

Winter 2016

GRAPE PRESS

"In wine there is truth." — Roman Proverb

BACCHUS: ALL TOGETHER NOW

The Wine Sellers' seventeenth annual Autumn Bacchus Fest was one of the most popular to date, based on orders taken during the event. The evening at the Marina Grand Resort in New Buffalo was memorably filled with tastings, wine talk and hospitality.

Bacchus featured more than 90 sublime wines created by brilliant craftsmen from around the world. Orders during the event received significant discounts. This year, there was also a special table, presented by Rick Cooper, who represents the award-winning Lake Michigan Shore Appellation wines of Cody Kresta Vineyard and Winery from Mattawan, Michigan.

What is extraordinary about Bacchus is the sense of shared involvement. It's a gathering of kindred spirits, and a collaborative event. Jacqui curates the wine list with wise counsel from her most respected distributor representatives. Our guests make the final contribution – their judgment. [Continued on Pg 2](#)



Stuart Allen and the wines of Imperial Beverage draw a crowd

BACCHUS FAVORITES

As a fall event, Bacchus spotlights wines of the season. With winter approaching, big reds and red blends dominated our top-selling list.

Alpha Omega 2011 99 Red \$52

This Bordeaux blend is mostly cabernet sauvignon with merlot, petit verdot and cabernet franc. Inky in the glass with juicy and explosive bright fruit – more red than black. Big and bold with mouth coating texture. Produced in collaboration with famed enologist, Michel Rolland.

Desparada 2013 Sackcloth & Ashes \$43

Mostly cabernet sauvignon, plus cabernet franc, malbec, petit verdot, sangiovese and merlot. Winemaker Vailia Esh describes: "... warm chocolate croissant, cherry rugelach, country dust, red velvet cake, new bones, prairie fire, hot wooden fence, crisp pizza crust, baseball-sized ripe blackberry, fire roasted poblano pepper and sweet espresso." Lush and luxurious. Almost impossible to touch a wine of this caliber at this price.

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BACCHUS: ALL TOGETHER NOW Continued

Every customer opinion is valued. We listen when our Bacchus guests rave about a wine they've discovered. When we hear how qualified the facilitators were. When a couple told Jacqui how much they had learned in one evening. When we determine what Bacchus wines were the biggest sellers. (We should also add the many enthusiastic compliments Chef Jenny received for her food buffet, an integral component of the festive evening.)

This "voice of the customer" is crucial. For two decades, we have relied on you as the ultimate arbiters of good taste, and Bacchus has become a keystone customer-centered event. The wines in our shop reflect you. They mirror your seasoned or less experienced palate. Even your willingness to step out of your comfort zone and explore new wine experiences.

If you haven't taken part in Bacchus or our summer Top 50 event, your invitation for next year awaits. (If you aren't on our email list, let us know.) In the meantime, continue the collaboration. The wines of Bacchus are featured in the shop for you to enjoy. Your opinion and good taste counts!



Tasting the Mix of Six



Callie Christian of AHD Vintners pours



Al Kobayashi of Cana Distributors

A generous thank you to our facilitators at Bacchus:

Stuart Allen
Imperial Beverage

Debby Bowser
Great Lakes
Wine & Spirits

Callie Christian and
Greg Bush
AHD Vintners

Rick Cooper
Cody Kresta Vineyard
& Winery

Ken Kelly
Woodberry

Al Kobayashi
Cana

James VanDerKolk
I-llixir

Champagne: ANYONE FOR FARMER FIZZ?

TWS has once again assembled an outstanding selection of champagnes and sparkling wines for your holiday celebrations. (And as you look back on 2016, offer a special toast for the Cubs!)

One happy choice comes from André Delorme. Their Brut Reserve Cuvée Rosé (\$15) is a lively and well-structured sparkling rosé, brimming with bright red fruit and intensity. Or choose their Brut Reserve Blanc de Blancs (\$15), a delectable sparkling wine made in traditional Champagne style with Chardonnay and Aligote grapes. It's dry, with bright fruit, pinpoint bubbles and a lingering finish.

