



2006 BETZ FAMILY REDS

The 2006 Betz Family Red 'Clos de Betz' is a blend of 47% Merlot, 30% Cabernet Sauvignon, 13% Cabernet Franc, and 10% Malbec. The Merlot sets the base for the flavor, offering a kirsch and blueberry component. The depth and complexity come from the Cabernets, offering hints of espresso and chocolate. The 2006 Betz Family Cabernet Sauvignon 'Père de Famille' is a blend of 84% Cabernet Sauvignon, 8% Merlot, 6% Petit Verdot, and 2% Malbec. This year it has a striking aroma of black currants and black plums. Tobacco, sweet spices, and sandalwood scents add complexity. On the palate, a powerful, yet well-rounded texture complements the prominent fruit character. *As always, we have a few magnums of each—please inquire.*

2006 Betz Family Red 'Clos de Betz'		
Columbia Valley (Limited)	42.95	net
2006 Betz Family Cabernet Sauvignon		
'Père de Famille' (Limited)	56.95	net

2006 WILLAKENZIE ESTATE

Our annual tasting of the single-vineyard WillaKenzie Estate Pinot Noirs will take place on Saturday, March 21st. Winemaker Thibaud Mandet will be at the shops to discuss the vintage, sign bottles, and answer questions. This is a great opportunity to taste the wide range of varying flavors and textures of the different parcels of land on the estate.

2006 WillaKenzie Estate Pinot Noir		
Willamette Valley (Stelvin)	24.00	19.92VS
2006 WillaKenzie Estate Pinot Noir 'Pierre Léon'		
Willamette Valley (Limited)	39.00	32.37VS
2006 WillaKenzie Estate Pinot Noir 'Alette'		
Willamette Valley (Limited)	45.00	37.35VS
2006 WillaKenzie Estate Pinot Noir 'Kiana'		
Willamette Valley (Limited)	45.00	37.35VS
2006 WillaKenzie Estate Pinot Noir 'Emery'		
Willamette Valley (Limited)	45.00	37.35VS
2006 WillaKenzie Estate Pinot Noir 'Terres Basses'		
Willamette Valley (Limited)	60.00	49.80VS
2006 WillaKenzie Estate Pinot Noir		
'Triple Black Slopes'		
Willamette Valley (Limited)	60.00	49.80VS

Taste a selection of these wines on Saturday, March 21st at both shops from 11AM-5PM

Thibaud Mandet will be at the Ravenna shop from 11:30AM-2:00PM and at the Queen Anne shop from 2:30PM-5PM

A VISIT FROM VIETTI - LUCA

Welcome winemaker Luca Currado to the shops on Saturday, March 7th. This is always among our most well attended events of the year. Come in and taste the current releases, have Luca sign a few bottles, and savor the old world charm he brings.

2007 Vietti Arneis		
Roero	26.00	21.58VS
2006 Vietti Barbera d'Asti		
'Tre Vigne'	20.00	16.60VS
2006 Vietti Barbera d'Alba		
'Tre Vigne'	32.00	26.56VS
2005 Vietti Barolo		
'Castiglione Falletto'	53.00	43.99VS
2007 Vietti Moscato d'Asti		
'Cascinetta Vietti'	18.00	14.94VS

*Taste a selection of these wines on Saturday, March 7th at both shops from 11AM-5PM
Luca Currado will be at the Ravenna shop from 11:30AM-2:00PM and at the Queen Anne shop from 2:30PM-5PM*

SOTER PINOT NOIRS

We are honored to have winemaking legend Tony Soter visit our shops. In the mid-1980s, Tony worked as a consulting winemaker in the Napa Valley, assisting luminaries such as Araujo, Niebaum-Coppola, Shafer, Spottswoode, Viader, and Dalle Valle. Today, Tony and his wife Michelle make handcrafted Pinot Noirs from vineyards in Oregon and a marvelous red from Napa Valley fruit. Come in and meet Tony and sample his wines on Saturday, March 28th at both shops.

2006 Soter Vineyards Pinot Noir 'North Valley'		
Willamette Valley	42.00	34.86VS
2006 Soter Vineyards Pinot Noir 'Beacon Hill'		
Willamette Valley	65.00	53.95VS
2006 Soter Vineyards Pinot Noir 'Mineral Springs'		
Willamette Valley	72.00	59.76VS
2004 Soter Vineyards Red 'Little Creek'		
Napa Valley	83.00	68.89VS

*Taste these wines on Saturday, March 28th at both shops from 11AM-5PM
Tony Soter will be at the Ravenna shop from 11:30AM-2:00PM and at the Queen Anne shop from 2:30PM-5PM*

The two prices reflected in this newsletter are the regular retail and the Vintage Select discount price. The Vintage Select Club is a buyer's club which saves you 17% on wine purchases (paid by cash or check) whether you buy them by the case or by the bottle. In addition, you are mailed this monthly newsletter which details the new releases, special prices and gives you advance notice of the arrival of hot new wines.

