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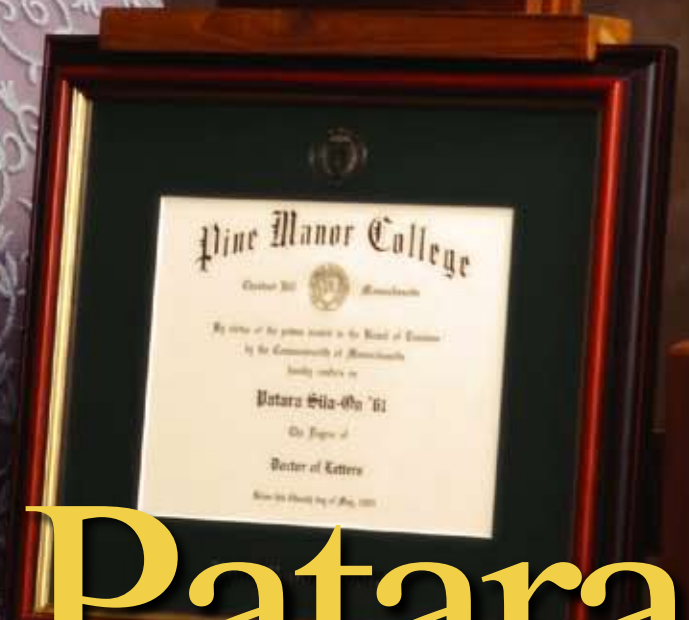
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Ten Midsummer Wine Resolutions to Save the Planet

(A Midsummer Night's Dream Revisited)

By Fred Tibbitts – aka *Red Owl*



It's August and midsummer in China, so time to celebrate the beautiful weather by breaking-out your best bottles of wine or racing to your favorite wine shop and stocking-up on whatever you like the most to drink. But hold-on there, what's a party, be it fifty of your closest friends and enemies; just you and your partner or just you, without a serious list of "Ten Midsummer Wine Resolutions To Save The Planet"? Get with it, brother. So, meditate on your best ten resolutions to protect and resuscitate our degenerating, global ecology; and once you have downloaded same from the Energy of the Universe and either committed them to memory or recorded them in your PDA, you're ready to party.

Of course, first you must decide if the party is exclusively you; or you and others. If you have a lover, what are you waiting for? Get on your mobile and set the time and place. If the honeymoon is over, why not spread the word among your favorite wine-drinking, party animals to "be there or be square", to quote a popular saying from the 20th century before The Internet was born. Be sure to include your best friends and your worst enemies, because everybody is just doing the best they can to survive and tomorrow your friends may become your enemies and your enemies may become your friends; so invite everybody and you're covered no matter what the future holds.

Now for additional considerations, such as the dress code: Are clothes optional? And does every-



one bring his own bottle or are you the "host/hostess with the mostest"? Naturally, you've got to have plenty of mouth-watering "eats", so are you calling the caterer; spreading crackers and cheese about the place in wild abandon as best you can afford; or is everybody just bringing their favorite wine food to create a tasty buffet? Then there is the entertainment: Are you going to do karaoke; perform your best moves and impressions of your favorite personalities or are you calling for professionals? Naturally, it usually comes down to your budget: If there is none, you simply provide the place, while the guests bring the wine and food. If you're looking for some outstanding sex with the one you love, do whatever it takes to set the mood, including the red wine he or she likes best and romantic love foods you can affectionately hand-feed one another, one delectable morsel at a time, such

as Godiva chocolates, Hershey "kisses" and fresh, ripe, red strawberries. Of course, if you're loaded (aka. the upwardly mobile, Chinese Nouveau Riche, Jet-Set, must have-it-all type), turn it over to a professional and simply approve all the arrangements to your liking.

Okay, at last, the party is in full-swing, you're been unanimously crowned a rock star, party genius by any standard, the red wines are flowing and to die for, everybody is on their third glass and it's time to share everyone's "Ten Midsummer Wine Resolutions To Save The Planet". Naturally, you must go first to set the tone. As you have meditated and brought back to this dimension a brilliant set of ecologically-responsible wine resolutions, the floor is yours and everyone is waiting with baited breath to celebrate your eco-wisdom. But as "thought starters" before you

- Red Owl's Ten Midsummer Wine Resolutions To Save The Planet**
- I. Let every action be ecologically-responsible from sunrise to sunset
 - II. Choose to be an example to others of how to live sustainably
 - III. Wherever your travels may take you, leave each place less polluted, less toxic than when you arrived
 - IV. Learn to live simply...eliminate the clutter in your life
 - V. Eliminate plastic bags from your routine, carry a tote made from recycled materials
 - VI. Make one small change each day that better greens your place of residence
 - VII. Pretend you no longer own a motor vehicle...learn to ride a bicycle
 - VIII. Take trains instead of planes and mass transit rather than taxis whenever possible
 - IX. Evolve your eating habits to avoid exploiting animals... become a dietary vegan, a non-dairy vegetarian and be One with Nature
 - X. Evolve your wine drinking habits to favor wines produced by biodynamic vineyards utilizing dryland farming and other sustainable best practices

attempt your metaphysical journey to nowhere to retrieve your unique blueprint to save Mother Earth, allow me to suggest my Ten Resolutions that I recently brought back from an out-of-body experience in a remote cave deep within the Andes, circa A.D. 1853.

Continue the animal party until all the wine is drunk, all the Midsummer Wine Resolutions To Save The Planet have been voiced, all the applause and "boos" have subsided and the mood is mellow. And when it's time to call it a night, gently ask everyone to return home quietly and in peace; disturbing no one, and embracing life in all its wonder, re-dedicated to loving their favorite red wines and saving the planet now.

I am **Red Owl**, over & out.

