



Manchester Wine & Liquors

W i n e C l u b N e w s L e t t e r

◆◆◆◆ August 2001 ◆◆◆◆



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CHILLIN & GRILLING

Certain features have been received well enough to merit being annual inclusions. This summer's six pack sizzler for the grill got such a positive response last summer, we plan on featuring it every summer. As we enter the heart of the summer, the grill out back should be getting plenty of use. This month, we have selected six of our favorite values that will fit the bill for food off the grill. Five are reds, one white. Among the six, we have a variety of styles to fit most of the classic grilling choices. Buy one of all six and save even more.

1999 Louis Latour Bourgogne Chardonnay - We needed a white with enough weight for grilling, but not heavily oaked or fruity. This Bourgogne is ideal, it has plenty of apple and pear fruit followed by a crisp finish with mineral notes. Priced like a Vin de Pays even though it's from Burgundy. Enjoy with grilled seafood, pork or poultry. **Price \$7.99/btl.**

1999 Allegrini Valpolicella - Tuna or salmon steaks, is that on the menu? If so, this is your wine. This Valpolicella is only medium bodied, but has spicy raspberry fruit with the type of structure needed for rich grilled seafood. This will make for a better match than a big clumsy Chardonnay. **Price \$10.99/btl.**

1999 Niebaum Coppola Rosso - Similar in style to the Allegrini, but a bit softer and more concentrated. This blend of many varieties is intended to resemble an old fashion hearty homemade red. Steaks, chops and burgers would all be suitable choices for this Rosso. Highly seasoned pork or chicken would probably work too. **Price \$10.99/btl.**

1999 Cline Syrah - This wine has quickly become a store favorite. Big, full-bodied and loaded with jammy black fruits. This Syrah is about as much wine as you

can get for \$10.00. If Cline isn't the most value oriented California winery, we're not sure who is. Save this one for grilled lamb chops. **Price \$9.99/btl.**

1998 Badia Coltibuono Sangiovese - While '98 may not get the hype that '97 gets in Tuscany, it is still a very fine vintage. Need proof, try Badia's '98 Sangiovese. This rendition shows lovely cherry fruit, earthy notes, and a super smooth texture. Pair this one with any meat marinated in olive oil and garlic. **Price \$8.99/btl.**

1998 Ramon Canals Cabernet Sauvignon - Back in January we took a huge position on this Spanish Cabernet. An exclusive one-shot deal from our friends of Maja Imports. Besides being sighted a Best Buy in the Wine Spectator, this was a no brainer, especially at this price. This spectacular Cabernet delivers a combined style of old world Bordeaux and new world, juicy California style. Soft yet concentrated with blackberry, cassis, ripe plum, and hints of chocolate and cedar. This Cab cries out for a thick juicy steak off the grill. **Price \$7.99/btl.**

Summer Six-Pack Sizzler

1999 Louis Latour Bourgogne Chardonnay
1999 Allegrini Valpolicella
1999 Niebaum Coppola Rosso
1999 Cline Syrah
1998 Badia Coltibuono Sangiovese
1998 Ramon Canals Cabernet Sauvignon

**Buy One Of
All Six
For Only**



RATINGS

Just a word about reviews from the wine press. Longtime readers know we frequently cite reviews from the major wine publications. Our intention is to provide as much background info about each wine we feature. These scores, most use a 100 point scale, are meant to be general guides, not gospel. One interesting example recently was when we featured the Cline Syrah and Buckleys Shiraz in the same month. While both were well received, the Cline Syrah was clearly the favorite. If you followed the Wine Spectator, the Buckleys was rated a 90 and the Cline an 86. We were actually pleased to see the “lower” scored wine more popular. Keep this example in mind in the future: A wine doesn’t have to receive a 90 to be great, and most of all, listen to your own palate.