Lifetime membership fee is \$100. Be sure that you're getting the most for your money...join the Vintage Select Club.

THE BISHOP'S BLEND

A great new find is the 2006 William Church red 'Bishop's Blend'. It is a rich, smooth, and easy-to-quaff red crafted by consulting enologist Erica Orr. Bishop's Blend is 65% Cabernet Sauvignon, 12% Petit Verdot, 9% Merlot, 6% Malbec, 4% Syrah, and 4% Sangiovese that was aged for 15 months in new and used oak barrels. This is a great wine for weeknight sipping.

2006 William Church Red 'Bishop's Blend'

Columbia Valley 19.00 15.77VS

2006 DARBY REDS

Seattle native Darby English started his winery in a small base-ment in West Seattle and quickly grew to a size that required a larger facility. Now located in the Woodinville wine district, Darby strives to blend lots from top-notch vineyards around the state, rather than singling out specific sites. We found his wines to have amazingly subtle and gentle flavors supported by bold tannins and wonderful textures. The 2006 Darby Red 'Purple Haze' is a blend of 45% Cabernet Sauvignon, 20% Cabernet Franc, 18% Merlot, and 17% Petit Verdot that has a delicious nature we just love to taste. The 2006 Darby Syrah 'The Dark Side' has a mineral-rich flavor and lots of pure Syrah fruit. It is a generous wine with nothing hard or tough about it.

2006 Darby Red 'Purple Haze'

Columbia Valley 20.00 16.60VS

2006 Darby Syrah 'The Dark Side'

Walla Walla Valley 25.00 20.75VS

FOUNDRY VINEYARDS

The 2007 Foundry Vineyards 'White on White' is a delightful blend of 70% Chardonnay and 30% Viognier that shows the body and texture of Chardonnay with the spice and bright flavor of Viognier. It is a superb value at \$18. The 2005 Foundry Red is a blend of 60% Cabernet Sauvignon and 40% Merlot from Walla Walla Valley sources that is a major bargain considering the \$18 price.

2007 Foundry Vineyards 'White on White'

Columbia Valley 18.00 14.94VS

2005 Foundry Vineyards Red

Columbia Valley 18.00 14.94VS

2006 BAER 'URSA'

The 2006 Baer Red 'Ursa' has just been released. The wine was blended under the guidance of consulting enologist Erica Orr, whose work is lending grace and elegance to many Woodinville wineries' offerings. This blend of 50% Merlot, 24% Cabernet Franc, 17% Cabernet Sauvignon, 7% Malbec, and 2% Petit Verdot is styled to resemble a 'right bank' (Saint-Emilion or Pomerol) wine. Showing lots of complex red fruits – plums, raspberries, and cherries – it has notes of tobacco and cedar from barrel aging, and has an early-drinking style.

2006 Baer Red 'Ursa'

Columbia Valley (Limited) 35.00 29.05VS

2006 STEPPE SEMILLON

The 2006 Steppe Cellars Semillon is a pure example of Semillon. The varietal character of fig is omnipresent and the wine has developed nicely with a year of bottle age. It is a lovely wine with hints of pear, yellow apple, and vanilla.

2006 Steppe Cellars Semillon

Yakima Valley 15.00 12.45VS

OWEN ROE

Just as we were going to print with this newsletter, we received word that the following new releases from David O'Reilly of Owen Roe Winery are about to arrive. Based on his track record of excellent winemaking, we are featuring these prior to sampling.

2008 Owen Roe Pinot Gris 'Crawford-Beck Vineyard'

Eola-Amity Hills 21.00 17.43VS

2007 Owen Roe Syrah 'Ex Umbris'

Columbia Valley 25.00 20.75VS

2007 Owen Roe Cabernet Franc 'Rosa Mystica'

Yakima Valley 43.00 35.69VS

2007 Owen Roe Pinot Noir

Eola-Amity Hills 43.00 35.69VS

2006 PATTON VALLEY PINOT NOIR

The 2006 Patton Valley Pinot Noir is a lovely example of non-intrusive winemaking. Natural yeasts, minimal racking, and no additions result is a wine that is delicious and pure. This is a great Pinot Noir to pair with spring salmon.

