



# The Wine Stop

A Beer and Beverage Boutique

## The Wine Stop Newsletter

January 2009

Issue #60

### Calendar of Events

Complementary Wine Tasting Every Saturday 1-5pm

January 10 - Santa Barbara Wines

January 17 - Spanish Wines

January 24 - Small Vineyard Italian Wines

January 31 - Australian Invasion: New Grateful Palate Releases

**Pau Hana Wine & More Tasting FRIDAY 4-8PM.**  
Always complementary. And always fun.

January 9 - Old Bridge Regional Rep.

January 16 - Cliff Lede White & Red

January 23 - Selby Winery: Susie Selby will taste and talk about her wines.

### **SUNDAY SEMINAR**

January 25<sup>th</sup> 5-6:30 PM

#### *Putting Flavors and Aromas into Words:*

A fun and interactive way of learning how to describe the flavors in wine through identifying aromas independent of each other. Food complements and wine included.

**Cost: \$25 Club discounts apply. Reservation & payment confirmation required.**

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

### Wines of the Month

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#### Putting Flavors & Aromas into Words



**Sunday 12/25 5-6:30pm**  
**\$25 Club Discounts Apply**

#### Featured Specials

Picture not Available

Permutations \$13.99



Monte Oton \$8.79

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### **Permutations Pinot Noir, 2007 SP \$13.99 Reg \$14.99**

A really stylish Pinot Noir. Long and textured with a fine tannic structure. It has Lots of ripe sweet fruit with nice acidity and a touch of oak and savory spice. A great value Pinot made by one of the most exciting young Pinot makers in Australia, William Downie, who first gained prominence at De Bortoli and now with his own terrific label. This wine is fresh, forward & fun but has a few layers of complexity as well. Each label in the box is very funky, and slightly different (hence the 'Permutations').

### **Monte Oton, 2007 SP \$ 8.79 Reg \$9.99**

Deep purple in color with aromas of sweet berries and savory spice. On the palate flavors of black cherry and blueberry with peppery and cinnamon spice, a nice balance of fruit and acid with a smooth easy to drink finish. This wine is full bodied, elegantly textured and exhibits a long finish. This is a terrific bang for your buck. At \$8.79 a bottle on special for this month. I anticipate a quick sell out so order your case right away.

## **Wine News**

Here are some fun & exciting things to look forward to in February:

- Kim and Liane are putting together a floating supper club. Every month we will feature a restaurant where our group can bring our own Wine Stop wine without corkage, get together, have a meal, and taste, and talk about wine and food, and the nuances of the day. . . details to come in our February Newsletter.
- We love great beer, beers with personality and style. Recently, some new beers have started to trickle into Hawaii. And what goes better with beer than pizza! Starting next month we will be scheduling Pizza & Beer nights at Pasta Basta. . . details to come in our February Newsletter.

## **Liane's Corkey Trivia**

Back in the day when Rome was a Republic, wine, bread and entertainment flowed free, and free of charge, to all the city's voting citizens. This was the traditional way the upper classes bought the votes they needed for elective office. This tradition was called "Bread and Circuses" In the waning days of the Republic, Julius Caesar almost went bankrupt in order to win the Pontifex Maximus elections because he made sure to



supply extravagant displays of "Bread and Circuses" to the voters, so that they would remember him on voting day.

Ultimately, he won the position of Pontifex Maximus.

So what is a Pontifex Maximus? The name comes from antiquity, from a time before Rome even had a name. There could only be one Pontifex Maximus at any given time.

Essentially he was the number one priest. His name was derived thusly:

Italy's mountainous and hilly country made it very hard to travel by land using only the foot-mobile. As a matter of fact, traveling by sea was common for the wealthier folks.

However, even back then, if you owned a small business, shipping costs would be significantly less over land as opposed to sea. The Proto(Pre)-Romans occupied a sizable chunk of flat land between northern and southern Italy. Their land was called Latium which means flat (before it was called Rome). Since it is much easier to pull a cart over flat land than hilly land, it is easy to see why merchants would prefer to pass through Latium as opposed to the more expensive sea route and the more difficult mountain passes. In addition, the Tiber River cut through their flat plains forming a natural barrier to north south travel.

For the enterprising Latin, it would not take much to realize there was money to be made in the ferry business. It was a pretty lawless place in those days and ferry customers were glad to pay for the ferry service and inland protection as well. (You can't make money if your goods are stolen.) So the Pre-Romans started developing sharp military tactics.

Eventually, they figured out that if they replaced the ferry with a bridge, they could make even more money. So they built the Sublician Bridge, across the Tiber, and got rid of the ferries and business boomed! Needless to say the people responsible for building the bridge were very important. The lead builder was called Pontifex Maximus (pont=bridge + fex=maker Maximus =suprem) and because even inanimate things like the bridge had spirits, they were also priests. Curators were in charge of maintaining the bridge. So the Pontifex Maximus, was like a bridge supervisor making sure the bridge was solid and the spirit of the bridge was happy and appeased.

After Caesar, all the emperors were granted the title Pontifex Maximus as well. It was only after Emperor Justinian decided that it was inappropriate for him to be both the Emperor and the Pontifex Maximus, that the Roman Catholic Pope adopted the title. In English, he is called Supreme Pontiff. In Latin he is referred to as the Pontifex Maximus.

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