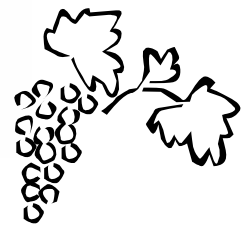




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## The Grape Vine Newsletter



### *Happy Father's Day - Wine & Dine Your Prostate*

Our last issue of The Grapevine was dedicated to *women and wine* for Mother's Day, and with Father's Day rolling up next, we only see it fitting to give men their turn. The most important health benefit that strictly applies to men, is the influence that red wine has on prostate cancer.

Scientific lab studies have found that the polyphenols found in red wine may reduce the risk of prostate cancer. Researchers at Getafe University in Madrid discovered that five of these antioxidant compounds - quercetin, rutin, morin, gallic acid and tannic acid - "inhibited the growth of prostate-cancer cells and induced apoptosis," a type of naturally programmed cell death. The findings may explain why rates of prostate cancer are lower in Mediterranean countries compared to the United States. The Mediterranean diet normally features a low animal-fat and meat content, with a high intake of fresh fruit, vegetables, pasta and wine.

In a related study, published in Nature, researchers found that quercetin reduced the growth of prostate-cancer cells. "Quercetin has the potential to become a chemotherapeutic agent for prostate cancer," said lead author Nianzeng Xing, M.D., in an address at the convention of the American Association for Cancer Research in New Orleans.

So far, these studies have been confined to the lab, which is why no one is yet prescribing red wine for those at risk for prostate cancer. (White wines and roses contain little or no polyphenols.) Yet previous research has also indicated that polyphenols fight heart disease, partly by inhibiting the production of a peptide that contributes to hardening of the arteries. And it is theorized that moderate intake of red wine may help explain the so-called "French paradox," the unusually low level of heart disease in France considering the richness of the national diet.

### *Wine and BBQ Pairings*

#### **Serve these Wines with these grilled Meats**

|                    |                                     |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Cabernet Franc     | Smoked steaks and sausages          |
| Cabernet Sauvignon | Dry rubbed tri-tip                  |
| Chianti & Syrah    | Meats with bold BBQ sauces          |
| Merlot             | Almost anything except fish         |
| Pinot Noir         | Grilled hamburgers & sausages       |
| Sangiovese         | Light spiced grilled poultry & pork |
| Zinfandel          | Meats with a sweet BBQ sauce        |
| Gewürtztraminer    | Anything w/ spicy BBQ sauce         |
| Sauvignon Blanc    | Grilled Vegetables & Seafood        |

### *Wine Humor for Men*

- Women are like fine wine. They all start out fresh, fruity and intoxicating to the mind and then turn full-bodied with age until they go all sour and vinegary and give you a headache.
- Recently scientists revealed that wine contains traces of female hormones. To prove their theory, the scientists fed 100 men 2 bottles of wine and observed that 100% of them gained weight, talked excessively without making sense, became emotional, and drove erratically.
- An old man was seriously ill and wasn't expected to last the night. His daughter went in and asked if there was anything she could do to make him comfortable. He thought for a moment and whispered "Perhaps a glass of vintage port?" His daughter looked at him sternly and said "Now father, you know that's for the wake."

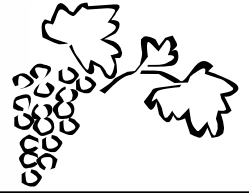
### *Quote of the Month*

"Wino Forever" - *Johnny Depp* (The tattoo once read 'Winona Forever'!)



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## Wine Gift Baskets

Our wonderful collection of Wine Gift Baskets, Corporate Gift Baskets and Gourmet Food Gift Baskets are perfect for any occasion. **Customizable** - You can choose to include only reds, only whites, or a combination of red and white wines. You can even substitute bottles of our fine Private Label Wine (see below) with any wine gift basket we offer. We are definitely the most unique and complete Wine Gift Shop online!

## Wine of the Month Club

Because California is widely regarded as the finest wine growing region in America and one of the best wine producing regions in the world, the vast majority of our featured wines are from **California's finest, boutique wineries**. Now and then, when our wine experts find an outstanding selection, we may feature wines from some of the best growing regions of Washington and Oregon. However, the vast majority of our featured wines are California wines - arguably the best wines in the world.

