

J. Emerson, Inc.

FINE WINES & CHEESE

5716 Grove Avenue • Richmond, VA. 23226 • (804) 285-8011 • www.jemersonfinewine.com

STORE HOURS: Mon. 10:00 am to 8:00pm, Tues through Sat.: 9:00am to 8:00pm and:

NOW OPEN SUNDAY 12noon to 6pm.

AUGUST 2019 NEWSLETTER

Join us on **Wednesday 8/14** from **5:30 to 7:30pm**

Brad (Pitt) Hemp *From Importer* Wine Traditions. Ltd.

Southwest France Focused Tasting



Wed. 8/21 5:30-7:30pm

ODDS & ENDS & SURPRISES TASTING

Time to clear excess stock with appropriate discounts.

WINE TASTING EVERY SATURDAY 2:00pm-6:00pm

‘Whatever we feel like opening’

Here is the line-up for our case of the month and as always,

there are 2 each of the first four wines () and 1 each of the last four wines.*

<u>Emerson Wine Club SPECIALS</u> [Prices valid through 8/31/19.]	<u>Aug. '19</u>	<u>USUAL</u>	<u>CASE</u>	<u>(cs.btl.cost)</u>
*2018 Contreras Ruiz Condado de Huelva Blanco, Andalucia, Spain	\$8.99	\$10.99	\$96	(\$8.00)
*2017 Chateau Le Prieur Entre Deux Mers Blanc, Bordeaux, France	\$9.99	\$12.99	\$108	(\$9.00)
*2018 Domaine de la Bastide Rosé, Cotes du Rhone, France	\$9.99	\$12.99	\$108	(\$9.00)
*2017 Manoir du Carra Beaujolais-Villages, Beaujolais, France	\$9.99	\$11.99	\$108	(\$9.00)
2017 Domaine Marc Portaz Apremont, Savoie, France	\$11.99	\$15.99	\$132	(\$11.00)
2018 Elvio Tintero Langhe Favorita, Piedmont, Italy	\$11.99	\$14.99	\$132	(\$11.00)
2018 Dom. de Fenouillet Vin de Pays de Vaucluse, Rhone, France	\$11.99	\$13.99	\$132	(\$11.00)
2018 Braai Cabernet Sauvignon, Western Cape, South Africa	\$12.99	\$16.99	\$144	(\$12.00)

A NOTE ABOUT OUR CASE OF THE MONTH: - *Our case of the month is an excellent way to get real value for your wine dollar and drink wines from around the world, carefully selected by J. Emerson staff. No need to join an Internet wine club with their mystery wines and made up labels – Our case is infinitely more interesting and a better value! The discounted price for the August case-of-the-month is **\$112.99**; the regular price would be \$160, a savings of almost 29%!*

This month we have wines from importers Kermit Lynch and Neal Rosenthal, plus we introduce you to two new grape varieties – Favorita and Zalema!

***2018 Contreras Ruiz Condado de Huelva Blanco, Andalucia, Spain-** (100% Zalema) From the DO Condado de Huelva in the southwestern Andalusian province of Huelva; this is a dry crisp white wine with delicate saline, peach and tropical fruit notes and nutty hints. Organic production.

***2017 Chateau Le Prieur Entre Deux Mers Blanc, Bordeaux, France-** 80% Sauvignon Blanc, 20% Semillon. Citrus skin and apple notes along with hints of tarragon, round on the palate and nicely structured with a long crisp finish.

***2018 Domaine de la Bastide Rosé, Cotes du Rhone, France** - This fresh, barely-there-pink rose is a blend of Grenache, Syrah and Cinsault. Ripe summer red berry fruits, dry and refined on the palate with a crisp refreshing finish. Perfect with shellfish and caprese salad.

***2017 Manoir du Carra Beaujolais-Villages, Beaujolais, France** – “The 2017 Beaujolais-Villages Cuvée Non Filtré reveals a rich bouquet of smoky cherries and cassis. On the palate, it's medium-bodied, youthfully chewy and attractively flavorful, with a crunchy core of fruit.” (WA 9/18)

2017 Domaine Marc Portaz Apremont, Savoie, France - Pure Jacquère, a native white grape to the mountainous Savoie region in France. This refreshing wine is naturally low alcohol (usually 11.5%), making

it a great pick-me-up after a long day. Tart baking apples and hints of wildflowers, medium weight, round but with plenty of crushed stone acidity and a long finish.

2018 Elvio Tintero Langhe Favorita, Piedmont, Italy- 100% Favorita, a white Italian wine grape and a close relative of Vermentino, grown primarily in the Piedmont region, Peach, lemon peel and herbal notes and a whiff of saline minerality in this crisp dry white wine.

2018 Domaine de Fenouillet Vin de Pays de Vaucluse, Rhone, France - A blend of the hybrid grape “Marsellan” (a cross between Cabernet Sauvignon and Grenache) and Merlot raised in cement for six months before bottling. It’s a silky wine with a rich core of dark berried fruit with some cracked pepper notes. It finishes with good acid and refined tannins.

