

3005 El Camino, Redwood City, CA 94061  
Phone (650) 364-8544 ext. 5, then 1  
or (800) 247-5987 ext. 5, then 1  
Fax (650) 364-4687  
theclubs@klwines.com

October 4, 2004

Dear Wine Club Member,

**PLEASE READ THIS:**

Currently, this is my only way to communicate with our members and I will use this space to let you know about changes or information relevant to your membership. Once the Wine Club database becomes integrated into the rest of the K & L database, I will be able to communicate through email.

**It is very important to let us know of your email address if you wish to fully utilize our new web features.**

We are getting very close to integrating our Wine Club database with our retail/website database. Until the integration is complete, however, please continue to contact the Wine Clubs directly for any changes to your wine club account. You may call me at 800-247-5987 ext. 2740 or send an email to theclubs@klwines.com or my direct email, davero@klwines.com.

This month we change the reorder procedure and will allow any wine to be purchased by the single bottle. We are getting very close to our website integration and being able to order single bottles, rather than in quantities of 6 or 12 is one of the new benefits.

We will continue to reserve the current month's wines for members of that club, but all wines on the previous offering lists, and all special offers are open to all members. Feel free to call me if you have any questions about a wine from another club.

This month, we also add a few additional Wine Club members-only special offers, including **Scharffenberger Brut, NV**. Information about this wonderful California sparkling wine appears towards the end of this newsletter.

We are also trying something new and have provided a list of 2003 Bordeaux **Pre-Arrivals** at incredibly low prices. The 2003 Bordeaux vintage is considered to be a monumental vintage. This special offer provides an opportunity to purchase some of the greatest wines in the world at extremely low prices. Information is at the end of this newsletter.

Next month, we plan to add a couple of French Champagnes and possibly 2 incredible desert wines. Next month's newsletter will have further information.

Cheers,

Dave Rosenzweig

Wine Club Director

## Signature Red Wine Club

The Signature Red Wine Club offerings for the month of September 2004 include a limited amount of an old favorite from the Rhone and a brilliant small production Cabernet from Napa.

### **2001 Moulin de Gardette 'Ventabren' Gigondas**

This wonderful Gigondas returns to the Signature red club. Unfortunately, we only received a very limited amount, so if you plan to reorder, do so quickly!

Gigondas is located in the Southern Rhone at the base of Mount Ventoux, northeast of Avignon. By rule, the red wines must have no more than 80% Grenache and at least 15% of either Syrah or Mourvedre. The rest of the blend may contain any of the permitted varieties in the Cotes du Rhone except Carignan. For most of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, Gigondas was just a part of the Cotes du

Rhone appellation. In 1966, it was elevated to Cotes du Rhone-Villages, and finally received its own appellation status in 1971.

Moulin de la Gardette is a small property owned by the Meunier family for decades. The vineyards contain vines aged 60 to 100 years old, which produce naturally low yields with concentrated, powerful fruit. Robert Parker awards 4 stars (Excellent) to the property. Current owner Jean-Bapiste Meunier is considered by most wine critics as one of the best producers in southern France. Generally approximately 500 cases of this wine are made in only the best years. This vintage is a deeper, more powerful wine than last year's version, consisting of 70% Grenache, 20% Syrah and 10% Cinsault. Perfumey with vanilla undertones. Red fruits abound along with a dash of tannin. Extremely ripe, this will pair well with a nice hearty meal. Aerate this wine for 1 –2 hours or hold for up to 10 years.

### **2000 Snowden Vineyards Cabernet Sauvignon, Napa**

Snowden Vineyards is a small, boutique winery, owned and operated by Scott and Randy Snowden along with their wives, Joann and Janet. The Snowden family has owned a ranch in the hills on the east side of Napa Valley for forty years. The property contained prune orchards, fruit and nut trees and vineyards planted to Petite Sirah and Palomino. The family planted several acres of Cabernet Sauvignon in the early sixties and the sons took over the vineyards in 1977, when the father passed away. In 1982, they removed all of the vineyards and most of the orchards on the property and planted 11 acres to Cabernet Sauvignon. The budstock came from the Jordan Vineyards in Alexander Valley and beginning in 1984, the grapes were sold to Stags Leap Wine Cellars, where the grapes comprised 30% to 40% of the Napa Valley Blend. In 1991, they expanded the vineyards to 15 acres, adding Merlot, Cabernet Franc and Petite Verdot. Other wineries that have used Snowden grapes include Silver Oak, Caymus, Viader and many other top-flight Cabernet producers. In 1993, they asked friend and brilliant winemaker, John Gibson to produce the first Snowden wines. John made the first two vintages at Stags Leap Wine Cellars, where he was Warren Winiarski's associate winemaker. John moved to Vine Cliff winery in 1995, and the Snowden program moved with him. The Snowdens have been blessed with the influence of some of the finest winemakers in California. Laurie Wood, part owner of Freemark Abbey and considered one of the preeminent vineyardists in California, planted and managed the Snowden vineyards for 15 years. Warren Winiarski, one of the true legends of California wine, told the Snowdens that their vineyard was one of the finest in Napa, and introduced them to a number of people who would work for the Snowden's, including winemaker John Gibson. The label was created by Scott's wife, Joann Ortega, who along with her twin sister, Susann, comprise Ortega design and have created wine labels for Guenoc, Simi, Clos Pegase, Vine Cliff and many others.

