

# SML-Uncorked

The Wine Newsletter of Supermarket Liquors  
Fort Collins, Colorado

Issue 6, February - March 2006

## February Wine-of-the-Month

**Sommer Alexander Valley Cabernet Sauvignon 2000**

**Reg. price: \$7.99**

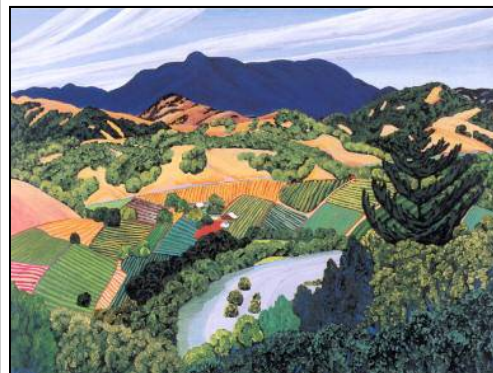
**Sale: \$6.99**

This is the second Cabernet Sauvignon featured as our wine-of-the-month since last September, and we are simply astounded at seeing such fabulous Cabernet values coming out of California, Sonoma County, no less.



Well, this is about as stylish and tasty a Cabernet as you can get for \$6.99! Laden with character rivaling what you might spend \$15 for, this 2000 Alexander Valley red carries huge reserves of blueberry, dark cherry, and cranberry-like flavors, hints of cedar, mocha, vanilla and ample tannins to provide focus and grip to its pleasing intensity. Here is real Alexander Valley Cabernet Sauvignon, substantial, complex, and bargain priced, that is guaranteed to catch the attention of any value-minded wine drinker.

\* newsletter prices on all wines are in effect through March 31 and limited to stock on hand



## Contents

Spero Winery.....	2
Reno's Choices.....	3
Barolo & Barbaresco.....	4



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## Spero Winery

### Spero Winery – Vino e` Buono

One of the more interesting developments over the last several years has been the tremendous increase in the quality of Colorado's wines. Friends, it's time to take notice of our home state wineries!

A decade ago, even five years back, Colorado estates were all too frequently producing flawed wines with obvious technical problems. Consultants arrived, shortcomings identified, solutions implemented, and now we are seeing some absolutely wonderful wines from across the state. We regularly taste wines that compete easily with comparably priced bottlings from the West Coast and around the world.

Part of the joy of Colorado wine is dealing with producers who actually grow the grapes and make the wine, people whose passion sweetens my appreciation of what they've accomplished. Colorado wine business is family business, the palate numbing blandness of corporate wine lies far in the future, thankfully. We were delighted at the wines we recently tasted from the Spero family winery in Denver. Yes, Denver! Clyde and June Spero's winery, located west of Federal Boulevard on 64<sup>th</sup> Avenue, was started in 1999 on land that until thirty or so years ago was truck farmed by north Denver Italian immigrants. Clyde ages all the wines in Missouri oak casks and bottles only when he feels their time has come. These 2001s are current releases made from Palisade grapes. They all show a purity of varietal character, force of flavor, kiss of oak, and soft tannins. All are drinking wonderfully now. It's clear that Mr. Spero has a deft winemaker's touch and we look forward to enjoying many more wines from his cellar. For a tour of the winery, contact June or Clyde at (720) 519-1506.



**All these wines are on the shelf at \$12.99 regular price, and on sale in this newsletter for \$11.99.**

In addition, we will offer the same \$1.00 per bottle refund the Spero's offer at the winery on their very stylish long-necked bottles!!

#### **Cabernet Sauvignon 2001 Sale \$11.99**

Varietally true, nicely textured, a thread of oak adds complexity to the berry-like flavors and aromas.

#### **Merlot 2001 Sale \$11.99**

Easy Merlot, shows the typical black cherry profile, softly textured, nice heft. A very satisfying glass of red.

#### **Cabernet Franc 2001 Sale \$11.99**

Cabernet Franc is a difficult customer under the best of conditions. This 2001 displays an attractive core of lush red fruits with a subtle note of herbs, the signature of Cabernet Franc. Well done, Clyde!

#### **Cabernet Sauvignon/Merlot Blend 2001 Sale \$11.99**

A 75/25 blend of Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot, this wine was the staff favorite. Fruity, juicy, very round in the mouth, with subtle hints of oak, a big mouthful of flavor.

#### **Plum Wine (Unfiltered) Sale \$11.99**

Unlike most plum wines, which are really grape wines to which plum flavorings are added, this is made wholly from plums, in this case Santa Rosa plums grown in Palisade. This is really a dessert wine, and would easily complement a red-fruit tart, or perhaps a chocolate mousse. Ignore the wine's cloudiness, Clyde felt that filtering would strip the wine of its sweet, intense, true plum character. Easily the best plum wine I've ever tasted. (TD)

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## Reno's Choices

### **Chateau Serilhan St. Estephe 2003**

**Reg. price \$19.99**

**Sale \$17.49**

Wines from this northernmost Haut Medoc district are generally the tightest, most unyielding of the top quality Bordeaux. In a warmer, drier vintage such as 2003 they are very much in demand, a year where the fruit reached optimal ripeness and the wines are richly colored, amply fruited, with ripe tannins and generally softer acids. This reliable small estate, one of several owned by M. Mancelis, produced a deep ruby/purple colored wine that is very ripe without being heavy, aggressive or ponderous. Straightforward, with excellent ripe fruit expression and roundness, this is a Bordeaux that is ready to drink, no long term cellaring needed, though additional complexity may be gained with 4-5 years of bottle age. It is reminiscent of California Cabernet/Merlot blends, though is a touch less alcoholic and less woody than those typically encountered in this price range from the North Coast, and has the typical Bordeaux "terroir" flavor and style, vibrancy, structure, verve. Yet, due to the heavier clay soils and generally cooler, more severe climate, this section of the Left Bank generally leans a bit more toward Merlot, replacing the high percentage of Cabernet Sauvignon found in the more southerly districts. This wine won the Gold Medal at the Brussels Concours Montal exposition. Outstanding value! Regularly 19.99

