

What's New...Beer, Wine & Spirits

Week of 4/14/08

BEERS

Domestic

LEFT HAND Chainsaw Ale

Colorado

The 'connoisseur' version of their Sawtooth Ale. The Chainsaw opens with toasted malt, toffee and fruit flavors. Closes with a swirling effect of garden herbs, cardamom, dry port and black cherry. Pairs well with some Italian dishes, sliced salami, aged cheeses, smoked and grilled beef, sausages and fatty fish.

AVERY Collaboration not Litigation Ale

Colorado

Salvation. The name of two intricate Belgian-style ales, created by us – Vinnie Cilurzo of Russian River Brewing and Adam Avery of Avery Brewing. After becoming friends a few years ago, we realized that we both had a Salvation in our line-ups. Was it going to be a problem? Should one of us relinquish the rights? "Hell no!" we said. In fact, it was quickly decided that we should blend the brews to catch the best qualities of each and create an even more complex libation. In April 2004, in top-secret meeting at Russian River Brewing (well actually it was packed in the pub, and many were looking over our shoulders wondering what the hell was going on), we came up with the perfect blend of the two Salvations. Natalie, Vinnie's much more significant other, exclaimed, "We should call this Collaboration, not Litigation Ale!" "Perfect!" we shouted. We celebrated deep into the night, (or is it morning?).

All profits from this joint venture will fund a return educational trip to Belgium with our bros Tomme (Port Brewing), Sam (Dogfish Head Brewing) and Rob (Allagash Brewing). This pilgrimage will enable us to learn even more about traditional brewing techniques to combine with our already strange and unique styles here in America. Gezondheid!

ALLAGASH Black Belgian Style Stout

Maine

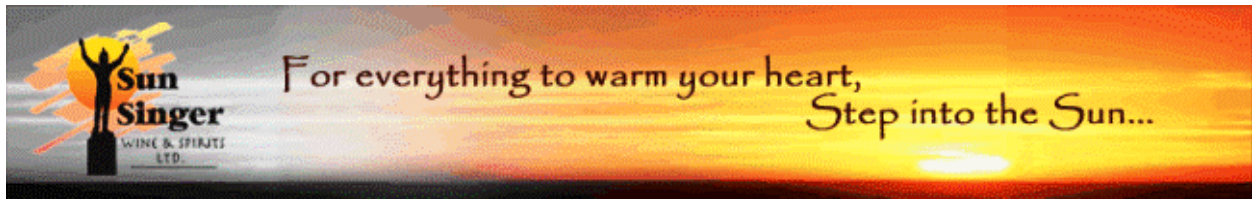
Allagash Black, our new Belgian style stout, is brewed with German 2 row barley, Torrified wheat and oats, balanced by a large addition of Belgian dark candi to give the Black a full and silky mouthfeel. Roasted malts give this stout its classic chocolate, toast and malty taste, and contribute to chocolate notes and a hint of roasted coffee in the aroma. The Black is fermented with a Belgian yeast strain and refermented in the bottle with the methode champenoise to make this beer truly unique.

Imported

SCHWELMER Hefeweizen

Germany

Big complex hefeweizen flavors. There is plenty of wheat malt and middle of the road sweetness helps tie the bananas and cloves together very well, with some lemony zing throughout. Some what creamy body with soft carbonation. Very drinkable and every bit as good as some of the bigger and more well known German hefeweizens.



WINES

Israel

YARDEN Chardonnay Odem Organic Vineyard 2005

Galilee

Yarden Chardonnay Odem Organic Vineyard was produced entirely from grapes grown in the cool Odem Vineyard, which has been farmed organically since 1998. Barrel fermentation and sur lies aging for seven months helps to produce a beautifully complex wine balancing fruit and floral notes with hints of oak and butter. Drink this wine along with intensely flavored fish and poultry dishes.

Kosher For Passover

YARDEN Cabernet Sauvignon 2004

Galilee

Yarden Cabernet Sauvignon was produced from Cabernet Sauvignon grapes grown in the Golan Heights and Upper Galilee. The cool climate, rocky volcanic soil and high altitude are ideal conditions for growing this classic variety. Aging in French oak barrels for 18 months yields a concentrated wine of impressive complexity with layers of berry, blackcurrent, chocolate, leather and oak.

Kosher For Passover

CARMEL WINERY Vineyards Selected Merlot 2006

Dan

This wine is a rich purple in color with fruity aromas of mature wild berries, blackcurrants and cherries, with hints of spicy oak wood. This full bodied Merlot is complex, yet soft & velvety on the palate. Delightful when served with stews & roasts.