This wine is a blend of 78.9% Cabernet Sauvignon, 8.4% Cabernet Franc, 6.3% Merlot and 6.4% Petit Verdot, aged for 21 months in French oak. 70% of which was new. This is a well-balanced wine of depth and complexity. Fruit flavors of Wild berry and cassis are mixed with notes of leather, coffee and earth. The flavors are persistent and though tannins appear on the finish, with an hour or two of aeration, this is a marvelous wine to drink now. It may also be held for 7 – 10 years. The suggested retail price on this wine is \$60!

### **Signature Red Club, October 2004 wine re-orders**

For the month of September, 2004, these selections are available to Signature Red Club members only.

\_\_\_\_\_ 1 Bottle of 2001 Moulin de Gardette 'Ventabren' Gigondas @\$23.95 (plus shipping, plus tax in California.)

\_\_\_\_\_ 1 Bottle of 2000 Snowden Cabernet Sauvignon, Napa @\$23.95 (plus shipping, plus tax in California.)

# Premium Wine Club

The September 2004 selections for the Premium Wine Club include a lovely red from France and a brilliant Riesling from Germany.

## **2002 Jean Louis Denois Grande Cuvee Red**

Jean Louis Denois, a native of Champagne, is a passionate and innovative winemaker who comes from a family with five generations in the sparkling wine business. After completing his studies in Beaune he worked in Australia, New Zealand, California and South Africa. He believes in environmentally friendly vineyard practices and also in minimizing yields to maximize the quality of the grapes.

The Domaine's wines make the most of the contrasting climates and terroirs available across the Languedoc region and are allowed to evolve naturally and gradually with as little interference as possible. Its vineyards are situated in the extreme Southwest of Languedoc, close to Ariège at the foot of the Pyrenees.

Jean Louis Denois set up the Domaine de l'Aigle, the most interesting domaine in the Limoux region, in the Languedoc's coolest area, located near Roquetaillade. At Domaine de l'Aigle, which he has now sold, he made exceptionally good sparkling wine, much more like champagne than any wine labeled Limoux.

His new winemaking venture is based on the same terroir, but he is also shunning the letter of the Limoux winemaking laws, which is why his wines are sold under the all-encompassing name, Vin de Pays d'Oc. By not adhering strictly to local winemaking law, he is able to craft wines that meet his personal standards.

This wine, a blend of 40% Merlot, 30% Cabernet Sauvignon and 30% Grenache is matured in oak barrels for 18 months. This was selected as Best Vin de Pays by

The wine begins with wonderful aromas of cassis and berries. The palate is soft, lush and picks up some spice notes from the Syrah in the blend. This is a very easy wine to enjoy with sweet fruit and a smooth mouth-feel. Drink now or hold for 3 –5 years. Great choice with steak or lamb.

## **2003 Rauenthaler Baiken Kabinett**

**Note:** K&L has purchased the entire lot of this 2003 Rauenthaler Baiken Kabinett and are proud to offer this wine exclusively to our wine club members.

The former Cistercian Abbey of Kloster Eberbach founded in 1136 was the epicenter of wine production in the Rheingau in the 12<sup>th</sup> century, and by the end of the 13<sup>th</sup> century they were the largest wine producers in the world. Here you can find wine presses dating back to 1668 some of which were still in use up until 1953. Today the former Monastery is owned by the state government of Hessen who owns 130 ha (321 acres) of vines. This is a huge winery by German standards, yet within these massive holdings are the Steinberger, a solely owned walled site that has produced some of the greatest wines of Germany and the Rauenthaler Baiken whose wines have long been esteemed for their elegance, spiciness and longevity.

