

Greetings! I found some awesome Red Zinfandels for us to taste Friday night, April 3rd from 5:00-7pm \$22 Total.

Here are the wines!

2007 Three Angels "Les Collines Vineyard" Walla Walla Valley, WA. (made in Oregon) \$20. Featured in the Santiam Wine Company April Newsletter

From this excellent, sustainable vineyard southeast of Walla Walla in the foothills of the Blue Mountains and not far from the Washington-Oregon border. There are only about 50 acres of Zinfandel grapes planted in Washington. I think they can grow the grape with exceptional flavors. Let's hope they increase the acreage soon. Three Angels Les Collines is a hearty, classic Zinfandel. Its coffee nose and notes of chocolate with a hint of oakiness impress your senses with intrigue. Consistent from corkage to finish, the Les Collines is spicy and offers a lingering "very berry" finish. Serve with rich foods like Lamb or BBQ ribs, or just enjoy as you sip! Highly recommended!

2007 Buehler Napa Valley Zinfandel \$21.

Soft and elegant, this has a delicate sense of complexity, offering floral raspberry and cherry aromas, with juicy, layered plum and spicy cinnamon flavors that linger on the lively finish. Drink now through 2014. **90 Points Wine Spectator**

2007 Cline Zinfandel Contra Costa County Big Break 2007 \$25.

"Bold aromas of wild berry and smoky game lead to ripe, layered plum and cracked pepper flavors that build toward zesty tannins. Drink now through 2014." **89 Points Wine Spectator**

2006 Thumbprint Cellars "Ramazzotti Vineyard" Dry Creek Valley \$36.

Dry Creek Valley, Ramazzotti Vineyard. Once the Ramazzotti, then the Carreras Ranch and now the Ramazzotti again, this wine is not as schizophrenic as it seems. Yes it is! No it's not! Yes it is! The fact of the matter is that this zinfandel is outstanding! Yes it is! The same vineyard in the Northern part of Dry Creek Valley sits on hillside, which helps create a zinfandel more cab-like in structure. This zin boasts full-throttle flavors and aromas of blackberry, boysenberry, nutmeg and dark chocolate. On the gentler side this zin is sophisticated. Integrated red berry fruit demands attention from the black fruit and weaves with spice and texture for complexity through the body and well into the finish. This wine was also awarded a SILVER medal at the Sonoma County Harvest Fair. Aging zinfandel is more intermediate: age 4 to 8 years. ALC. 15.8%,

Thumbprint Cellars is the work of winemaker, Scott Lindstrom-Dake, who began making wine in 1995 as a hobby. When he sold or gave away a bottle of his first vintage, he started writing personal messages on the bottles using a gold pen. One time, he accidentally grabbed a bottle where the gold ink was still wet -- leaving a gold thumbprint. The look was appealing and original and Thumbprint Cellars was born. Now he "puts his thumbprint on each bottle to represent the handcrafted quality you expect from an artisan winery."

2007 Neyers High Valley Napa Valley CA. \$30.

From a high elevation site (1,800 feet), the 2007 Zinfandel High Valley offers excellent fruit, copious minerality, and full-bodied, attractive flavors of black cherries, raspberries, crushed rocks, and spice. A beautiful Zinfandel with a Pinot Noir-like complexity, it should drink well for 5-6 years. **92 Points Robert Parker**

2007 Orin Swift "Saldo" Zinfandel \$30. (They also make the "Prisoner")

"This recalls those great old California field blends, but with more polish and structure. Aromas of smoky boysenberry and cracked pepper lead to layered, zesty flavors of plum, tobacco and anise. Drink now through 2013. 3,785 cases made." (Tasting Highlights, March 23, 2009) Attention fans of Orin Swift's "The Prisoner" and "Papillon" - owner/winemaker Dave Phinney is pleased to introduce the inaugural release of "Saldo," a California Zinfandel. The name, which can sometimes be used to mean "from here and there" in Spanish, speaks to Phinney's choice to break free of the chains of a single AVA to make a wine that includes grapes from some of the best vineyards in Sonoma, Napa, Amador, Mendocino and Contra Costa Counties. There's a dash of Syrah and half as much Petite Sirah (totaling 15% of the blend) in this nearly-opaque, ruby-colored wine. Raspberry, rhubarb, wood smoke and sweet vanilla dominate the wine's alluring bouquet, carrying over to the palate where they are joined by sweet spring strawberry and root beer. Broad, mouthfilling and long on the palate, this is a wine you'll want to enjoy often over the next five years. **91 points from Wine Spectator**

Hope to see you there!

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