Kosher For Passover

France

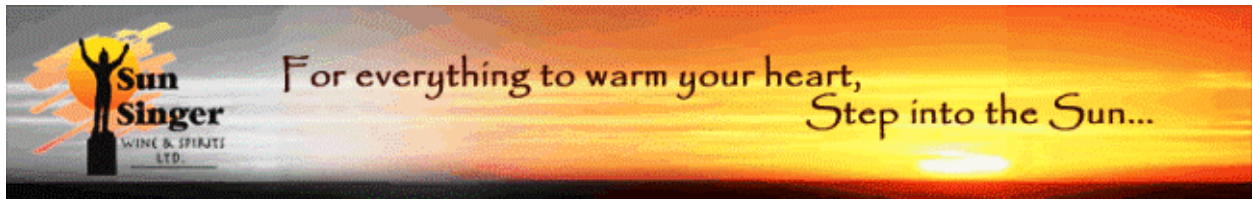
MOET & CHANDON Brut Rose Imperial

Champagne

Brut Rosé is a seductive wine: the assemblage, which is formed around Pinot Noir, is both spontaneous and balanced, emphasizing fruity liveliness dominated by the scent of wild strawberries. It is zestful, with great suppleness. The assemblage with red wine also gives it feminine, coppery shades.

The traditional proportions for Brut Impèrial Rosè are:

- 50-60% Pinot Noir
- 20-30% Pinot Meunier
- 10-20% Chardonnay
- 20-30% *vins de réserve*



New Zealand

THE JIBE 'Latitude 41*' Pinot Noir 2006

Marlborough

The Jibe takes its name from a sailing term that means "to shift a sail from one side of a yacht to the other in order to turn." Sailing is a national pastime in New Zealand, a country that has twice won the America's Cup -- in 1995 and 2000 -- and boasts the highest ownership of boats per capita in the world.

Grapes for the wines come from one of Marlborough's finest coastal vineyards in the Awatere Valley. Perched on the edge of Cook Strait, a renowned sailing spot, this vineyard has Sustainable Agriculture New Zealand accreditation.

United States

HUSCH Gewurztraminer

Anderson Valley, CA

Intense floral aromas of rose petal, gardenia and honeysuckle couple with the subtle perfumed spice notes of ginger and green tea. In the mouth the wine confirms its floral and spice character and shows zesty citrus and concentrated lychee-nut. The mouthfeel is crisp but hints at a broad and slightly oily texture on the mid-palate, the finish is zesty. Delight in the Husch 2006 Gewurztraminer with Asian cuisine, fresh fruit and cheeses, turkey dinner, or on a warm afternoon.

CHATTER CREEK Grenache 2005

Columbia Valley, WA

A very pretty wine in the glass, light ruby in color, very clear and bright. The nose is full of the aromas of cranberry, fresh bread and strawberry. Racy acid in the forward palate combines with the flavors of cranberry, raspberry, peach and a bit of hazelnut, resulting in a well-balanced, classic Grenache.

OUR DAILY RED 2007

California

Sulfite Free, Organic

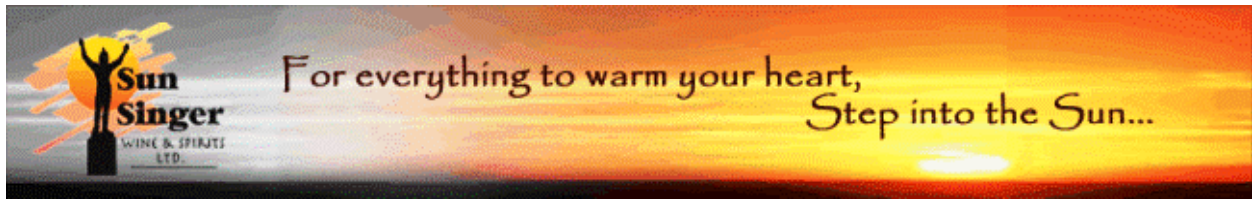
Ongoing vintages have added a healthy percentage (30%) of Mendocino grapes which bring the leaner mouth feel and more focused flavors of the region to the mix. A blend of Fresno Syrah and Carignan and Mendocino Cabernet Sauvignon, this wine should age well for a few years...if it lasts.

Australia

3 TREES Pinot Noir 2006

South Eastern Australia

Lovely red and dark fruit and spice aromas flow through to a supple palette, finishing with balance, length and complexity.



YARRAMAN 'Rip Snorter' Shiraz/Cabernet 2005

South Eastern Australia

A deep ruby red with some purple hues. Rich spice and berry from the Shiraz combine with the cassis and tobacco aromas of Cabernet, and are supported by the attractive vanilla and cedar lift from oak maturation. The palate is full flavored with the two varieties combining to deliver a rich balanced wine.