MONTHLY SPECIALS

1999 Vega Sindoa Chardonnay - Spain is most commonly associated with great red wines. A few months ago, we featured a Spanish Sauvignon Blanc that quickly became a favorite. We expect this Chardonnay to continue to show Spanish whites merit serious attention. Vega Sindoa is a winery that has made this section more than once. Located in Navarra, just north of the Rioja, international varietals do very well here. This effort is much like all the Vega Sindoa wines, plenty of fruit and oak. It would be virtually impossible to find a California or French Chardonnay with this much flavor and power at such a meager price. This would be a fun wine to throw into a blind tasting with some more expensive company. Lovers of big, buttery, oakey Chards, don’t miss this bargain. ***Price \$8.99/btl. This month get 15% off by the bottle, \$7.64 and 25% off by the case, \$6.74 or \$80.88 by the case net.***

1998 Ch. La Baronne Corbieres- With the ‘98 and ‘99 vintages, we have seen a resurgence in wines from the south of France. These robust, hearty reds pack plenty of flavor for the money. After a string of so-so vintages, these back-to-back years have injected renewed excitement in this area. Corbieres is a village in the south of France where the typical Rhone varietals are grown, La Baronne is a Grenache/Syrah blend. The ‘98 is dark in color showing raspberry fruit mixed with

spices and earth notes. Enjoy this delicious value over the next year or two with pasta, pizza or burgers. ***Price \$7.99/btl. This month 15% off by the bottle, \$6.79 and 25% off by the case, \$5.99 or \$71.88 by the case net.***

1999 Michele Colin-Deleger Bourgogne Rouge - Michele Colin is considered one of the top White Burgundy experts. A sort of Montrachet superstar. Along with his two sons, and combined holdings from the Deleger family, the expansion into top vineyards has begun to create strong success with Red Burgundy for Colin as well. The French Burgundy region is the world’s reference point to the Pinot Noir grape. The ‘99 vintage brought tremendous quantity and excellent quality of fruit. This Bourgogne Rouge exemplifies both Michele Colins’ influence, and the vintage too. Approachable now with its sweet fruits up front of raspberry and cherry. It is soft, fresh and bright. The excellent balance of acidity and tannin is kept in check with its supple structure and juicy core of fruit concentration. The delightful hints of spice and earthy terroir qualities carry through from start to finish. An excellent accompany to pork, salmon steak and game bird. An outstanding Red Burgundy that delivers at such a reasonable price of this quality shouldn’t be overlooked. Drink over the next 3-5 years. ***Regular price \$16.99/btl. This month get 15% off by the bottle, \$14.44 and 25% off by the case, \$12.74 or \$152.88 by the case net.***

1999 Chateau de la Ragotiere Muscadet - For some time, Ragotiere’s entry level Muscadet has graced our newsletter with much success. Now we are pleased to introduce their Reserve Black Label bottling. Made from the Melon de Bourgogne grape, this is Muscadet at its best. Muscadet is a relatively under-estimated wine that offers striking value. It shines well in comparison to some of the world’s best Sauvignon Blancs, Pinot Grigio’s and much more. The Ragotiere property is located on the French Loire Valley’s western side, where the Sèvre and Maine rivers converge and flow into the Loire River. This is where the richest vineyard land of Muscadet lie. The aromas are lively, fresh and fruity. Up front the flavors are light, crisp and zesty. Plenty of lemon, lime, grapefruit and tangy citrus. Terrific effervescence, followed by a display of the traditional “Sur Lie” style, with its rich yeasty character and mineral

tone in the finish. Best with seafood, especially shellfish, cream flavors or simply as an aperitif. **Regular price only \$9.99/btl. This month 15% off by the bottle, \$8.49 and 25% off by the case, \$7.49 or \$89.88 by the case net.**

Try a mixed case of monthly club specials:

- 3-btls. 1999 Vega Sindoa Chardonnay
- 3-btls. 1998 Ch. La Baronne Corbieres
- 3 btls. 1999 Michele Colin-Deleger Bourgogne Rouge
- 3-btls. 1999 Chateau de la Ragotiere Muscadet

FOR ONLY



All four club specials are open to taste for most of the month, except on the day of the backroom tasting. Our staff will be more than happy to assist you.

ALSATION SAMPLER PACK

The town of Ribeauville's namesake is that of its own wine growing cooperative. This co-op is quite unique. Located in central Alsace, they are the oldest wine co-op in all of France that dates back over a century. They work very close together to understand the many different terroir influences (soil, topography and climate) of each vineyard location. Utilizing the best grape selection according to the area's production and level of ripeness. The same growers also work at the winery itself. This unique approach gives them full control of both quality and price in the finished product. We have put together three distinct and traditional varietals that are sure to exhibit and exemplify the true Alsatian style. All three are ideal for summertime enjoyment. We start with the easy drinking **1999 Ribeauville Pinot Blanc**. This is the lighter, more delicate one of the group. Lively, fresh and crisp with gentle notes of apple and citrus that roll into the dry mineral finish. Great with shellfish. The **1999 Ribeauville Tokay Pinot Gris** is more rounder in style. Immediately grabbing your attention with its smoky, yeasty-like aromas and supple flavor. The terrific fruit and acid balance completes this Pinot Gris. Serve with cream sauces, smoked salmon and veggie salads. We save the more aromatic

and spicier one for last. The **1999 Ribeauville Gewurztraminer** exhibits lovely floral hints with spicy well balanced exotic fruits and a touch of honey in the back drop. Very long and flavorful on the finish. Gets along well with Cajun, Asian, sweet-n-sour and blue cheese.

