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**Subject:** Cabernet Sauvignon Wine Tasting at Santiam Wine and Bistro  
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Good Evening, I know it is a busy time of year for us all. But, you need time to relax and we have planned this spectacular wine tasting for Friday night and I sure hope you can join us! I have three from Washington and three from California!

Where: Santiam Wine & Bistro  
When: Friday, December 5th  
Time: 4 P.M.-8 P.M.  
Cost: Full Pour \$24 Half Pour: \$14

The Wines:

### **2009 Don Carlo Cabernet Sauvignon Milton-Freewater, OR \$29**

This wine offers a complex bouquet and flavor that delights and inspires us. A deep rich red wine harvested from the Don Carlo Vineyard, it blends all of the harmonious aromas of dark berries, oak, herbs and chocolate along with just the right match of tannins into an elegant round wine. Full body and long finish that will linger and delight.

### **2010 Zerba Cabernet Sauvignon Milton-Freewater, OR \$30**

Our 2010 Cabernet Sauvignon showcases Cab off of the rocky floodplain of the Walla Walla River – blending it with Cab from our higher altitude Cockburn Vineyard. This full-bodied red offers bold aromas of black cherry, currant, leather, and vanilla that evolve into more cherry and red plum flavors in the mouth accompanied by big but gentle tannins that linger and linger...

### **2010 Double Canyon Horse Heaven Hills Cabernet Sauvignon \$40**

Polished, round, expressive and harmonious, layering its creamy, pure black currant, blackberry, floral and gentle spice flavors into the lovely, focused finish. Drink now through 2020 **93 Points Wine Spectator**

### **2011 Honig Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon \$40**

This Cabernet is medium-bodied, with aromas and flavors of red cherry, and plum, alongside anise, black tea, vanilla, white pepper and dried herbs. The finish has the perfect balance of bright fruit, elegantly proportioned tannins, and a hint of cocoa powder. Vintage 2010 made the wine spectator top 100 2013

### **2010 Rodney Strong Reserve Alexander Valley Cabernet Sauvignon \$41**

Full-bodied and richly textured, this vintage displays intense aromas and flavors of black currant, roasted herbs, licorice and cocoa, with a smooth, lingering finish. If you have access to a cool dark place, lay some bottles of this 2010 Reserve down for six to eight years and patience will reward you.

## **2010 Ramey Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley \$56**

“Ramey’s 2010 Cabernet Sauvignon is a spherical wine with all of its elements in place. Mocha, espresso, blackberries, incense and graphite all come together in a wine that impresses for its exceptional overall balance. White flowers, cloves and asphalt all develop later, lending an element of exoticism that is simply compelling. The 2010 is a blend of valley floor and hillside fruit. Anticipated maturity: 2016-2030.” **94 Points Robert Parker**

“Once again, I tasted an amazing range of wines with David Ramey. The Chardonnays capture a beautiful middle ground of ripe, California fruit but treated to a long, Burgundy-inspired élevage that relies on natural yeasts and no filtration, among other choices, to bring out the personality of each of the sites Ramey works with. To me, the Ramey Chardonnays have a Chassagne-like richness that is quite appealing, yet they remain laid back in style by California standards. The Cabernets run the gamut price-wise, but I find a lot to like across the entire range. The Syrahs are in some ways the outliers, because they are made by a winemaker with a very Cabernet-influenced palate. As good as Ramey’s Syrahs are, it is impossible not to notice a house style that emphasizes an overt expression of fruit over what might be termed more varietal character, especially in the regular bottling. As for the reds, the 2011 Cabernets are quite strong for the year. In 2011, Ramey bottled a far greater percentage of his juice into the entry-level Claret than normal, and saved only the best lots for the Cabernets, a decision that has paid off handsomely. The 2010s are just as fabulous as they were last year. At the end of the day, though, that is a relatively small critique for a winemaker who excels in so many ways. In my mind, Ramey is one of the top wineries in the United States. Readers who aren’t familiar with these wines owe it to themselves to check them out”. Robert Parker

Cheers!

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