- **You pick the number of bottles** - Monthly Wine Club memberships can be either 1-bottle per month or 2-bottles per month.
- **You pick the Wines** - all red, all white, or a mixture of both red and white wines. **You pick the Frequency** - Wine Club deliveries can be Every Month or you can Skip Months between deliveries.
- **You pick the Duration** - Wine Club memberships range from 2 to 12 months in duration.
- **You choose how to pay** - you can pay monthly or prepay the wine club membership up front - it's totally up to you.

We give you all the choices - **You make all the decisions!** No other clubs can compare.

## Personalized Label Wines

We have a great selection of wine label templates available on our website that you can use to create your very own Private Label Wine. Simply click your favorite label template and change the words. You can also take a digital photo, or create your own label design and email it to us. Either way, we will print professional quality labels and apply them to your choice of our fine private wine selections. **Minimum order - only 1 bottle!**

Our private label wines come in either red or white varieties and you can mix and match them as you please. You can even choose to substitute private label wines in any of our wine gift baskets!

**Private Label Wines are perfect for** Birthdays, all Holidays, Thank You, Congratulations, House Warming, Corporate Gifts and Promotional Items.

## The Wine Store

We always purchase a few extra cases of the fine wines we send our Wine Club members, and the wines we include with our Wine Gift Baskets. While these fine wines last, we make them available to you in our Wine Store, at discount prices that you won't be able to resist. As a bonus, our Wine Club members can buy more of the wines they really enjoyed at these discount prices, while they are available. **Check it out NOW!**

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## This Month's **Classic Wine Club** Selections

Every month our **Classic Wine Club** members receive one or two bottles of our featured wines. The wines you get depend on the membership you are enrolled in. If you're not yet a member, we invite you to join the fun. Happy wine tasting!

### *Carson Vineyards*

There is a rich history of California agriculture and winemaking evident at Carson. Gold was discovered only 15 minutes from the winery in the town of Coloma by James Marshal. The subsequent rush to the foothills brought many miners and immigrants to the area. Carson Vineyards sits on an 1850's ranch and winery homesteaded by the Fossati-Lombardo family. The original house, cellar, and distillery are still used today.

During the era of prohibition, the winery was allowed to continue to produce wine for the local churches and the Fossati-Lombardo family. A look at the door to the tasting room will reveal the original Federal stamp that served as the license to distill alcoholic beverages during this dark era of American history.

Greg and Sue Boeger purchased the ranch in 1972 and the old Fossati-Lombardo house was converted into a tasting room which was opened to the public in 1974. For 29 years the Greg and Sue have dedicated themselves to bringing you some of the Sierra Foothill's finest wines. Carson Winery has 55 acres of excellent fruit producing vineyards at their home estate. The winery also leases or manages another 40 acres within El Dorado County, one of the Sierra Foothills finest grape growing regions.

During our visit to the winery, Greg described their vineyards as "steep hillsides, rocky soil, every exposure, and numerous micro-climates. These types of varied conditions are what allow us to grow over 30 different varieties all within a relatively small area."

Very steep slopes characterize the 30 acres of Estate Vineyards surrounding the winery, which were planted by Greg and Sue from 1973 to the present. The soil is shallow, composed of sedimentary shale, and the slope's exposures face all compass points. The elevation ranges from 2,100 to 2,300 ft.

### *Carson Peak - 2004 Chardonnay*

The 2004 Carson Peak Chardonnay is a wonderfully balanced wine that stands head and shoulders above many other California Chardonnays. A strong swirl of the glass brings this gem alive as it exhibits aromas of buttery spiced caramel, cinnamon baked apples and toast. A chardonnay lover's favorite aroma.

The only thing better than sticking your nose deep into the glass, is spoiling yourself with a nice mouthful of this wine and letting it engulf your senses. Its palate is bold yet soft and velvety, with a perfectly balanced acidity. You will soon notice that the lingering finish is spicy, smooth and clean, allowing this wine to pair well with a wide variety of non-spicy dishes.

This is a superb white wine that will not only drink well right now, but unlike other inferior chardonnays, this beauty is also great for aging for a few years in the cellar! It was recently awarded a Gold Medal at the San Diego Fair.

