



The Great American Holiday...

The legend of wine sales people and wholesalers traipsing around California and "discovering" new wineries is one often told. I can't tell you how many stories I have heard about when they first brought X winery into Massachusetts or America. As the business has grown and wine companies have become global entities, there are fewer and fewer of these wine Christopher Columbus' exploring the various wine regions of the World. This month's **Connoisseurs' Club** features wines from two of these folks. These are two of the smaller distributors we deal with at **Table & Vine**, and their passion for fine wine and unearthing a new gem is palpable and contagious. The truth is, these people spend a good chunk of their time not trying to make sales numbers, but rather sourcing great wines in the places they are produced, and shouldn't that be what this is all about?

Vino Lock a new type of closure.

There are many ways that a winemaker can package and close wines to get them from his winery to your table. There is of course traditional cork, imitation cork, Bag-in-the-Box, screwcaps and now, we present to you, **Vino Lock**. I remember exactly the first time I saw one. It was at a German and Austrian tasting where Bert Salomon was showing it off. He had invested in it for some of his wines. The advantages are that there is no risk of cork taint, or "corked" bottles. It also snaps back into place so there is a perfect seal for the wine remaining in the bottle. I know many of you are thinking that this form of closure may not allow wines to age. The interaction of air is limited, however many recent studies suggest that most of the oxidation of aging wine occurs from the air bubbles between the cork and the wine that still exists in these bottles. Personally, I LOVE IT! Every time I open a corked bottle I am disappointed, and with this new closure, I always get what the winemaker wanted me to taste.
Now we have closure!



Don't Forget...



You have until the 30th of November, 2008 to order solid cases of either (or both) wine(s) at the special price of **\$183.49 (shipping and handling included).**

Better Get Them Before They're All Gone!

It is our sincerest wish that you derive as much pleasure from the consumption of these wines as **Table & Vine's** staff did from their discovery. We genuinely hope that you are sufficiently pleased with the selections, that your word-of-mouth endorsement of them to your friends and family helps spread the news of the exciting benefits of membership in our **Connoisseurs' Wine Club**.

The next series of selections will be on its way to your home or office on the 15th of January 2009.

To Order Either Selection by the Case...

Name _____

Shipping Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Daytime Phone _____

Email _____

Preferred Customer Card # _____

Yes, please send me:

__ case(s) of Proulx Petite Sirah 2005

__ case(s) of Sineann Riesling 2007

**Fill out this form and return it to
Table & Vine • 1119 Riverdale Street, Route 5
West Springfield, MA 01089**

TABLE & VINE
Connoisseurs'
wine club

The Season of
Taste
November 2008



Proulx Petite Sirah 2005

Kevin Riley is an east-coaster hailing from Westport, Connecticut, but after high school this young man went west to learn about wine. He received a Bachelors Degree in 2002 from Cal Poly and has been the head winemaker at **Sextant Winery** in San Luis Obispo, California ever since. Life took a turn for Kevin and his wife Genoa, when, in 2004, they began making wine from her family's vineyard in Paso Robles, California. Kevin farms the 55 year old vineyard in Paso Robles and they produce well under 3,000 cases per year under the **Proulx** and **Blackburn** labels.

Petite Sirah is a hybrid grape, created in the late 1800's by Dr. Durif. In France, they call it Durif—the cross is Syrah and Peloursin. The idea was to make a grape that would resist mildew, but unfortunately while that was accomplished there are other types of rot that easily affect these grapes. However, in California, rot is less of an issue and Durif has been grown there as **Petite Sirah** for more than a century. Wines from **Petite Sirah** always taste to me like a hypothetical blend of Syrah and California's Red Zin. The **Proulx** is no exception. Ripe blackberry fruit and terrific spice, this wine smells beautiful in the glass and then tastes great in the mouth. Fewer than 200 cases were produced so this is a rare treat that will do a fine job at your Thanksgiving table... so long as you don't have your heart set on Pinot Noir! This is big boy stuff!

Sineann Riesling 2007

Based in Yamhill County Oregon, **Sineann** is a small winery devoted to the production of high-quality wines. Peter Rosback was one of the founders with a friend of his who has since moved onto his own winery, but Peter remains at his **Sineann** and his passion and drive continues to make this winery one of the best in America! Originally, the focus was on wines from Oregon and Washington State, but have since broadened the scope, and are now sourcing grapes from New Zealand and Napa Valley. I tasted **Sineann Pinot Gris** quite some time ago and have always had this idea that we should feature it because the quality is outstanding! Since that introduction, I have tasted just about everything that has come to Massachusetts from **Sineann**; Pinot Noir, Bordeaux varieties and this amazing **Riesling**.

The **Riesling** comes from the **Medici Vineyard** which was planted in 1976. Peter Rosback is the winemaker for the Medici's label as well as his **Sineann**. This **Riesling** is absolutely stunning! It explodes from the glass with the limestone flavor and rich texture that great dry Riesling has from anywhere. When I visited Austria in 2001, I tasted many wines like this and I have to say that as much as I like dry Riesling, many of them are too tart for most people. This wine has that crowd-pleasing juiciness that keeps dry wine from being too sharp. It also has a wonderful combination of citrus and orchard fruit flavors—like lemon and granny smith apples. An amazing treat that is produced in tiny quantities! I am so pleased to have this wine to share.

Mark J. Lee Jr.