In May on a rainy visit to the estate we sat chatting with Fred Prinz the director in charge of the vineyards and winemaking, tasting the new wines and came across this gem. Fred seemed to smile inwardly as we raised our glass of Baiken Kabinett to our noses, for he knew that this was a wine that captures the glory and greatness of this site and it would once again enliven the reputation of this vineyard that lately had lost some renown. Fred is the salt of the earth and I am sure would not approve of the label "winemaker", he is a vineyard man and when speaking with

him about wine it is always in terms of soil, exposure, sunshine, wind and rain, never the fruit and spice kind of talk we all read in the magazines...here is what he told us.

This particular Baiken Kabinett, there are others you may see, comes from the middle of the original vineyard of old, it is very steep with a high component of slate and benefits from being higher on the hill which is windy and dry. 2003 produced exceptionally small berries with thick skins and lots of concentration. Thunderstorms in July helped to relieve some stress the vines had due to the hot summer, and quench their thirst just enough without diluting the flavors. The wine is cool and minty, elegant and with hints of wintergreen and spiced apricots. It is very well balanced for such a hot year and shows no excessive weight or alcohol, just a clean lively character that finishes strong with minerals and sweet herbs. This is a wine that will improve for many, many years, revealing more of its underlying character, a window into its primordial beginnings. Drink now – 2025+ - Jeff Vierra, K&L German Wine Guy

### **Premium Wine Club, October 2004 wine re-orders**

For the month of October 2004, these re-order selections are available to Premium Wine Club members only.

\_\_\_\_\_1 Bottle of 2002 Jean Louis Denois Grande Cuvee Red @\$13.95 (plus shipping, plus tax in California.)

\_\_\_\_\_1 Bottle of 2003 Rauenthaler Baiken Kabinett @\$13.95 (plus shipping, plus tax in California.)

## **Best Buy Wine Club**

This month's Best Buy Wine Club selections are a brilliant Sauvignon Blanc from Napa and a luscious, intense red from the Rhone.

### **2003 Kalinda Sauvignon Blanc, Lake County**

Another brilliant Sauvignon Blanc from our Kalinda label.

Many of you know that Kalinda is our own label. The wine is produced by a variety of wineries, many very well known. We are forbidden to release the name of the producers, because the wine under their own label often sells for at least twice as much.

This wine consists of grapes from Lake County (90%) and the Pope Valley (10%). The growing conditions of Lake County are similar to Napa Valley, but with some unique advantages which produce grapes of exceptional quality. Most of the Wineries are located to the south of Clear Lake, California's largest natural body of fresh water. This large water body influences the temperature and humidity of the surrounding vineyards. Moist air moves up the hillsides during the day, and back down into the valleys at night, providing a remarkably stable climate. This creates a "coastal" influence, but without the colder temperatures and heavy moisture found nearer the Pacific Ocean. These climate conditions, the rich soils, and virtually continuous summer sunshine contribute to fruit of exceptional quality.

The wine is 100% stainless steel fermented to retain all the fruit characteristics. The lake county portion was pulled off its lees after fermentation completed to keep the wine crisp, fresh and minerally. The pope valley fruit, from a warmer area, was left on its lees for 6 months to give the wine richness and texture. The blend was made based on your desire for a wine with bright, fresh aromatics and acidity, but with a friendly texture and weight. The average age of the vines is about 12 years old. The wine has a nice combination of grapefruit, citrus aromatics with a little

minerality and crisp acidity. A delicious wine for all the fresh oysters we will start to see in markets this fall.

### **2003 Domaine de Verquiere, Côtes du Rhône Villages Rasteau**

Domaine de Verquiere is a small family owned winery that produces marvelous field blends in the Rhone Valley of France. The Chamfort family has owned this estate for three generations, beginning with Grandfather Edmund, who sold the wine he produced in large barrels to local wine merchants. Edmund's son, Louis, took over and began to sell the wine after bottling and also bought some adjacent vineyards and extended the estate. Finally, Louis's son, Bernard, took over and began to export the wines. Each succeeding generation has increased both the quality and visibility of the family winery. The estate is located in the town of Sablet, a lovely village still encircled by ramparts and seven 14<sup>th</sup> century towers. The town itself is built in concentric rings surrounding the Church steeple. In 23 B.C., Pliny used to glorify the virtues of wines coming from hillsides running alongside the Ouvèze River, along the town of Sablet.

This wine comes from the nearby town of Rasteau, and is a typical Côtes du Rhône blend of Grenache (70%) and Syrah (30%). Aromas of truffle and berry lead to a palate with more berry flavors and a hint of raspberry and spice. This is a deep, yet thoroughly enjoyable wine that is meant to be drunk now and over the next 3 –4 years. This would be a great choice with beef stew and game meats. Also good with hard cheese's that are not too salty.