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|-----------------------------------|------|
| 1999 Ribeauville Pinot Blanc | 9.99 |
| 1999 Ribeauville Tokay Pinot Gris | 9.99 |
| 1999 Ribeauville Gewurztraminer | 9.99 |

**Buy Two
Of Any
Combination
For Only**



a savings of an additional 4.00 or 20%

SUMERTIME SALE

**25% Off By the Bottle
on Select Group of Wines
From Each Category**

August 6-11 French Loire

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|--|------------------------|
| Pascal Jolivet Sancerre | 19.99/14.99 net |
| Pascal Jolivet Pouilly Fume | 19.99/14.99 net |

August 13-18 French White Burgundy

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|--|------------------------|
| Olivier le Flaive Mearsault | 39.99/29.99 net |
| Puligny Montrachet | 39.99/29.99 net |

August 20-25 California Chardonnay

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|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Jordan | 28.99/21.74 net |
| Farniente | 49.99/37.49 net |
| Chalk Hill | 42.99/32.24 net |

Can be applied toward case quantity

MONTHLY STORE TASTING



A reminder to all Wine Club Members, as we do every year, we will be taking off the month of August. We will resume the regular tasting schedule in September.

***A SAMPLE OF SOME OF OUR MANY
CALIFORNIA RED RARITIES AND COLLECTABLES***

| | | | |
|--|--------|---|--------|
| 1996 Dominus Napa Valley Red (Napa) ----- | 99.00 | 1997 Merryvale Profile Napa Red ----- | 99.00 |
| 1996/97 Joseph Phelps Insignia (Napa) ----- | 105.99 | 1997 Merryvale Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon ----- | 44.99 |
| 1996 B.V. Georges De Latour Private Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon (Napa) ----- | 72.99 | 1997 Silverado Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon (Napa) ----- | 99.00 |
| 1997 B.V. Georges De Latour Private Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon (Napa) ----- | 99.99 | 1997 Sterling Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon ----- | 76.99 |
| 1997 B.V. Tapestry Reserve (Napa) ----- | 49.99 | 1996 Beringer III Century Cabernet Franc ----- | 79.99 |
| 1997 Caymus Special Selection Cabernet Sauvignon (Napa) ----- | 135.00 | 1997 Opus One ----- | 139.99 |
| 1996/97 Caymus Cabernet Sauvignon (Napa) ----- | 74.99 | 1996 Opus One 1/2 Btl. ----- | 69.99 |
| 1996/97 Stags Leap Wine Cellars S.L.V. Cabernet Sauvignon (Napa) ----- | 106.99 | 1997 Opus One 1/2 Btl. ----- | 79.99 |
| 1996 Stags Leap Wine Cellars Fay Cabernet Sauvignon (Napa) ----- | 119.00 | 1995/96 Beringer Private Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon (Napa) ----- | 99.99 |
| 1995 Groth Cabernet Sauvignon Reserve (Napa) ----- | 124.99 | 1995 Farniente Estate Bottled Cabernet Sauvignon (Cave Collection) ----- | 105.00 |
| 1997 Groth Cabernet Sauvignon N.V. ----- | 49.99 | 1996 Farniente Estate Bottled Cabernet Sauvignon ----- | 84.99 |
| 1997 Niebaum Coppola Cask Cabernet ----- | 69.99 | 1996 Girard Cabernet Sauvignon (Napa) ----- | 44.99 |
| 1996 Niebaum Coppola Rubicon ----- | 99.00 | 1995 Mount Veeder Winery Cabernet Sauvignon Reserve (Napa) ----- | 75.99 |
| 1997 Niebaum Coppola Rubicon ----- | 109.99 | 1996 Optima Cabernet Sauvignon (Alexander Valley) ----- | 39.99 |