2006 Patton Valley Pinot Noir

Willamette Valley 35.00 29.05VS

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2007 AUTARD CÔTES DU RHÔNE

A blend of 80% Grenache, 15% Syrah, and 5% Mourvèdre, the 2007 Domaine Paul Autard Côtes du Rhône is a deeply colored, aromatic wine that features black plum, cassis and currant flavors. In 2007, the weather in the Rhône Valley was extremely dry and quite hot from June through September. Autard's vines average 50 years (from 40-94 years of age) so his yields are naturally low, resulting in intensely flavored wine. The wine was aged in stainless steel tanks, but by looking at the color you would guess that it was aged in new oak barrels. This is a great wine for stews and comfort foods.

2007 Domaine Paul Autard Côtes du Rhône

Rhône Valley 12.00 9.96VS

*Taste this wine on Saturday,
March 14th at both shops from 11AM-5PM*

2007 AUVIGUE SAINT-VÉРАН

Winemaker Jean-Pierre Auvigue produced the 2007 Auvigue Saint-Véran using fruit from 'The Oaks' vineyard, located in Saint-Véran's most highly regarded commune. It is a refreshing Chardonnay with mineral notes and ripe apple flavor. Good acidity and just enough oak make it a perfect complement to Northwest seafoods.

2007 Auvigue Saint-Véran

'Les Chênes' 23.00 19.09VS

*Taste this wine on Saturday,
March 14th at both shops from 11AM-5PM*

2006 CLOS-DU-CHÂTEAU

We have loved this wine in a number of vintages. It has been called a "poor man's Puligny" and a "wannabe Montrachet" but truthfully, it is a Bourgogne Blanc from a great site. The walled 'clos' of the Chateau de Puligny-Montrachet is the parcel where the grapes are grown. The 2006 vintage is amazing but there is a notable caveat—this wine contains large chunks of tartrate crystals. If you can overlook this visual issue (*the sediment drops to the bottom of the bottle*), you can enjoy a stunning wine that really is an overachiever.

2006 Château de Puligny-Montrachet Bourgogne Blanc

'Clos-du-Château' 32.00 26.56VS

*Taste this wine on Saturday,
March 14th at both shops from 11AM-5PM*

2004 FATTORIA DI BOSSI CHIANTI

The soft, stylish, supple texture of the 2004 Fattoria di Bossi Chianti Classico is what we love about wines from Castelnuovo Berardenga. The wine shows a deep ruby color with sweet, toasty notes of oak underneath prominent ripe cherry and violet scents. It is a medium weight wine with more flavor than body, making it the ideal match for veal and rabbit.

2004 Fattoria di Bossi Chianti Classico

Castelnuovo Berardenga 20.00 16.60VS

2006 HACIENDA DON RAMÓN

The 2006 Hacienda Don Ramón Rioja is made with grapes from head-pruned 45-year old Tempranillo. The vines grow in two regions of Rioja Alta—Villalba and Haro. The soils are rich with river rocks, sand, and limestone. Winemaker Rodolfo Bastida of Ramon ages the wine in 85% French and 15% American oak for eight months. It is bottled unfiltered after only one racking. The wine is redolent of dark cherries, plums, sweet spices, and mocha. It is a forward wine with lots of the supple fruit. This is an excellent value.

2006 Hacienda Don Ramón

Rioja 13.00 10.79VS

2007 VON SIMMERN RIESLING

Tasty and perfect for Spring, the 2007 Langwerth von Simmern Hattenheimer Nussbrunnen Riesling Kabinett shows lots of spiced apple flavor with a hint of kiwi fruit. The charming yet significant acidity gives it a stoney richness that makes one think Mosel, yet there is a faint cinnamon hint that tells one it is a Rheingau wine. This is a sexy white.

2007 Langwerth von Simmern Riesling Kabinett

Hattenheimer Nussbrunnen 18.00 14.94VS

2006 DUCKHORN MERLOT

The 2006 growing season in Napa Valley fostered complex and intense flavor and aroma development, making it an ideal year for Merlot. The 2006 Duckhorn Merlot is a blend of 96% Merlot, 2% Cabernet Sauvignon, and 2% Petit Verdot. There is a seductive quality to this wine that is a combination of its new French oak character and the sweet berry flavor of fully ripe Merlot. Try this wine with flank steak, and recall the Napa Valley flavors of past decades.

2006 Duckhorn Vineyards Merlot

Napa Valley 52.00 43.16VS

Queen Anne Hours

Tuesday-Friday 11-7

Saturday 10-6

Closed Sunday & Monday

Ravenna Hours

Tuesday-Friday 10:30-6:30

Saturday 10-6

Closed Sunday & Monday