### **Best Buy Wine Club, October 2004 wine re-orders**

For the month of October, 2004, these selections are available to Best Buy Wine Club members only.

\_\_\_\_\_ 1 Bottle of 2003 Kalinda Sauvignon Blanc, Lake County @ \$8.49 per bottle (plus shipping, plus tax in California.)

\_\_\_\_\_ 1 Bottle of 2003 Domaine de Verquiere Côtes du Rhône Villages Rasteau @ \$8.49 per bottle (plus shipping, plus tax in California.)

## **Re-order Form**

As a member of a K&L Wine Club, you have the opportunity to order previous offerings of any of our clubs. The following pages contain the full "backlist" of each club. *Please note the prices for each club's wines* Our phone numbers for the Wine Club are (650) 364-8544 ext. 5, then 1; or outside the 650, 415, 510, and 408 area codes (800) 247-5987 ext. 5, then 1. The order desk is open Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. We have a voice mail system, and if we can't take your call immediately we will return it as soon as possible. In addition, you can e-mail us at theclubs@klwines.com.

### **Signature Red Club: Previous Offerings**

**All wine can now be purchased by the single bottle. Prices shown after each wine listed. Tax (in California) and shipping will be added to each order.**

\_\_\_\_\_ 1 Bottle of 2000 Lancaster Estate, Alexander Valley @ \$23.95 per bottle

The 2000 Lancaster is a blend of 55% Cabernet Sauvignon, 42% Merlot, 2% Cabernet Franc and 1% Malbec, aged for 22 months in French oak, 60% of which was new. The wine is complex and brimming with ripe, black cherry flavors. The forward fruit character of blackberries, currants and chocolate marries with the soft toasty oak to produce a rich, lush, well-balanced and full-bodied wine. Drink now after giving it an hour's aeration or hold it for five to seven years.

\_\_\_\_\_1 Bottle of 2000 Cornerstone, “Cornerstone” Cabernet Sauvignon, Napa@ \$23.95 per bottle

This wine is a blend of 96% Cabernet Sauvignon and 4% Cabernet Franc, aged for 20 months in a combination of new and one-year-old French oak. Complex aromas of new hay, mulberry and sweet anise are complemented by undertones of cedar, tarragon and sage. The fruit expresses a briar/bramble character reminiscent of fresh currant and wild blackberry with a slight dusty, cocoa quality. The oak lends a nuance of freshly baked bread in a toasty, caramelized, slightly vanilla finish. The wine benefits from one to two hours of aeration and is a great choice served with Filet Mignon. Hold for eight to ten years.

\_\_\_\_\_1 Bottle of 2000 Pine Ridge “Stags Leap” Cabernet Sauvignon, Napa @ \$23.95 per bottle  
A blend of 81% Cabernet Sauvignon, 8% Petite Verdot, 5% Merlot, and 6% Malbec. Starts with beautiful aromas of blackcurrant and toffee. On the palate are black cherry, cassis, chocolate and vanilla oak flavors. The texture is velvety and the finish is silky and long. Decant for an hour or hold for another five to ten years.

\_\_\_\_\_1 Bottle of 2000 Robert Craig “Affinity,” Napa@ \$23.95 per bottle

This wine is a blend of 76% Cabernet Sauvignon, 22% Merlot and 2% Cabernet Franc. Lovely aromas of black cherry and mocha lead to a complex palate of cherries, boysenberries and a hint of spice. An elegant and lingering finish makes this suitable for drinking now with some aeration, or cellaring for another three to five years. An excellent choice with Prime Rib.

\_\_\_\_\_1 Bottle of 2000 Flora Springs “Trilogy,” Napa@ \$23.95 per bottle

The 2000 Trilogy is a blend of 47% Cabernet Sauvignon, 38% Merlot, 8% Cabernet Franc and 7% Malbec. It's very lush and inviting, with aromas of black fruits and a palate with black cherry, cassis and hints of toffee. The finish lingers gently and the overall impression is one of great elegance. Drink now and over the next three to five years. Excellent with lamb tenderloin.

\_\_\_\_\_1 Bottle of 2000 Paul Hobbs Cabernet Sauvignon, Napa@ \$23.95 per bottle

Consisting of 76% Cabernet Sauvignon, 12% Merlot, 7% Cabernet Franc and 5% Petit Verdot, this wine was aged for 20 months in French oak, 57% of which was new. Lovely aromatics lead to a palate with loads of plum and blackcurrant fruit and a hint of coffee. The finish is lush and satisfying. Drink now and over the next five to seven years.

