



December Holiday Meeting Recap

The Artistry of Aging Cheese and Making Beer

Research and Development Chefs Thomas Talbert, and Lauren DeMaria from Culinary Sales Support, Inc

I was very pleased to see everyone at the CSIFT Holiday Meeting. It was a packed house of over 110 people. We celebrated the evening by giving back to the less fortunate in our communities. CSIFT partnered with Toys for Tots where we collected dozens of toys for children in Chicagoland.

We were blessed to have four marines join us for the festivities that collected the toys for distribution. CSIFT also partnered the Greater Chicago Food Depository where we collected hundreds of food item that will be distributed to those in need in our communities. A special thanks to all those who helped to give back to those in need during the holidays!

We were very fortunate to have Thomas Talbert and Lauren DeMaria from CSSI as our guest speakers for the dinner meeting held at Millrose Restaurant in South Barrington, IL. Thomas and Lauren helped us learn about the processes of beer and cheese making, along with flavor profiles of each as they mature. They showed us how pairing beer and cheese makes the perfect combination of flavors. Explaining why young and fresh cheese goes well with a light beer. And how sharp cheeses go best with highly hopped bitter beers. In addition they educated us on the history of cheese and beer.

We concluded the evening with Kurt Bowen from Wirtz Beverage. He gave us the history and background on Rosenblum Desiree Desert Wine that we paired with our desert, warm chocolate lava cake with raspberry sauce and vanilla bean ice cream. I look forward to seeing everyone at the January meeting. Happy holidays and have a happy new year!

*John Chambers
Program Committee Chair, and Chair Elect CSIFT
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