

you may recall last month we published a feature entitled, *A Tale of Love and Lottery*. It was a historical account of the Hearthside House Museum located in Lincoln, Rhode Island.

Fascinated by what we learned, but still curious, we sent staffers to visit the home and attend an event called *Legendary Love—A Luxurious Evening of Chocolate & Wine* at the House Love Built.

The excitement of pairing nontraditional chocolate recipes and curated beverages had brought a full house of guests—22 in all, on the evening of April 4.

A reception was held, in what may have been the library or dining room at some point in history, where an enticing fountain of sweet molten riches was paired with cake and fruit. Once introductions were completed, the group made its way to the music room.

The tastefully decorated space was filled with tables dressed with flowers by Lincoln Gardens, with women wearing period clothing which set the mood for the evening and enhanced the experience of visiting the Victorian era home.

We began with two main dishes; chocolate chili, and the other, a spare rib with barbecue sauce, which had a touch of chocolate as an ingredient. Paired with these small plates, guests enjoyed a taste of Cooper & Thief Bourbon Barrel Red Blend, and a Kung Fu Girl Riesling, respectively.

These tastings were followed by four specially chosen artisan chocolate treats, created by Aura Fajardo, owner and award-winning confectioner of Aura's Chocolate Bar, located in Providence, Rhode Island.

Beverage pairings were provided by Paul's Fine Wine & Spirits, of Cumberland, Rhode Island, along with Horizon Beverage, of West Greenwich, Rhode Island.

After an informative question and answer session with Fajardo, guests experienced a multitude of tastes which included: sweet, spice, citrus, maple, coffee, lavender, and salt. Each morsel with a matched libation. The lingering only long enough to be mixed with a matched libation. The result was a memorable finish on the palate, with everyone secretly wishing for more.

The Hearthside House Museum charms and enlightens all who pass through its threshold. ★

BY STEVEN CHAN
PHOTOGRAPH BY LUCKI SCHOTZ

Deep Sweet Love