\_\_\_\_\_1 Bottle of 2000 Best's Great Western Bin 0 Shiraz, Victoria@ \$23.95 per bottle

An elegant and structured wine, rich in blackcurrant and berry flavors, with forward aromas and a complex palate. Silky tannins and gobs of fruit give it great character and boldness. Drink now with an hour or two of aeration or hold for eight to twelve years. Try with barbecued ribs.

\_\_\_\_\_1 Bottle of 2000 Dominus “Napanook”, Napa@ \$23.95 per bottle

68% Cabernet Sauvignon, 17% Cabernet Franc, 11% Merlot and 4% Petit Verdot, aged for sixteen months in French oak barrels. This medium-full-bodied wine has very pretty cherry and plum flavors with a hint of cedar and chocolate. Very supple tannins and a smooth finish make this ideal to drink now and over the next four to six years. Great choice with filet mignon.

\_\_\_\_\_1 Bottle of 2000 Signorello Cabernet Sauvignon, Napa@ \$23.95 per bottle

75% Cabernet Sauvignon, 15% Merlot and 10% Cabernet Franc, aged for 20 months in French oak barrels. The aromas take a while to develop but show lovely notes of black cherry, vanilla and cedar. The palate echoes those flavors and adds a hint of mocha and chocolate. The finish is lush and long. Drink this now after giving it one to two hours of aeration, or hold it for six to eight years. A good choice with rack of lamb.

\_\_\_\_\_1 Bottle of 1999 Saint-Julien, St-Julien@ \$23.95 per bottle

This wine is made from Château Pichon-Lalande's vineyards in St-Julien. The 1999 shows a nose of plums with cedar oak. The palate is smooth and lush with cassis and black cherry flavors along with some earthy characteristics. This is excellent for drinking now and over the next four to seven years.

\_\_\_\_\_ 1 Bottle of 1999 Beaulieu Vineyards Reserve "Tapestry," Napa@ \$23.95 per bottle  
82% Cabernet Sauvignon, 13% Merlot, 3% Petit Verdot and 2% Cabernet Franc, aged for 20 months in a combination of American and French oak. Aromas of berries, black cherries and a hint of mint lead to a palate where notes of vanilla and coffee join the flavor mix. Delicious today with a bit of aeration, the wine will hold for at least seven to ten more years.

## **Premium Wine Club: Previous Offerings**

**All wine can now be purchased by the single bottle. Prices shown after each wine listed.  
Tax (in California) and shipping will be added to each order.**

\_\_\_\_\_ 1 Bottle of 2000 Pine Ridge "Crimson Creek" Merlot, Napa@ \$13.95 per bottle  
The wine is a blend of 86% Merlot, 8% Cabernet Sauvignon, 4% Cabernet Franc and 2% Malbec. The blend is made in a typical "Right Bank" Bordeaux style, emphasizing structure, complexity and aging potential. Aged for 16 months in heavily toasted French oak, the wine is layered with berry, cherry and tobacco flavors and possesses an intense nose of briary, cherry fruit. There are notes of chocolate and black cherries on the palate and the finish is lush and satisfying. Drink now or hold for up to five years. Try with sliced lamb sirloin.

\_\_\_\_\_ 1 Bottle of 2002 Torbreck "Juveniles," Barossa Valley@ \$13.95 per bottle  
From Robert Parker: "The unwooded blend of 60% Grenache, 20% Mourvedre, and 20% Shiraz, the 2002 Juveniles, is a crunchy, deliriously fruity red offering aromas of kirsch liqueur, pepper, and spice box in a fruit-driven, full-bodied style that is immensely captivating as well as satisfying. It is meant to be enjoyed over the next 5-6 years. 90 points."

\_\_\_\_\_ 1 Bottle of 2002 Smith-Madrone Chardonnay, Napa@ \$13.95 per bottle  
The wine is barrel fermented in French oak and aged *sur lie* for 11 months. Aromas of apples and pears lead to a creamy palate of more apples with a hint of spice and vanilla oak. Drink now and over the next two to three years. Try with roast chicken.

\_\_\_\_\_ 1 Bottle of 2001 Katnook Estate Shiraz, Coonawarra@ \$13.95 per bottle  
100% Shiraz, aged for 21 months in a combination of French and American oak *barriques* (small barrels), 50% of which were new. Aromas of ripe raspberry and a hint of licorice lead to a palate that echoes the raspberry and adds plum and blueberry with notes of spice, pepper and subtle smoky oak. Relatively soft tannins make this ideal for drinking now or laying down for six to eight years. Great with game birds and red meat.

\_\_\_\_\_ 1 Bottle of 2001 Wattle Creek Sauvignon Blanc, Mendocino@ \$13.95 per bottle  
100% Sauvignon Blanc from the Mendocino Ranch vineyard, this shows lovely aromas of lime, lemon and citrus which follow through to the palate with a crisp, vibrant feel. This is a great summertime wine, excellent with grilled fish. Drink now and over the next two to three years.

