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IFT-A Summer Social Event



Soaring Wings Winery and Brewery in Springfield, NE. Photo credit: Soaring Wings Winery

We had a fun social event on June 26th at the Soaring Wings Winery and Brewery. Soaring Wings has a lovely tasting room that sits on a hilltop in Springfield, NE with a gorgeous view of the surrounding vineyards. We had a great turn out of 30 people, including some new section members who we were glad to welcome. We arrived at the tail end of a real downpour with lots of thunder and lightning. After completing an informative tour of the

fermentation, brewing and bottling facilities, we were able to enjoy their award winning wine along with a wide beer selection while enjoying a beautiful summer sunset. Scott Lineback, a member of National IFT's Executive Committee shared an update on new programs IFT is working on and we ended the evening with raffling off some bottles of Soaring Wings wine and growlers of beer.

Soaring Wings is family owned and operated. Sharon and Jim Shaw are the sole owners. Sharon focuses on the business and sales side while Jim is the head winemaker and oversees daily operations. The land was purchased in 2001 and winemaking operations began in 2003. The winery's namesake is derived from Jim's love of flying – he was a pilot serving in the US Air Force and is currently employed by Delta Airlines. Soaring Wings offers a selection of dry, full-bodied reds to sweet white wines as well as a wide variety of beers.

Author: Jennifer Mancuso

Upcoming Events:

- **9/23/14 | Fall Section Meeting at Blatt Beer and Table**

The Fall Section Meeting will be held on the evening of September 23rd. The event will consist of a social hour, dinner and speaker, hosted on the rooftop of Blatt Beer and Table (610 N 12th St, Omaha, NE 68102).

The meeting's guest speaker from FONA International will be presenting "Keeping Up with What's Next", an interactive presentation on emerging flavor trends.

The evening agenda is listed below.

5:00-6:00 pm: Check-in/networking time - Cash Bar

6:00-6:15 pm: Buffet-style dinner served and Find a Seat

6:15-7:15 pm: FONA presents "Keeping Up with What's Next"

7:15-7:30 pm: IFT-A Section Updates

The cost to attend the meeting is:
IFT Members: \$20,
Non-Members: \$25,
Student IFT Members: \$10
Student non-IFT members: \$20

RSVP's MUST be made by September 16th in order to save your spot and confirm your meal choice.

To RSVP, click the appropriate link below:

Professional RSVP
Student RSVP

Dinner Choices
1) Blatt Burger and Frites
2) Dixie Fried Chicken Sandwich and Frites
3) Veggie Currywurst and Frites

Blatt's Pretzel Bites will be served for snacking during the social hour.

Fall Section Meeting– September 23

A Message from the Chair, Ryan Talley

Wow, is it September already? Though it seems like summer has flown past, the leadership team has been working hard to set the Aksarben Section up for success in the coming year. We are eager to announce that our Fall Meeting has been set for September 23rd, which will feature an energetic talk from FONA on the rooftop of Blatt Beer and Table.

One of our main goals this year is to continue to build on all of the positive momentum that was created throughout last year. The section is planning on having 3 meetings again this year (Fall, Winter, and Spring) that will deliver great networking opportunities, delicious food, exciting and educational presentations, and most of all, a lot of fun. Additionally, we are also planning to have at least one social gathering sometime next summer, so stay tuned for more details throughout the year.

Another important goal for the coming year is to continue to support our student members via scholarship. After taking suggestions from our members, a successful silent auction event was held that was our key scholarship fundraiser. This year we want to turn that event into a tradition by holding our second annual silent auction to benefit student scholarship at our Winter Meeting. The silent auction and scholarship work groups are already forming, so please reach out to anyone on the leadership team if you have interest in volunteering or would like to donate items for the auction.

Finally, we are constantly focused on providing enriching experiences for our members, as well as being on the lookout for new members. Whether you have ideas on topics for webinars for National IFT, opportunities for local networking, presenter suggestions, industry tours, or anything else, the leadership team is always open to ideas on how we can better serve you and bring more value to your local and national IFT membership. Please don't hesitate to reach out to myself or any of the other leadership team members, and most of all, we look forward to seeing each and every one of you later this year!

“One of our main goals this year is to continue to build on all of the positive momentum that was created last year.”

Section Officers 2014-2015

This year's officer team is an eager group, looking forward to another great year. The 2014– 2015 officer team is comprised of the following people:

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Company</u>
Chair	Ryan Talley	ConAgra Foods
Chair-Elect	Steve Harrison PhD	ConAgra Foods
Chair Ex-officio	Jennifer Mancuso PhD	Natural Food Concepts LLC
Co-Secretary	Sarah Ellington	ConAgra Foods
Co-Secretary	Bethany Jackson	University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Co-Treasurer	David Gaebler PhD	ConAgra Foods
Co-Treasurer	Pamela Lawson PhD	ConAgra Foods
Board of Directors	Amanda Geaslin	ConAgra Foods
Board of Directors	Kevin Samuelson	DuPont
Board of Directors	Kaye Ivens	University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Student Representative	Kaelyse Clapper	University of Nebraska-Lincoln

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