Many of our more exclusive favorites are known as grower champagnes, affectionately known as farmer fizz because the producer is hands on throughout the entire process: growing, harvesting and winemaking.

BACCHUS FAVORITES

Continued

The Fableist "774" 2014 Pinot Noir \$26

Inviting aromatics show earth, cola, ripe olives and spice. On the palate, black cherries, blue raspberries and vanilla Coke. Medium to full palate with balanced acidity and a baking spice finish.

Mix of Six \$87

An entire table was devoted to the popular mix of six 2014 Bordeaux Gold Medal Winners. Makes an impressive gift (give one to yourself!).



Chateau Chauvet 2014 Bordeaux—Gold Medal Bordeaux

Chateau Haut-Bardin 2014 Bordeaux—Gold Medal Bordeaux

Chateau Haut-Moulin 2014 Bordeaux—Gold Medal Paris

Chateau Florie Aude 2014 Bordeaux—Gold Medal Macon

Chateau Talaise 2014 Bordeaux—Gold Medal Paris

Chateau Jean De Bel Air 2014 Bordeaux—Gold Medal Lyon

In the Shop:

WINE BASKETS

Let the Wine Sellers create a wine basket personalized for your loved one's tastes... and your budget. Wine makes a thoughtful, intimate gift, a sophisticated corporate presentation, or perhaps there are some snowbirds in your life who need a little Michiana to remember while they're away. We accept orders up to December 22!

WINE GROWLER

The ICY-HOT Seven Fifty Wine Growler continues to be one of our most popular in-shop items. These lightweight, stainless steel containers (with the wine-themed colors) keep wine cold or at optimal temperature all day, wherever you go.
\$29

VINRELLA

***It isn't a
dry wine.
It keeps
you dry!***

Vinrella's chic and clever no-drip design seals your wet umbrella away in a wine-themed bottle to protect your purse or briefcase.

Comes with its own umbrella. The bottle is ABS plastic, with a concealed loop handle. An irresistible, practical gift.
\$21



Tastings Keep Us Busy, Informed

Wine is a constantly evolving landscape. One of the most helpful navigators is the wine seminar and tasting. Jacqui always maintains a full schedule of these events to keep her palate up-to-date and to be well-prepared with knowledgeable advice for all your wine requests. If you would like more information about tastings and the particular wines we've sampled, then let's talk!



Jacqui attended the Wines of Portugal masterclass

SEPTEMBER

- Monsieur Touton Selection, Fine Wines of France; Grand Rapids
- Woodberry Wines, Portfolio Tasting Event; Grand Rapids
- Imperial Beverage Portfolio Tasting Event; Detroit

OCTOBER

- Instituto del Vino italiano di qualità guided tasting and seminar led by IGM President, Piero Mastroberardino; Chicago
- Wines of Portugal masterclass with Evan Goldstein, followed by walk around tasting; Chicago
- Masterclass and lunch with Kevin Judd of Greywacke, New Zealand; Chicago

NOVEMBER

- Big Boys and Bubbles Trade Event; Grand Rapids
- New Zealand Wine Trade Seminar and Tasting; Chicago
- Lugana Consorzio special luncheon and walk around tasting, facilitated by author Tom Hyland; Chicago

HAVE A WINE BY THE FIRESIDE

The cold has lost its bite. The wind has lost its howl. The snow has lost its sting. Even the most brutal winter is defeated by a place at the fireside with (ahhh!) a glass of wine.

Fireside Wines are your hearty winter companions. We've selected some of our most robust Bacchus Fest wines to put winter in its place. So it's goodbye winter blues, hello Fireside reds.

BTR Cellars – 2014 The Vincent \$23

100% chardonnay from Washington State. Spiced pear and traces of pineapple before giving way to a palate featuring green apple and ripe citrus. Mouthfeel is relatively full, with more rich apple and stone-fruit tones. Finish is balanced by round, buoyant and mouthwatering acidity.