| 1996 Flora Springs Cabernet Sauvignon Hillside Reserve (Napa) ----- | 70.99 | 1997 Domaine Droughin Pinot Noir (Oregon) ----- | 37.99 |
| 1996 Ridge Montebello Cabernet Sauvignon ----- | 103.99 | 1997 Estancia Meritage (Alexander Valley) ----- | 31.99 |
| 1997 Ridge Montebello Cabernet Sauvignon ----- | 119.99 | 1996/97 St. Francis Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon ----- | 49.99 |
| 1996 Newton Cabernet Sauvignon (Napa) ----- | 49.99 | 1997 Swanson Syrah (Napa) ----- | 37.99 |
| 1996 Rosenblum Cellars (Holbrook Mitchel Trio) Napa Valley Red ----- | 34.99 | 1995 St. Francis Reserve Merlot (Sonoma) ----- | 41.99 |
| 1996/97 Quintessa Red (Napa) ----- | 99.00 | 1996 Chalk Hill Estate Merlot (Sonoma) ----- | 44.99 |
| + 1/2 btls. 1997 ----- | 49.99 | 1997 Chalk Hill Cabernet Sauvignon ----- | 49.99 |
| 1996/97 Cakebread Cellars Benchland Select Cabernet (Napa) ----- | 79.99 | 1998 Ridge Pagani Ranch Zinfandel ----- | 29.99 |
| 1997 Silver Oak Cabernet Sauvignon (Alexander Valley) --- | 64.99 | 1998 Ridge York Creek Zinfandel ----- | 29.99 |
| 1996 Silver Oak Cabernet Sauvignon (Napa) ----- | 91.99 | 1998 Ridge Geyserville Zinfandel ----- | 32.99 |
| 1997 Louis Martini Monte Rosso Cabernet Sauvignon (Sonoma) ----- | 39.99 | 1997 Dry Creek Vineyard Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon ----- | 35.99 |
| 1997 Pine Ridge Howell Mountain Cabernet Sauvignon | 54.99 | 1994 Gallo Stephani Ranch Cabernet Sauvignon ----- | 29.99 |
| 1998 Duckhorn Cabernet Sauvignon (Napa) ----- | 59.99 | 1997 Robert Mondavi Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon (Napa) ----- | 128.99 |
| 1998 Duckhorn Merlot 3 Palms (Napa) ----- | 69.99 | 1998 Shafer Napa Merlot ----- | 39.99 |
| 1997 Duckhorn Merlot (Howell Mountain) ----- | 59.99 | 1997 North Star Merlot (Columbia Valley) ----- | 49.99 |
| 1997 Clos Du Bois Marlstone Vineyards ----- | 49.99 | 1996 Beringer Howell Mountain Merlot ----- | 79.99 |
| 1997 Chateau St. Jean Cinq Cepages (Sonoma) ----- | 74.99 | 1996 Ferrari Carano Tresor Reserve ----- | 64.99 |
| 1997 Raymond Generations (Napa) ----- | 79.99 | 1997 Franciscan Magnificat Red ----- | 35.99 |
| 1997 Clos Pegase Reserve Cabernet (Napa) ----- | 74.99 | 1995 Bernardus Marinus Red ----- | 42.99 |
| | | 1998 Ici/La-Bas Pinot Noir ----- | 36.99 |
| | | 1998 David Bruce Pinot Noir (Russian River) ----- | 37.99 |
| | | 1997 Cain Five Napa Red ----- | 81.99 |
| | | 1998 Justin Isosceles (Paso Robles) ----- | 49.99 |
| | | 1998 Frogs Leap Cabernet Sauvignon (Napa) ----- | 39.99 |

LARGER BOTTLES

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|---|--------|--|--------|
| 1997 Caymus Napa Valley 1.5L ----- | 175.00 | 1996 Hess Collection Cabernet Sauvignon 1.5ml (Napa) ----- | 69.99 |
| 1997 St. Francis Merlot 3.0L (Sonoma) ----- | 149.00 | 1996 Joseph Phelps Insignia 3.0L (Napa) ----- | 360.00 |
| 1996 St. Francis Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon 3.0L (Sonoma) ----- | 195.00 | 1996 Joseph Phelps Insignia 1.5ml (Napa) ----- | 180.00 |
| 1996 St. Francis Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon 1.5ml (Sonoma) ----- | 74.99 | 1997 Cakebread Cellar Cabernet Sauvignon 1.5ml (Napa) ----- | 90.00 |

Certain items on this list are subject to net pricing