\_\_\_\_\_ 1 Bottle of 2000 Frazier "Lupine Hill" Cabernet Sauvignon, Napa@ \$13.95 per bottle  
85% Cabernet Sauvignon and 15% Merlot, aged for 18 months in a combination of new and used French and American oak. Aromas of strawberries and earth lead to a deep palate with notes of blackcurrant and red meat. The wine will benefit from at least one hour's aeration and will hold for four to six years. Try with lamb tenderloin. Incidentally, *The Wine Spectator* lists this at \$45!

\_\_\_\_\_ 1 Bottle of 2002 Griffin Pinot Noir, Marlborough@ \$8.49 per bottle @ \$13.95 per bottle  
Lovely plum and cherry aromas lead to a palate in which a touch of oak and earth are added to the mix. This wine would pair beautifully with turkey or salmon. Drink now and over the next three to five years.

\_\_\_\_\_ 1 Bottle of 2003 Pascal Jolivet “Attitude”, Loire Valley@ \$13.95 per bottle

This wine shows juicy fruit flavors of apple and grapefruit balanced by a refreshing minerality and grassiness. It's very clean and crisp, excellent for warm spring and summer days. A great choice with grilled fish. Drink now and over the next two to three years.

\_\_\_\_\_ 1 Bottle of 2001 Edgewood Estate Syrah, Napa@ \$13.95 per bottle

100% Syrah aged in French oak for nineteen months. The complex nose shows hints of black cherries, spice and violets. The palate echoes those flavors and adds black pepper and plums to the mix. This deep, full-bodied wine will benefit from one to two hours of aeration and can be held for eight to ten years. Great with game.

\_\_\_\_\_ 1 Bottle of 2001 Kalinda Cabernet Sauvignon, Alexander Valley@ \$13.95 per bottle

100 % Cabernet Sauvignon. This wine is elegant, yet has great structure. The flavors are of cassis and black cherry integrated with toasty oak. An excellent choice served with rack of lamb. Drink now or hold for five to eight years.

\_\_\_\_\_ 1 Bottle of 2000 Château Bois Martin, Pessac-Leognan@ \$13.95 per bottle

A typical Graves nose of mineral and earth leads to a marvelously smooth palate with sweet oak, cassis and plum. A very easy wine to enjoy due to its round tannins, this should be consumed now and over the next three to five years. Enjoy it with pork chops.

\_\_\_\_\_ 1 Bottle of 2000 Château Le Thil Comte Clary Rouge, Pessac-Leognan@ \$13.95 per bottle

70% Merlot and 30% Cabernet Sauvignon. From the first aromas of cigar box, currant and earth, to the palate where black cherry and a hint of espresso are added to the mix, this is definitively Bordeaux. Drinkable now with a bit of aeration, this wine should hold for another seven to ten years. Try with steak and mushrooms.

\_\_\_\_\_ 1 Bottle of 2000 Fournas Bernadotte, Haut-Médoc@ \$13.95 per bottle

This is lovely and elegant, with notes of cassis, coffee, toasty oak and a hint of cedar. Soft tannins and a long finish will have you finishing every last drop. Try with grilled filet mignon. Drink now and over the next three to five years.

\_\_\_\_\_ 1 Bottle of 2002 Bell Chardonnay, Napa **Special End-of-bin price:** @ \$11.50 per bottle

The wine, which spent six months in a combination of new and used French oak, shows tropical fruit flavors and aromas of vanilla, and is crisp and refreshing on the palate. Malolactic treatment gives the wine a lovely buttery mouthfeel. Try with roast chicken, or fish with a beurre blanc. Drink now and over the next two to four years.

## **Best Buy Wine Club: Previous Offerings**

**All wine can now be purchased by the single bottle. Prices shown after each wine listed.**

**Tax (in California) and shipping will be added to each order.**

\_\_\_\_\_ 1 Bottle of 2002 Segura Viudas Creu de Levit, Penedès@ \$8.49 per bottle

This lovely wine, made of a native Spanish grape variety called Xarel-lo, has a floral nose with hints of spice, leading to a palate with notes of apples, a bit of citrus and a hint of pepper. A third of the wine ages *sur lie* in oak, lending a slightly creamy mouthfeel that leads to a long, yet crisp finish. This is an excellent match for grilled fish or chicken. Drink now or hold for two to three years.

