



Syracuse University

Alumni Club of South Florida



South Florida Orange Squeezings

Third Annual Wine Tasting to be the Best Yet

Get ready South Florida because the SUSCSF is getting ready to hold its third annual wine tasting party. This yearly event is one of the most popular activities the club holds. This time we are going to improve things by holding our party at the Vine Bar in Coral Springs. Here are the details:

Date: Saturday, April 10th
Addr: 925 N. University Drive
Coral Springs, FL
Time: 7:30 PM
Cost: \$25.00

This venue is a rare find in the center of our tri-county market area. Jim Knoll, pictured on the left in the image, has put together a wine bar and wine shop of exceptional quality. For those of you who appreciate a sophisticated place to have a glass of fine wine away from the typical bar scene, you could not ask for a better spot. Picture a Napa Valley wine bar if you will. Wood panels and a

state of the art wine dispensing mechanism are the first thing you notice. But then you begin to observe the clients and you are transported to California, if only in your mind. This place reminds me of a small wine bar that once stood in St. Helena, the heart of Napa. Sadly, the one in California lives only in my memory, but the Vine Bar is alive and well and you don't have to travel across the continent to visit.

For those of you who are new to our annual wine tasting event, here is what you can expect. We gather at the venue at the appointed hour. There is about 15 minutes of "meet 'n greet." Then the leader will call the group together.

There will be a brief discussion on how to taste wines in general. Before each pour our host will explain how this wine fits into the eight .



Jim Knoll on left

Then you will sample the wine and there will be ample time to discuss it amongst your friends. Even if you do not want to listen to the wine talk, there is plenty of space to continue your private conversations in a far corner of the room.

In this manner we will proceed through all eight wines. (Continued on page 2)

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Sweet 16 Baby!

As this newsletter goes to press the Orange are on their way to the NCAA's round of 16. It seemed like a never ending wait for 9:55 PM Friday night. When the tipoff finally came the result was a victory over Vermont. This was revenge for the 2005 upset loss that resulted in one-and-done.

Two things kept this game close, if a 79 - 56 final score can even be called close. First,

the Catamounts changed from man-to-man to the 2 - 3 zone on defense. Strange to say that the Orange seem mystified by Boenheim's patented formation. Second, the boys seemed to have developed a bad case of sloppy passing. But a win is a win and that's what counts.

The game on Sunday against Gonzaga was a textbook example of the Orange giving a basketball clinic. Except for the

first few minutes SU dominated the Zags. The final score was 87 - 65, but the 'Cuse was up by over 30 points at one time. The boys scored every which way: down low, at the baseline, from "downtown," and from the charity stripe. Wes Johnson had a career high game and Andy Rautins was, well, Andy. We are headed for Salt Lake City with a date with Butler on Thursday. Go SU!

Points of Interest:

- NCAA Basketball
- Dean
- Wine Tasting
- Networking
- My Memories of SU
- Day at the Track

Memories of Syracuse

Life Lessons Offered by the SU Program in Amsterdam By: Bela Lauber

My two favorite activities at college were basketball games and living/studying in Amsterdam. Each of them taught me important lessons outside of the classroom. Basketball because it is a team sport that emphasizes we instead of me; and Amsterdam since it opened my eyes to the importance of a culture that has respect for a basic human right such as healthcare in a civilized society. These two lessons have allowed me to formulate my own opinions on what is going on in our great country today.

I studied and received a great education in food science and nutrition at SU. The small class sizes allowed me to develop relationships with not only my fellow students but

also with the faculty. Accountability to a standard was stressed and accepted by all in the program since we all knew it was “the right thing to do.” In a profession where denial is our number one challenge, it is imperative that our message is consistent and fact based. Client trust is crucial since we are asking them to make lifestyle changes. I need to become the client’s food coach much like Jim Boeheim is our basketball coach.

My time in Amsterdam allowed me to appreciate the success that can be experienced by a country that understands the importance of both fiscal and societal responsibilities.

Through truth and understanding any goal can be accomplished. After all, these are the two life lessons that I have used to develop lifelong relationships with my Syracuse alumni friends.

Wine Tasting

(continued from page 1)

It is interesting to note that the order of the wines is not random. We will start out with the dry (not sweet) ones, progress to the less dry wines, and end up with a desert wine.

One should also be aware that the wines that we taste are always affordable selections. This is not an event for the “über rich.” Last year the price averaged \$12.00 retail.