2018 Braai Cabernet Sauvignon, Western Cape, South Africa - A blend of 88% Cabernet Sauvignon, 11% Cabernet Franc and 1% Petit Verdot) A great wine for grilled meat (Braai is Afrikaans for Barbeque). Aromas of dark berries, earth and a touch of smoke; spicy on the palate with refined tannins. It is a crowd pleasing cabernet.

USE YOUR 6 BOTTLE WINE BAGS FROM OTHER STORES AND SAVE 10% (on six bottles).

We want to remind our customers to use wine bags that other stores continue to push on you. Remember, they are made from oil and you must use each of those bags 9 times before it equals one paper bag.

AUGUST “SHORT SIPS” CLASS – Sauvignon Blanc Blind

We’ll discuss the Sauvignon grape and blind taste examples from around the world. A one hour educational program, limited to eight people and held in our fine wine room. Because the demand has been so great, we are doing the class twice in July – **FRIDAY & SATURDAY, August 16th and 17th from 6:00 to 7:00pm — Due to the nature of the wines, the class fee is \$8 per person.**

The Last Saturday Wine School – Rosé- the pink details.

The last Saturday of each month changes from a “whatever we feel like drinking” tasting event to a mini wine school tasting. We’ll pick a topic, theme, etc. and taste with a purpose! The wines we taste will be offered as a package with a discount. This is very informal with no scheduled start or finish time. **Come anytime you want between 2 and 6 pm on Saturday, August 31st.** Each session will be about 10 minutes!

AUGUST SPECIAL OFFERS

ON SALE: 2013 Pieve Santa Restituta, GAJA, Brunello di Montalcino “Rennina” Tuscany, Italy

Acquired by Angelo Gaja in 1994 The Pieve Santa Restituta consists of “white,” rocky soils in the southwest subzone of the Brunello di Montalcino appellation. Here is a review from the The Wine Advocate #235:

*“The 2013 Brunello di Montalcino Rennina is a dark, plush and succulent red wine with seamless overall integration. Angelo Gaja makes his wines with broad brush strokes that form shapes of perfect harmony and grandeur. He seems less interested in the minutiae, much in the same way an impressionist painter creates a portrait without consideration for the gritty details of reality. Continuing with my art metaphor, I’ll venture to say that this is a big-picture wine that embraces bold fruit, oak spice, acidity and tannin in one overwhelming and warm embrace. I usually score the Sugarille a point or two higher, but this year the Rennina won my heart.”***Reg. price: \$199.99, On Sale in AUGUST: \$141.99** (while supplies last/ no further discounts)

ON SALE: 2018 Domaine Saint Antoine Patricia Raquin Vieilles Vignes Chablis, Burgundy, France

Patricia and her husband are burgundy negociants and worked with Domaine Saint Antoine to raise this old vine Chablis that ALL of us liked (a rarity) It’s a 100% Chardonnay grown on Kimmeridgian soils. A golden color with green highlights, a fresh and aromatic nose with white flower nuances. Round and smooth in the mouth with very very slight oak flavors and a classic Chablis lift on the finish.

Reg. price: \$29.99, On Sale in AUGUST: \$24.99 (while supplies last/ no further discounts)

ON SALE: 2017 Alexandre Monmousseau Vouvray “Clos le Vigneau”, Loire Valley France

Vouvray is a perfect summer wine. Clos Le Vigneau is a single vineyard from an area known as “les Gués d’Amant” or “Lover’s Gap”. Most of the vines were planted in 1929. The soil is a mixture of argilo-calcaire, silex and gravel. Here is a review from Jeb Dunnuck (March 2019):

"The 2017 Vouvray Clos Le Vigneau comes all from a single lieu-dit (Clos Le Vigneau) and is 100% Chenin Blanc brought up all in tank. This medium-bodied, rounded, off-dry white offers up beautiful notes of peach, honeyed apple, and citrus-like aromas and flavors. I love its purity, it has good acidity, and it's a brilliant white that's going to shine for at least 4-5 years, and I suspect much longer. There's no need to delay gratification though." **Reg. price: \$19.99, On Sale in AUGUST: \$14.99** (while supplies last/ no further discounts)

NEW ARRIVALS: 2010 Emidio Pepe Montepulciano d'Abruzzo, DOC, Italy

Iconic Italian winery that was out of the market for a time and is again available.

"Bright ruby. Precise, spicy aromas of ripe red berries, dark plum and violet accented by cumin and caraway seed. At once densely packed and broad but juicy and refined too, boasting terrific acid-fruit-tannin balance and penetrating red cherry, underbrush and sweet spice flavors. This lovely wine is suave and fine-grained and finishes very long. It would be prudent to decant this at least two-three hours ahead; one bottle I had was initially marred by almost unacceptable levels of funkiness, another was instead brilliantly pure and clean, so allowing this wine to breathe a little prior to serving is not a bad idea." (Vinous 6/17) **\$159.99**

NEW ARRIVALS: Peter Michael: The essence of Knights Valley, Sonoma County

We get so little is hardly makes sense to put it in the newsletter.