\_\_\_\_\_ 1 Bottle of 2000 Watts Zinfandel, Lodi@ \$8.49 per bottle

This is a very fruit-driven, juicy Zinfandel with aromas of black cherry and vanilla oak. The palate shows plum and berry flavors along with a bit of cocoa and pepper. The finish is long and

lush. This is excellent as a sipper or as a match for full-flavored and spicy foods. Drink now and over the next two to three years.

\_\_\_\_\_ 1 Bottle of 2002 McDowell Syrah, California@ \$8.49 per bottle

90% Syrah, 6% Grenache, 4% Durif aged in two-year-old American and French oak. A dense, full-bodied Syrah, full of lovely berry-spice flavors, with jammy berry aromas and a bit of toasty oak. The mouth feel is big and round, with flavors of ripe blackberry and blueberry fruit and white pepper spice. This is a versatile wine that goes great with almost everything: burgers, ribs, pasta, grilled salmon, pizza and even fajitas. Drink now and over the next two to three years.

\_\_\_\_\_ 1 Bottle of 2003 Chateau de Nages, Reserve Blanc, Costiere de Nimes@ \$8.49 per bottle  
60% Grenache Blanc and 40% Roussane, this is un-oaked and aged *sur lie* for eight weeks. Lovely aromas of citrus and minerals lead to a palate of grapefruit, a hint of honey, wet earth and lemon zest. The wine has a crisp, clean finish. Excellent as a summertime sipper and a great match with grilled fish. Drink now and over the next one or two years.

\_\_\_\_\_ 1 Bottle of 2001 Purisima Canyon Syrah, Dry Creek@ \$8.49 per bottle

95% Syrah, 5% Cabernet Sauvignon. Aged in 25% new oak (a ratio of 75% American and 25% French) for 24 months. A lovely nose of dark fruits and berries leads to a palate that echoes those flavors and add hints of vanilla and spice. The Cabernet adds a lovely depth and the finish is smooth and lingering. This would be a great choice with hamburgers right off the grill. Drink now and over the next two to three years.

\_\_\_\_\_ 1 Bottle of 2003 Kalinda Chardonnay, Anderson Valley@ \$8.49 per bottle

This is a typically lovely Anderson Valley Chardonnay, with citrus and pear aromas followed by a juicy palate with hints of lemon, fig and cedar. The finish is crisp and lively with notes of spice. Good choice with roast chicken. Drink now and over the next two to three years.

\_\_\_\_\_ 1 Bottle of 2003 Renwood Viognier, “Select Series,” Lodi@ \$8.49 per bottle

94% Viognier, 4% Orange Muscat and 2% Pinot Gris. Aromas of citrus blossoms, pears and apricot lead to a rich creamy palate of ripe pears, lemon, peaches and apricots. Drink now and over the next two to three years. Great with Asian cuisine.

\_\_\_\_\_ 1 Bottle of 2002 Purisima Canyon Cabernet Sauvignon, North Coast@ \$8.49 per bottle  
82% Cabernet Sauvignon, 17.5% Merlot, and 1.5% Petite Sirah. A wonderfully lush wine, with loads of fruit and soft tannins. A perfect red for summertime. Drink now and over the next two to three years. Great with hamburgers on a sunny day.

\_\_\_\_\_ 1 Bottle of 2002 La Posta Cabernet Sauvignon, Argentina@ \$8.49 per bottle

100% Cabernet Sauvignon from vines with an average age of over 30 years. It spent nine months in second-use French and American oak barrels. Notes of currants and black cherries with a hint of sandalwood lead to a palate of cassis and plums and a touch of earth. This is a great choice with hamburgers or roast chicken. Drink it now and over the next three to six years.

\_\_\_\_\_ 1 Bottle of 1999 Jean-Luc Colombo Syrah “Les Collines de Laure” @ \$8.49 per bottle  
100% Syrah. The nose exhibits a wide range of ripe red fruits with spicy overtones and silky tannins. The palate shows dark black and red fruits with a hint of spice. This is a rich and generous wine that is very easy to enjoy. Great with roasted meats and stews. Drink now and over the next three to five years.

\_\_\_\_\_ 1 Bottle of 2001 Felsner Gruner Veltliner “Kabinett,” Austria **Special End-of-bin price: \$6.00 per bottle**

A wonderful crisp wine with flavors of grapefruit, white pepper and lentil matched with good underlying structure. Excellent acidity keeps the flavors lingering. Drink now and over the next three to five years.