Our host for the evening will be Mr. Michael Maletta. Mike is a certified sommelier originally hailing from Long Island. His depth of experience will add to the educational aspects

of the evening. As usual we will sample eight wines with ample time between tastings to discuss wines and other topics of interest.

As I write this article, Jim Knoll has not set the final wine card. However, he explained to me that we will probably enjoy a California Chardonnay and Cabernet Sauvignon. Italy will supply a rich Tuscan red still wine and a Pinot Grigio.

New Zealand produces some of the finest grapes in the world. We will taste Sauvignon Blanc and a Pinot Noir. I, for one look forward to the Pinot as Jim offered me one the day I



*President's Corner
by Eric Handis*

I continue to be really excited about how this season is turning out. Basketball has turned out to be the ride of a lifetime if you are an SU fan. Our National Orange Day project to provide magazines to the military continues to succeed. If you have some to contribute bring them to the iSchool event on March 31, 2010.

I am looking forward to seeing all of you at the wine tasting on April 10th. This is the third time we are doing this party and it has been a roaring success each and every time we have run it.

And for those of you who are getting this e.newsletter who have never been to one of our parties, now is the time to get involved. Regardless of whether you like wine, want to meet people, want to network, or just hang with other SU people, carpe diem and come on down.

went into the Vine Bar to arrange the tasting. I can tell you all that it was excellent.

We will end the wine experience with two wines that are on the sweet side. There will be a white Riesling which still qualifies as a dinner wine all though hardly as dry as the aforementioned white wines. The last wine will be a Port that is firmly in the category of a desert wine.

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The *Memories* article is a regular feature of this newsletter. Whenever we have a submission we run it as a feature.



Dean's Desk

Some of you might remember a very special Miami Heat event the SU Alumni Club of South Florida hosted many years ago. It was so many years ago that the Heat actually played in the Miami Arena, Billy Cunningham was the face of the ownership group, and Pat Riley was busy winning championships in LA!

The Heat had on its roster two Syracuse alumni, Rony Seikaly and Sherman Douglas. Back in those days the players were actually graduates themselves, no "one and done" like today. Making the evening even more special was the fact Jim Boehm was in town and he stopped by post game to meet the alumni as we met with Rony and Sherman. Remembering the good time had, Eric and I organized a similar event on February 23rd as the SUACSF took part in a meet and greet with Syracuse's own Jonny Flynn.

Jonny was widely considered one of the top point guards in the country coming out of high school and was heralded as a potential All American from the day he arrived on campus. Flynn would go on to a prolific freshman year, collecting co-Big East Rookie of the Year honors with averages of 15.7 points and 5.3 assists per game.

Perhaps his greatest moment came in his sophomore year, during the quarterfinals of the 2009 Big East tournament when Flynn led the Orange to a 127-117 win in six overtimes over the favored University of Connecticut Huskies. Flynn played 67 minutes on the floor that evening, leading the Orange by scoring 34 points, adding 11 assists and making all 16 of his free throw attempts.

Flynn then played all 45 minutes of Syracuse's 74-69 overtime victory over the West Virginia Mountaineers in the Big East semifinals. He scored 15 points and had 9 assists. For his efforts, Flynn was named the 2009 Big East tournament's MVP. Flynn officially decided to forgo his final two years at Syracuse and was ultimately drafted sixth overall by the Minnesota Timberwolves in the 2009 NBA Draft. For more Jonny information: www.youtube.com/watch?v=7U6516UB9og

The evening started with an early admittance to the floor of the AAA where we watched Jonny take warm-up. He was incredibly excited to see the SU contingent cheering him on as he gazed out into a sea of orange shirts, hats, posters, and banners. We had excellent seats for the game, and watched a very competitive game that was ultimately won by the Timberwolves by a score of 91-88.

The Minnesota win was a rarity on the road for them this season and was due in large measure to the last minute heroics of Mr. Flynn, who finished the game with 16 points. After the game we went back down to courtside, and sat in the *Jack Nicholson Seats* (ok, the *Gloria Estefan Seats*) for our meet and greet with Jonny. As the hero of the game he was besieged by reporters so he raced out to spend a few minutes with us, pose for some pictures, and sign a couple of autographs. He was most interested in the result of the SU-Providence game that was played the same evening and was happy that the Orange had won as well.

Thanks to all of you who came out to support this event. The club wants to also thank the Heat organization and our fantastic account representative, Delwin, who took such

good care of us all evening. The good news is that we are going to plan another meet and greet next year with none other than Carmelo Anthony. It is far too early for details but we are going to start working on that just as soon as the schedule for next year is released.