2017 Peter Michael Chardonnay "La Carrière", Knights Valley, Sonoma County, California

Peter Michael's 2017 Chardonnay La Carrière is laced with a super-intriguing mix of orchard fruit, lemon peel, slate, mint and crushed rocks. Bright and intensely saline, La Carrière is super-expressive in 2017, not to mention incredibly delicious. La Carrière is perhaps disadvantaged a bit by being served in a flight of Chardonnays, but it is compelling just the same. Although none of the Peter Michael wines is inexpensive, La Carrière is arguably the best relative value in the range." (Vinous, Antonio Galloni) **\$109.99**

2016 Peter Michael "Les Pavots" Proprietary Red Wine- "A blend of 62% Cabernet Sauvignon, 18% Cabernet Franc, 13% Merlot and 7% Petit Verdot, the very deep purple-black colored 2016 Les Pavots Proprietary Red Wine sings of crushed blackcurrants, blueberry preserves and blackberry pie with hints of camphor, black soil, truffles, crushed rocks and red roses plus a touch of garrigue. Full, rich and with wonderful finesse in the mouth, it has very finely grained tannins and plenty of vivacity, finishing long and earthy. 3,700 cases produced, to be released in the spring of 2019. Drink: 2020 – 2040." (WA 10/18) **\$239.99**

ROSÉ NEW ARRIVALS: Two Italian gems- One old favorite, one new.

2018 G.D. Vajra Rosato Rosa Bella, Piedmont, Italy- "Bright pink. Intense, mineral-accented aromas of red berries and fresh flowers, with a herbal undertone. Classically dry and vibrant rose that closes long and crisp, with nicely persistent notes of herbs and red fruit." (Vinous 5/19) **\$19.99**

NV Poderi Cellario 'È Rosato' Vino Rosato, Piedmont, It. - a liter bottle blend of Dolcetto and Nebbiolo, organic production, minimal Sulphur, no filter/fining. Strawberries, fresh, clean and super pluggable. **\$19.99**

EMERSON'S DELIVERS!

Consult with us on wines for your party or event and we will deliver directly to your home or office. Our regular deliveries will be made on Friday afternoons. There is no minimum order but there will be a delivery charge of \$10. Our regular service areas are zip codes 23226, 23229 and 23221

RETURN POLICY

J. Emerson, Inc. guarantees that each bottle of wine we sell is in good condition. If you purchase a bad bottle of wine from us, please bring the bottle (with wine) back promptly. We will taste the wine with you to try and ascertain what has gone wrong and we will replace the bad bottle with a good bottle of the same wine. We are not responsible for any damage that occurs after the wine has left the store. This is especially true in the summer. PLEASE do not leave your wine in your car or trunk. It takes less than two hours in 80-90 degree sun to "pop" a cork. We will NOT accept any returns of warm or hot bottles. Returns should come back to us at about the same temperature as our store.

OUR PROTOCOL FOR USING WINE REVIEWS

Throughout our newsletter you will find profiles of wine tastes and flavors written by professional wine reviewers. We use these reviews, when they align with our own tasting notes, because, frankly, these reviewers use descriptors and adjectives that are more interesting and often more on point than what we would write. When we use a reviewer's notes we will always use quotes and we will always show attribution, i.e.: WA – Wine Advocate, WS- Wine Spectator, BH – Burghound and Vinous for...Vinous. Three of these review sources are reader subscription only and carry no advertising and they are: WA, Vinous and BH, and thus those are primary review sources. We will also occasionally use reviews from Decanter (the premier UK wine journal). Each review source also has reviewers that are better in some specialty than others. For example, Antonio Galoni has a wonderful sense of Italian wines and Allen Meadows of Burghound is a definitive source for the wines of Burgundy. The other key is that these reviews need to align with our tasting notes and if there is a huge discrepancy we will defer to our notes, which may be less interesting in terms of descriptors, but more in harmony with the wine profile. Our tasting notes would be any review without quotation marks.

OUR WINE ENVIRONMENT

If you shop here you already know that we take the condition of the wine environment in the store very seriously. Wines are on their side, we monitor humidity and the temperature on the main floor never rises about 63 degrees. (In the winter we strive for 60.) We use no fluorescent lighting in the wine areas – THE WORST POSSIBLE LIGHTING CONDITION due to the high UV content. Instead we have been using indirect incandescent lighting. Now we are in the process of converting our lighting to LED, a source that produces NO UV light rays! Does your wine retailer care enough to take these quality control steps? Ask questions next time you are in a big box retailer.

Situated on the slopes of the Helderberg Mountain, in the heart of South Africa's most famous wine region Stellenbosch, the vineyards are commonly referred to as the Home of Chenin Blanc. Ken Forrester's philosophy has always been to create a range of handcrafted, individually made wines that suitably complement a wide variety of food styles and provide excellent value.