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### **Chateau Senejac Haut Medoc 2003**

**Reg. price \$18.99**

**Sale \$16.49**

Though a consistent and reliable property previously, the quality of the production at this estate has soared over the past decade, since its acquisition by M. Rustmann, proprietor of the well-known classified growth Chateau Talbot. This estate has been turning out top notch Haut Medoc and this vintage is one of their finest, with exceptional color, weight, depth and structure. It is a composition of 60% Cabernet Sauvignon, 30% Cabernet Franc, and 10% Merlot. The color is deep purple and the scents and flavors show currants, cedar, tobacco, and exotic sweet spices in a very well balanced, up-front, ripe-fruited style. Here is a fine Bordeaux value and very satisfying red for drinking over the next 5-6 years. Another excellent value!

### **Bert Simon Serriger Wurzburg Riesling**

**Auslese Goldkap 2003**

**Reg. price \$33.99**

**Sale \$29.99**

Here is one of those once in a lifetime wines where great vineyard, great producer and great vintage come together to create something extraordinary and rare. Wurzburg is arguably one of the world's greatest vineyard sites, a monopole, wholly owned by the Simon family. Bert is a respected and well-loved producer of some of the most thrilling up-river Saar wines. The 2003 vintage was one of those years you might see once in a lifetime, a quite perfect vintage. Simon produced no Kabinett wine in this vintage as the lowest must weight picked was 100 degrees Ochsle. This Auslese checks in at 122, normally what would be classified as mid-high Beerenauslese. It is dense, opulent, apricot nectar, peach concentrate, crushed strawberry flowers, compact, but with a great Riesling's ever-present fine backbone of acidity (7 g/l in this wine). This is a very noble sweet wine that will reward the patient with a very long cellar life, though once tasted I don't know how it will be possible for anyone to keep their hands off. This is truly a rare beauty and way underpriced for what is in this bottle. We have only a precious 20-something bottles left of this, so act decisively and hurriedly.

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*Every month we will highlight some of our finest and rarest wines for your consideration. This is an excellent opportunity to experience some of the world's greatest wines, cellar aged, at affordable prices.*

### **Haegelen-Jayer Burgundies**

Alfred Haegelen is proprietor of this tiny estate producing fragrant, intense, top-notch Burgundy from very old, low-yielding vines. The wines are rich and concentrated, intensely fragrant, simply superb Pinot Noir with lilac and turned-earth nuances. Mature, ready and willing.

### **Echezeaux Vieille Vignes 1996**

**Regular Price \$69.00**

### **Clos de Vougeot Vieille Vignes 1996**

**Regular Price \$75.00**

Buy the 2-bottle set, one bottle of each wine, this month only for **\$120.00**

## Barolo & Barbaresco

Italy's single greatest grape, Nebbiolo, realizes its true nobility in only some 4,000 acres of vineyards in and around the towns of Barolo and Barbaresco in the region known as Piemonte in northwest Italy. The antithesis of the lush, soft wines so common today, these austere reds evolve into ethereal masterpieces with extended cellar ageing, but show every bit of their stature when young, and, amazingly, continue to open and evolve on your kitchen counter for a week after you open them. We offer a wonderful array from some of the finest vintages in recent history, 1995 through 2001, from some of Italy's premier vintners, among them winemakers like Elio Altare and Enrico Scavino. This group represents arguably the finest group of red wines in our shop, and **we offer any of them to you at 10% off the prices listed.** Please ask for a member of the wine staff to ensure you get this discount at check-out.

### BAROLO

Altare Brunate 1995.....	\$65
Arborina 1996.....	\$69
Cavalotto Bricco Boschis 2000.....	\$50
Colla Bussia 1995.....	\$39
Contero Fantino Sori Ginestra 1995.....	\$53
Cordero di Montezemolo 1995.....	\$46
1999.....	\$40
Gaja Sperss 1991.....	\$75
Icardi Parej 1995.....	\$40
Manzone Le Gramolere 2000.....	\$45
2001.....	\$47
Marengo 2000.....	\$53
Mascarello 1995.....	\$75
Luigi Pira 1993.....	\$46
Giuseppe Rinaldi 1995.....	\$50
Brunate 1995.....	\$59
Scavino 2001.....	\$46
Mauro Sebaste Prapo 1995.....	\$43
Monvigliero 1995.....	\$43
Eraldo Viberti 1995.....	\$53

### BARBARESCO

Ca' Rome Reserva 1993.....	\$39
Gaja 1993.....	\$125
Moccagatta Bric Balin 1997.....	\$60
Elvio Pertinace 1996.....	\$37
Castellizzano 1997.....	\$45
Marcarini 1997.....	\$45
Produttori del Barbaresco 1995.....	\$25
Risv Asili 1995.....	\$44
Risv Montestefano 1995.....	\$45
Risv Rabaja 1995.....	\$44
Risv Rabaja 1996.....	\$45
Albino Rocca Loreto 1999.....	\$59
Brich Ronchi 1999.....	\$60
Dante Rivetti Risv Bricco De Neueis 1996.....	\$40
Mauro Sebaste Montestefano 1996.....	\$49
Stefano Farina 1997.....	\$33

**To place an order, contact us at:**

**Supermarket Liquors**  
 1300 East Mulberry Street  
 Fort Collins, CO 80524  
 970-221-2428  
[wine@sml-uncorked.com](mailto:wine@sml-uncorked.com)

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