Patient Cottat 2012 Pinot Noir Le Grand Caillou \$18

100% Pinot Noir from a well-known Loire Valley producer. An elegant and round wine at an unbelievable price. A bright and clear color, showing notes of earth, raspberries, blackcurrant,

limestone and spices. The fruit sourcing: 50% from the Loire Valley and 50% from Burgundy. Genius!

Chamonix 2013 Rouge \$21

35% cabernet sauvignon, 34% merlot, 11% Malbec, and 20% petite verdot. Generous bouquet suggests black currant, cedar with scents reminiscent of red berries, spices and vanilla. Ample structured, full, round and smooth on the palate with rich fruit and dried herbs. Franschoek, South Africa.

Tenet Wines 2014 The Pundit \$26

88% syrah, 6% grenache, 4% mourvèdre, 2% Viognier (co-fermented with Syrah).

Deep purple, inky, saturated with a ton of character. Ripe cherry and plum aromas are complemented by earthy undercurrents of smoky cocoa and cola, and highlighted by traces of citrus blossom and lemon. Smooth mouthfeel glides into a long, silky finish with flavors of red cherry and blackberry, hints of toasted vanilla, and a tantalizing slate element. Definite WOW factor!

Cantine Lenotti 2014 Bardolino Classico \$14.99

Medium weight, quite dry with good cherry fruit and a bit of spice. Traditional blend of mostly corvina and rondinella with 10% other indigenous grapes. Just the faintest hint

of tannin and a nice dry finish. Great with pizza, pasta or nothing at all! Drinks almost too easily, and can easily take a bit of a chill. Veneto region, Italy.

Ghostrider Ungrafted Red 2015 \$15.95

Bold and spicy blend of cabernet sauvignon, petite sirah, syrah and zinfandel. Displays earthy notes, along with tanned leather, and cedar box, too. A blast of bright red fruit, mingling with blackberries and charming spice all the way. Great case buy! From Lodi, California.

WINES TO WATCH

Long Shadows 2014 Poet's Leap Riesling

\$24.50 (case price \$22.05)

Think you don't like riesling? Guess again! Key lime and fresh citrus peel aromas and a faint whiff of petrol give way to vivid layers of white peach and stone fruit flavors accented by a pleasant touch of minerality and lime pith. Delicious natural acidity and just a hint of residual sugar provide a balanced, vibrant mouth-feel and lengthy finish. From Washington State.

Drouhin 2014 Roserock Oregon

\$39.50 (case price \$35.55)

Classic cool-climate Pinot Noir from Willamette Valley. Deep red color and a nose that is floral and spicy, with an intense, savory character. On palate, notes of dark berry preserves, a touch of caramel, black cherry, dried flowers, and tilled earth. Displays clear structure and balance, with good mouth weight and a superb long finish. Drink now through 2028. LIVE-certified sustainable.

Daou 2014 The Pessimist

\$34.00 (case price \$30.60)

Inky, fleshy, blackberry-liqueur scented red for hedonists, 52% syrah, 26% zinfandel, 18% petite sirah, 3% tannat and a bit of grenache. Gorgeous crème de cassis, black cherry, boysenberries, and toasted vanilla beans accompanied with sweet tannins and purity of fruit. Firm, elegant tannins balance the powerhouse of fruit and lead to a lasting finish of black pepper, pipe tobacco and spicy oak. Prepare to have your olfactories rocked!

For more immediate, time-sensitive news, follow The Wine Sellers on [Facebook](#).



www.thewinesellersmichigan.com



Every day is
10-percent day!
Buy one case
(even mix
or match),
10-percent off!

16409 B Red Arrow Hwy, Union Pier, Michigan 49129

Winter hours you'll find us in the shop most weekends. Just to make sure, phone first at 888-824-WINE.

We will be on hiatus February, March and April.

We accept American Express, VISA, Mastercard, Discover and Diners Club.

The Wine Sellers is wheelchair accessible.