Speaking of heroes, regarding our effort to collect magazines for the US Marines, I want to say thank you to those of you who took the time to commemorate National Orange Day with your generosity.

I want to remind everyone to make our web site one of your Internet favorites. There is always a chance you will find an event posted that came up on short notice. For example, Mickey Powell and Liam Banks, two of the greatest Syracuse University Lacrosse stars were in town on March 12th for an appearance that featured autographs, pictures, posters, and more.

Thanks Bob for getting that up on the website within an hour of receiving my e-mail message. If anyone has news on events with Syracuse University tie-ins please let Bob know and he will be happy to make the information available on our website for the membership.

As a final note, we received a letter from Gordon Brookes. In the February issue of Squeezings we ran a story about a the 1979 incredible win over Navy.

He wrote to me saying: "I wanted to write you to thank you for your kind words in your alumni newsletter. My partner Erick forwarded the newsletter to me and we are both very grateful for your kind comments. The video hit 1,000 views thanks to you and some help from Syracuse.com. I am glad so many alumni are going to be able to see this."



Jonny Flynn et. Al.

We publish Dean Morrison's column every month as a regular feature of Squeezings.



Networking by
Ryan Schultz

I've have written over the last few months about different tips and techniques about networking. I have also let you know where our events are going to be held. I think you are now ready to learn the most important thing about networking: it happens anywhere, at any time. And most accurately – everywhere, all the time.

Yes, events designed to facilitate networking are easy to find. And yes, people are there to talk business. But consider that the low hanging fruit. If you are really working out your networking muscles; you must exercise them all the time. All it takes to network is the opportunity to have a conversation. Are you part of a sports league? Talk to your teammates. Are your kids in a league, in a class or part of a group? Talk to the other parents. This one is a given – Are you an alumni of a university?

Talk to other alums at various events.

I have the perfect opportunity for you: the SUACSF is having a wine tasting event Saturday, April 10th at Vine Bar in Coral Springs. For more information on that event, see Bob's article starting on page one. At that event, people there will have something in common with you – Syracuse University. You have an easy way to open the conversation, "How about that basketball team?" And there will even be alcohol served to offer those that need it a little liquid courage! Finally, if you need someone to practice on, come find me. My wife and I will be there. Bob too suggests that he would introduce you to other members in the crowd. I hope to see you all there too.

As usual, will be having our monthly networking event Wednesday, April 7th at the

Gatsby's in Boca Raton (5970 SW 18th St.). This month, Serhad Oktay (SOM, '79) will be presenting to the group and will give attendees an overview of the "Yellowtom Site Trilight Program". This is a technology that allows subscribers to heighten and enhance their internet visibility for a fraction of the cost of traditional SEO (Search Engine Optimization). As a small business owner for many years, Serhad is uniquely qualified to speak on this subject matter. He has also designed web sites and consults on marketing strategy. He came to understand that so many small business owners have no real internet strategy and don't know how to make effective use of this media. They believe just having a web site is enough, but it's not. Having a web site nobody can find is like placing an expensive billboard in the middle of nowhere. Who's going to see it?

A Day at the Races

The club is trying a new activity. We are going to have a day at the races. We will see the thoroughbreds run at Gulfstream Park. Circle your calendars for Sunday, April 24, 2010. We are going to do this event on a pay as you go basis. Therefore, there is no need to send a check anywhere for this event.

We do ask you to sign up for our day at the track. Please send an e-mail message to:

bob@s-i-inc.com

This will allow us to keep track of the number of people who are planning to attend. Marv Cashion is coordinating so if you need more information

please send an e-mail message directly to him at:

MarvCashion@gmail.com

We will meet just outside of the Playwright Irish Pub at 1:00 PM. This will allow us some time to meet 'n greet and even get a bite to eat.

The first race goes off at 1:30 PM so we will be in good shape to place our first wager and watch the action.

Gulfstream Park is an old track. It opened in 1939 and ran for four days. It did not open again until 1944 due to World War II and financial difficulties. One of the track's creditors bought the facility and opened it again in 1944.

This event will test our club's interest in things gambling. One of our members, Peter Burke, is in charge of group sales with Palm Beach Cruise Lines that runs the Bahamas Celebration Cruise ship. I will be going on a "FAM" tour of the ship early in April and see what they have to offer.

If these activities are successful we will schedule more of them later on this year and on into the future. I strongly believe that we should try some new events, parties, and activities each year and let members vote with their "feet" to see which ones are winners.

