



The  
Wine  
Stop

A Beer and Beverage Boutique

## The Wine Stop Newsletter

June 2007

Issue #41

Good Value Boutique Wines · Special Occasion Wines · Collectable Wines · Micro Brews · Specialty Sake · Specialty Spirits · Gourmet Deli Items · Delivery · Gift Baskets · Picnic Baskets · Gift Registry · Complementary Weekly Wine & Beer Tasting · Wine and Food Pairing Focus · Event Planning · Wine Education · Wine Service Consulting · Wide Selection of Wine Accessories

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### Calendar of Events

**COMPLIMENTARY WINE TASTING EVERY SATURDAY from 1:00 p.m. 5:00 p.m.**

**June 2-** Summers Beers/Ales

**June 9** - Mi Seuno Winery (My Dream)

**June 16** - Wine & Cheese (cheeses from Cowgirl Creamery in S.F.)

**June 23** - Light Summer Wines Perfect for the Summer Heat.

**June 30** -Napa vs Sonoma (BLIND) *Guessing is optional and will be rewarded*

### SUNDAY SEMINARS

**June 24th, 3-4:30pm: Tasting Methodology 101**

Back by popular demand! Learn to taste using all your senses. This is a popular beginners class in a relaxed format.

**Cost: \$20 Club discounts apply. Reservation confirmation is required.**

**Parking is available:** on our lawn and driveway; the driveway behind our store after 4PM; and next door at International Jewelry after 4PM.

### Father's Day Wines

**Happy Father's Day!** Mi Sueno premium wines are a must have for Napa Valley wine enthusiasts. For specific tasting notes and more information go to [Miseunowinery.com](http://Miseunowinery.com) or stop by The Wine Stop on June 9th for a special tasting event.

Russian River Chardonnay 2005 \$37

Russian River Pinot Noir 2005 \$41

Ilano cab/Syrah Blend 2004 \$49

Cabernet Sauvignon 2003 \$62

Cabernet Sauvignon 2004 \$70

The 2004 Cabernet will arrive in August and is definitely a wine to be collected and cellared or enjoyed right away if you love big tannins.



## **Wine Events**

**Artisan Cheese and Wine Pairing Seminar, Friday June 15th 5:30pm-7pm** Featuring Daniel Greenberg, a 12 year artisan cheese specialist visiting from San Francisco. Daniel will lead us through an informative and entertaining experience of some of the World's most exceptional cheeses. Kim and Daniel will also select wines to pair perfectly with each cheese. All cheeses will be flown in especially for the event and will be available for purchase through the weekend until supplies run out. **Cost \$60.00 (Sorry no Gift Certificates or Club Discounts). Reservations Required.**

**On Father's Day June 17th Daniel is also available for a private booking at The Wine Stop anytime after 4pm.** Call for details 946-3707.

**A Special Allocation Club Members Only** cellar or allocated wine tasting at The Wine Stop. **June 30th 7pm-10pm** Look for an up and coming e-mail invitation or call Kim at 946-3707 for details.



## **Wine Stop News**

Our Napa Trip was sensational. Wines from the best vineyards in Napa flowed through our cups. We picnicked on an island in Jade Lake, enjoyed an elegant repast cooked by the Nickel & Nickel Executive Chef, barrel tasted wines with zero defects, and were treated to rare vertical tastings, to summarize just a few of our exceptional experiences. The trip itself is impossible to summarize because each winery experience was unique, each with its own special charm. The trip was so fun and relaxing we could have continued on for another week. But that will have to wait for next year 2008, May 11-16th Call for more details so you don't miss next year's trip.

Join us June 9th for a tasting of one of our favorite wineries, Mi Sueno. Soon his exceptional wines will become almost impossible to acquire, especially outside of Napa Valley.



## **Liane's Corkey Trivia**

A friend of mine once excitedly explained to me how she had been to a wine tasting and had found a chardonnay that she had fallen in love with from the Russian River. She said, "And I didn't even know they grew grapes in Russia." True story.

It's true that the Russian River produces great chardonnay but not true that it's in Russia. However, it did occur to me that many places in California wine country have some interesting stories behind them like for instance the Russian River.

Toponyms (place names) such as the Russian River are often signs of early occupation. Fort Ross, (the name is thought to be an onomatopoeic play on the name of Russia), is located in northern Sonoma County and was established by a Russian Company to serve as a supply post for its Alaskan fur trapping venture. Their shipping port was established in Bodega Bay which was about 15 miles south of the fort. In the middle of this new Russian territory between Fort Ross and Bodega Bay is a river we know today as the Russian River. Prior to the arrival of the Russians it was called "Shabaikai" meaning "long snake" by the American Indians.

The Russians enjoyed their stay in California. The land was bountiful and they even had an abundant supply of caviar from sturgeon caught in the Russian River. Eventually, the sea otter population crashed as a result of over-trapping and the Russians moved back to Russia and sold Fort Ross to an American entrepreneur by the name of John Sutter. But, by then the name Russian River had stuck.

Napa Valley was originally the home of the Wappo Indians. To the Wappo, "Napa" meant land of plenty. In their day, the waterways were filled with salmon, migrating waterfowl filled the skies and in the valley were elk, wildcats, black bear and grizzlies.

At one time, in order to own land in California you had to be a Mexican Citizen. George Yount, an American Citizen, skilled hunter, frontiersman, craftsman and farmer made friends with General Mariano Vallejo and became the first white American settler in Napa Valley. A few years later he was given an 11,000 acre Mexican land grant. He named his land Caymus Rancho after a tribe of Native Americans in the area. He was the first to plant grapevines in Napa Valley. The grapes he planted were Mission grapes. At the time, Mexican missionaries were growing grapes in California for their sacramental wines. Hence the grape acquired the name Mission grapes. After he died, the townspeople named their town Yountville in honor of its founder, George Yount.

It is not hard to figure how Oakville got its name. After Robert Louis Stevenson rode the train from Vallejo to Calsitoga on his honeymoon in 1880, he wrote, "A great variety of oaks stood now severally, now in a becoming grove, among the field and vineyards. . . . and great domes of foliage humming overhead in the breeze." Oakville is still pastoral today though many of the oaks have been replaced by grapevines. Oakville is now home to some of the best cabernet sauvignon grapes in the world.

There's a lot of interesting history in place names. Thank goodness the Russians decided to go home; otherwise, I might be writing this in Russian instead of English and drinking vodka instead of Chardonnay! Cheers!

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