

PIEDMONT POST

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22

Piedmont, California

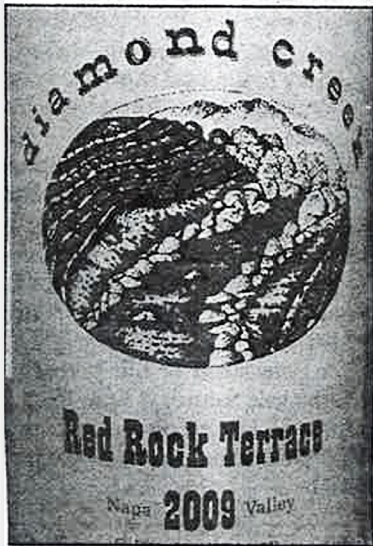


The Wine Corner

New California Cabernets – cream of the crop

By Pierre DuMont

Cabernet Sauvignon is the most successful wine grape in the world. It's not the most widely planted – that distinction goes to the non-descript Spanish varietal Airen. It's not the most popular – Pinot Noir is the



Photos by Pierre DuMont

Photo one: 2009 Diamond Creek Cabernet Sauvignon Red Rock Terrace

hot new grape. Its success is due to the fact that it has been transplanted with such notable success to so many different corners of the earth. From its original homeland in Bordeaux it has made its way to hundreds of wine growing areas, but none so suc-

cessfully as California.

California Cabernet Sauvignon is without a doubt one of the world's great wines. The best examples offer power, vividness of flavor, and tremendous ageing potential. They remain an essential part of the well-stocked cellar. Every year the California Cabernet Society creates a "Cabernet Heaven" by pulling together over 70 of the best producers in the state to pour their current releases and their latest barrel samples. The overall quality level of the wines at this tasting is very high and it makes it difficult to select the winners.

At the end of the day there are some wines that are just more memorable. There is something about them that makes them stand out from the crowd. The following wines were the cream of the crop – wines I could not forget.

• 2009 Diamond Creek Cabernet Sauvignon Red Rock Terrace

This is the seventh year in a row that Diamond Creek has been one of the top 10 Cabernets. Often it is the top wine of the tasting. This year is no exception. The Red Rock Terrace has the classic Cab nose of cassis, blackberries, earth and spice. In the mouth it is rich and opulent with multiple layers of cherry, plum and blueberry fruit. The wine is structured and firm and the solid tannin on the finish should ensure more

than two decades of drinking life. This is textbook Calif. Cab. www.diamondcreekvineyards.com

• 2008 Mario Bazan Cabernet Sauvignon

Mario Bazan, an immigrant from Oaxaca, Mexico, arrived in Napa Valley in 1973 and started picking grapes. How he worked his way up the ladder to producing his own wine is a pretty amazing story. What counts however is what is in the bottle, and this wine is a stunner. An opulent nose of blackberries and



2008 Mario Bazan Cabernet Sauvignon

wildflowers followed by lush plum and berry fruit with earth and leather notes for complexity. It is a big-boned wine with plenty of tannin and fruit stuffing for long aging. I'm sure glad they didn't have the border fence up in '73. www.mariobazancellars.com

• 2008 Raymond Cabernet Sauvignon "Generations"

This starts off with a lovely perfumed nose of vanilla oak from the 100% new barrels used for ageing. It is medium bodied with flavors of cassis, cherry and chocolate. The finish is long and supple and the wine should hold up for at least a decade. www.raymondvineyards.com

WEDDING

Tyler Wulfsberg married

Tyler Wulfsberg, Chief, USN and Brittany Orr were married at the Claremont Country Club on April 21 at a formal military and black tie wedding. The ceremony was officiated by Dr. Ronald Gruber, Tyler's lifelong friend and mentor.

Tyler's brother, Todd Wulfsberg, served as best man, and Cally Orr, the bride's sister, was maid of honor.

Parents of the groom, Jim and Janet Wulfsberg of Piedmont and Brittany's parents, Jim Orr of Bellingham, Washington and Joyce Orr of Gainesville, Florida, participated in the celebration of their children's wedding.

Many of Tyler's teammates, friends and family and Brittany's friends and family traveled from distant locales to the wedding ceremony.

Following a rehearsal dinner in the Caves of the famed Vine Cliff Winery on the Silverado Trail in the Napa Valley, the bride and groom continued their wedding festivities with dinner and dancing to the music of Livewire and the Spazmaties bands at the Claremont Country

Dear Abby

By Abby, a Bernese Mountain Dog

Take me out to

Dear Abby:

The Giants and A's are in full gear. Can you see them?

Take me out to the ball game

Crossword Puzzle

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14					15					16		
17					18					19		