***Special Offers—Available to all club members!***

## Scharffenberger Brut N/V, Anderson Valley

The history of Scharffenberger Cellars begins in 1981 in the heart of California's Anderson Valley. Situated only miles from the coastal influences of the Pacific Ocean, Scharffenberger Cellars also enjoys the deep soils and sunshine within the protected valley. Originally founded by John Scharffenberger, the company has gone through many transitions, including a name change when it was formally known as Pacific Echo from 1998 until July 2004. Today, the name has been restored back to Scharffenberger Cellars under the new management of Maisons Marques & Domaines. The first release of the new Scharffenberger Cellars will be Scharffenberger Brut. The Scharffenberger Brut is blended with two-thirds Pinot Noir and one-third Chardonnay. The predominant Pinot Noir creates a sparkling wine that is fruit forward with noticeable aromas of strawberry/raspberry and some plum notes. The Chardonnay expresses itself with subtle tropical flavors of pineapple with pear. All the fruit for Scharffenberger Brut undergoes 100% malolactic fermentation which produces a wine that is rich with complex flavors and a round, lengthy finish.

\_\_\_\_\_ 1 Bottle of Scharffenberger Brut N/V, Anderson Valley **Special Price: @ \$13.99 per bottle**

## 2000 Dominus Estate, Napa

This is the flagship wine of Dominus Estate. Robert Parker says, "Christian Moueix and his talented winemaking team continue to rewrite the definition of a Napa Valley reference point wine." The wine lists for \$99 on the *Wine Spectator* website. Although it can be found for less than that, we believe nobody else in the country is offering it at our member-only price of \$59.99. The 2000 vintage consists of 83% Cabernet Sauvignon, 9% Cabernet Franc, 5% Merlot and 3% Petit Verdot. It is aged for 18 months in French oak barrels. This is a big, complex wine with flavors of black currants and dark fruit and notes of coffee and earth. The aromatics are a bit more open than the palate impressions at this early stage and the wine is still fairly tannic. It will require two to four hours of aeration if opened now. It can be held for eight to twelve years.

\_\_\_\_\_ 1 Bottle of 2000 Dominus Estate, Napa **Special Price: @ \$59.99 per bottle**

### 2003 Bordeaux Pre-Arrival Offering –

**One of the great Bordeaux vintages of the last 50 years, these wines are available for purchase at very low, wine club member only prices.**

**The 2003 Bordeaux futures will be bottled from April 2005 to August 2005 (approx.) and sent here sometime between January 2006 and July 2007 (with few possible exceptions delayed further). When the wines arrive we will contact you (via US Postal Service) to request shipping instructions.**

#### **Lagrange, St-Julien ..... \$27.99**

92-94 points Wine Spectator: "Beautiful aromas of plums, violets, berries and licorice. Full-bodied, with super well-integrated tannins and a long finish. Very pretty indeed. Well-crafted, showing lots of character."

#### **Malescot St-Exupéry, Margaux ..... \$33.99**

92-94 points Wine Spectator: "Wonderful aromas of blackberries, dark chocolate, meat and other yummy decadent things, changing to dry flowers. Full-bodied, with very well-integrated tannins and a long, fresh finish. Silky backbone of tannins."

#### **Pichon-Lalande, Pauillac ..... \$89.99**

95-100 points Wine Spectator: "This tastes like crushed grapes and red fruits. It's big and rich, full-bodied, with velvety tannins and a long, long finish. Juicy wine. A cross between the 1995 and 1996. In fact, it could be better than 2000. Wonderful."

#### **Cos d'Estournel, St-Estèphe ..... \$129.99**

95-98 points Parker: "...a substantial yet extraordinarily elegant claret...It is the most impressive young Cos I have ever tasted. However, the tannin is high, so it will require patience."

**Léoville-Las-Cases, St-Julien .....\$159.99**

95-100 points Wine Spectator: "Warm and rich aromas of plums, blackberries and currants, turning to flowers and hints of mineral. Very complex. Layers of cashmerelike tannins, turning to leather. Warm and inviting, yet rich and powerful; fantastic purity, yet voluptuous. This is what exciting wine is about."

**Mouton-Rothschild, Pauillac .....\$249.99**

95-100 points Wine Spectator: "Complex aromas of blackberries, citrus and tobacco. Currants. Subtle nose yet complex. You have to look under the surface. Full-bodied, with a big core of ripe fruit and superripe tannins. Thick and powerful. Chewy. Tannins come out of hiding and lash out on the finish."

**We don't want you to miss any shipments! Please get in touch with us:**

- Whenever you change your credit card number or the expiration date changes.
- Whenever you change shipping addresses or phone numbers.
- If you will be away when the shipment arrives during the first two weeks of the month. We will hold the shipment until you are there to receive it.
- To give us your e-mail address. Through e-mail, we can let you know of Wine Club member-only specials in a more timely fashion than through the Club newsletter.