a variety of grape suggestions all other than Riesling. (some things never change!) After the label was displayed, strangely there suddenly appeared an aroma of petrol!!

Six reds were offered. The theme (which seemed extremely logical to the host at the time of conception of the tasting but not so much to the assembled Tipplers) was to determine and examine some of the factors influencing the buying habits of the group. Given that most of us still buy from L.C.B.O. (sorry Tod) a preliminary survey revealed that most tipplers pay some attention to the plethora of ratings displayed and likewise some attention to the written reviews. Labels were not considered as important other than the obvious grape and vintage country etc.

The first task was, ----did the wines match the score accorded to them?

The second, ----did the descriptions fit the wine?

The third, ---could the three most expensive wines be identified?

The fourth,--- was seeing the label of help in identifying the wine?

Discussion was voluble, animated, irreverent (as far as the host was concerned) and at times non- intelligible, learned or semi - comprehensible. The conclusions were:

Ratings were unreliable. Tasting notes matched the wines for very few of the descriptors. Price was not related either to rating or to taste. The tippers much preferred the cheapest wines and did not identify the most expensive. Even with the help of the labels matching of the wines to the bottles was less than stellar.

The wines were:

OSOYOOS LAROSE 2011 \$ 44.75 (90)

DANDEELION VINYARDS Barossa shiraz 2014 \$21.95 (96)

SAINT SIFFEREIN Chateauneuf 2012 \$ 44.95 (90)

PATA NEGRA Rioja 2010 \$ 17.00 (96)

DES DEMOISELLES Cotes De Bordeaux 2011 \$17.95 (90)

BAROLO Rocche di Castiglione 2008 \$49.95 (96)

The evening terminated, courtesy of Lorna, with a delicious Irish bread and butter pudding with Irish whiskey and caramel sauce accompanied by a RIVESALTES sweet wine. (\$27.95 750ml).