



BRINGING YOU UP-TO-DATE

Newsletters are a lot of work and quite expensive, so with the additional farming and other things related to the winery, we are only sending out one newsletter this year - maybe back to two next year.

Last winter, Shirley and Gail visited Chile. Most of you know that we spent a year as students in Chile in 1967. Going back was fun. We toured the vineyards and wineries of the Central Valley, learned a lot, and had a great time. The wines and food were excellent and the prices very attractive.

AWARDS GALORE

Although we did not enter a lot of competitions, percentage wise, we got a lot of awards this year. The first competition we entered was the Northwest Wine Summit held at Timberline, OR. The results speak for themselves: 1999 Yakima Valley Cabernet Sauvignon (Silver), 2000 Ch. Puryear Cabernet Sauvignon (Silver), 2001 Reserve Chardonnay (Silver), and the 2002 Yakima Valley Chardonnay (Bronze). Four wines entered, four medals received.

Next, to support the only judging of Washington wines, we entered the Central Washington State Fair. We entered our 2001 Late Harvest Pinot Grigio (no award), our Sunset (Silver), and Bonnie Bonair (Bronze). Two out of three isn't bad.

The last thing we entered was the Indy International Wine Competition. Here you compete with the best in the world. We entered our 2000 Ch. Puryear Estate Cabernet Sauvignon (Silver), Frankensauv (Silver), 1999 Yakima Valley Cabernet Sauvignon (Bronze) and the 1999 Merlot (Bronze). Again four entries and four medals.

Oh well, no gold medals this year, but consistent medal winning wines.

Ken left us on May 1 this year for another tasting room position at a winery in Lake Chelan so, this was the summer of interns. First, Lisa, our tasting room manager intern, greeted most of you this summer on your visit. It is hard to find tasting room people who are enthusiastic, knowledgeable, and really fun. Lisa was all of those.



Shirley and Joseph take a break from the busy crush

We advertised for a replacement for Ken and got a bunch of burned out forklift drivers who knew zip about wine and cared less. One candidate, Bill, stood out and we hired him for the summer because he was planning to enroll in the Walla Walla Community College wine program in the fall. This took a lot of my time, but Bill learned quickly and was soon on his own a lot of the time. When he turned 21, he also did tasting room and festivals for us.

Our third intern was Romain from France. He contacted all wineries in the northwest via email and the only one to respond was Bonair. He basically insisted on coming because his program in France requires he be interned every summer at a working winery and one of those has to be abroad. It turned out Romain was a delightful young man to have around. He already had a good background in winery work, having worked at a vineyard and winery in the Sauternes region of Bordeaux. Needless to say, with all these young people around not only did we get a lot of work done, we had a lot of fun, too.

Late this summer, as all the interns were leaving, Joseph, our son, announced his plans to join the winery. He is now the General Manager. We are looking forward to spending a little more time in relaxation mode with Joseph here. So far, it hasn't worked, but there is hope when we get out of the busy crush season.

JOIN THE *Elite!* FOR SUPER SAVINGS

Since we started Bonair Winery in 1985, our focus has been to provide our valued customers with outstanding award-winning premium wines at reasonable prices. We have accomplished this by selling more than 70% of our wine directly to the consumer — eliminating the middleman markup.

Now we have created a way for you to enjoy premium wine from Bonair Winery at wholesale prices by becoming a member of the Elite!

Exclusive Privileges for the *Elite!*

- * The *Elite!* never pay more than wholesale.
- * The *Elite!* get free samples of our reserve wine.
- * The *Elite!* get invitations to special events and winemaker dinners.
- * The *Elite!* get notifications of new releases with pre-release special offers.

There are no minimum purchases required and you won't be billed like a 'wine of the month' club. We are pleased to offer membership for 2004 (good for the balance of 2003) at the special low introductory price of \$50 — \$25 off our regular price of \$75. You save 33% on your membership and then start saving about 33% on your wine. Your savings start with a purchase of as few as 12 bottles. The more you buy, the more you save.

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Bellevue Delivery- Dec 6-7

This has become a tradition for many of you Puget Sounders- The Bonair Buggy brings your wine order over to our friends' home in Bellevue. You pick it up, visit with us, and are happy you only have to drive a few miles and save on all shipping charges. Use our order form. Email us if you have questions. We process your order, send you a confirmation letter and map, and your Holiday shopping is done.

THANKSGIVING IN THE WINE COUNTRY

Visit the wineries Friday, Saturday, and Sunday after Thanksgiving for free food paired with wine. All wineries are open 10-5. Buy a glass or bring your own.

1999 CAB SPECIAL

Just in time to stock someone's wine cellar for the gift-giving season, we are offering the 1999 Cabernet Sauvignon for just \$150 per case. This wine won a Silver at the Northwest Wine Summit and a Bronze at the Indy International Wine Competition.

The Cabernet Shootout remarked, "Licorice, bright cherry and blackberry on the nose turning with additional herbs back notes. Some nice ripe black fruit."

It comes from the Congdon Vineyard just east of Zillah (We should say Zilla Zilla.). It was aged in a blend of new French and American Oak barrels, then blended with some neutral barrels to balance the fruit and the oak. This wine will improve from additional aging and can be cellared at least another six years.