### *Carson Peak - 2002 Cabernet Sauvignon*

The 2002 Carson Peak Cabernet Sauvignon from is another beautifully balanced wine, this time in a shade of red. If you are a fan of bold California Cabs, then this creation won't stand a chance once you get a whiff of its near perfect aromas - just what you would hope for in a premium California Cabernet Sauvignon.

Its intense dark plum aromas combine with Bing cherries, clove and buttery caramel to create a well-rounded, full-bodied palate. This long on tannin soft on acid cabernet is lush, silky and goes down as smooth as velvet.

Aged for two years in oak barrels, this is a multi-dimensional blend of grapes grown in several vineyards that are located at different elevations. Robust, yet soft on the finish, this wine is both drinkable now but may also be aged for an additional 5 to 10 years. *A great choice for the Father's Day Barbeque!*



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## This Month's Epic Reds Wine Club Selections

Every month our **Epic Reds Wine Club** members receive two bottles of our featured red wines. These wines are some of California's boutique winery's finest offerings. If you're not yet a member, we invite you to join the fun. Happy wine tasting!

### *Alder Brook Winery*

Set back in the vineyards of southern Dry Creek Valley, Alderbrook Winery has long been a favorite destination of visitors to the famous Sonoma County wine trail. The winery tasting room is a quaint cottage just a few minutes walk from the downtown Healdsburg, in the heart of California Wine Country. Though walking distance from the Healdsburg Plaza, the winery is nestled in the lush vineyards of Dry Creek Valley, just a stone's throw from the Russian River.

A comfortable place to taste wine, the atmosphere is fun, friendly and very relaxed and unpretentious. The air conditioned oasis in the summer transforms into a comfy warm retreat as they light their warm fireplace during coll and foggy fall and winter evenings. No matter what time of year you take a California wine tour, Alderbrook winery is a must stop. You can even enjoy a picnic on their premises overlooking some of Northern California's most beautiful vineyards.

Alderbrook winery is known primarily for its outstanding Zinfandels and Pinot Noirs, both of which we have brought to our Epic Red members this month. These are the signature wines of the Dry Creek and Russian River valleys, respectively. Alderbrook's impressive portfolio of wines also includes Syrah, Carignane, Chardonnay and Sauvignon Blanc.

In the Russian River Valley, rolling fog keeps afternoons cool so that grapes mature with great balance and complexity. The Russian River Valley provides ideal conditions for growing several varieties of wine grapes, especially the Pinot Noir grape. Alongside the Burgundy region of France, the Russian River Valley is known worldwide as a center of excellence for the crafting of world-class Pinot Noir wines.

Just to the north of Russian River, the Dry Creek Valley's balanced climate of hot afternoons and cool evenings allows fruit to mature slowly and evenly for concentrated flavor character. The unique growing characteristics of the Dry Creek Valley make it ideal for growing the Zinfandel grape, which is known as "America's grape" because there is no significant Zinfandel vineyard acreage outside the United States. As a top Zinfandel growing region, the Dry Creek Valley appellation is synonymous with world-class Zinfandel.

### *2003 Pinot Noir, Russian River Valley*

The fruit for this wine comes from established vineyards in the world renown Russian River Valley. Cherry, strawberry, lavender, cedar, and a hint of grapefruit dominate the nose. By mouth, cherry/berry, clove, white pepper, cedar, and toasty notes stand out. The wine was left to ferment for ten days including a three day cold soak, and was aged for 10 months in 100% French Oak barrels (60% new). 1,071 cases produced.

### *2003 Zinfandel, Dry Creek Valley - Reserve*

Upper Dry Creek is the grape source of this high-powered Zinfandel that was made from old craggy vines picked at the peak of ripeness.

Classic flavors of old-vine Zinfandel are found in this sumptuous Dry Creek Reserve. Black pepper violets and blackberry aromas dominate the nose and mouth, while fifteen months of aging in 35% new French oak barrels lends smoky and spicy notes. This wine has a broad mouthfeel and elegant structure leading to a long fruity finish. The wine was fermented for 12 days before aging. Only 452 cases were produced.

**Both of these wines** will drink wonderfully right now, but they can also be aged for another 5 to 10 years in your cellar. Serve at temperatures ranging from 60 to 65 degrees Fahrenheit (place in your refrigerator for about 20 minutes before serving). They will also both benefit from 10 minutes of breathing before drinking.