Germany

GRANS-FASSIAN Piesporter Riesling Kabinett 2005

Mosel, Germany

GRANS-FASSIAN Dhronhofberger Riesling Spatlese 2004

Mosel, Germany

The 2004 Dhronhofberger Riesling Spatlese smells of smoke and brown spice-laced pear and nectarine with a hint of banana. The palate of this Spatlese is all about sweet, succulent ripe fruit, but there is an alluring creaminess of texture and nuance of smoky minerality that make it more interesting than this year's Apotheke Spatlese, and this finishes with satisfying, spicy, sweetly-fruity length.

Greece

MANOUSAKIS Nostros 2003

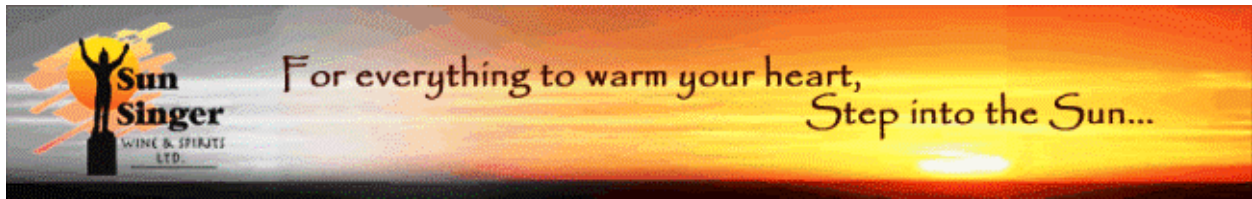
Crete

Organic

Nostos is one of Greece's most compelling wine stories. The winery was founded in the early 1990s by successful Washington, D.C. émigré, Ted Manousakis. Manousakis was born on Crete, but moved to America at age eleven. He excelled at school, eventually earning an MBA. He also excelled at business. By the time he decided to re-explore his roots in Crete, Manousakis had executed one successful business after another, culminating in a modest empire consisting of a national security firm, restaurants, a chain of bakeries and a property development firm.

Eventually, he set his sights on renovating and expanding his family's home in the village of Vatolakos, southwest of Hania in the shadows of western Crete's Lefka Ori (White Mountain). Soon thereafter, he developed a hotel on the coast at Gerani, just north of the village, the world-class Creta Paradise Beach Resort. Finally, eight years ago, on the semi-mountainous hillsides above the village, he began planting vineyards. Intent on utilizing western Crete's reliable microclimate to produce superior wines in a subregion whose varietal traditions made it, until now, one of Greece's least respected, Manousakis made the bold decision to utilize only Rhone cultivars in his vineyards.

An excellent blend of Syrah, Grenache, Mourvèdre & Roussanne grapes, very reminiscent of the Rhône Valley wines in France.



SPIRITS

TEMPLETON Small Batch Rye Whiskey

Iowa

Rye Whiskey is the original American Spirit with a history dating back to its production by George Washington at Mount Vernon, and the infamous whiskey rebellion of 1794. It is also the principle ingredient in several famous cocktails including the Manhattan, the Highball and of course, the Rock & Rye. Rye is the most distinctive and fermentable of all grains, which results in a rare combination of a bold, almost spicy character with a clean, smooth finish.

Templeton Rye is a single malt, single barrel rye whiskey of exceptional quality, but the recipe remains a secret outside of the company, regulators and the Western Iowa town where it was born.

KILO KAI Rum

Curacao, Netherlands Antilles

Start with an island that was once home to pirates and American revolutionaries. Then throw in three generations of Master Distillers. Now you've got something interesting. Now you've got real rum hand-crafted by people who know rum. Just ask Angelo. He's the grandson of Don Leáñez, the guy who started distilling rum on a little island in a far-flung corner of the Caribbean. That same guy was knighted by a Dutch queen for all the good he did for the island. Yeah, we didn't know the Dutch had a queen either.

Angelo, like his grandfather and father, loves real rum, which is why he's in charge of making Kilo Kai. Now, all rum comes from sugar cane-the difference lies in the scents and flavors of the island and in the Leáñez family touch. Take a sip of Kilo and you'll taste what we mean. Vanilla beans. Cinnamon sticks. Nutmeg. This, you'll catch yourself saying, is what real rum tastes like. And we would nod our heads in agreement.

PUSSERS British Navy Rum

West Indies

"Navy Rum" is not just a name for dark rum. Originally it was the name of a specific type of rum distilled for the Admiralty in wooden pot stills in lieu of the normal metal ones. The distillation of rum in wood imparts a truly unique flavor that can only be described as "full and rich," making most others bland by comparison. This flavor is unique to the wooden process, and cannot be duplicated from any other type of distillation; interestingly Pusser's is still distilled in the same original Admiralty stills. Rum that is not distilled in wood cannot achieve the unique flavor of a real Navy Rum. While others may have designated their product to be a navy rum by the mere inclusion of the phrase 'Navy Rum' on their label, they can never be a Navy Rum any more than a Rolls Royce logo placed on a Ford doesn't make a Ford a Rolls Royce. A real navy rum has to be distilled in wood.